



# Hebron reservist fighting oil spill

By Howard McEwen • Enquirer contributor • June 20, 2010

**HEBRON** - While vacationers consider steering clear of the gulf coast this summer during the ongoing oil leak, U.S. Coast Guard Lt. Commander Ryan Reardon may spend his entire summer there.

The Hebron resident has been assigned as the Parish President Liaison Officer for Orleans Parish.

"In this role, I serve as a direct link between the Parish President of Orleans Parish," said Reardon. He said Orleans parish is the city of New Orleans.

He has received 60 day orders, but said, "they are looking at the possibility of extending the orders to allow for extended support and continuity."

Reardon works with New Orleans city officials to address any questions or concerns they have with Coast Guard operations or with the response effort in general. He also debriefs the Incident Command Post in Houma, La. regarding the Parish's top concerns.

Reardon, a Coast Guard reservist, had to leave his wife and three sons, his job at Turner Construction and his studies at Northern Kentucky University, where he is working on an MBA and law degree.

He said his younger sons, Jackson, 3, and Luke, 1, don't comprehend how long he'll be gone. His wife, Renee, and 7-year old son, Ethan do.

"While Ethan is upset about me leaving, he knows that I am going to help people who really need it," said Reardon. "Renee has always been very proud and supportive of my service in the

Coast Guard."

Reardon is a preconstruction engineer/lead estimator for Turner Construction.

"As I got word of another member of our crew had been recalled, I spoke to my supervisor at Turner about developing a contingency plan in case I were recalled," he said. "I got the notice about three hours later that I was to report to New Orleans."

"Turner has been great with my involvement in the Coast Guard reserve, very supportive and accommodating as best they can be."

NKU said it provides assistance to all reservists and active duty personnel.

"NKU takes great pride in its growing number of students who are active duty and reservists," said NKU spokesman Chris Cole. "The university is committed to assisting these brave men and women in whatever ways possible and we salute their service, both abroad and domestically, to our nation."

Reardon, a LaSalle High School graduate, earned a civil engineering degree from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. Following that he served five years on active duty. In 2005, he transitioned to the Coast Guard reserve.

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