

## Curriculum Vitae

# Norman L. (Buddy) Custard, Jr.

## Captain, U.S. Coast Guard (retired)

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### Professional Background:

Possesses extensive knowledge and expertise working maritime operations from both the public and private sectors, including serving as an officer with the U.S. Coast Guard for over 30 years, as an executive in an oil exploration and production company operating in the U.S. Arctic Outer Continental Shelf, and as a senior executive for a nonprofit corporation involved in vessel response plan compliance. Holds broad knowledge on Arctic and Alaska maritime issues, ranging from search and rescue, oil spill prevention and response, exploration drilling, law enforcement, fisheries management, domain awareness, and the logistical challenges of working in the waters of Alaska from both industry and government perspective.

### President & Chief Executive Office

2015 – Present

#### Alaska Maritime Prevention & Response Network – Anchorage, Alaska

The Network is a nonprofit corporation created to provide vessel owners and operators with federal oil pollution prevention regulatory compliance and response capabilities for tank and nontank vessels operating in Western Alaska and Prince William Sound U.S. Coast Guard Captain of the Port Zones.

Oversees the operations of a global business based in Alaska, which represents over 445 companies operating more than 3,300 vessels that operate in Alaska's waters in meeting Vessel Response Plan federal requirements in Western Alaska. Reports directly to a board of executives comprised from the various segments of the maritime industry. Provides oversight to programs that encompasses the largest Alternative Planning Criteria (APC) coverage area, ensuring compliance with environmental regulatory requirements and building and sustaining the most capable in-state APC prevention and response programs for Western Alaska. Instills confidence in vessel owners and operators that they are following U.S. Federal Vessel Response Plan regulations, and have the resources necessary to respond to an oil spill incident when needed. Provides strategic oversight and guidance that values the safe passage of crews and cargo with a directed emphasis in the prevention of an oil spill incident using its program risk mitigation strategies. Adheres to the core values of the Network by remaining the only Western Alaska APC program to issue grants and invest in research and development that enhances oil spill prevention and response capabilities for the benefit of industry and the various Alaska stakeholders.

### Operations Executive

2012 – 2015

#### Alaska Venture, Shell Exploration and Production Company – Anchorage, Alaska

Served as Emergency Response Superintendent and subsequently Operations Manager for Shell Exploration and Production Company's Alaska offshore exploration program in both the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas. Managed the operational oversight and emergency response programs of the vessels, aircraft, and shore bases supporting the offshore drilling exploration activities in the U.S. Arctic Outer Continental Shelf per applicable Federal, State and municipal laws, regulations, and permits. Shell's Oil Spill Response Plan was perhaps the most scrutinized oil spill response program in the U.S. during its exploration drilling venture in the U.S. Arctic region. Served as Qualified Individual and Incident Commander during the drilling rig *Kulluk* grounding and subsequent salvage.

### U.S. Coast Guard Officer

1981 – 2012

#### Various Locations throughout the United States and U.S. Territories

During career in the U.S. Coast Guard, attained the rank of Captain and last served in the position of Chief of Staff for the Alaska region before retiring. As Chief of Staff, provided oversight to a work force of 1,500 personnel assigned to boats, ships, aircraft, and shore installations in accomplishing a wide array of missions. Oversaw issues and activities regarding search and rescue, homeland security and defense,

maritime law enforcement, marine transportation safety, and environmental protection in an area encompassing over 3.8 million square miles of ocean, 44,000 miles of coastline and the U.S. Arctic region.

Served in many capacities at sea and ashore leading and planning operations. Served aboard seven Coast Guard cutters in both the Atlantic and Pacific regions, commanding four of the cutters. Shore assignments were focused on overseeing operations and emergency response, such as Chief of Operations and Chief of Planning for the U.S. Coast Guard, Atlantic region, and as Chief of Operations for the Alaska region.

While serving in the Atlantic region as Chief of Operations and as Chief of Planning and Preparedness, exercised oversight in accomplishing Coast Guard operations with a work force of 26,000 personnel assigned to boats, ships, aircraft, and shore installations throughout the Coast Guard Atlantic Area. Managed over 4,000 employees assigned to 36 ships, Patrol Forces Southwest Asia, and Helicopter Interdiction Squadron dispersed throughout the Atlantic realm and Arabian Gulf. Allocated deployment of aviation assets encompassing 108 aircraft.

As a senior officer, directed the coordination of the U.S. Coast Guard's efforts during many significant natural disaster humanitarian relief efforts caused by hurricanes, flooding, and earthquakes in saving lives, protecting the environment, and restoring the marine transportation system. Commanded the response efforts for numerous significant lifesaving and pollution response incidents as On Scene Commander, as well as protecting the U.S. homeland in making numerous at-sea seizures of illegal drug shipments and interdicting hundreds of migrants destined to the United States. Led the Administrative Investigation for the dive accident aboard the Coast Guard Icebreaker *Healy* in which two Coast Guard divers died during a training dive in the Arctic.

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**Education:**

- Master of Strategic Studies, Army War College, Carlisle, PA; Strategic Studies. 2003
- Bachelor of Science, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO; Wildlife Biology with a minor in Criminal Justice. 1980
- Certificate – Homeland Security Executive Leaders Program, Center for Homeland Defense and Security, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA. 2010

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**Board Membership:**

- Alaska Chadux Corporation, Board of Directors [Oil Spill Removal Organization for Western Alaska & Prince William Sound Captain of the Port Zones] (2016 – Present)
  - American Red Cross of Alaska, Board of Directors (2015-Present)
  - National Offshore Safety Advisory Committee (2013-Present)
  - Alaska Clean Seas, Board of Directors [Oil Spill Removal Organization for North Slope Alaska Crude Oil Producers] (2012-2015)
  - Juneau Campus Advisory Council, University of Alaska Southeast (2010-2012)
  - Alumni Assembly Board, Center for Homeland Defense and Homeland Security, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA (2010-2012)
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