United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Ribbons and Medals

October 2016
Authority to Wear Ribbons and Medals

• Auxiliary uniforms are similar to those worn by Coast Guard officers. Auxiliarists may wear authorized emblems, insignia and ribbons.
General Information About Ribbons and Medals

• Not all ribbons have a corresponding medal.
• Ribbons and medals are always worn in specific order of precedence.
• If two ribbons or medals have the same precedence level, they are worn in the order in which they were awarded.
• Ribbons and medals may have attachment devices for a variety of purposes including indication of subsequent awards.

• Auxiliarists are not authorized to wear anchors, the letters “X” and “V”, and numerals on any Coast Guard or Auxiliary ribbons.
Authorized Ribbons of the Auxiliary
Authorized Ribbons of Other Services*

* Examples: some but not all.
Individual Awards and Medals

- CG AUXILIARY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
- AUXILIARY LEGION OF MERIT
- PLAQUE OF MERIT
- AUXILIARY MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD (“O” Device Option)
- AWARD OF OPERATIONAL MERIT
- AUXILIARY COMMENDATION AWARD
- AUXILIARY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (“O” Device Option)
- AUXILIARY COMMANDANT LETTER OF COMMENDATION (“O” Device Option)

5/16” Gold Star = Additional Award
5/16” Silver Star = 5 Gold Stars
Coast Guard Sustained Auxiliary Service Award

• SUSTAINED AUXILIARY SERVICE AWARD (750 Hours)

3/16” Bronze Star = Additional Award
3/16” Silver Star = 5 Bronze Stars (sixth award)
Bronze Hourglass = 7,500 Hours
Gold Hourglass = 15,000 Hours
Silver Hourglass = 25,000 Hours
One-Time Unit and Team Awards

• TRANSPORTATION 9-11 MEDAL
• PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION
• DOT SECRETARY’S OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD
• CG BICENTENNIAL UNIT COMMENDATION
• TRANSPORTATION 9-11 RIBBON
Unit and Team Awards

- CG UNIT COMMENDATION (“O” Device Option)
- CG MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION (“O” Device Option)
- CG MERITORIOUS TEAM COMMENDATION (“O” Device Option)

5/16” Gold Star = Additional Award
5/16” Silver Star = 5 Gold Stars
Operation Awards

- AUXILIARY OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD
- AUXILIARY HUMANITARIAN SERVICE AWARD
- SPECIAL OPERATIONS SERVICE RIBBON

3/16” Bronze Star = Additional Award
3/16” Silver Star = 5 Bronze Stars
(No stars for the Auxiliary Operational Excellence Award)
Qualifications and Training

- CG RECRUITING SERVICE RIBBON
- AUXILIARY SPECIALTY TRAINING RIBBON (Non-AUXOP Members ONLY.)
- AUXILIARY OPERATIONS PROGRAM RIBBON (“E” Device for QE’s)
- MARINE SAFETY TRAINING RIBBON
- AUXILIARY EXAMINER PROGRAM RIBBON
- AUXILIARY INSTRUCTOR PROGRAM RIBBON
- PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST AWARD

Remove Specialty Ribbon when AUXOP is earned

3/16” Bronze Star = Additional Award/Qualification/AUXOP Credit
3/16” Silver Star = 5 Bronze Stars
(No stars for the CG Recruiting Service or Instructor Program Ribbons)
Flotilla Achievement Award

• FLOTILLA MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

5/16” Gold Star = Additional Award
5/16” Silver Star = 5 Gold Stars
Annual Service Awards

- AUXILIARY RECRUITING SERVICE AWARD
- AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP SERVICE AWARD (5 years)
- AUXILIARY PE SERVICE AWARD
- AUXILIARY VE/MDV SERVICE AWARD
- AUXILIARY OPRNS SERVICE AWARD

Worn in the order earned

3/16” Bronze Star = Additional Award
3/16” Silver Star = 5 Bronze Stars
Wearing Ribbons (Rack Configuration)

Ribbons are worn in rows of 3 except:

- When a jacket lapel obscures more than 1/3 of a medal, it can be worn in successively decreasing rows

*** “Offset” ribbon mounts can be purchased from 3rd parties outside the UDC.***
Wearing Medals and Devices

- Devices are worn on metals, similarly as on ribbons
- Devices are centered horizontally and vertically
- 1/8” stars are used for all miniature medals
Wearing Medals
(Rack Configuration)

Differing from ribbons:
- Medal mounts change in width, deepening on the number of medals and rows

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Ribbon Rack Options

All Ribbons, Top 9 Ribbons, or Top 3 Ribbons
Ribbon Rack Construction & Tips

• Watch out for breaking pins on the mounts!
• Be careful of pins that stick through clutches
• Plastic mount and insignia backers
• Bending metal ribbon frames to fit and hold on to mounts
• Key tools and attaching devices to ribbons
Ribbon and Award Resources

- USCG Ribbon Checker: http://ribbons.cgaux.info/
- AUXMAN (COMDTINST M16790.1G); Chapter 11
- USCG Uniform Regulations (COMDTINST M1020.6G); Chapter 3, Article G
- USCG Auxiliary Awards and Ribbons web site: http://www.uscg.mil/auxiliary/awards/ribbons/
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