

# Coast Guard Cutter Mohawk Returns From Drug Interdiction Patrol



Crew members of the Coast Guard Cutter Mohawk conduct night helicopter tie-down operations with an MH-65 Dolphin helicopter crew in the Caribbean Sea on Nov. 5 during a 75-day patrol. U.S. Coast Guard/Lt. j.g. Kira Dabrowski

KEY WEST, Fla. – The crew of the Coast Guard Cutter Mohawk returned to their homeport of Key West following a 75-day patrol throughout the Caribbean Sea in support of U.S. Southern Command Joint Interagency Task Force South and the Coast Guard 7th District, according to a release.

During the patrol, the Mohawk crew interdicted three suspected drug vessels, detained 15 suspected drug smugglers and seized more than 5,500 pounds of cocaine. The cutter crew conducted a joint operation with the Royal Netherlands Navy for one of the interdictions to help strengthen international partnerships and interoperability in the Caribbean area of responsibility.

The Mohawk crew safely interdicted and repatriated more than 150 migrants back to their countries of origin, extending the Department of Homeland Security's Border Security mission into the maritime domain.

Between operational tasking, the cutter crew completed damage control, seamanship and navigation drills, as well as aviation training with an embarked Coast Guard Air Station Miami MH-65 Dolphin helicopter crew. The Mohawk's crew worked with multiple interagency and international maritime patrol aircraft and surface assets to counter transnational criminal organizations hindering the illicit flow of drugs, people and other dangerous cargo into the United States.