



Colette Eddy, daughter of William Trump, presents Lt. Jared Harlow, commanding officer of Coast Guard Cutter William Trump, a plaque during the cutter's commissioning ceremony at Sector Key West, Florida, Jan. 24, 2015. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Jon-Paul Rios.

Acquisition Update: Coast Guard Commissions 11th Fast Response Cutter Into Service

Jan. 27, 2015

The Coast Guard commissioned William Trump, the 11th fast response cutter and fifth to be based in Key West, Florida, Jan. 24, 2015.

Rear Adm. John Korn, commander of the Coast Guard's Seventh District, presided over the commissioning ceremony. Korn, who previously oversaw the Coast Guard's acquisition programs, spoke of the importance of the new FRCs to the execution of Coast Guard missions.

“The condition and serviceability of the Coast Guard's surface fleet and the projected timelines to replace these assets necessitate continued investment in major recapitalization programs. In order to operate efficiently and to ensure our workforce has the tools they need to do their jobs, we are acquiring new national security cutters, fast response cutters such as the William Trump, and, in the near future, the much-needed offshore patrol cutters,” Korn said. “The William Trump is a sorely needed addition to the fleet patrolling the waters off Key West and elsewhere in the Caribbean Basin.”

The cutter was named after William Trump, who participated in the occupation of Tunisia, the invasion of Sicily and the landings at Salerno before earning the Silver Star during the invasion of Normandy in 1944. Trump risked mines and heavy fire to anchor a safety line on Omaha Beach for the 200 troops on his vessel to follow. He retired a chief petty officer and died in 2009. Trump's daughter, Colette Eddy, served as the

ship's sponsor.

John L. Gatton Jr., who served on a landing craft infantry vessel in the same flotilla as Trump during the Normandy invasion, also attended. Gatton presented a ceremonial long glass to the crew.

The Coast Guard is acquiring 58 FRCs to replace its 110-foot patrol boats, which entered service in the 1980s. The service has ordered 30 FRCs so far. Twelve have been delivered, including the 11 now in service, and 11 more are under production.