Cutter Escanaba Returns to Boston After Caribbean Sea Patrol, Change of Command



Crews from Coast Guard Cutter Escanaba guide an MH-60 Jayhawk from the flight deck while at sea. U.S. Coast Guard/Lt. j.g. Brianna Grisell

BOSTON –

The crew of Coast Guard Cutter Escanaba returned to Boston on July 11 following a three-month patrol conducting drug and migrant interdiction operations in the Caribbean Sea, the Coast Guard 1st District said in a release.

Throughout the patrol, Escanaba's crew focused their efforts on law enforcement, completed a three-week training assessment of mission capabilities in Portsmouth, Virginia, and held a change-of-command ceremony.



Vice Adm. Scott Buschman, the Atlantic Area commander, presides over the Escanaba's change-of-command ceremony in May as Cmdr. Michael Nalli relieves Capt. Michael Turdo. U.S. Coast Guard/Lt. j.g. Brianna Grisell

Escanaba's crew partnered with U.S. Customs and Border Patrol within the Mona Passage for migrant interdiction operations. Crews terminated three illegal migrant ventures and repatriated more than 100 migrants.

The crew's counter-narcotics efforts resulted in the disruption of more

than 5,500 pounds
of cocaine illegally trafficked by transnational criminal organizations.

During
Escanaba’s change-of-command ceremony, Cmdr. Michael Nalli relieved Capt.
Michael Turdo as the cutter’s commanding officer.

“It is an
honor and privilege to serve as the commanding officer of such a capable ship,”
Nalli said. “The crew is well-trained, and we are excited to get underway to
conduct the missions of the Coast Guard.”

Coast Guard Cutter Escanaba
– known as “The Pride of Boston” – is a 270-foot medium-endurance cutter with a
crew complement of 100.