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PRESS

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USCGC CYPRESS CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY

PENSACOLA, Fla. — U.S. Coast Guard will hold a change of command ceremony for U.S. Coast Guard Cutter CYPRESS (WLB 210) on July 1st at 5 p.m. at Naval Air Station Pensacola “Charlie” Pier onboard the installation.

USCGC CYPRESS Commanding Officer, Commander Amy Florentino will pass command to Lieutenant Commander Benjamin Keffer.

A native of Dover, Ohio, LCDR Keffer graduated from the Coast Guard Academy in 2002 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Management. As a cutterman, LCDR Keffer has served as an Operations Officer aboard USCGC ACACIA (WLB 406) in Charlevoix, MI, as Executive Officer aboard USCGC MORRO BAY (WTGB 106), and as Commanding Officer aboard USCGC STURGEON BAY in New London, CT and Cleveland, OH.

During shore assignments he earned a Master of Business Administration and a Master of Science in Accounting from Boston College, Carroll School of Management in 2008 and served as the Operation Expense Assistant Team lead at Coast Guard Headquarters in the Office of Budget Execution (CG-831). Most recently LCDR Keffer served as the Fiscal Year 2016 Coast Guard Budget Coordinator at Coast Guard Headquarters in the Office of Budget and Programs (CG-821).

CDR Florentino’s next assignment will be as School Chief of Coast Guard Officer Candidate School.

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For additional information, please contact Ensign M. Benson at (850) 361-7246.
Media interested in covering this event must contact NAS Pensacola Public Affairs, (850) 452-4436/2552/4466 for gate clearance.