

AARON C. DAVENPORT

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https://www.rand.org/about/people/d/davenport_aaron_c.html

EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

JULY 2014 – PRESENT

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, SENIOR POLICY RESEARCHER

RAND CORPORATION

Provide research project management oversight; Assist with quality assurance to ensure products are of high quality, relevant to client needs, and produced on time and within budget; Work constructively with project leaders and other staff to support their work for their sponsors at DHS and across the Homeland Security Enterprise; Develop new business through direct contacts with key clients and other potential sponsors and shaping proposals for new avenues of research; Identify, attract, mentor, and retain top talent. Play an intellectual leadership role in defining the research agenda for the program; Support on-going RAND Homeland Security Research Division activities.

Develop strategy, improve policy and decision-making through research and analysis, working with decisionmakers in both the public and private sectors to find solutions to today's difficult, sensitive, and important problems. Highlighted projects, research, and analysis include:

- Analytical support to the COVID-19 DHS Secretary Advisory Group, Economic Recovery
- Institutional Capacity Building in support of the governments of Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Tunisia, and Australia
- Congressionally mandated Puerto Rico hurricane recovery plan and rebuilding surface, maritime and air transportation infrastructure
- NATO Science for Peace and Security Programme, Counter-Terrorism Advanced Research
- Congressionally mandated evaluation of DoD excess property, "1033 program" law enforcement agency acquisition policy
- Congressionally mandated evaluation of Colombia/USG counter-drug policy 2000-2019
- Congressionally mandated DHS facility co-location efficiency study for DHS marine and aviation operations
- Maritime domain awareness strategy, policy, and programs analysis for US Coast Guard, Customs and Border Protection, and DHS Science and Technology Directorate

JULY 1984 – JUNE 2014

US COAST GUARD OFFICER, DOT, DHS

- White House Staff, Special Advisor to the Vice President of the United States - Special advisor in the Office of Vice Presidents Biden and Cheney for Homeland Border Security and Counterterrorism. Provided direct interface with the National Security Council, senior leadership within the interagency and DHS component leadership at the Assistant Secretary level (SAP). Represented the Office of the Vice President at daily national terrorism threat briefings and as a member of the Border and Transportation Security Interagency Policy Committee, Maritime Security Interagency Policy Committee, Domestic Readiness Group, and the Counterterrorism Security Group.

- National Security Fellow, National Defense Research Institute, RAND Corporation - Conducted research on complex national security policy and strategy problems, where multi-disciplinary capability, objectivity, and an explicit national-interest charter are essential. Analyzed changes in the international political, strategic, economic, and technological environment; helped the U.S. government develop policies to shape the environment, advance U.S. interests, and gain an understanding of how terrorism intersects with other emerging threats; assisted the U.S. national security community in devising options to protect American and allied interests at home and abroad.
- Senior Fellow, Chief of Naval Operations - Strategic Studies Group - One of only ten USN, USMC, USCG, and USAF officers selected by their Service Chiefs to serve in a fellowship charged with generating innovative future concepts in IT, reporting directly to the head of the Navy.
- Deputy Chief, USCG Office of Counterterrorism and Special Missions - Executed and supported unilateral and direct law enforcement, counter-terrorism, and homeland security operations in the maritime domain. Developed policy, doctrine, and requirements to accomplish advanced tactical maritime homeland security and counter-terrorism operations.
- Executive Officer, U.S. Headquarters Southern Command - Responsible for daily operations and theater program management of Dept. of Defense programs in support of the Nat'l Drug Control Strategy. Annual budget program oversight was in excess of \$1B, to include Plan Colombia. Managed a joint service staff of 30 senior subject matter experts. Served as "founding" Secretary, DoD Counterterrorism Joint Interagency Coordination Group.
- Commanding Officer/Captain-Master, U.S. Coast Guard Cutter - Captain in command of a 378ft ship with over 170 assigned crew - multi-million dollar worldwide deployable national asset. Managed at sea programs and performed US statutory missions throughout the Pacific Ocean to include international fisheries enforcement, drug law enforcement, maritime safety & security, humanitarian assistance, international security cooperation, and multi-unit joint search & rescue operations.
- Assistant Branch Chief, Safety & Environmental Health - Responsible for management and oversight of all USCG safety, occupational and environmental health programs and activities within 40 state region, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Europe with staff of 45 specialists. Served as senior industrial hygienist, safety officer, and occupational health advisor to the National Strike Force
- Operations Officer, Communications & Law Enforcement Officer - Led emergency response operations to marine disasters, oil spills, chemical releases, fires and other natural disasters. Program Manager for a 24-hour communications and operations center, seven response vessels, manned by a crew of 50. Supervised all maritime response program, search & rescue, aids to navigation, and law enforcement program activities along the Delaware River and Bay.

EDUCATION

MS, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES, UCLA FIELDING SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Environmental Health Science - Industrial Hygiene, Occupational Health; Minor Hazardous Materials; High Honors, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health; 1995 AIHA Southern California Graduate Student of the Year

BS, MARINE SCIENCES, UNITED STATES COAST GUARD ACADEMY

Captain, Sailing Team; Commodore, Yacht Racing Squadron; 1984 Award for Excellence in Practical & Theoretical Seamanship

CERTIFICATIONS

- Active Top Secret Security Clearance (since 2001)
- World Safety Organization, Safety Executive, Governmental Safety Officer (since 1998)
- US Merchant Marine Master, Licensed Mariner (since 1988)
- World Sailor-Ocean Racing, International Sailing Federation 2016

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

- **How to Reform Military Gear Transfers to Police** Officers equipped like soldiers have appeared on the streets of American cities amid recent protests over George Floyd's killing. How should lawmakers reform a program that makes use of excess equipment and is popular with police departments, but that also raises substantial concerns about the militarization of policing? Jul 13, 2020 *The Wall Street Journal*
- **An Evaluation Of The Department Of Defense's Excess Property Program: Law Enforcement Agency Equipment Acquisition Policies, Findings, And Options** The Law Enforcement Support Office Program is efficiently run and effectively reuses excess department of defense property, but this is unlikely to resolve perceptions that the program contributes to the militarization of police. May 2018 *RAND Corporation*
- **Rebuilding Surface, Maritime, And Air Transportation In Puerto Rico After Hurricanes Irma And Maria: Supporting Documentation For The Puerto Rico Recovery Plan** The Homeland Security Operational Analysis Center was asked to develop a post storm recovery plan for Puerto Rico. This report describes the transportation sector, including pre-storm conditions, damage, repair cost estimates, and courses of action. Sep 2020 *RAND Corporation*
- **Managing International Borders: Balancing Security With The Licit Flow Of People And Goods** This perspective builds on global best practices and lessons learned from other established border management solutions and proposes opportunities to strengthen security while improving the flow of travelers and goods. May 2018 *RAND Corporation*
- **Lessons From Maritime Narcotics Interdiction: Interdiction In The Maritime Source, Transit, And Arrival Zones Of The Western Hemisphere** Sharing information with foreign partners and regional, local, and private actors has been proven to be absolutely critical to success in combating any transnational threat and preventing illegal activities from threatening the homeland and allies. Nov 2020 *NATO IOS Press*

AWARDS - HIGHLIGHTS

- RAND Corporation Key Contributor Medal 2016, 2017, 2019
- Defense Superior Service Medal, Office of Vice President of United States, 2008
- Defense Meritorious Service Medal, US Southern Command 2003
- USCG/DHS Meritorious Service Medal, 2005, 2009, 2014
- Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, 2003
- USCG Humanitarian Service Medal, 1995