U.S. Coast Guard Announces Homeport of Newest National Security Cutter

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Coast Guard has selected Charleston, South Carolina, as the home of the service's newest National Security Cutter, Coast Guard Headquarters announced in a June 26 release.

"I am pleased to announce that Charleston, South Carolina, will be the home of the Coast Guard's 11th National Security Cutter," said Adm. Karl L. Schultz, commandant of the Coast Guard. Construction on the 11th National Security Cutter is scheduled to begin by spring of 2020. Charleston is already home to two of the Coast Guard's National Security Cutters, the James and Hamilton. In 2017, the Coast Guard announced that the ninth and 10th National Security Cutters, currently under construction at Huntington Ingalls Shipyard in Pascagoula, Mississippi, will join the Charleston-based National Security Cutter fleet in the coming years.

Schultz further noted, "I am confident that the Charleston community is the right place for our Coast Guardsmen and their families to base these highly capable National Security Cutters with the global reach to respond to complex maritime threats and challenges."

National Security
Cutters are the most technologically advanced vessels in the Coast Guard. They are capable of supporting maritime homeland security and defense missions. They safeguard the American people and promote our security in a complex and persistently evolving maritime environment.

Grouping cutters of the same class is one critical variable in selecting homeports. Grouping cutters in the same location improves maintenance proficiency, streamlines logistics, and provides increased personnel flexibility.

The cutter is scheduled to arrive in 2024; its name has not yet been selected. This will be the fifth National Security Cutter assigned to Charleston.