

Whitemarsh (Whit) Seabrook Smith, III

Captain Smith serves as the longest-standing President of Charleston Branch Pilots' Association, with 39 years at its helm. His career is defined by his constant striving for progress in the national and local maritime communities, playing a major role in leading the way towards modernization and teamwork in the shipping industry. Mr. Smith was awarded the Order of the Palmetto, the State's highest civilian honor, by Governor Henry McMaster in October 2022.

Captain Smith joined the Charleston Branch Pilots' Association in 1969 as an apprentice pilot and was licensed as a pilot in February three years later by the State of South Carolina. He has served as President of the Association from 1980 to 1984, and again from 1987 to the present.

First appointed in 1999 by Governor Hodges, Captain Smith has served as Board Member of the South Carolina State Ports Authority for 21 years, under three South Carolina governors. He has held every elected position within the board and was elected as Chairman of that Board from 2001 to 2004, and in this capacity was selected to testify to U.S. Congress on a national debate on governance of maritime issues. He has also been appointed to two other State Commissions by the State Governor.

For the last 24 years, he has served as Secretary-Treasurer of the American Pilots' Association. Based in Washington, D.C., the organization represents 95% of the nation's maritime pilots.

Also, during his career, Captain Smith has served on several business development boards. Captain Smith has been recognized for his leadership in maritime and transportation affairs by two statewide trade associations. Captain Smith is past President for Ashley Hall School for Girls, an Elder at First (Scots) Presbyterian Church, and a charter member of Rotary Breakfast Club of Charleston. He has been elected president of the Agricultural Society and the Saint Andrew Society, and commodore of Carolina Yacht Club.

Captain Smith and his wife Anne have three daughters and six grandchildren. He holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina.