**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF**

**THE COAST GUARD ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL**

# **TO**

# **THOMAS R. LARSON**

**MARINE SCIENCE TECHNICIAN THIRD CLASS**

**UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

**Petty Officer LARSON is cited for superior performance of duty while assigned to U.S. Coast Guard Sector Baltimore, Maryland, from April 2011 to April 2015. Quickly earning four Marine Safety Qualifications, Petty Officer LARSON became a valuable asset to the Port State Control (PSC) and Port Safety and Security (PSS) Divisions. Displaying exceptional leadership during more than 130 port state control exams and more than 60 facility inspections, Petty Officer LARSON directly contributed to the safety and security of the port. As a member of the Port State Control Division, Petty Officer LARSON was vital to the team responsible for the detention of the M/V WADI ALARISH for suspected pollution violations; in addition, he volunteered to escort and supervise an eight-hour session of the preparation of critical documents for the case directly resulting in the assessment of a $15,000 fine. A valuable team member, Petty Officer Larson was instrumental to the success of two Multi-Agency Strike Force Operations, which included the inspection of 280 containers and the verification of 1301 Transportation Worker Identification Cards. Demonstrating tremendous professional competence well above his pay grade, Petty Officer LARSON personally provided extensive training which contributed to 11 Active Duty, five Reserve, and three Auxiliary members’ qualifications. These members were instrumental to the continuity of exceptional customer service in the midst of a 30 per cent departmental workforce reduction. In addition, Petty Officer LARSON voluntarily developed detailed plans for a storage locker to house equipment frequently used by the Domestic Vessels Branch, saving the Sector over $2,000. Petty Officer LARSON’s selfless dedication to the community was exemplified through his devotion of 300 hours assisting in the designing, building, painting, and delivery of a tricycle for a local boy affected by Spina Bifida. Petty Officer LARSON'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.**

**The Operational Distinguishing Device is authorized.**