Acquisition Update: Coast Guard Accepts 17th Fast Response Cutter

March 7, 2016

The Coast Guard accepted delivery of the 17th fast response cutter, Donald Horsley, in Key West, Florida, March 5.

The ship will be the fifth FRC stationed in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

The cutter’s namesake, Master Chief Petty Officer Donald Horsley, served on active duty for 44 years, from August 1942 to January 1987. His awards include the Bronze Star for his service in Vietnam and the Meritorious Service Medal.

The Coast Guard is acquiring 58 FRCs to patrol coastal areas and replace the 110-foot Island-class patrol boats, which entered service in the 1980s. The FRCs are 154 feet long with endurance for five days and feature improved seakeeping and habitability; advanced command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance equipment; and standardized cutter boats that can be launched from astern.

Of the 32 FRCs ordered, 15 are in service: six in Miami; six in Key West, Florida; and three in San Juan. The 16th FRC was delivered in December 2015 and is scheduled for commissioning in San Juan later this month.