

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD



Certificate of Merit

IN RECOGNITION *of notable services that have  
assisted greatly in furthering the aims and  
functions of the Coast Guard*

*This certificate is awarded to*

*Steve Cochran*

*Executed this* 1st *day of* August 2011

*at* Washington, DC

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karl L. Schultz".

KARL L. SCHULTZ  
Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard

# Certificate of Merit

## to

STEVE COCHRAN, USCG (Ret.)

The Commandant of the Coast Guard takes great pleasure in presenting the United States Coast Guard Certificate of Merit to Mr. Steve Cochran, USCG (Ret.), for his service with the United States Coast Guard Pipe Band. During this period, Mr. Cochran played a vital role in the successful and stirring musical performances of the Pipe Band at annual Coast Guard Festivals in Grand Haven, Michigan -- designated by an act of Congress as "Coast Guard City, USA." In 2011, the U.S. Coast Guard Pipe Band chose to celebrate its 10th anniversary at the Grand Haven Coast Guard Festival. Despite personal sacrifices and out-of-pocket expenses averaging \$1,000 per trip, Mr. Cochran enthusiastically participated in the Grand Haven Festival on all ten occasions. As a Pipe Sergeant, he demonstrated true professionalism, exceptional musical talent and a willingness to volunteer many hours of his own time to practice alone and with his shipmates. As a result, the U.S. Coast Guard Pipe Band's performances at the festival's Coast Guard Day parade and memorial service have become a summer tradition in Grand Haven, drawing thunderous applause and a warm reception from nearly 100,000 spectators each year. Mr. Cochran's diligence, perseverance and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary.