The Sentinel-class fast response cutter (FRC) is designed for multiple missions, including drug and migrant interdiction; ports, waterways and coastal security; fishery patrols; search and rescue; and national defense. The Coast Guard has ordered 60 FRCs to date and plans to acquire a fleet of 64 FRCs to replace the 1980s-era Island-class 110-foot patrol boats. The total value of Phase 2 of the contract is currently approximately $1.48 billion; it has a total potential value of $1.74 billion if all options are exercised. The FRCs feature advanced command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance equipment; over the horizon cutter boat deployment to reach vessels of interest; and improved habitability and seakeeping. Thirty-eight FRCs are stationed throughout the United States: Six each are in Miami and Key West, Florida; seven in San Juan, Puerto Rico; four in San Pedro, California; two in Ketchikan, Alaska; three in Cape May, New Jersey; three in Honolulu, Hawaii; three in Pascagoula, Mississippi; three in Galveston, Texas; and two in Atlantic Beach, North Carolina.

Two FRCs will be commissioned later this year in their homeport of Guam. Future FRC homeports include Astoria, Oregon; St Petersburg, Florida; Boston, Massachusetts; Kodiak, Seward and Sitka, Alaska; and Manama, Bahrain.

“For updates on the FRC, visit the program’s website at www.dcms.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Acquisitions-CG-9/Programs/Surface-Programs/Fast-Response-Cutters/”

— Adm. Karl Schultz, commandant of the Coast Guard

“The fast response cutters are the mainstay of the Coast Guard’s coastal patrol fleet, providing multi-mission capabilities and interagency interoperability.”

— Adm. Karl Schultz, commandant of the Coast Guard

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