



Auxiliary Meritorious Service Medal

Auxiliary Meritorious Service Medal Award – 2024

The Auxiliary Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) is awarded to Auxiliarists who have contributed exceptional meritorious service to the Coast Guard and/or Auxiliary. Auxiliarists who serve in any capacity within the Auxiliary are eligible. The Auxiliary MSM may be awarded by any Flag officer. The meritorious performance of duty must have enhanced Auxiliary goals.

This performance must clearly be of a nature much higher than that normally expected, and which has a significant positive effect on the ability of the Coast Guard and/or the Auxiliary to complete its missions and goals. For this award, the key words are outstanding and meritorious service worthy of special recognition, which contributes significantly to fulfillment of Auxiliary goals at the local level.

This Year's Recipients are:

COMO J. PATRICK FEIGHERY as Deputy National Commodore for Operations and Atlantic Area (West)

COMO ALLEN W. FREDD, JR. as Deputy National Commodore for Mission Support and Atlantic Area (East)

COMO LINDA M. MERRYMAN as Deputy National Commodore for Information Technology and Planning

COMO TINEY D. SINGLER as Deputy National Commodore for Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) and Pacific Area

COMO DAVID R. BARBER as Assistant National Commodore, Chief Financial Officer

COMO SUSAN A. DAVIES as Assistant National Commodore for Information Technology

COMO PETER K. JENSEN as Assistant National Commodore for Performance and Student Programs

COMO ROBERT L. LAURER as Assistant National Commodore for Recreational Boating Safety (RBS)

COMO RICHARD F. MIHALCIK as Assistant National Commodore for Administrative Services

COMO TODD S. MONIS as Assistant National Commodore for Force Readiness Command (FORCECOM)

COMO FREDERICK G. SAUNDERS as Assistant National Commodore for Response and Prevention

COMO TRACY R. SCHULTZ as Assistant National Commodore for Diversity and Inclusion

COMO DAVID A. ELLIOT as Deputy Assistant National Commodore for Force Readiness Command (FORCECOM)

BRUCE J. KELTON as Deputy Chief Counsel

ANTHONY E. MARZANO as Deputy Assistant National Commodore for Response and Prevention

AMANDA L. CONSTANT as Director of Computer Software and Systems

BARRY D. DENTON as Director of Public Affairs

SVEN C. DOBLER as Director of International Affairs

LEE G. ZIMMERMANN as Director of Human Resources

WILLIAM G. BALLARD as Deputy Director of User Support and Services

JOSEPH J. ESPINO as Deputy Director of Cybersecurity

FARON PETTEYS as Deputy Director of Training

TERESA A. BARTH as Executive Assistant to the National Commodore

THOMAS W. BAMFORD as Division Chief for Diversity
Administration

DELORIS K. HENDRICKSON as Conference Administrator to the
National Commodore

**** CITATIONS FOLLOW ****

**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE AUXILIARY MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
(GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A THIRD)**

TO

COMMODORE J. PATRICK FEIGHERY

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Commodore FEIGHERY is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Deputy National Commodore for Operations and Atlantic Area (West) from November 2022 to August 2024. Demonstrating keen managerial skill, Commodore FEIGHERY oversaw Auxiliary operations and activities in six districts along with functional responsibilities of the Auxiliary's Response, Prevention, International Affairs, and Emergency Management Directorates. Exercising superb operational expertise, he ensured safe, timely, and complete deployments of Auxiliarists who augmented Coast Guard operations at the Southwest Border and for Operation Vigilant Sentry. He coordinated extensive updates to the Performance Qualification Standards for the Auxiliary's surface, aviation and telecommunications programs, its Marine Safety Handbook, and its Commercial Fishing Vessel Examination program. As a direct result of his inspirational leadership, his national directorates achieved 82 percent of their goals in the Auxiliary's 2022-2028 Strategic Plan, and Auxiliarists delivered more than 900,000 hours of support to Coast Guard missions, over 50,000 vessel examinations and marine dealer visits, and saved over 30 lives and \$3.8 million in property. Commodore FEIGHERY's dedication 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 MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
(GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A SECOND)**

TO

COMMODORE ALLEN W. FREDD, JR.

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Commodore FREDD is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Deputy National Commodore for Mission Support and Atlantic Area (East) from November 2022 to August 2024. Demonstrating keen managerial skill, Commodore FREDD oversaw Auxiliary operations and activities in five districts along with functional responsibilities of the Auxiliary's Public Affairs, Chaplain Support, Human Resources, and Training Directorates. He adeptly positioned the Auxiliary to provide significantly improved support to Coast Guard missions including enthusiastic cultivation and expansion of the Auxiliary Chaplain Support program to more than 100 participants who support Coast Guard District Chaplains and comprehensive overhaul of the Auxiliary Coast Guard Recruiting Support program guide that improved Auxiliarists' preparedness and ability to support Coast Guard Recruiting Offices. As a direct result of his inspirational leadership, his national directorates achieved 87 percent of their goals in the Auxiliary's 2022-2028 Strategic Plan, and Auxiliarists delivered more than 1.9 million hours of support to Coast Guard missions, over 110,000 vessel examinations and marine dealer visits, and saved over 40 lives and \$3.4 million in property. Commodore FREDD's dedication 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 MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
(SILVER STAR IN LIEU OF A SIXTH)**

TO

COMMODORE LINDA M. MERRYMAN

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Commodore MERRYMAN is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Deputy National Commodore for Information Technology and Planning from November 2022 to August 2024. Demonstrating outstanding leadership, she led four directorates comprised of more than 180 staff members and ensured the reliability and effectiveness of more than 40 mission-critical Auxiliary information systems. She expertly guided growth of Auxiliary cybersecurity programs to meet Coast Guard and Auxiliary information technology infrastructure requirements. Applying superb programmatic insight and initiative, she guided her directorates to implement a Communications Services Officer virtual course in the Auxiliary Online Classroom, create the “Value of the Coast Guard Auxiliary” report and over 400 Performance Measurement reports, and dependably conduct quarterly New Member and Exit Interview surveys used by leaders at every level to gauge unit strengths, weaknesses, and trends. She shepherded significant expansion of the Auxiliary University Program from 11 units on college campuses to 17 units along with Auxiliary Sea Scout program growth from 300 scouts in 25 Sea Scout Ships to more than 665 scouts in 34 ships. Commodore MERRYMAN’s dedication 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 MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
(GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A SECOND)**

TO

COMMODORE TINEY D. SINGLER

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Commodore SINGLER is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Deputy National Commodore for Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) and Pacific Area from November 2022 to August 2024. Demonstrating keen managerial skill, Commodore SINGLER oversaw Auxiliary operations and activities in five districts along with functional responsibilities of the Auxiliary's Public Education, Vessel Exams and Program Visitations, and RBS Outreach Directorates. Exercising remarkable initiative and resource management, he was instrumental in securing a \$105,000 grant to procure stickers and whistles that helped increase the effectiveness of Auxiliary paddle craft program outreach efforts. He coordinated extensive revisions to vessel examiner forms and public education courses, and he guided creation of a new Auxiliary Program Visitor handbook and an attractive new Youth Education Toolkit. As a direct result of his inspirational leadership, his national directorates achieved 100 percent of their RBS goals in the Auxiliary's 2022-2028 Strategic Plan, and Auxiliarists delivered more than 700,000 hours of support to Coast Guard missions, over 40,000 vessel examinations and marine dealer visits, and saved over 25 lives and \$4.2 million in property. Commodore SINGLER's dedication 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
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TO

COMMODORE DAVID R. BARBER

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Commodore BARBER is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Assistant National Commodore, Chief Financial Officer from November 2022 to August 2024. Demonstrating exceptional financial management insight, Commodore BARBER redesigned national financial planning and analysis processes including the implementation of a collaborative, bottom-up budgeting approach. These changes afforded each Auxiliary Directorate the opportunity to engage in beneficial financial planning sessions. He expertly developed new financial dashboards utilizing cutting-edge technology to provide the Auxiliary's National Executive Committee with on-demand access to relevant budgetary and expenditure data. This change enhanced transparency and accountability while providing the Auxiliary's national leaders with vital information to manage their strategic budgets. Commodore BARBER effectively led over 20 annual planning meetings with national leaders and deftly guided their management of an operating budget of more than \$500,000. Exercising superb financial expertise, he spearheaded exhaustive cost-benefit analyses that resulted in savings of more than \$70,000 in the Auxiliary's annual operating budget. Commodore BARBER's dedication 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 MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
TO
COMMODORE SUSAN A. DAVIES
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**

Commodore DAVIES is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Assistant National Commodore for Information Technology from November 2022 to August 2024. Under her skillful leadership, the Auxiliary's information technology group effectively supported over 40 mission-critical systems including the national website and AuxDirectory. She oversaw the successful roll-out of single sign-on access for key systems and automatic transfer of test results from the Auxiliary Online Classroom into AUXDATA II. She supervised the acquisition, testing, and seamless implementation of the Auxiliary's new Help Desk service, ensuring uninterrupted support for all Auxiliarists and the recreational boating public. She astutely guided the growth of cybersecurity programs and capabilities to meet Coast Guard augmentation requests and the needs of the Auxiliary's information technology infrastructure. Applying thorough knowledge of Auxiliary policy and procedures, she provided expert recommendations to the Coast Guard's AUXDATA II program manager and vendor across a wide array of programs, directly contributing to the success of a steady three-week release cycle that promptly reviewed and prioritized more than 1,000 critical changes. Commodore DAVIES' dedication 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
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(GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A THIRD)**

TO

COMMODORE PETER K. JENSEN

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Commodore JENSEN is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Assistant National Commodore for Performance and Student Programs from November 2022 to August 2024. An ardent champion of non-traditional recruiting opportunities, Commodore JENSEN's innovative and determined efforts enabled the Auxiliary to significantly assist Coast Guard workforce development. He led the Auxiliary University Program to contribute well-trained and qualified candidates to the Coast Guard including 31 summer interns, 20 acceptances to Coast Guard Officer Candidate School, and five ensigns via the Direct Commission Officer program. Commodore JENSEN supervised substantial growth of the Auxiliary Sea Scout program from 300 scouts in 25 Auxiliary-sponsored Sea Scout Ships to more than 665 scouts in 34 Ships. Recognizing the need to revitalize Auxiliary support of the Academy Admissions Partner program, he recruited new partners which led to an 18 percent increase in program coverage. He also ensured that over 400 Performance Measurement monthly, quarterly, and annual reports used by Auxiliary leaders and staff at every level to gauge unit strengths, weaknesses, and trends, were accurately produced and distributed on time. Commodore JENSEN's dedication 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
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(GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A FIFTH)**

TO

COMMODORE ROBERT L. LAURER

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Commodore LAURER is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Assistant National Commodore for Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) from November 2022 to August 2024. Demonstrating outstanding leadership, Commodore LAURER managed the Auxiliary's national Public Education, Recreational Boating Safety Outreach, and Vessel Examinations and Program Visitations directorates and ensured Auxiliarists remained abreast of programs and materials that kept the recreational boating public safe and informed. Commodore LAURER's steadfast guidance was instrumental to achievement of all RBS goals in the Auxiliary's 2022-2028 Strategic Plan. Exercising remarkable initiative and resource management, he secured a \$105,000 grant to procure stickers and whistles that helped increase the effectiveness of Auxiliary paddle craft program outreach efforts, and he coordinated extensive revisions to vessel examiner forms and the Auxiliary's major boating safety courses, "Boat America" and "Boating Safety and Seamanship." As a direct result of his supportive guidance, each directorate saw growth in their inventories of certified Instructors, Vessel Examiners, Program Visitors, Paddlecraft Operators and Paddlecraft Ashore Instructors. Commodore LAURER's dedication 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.

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(GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A SECOND)**

TO

COMMODORE RICHARD F. MIHALCIK

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Commodore MIHALCIK is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Assistant National Commodore for Administrative Services from November 2022 to August 2024. Demonstrating exceptional leadership and organizational skill, Commodore MIHALCIK oversaw the creation and establishment of the Auxiliary's new Document and Administrative Directorate and Administrative Investigations Directorate. He developed the Standard Operating Procedures and guidelines for both directorates and then promptly screened and identified over 40 Auxiliarists whose talents appropriately filled requisite staff positions within them. Exercising superb insight, determination, and initiative, Commodore MIHALCIK supervised the design and implementation of the Auxiliary's new Document Management System which provided the Auxiliary with a secure and reliable data repository for its documents, reports, and historical records. As a subject matter expert in investigations, he skillfully established a unique working relationship with Coast Guard Investigative Services (CGIS) that yielded unprecedented augmentation of CGIS offices. He also provided invaluable support to the Chief Director of Auxiliary by helping conduct routine background checks on Auxiliarists. Commodore MIHALCIK's dedication 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
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TO

COMMODORE TODD S. MONIS

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Commodore MONIS is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Assistant National Commodore for Force Readiness Command (FORCECOM) from November 2022 to August 2024. Exercising keen programmatic insight and expertise, Commodore MONIS led the Auxiliary's Public Affairs, Auxiliary Chaplain Support, Human Resources, and Training Directorates to significantly improve Auxiliary preparedness and non-traditional services. He adeptly supervised the meticulous design and implementation of revised Performance Qualification Standards and study guides for several programs including the Auxiliary Culinary Assistance program and oversaw creation of the Auxiliary's social media handbook. Skillfully leveraging his experience as a Coast Guard Uniform Board member, Commodore MONIS developed the Auxiliary Interactive Uniform Guide as a comprehensive and attractive resource for addressing all Auxiliary uniform matters. He championed expansion of the Auxiliary Chaplain Support program to more than 100 participants who support Coast Guard District Chaplains and comprehensive overhaul of the Auxiliary Coast Guard Recruiting Support program guide that improved Auxiliarists' ability to support Coast Guard Recruiting Offices. Commodore MONIS' dedication 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
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(GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF SECOND)**

TO

COMMODORE FREDERICK G. SAUNDERS

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Commodore SAUNDERS is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Assistant National Commodore for Response and Prevention from November 2022 to August 2024. Demonstrating exceptional leadership, Commodore SAUNDERS led the Auxiliary's Prevention, Response, Emergency Management, and International Affairs Directorates comprised of more than 120 national staff members. His meticulous planning and selfless commitment were instrumental to timely identification and seamless deployment of fully ready Auxiliarists to support Southwest Border operations in Texas and Operation Vigilant Sentry in Florida. His expansive operational and organizational expertise shaped the design, execution, and interpretation of results of the 2023 Auxiliary National Gap Analysis which provided deep insight into Coast Guard support needs and enabled the Auxiliary to properly target its resources to assist. Ever mindful of enhancing Auxiliary engagement in Coast Guard missions, Commodore SAUNDERS championed revision of the Auxiliary's Response and Prevention training handbooks which markedly improved their alignment with Coast Guard surface, aviation, and telecommunication operating procedures. Commodore SAUNDERS' dedication 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
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TO

COMMODORE TRACY R. SCHULTZ

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Commodore SCHULTZ is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Assistant National Commodore for Diversity and Inclusion from November 2022 to August 2024. Displaying contagious enthusiasm and superb commitment to the tenets of the Coast Guard's diversity and inclusion program, Commodore SCHULTZ oversaw presentation of more than 100 National Town Hall meetings that were attended by over 8,000 Auxiliarists and which substantially raised diversity and inclusion program value and awareness. Fully embracing the program's roles and responsibilities, he became the first Auxiliarist to achieve certification as a Coast Guard Diversity and Inclusion Change Agent Specialist to formally represent Coast Guard and Auxiliary diversity and inclusion equities. Commodore SCHULTZ championed several creative initiatives including the national recommendation that ultimately expanded the scope of recognition for the Auxiliary's Diversity Award, development of four new Auxiliary diversity training courses, and distribution of informative "*Diversity Moments*" articles to more than 1,500 Auxiliary officers. A staunch advocate, he selflessly performed over 2,000 hours in support of the Coast Guard's pledge for a diverse and inclusive workforce. Commodore SCHULTZ's dedication 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 MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
(GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A FOURTH)**

TO

COMMODORE DAVID A. ELLIOT

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Commodore ELLIOT is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Deputy Assistant National Commodore for Force Readiness Command (FORCECOM) from November 2022 to August 2024. Commodore ELLIOT's unwavering commitment and strategic vision greatly enhanced the readiness and effectiveness of the Auxiliary's Public Affairs, Human Resources, Training, and Clergy Support directorates. His unparalleled dedication and exemplary leadership positioned the Auxiliary to provide significantly improved support to Coast Guard missions. This included enthusiastic cultivation and expansion of the Auxiliary Chaplain Support program to more than 100 participants who support Coast Guard District Chaplains, completion of a thorough Auxiliary pilot program that yielded extensive revision of Auxiliary uniform and appearance standards, and comprehensive overhaul of the Auxiliary Coast Guard Recruiting Support program guide that improved Auxiliarists' preparedness and ability to support Coast Guard Recruiting Offices. He also spearheaded deployment of an attractive new "Welcome Aboard" notice to new Auxiliary enrollees that facilitated their rapid yet comfortable transition into Auxiliary service. Commodore ELLIOT's dedication 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 MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
(GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A THIRD)**

TO

AUXILIARIST BRUCE J. KELTON

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Auxiliarist KELTON is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Deputy Chief Counsel from November 2022 to August 2024. Demonstrating unparalleled professional expertise and leadership, Auxiliarist KELTON served as Acting Chief Counsel and Parliamentarian during the 2023 National Conference in which he skillfully facilitated the National Board meeting and led in-person training sessions of the Auxiliary's 16 District Legal Officers. Providing invaluable legal guidance to the Auxiliary's newly formed national Administrative Investigations Directorate, he conducted multiple training sessions for its members and edited their mission critical Standard Operating Procedures and Investigative Best Practices Guide. Leveraging exemplary technical acumen, he charted the course for the new directorate's successful execution of its investigatory missions. Applying profound understanding of Auxiliary regulations and principles of contract law, he diligently assisted the Chief Counsel and District Legal Officers in drafting contracts and memoranda of agreements with business and other agency partners, utilizing strategies to mitigate legal risks to the Auxiliary while ensuring compliance with state and federal law. Auxiliarist KELTON's dedication 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 MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
TO
AUXILIARIST ANTHONY E. MARZANO
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**

Auxiliarist MARZANO is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Deputy Assistant National Commodore for Response and Prevention from November 2022 to August 2024. Demonstrating exceptional expertise and managerial skill, Auxiliarist MARZANO guided the Auxiliary's Prevention, Response, Emergency Management, and International Affairs Directorates. Exercising keen programmatic insight and technical acumen, he oversaw the meticulous planning and execution of the 2023 Auxiliary National Gap Analysis which provided significant insight into the Coast Guard's mission support needs. Working closely with the Performance Measurement Directorate, he provided expert guidance and oversight in establishing quantifiable reporting metrics to track the Auxiliary's progress in meeting these Coast Guard support needs. His remarkable initiative was instrumental to streamlining recruitment and qualification processes for Auxiliarists to support Coast Guard engagement in Southwest Border operations. He also steered the Emergency Management Directorate's completion of an attractive career progression guide that outlined Auxiliary emergency management training, qualification, and augmentation opportunities. Auxiliarist MARZANO's dedication 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
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TO

AUXILIARIST AMANDA L. CONSTANT

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Auxiliarist CONSTANT is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Director of Computer Software and Systems from November 2022 to August 2024. Demonstrating unparalleled expertise and technical acumen, she led the successful execution of 13 Strategic Plan milestones including the directorate's reorganization to support the Auxiliary's rapidly expanding cybersecurity augmentation program and enhance cyber protection of its increasingly complex information technology infrastructure. Auxiliarist CONSTANT oversaw numerous system projects that resulted in direct improvements to the end-user experience for more than 20,000 Auxiliarists including single sign-on access for key systems and consolidation of courseware and testing into a single training system. She automated several outdated manual processes such as the data transfer of training results to AUXDATA II, which reduced the time for results to be posted to member records by half and freed up staff resources for more critical work. By closely examining and monitoring the cost of supporting Auxiliary system infrastructure, she identified and coordinated implementation of a cost-savings plan that saved 54 percent in system life cycle service costs. Auxiliarist CONSTANT's dedication 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 MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
TO
AUXILIARIST BARRY D. DENTON
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**

Auxiliarist DENTON is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Director of Public Affairs from November 2022 to August 2024. Demonstrating exceptional leadership, Auxiliarist DENTON supervised the revision and updates of three Performance Qualification Standards and study guides for all public affairs certifications and implemented a comprehensive rubric scoring system for associated oral boards. This greatly enhanced the quality of public affairs training and provided Auxiliarists with new innovative training opportunities. Under his insightful direction, the Auxiliary Public Affairs C-school was re-energized by an instructor-led virtual format that significantly increased its application to district training conferences and Auxiliarists across the Nation. Exercising keen programmatic vision, a ground-breaking Auxiliary social media policy was created that significantly enhanced the effectiveness and security of Auxiliary social media platforms. His implementation of a new strategy for social media yielded a 15 percent increase in followers. He also conceptualized and implemented the Marketing and Branding Focus Group which developed the new Auxiliary slogan, "*Proud Traditions, Worthy Missions*," which led the Auxiliary's rebranding campaign. Auxiliarist DENTON's dedication 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
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TO
AUXILIARIST SVEN C. DOBLER
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**

Auxiliarist DOBLER is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Director of International Affairs from November 2022 to August 2024. Providing steadfast guidance and reassuring leadership, Auxiliarist DOBLER diligently navigated and championed Auxiliary international engagement through a challenging period of Coast Guard review triggered by global concerns. He concurrently motivated and expanded staff participation which markedly helped retain talent and buoy esprit-de-corps. As a direct result of his efforts, the directorate emerged from the program review with renewed vigor, purpose, and cooperation that expanded its engagement to more than 45 international partner organizations. He creatively developed these partnerships through an innovative series of regional forums to bolster communication, cooperation, and collaboration among international partners on a continual basis. He meticulously oversaw the Auxiliary Interpreter Corps' inventory of more than 350 interpreters and 42 different languages. He also processed over 100 interpreter applications resulting in the certification of 51 new interpreters who, in turn, provided direct mission support for 45 translation missions supporting Coast Guard cutters, stations, and field offices. Auxiliarist DOBLER's dedication 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
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TO
AUXILIARIST LEE G. ZIMMERMANN
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**

Auxiliarist ZIMMERMANN is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Director of Human Resources from November 2022 to August 2024. An ardent champion of workforce improvement, he led development and deployment of many creative initiatives that significantly helped the Coast Guard and Auxiliary emerge revitalized and rejuvenated from the COVID-19 pandemic. He quickly reestablished the Auxiliary and Coast Guard Recruiting Command partnership by revising the Auxiliary's Coast Guard Recruiting Standard Operating Procedures and streamlining qualification processes for supporting Coast Guard Recruiting Offices. His close collaboration with the Chaplain of the Coast Guard yielded an increase in Auxiliary chaplain certifications from 45 to more than 100. Through similar engagement with the Coast Guard Health, Safety, and Work-Life Service Center, he increased the corps of Auxiliary medical professionals and their associated deployments to Coast Guard units and clinics. He enhanced Auxiliary recruiting and retention efforts by rolling out a new Auxiliary Human Resources Best Practices training presentation and he also led Auxiliary engagement with the Commandant's Talent Management Transformation Task Force. Auxiliarist ZIMMERMANN's dedication and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and 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
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TO
AUXILIARIST WILLIAM G. BALLARD
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**

Auxiliarist BALLARD is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Deputy Director of User Support and Services from November 2022 to August 2024 and as Deputy Director of Training from December 2023 to August 2024. His outstanding programmatic guidance helped organize and complete several key projects for the Auxiliary's Information Technology support team. Auxiliarist BALLARD's exceptional language skills fostered development of a multilingual cadre of instructors for the Information Systems AUXDATA II course. His passion for training and innate ability to create cross-directorate relationships resulted in expedient delivery of a self-study option for the Communication Services Officer Course that increased access for Auxiliarists. Demonstrating exceptional leadership and technical skill, Auxiliarist BALLARD deftly supervised seven divisions responsible for a vast array of leadership, operational, and member training programs including all associated technical processes for the Training Directorate. Auxiliarist BALLARD also provided astute administrative oversight of a comprehensive review of all Operational Auxiliarist and Auxiliary Leadership Development Courses that ensured accurate and relevant content. Auxiliarist BALLARD's dedication 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
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(GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A SECOND)**

TO

AUXILIARIST JOSEPH J. ESPINO

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Auxiliarist ESPINO is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Deputy Director of Cybersecurity from November 2022 to August 2024. Demonstrating exceptional planning and technical expertise, Auxiliarist ESPINO created the Auxiliary's national cybersecurity organization from the ground up as he concurrently built the Auxiliary Cybersecurity (AUXCYBER) program. He insightfully employed a phased approach as the needs rapidly increased to address cybersecurity concerns of the Auxiliary and the Coast Guard Cyber Command. Recognizing the non-traditional nature of recruiting cybersecurity experts, he chartered the first-ever nationwide function-based flotilla which focused specifically on recruitment, retention, and management of Auxiliarists who were cybersecurity experts. Auxiliarist ESPINO spearheaded design and approval of Coast Guard Cyber Command's instruction that created the AUXCYBER augmentation program and which focused on Auxiliary support to cybersecurity protection of critical maritime infrastructure. He achieved Auxiliary inclusion in Task Force 31, enabling the Auxiliary to receive timely information and proactively mitigate 25 cybersecurity vulnerabilities to Auxiliary information technology systems. Auxiliarist ESPINO's dedication 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 MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
TO
AUXILIARIST FARON PETTEYS
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**

Auxiliarist PETTEYS is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Deputy Director of Training from November 2022 to December 2023 and as Director of Training from December 2023 to August 2024. Exercising keen programmatic judgment, insight, and subject matter expertise in support of the Auxiliary National Executive Committee and the Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety, she reorganized and refocused the Training Directorate to better meet the needs of the Coast Guard and the Auxiliary. Demonstrating exceptional leadership and organizational skill, Auxiliarist PETTEYS deftly supervised seven national divisions responsible for developing the Auxiliary's vast array of leadership, operational, and member training resources and processes. She oversaw the comprehensive review and revision of all Operational Auxiliarist and Auxiliary leadership development courses to ensure accurate and relevant content, and she expanded the capabilities and services of the Auxiliary Online Classroom. A consummate shipmate, she re-established close collaborative relationships with Coast Guard Force Readiness Command and the Coast Guard Leadership Development Center that rejuvenated Coast Guard training opportunities for Auxiliarists. Auxiliarist PETTEYS' dedication and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard and United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.

**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE AUXILIARY MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
(GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A FOURTH)**

TO

AUXILIARIST TERESA A. BARTH

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Auxiliarist BARTH is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Executive Assistant to the National Commodore from November 2022 to August 2023 and as the National Commodore's Senior Advisor for Administration from August 2023 to August 2024. Consistently exhibiting exceptional diplomacy, expertise, and attention to detail, Auxiliarist BARTH ensured that all communications and programmatic coordination among National Executive Committee (NEXCOM) members and Coast Guard Headquarters staff were handled promptly and professionally. She coordinated all NEXCOM video and telephonic conferences and recorded detailed notes of each for historical reference. She meticulously maintained the NEXCOM administrative task list, including detailed tracking of all required reports, award recommendations, and travel arrangements. She also provided vital training, support, and guidance to the National Commodore's aides and national conference staff. Auxiliarist BARTH's meticulous planning skills were instrumental to the Auxiliary's successful navigation of many challenges, and she effectively served as the Auxiliary's "Ambassador of Goodwill" when coordinating activities with all Coast Guard officials and boating safety partners. Auxiliarist BARTH's dedication 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 MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
TO
AUXILIARIST THOMAS W. BAMFORD
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**

Auxiliarist BAMFORD is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Division Chief for Diversity Administration from November 2022 to November 2023 and as Deputy Assistant National Commodore for Diversity and Inclusion from December 2023 to August 2024. Demonstrating exceptional commitment, Auxiliarist BAMFORD hosted the Diversity Directorate's renowned National Town Hall sessions attended by more than 4,300 participants and which covered a wide variety of topics including morale-versus-performance, recruiting and retention tools, inclusion development opportunities for a total workforce, and specialized training sessions for the National Commodore's 3-Star Award for Diversity and Inclusion Excellence program. Auxiliarist BAMFORD closely collaborated with Coast Guard Office of Diversity and Inclusion as part of its Diversity and Inclusion Educational Awareness Program and earned four specialized certifications for advanced coaching of Coast Guard personnel. He innovatively developed and distributed "*Diversity Moments*" to more than 1,500 Auxiliary officers. These creative articles significantly raised awareness of diversity and inclusion topics across the Auxiliary. Auxiliarist BAMFORD's dedication 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 MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
TO
AUXILIARIST DELORIS K. HENDRICKSON
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**

Auxiliarist HENDRICKSON is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Conference Administrator to the National Commodore from November 2022 to August 2024. Exercising meticulous planning and communication skills, she expertly managed all logistic matters for four annual National Conferences. She specialized in negotiating expansive contracts with hotel venues, ensuring costs were kept within budget limits while meeting the needs of each conference. Auxiliarist HENDRICKSON conscientiously arranged hotel accommodations, training facilities, meeting spaces, and ceremonial areas for the hundreds of participants for each week-long event. She proficiently and efficiently navigated the daily challenges and contingencies that frequently occurred when orchestrating large national events. Applying her vast experience, she seamlessly adapted to many changes while organizing, reallocating, shifting, cancelling, postponing, and rescheduling rooms, meals and meetings to ensure flawless and successful events. Auxiliarist HENDRICKSON's smooth orchestration of classrooms, meeting venues, meals, clerical support, and transportation schedules provided all attendees with profoundly positive and constructive conference experiences. Auxiliarist HENDRICKSON's dedication 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.