U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard

MARINE BOARD OF INVESTIGATION

Mr. Keith Fawcett

Marine Board of Investigation Member

U.S. Coast Guard

Mr. Keith Fawcett started his working career in the active duty Coast Guard serving on three Coast Guard Cutters and other various duty stations. He was an instructor at Small Boat Operations School as well as a guest instructor at the National Boating Safety School. Keith was a qualified boat coxswain in multiple vessel types. He served a little less than nine years before leaving the Coast Guard as a Chief Quartermaster.

After leaving the Coast Guard in 1979 Keith worked as a licensed deck officer for Gulf Fleet Marine Corporation and supported diverse oil field operations in Texas, Louisiana and Florida. Keith currently holds a 1600 Ton Near Coastal Mate's License, 100 Ton Master, Radar Endorsement as well as Able Seaman Merchant Marine credentials. In 1981 Keith began working at the LOOP Marine Terminal as a Vessel Traffic Control Specialist. LOOP's offshore unloading terminal is located twenty miles offshore of Grand Isle, Louisiana. LOOP is the nation's premier facility for offloading ultra large crude carriers, the largest ships in the world carrying up to 4.5 million barrels of crude oil.

In May of 2000, Keith returned to work with the Coast Guard as a civilian supervisor at the Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) in New Orleans. In this capacity he supervised a watch team that provided vessel traffic control service to the lower Mississippi River which included traffic control for the busy Algiers Point area in the heart of New Orleans. Keith also served as the Interim Director and Training Coordinator for the VTS and was selected to attend the International Association of Lighthouse Authorities (IALA) Symposium in Rostock, Germany to formulate training objectives for VTS operations worldwide. In September of 2010 Keith accepted a position at the Coast Guard's Investigations National Center of Expertise in New Orleans. Keith has worked several high profile formal marine casualty investigations including the mobile offshore drilling unit KULLUK Grounding in Alaska and the DELTA MARINER bridge allision in the Land Between the Lakes in Kentucky. Mr. Fawcett is a subject matter specialist focused on providing expertise in human factors, fatigue, navigation, vessel operation and in assisting Investigators to interpret mariner interactions with the waterway. Keith assists the diverse segments of the marine community and USCG Marine Casualty Investigators in working together to reduce the occurrence of marine casualties.

Mr. Fawcett is one of the winners of the Sener Award for excellence in Marine Casualty Investigations.

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