

AL AUX 11-14 - COAST GUARD UNIT COMMENDATION

24JUN2014

1. This morning, in recognition of the outstanding and unparalleled achievements of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary at the time of its 75th anniversary, the Commandant of the Coast Guard awarded the Coast Guard Unit Commendation to all Auxiliarists who have served during the past five years. The citation follows:

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, 2009 to June 23, 2014, while providing unprecedented levels of dedicated public service and operational support to the U. S. Coast Guard's missions. Demonstrating remarkable professionalism and boating safety expertise, the Auxiliary performed over 1.1 million vessel safety checks and marine dealer visits, delivered over 540 thousand hours of boating safety course instruction and conducted over 809 thousand hours of public outreach. Displaying superior underway and airborne operational proficiency, Auxiliarists logged over 19.8 million hours of support and patrol missions, saved over one thousand lives, assisted over 20 thousand boaters in distress and prevented the loss of more than 185 million dollars in property. The Auxiliary always answered the call, remaining in lockstep with the Coast Guard's response to every major incident. In 2010, unique Auxiliary talents were brought to bear in the international response to the Haitian earthquake, blazing new trails in the application of social media to locate and save dozens of trapped victims. Also during that year, well-qualified Auxiliarists filled essential incident command post watch positions and augmented active duty units to support the Deepwater Horizon response. Similarly in 2012, Auxiliary commitment following Super Storm SANDY and Hurricane IRENE was instrumental to effective Coast Guard response and recovery operations. The Auxiliary consistently found innovative ways to support the Coast Guard, including establishment of the Auxiliary Food Services program which trained Auxiliarists to augment Coast Guard galleys, afloat and ashore. Auxiliarists involved with Public Affairs, Interpreter Corps, America's Waterway Watch, and many other programs further contributed to Coast Guard success by volunteering their professional talents, mastery of trade, and disciplined initiative wherever and whenever needed. The Auxiliary's unwavering efforts directly contributed to unprecedented national boating safety achievements, highlighted in 2013 with the fewest boating fatalities in 50 years. Despite incredible challenges amid keen competition for America's volunteers, the Auxiliary grew its membership, provided over 22 million hours of inspirational support to the Coast Guard, and kept our Nation's coasts, lakes, and waterways safe and secure. 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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P. F. ZUKUNFT

Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard

Commandant

2. Appropriate AUXDATA entries for all awardees will be made through the Office of the Chief Director of Auxiliary (CG-BSX). Appropriate ribbons and stars will be distributed to District Director of Auxiliary offices by the end of July.

3. When Admiral Zukunft presented this award to COMO Mallison, the Commandant stressed the sincere appreciation of a grateful active duty Coast Guard for our volunteer servant leader force, and Admiral Zukunft lead all active duty members in a standing ovation for the Auxiliarists who were present. Congratulations to the men and women of our U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and thank you for your continued service!