



THE COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
WASHINGTON 20593

SEP 01 2009

The Commandant of the United States Coast Guard takes pleasure in presenting the
COAST GUARD CERTIFICATE OF MERIT to:

THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD PIPE BAND

for service set forth in the following

CITATION:

“For exceptionally meritorious service from 05 August 2009 to 08 August 2009 while serving as musicians of the United States Coast Guard Pipe Band for the Vice Commandant’s Change of Watch Ceremony at which VADM Vivien Crea was relieved by VADM David Pekoske. The musicians voluntarily traveled at their own expense to Alexandria, Virginia to be a part of the ceremony. They came from states across the country, including Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. The 500 guests in attendance included the Secretary of Homeland Security, prior Commandants of the Coast Guard, high-ranking military and government officials, staff members from the House of Representatives and United States Senate, international dignitaries, several WWI Women’s Reserve SPARS, corporate partners, and representatives from the maritime and defense industry. The Coast Guard Pipe Band flawlessly alternated performances with the Coast Guard Ceremonial Band throughout the prelude, the ceremony, and the reception. During these stunning performances, the Coast Guard Pipe Band demonstrated their extensive and impressive repertoire. They brought great credit and recognition to the U.S. Coast Guard and added a very special personal touch to the ceremony with the unforgettable sounds of the pipes and drums. The Pipe Band’s most striking musical performance came immediately following the retrieving of Colors by the Honor Guard when they played our Service’s anthem, “Semper Paratus”. The Commandant, Vice Commandant, and the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard all felt that the tune played on the pipes was “quite inspirational”. The dedication, pride, and professionalism displayed by the members of the United States Coast Guard Pipe Band are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.”

A blue ink signature of Thad W. Allen, written in a cursive style.

THAD W. ALLEN
Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard
Commandant