

U.S. Coast Guard Commissions 41st Fast Response Cutter



Master Chief Petty Officer Jason M. Vanderhaden, the senior enlisted leader of the Coast Guard, presents Lt. j.g Paul Kang, the official USCGC Charles Moulthropé's (WPC 1141) long glass on Coast Guard Base Portsmouth, Va., Jan. 21, 2021. Each FRC is named for an enlisted Coast Guard hero who distinguished himself or herself in the line of duty. The Moulthropé is one of six fast response cutters destined for the Patrol Forces Southwest Asia (PATFORSWA) mission. U.S. Coast Guard / Petty Officer 1st Class Adam Stanton

PORTSMOUTH, Va.,— The USCGC Charles Moulthropé (WPC 1141), Patrol Forces Southwest Asia's first Sentinel-class fast response cutter, was commissioned into service at Coast Guard Base Portsmouth, Jan. 22, the Coast Guard Atlantic Area said in a release.

Adm. Karl Shultz, commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, presided over the 41st [Sentinel-class cutter](#) ceremony. Moulthropé is the first of six FRCs to be homeported in Manama, Bahrain.

The cutter's sponsor is Mrs. Dawn Schultz, spouse of Adm. Karl Schultz.

The Charles Moulthropé is the first of six FRCs planned for service in Manama, Bahrain. Stationing FRCs in Bahrain supports Patrol Force, South-West Asia (PATFORSWA), the Coast Guard's largest unit outside of the U.S., and its mission to train, organize, equip, support and deploy combat-ready Coast Guard forces in support of Central Command and national security objectives.

PATFORSWA works with Naval Forces Central Command to conduct maritime operations to forward U.S. interests, deter, and counter disruptive countries, defeat violent extremism, and strengthen partner nations' maritime capabilities to secure

the maritime environment in the Central Command area of responsibility.

The cutter is named after [Seaman Charles Moulthrope](#), remembered for heroic and selfless service as a member of the Revenue Cutter Service cutter Commodore Perry, en route to patrol Alaska, when he rescued multiple shipmates who ended up in the sea. They had attempted to rescue another crewman who was swept overboard during heavy seas. Moulthrope “grabbed a line and leaped over the side” into the freezing water to save the four men. Not long after, he lost his life in the performance of duties in Unalaska, Alaska, in 1896, when he fell from a mast while trying to free a fouled pennant. This ship will be the first modern Coast Guard cutter named for an enlisted man of the Revenue Cutter Service, bringing recognition to the service and sacrifice of hundreds of sailors who served their country aboard the ships of this precursor of the Coast Guard.

The Coast Guard has ordered 64 FRCs to date. Forty are in service: 12 in Florida, seven in Puerto Rico; four in California; three each in Hawaii, Texas, and New Jersey, and two each in Alaska, Mississippi, and North Carolina. Two FRCs arrived in their homeport of Apra Harbor, Guam, in 2020, with one more to come.

The Coast Guard took delivery of Charles Moulthrope on Oct. 22, 2020, in Key West. They will transit to Bahrain later this year with their sister ship, the Robert Goldman (WPC 1142), delivered Dec. 22, 2020, and due to be commissioned in February in Key West.

The fast response cutters were designed to patrol coastal regions and are operating in an increasingly expeditionary manner. They feature advanced command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance equipment, and launch and recover standardized small boats from the stern.