

Frank Castellano
Bellport High School Class of 1986



Frank Castellano is a 1990 graduate of the US Naval Academy. He attended the Naval Postgraduate School earning a Master of Science Degree in systems Technology and the United States Naval War College earning his Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.

Commander Castellano was the commanding officer of the *USS Bainbridge* during the April 12, 2009 rescue of Captain Phillips from pirates off the coast of Somalia. On Sunday, April 12, 2009, Captain Richard Phillips was rescued from his pirate captors. Kirk Lippold, former Commander of the USS Cole and superior officer to Castellano at the time said Commander Castellano is absolutely rock solid, a very mature and experienced commanding officer. During his military assignments he has earned two Meritorius Service Medals and three Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals and a Navy Surface Warfare Badge.