



Commander John, W. Pruitt, III U. S. Coast Guard



Commanding Officer USCGC DAUNTLESS (WMEC-624)



Commander John W. Pruitt, III, is the Commanding Officer of the USCGC DAUNTLESS (WMEC-624) home ported in Galveston, TX. The missions of DAUNTLESS include Law Enforcement, Search and Rescue, Fisheries and Exclusive Economic Zone Enforcement, Port State Control, and Counterdrug and Migrant interdiction.

Commander Pruitt is a native of Atlanta, Georgia and a graduate of the United States Coast Guard Academy in 1994 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering.

Upon commissioning, Commander Pruitt served as a Deck Watch Officer aboard USCGC MUNRO (WHEC-724) home ported in Alameda, CA. He subsequently served as Officer-in-Charge LEDET (Law Enforcement Detachment) 5D, TACLET (Tactical Law Enforcement Team) North in Baltimore, MD, where he deployed onboard US Navy and Allied warships throughout the Caribbean and to the Persian Gulf, leading boarding teams enforcing counter-drug laws and the UN embargo of Iraq. Upon departing TACLET he commenced a tour of duty as Deputy, Systems Training Branch at C2CEN (Command and Control Communications Center), Portsmouth, VA. Upon his departure, he assumed duties as the Operations Officer aboard USCGC BOUTWELL (WHEC-719) home ported in Alameda, CA. While assigned to BOUTWELL he deployed to Iraq for both Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom in 2003. Remaining in California, Commander Pruitt assumed command of USCGC EDISTO (WPB-1313), San Diego, CA where he was responsible for patrolling the Southern Coast of California and Central America in support of the Coast Guard's Counter-Drug, Migrant Interdiction, and Search and Rescue missions. Upon departure from EDISTO, he was assigned to the Office of Strategic Analysis (the Coast Guard's "Think Tank"), at Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, DC where he worked to identify and analyze significant emerging geopolitical, economic, and environmental issues and trends, seeking to understand their potential strategic impact on the U.S. Coast Guard. Also while in DC, he served as Social Aide to The President of the United States under Presidents George W. Bush and Barrack Obama. Upon departing DC, he again returned to California to serve as the Executive Officer aboard USCGC BOUTWELL (WHEC-719) in Alameda, CA. In July of 2011 CDR Pruitt assumed duties as the Commanding Officer of USCGC DAUNTLESS (WMEC-624).

Attending Old Dominion University, CDR Pruitt was awarded a Masters of Engineering Management. He is also licensed as a Master of Vessels up to 100 Tons in the Merchant Marine.

Commander Pruitt's military awards include Four Coast Guard Commendation Medals, the U. S. Navy Achievement Medal, Three Iraq Campaign Medals, Permanent Cutterman designation, Tactical Law Enforcement designation, and several other personal and service awards. He is also the recipient of the NAACP Roy G. Wilkins renowned service award and the Black Engineer of the Year Awards Modern Day Technology Leader award.