



# CAL MARITIME

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **ADM. ROBERT KRAMEK TO ADDRESS 2009 CAL MARITIME GRADUATES**

(Vallejo, CA – May 1, 2009)... Admiral Robert E. Kramek will address Class of 2009 graduates of The California Maritime Academy at their May 2<sup>nd</sup> Commencement ceremonies in Vallejo, CA. Adm. Kramek will also be presented with an Honorary Degree for his long and distinguished service to the maritime industry.

157 students will cross the stage at this year's Commencement, culminating a day which includes honors and recognition for outstanding students and scholars. Students headed for service in the U.S. Navy, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine will also take part in morning commissioning ceremonies.

Robert Kramek is an honors graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and attended postgraduate schools at the University of Michigan, Johns Hopkins University and the University of Alaska. He holds Master of Science Degrees in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Engineering Management. He attended the U.S. Naval War College – graduating with Highest Distinction, and completed the prestigious Capstone program at the National Defense University's Institute of Higher Defense Studies. He has been recognized as a distinguished alumnus of the Coast Guard Academy, War College and the University of Michigan.

Adm. Kramek most recently served as President and Chief Operating Officer and Board Member of the American Bureau of Shipping (ABS), having joined the firm as President and Chief Operating Officer of the ABS Americas Division.

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Since departing ABS, Adm. Kramek has led the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers and helped establish new Society chapters in Canada and Greece. He currently serves as a maritime advisor and consultant and is a member of several corporate and non-profit boards.

Prior to service with ABS, Adm. Kramek was Commandant of the United States Coast Guard, retiring from that post as a Four Star Admiral. During his tenure, he guided the service's international efforts to assist other countries in the development of their own sea-based law enforcement agencies

Adm. Kramek has received numerous military awards including Distinguished Service medals from the Department of Defense, Transportation and the United States Coast Guard. He is also a recipient of the American Pilots Association Navigation Safety Award, the Seamen's Church Institute Distinguished Service Award, the U.S. Navy League Distinguished Service Award, the Society of the Naval Order Sea Service Award, and was recently inducted into the United Nations Maritime Hall of Fame.

Nearly 1,000 students, faculty, staff, and families and friends of graduates are expected to gather under a large tent on the campus quadrangle for this year's ceremonies, starting at 2 p.m.

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