

THE COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD WASHINGTON 20593

The Commandant of the United States Coast Guard takes pleasure in presenting the COAST GUARD MERITORIOUS TEAM COMMENDATION to:

THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD PIPE BAND

For service set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For exceptionally meritorious service from 15 March to 17 March 2012, during which time the United States Coast Guard Pipe Band completed several high visibility performances in the Savannah, GA area. The Coast Guard Pipe Band, a contingent of Active Duty, Reserve, Retired, and Auxiliary members from throughout the continental United States, brought their talents to Savannah, some coming from as far away as the Pacific Northwest. The band performed aboard the USS WHIDBEY ISLAND, at Coast Guard Air Station Savannah and during the annual Savannah Saint Patrick's Day parade, the second largest such parade in the United States. The members traveled at their own expense and secured their own lodging. During the months preceding the events, each member of the Pipe Band practiced individually and, after arriving in Savannah, rehearsed intensively as a unit for two days to prepare for the performances. During the parade, in spite of extreme temperatures, humidity and lengthy parade route, the Pipes and Drums of the United States Coast Guard performed with an exemplary display of musical excellence, showmanship, and professionalism. This same performance excellence directly increased the pride, appearance and military bearing of the combined company of area Coast Guard personnel that marched in trail to the Pipe Band's cadence. An estimated crowd of over one hundred thousand spectators, and a large television audience, watched and listened to the USCG Pipe Band as it marched and entertained along the three mile parade route. The Band's performances aboard the USS WHIDBEY ISLAND and in the parade-greatly increased public awareness of the United States Coast Guard and its contributions to the nation. The dedication, pride, and professionalism displayed by the United States Coast Guard Pipe Band are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard."

For the Commandant

G. T. FULLER

Commander, U.S. Coast Guard Commanding Officer, Coast Guard Air Station Savannah