**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF**

**THE COAST GUARD ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL**

**(GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A THIRD)**

**TO**

**KIETH A. MUNOZ**

**MACHINERY TECHNICIAN SECOND CLASS**

**UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

**Petty Officer MUNOZ is cited for superior performance of duty while serving on board USCGC GEORGE COBB (WLM-564) from February 2019 to June 2022. As a subject matter expert for engineering, damage control, and ATON performance standards, MK2 directly contributed in the development of 29 shipboard qualifications. When a fire alarm activated in the middle of the night while on duty, MK2 investigated and found the #1 air compressor smoking and immediately took action to secure the air compressor that prevented a fire. As lead tank inspector during George Cobb’s 2020 dry dock, MK2 provided oversight for the preservation of 16 tanks. With a nearly depleted engineering department due to COVID-19, MK2 demonstrated exceptional moxie during the repair of sea water restriction and cooling issues resulting in seven disabling engine casualties. He worked over 20 hours past liberty replacing engine sea water cooling pumps, troubleshooting and cleaning engine coolers, and overhauling an entire engine accessory drive unit. During the replacement of a damaged fire pump, MK2 managed the removal and installation process by ensuring equipment was properly rigged for safe transfer and directed proper alignment installation procedures. As the monthly maintenance manager MK2 dedicated over 3000 hours of corrective and preventative maintenance critical to auxiliary and propulsion plant operations. Petty Officer MUNOZ’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**