



Commander Blanca Rosas

Chief, Response Department
Coast Guard Sector Key West, FL



Commander Rosas assumed the duties as Chief of the Response Department at Coast Guard Sector Key West on July 5, 2017. In this capacity, she is responsible for coordinating the safe execution of search and rescue, maritime border security, enforcing federal maritime law, and mitigating spills and hazards to the critical maritime ecosystems in the Florida Straits. She oversees operations for three multi-mission Coast Guard Stations and six patrol boats within a 55,000 square nautical mile region bordering the territorial seas of Cuba and the Bahamas.

Prior to this assignment, Commander Rosas was assigned to Coast Guard District Eleven as the Operational Planning Branch Chief coordinating senior level operational briefings and overseeing resource hour allocation for 43 units to support Coast Guard missions and associated strategic objectives. Additional tours of duty include the Marine Safety Office / Group Philadelphia where she served as Assistant Chief for the Command Planning Branch, Information Resources Management Officer and Chief of the Marine Environmental Protection Branch from 2000-2005. In 2005, she transferred to Sector San Juan to serve as the Assistant Chief of the Contingency Planning and Force Readiness Division while also overseeing the Incident Management Division. From 2008 to 2011, she was assigned as the Chief of the Officer Promotions Branch at Coast Guard Personnel Service Center overseeing management of accessions, promotions and integration of 8,000 Active and Reserve officers. She also served as the Chief of the Incident Management Division at Sector San Francisco from 2011 to 2014. Her responsibilities included planning and execution of marine environmental responses in an area of over 2,500 miles of shoreline within the San Francisco Bay and its tributaries.

Commander Rosas is from Aguadilla, Puerto Rico. A former Coast Guard College Student Pre-Commissioning Initiative (CSPI) Officer, she graduated from Coast Guard Officer Candidate School in 2000. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from the University of Puerto Rico – Mayaguez Campus and holds a Master of Science in Quality Systems Management from the New England College of Business. She has been a member of the Association of Naval Services Officers (ANSO) since 2007. She served as President of the ANSO San Francisco Chapter, BM1 Carlos Valdivia Molina (2015-2017) and currently serves as the National Board of Directors – Membership Coordinator.

Commander Rosas military awards include a Meritorious Service Medal, four Coast Guard Commendations, an Achievement Medal, Coast Guard Marine Safety Insignia, and numerous other personal and unit decorations. She is married to LT (Ret.) Juan L. Rivera of Ponce, Puerto Rico. They are proud parents of a daughter, Camila Elizabeth.