

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Radm. Stephen Rochon

PERSON

Rochon, Stephen W., 1950-

Alternative Names: Radm. Stephen Rochon;

Life Dates: March 7, 1950-

Place of Birth: New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

Residence: Alexandria, VA

Occupations: Rear Admiral

Biographical Note

U.S. Coast Guard Rear Admiral Stephen W. Rochon was born in New Orleans, Louisiana and enlisted in the U. S. Coast Guard in 1970. He received a commission as an ensign in 1975 from the Officer Candidate School at Yorktown, Virginia. He then was assigned to Marine Safety Office (MSO) in California as assistant port operations and intelligence officer. In 1979, he served in the Coast Guard Reserve while attending Xavier University of Louisiana and graduated from there with his B.S. degree in business administration. Rochon then graduated from the National Defense University's Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF) in 1999 with his M.S. degree in national resource strategy. In 2002, he also completed the Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government Senior Executive Program for National and International Security, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology School of Management.

In 1984, Rochon returned to active duty and served as Chief of the Reserve Training Branch of the Ninth Coast Guard District in Cleveland, Ohio. In this capacity, Rochon organized the Coast Guard's first combat skills course with the Marine Corps in Quantico, Virginia and served on temporary duty in the Middle East to train the Royal Jordanian Coast Guard. Rochon served as the Coast Guard's director of personnel management in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita in 2005 where he provided support for Coast Guard personnel and their families. In 2006, Rochon became the Commander of Maintenance and Logistics Command at the U.S. Coast Guard's Atlantic Headquarters; and, in 2007, he was named Director of the Executive Residence and Chief Usher at the White House for former President George W. Bush. The first African American to hold the position, Rochon ran the executive mansion for four years for Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama, executing all major events at the White House and preserving the nation's most historic home.

His military awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, three Legion of Merit Medals, two Meritorious Service Medals, two Coast Guard Commendation Medals, two Department of Transportation 9/11 Medals, two Coast Guard Achievement Medals, two Commandant's Letter of Commendation Ribbons, among twenty service and unit awards. His civilian awards include the 1989 Coast Guard Equal Opportunity Achievement Award, the 1990 United Negro College Fund Leadership Award, the 1997 Port of Baltimore Vital Link Award, the 1998 Vice President Gore Hammer Award, the 1998 NAACP Roy P. Wilkins Renowned Service Award, the 2001 World Trade Center New Orleans C. Alvin Bertel Award, the 2002 Greater New Orleans Barge Fleeting Association Maritime Person of the Year, the 2007 Ellis Island Medal of Honor, and the 2009 Spirit of Hope Award.

U.S. Coast Guard Rear Admiral Stephen W. Rochon was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on August 8, 2013.

Related Entries

Blessed Sacrament School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Grade School Diploma

St. Katharine Drexel Preparatory Academy [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

High School Diploma

Xavier University of Louisiana [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

B.A.

Northeastern High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

M.S.

University of Maryland [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

None

University of Maryland [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Certificate of Completion

United States Coast Guard [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1970 to 1971]

Seaman Recruit (SR)

United States Coast Guard [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1978 to 1981]

Supervisor, Buoy Deck (BM2)

United States Coast Guard [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1973 to 1975]

Recruiter (BM1)

United States Coast Guard Marine Safety Office [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1975 to 1979]

Chief, Special Interest Vessel Program and Intelligence Officer

United States Coast Guard Marine Safety Office [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1993 to ?]

Chief, Uninspected Commercial Vessel Safety Program

United States Coast Guard Ninth District [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1977 to ?]

Chief, Reserve Training Branch (RPA)

United States Coast Guard [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1970 to ?]

Chief, Port Security Branch (RPA)

United States Coast Guard [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1990 to 1995]

Chief, Officer Programs Branch (RPA)

United States Coast Guard [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1964 to ?]

Chief, Reserve Personnel Management (RPA)

United States Coast Guard [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1970 to ?]

Deputy Commander, MIO/Activities Baltimore (RPA)

Delete [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1953 to 1986]

The Rochon Group, LLC

White House [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1980 to ?]

Director of the Executive Residence and Chief Usher

United States Coast Guard Marine Safety Office [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1985 to ?]

Commanding Officer & Captain of the Port

United States Department of Transportation [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1988 to ?]

Director

United States Coast Guard [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1997 to ?]

Acting Assistant Commandant for Intelligence

United States Coast Guard [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 200406 to 200606]

Director, Personnel Management

United States Coast Guard [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1964 to ?]

Commanding Officer, Maintenance and Logistics Command Atlantic

United States Customs and Border Protection [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1981 to ?]

Principal Executive for Strategic Integration and Chief Strategy Officer

National Naval Officers Association [MEMBEROF]
[from 1985 to ?]

Member & Coast Guard Service Chair

Military Black Engineers of Year Stars and Stripes [MEMBEROF]
[from 2007 to ?]

Founders