

**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL**

TO

**NELSON P. HARRIS
MASTER CHIEF GUNNER'S MATE
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Master Chief Petty Officer HARRIS is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Command Master Chief and Armory and Ammunition Supervisor, Coast Guard Atlantic Area from March 2002 to June 2006. His aggressive leadership, comprehensive knowledge of munitions regulations, and organizational skills were critical in planning and executing a massive short-notice effort to provide over 21 tons of ammunition for ten patrol boats assigned to support Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. Skillfully overcoming every obstacle, his foresight and extraordinary efforts ensured that the cutters, sent on the Coast Guard's first combat deployment since Vietnam, had the ammunition they needed upon arrival to the combat theater of operations. The Chief of Naval Operations recognized his plan as essential to solving ammunition distribution issues. He spearheaded a massive distribution of additional weapons and ammunition throughout Atlantic Area. Expertly managing a complex web of requirements, he led the six Area Armories in the distribution of 6,150 new small arms and 28.6 million rounds of ammunition. His efforts directly contributed to the success and safety of the inter-agency rescue teams. Master Chief Petty Officer HARRIS' dedication and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard

**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
(GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A SECOND)
TO
COMMANDER MARILYN P. STREET
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Commander STREET is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Commanding Officer, Communication Area Master Station Pacific, Point Reyes, California, from November 2004 to June 2007. Demonstrating superior leadership, vision, and technical expertise, she modernized and sustained a broad range of communications services critical to Coast Guard-wide operations. Her personal initiative and innovation were the catalysts for the development and fielding of several ground-breaking new capabilities, including new contingency communications. These new communications capabilities significantly enhanced the Coast Guard response during the San Diego wildfires, the grounding of the motor vessel SELENDANG AYU, Hurricane KATRINA, and Hurricane RITA. Furthermore, these capabilities have become the blueprint for Coast Guard-wide implementation. Her decisive actions allowed a myriad of new tactical communications capabilities to be fielded across the fleet, including access to the Department of Defense Secret Internet Protocol Network. Commander STREET's dedication and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE AIR MEDAL**

TO

**LEWIS D. BLACKWELL
AVIATION SURVIVAL TECHNICIAN SECOND CLASS
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Petty Officer BLACKWELL is cited for meritorious achievement in aerial flight on 27 August 2005 while serving as rescue swimmer aboard Coast Guard helicopter, CG-6574. The helicopter launched at 0200 to assist the fishing vessel NATURE, which was floundering in 45-knot winds and 15-foot seas, 35 miles southwest of Naples, Florida. Once over the NATURE, he quickly prepared for deployment when the panicked fishermen abandoned their vessel. Entering the pitch black water, he swam for the struggling men who were quickly being separated by the pounding waves. Taking the first man in tow, he labored to reach the second man as waves continuously crashed over their heads. Seeing the helicopter overhead being buffeted by the severe gusts, he wrestled the first survivor into the rescue basket and held on to prevent it from swinging wildly as it left the water. Just then, the wave dropped away, leaving him dangling ten feet in the air. Releasing his grip, he crashed onto his back into the waves. Undaunted, he quickly swam to the second survivor, freeing him from lines that were entangling his neck and torso. Petty Officer BLACKWELL's actions and skill were instrumental in the rescue of two lives. His courage, judgment, and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE AIR MEDAL**

TO

**RYAN P. PHILLIPS
AVIATION SURVIVAL TECHNICIAN SECOND CLASS
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Petty Officer PHILLIPS is cited for meritorious achievement in aerial flight while serving as Rescue Swimmer aboard Coast Guard helicopter CG-6517 on 31 December 2005. Arriving on scene, the crew of CG-6517 spotted a partially submerged vehicle and its hapless driver floundering in rapidly-running, neck-deep water. As the flight mechanic lowered him into the water, Petty Officer PHILLIPS immediately began to struggle against the torrential current. Finally able to grasp the weakened survivor, he simultaneously rigged the quick strop, while fighting off floating debris and holding the victim's head above water. As the hoist cable came taught, he immediately noticed that the victim was hopelessly entangled beneath the muddy, swirling river. Using his knife, and with only seconds to spare, he frantically sliced at the obscured entanglements while he continued to struggle against the current and rising water. Finally cut free, he and the exhausted driver were quickly hoisted into the helicopter. His courage, judgment, and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE COAST GUARD COMMENDATION MEDAL
TO**

**ANGEL I. NAJOLE
CHIEF AVIATION MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Chief Petty Officer NAJOLE is cited for outstanding achievement while serving as Flight Mechanic aboard Coast Guard helicopter, CG-6041, on the afternoon of 24 June 2004, CG-6041 was dispatched from Air Station Elizabeth City to the position of a distress call received, ANDALU, which was located 300 nautical miles southeast of Elizabeth City. Upon arriving on scene, the crew of CG-6041, unable to see the vessel due to the tossing seas, rain squalls, and low ceilings, was vectored into position by an overhead C-130 aircraft. Chief Petty Officer NAJOLE worked diligently to ready the cabin for rescue operations while maintaining critical awareness of the aircraft's position and altitude. Applying precise timing, he skillfully lowered the rescue swimmer between the violently pitching waves into the roiling seas for each of the extraordinarily demanding hoists, as the safety pilot assisted him by calling out altitude and wave intervals. Low on fuel and unable to return to Elizabeth City due to strong head winds, he assisted with the care of the survivors during the long and treacherous transit 330 nautical miles east to Bermuda. His swift actions and precise aeronautical skill were instrumental in the saving of three lives. Chief Petty Officer NAJOLE's dedication, judgment, and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

The Operational Distinguishing Device is authorized.

**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE COAST GUARD COMMENDATION MEDAL
TO
CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER JOHN N. CHANCE
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD RESERVE**

Chief Warrant Officer CHANCE is cited for outstanding achievement while serving as Training Liaison Officer and Engineering Training Team Senior Assessor at the U.S. Navy Afloat Training Group Pacific Northwest, Everett, Washington, from November 2003 to December 2007. He led four rigorous Command Assessments of Readiness and Training and four Engineering Limited Team Training evolutions for six different classes of Coast Guard cutters. On four occasions when not enough active duty trainers were available, he rearranged his civilian employment schedule on minimal notice in order to sail with cutters during transits to deliver training needed to maintain operational readiness. His steadfast commitment prevented the cancellation of required training and saved the Coast Guard over \$5,000 in travel costs. Serving on a joint team of Coast Guard and Navy subject-matter experts, he drastically improved the Pacific Area cutter training process by developing standardized cutter drill scenarios that improved training fidelity, prevented duplication of effort in the fleet, and enabled unit training teams to focus their efforts on running safer, more productive drills. Chief Warrant Officer CHANCE's dedication, judgment, and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE COAST GUARD ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL
(SILVER STAR IN LIEU OF A SIXTH)**

TO

**VICTOR D. BANKS
STOREKEEPER FIRST CLASS
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Petty Officer BANKS is cited for superior performance of duty while serving on board USCGC SHAMAL (WPC-13) from May 2006 to May 2008. Demonstrating superior technical expertise, Petty Officer BANKS oversaw and ethically managed an average annual budget of over \$375,000 and orchestrated over 1,300 purchase requests in a two-year period. He was a significant contributor to SHAMAL's law enforcement success, qualifying as a Boarding Team Member within four months of reporting. He assisted in the interdiction of over 225 illegal migrants and five suspected go-fast smuggling vessels. His dedication was further evident in his mentoring and training of 15 shipmates on inport and underway watch qualifications. Prior to and throughout SHAMAL's 2006 Tailored Annual Cutter Training, he played a key role as the cutter's logistics support coordinator, as well as serving as a boundaryman and gunner for a host of key Damage Control and Gunnery drills and exercises. His efforts constituted to SHAMAL's receipt of the highly coveted Battle "E" award for operational readiness. Petty Officer BANKS' diligence, perseverance and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

The Operational Distinguishing Device is authorized.

**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE COAST GUARD ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL
(GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A SECOND)**

TO

LIEUTENANT BEATRICE B. McCLANAHAN

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Lieutenant McCLANAHAN is cited for superior performance of duty while serving as Investigation and Analysis Branch Chief, Seventeenth Coast Guard District, from October 2004 to May 2007. During her tenure, she masterfully mediated 40 license appeals and congressional inquiries. Her achievements focused investigative efforts on vetting critical safety recommendations that will have positive impacts on fleets nationwide. She is further commended for the exceptional teamwork she exhibited during the response to the tragic foundering of the motor vessel SELENDANG AYU, which was compounded by the crash of a Coast Guard rescue helicopter resulting in the death of six vessel crewmembers. She performed flawlessly as the Regional Incident Command Situation Unit Leader during the critical first 16 hours of the crisis. Her establishment of the battle rhythm, operational reports, and team communications quickly brought the necessary assets to bear on the 335,000 gallon oil spill, and ensured that critical information flow met stringent demands of the public and senior leadership. Lieutenant McCLANAHAN's diligence, perseverance, and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE COAST GUARD MEDAL
TO
ROMAN P. HEARST, JR.
MASTER CHIEF BOATSWAIN'S MATE
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Master Chief Petty Officer HEARST is cited for extraordinary heroism on the evening of 25 February 2007, while part of a land rescue party from Station Humboldt Bay engaged in the perilous rescue of a man swept off the Humboldt Bay north jetty. Master Chief Petty Officer HEARST and the other members of the rescue party ran approximately half a mile to the end of the moss-covered, partly awash jetty and discovered the victim slipping from consciousness as he hung upside down twenty feet below the top of the jetty, between several dolosse, unusually-shaped concrete blocks similar to jacks used to protect harbor walls from the force of the sea. He and another rescuer carefully traversed down the twenty feet over the slippery dolosse to reach the victim and discovered he had multiple contusions, abrasions, and a possible leg fracture. The rescuers decided that the only way to get the victim to safety was to free him from the dolosse and physically carry him to the top of the jetty. While attempting to free the victim, multiple waves exceeding twenty feet in height pummeled the rescuers with such force that the survival helmet was yanked off his head, and the rescuers were nearly swept away several times. After freeing him, the rescuers carried the victim between them through breaking waves to the top of the jetty. They quickly determined the victim needed immediate medical attention and ran through breaking surf to the end of the jetty where a waiting Coast Guard Aviation Survival Technician began first aid. A helicopter transferred the victim to the hospital where he eventually made a full recovery. Master Chief Petty Officer HEARST demonstrated remarkable initiative, exceptional fortitude, and daring in spite of immediate personal danger in this rescue. His courage and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE COAST GUARD MEDAL
TO
MORGAN F. MANN
BOATSWAIN'S MATE THIRD CLASS
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Petty Officer MANN is cited for extraordinary heroism on 24 March 2006 as boat crewmember onboard Motor Life Boat 47210 at Coast Guard Station Ketchikan, Alaska, in the rescue of a woman who was being battered at the base of a rocky cliff by large waves during a storm, and desperately clinging to a line that had been lowered by a local fire department and was now entangled in a rock outcropping above her. Recognizing that she could not be safely pulled up the 50-foot rocky cliff, Petty Officer MANN volunteered to deploy from the Motor Life Boat as a surface swimmer. He quickly donned the rescue swimmer gear and, without hesitation or concern for his own safety, entered the turbulent frigid waters. Battling 10- to 12-foot seas and 30-knot winds as waves continuously crashed over his head, he swam 150 feet to the woman and immediately placed his body as a physical barrier between her and the jagged rocks. The woman, suffering from shock, a broken leg, profuse bleeding from several deep lacerations, and hypothermia causing her to drift in and out of consciousness, needed immediate evacuation to save her life. Fighting the cold and his own physical exhaustion, he carefully removed the woman from the fire department's rescue harness and placed her in a personal floatation device. As he and the woman were pulled 150 feet through the treacherous seas back to the Motor Life Boat, he struggled to keep the victim afloat and protected her from the crashing waves with his own body; as a result, he spent over half of the return trip submerged, nearly drowning himself and ingesting an excessive amount of water which caused him to vomit numerous times. Demonstrating superlative strength and perseverance, he overcame all odds to save the woman's life. Petty Officer MANN demonstrated remarkable initiative, exceptional fortitude and daring in spite of imminent personal danger. His courage and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS
TO
NICHOLAS N. JONES
AVIATION SURVIVAL TECHNICIAN FIRST CLASS
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Petty Officer JONES is cited for extraordinary heroism while participating in aerial flight on the day and night of 8 May 2005 while rescuing three people from the sailing vessel AL MEISAN. The vessel had been severely damaged and was sinking in a strong nor'easter 465 miles northeast of Air Station Elizabeth City, North Carolina. Demonstrating superior courage despite great danger, he was deployed into 30-40 foot seas whipped by winds gusting in excess of 50 knots to rescue the three imperiled sailors. As he was lowered into the raging waters near the sailing vessel, he was nearly struck by the mast and broken rigging that was being whipped violently in the wind. Unable to make any forward progress against the overwhelming sea state and currents, he was hoisted back into the aircraft and immediately articulated a second plan to execute the rescue. He instructed the flight mechanic to lower him just above the top of the waves as he directed the first survivor to enter the water using hand signals. Once again in the raging seas, his determination and stalwart physical ability allowed him to reach the drifting survivor. Despite tumbling down the face of 40-foot breaking waves, he expertly placed the survivor in the basket only to find the hoist cable fouled on the aircraft. Exhibiting supreme poise and physical ability, he kept the basket upright and above the surface, and the survivor stable until the flight mechanic freed the cable and hoisted the sailor to safety. He again reassessed the situation, and due to limited fuel, opted to rescue the remaining survivors with the more challenging rescue strop. He accomplished these last two hoists with incredible skill and alacrity. Petty Officer JONES' actions, skill and heroism were instrumental in the rescue of three people. His courage, judgment and devotion to duty in the face of hazardous conditions are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS
TO
KELVIN T. COSSER
AVIATION SURVIVAL TECHNICIAN SECOND CLASS
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Petty Officer COSSER is cited for extraordinary heroism while participating in aerial flight on Coast Guard helicopter CG-6501 on 5 August 2007. His crew was tasked with flying through the vicious winds of Hurricane ASTON to rescue five people on the stricken fishing vessel MARY LOU located 15 miles from the eye of Hurricane ASTON, 275 nautical miles southwest of Honolulu. Demonstrating extraordinary foresight and ingenuity, he discussed and planned for unconventional hoisting methods with the flight mechanic. Additionally, he assumed the additional responsibility of monitoring the aircraft's altitude for 300 feet and below and continually provided altitude deviations caused by dangerous downdrafts, providing a crucial backup to the pilots. Upon arrival on scene, he courageously deployed into the violent 35-foot seas, enduring 80-knot winds in the process. While he prepared the first survivor for the hoist, the intense wave action ripped the survivor from his arms. Fighting through the radical seas, he powered through the colossal waves to relocate the survivor and complete the hoist. Assailed by dangerous debris, gargantuan waves, and blinding sea spray, he heroically redeployed to the water time and again and rescued the survivors one after another, while enduring with each survivor's aggressive state. Displaying endless resolve, he literally forced the fifth and final survivor into the rescue strop as the survivor's fear had induced him into a semi-comatose state. Despite the exhaustion from his efforts, he rendered critical medical assistance to three of the survivors. Petty Officer COSSER's skill and valor were instrumental in the rescue of five people. His courage, judgment, and devotion to duty in the face of hazardous conditions are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE LEGION OF MERIT
TO
CAPTAIN JULIE A. ROBERT
UNITED STATES NAVY**

Captain ROBERT is cited for outstanding meritorious service as the Exercise Director, Coast Guard Atlantic Area and Coast Guard Defense Force East from July 2004 to July 2007. During her tenure, Captain ROBERT demonstrated superb professional acumen leading the Coast Guard's largest operational command in examining and evaluating the Nation's preparedness to respond to contingencies within the maritime domain. She expertly directed the concept development, planning, and execution of the first-ever Proliferation Security Initiative, Exercise CHOKEPOINT '04, highlighting international cooperation, information sharing, and coordination in the identification and interception of precursor materials for the development of Weapons of Mass Destruction. The international partnerships she orchestrated will have long-term benefits to national security. She developed a Concept Plan for Maritime Homeland Security and Defense with Commander, United States Second Fleet, and Commander, Coast Guard Atlantic Area, facilitating joint collaborative crisis action planning and operational response to maritime terrorist threats. Through engagement with Joint Task Force Atlantic Canada, their ground breaking document is an essential element in planning for United States and Canadian Forces in the maritime domain. Displaying exceptional leadership skills, she was instrumental in launching the FRONTIER SENTINEL maritime security and defense exercise series with the United States Navy, Coast Guard, and Canadian agencies. These exercises directly impact operations by enhancing the collaborative planning, and command and control structures between these organizations. Captain ROBERT's ability, diligence, and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Navy.

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF

**THE LEGION OF MERIT
(GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A SECOND)**

TO

CAPTAIN HARRIS N. FORD

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Captain FORD is cited for outstanding meritorious service as Chief of Staff, Ninth Coast Guard District from November 2005 to April 2008. Demonstrating exceptional leadership and vision, he oversaw the successful execution of more than 10,000 incidents, saving 1,773 lives, more than \$22 million in property and assisting more than 12,000 others. He fostered superb regional interagency relationships within the U.S. Departments of Homeland Security, Justice, and State, including coordinating the inaugural Customs and Border Protection/U.S. Coast Guard Great Lakes Security Working Group, resulting in unprecedented intra-departmental cooperation in the complex enforcement environment along the 1,500-mile Northern Border. Demonstrating superb foresight, he cemented critical partnerships with Canadian provincial and national law enforcement entities while coordinating extensive logistical and fiscal support systems that ensured the success of numerous high-visibility, bi-national law enforcement initiatives including Operations NORTHERN PIKE and BORDER PUSH. Serving during a period of dramatic regional change, he expertly brokered limited resources to ensure readiness for large scale events, including the 2006 Canadian/U.S. Lakes preparedness exercise, 2006 Great Lakes Tall Ships tour, and 2007 Spill of National Significance exercise. His oversight of the Cleveland Federal Executive Board's Emergency Preparedness Committee significantly improved civil readiness and a multi-agency response for continuity of governmental operations during disasters. Ever mindful of the value of diversity, he selflessly served as Executive Vice President of the Association of Naval Service Officers and was instrumental in creating a Cleveland-area Association of Naval Service Officers chapter. Captain FORD's ability, diligence and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

SAMPLE CITATIONS, CERTIFICATES, AND COAST GUARD RECOMMENDATION, FORM CG-1650

**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE COAST GUARD DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL**

TO

REAR ADMIRAL RICHARD R. HOUCK

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Rear Admiral HOUCK is cited for exceptionally meritorious service to the Government of the United States in a position of great responsibility as Commander, Thirteenth Coast Guard District from July 2005 to August 2007. Demonstrating his passionate pursuit of operational excellence, he transformed the readiness and capabilities of the Thirteenth District and achieved unparalleled success in every mission area. He vastly improved the maritime security of the Pacific Northwest by perfecting and deploying new operating methods and procedures, including vertical delivery of security teams to offshore vessels, force protection tactics to secure vital military outload operations and high-value Navy assets, plans to detect and defeat small boat attacks, and creation of the nation's first fully integrated Joint Harbor Operations Center to fuse communications, intelligence, and multi-agency efforts to defend against all maritime threats. He oversaw development of a comprehensive Canadian engagement plan to foster international relationships and forge close cross-border partnerships with the Canadian military, law enforcement, and maritime safety communities. He personally directed actions to improve maritime safety by ordering an overhaul of hazardous bar regulations, exposing and deterring drug use in the commercial fishing industry, and investigating and prosecuting vessel operators whose reckless behavior endangered the lives of their passengers. His impact was felt well beyond the Thirteenth District through selection by the Secretary as the Principal Federal Official for Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands, significantly enhancing hurricane response readiness throughout those important and vulnerable islands. Finally, he unfailingly supported Coast Guard personnel and their families, advocating for educational resources, housing improvements in remote coastal communities, and career development opportunities. Rear Admiral HOUCK's leadership, dedication, and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the BRONZE STAR MEDAL to

COMMANDER PHIL S. DULA

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For meritorious achievement in connection with combat operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force as Director of Training for the Maritime Training Team of the Coalition Military Assistance Training Team, Coalition Provisional Authority, Baghdad, Taji, and Um Qasr, Iraq in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM from 5 January to 5 June 2005. In an extremely difficult environment, aggravated by an increased security threat from Iraqi insurgents, facing irregular mortar and rocket fire, Commander DULA was instrumental in returning an effective indigenous Naval Force to the Iraqi coastal waterways. Beginning with the manpower from the fragmented remains of a Naval Force hardly changed since the postwar devastation of 1991 and completely disestablished as part of the rebuilding phase of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, he successfully trained and put Iraqi Naval Officers and Sailors back to the task of protecting Iraq's homeland. This Iraqi Coastal Defense Force will achieve a direct and positive economic impact to commerce, vital revenue streams and national security by the restored ability to control smuggling, piracy, and the terrorist threat. Despite hostile conditions and traveling on extremely dangerous water and roadways, he worked alongside Iraqi Nationals and Coalition Forces to leverage strategic assets in the region that enabled development of the Iraqi Coastal Defense Force. Commander DULA's courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

For the President,

T. W. ALLEN

**Admiral, United States Coast Guard
Commandant**