

News Release

Date: July 12, 2012
Contact: District Public Affairs
(305) 415-6683

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security
**United States
Coast Guard**



Coast Guard Cutter VALIANT holds change-of-command ceremony

MIAMI BEACH — The Coast Guard Cutter VALIANT Commanding Officer will be relieved in a change-of-command ceremony scheduled for 10:00 a.m. Friday at Base Miami Beach, Florida.

Commander Stephen V. Burdian will relieve Commander John C. Dettleff as Commanding Officer of the VALIANT during the time honored military tradition.

Dettleff, a native of Shoreham, Long Island, New York, graduated with honors from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 1994 with a B.S. in Government. Upon graduation, Dettleff reported to 210-foot medium endurance cutter CGC DILIGENCE, homeported in Wilmington, NC. Dettleff also served aboard the ARLEIGH BURKE Class AEGIS Guided Missile Destroyer USS RUSSELL as part of the Navy Exchange program and commanded the 82-foot patrol boat, CGC POINT BRIDGE, in Marina del Ray, California. In June 2002, Dettleff graduated with a Masters Degree in Public Policy (MPP) from Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. Dettleff then served as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Humanities at the Coast Guard Academy before returning to CGC DILIGENCE in 2006 as the Executive Officer. From 2008 to 2010, Dettleff was assigned to the staff of the U.S. Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs committee, working for the Ranking Member, Senator Susan Collins (R-ME).

Dettleff assumed the duties of Commanding Officer of the VALIANT in June 2010. During his time on the VALIANT, Dettleff and the crew interdicted over 2,600 pounds of cocaine valued at over \$32.5 million, confiscated \$177,600 in bulk cash narco-trafficking proceeds, and rescued 387 Cuban and Haitian migrants.

Burdian, a classmate of Dettleff, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics and Computer Science from the Coast Guard Academy. Burdian reports for duty aboard VALIANT from United States Southern Command in Doral, Florida, where he served as the Maritime Operations Specialist for Counternarcotics and Counter Illicit Trafficking for the Caribbean, and Central and South America. His previous tours include Executive Officer of 210-foot medium endurance cutter CGC RESOLUTE in Saint Petersburg, Florida, Commanding Officer of 110-foot patrol boat CGC PADRE in Key West, Florida, Executive Officer of 110-foot patrol boat CGC MAUI in Miami Beach, Florida,

and First Lieutenant aboard 230-foot medium endurance CGC STORIS in Kodiak, Alaska.

The VALIANT is a 210-foot medium endurance cutter currently located in Miami Beach, Florida. VALIANT will shift homeports to Naval Station Mayport in Jacksonville, Florida in August. Its missions include law enforcement, search and rescue, living marine resource enforcement, and ports, waterways, and coastal security.

A change of command ceremony is a time honored naval tradition, which formally restates to the officers and crew of a unit, the continuity and authority of command. It involves the total transfer of responsibility, authority and accountability from one individual to another.

Rear Admiral Kevin S. Cook, Atlantic Area Deputy Commander, will preside over the ceremony.

Media interested in attending the ceremony should contact the District Seven Public Affairs office at (305) 415-6683. Media should arrive no later than 09:30 a.m. and have media credentials, a driver's license and proof of insurance if operating a vehicle to access Base Miami Beach.

###