



Association for Rescue at Sea, Inc.



**Captain Steve Sawyer, USCG (Ret.)**  
Biography

Captain Sawyer retired from the U.S. Coast Guard in 2006 after 28 years of active duty service. He served as the Chief, Office of Search and Rescue from 2002 – 2006, where also: served as a U.S. delegate for three years to the International Maritime Organization's SAR/Communications sub-committee; served as an Executive Director to the International Maritime Rescue Federation (formerly International Lifeboat Federation); served as Acting Chairman to the National Search and Rescue Committee (NSARC); served as Chairman of the Mass Rescue Operations sub-committee to NSARC; and, delivered multiple papers at various national and international SAR conferences. His operational assignments in the Coast Guard included separate tours of duty at three Group Commands; serving as a Group Commander at Group Eastern Shore, Deputy Group Commander at Group Mayport, and as Group Operations Officer at Group Charleston. He was one of the first ten officers Service-wide to be awarded the Boat Force Operations insignia. Captain Sawyer joined AFRAS in 2006 as a member of the Board of Directors immediately after retirement from the Coast Guard, and became President in September, 2011. Captain Sawyer resides in northern Virginia with his wife Natalie.