

RESOLUTE History



The first cutter RESOLUTE was a top-sail schooner built and commissioned in 1867 for the Revenue Cutter Service. This first RESOLUTE was home-ported in Key West, Florida, and took on the missions of smuggling interdiction and search and rescue.

The current cutter RESOLUTE is very different in size and construction but the missions remain the same. RESOLUTE is the sixth of sixteen Reliance-class cutters. RESOLUTE was the first of her class to be

powered by two 16-cylinder 2,550 horsepower Alco 251B Diesel engines. RESOLUTE's keel was laid at the United States Coast Guard Yard, Curtis Bay, Maryland, in May 1965, and she was commissioned on December 8, 1966. Since that time she has seen several different homeports including San Francisco, California; Alameda, California; Astoria, Oregon; and her current home port of St. Petersburg, Florida.

In 1981, RESOLUTE extinguished a fire aboard the tug DeFelice alongside a San Francisco fuel pier. Two RESOLUTE crewmembers entered the burning tug and retrieved her injured occupants. Several members of RESOLUTE's crew were injured during this operation while they fought desperately to save the vessel and crew. In 1986, after successfully completing hundreds of SAR cases and fisheries boardings, RESOLUTE saw her first drug bust. The seizure of the M/V Pamnico and the arrest of the vessel's crew resulted in the interdiction of over 20,000 lb of marijuana headed for the streets of the United States.

During her tour of duty in Astoria, Oregon, RESOLUTE was called to assist vessels in distress on numerous occasions; however, RESOLUTE's primary calling was patrolling U.S. fishery protection zones. RESOLUTE also participated in the response to the Exxon Valdez oil spill disaster in Alaska.

RESOLUTE was decommissioned at the United States Coast Guard Yard in 1994 for a major refurbishment. Now re-commissioned, she continues to meet diverse challenges off the



Southeast United States and in the Caribbean Sea.

RESOLUTE's mission now focuses on drug and migrant interdiction in the Straits of Florida and throughout the Caribbean Sea. In the summer of 2010, Resolute participated in the response to the Deep Water Horizon oil spill, performing duties as Command Task Unit and the Coast Guard's media platform to communicate the service's response to the world.