



THE COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD  
WASHINGTON 20593

18 December 2008

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 services set forth in the following

CITATION:

“For exceptionally meritorious service from 07 November 2008 to 12 November 2008 while serving as musicians in the United States Coast Guard Pipe Band during the ‘Legacy of Heroes’ event in New York City. During this period the team showed phenomenal devotion to duty, traveling on their own time and expense with less than ten days notice, to perform in the nation’s largest and oldest Veteran’s Day Parade. Taking full advantage of the time in New York, the team also performed at the 76th Celebration of the Radio City Christmas Spectacular ‘A Salute to our Troops,’ the Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Bronx Veterans Affairs Medical Centers, and at “Ground Zero” of the World Trade Center. Displaying outstanding dedication, the team fostered superb public awareness by educating more than 250 high school musicians on the unique history and mission of the U.S. Coast Guard. Far and away the team’s best performance came prior to the Intrepid Sea, Air, and Space Museum’s grand re-opening, where they joined Admiral Papp and a Sector New York Platoon to honor Seaman 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Seymour Wittek, a World War II veteran and recent recipient of the Coast Guard Commendation Medal. The team used impressive planning and organizational skills to effectively fit five major performances into a small stretch of time, all of which required the daunting task of moving musicians and equipment between key locations in the major metropolitan area. The team efficiently coordinated the movement of government vehicles, staffing support, and police assistance to safely deliver the musicians to each commitment. The dedication, pride, and professionalism displayed by the members of United States Coast Guard Pipe Band are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

For the Commandant,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert R. O'Brien, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

ROBERT R. O'BRIEN, JR.

Captain, U. S. Coast Guard

Commander, Coast Guard Sector New York