



CAL MARITIME

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COAST GUARD VICE ADMIRAL JODY BRECKENRIDGE TO ADDRESS CAL MARITIME COMMENCEMENT, SATURDAY MAY 1, 2010

(Vallejo, CA – April 27, 2010)... U.S. Coast Guard Vice Admiral Jody A. Breckenridge currently Commander Pacific Area and Coast Guard Defense Forces West, will be the speaker for the 79th Commencement of The California Maritime Academy, May 1st. Vice Admiral Breckenridge will also receive a President's Award from Cal Maritime President William B. Eisenhardt for her distinguished service to the maritime community. 166 cadets will cross the stage at the Vallejo campus to receive their degrees.



The ceremonies will also include presentation of a Distinguished Alumna Award to Capt. Lynn Fivey Korwatch, a 1976 graduate of the Academy. Korwatch was a member of the first class of women to graduate from the institution and the first woman to command a large modern United States ocean going vessel. She presently serves as Executive Director of the Marine Exchange of San Francisco. She and husband Larry, also a 1976 graduate, will proudly watch their son Kent receive his degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Academy as well.

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Vice Admiral Breckenridge holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Virginia Tech, a Masters in Public Policy from the University of Maryland (with honors) and a Masters of Science in National Resource Strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. She was commissioned upon completing Officer Candidate School in 1976 and has risen steadily through the ranks of the Coast Guard to her current position of Vice Admiral and Commander, including assignments as Commander Pacific Theater Maintenance and Logistics, and Commander Eleventh Coast Guard District, Alameda, CA, overseeing service operations in the southwestern and eastern Pacific.

Vice Admiral Breckenridge has served as a role model and standard of professional excellence for women considering careers in uniformed services, and further, has supported the mission of the California Maritime Academy by playing a pivotal role in the establishment of the only ROTC-like U.S. Coast Guard college program in the nation at the Academy. She has recognized the value of state maritime academy graduates by establishing policy and guidelines at USCG Headquarters for opening all sectors of the Coast Guard to such graduates, both licensed and non-licensed.

The California Maritime Academy, Vallejo, CA, a campus of The California State University, is one of only seven degree-granting maritime academies in the United States, and the only one on the West Coast. Cal Maritime offers four-year degrees in international business and global logistics, facilities engineering technology, global studies and maritime affairs, marine engineering technology, marine transportation, and mechanical engineering, as well as professional development and extended learning programs and courses. For more information about Cal Maritime, visit www.csum.edu.

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