



## **BMC Roberto D. Bobonis** **United States Coast Guard**

Chief Boatswain's Mate Roberto D. Bobonis currently holds the esteemed role of Executive Petty Officer at Station Sheboygan, WI, a pivotal hub for Search and Rescue, Federal Law enforcement, and Homeland Security Initiatives. Covering an expansive area of responsibility, Station Sheboygan oversees over 500 square miles of Lake Michigan, including 95 nautical miles shoreline and three navigable river systems.

Born on July 6, 1976, in San Juan, Puerto Rico, BMC Bobonis embarked on his journey of service and leadership from an early age. After completing his education at Cupeyville School in Rio Piedras, PR, he pursued higher studies at the University of Puerto Rico and then earned a Bachelor of Science degree in 2009 from Excelsior College. His commitment to duty led him to join the U.S. Coast Guard on October 21, 2001, setting sail for basic training in Cape May, NJ, and successfully graduating on December 12, 2001.

Throughout his illustrious career, Chief Bobonis has demonstrated unwavering dedication, serving across various operational units, including both Stations and cutters. Following his basic training, he began his journey at the Coast Guard Yard in Baltimore, Maryland, before honing his skills at Boatswains Mate "A" School, graduating on December 12, 2002. From there, he embarked on a series of assignments, including roles at the Coast Guard Support Center in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, and Coast Guard Station Little Creek, VA where he received certifications as Coxswain, Boarding Officer, and Officer of the Day.

His career milestones continued to flourish as he advanced to BM1 at Coast Guard Station Eatons Neck in Long Island, New York where he certified as a Tactical Coxswain. Then, in 2012, he became the first Operations Petty Officer on USCGC SEA DOG in Maritime Force Protection Unit, Kings Bay, Georgia. With a wealth of experience and expertise, he then served a Port Security Unit (PSU) 307 in Clearwater, Florida, where he spearheaded all Boat Forces programs for a unit comprising of 154 Reserve members. Notably, his leadership was instrumental during deployments to Guantanamo Bay as part of Joint Task Force operations. In 2019 he was assigned as the Executive Petty Officer of Coast Guard Station Yankeetown, FL and was promoted to Chief Petty Officer in February of 2020 and subsequently transferred to be the Executive Petty Officer of Coast Guard Station Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

In recognition of his exemplary service, BMC Bobonis has been adorned with numerous honors and awards, including four Coast Guard Achievement Medals, four Commandant Letters of Commendation, and distinguished insignias such as the Advanced Boat Forces Insignia, the permanent Coxswain Insignia and Coast Guard Port Security Insignia. Additionally, he has been the recipient of various unit, team, and humanitarian service awards.

Beyond his professional endeavors, BMC Bobonis finds fulfillment in personal pursuits, embodying a passion for marathon running and serving as a CrossFit Coach and athlete. He shares his life's journey with his beloved wife, Rena, a native of Onalaska, Wisconsin, and their four cherished children — Ricky, Mia, Mateo, and Gabriel.