USCGC Cutter Oliver Berry returns From 42-day Operation Blue Pacific patrol in Oceania

HONOLULU – The crew of Coast Guard Cutter Oliver Berry (WPC 1125) returned to Honolulu Nov. 10 following a 42-day patrol in support of Coast Guard Oceania District's Operation Blue Pacific in Oceania.

The Oliver Berry crew departed Coast Guard Base Honolulu in September and traveled more than 7,800 miles, making port calls in American Samoa, Samoa, and Tonga.

The cutter's crew partnered with Pacific Island nations during Operation Blue Pacific to strengthen maritime borders, counter illicit activity, and protect marine resources.

While in Samoa, the cutter crew supported strategic bilateral relations alongside fisheries officers from Samoa's Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Additionally, the crew hosted U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Matthew Younger from the U.S. Embassy in Apia, Samoa. While aboard, CDA Younger and the cutter command cadre discussed how the U.S. Coast Guard can continue to support Samoa's sovereignty in the Pacific through the bilateral maritime law enforcement agreement.

In Tonga, the crew embarked two members of the Royal Tongan Navy and successfully exercised the bilateral maritime law enforcement agreement to detect and deter illicit maritime activity. Furthermore, the crew attended the retirement ceremony for the Tongan Royal Navy Deputy Chief of Defence and participated in a community flag-football outreach clinic with local youth in Nuku'alofa.

“This patrol solidified critical alliances across Oceania,” said LT. Bennett Aneralla, commanding officer of the Oliver Berry. “Our crew’s unwavering professionalism and dedication consistently strengthened ties with our partners, fostering a more secure and prosperous Pacific.”

Operation Blue Pacific is an overarching multi-mission Coast Guard endeavor to promote security, safety, sovereignty and economic prosperity in Oceania. Coast Guard cutters, aircrew and personnel deploy throughout Oceania to maintain unrestricted, lawful access to the maritime domain for all nations, improve regional stability, and solidify the Coast Guard as a reliable partner for maritime safety, security and stewardship in the Pacific.

The Oliver Berry is a 154-foot Sentinel-class fast response cutter homeported in Honolulu. The cutter’s primary missions are maritime law enforcement, combating illegal, unregulated, unreported fishing, and search and rescue.

From U.S. Coast Guard Oceania District External Affairs