Rear Admiral David C. Barata

Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District U.S. Coast Guard

Rear Admiral (RADM) David C. Barata serves as Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District and is responsible for Coast Guard operations spanning 26 states, including the southern coastline from the Florida panhandle to Texas and the United States border with Mexico, the adjacent offshore waters and outer continental shelf, and the inland waterways of the Mississippi, Ohio, Missouri, Illinois, and Tennessee River systems. RADM Barata's previous Flag assignment was as Commander, Coast Guard Personnel Service Center, where he was responsible for executing the Coast Guard's human resource policies by recruiting, accessing, assigning, developing careers, maintaining well-being, compensating, separating, and retiring the nearly 45,000 members of the active duty and reserve military workforces.

RADM Barata's field assignments include Commanding Officer of Activities Europe, as well as tours at Sector Jacksonville, Marine Safety Office Providence, and Marine Safety Office Miami where he served for over 13 years in various capacities conducting marine safety, OCMI/COTP, prevention, and incident response/emergency management missions. RADM Barata also served as the plankowner Executive Officer of Maritime Safety and Security Team Boston (MSST 91110) and as Deck Watch Officer aboard USCGC SENECA (WMEC 906).

RADM Barata's staff assignments include Director, Inspections and Compliance (CG-5PC), Deputy Director, Marine Transportation Systems (CG-5PW), Chief, Office of Budget and Programs (CG-82), AC&I Coordinator and Program Reviewer (CG-821), and Senior Marine Safety/Prevention Assignment Officer at the former CG Personnel Command (CGPC OPM-2).

RADM Barata is a 1993 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, New London, CT, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Management. RADM Barata earned a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College in Newport, RI, in 2014, and served as a Senior Military Fellow at the Center for a New American Security (CNAS) in Washington, DC, from 2014-2015.

RADM Barata's personal awards include the Legion of Merit (4), the Meritorious Service Medal (4), the Coast Guard Commendation Medal (2), the 9/11 Medal, the Armed Forces Service Medal, and the Coast Guard Achievement Medal. He was selected as the Navy League Southeastern MA/RI Junior Officer of the Year in 2001.

RADM Barata is a native of Jacksonville, Florida. He and his wife, Barbara have three children, James, Caroline, and Annie.