Meet the MBA Class of ’26: Emily Marks

February 17, 2025



Emily Marks (MBA ’26)
Newtown, PA

Emily Marks is a results-oriented Military Officer with over a decade of experience in the U.S. Coast Guard and the maritime industry. She excels in leading teams through complex and dynamic environments, including emergency response. Most recently, Emily received the 2024 Department of Homeland Security Secretary’s Award for Leadership Excellence, highlighting her exceptional leadership, strategic planning, and mission-driven execution. Adept at problem-solving and making high-stakes decisions with precision, her background combines technical expertise with a deep understanding of legal and operational complexities. Emily is well-versed in navigating and ensuring compliance within a dynamic regulatory environment, with

additional experience addressing challenges such as cybersecurity concerns, environmental sustainability initiatives, rapid growth in international shipping demands, technological advancements in automation, and evolving geopolitical risks.

What is a fun fact about you?
I am originally from a suburb of Philadelphia but have been to more Saints games than Eagles games!

Why are you pursuing an MBA?
I am looking to expand my professional expertise and develop more of a business mindset that can complement my experience in safety and regulatory compliance in the transportation domain.

What attracted you to Freeman?
I wanted to attend a full-time program to expand my network, meet people with different backgrounds and form meaningful connections.

Where do you hope to be in five years?
I plan to still be an active-duty officer in the U.S. Coast Guard, hopefully having been promoted to the next rank. I hope to continue leading teams to execute the U.S. Coast Guard's federally mandated missions in service to our country and people.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
My husband and I really enjoy attending sporting events and concerts throughout the city and the state. We have two dogs that we spend a great deal of time with. I am an avid reader and an aspiring vegetable gardener, but so far I have only managed to grow jalapenos!

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The Freeman School of Business appreciates the service of US veterans and is proud to assist US veterans in meeting their education and career goals.

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