Speaker

Captain Preston De Jean ,USMS, joined the United States Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA) in March 2011 as a faculty member in the Business Division of the Department of Marine Transportation. Since his time at the Academy, he spearheaded the creation of the Maritime Law Society; served as Chair of the Self-Study Steering Committee for the 2016 Decennial Reaccreditation and served as Assistant Dean for Academic Support Programs. Captain De Jean is currently a tenured Associate Professor of Business and Maritime Law in the Department of Marine Transportation and is currently the Academy's Interim Academic Dean.

Prior to his arrival at the USMMA, Captain De Jean served in the United States Army as a Lieutenant Colonel, Transportation and Logistics Officer, at the U.S. Army Surface Deployment and Distribution Command at Scott AFB, IL.

As a licensed attorney in Louisiana, he practiced law specializing in tax related matters, contracts, bankruptcy, and business consulting. He has also worked in higher education administration as Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs for the Southern University System in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Captain De Jean holds a Juris Doctor degree from the Southern University Law Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and a Masters of Law in Taxation from Golden Gate University in San Francisco, California. In addition, he has completed studies at the Harvard Kennedy School of Executive Education, receiving a certificate in the Art and Practice of Leadership.