



## **Legion of Merit**

### **Auxiliary Legion of Merit Award – 2024**

The Auxiliary Legion of Merit (ALOM) is awarded for service comparable to the ADSM but in a duty of lesser, though considerable, responsibility. The Commandant or any Coast Guard Vice Admiral may award the ALOM. All ALOM packages must be submitted through the appropriate Auxiliary chain of leadership to NACO for review and approval. This applies prior to District review and subsequent routing of nominations to Area or Headquarters level.

In general, the ALOM will be awarded to Auxiliarists in leadership positions who have performed such exceptionally meritorious service as to justify the award of the ADSM, except as to degree of merit. Recognized performance must clearly be much higher than expected and have a measurable, positive effect on the Auxiliary across multiple Auxiliary regions or at Auxiliary Area or National level. This should not be interpreted to preclude the award of the ALOM to any Auxiliarist whose acts or services meet the requirements. When the degree of achievement or service rendered, although meritorious, is not sufficient to warrant award of the ALOM, the AMSM should be considered.

### **This Year's Recipients are:**

**COMO MARY L. KIRKWOOD** as Vice National Commodore

**COMO DOUGLAS S. CREAM** as Assistant National Commodore, Chief Counsel

**\*\* CITATIONS FOLLOW \*\***

**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF  
THE AUXILIARY LEGION OF MERIT  
TO  
COMMODORE MARY L. KIRKWOOD  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**

**Commodore KIRKWOOD is cited for outstanding meritorious service as Vice National Commodore from November 2022 to August 2024. Exercising extraordinary supervisory and managerial skill across the Auxiliary's 18 national program directorates and more than 630 staff officers, she steered vital initiatives to successful completion that greatly improved the Auxiliary's capacity to deliver exceptional service to the Coast Guard with mindful consideration of their efficacy as COVID-19 limitations were relaxed. She expertly managed the Auxiliary's National Strategic Plan by ensuring extensive collaboration between Auxiliary national program managers and their Coast Guard counterparts to achieve objectives. As Chair of the Auxiliary Onboarding Work Group, she crafted numerous improvements that greatly streamlined Auxiliary enrollment and ensured new members were quickly welcomed and acclimated in Auxiliary missions. She masterfully established two new Auxiliary national directorates focused on investigative and administrative management along with an innovative new archive for Auxiliary documents, reports, and correspondence. Her oversight of the Auxiliary's Diversity Directorate was instrumental to support of the National Commodore's "Inclusion" watchword and yielded the most annual National Commodore's Three-Star Diversity Award nominations. As a direct result of her inspirational leadership and steadfast commitment to organizational excellence, the Auxiliary delivered more than 3.5 million hours of operational and administrative support to Coast Guard missions, performed more than 202,000 vessel examinations and marine dealer visits, and saved over 100 lives and \$11 million in property. Commodore KIRKWOOD'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 Coast Guard Auxiliary.**



**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF  
THE AUXILIARY LEGION OF MERIT  
TO  
COMMODORE DOUGLAS S. CREAM  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**

**Commodore CREAM is cited for outstanding meritorious service as Assistant National Commodore – Chief Counsel from November 2022 to August 2024. Demonstrating extraordinary professionalism and keen insight, Commodore CREAM provided superb legal advice to the National Commodore, the Chief Director of Auxiliary, Coast Guard District Legal Officers and Directors of Auxiliary, and all Auxiliary national program managers. His invaluable counsel included countless prohibited source determinations that facilitated Auxiliary units' acceptance and utilization of gifts in accordance with legal and ethical standards along with guidance that was instrumental in quickly resolving sensitive disciplinary matters in accordance with Coast Guard and Auxiliary policy. He drafted and reviewed numerous National Board recommendations, contracts, and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) including superlative work as part of the Auxiliary Financial and Inventory Control Work Group that developed a comprehensive SOP which provided thorough guidance for the conduct of resource management at Auxiliary flotilla, division, and district organizational levels. He was integral to the establishment of two new Auxiliary national directorates that focus on investigative and document management administration and helped craft Letters of Intent designed to renew the Auxiliary's youth development partnership with the Boy Scouts of America and strengthen the Auxiliary's partnership with BoatUS. A consummate teammate, he collaborated with the Chief Director of Auxiliary to review Auxiliary and Boating Safety program guidance documents with mindful consideration of their efficacy as COVID-19 limitations were relaxed. Commodore CREAM'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 Coast Guard Auxiliary.**

