

*Embargo: For Immediate Release.*

## US Coast Guard Tall Ship *Eagle* to visit Waterford ahead of The Tall Ships Races 2011

The US Coast Guard Cutter *Eagle* is scheduled to arrive at the North Quays in Waterford, on Friday as the city continues the countdown to The Tall Ships Races 2011 from June 30-July 3.

*Eagle* will be open for free public tours on Friday from 1-7pm and on Saturday and Sunday from 10am-7pm.

Ireland will be the first port of call during *Eagle*'s 2011 summer training cruise, which celebrates the 75th anniversary of the ship's construction in Hamburg, Germany in 1936.

*Eagle* is the largest Tall Ship flying the Stars and Stripes and the only active sailing square-rigger in US government service. It originally served as a training vessel for the German navy in the late 1930s.

Since 1946, *Eagle* has sailed each summer in support of United States Coast Guard officer training programmes, providing an unparalleled at-sea leadership and professional development experience for future officers of the US Coast Guard.

The 75-year-old *Eagle* is a 295-foot, three-masted barque, with more than 23,500 square feet of sail and six miles of rigging.

- Follow *Eagle*'s journey at [www.facebook.com/coastguardcuttereagle](http://www.facebook.com/coastguardcuttereagle). Further information about Waterford's hosting of The Tall Ships Races 2011 is available at [www.waterfordtallshipsrace.ie](http://www.waterfordtallshipsrace.ie).

ENDS – May 25, 2011.

Media contacts: Brian Nolan, 0868191730; Rachel Sherry, 0876622111.

Photo caption: *Eagle*, the US Coast Guard cutter is pictured off Waterford at the start of The Tall Ships Races 2005 (Pic: Dylan Vaughan).

