

## FIRST EVER IN-PERSON COAST GUARD MARATHON WILL INCLUDE FULL MARATHON, HALF MARATHON AND 5K IN ELIZABETH CITY, NORTH CAROLINA

ELIZABETH CITY, NC September 9, 2021 – Until last year, the United States Coast Guard (USCG) was the only branch of the U.S. military without a named road race, and due to the pandemic, the 2021 inaugural event was held virtually. Despite the switch, the race generated a larger than expected number of participants with more than 11,000 runners from every U.S. state and several countries participating. Elizabeth City, North Carolina, the race's host city, looks forward to welcoming those runners and new participants to the second annual and first live event March 3 – 5, 2022.

"The original plan was to add a full marathon to the event in 2023, but the overwhelming support for the inaugural virtual event led to the decision to include 26.2 for 2022," Visit Elizabeth City's Executive Director Corrina Ruffieux said. "We're thrilled to add this challenging route to the Coast Guard road race and even more excited to rebrand the event as the Coast Guard Marathon, following suit with other celebrated military races including the Air Force Marathon and Marine Corps Marathon."

Visit Elizabeth City is expecting more than 10,000 runners and their supporters to visit the coastal community for the spring event. Race weekend will include a pre-event expo for packet pickup, a 5K, half marathon, full marathon and post-race celebration. Each race route will take runners on a tour through downtown Elizabeth City, past the beautiful waterfront and historic Elizabeth City State University. The full and half marathon routes offer the unique opportunity to run on-base at U.S. Coast Guard Base Elizabeth City and past its famous Air Station.

"I am excited for the first-ever, in-person Coast Guard Marathon. The completely virtual inaugural event last year was more successful than we could have imagined and set the pace for this legacy event in honor of the greater Coast Guard for years to come," stated commander Brook Sherman, Commanding Officer, USCG Base Elizabeth City. "I am personally looking forward to running with and meeting participants from across the nation in Elizabeth City for the March 2022 event!"

Registration for the 2022 event goes live September 15, 2021. Participants are encouraged to register for this legacy event on launch day in support of the men and women who have served and protected the coasts for the last 231 years.

After a hugely successful first year, Coast Guard Marathon organizers are thrilled to be able to partner with a Coast Guard related charity and donate proceeds to organizations that support Coast Guard people and future event development. Per the USCG's guidelines, the charity beneficiary's name cannot

yet be released but race organizers look forward to sharing the details as soon as possible! Those interested in participating may learn more and register at <u>CoastGuardMarathon.com/register</u>.

Elizabeth City is an official Coast Guard City and is honored to be the home of the first sanctioned Coast Guard Marathon. The race was created in collaboration with Base Elizabeth City and has received official approval for trademark and licensing from the United States Coast Guard. Sponsors include Presenting Sponsor AdeNation Hydration, College of the Albemarle, Navy Federal Credit Union, Southern Bank, VectorCSP and Biggs Cadillac Buick GMC.

For more information, go to CoastGuardMarathon.com.

## Host: Visit Elizabeth City

Our quaint, coastal town with plenty of southern charm is located mid-way down the East Coast. We are a short drive full of waterways and woodlands to the beaches of the Outer Banks and the nearby big cities of Hampton Roads, making Elizabeth City the perfect place to stay to enjoy all the benefits of a big city while enjoying a rural location. Elizabeth City is home to three institutions of higher learning and one of the largest Coast Guard bases in the United States. Our small town has big history and plenty to offer travelers visiting for leisure or business. Our revitalized and growing downtown and waterfront areas are alive with unique eateries, shopping, events, and fun for everyone. For more information, visit: VisitElizabethCity.com

## Presenting Sponsor: AdeNation

AdeNation is a division of Super Bakery, Inc. located in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. AdeNation is a powdered hydration drink you mix with water, and was born out of curiosity from an experience founder Franco Harris, an NFL football legend, had with severe dehydration. After researching hydration, he learned that as many as 75% of people start their day dehydrated. With this knowledge, Franco, along with help from doctors, scientists, athletic trainers and others in the field of hydration, worked on developing a hydration drink that would rapidly hydrate anyone. After years of testing, AdeNation is now available as an easy-to-use hydration drink for every body, every day. For more information, visit: adenation.com

Media contact: Corrina Ruffieux | Corrina@VisitElizabethCity.com | 860.287.0199