



THE COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

WASHINGTON 20593

SEP - 8 2008

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

**UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
2008 ATLANTIC AREA CHANGE OF COMMAND INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM
COMMAND & GENERAL STAFFS AND PARTICIPANTS**

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For exceptionally meritorious service during the period of May 2008 through July 2008 in the planning and execution of the Coast Guard Atlantic Area and Coast Guard Defense Force East Change of Command. This event was organized and executed flawlessly through the effective use of the Incident Command System (ICS). The event ICS Command, general staff and participants coordinated and managed a myriad of diverse and critical details required to support this massive event highlighting the remarkable adaptability of the ICS as a planning tool. Other groundbreaking initiatives included the development of a web-based RSVP tool that accurately counted attendees and the effective use of CG Central to communicate, share, and update vital documents among team members. The use of this technology created a historical record of the event that can be used for change of commands Coast Guard wide. The team coordinated and focused the remarkable efforts of a large number of Coast Guard assets within and beyond Atlantic Area. These assets included: Integrated Support Center Portsmouth, Telecommunications and Information Systems Command, Communications Area Master Station Atlantic, Coast Guard Cutter NORTHLAND, Coast Guard Cutter LEGARE, Coast Guard Cutter FORWARD, Coast Guard Cutter COCHITO, Maritime Safety and Security Team Boston, the U.S. Fleet Forces Band, the U.S. Coast Guard Bagpipe Band, and the Fifth District Armory. The Command Staff's meticulous attention to detail ensured an extraordinary and remarkable event, receiving overwhelming praise from attendees. The dedication, pride, and professionalism displayed by the 2008 Atlantic Area Change of Command Planning Committee are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard."

For the Commandant,

**R. J. PAPP, JR.
Vice Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard
Commander, Atlantic Area**