

Captain Kristie Twining is an officer in the NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps, one of the nation's seven uniformed services. She began her career as a NOAA Corps officer more than 19 years ago. Having a desire to serve her country and work in the field of science, she found this to be the perfect fit. Captain Twining started out serving on a NOAA research vessel and was accepted into the NOAA flight program 16 years ago, flying first on small aircraft and gradually working her way up to aircraft commander in NOAA's Gulfstream IV, which is best known for its role as a "hurricane hunter." When she is not flying, she is the chief of the Aircraft Maintenance Branch at the NOAA Aircraft Operations Center in Lakeland, Florida.