

USCGC MIDGETT (WMSL-757)



CO: CAPT Willie Carmichael

XO: CDR Brian Gismervik

Command Senior Chief: CSCS Preston Persaud
134 Assigned Personnel - 22 Officers, 110 Enlisted

Mission: The mission of USCGC MIDGETT is to protect, assist, and execute maritime law in an effort to save lives and safeguard the United States from illegal activity and foreign enemies.

Background: USCGC MIDGETT is named after RADM John Allen Midgett.

The Midgett Family arrived in North Carolina in the late 18th century, settling on the Outer Banks where members of the family participated in saving shipwrecked mariners and passengers before there was an organized lifesaving service. The Midgetts' history with what would later become part of the Coast Guard began as early as 1874. Records indicate the first Midgett family member to serve was L. Bannister Midgett, who was appointed as a keeper to an Outer Banks lifesaving station in 1874. The Chicamacomico Station, in service for 78 years beginning in 1874, had only three keepers, all were Midgett family members. The last keeper, Capt. Levene Midgett, had a crew of 16, and 11 of these were members of the family. In 1972 alone there were over 30 Midgett family members serving in the Coast Guard. To date, over 200 Midgett family members have served in the Coast Guard and its predecessor branches. The Midgett family gained notoriety in the Coast Guard start in the early 20th century. In August 1918, during the height of World War I, John Allen Midgett Jr. led his surfboat crew on a harrowing rescue of 42 men from a British tanker which had been torpedoed by a German U-boat off the North Carolina coast. For his efforts and bravery, the Coast Guard awarded him the Gold Lifesaving Medal and named Cutter John Midgett (WHEC 726) after him in 1972. The family members' dedication to saving life at sea is unquestioned, and so is their bravery. Ten members of the Midgett family have been recognized with Coast Guard awards for saving lives – seven Gold Lifesaving Medals and three Silver Lifesaving Medals have been awarded to members of the Midgett family. The continued commitment of the family to the service is ever present.



Counter-Russian Operation:

In June 2021, MIDGETT joined the U.S. Navy in countering Russian naval operations in the vicinity of the Main Hawaiian Island Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), the largest Russian exercise in the Pacific since the Cold War. MIDGETT was on scene for seven days as the Surface Action Group (SAG) Commander controlling two DDGs and one FRC under the tactical control of the U.S. Navy Commander Third Fleet (C3F). Overall, accumulated 30.4 sUAS hours in support of multiple intelligence collections requests; imagery and USCG contributions featured in INDOPACOM briefs and earned high accolades from C3F and DESRON-1 leadership.

Freedom of Navigation:

During the summer of 2021, MIDGETT patrolled the Bering and Chukchi Seas north of the Bering Strait to demonstrate the commitment to ensuring a safe and open Arctic. MIDGETT conducted joint ops with the Canadian Coast Guard SIR WILFRID LAURIER, Russian Border Guard KAMCHATKA, and CGC HEALY. MIDGETT patrolled the international boundary line and engaged community relations with the U.S. citizens on Little Diomedede Island. The 71-day patrol was the first fully operational deployment for MIDGETT as the newest WMSL in the PAC fleet. MIDGETT will continue to ensure safe and open waters during a Western Pacific patrol in the summer of 2022 by patrolling the South China Sea and other contested waters.

