**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF**

**THE COAST GUARD COMMENDATION MEDAL**

**TO**

**TONYA J. MULHERN**

**MARINE SCIENCE TECHNICIAN FIRST CLASS  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

**Petty Officer MULHERN is cited for outstanding achievement while serving aboard Coast Guard Sector Baltimore, Maryland from November 2012 to July 2015. During this period she diligently served in a number of challenging roles, certifying as a Federal On-Scene Coordinator Representative (FOSCR) and acting as a Marine Environmental Response Duty Officer. Petty Officer MULHERN effectively executed 15 Letters of Warning, 10 Notices of Violation, two civil penalties worth $1.8 million, and four federalized cases with a total ceiling of $105,000. Her leadership was instrumental in the high media interest response to two boats that caught fire and sank in the Baltimore Inner Harbor. Petty Officer MULHERN’s expertise was also evident during prolonged investigations of persistent discharges in Baltimore and the District of Columbia, as well as the successful containment of a potential oil discharge from the technically challenging response to the sunken tug KALEEN MCALLISTER. Her exceptional oversight and attention to detail garnered high praise from the Marine Safety Laboratory as a prime example for oil sampling; skills that were vital to the unprecedented prosecution of two crewmembers from the M/V SELENE LEADER for illegally dumping oil after bypassing the oily water separator. Additionally, she was always the first to volunteer to a request for assistance, unhesitatingly deploying on short notice to support District response efforts in the wake of Hurricane Arthur. Her shipmates and local agencies have consistently relied on her expertise, work life knowledge, and empathy in all matters of the Coast Guard mission at hand. In support of humanitarian causes she has volunteered with organizations including the Maryland Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity, and the Baltimore Zoo. Petty Officer MULHERN’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.**