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Contact: Stephanie Botner
(561) 383-4135

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botner@portofpalmbeach.com

Web site: www.portofpalmbeach.com

HERN PROMOTED TO DIRECTOR OF SECURITY AT PORT OF PALM BEACH

RIVIERA BEACH, Fla. – Ken Hern, who has played an integral role in advancing security at the Port of Palm Beach and enhancing relationships between the port and various entities, has been promoted to the position of director of security at the Port of Palm Beach.

Hern joined the Port of Palm Beach two-and-a-half years ago as manager of port security and has worked closely with tenant security officers and federal, state and local agencies in efforts to ensure compliance with governmental security mandates.

Hern has forged highly productive relationships with such agencies as the U.S. Coast Guard, Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), the Riviera Beach Police Department, and Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office at a time when security is a vital priority for seaports.

"Ken Hern has proven his ability to initiate and implement policies and procedures that are essential in the post-9/11 environment," said Lori A. Baer, executive director of the Port of Palm Beach. "His understanding of what is needed and his ability to work in conjunction with those at numerous agencies have helped propel the Port of Palm Beach to the forefront in the highly specialized arena of port security."

Under the U.S. Coast Guard, the port has achieved compliance with Marine Transportation Security Act (MTSA) requirements, while, under FDLE, it has attained standards mandated by Florida Statute 311.12.

Locally, the port has a direct working relationship with Riviera Beach police, with Hern directing the work of those officers under a full-time contract to meet state sworn law enforcement presence requirements.

On the county level, the port provides dock space for a Palm Beach Sheriff's Office marine unit to assist with waterside patrol near the newly opened recreation area on Peanut Island. In addition, Hern has been instrumental in facilitating county and state interagency training exercises at the port.

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