Coast Guard Cutter Harriet Lane Returns to Homeport After 78-Day Patrol



Two Belize coast guard members watch U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Harriet Lane crew members drive their cutter's over-the-horizon boat during training within Belize's territorial seas on Sept. 18. U.S. Coast Guard/Petty Officer 2nd Class Matthew Simpson

PORTSMOUTH, Va. — The crew of Coast Guard Cutter Harriet Lane returned to homeport in Portsmouth on Nov. 21 following a 78-day patrol in the eastern Pacific Ocean, the Coast Guard 5th District said.

The crew of the Harriet Lane started their patrol by transiting to the northern Chesapeake Bay to evade Hurricane Dorian's path. After the storm passed, the crew headed south to conduct a joint law enforcement patrol with the Belize coast guard within Belize's territorial seas. The result of the joint effort provided for a greater maritime security in the region, in support of the Coast Guard's Western Hemisphere Strategy.

The crew of the Harriet Lane also worked with a Coast Guard tactical law enforcement team to conduct numerous boardings, including a go-fast vessel and a self-propelled semi-submersible vessel, resulting in the interdiction of more than 5,800 pounds of cocaine and 5,400 pounds of marijuana, which has a combined street value of over $109 million.

"Our crew's professionalism and adaptability were vital to the success of this patrol," said Lt. Zachary Dietz, the operations officer aboard the Harriet Lane. "They proudly demonstrated the importance of remaining ready, relevant and

responsive in order to address the maritime security challenges our country is facing today.”

The crew of the Harriet Lane conducted the patrol in support of the Coast Guard’s 11th District and the U.S. Southern Command’s Joint Interagency Task Force South and routinely deploys in support of counter-drug, alien migrant interdiction, fisheries and search-and-rescue missions.