



Lieutenant Niki Kirchner-Hope
Commanding Officer
CGC FREDERICK HATCH (WPC-1143)
United States Coast Guard



LT Niki Kirchner-Hope assumed command of CGC *Frederick Hatch* in July 2024, where she leads the 25-person crew in Illegal, Unregulated, and Unreported fisheries regulation enforcement, Search and Rescue efforts, and building partnership with Pacific Island Countries throughout the region.

Prior to assuming command, LT Kirchner-Hope served as the Executive Staff Assistant for the Deputy for Personnel Readiness (DCMS-DPR) at Coast Guard Headquarters. In this role, she supported DCMS-DPR in the oversight and functionality of the Coast Guard's human resources, force readiness, and Academy activities; the execution of the vision for talent management; the recruitment, development, and retention of a diverse, proficient, and effective workforce; and the implementation of the Commandant's Directed Actions for Accountability and Transparency. She coordinated efforts and managed information flow between DCMS-DPR and the Assistant



Commandants for Military Personnel, Civilian Personnel, and Health, Safety, and Work-Life, as well as Force Readiness Command and the Coast Guard Academy.

Prior to serving at Coast Guard Headquarters, she served as Assistant Combat Systems Officer aboard USCGC *Hamilton* (WMSL 753) in Charleston, SC, where she oversaw the maintenance and operation of the cutter's electronics, information, weapons, and intelligence collection systems. She also served as Tactical Action Officer during deployment to the Mediterranean and Black Seas, responsible for *Hamilton's* defense posturing and tactical navigation while operating in the vicinity of Russia and Ukraine. From 2018 to 2020, she was the Operations Officer onboard USCGC *Margaret Norvell* (WPC 1105) in Miami, FL, responsible for safe navigation and mission planning and execution.

LT Kirchner-Hope graduated from the Coast Guard Academy in 2018 having earned Bachelor of Science degrees in Electrical Engineering and Operations Research & Computer Analysis. Her personal awards include the Coast Guard Meritorious Service Medal, Coast Guard Commendation Medal, Coast Guard Achievement Medal, and two Commandant's Letters of Commendation.