



# ***PRESS RELEASE***

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## **USCGC DECISIVE CHANGE COMMAND CEREMONY**

PENSACOLA, Fla. — US Coast Guard Cutter Decisive (WMEC 629) will hold a change of command ceremony where Commander Blake Novak will transfer command to Commander Jose Martis onboard NAS Pensacola, Jun. 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am.

Under the command of Cmdr. Novak, USCGC Decisive sailed nearly 90,000 nautical miles over the course of six multi-mission patrols in the Caribbean Sea and Eastern Pacific Ocean.

Cmdr. Martis, a native of El Paso, Texas, graduated from Texas A&M University with a Bachelor's degree and Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.), while also successfully completing Officer's Candidate School in 1998. Having enlisted in 1992, Martis is a 26-year veteran of the United States Coast Guard.

Prior to this assignment, Cmdr. Martis served as the Deputy Chief, Office of Budget Development (CG-DCO-82) at Coast Guard Headquarters, responsible for developing the Deputy Commandant for Operations (CG-DCO) operational budget. His previous staff tours include Division Chief, Office of Budget Execution (CG-DCO-831) and Deputy Chief, El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC) Maritime Unit.

Martis' tours afloat include deck watch officer aboard USCGC Harriet Lane (WMEC 903) and operations officer aboard USCGC Bear (WMEC 901), both of which are stationed in Portsmouth, Va. He served as commanding officer of both the USCGC O'Cracoke (WPB 1307) and USCGC Sapelo (WPB 1314) in San Juan, Puerto Rico; and most recently, as executive officer of USCGC Vigilant (WMEC 617) in Cape Canaveral, Fla.

Subsequent enlisted assignments included deck seaman onboard USCGC Active (WMEC 618), in Port Angeles, Wash.; and Petty Officer at Coast Guard Group/Air Station, Corpus Christi, Texas.

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Martis' personal awards include six Coast Guard Commendation Medals, one Coast Guard Achievement Medal and two Commandant's Letters of Commendation, in addition to various team and unit awards.

Upon relinquishing command of USCGC Decisive, Cmdr. Novak will report for duty as District 11 Enforcement Branch Chief, at Alameda, Calif.

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Media interested in attending this event should contact NAS Pensacola Public Affairs, (850) 452-4436/4466 for gate clearance coordination and additional information.