



Sentinel-class fast response cutters are named after Coast Guard enlisted members who distinguished themselves in the line of duty. Pictured above are, from left: Terrell Horne III, Forrest Rednour, Nathan Bruckenthal and Benjamin Bottoms. U.S. Coast Guard photos.

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## Acquisition Update: Coast Guard Reveals Names of FRCs 26-35

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The Coast Guard recently announced the names of the 26th through 35th Sentinel-class fast response cutters through a series of posts on its official blog, the Coast Guard Compass. FRCs are named after enlisted personnel who distinguished themselves in the line of duty.

The 10 enlisted heroes and the prospective hull numbers of their eponymous cutters are listed below. Links lead to Coast Guard Compass posts that includes biographical sketches of each namesake.

Joseph Gerczak (WPC 1126)

Gerczak was posthumously awarded a Silver Star and Purple Heart for his response to a Japanese air attack on his landing ship tank in 1943. The ship's crew also received the Presidential Unit Commendation. [Link](#)

Richard T. Snyder (WPC 1127)

Snyder was awarded a Silver Star for eliminating enemy resistance to an amphibious assault on Biak Island in Papua New Guinea in 1944, under heavy hand grenade fire. He was entitled to six bronze stars on his campaign ribbons, which included the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Medal, the Philippine Liberation Medal and the Good Conduct Medal. [Link](#)

Nathan Bruckenthal (WPC 1128)

Bruckenthal was posthumously awarded a Bronze Star, Purple Heart and Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal for his actions during combat operations as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. In 2004, Bruckenthal was mortally wounded during an attempt to board and investigate a boat in the North Arabian Gulf, alerting nearby security forces of a larger coordinated attack and averting further loss of life and environmental and economic damage. [Link](#)

Forrest O. Rednour (WPC 1129)

Rednour was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for risking his life to aid the rescue of over 100 men after the SS Dorchester came under attack by a German U-boat and subsequently sank in 1943. He was killed when Coast Guard Cutter Escanaba sank later that year during a patrol off Greenland and was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart. [Link](#)

Robert G. Ward (WPC 1130)

After successfully landing his crew during the first wave of the Normandy invasion, Ward returned to the beach under heavy fire to assist two landing craft whose boats had been destroyed by enemy mortar fire. For his conspicuous gallantry in action against the enemy, he was awarded the Silver Star and later received the Good Conduct Medal and was entitled to the American Area Medal and European Area Medal. [Link](#)

Terrell Horne III (WPC 1131)

Horne served as executive petty officer of Coast Guard Cutter Halibut and was mortally wounded during a law enforcement operation in 2012, in which he pushed a boarding team member out of the way when the panga they were investigating for narcotics smuggling rammed their cutter boat before they could board the vessel. For his heroism and selfless action to protect a fellow crewmember, he was posthumously awarded the Coast Guard Medal. [Link](#)

Benjamin A. Bottoms (WPC 1132)

Bottoms was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his part in the 1942 rescue of two Army airmen whose B-17 had crashed into an ice cap near the west coast of Greenland. Bottoms died the following day during an attempt to rescue additional airmen. [Link](#)

Joseph O. Doyle (WPC 1133)

Doyle was awarded the Gold Lifesaving Medal for his actions as keeper of the Charlotte, New York, lifesaving station in leading the rescues of crewmembers of two wrecked schooners in 1878. [Link](#)

William C. Hart (WPC 1134)

Hart was awarded the Gold Lifesaving Medal for his rescue of the crew of a stranded tug forced to abandon ship in a heavy storm in 1926. He was later commended for his response to a floating gasoline fire in 1927 and retired in 1950 after exemplary service in World War II. [Link](#)

Oliver F. Berry (WPC 1135)

Berry was one of the pioneers of the Coast Guard's aviation maintenance rating, serving as the lead instructor at the first U.S. military helicopter training unit and his efforts to develop the first rescue hoist. His work was recognized in a letter of commendation from the Coast Guard commandant for using his expert technical skill to aid in the transfer – requiring dismantling and reassembly – of helicopters to Newfoundland to rescue airline crash victims in 1946. [Link](#)

Eleven FRCs are currently performing operations – six in Miami and five in Key West, Florida. The 12th FRC has been delivered to Key West and is scheduled for commissioning in March 2015. Ten more FRCs are currently in production. The next six FRCs (No. 13-18) will be based in San Juan, Puerto Rico and are scheduled to begin arriving in early summer 2015.