CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF

**THE COAST GUARD ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL**

**TO**

**CONOR M. CANTWELL**

**FIREMAN**

**UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Fireman CANTWELL is cited for superior performance of duty while serving as a crewmember onboard the CG 45640 in response to a boat collision on the Severn River near Annapolis, Maryland on July 4, 2014. Displaying outstanding judgment and foresight, he quickly prepared medical supplies to treat several potentially injured boaters. After assisting the coxswain with safely navigating through a waterway congested with over 600 recreational vessels, Fireman CANTWELL assessed the scene of the collision and discovered a significant amount of blood and broken glass on the disabled vessel. He quickly ensured all crewmembers were provided with proper protective equipment and then prioritized treatment of those injured to include a passenger with a potentially life-threatening head injury and another passenger with glass impalement to the leg. Fireman CANTWELL skillfully prepared bandages for his fellow crewmembers to stabilize the individuals and prevent further injury during the transit to shore. While rendering critical assistance to injured passengers, he quickly rigged the severely damaged vessel for a side tow; his actions allowed the coxswain to effectively navigate with the stricken vessel alongside to awaiting emergency personnel at a local pier. Fireman CANTWELL exhibited exceptional initiative preparing the CG 45640 for mooring, staging fenders and mooring lines without prompting to expedite the mooring evolution and the safe transfer of the injured passengers. The quick actions displayed by Fireman CANTWELL and the rest of the CG 45640 crew were directly responsible for ensuring the safety of two people and saving the life of a third victim who was subsequently air lifted to a local trauma center. Fireman CANTWELL’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.