

## MAY 1 6 2019

## The Commandant of the Coast Guard takes pleasure in presenting the COAST GUARD UNIT COMMENDATION to:

## **UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**

for service as set forth in the following

## **CITATION:**

"For exceptionally meritorious service from June 24, 2014 to June 23, 2019 while providing extraordinary levels of public service and support to the United States Coast Guard. Whether supporting response operations for national disasters or local mishaps, the Auxiliary always answered the call enhancing Coast Guard mission performance. In 2017, exceptional Auxiliary talents were brought to bear in response to Hurricanes HARVEY, IRMA, and MARIA. Auxiliarists filled essential incident command post watch positions. augmented active duty u n i ts, and pro v ided over 19,000 hours of vital support to the Seventh and Eighth Coast Guard Districts. In 2018, the Auxiliary provided the initial on-scene response to the tragic "Duck Boat" sinking in Branson, Missouri. Auxiliary assets maintained safety zones for over 100 hours, and were instrumental to the preservation of the accident site security. The Auxiliary also forged new and innovative ways to support the Coast Guard, including establishment of programs that assisted Coast Guard chaplains and financial educators, and the creation of a revolutionary partnership with the "Sea Scouts," providing a new generation of America's youth with an attractive path to becoming part of the Coast Guard. The Auxiliary's unflagging compassion and generosity were invaluable to the sustainment of Coast Guard workforce readiness during the unprecedented 35 day partial federal government shutdown in January 2019. Demonstrating unheralded professionalism and extraordinary commitment, the Auxiliary conducted over 977,000 vessel safety checks and marine dealer visits, delivered over 133,000 hours of boating safety instruction, logged nearly 17 million hours of support, saved over 700 lives, assisted over 19,700 boaters in distress, prevented the loss of more than \$101 million in property, and cast an indelible image of superb service to our Nation's maritime public. As the Auxiliary marks its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the professionalism, pride, and devotion to duty displayed by the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard."

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Karl L. Schultz Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard Commandant