

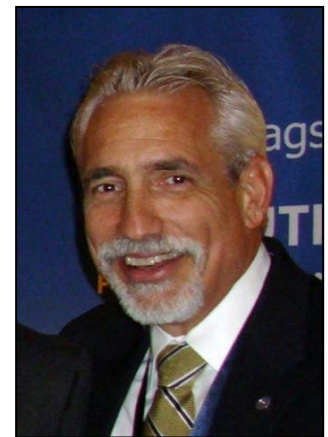


## **Captain JORGE J. VISO**

### **President, American Pilots' Association**

Captain Jorge Viso was elected President of the American Pilots' Association (APA) in 2016. Prior to being elected APA President, Captain Viso served in numerous other leadership positions, including Vice President of the APA's South Atlantic States; Vice President, then President of the Florida State Pilots' Association; and Chairman of the Tampa Bay Pilots' Association.

After completing an enlistment in the U.S. Coast Guard (1978-81), where he served aboard two cutters and advanced to Quartermaster Second Class, Captain Viso earned an appointment to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at King's Point. He graduated from King's Point in 1985 with a Degree in Marine Transportation and Nautical Science. Upon graduation, he was commissioned as an Ensign in the U.S. Naval Reserve and was licensed as Third Mate of Steam and Motor Vessels by the U.S. Coast Guard. He served as a pilot in the ports of Tampa Bay, Florida from 1990 through 2016. Prior to becoming a State-license pilot, Captain Viso briefly served aboard harbor tugs, before sailing deep sea on chemical, product and crude oil tankers. In addition to his Florida State pilot license, he holds U.S. Coast Guard credentials as Master of Steam and Motor Vessels (Limited Tonnage) and Chief Mate of Steam and Motor Vessels (Unlimited Tonnage). He also holds a federal First Class Pilot Endorsement for the waters of Tampa Bay and its tributaries.



Captain Viso also served as Chairman of the APA's Navigation and Technology Committee (NAVTECH) from 2002 until taking office as APA President. As NAVTECH Chairman, Captain Viso not only facilitated dialog among the nation's professional maritime pilots on portable pilot units (PPUs) and other navigation technology matters, he also worked with local and federal officials on navigation policies and infrastructure support, wrote numerous articles in maritime trade journals, and was a frequent speaker at national and international navigation technology and pilotage conferences.

In addition to various leadership positions held within national, state and local pilots' associations, Captain Viso served as Vice Chairman of the Florida Board of Pilot Commissioners, Executive Board Member of the Harbor Safety and Security Committee of Tampa Bay, and as an instructor at the Maritime Institute of Training and Graduate Studies (MITAGS), as well as at the Maritime Pilot's Institute (MPI).

Captain Viso is the recipient of numerous awards, including the U.S. Coast Guard Public Service Commendation, the U.S. Coast Guard Certificate of Merit, and the Outstanding Professional Achievement Award for the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy.

Captain Viso, born in Illinois, was raised Miami, Florida. He and his wife, Ana Maria, have three children, Alexandra, Jorge, Jr. and Daniella.

The American Pilots' Association is the national trade association of professional ship pilots. Its membership is composed of more than 50 groups of State-licensed pilots, comprising over 99% of all State pilots in the country. All three groups of United States registered pilots in the Great Lakes are also APA members. There are approximately 1,200 individual pilots in the APA member pilot groups. The APA was established in 1884 to protect and improve the state pilotage system, to maintain the highest possible professional standards for licensed pilots in the United States, and to promote navigation safety.