

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD



Public Service Commendation

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

*This certificate is awarded to*

*Kevin Gilheany*

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

*at* Washington, DC

Handwritten signature of Karl L. Schultz in blue ink.

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

# Public Service Commendation to

KEVIN GILHEANY

The Commandant of the Coast Guard takes great pleasure in presenting the United States Coast Guard Public Service Commendation to Chief Warrant Officer Kevin Gilheany, USCG (Ret.), founder of the Coast Guard Pipe Band. In 2001, CWO2 Gilheany called bagpipers and Highland drummers within the Coast Guard to meet at the Coast Guard Festival in Grand Haven, Michigan, to honor the Coast Guard through fellowship and music. Ten years later, the Pipe Band has become a key part of the Grand Haven festival and its performances at the festival's memorial service and parade have become cherished summer tradition. Under his guidance and leadership, and with the approval of the Commandant, the Coast Guard Pipe Band was formed into a not-for-profit, private non-federal entity. CWO2 Gilheany was named as one of its founding directors and was the first president of the organization, serving in that capacity for nine years. Under his guidance and leadership the organization has grown to more than 100 members and has received more than 300 requests for performances at Coast Guard and community events. He has participated personally in more than 25 Pipe Band performances, supporting and bringing credit to the Coast Guard. He also serves as the Pipe Band's regional coordinator for the Eighth Coast Guard District, coordinating and planning requests for solo and detachment performances throughout the Gulf Coast and Midwest. Under CWO Gilheany's leadership, the Coast Guard Pipe Band has become the largest all-volunteer military Pipe Band in the United States. It promotes greater public understanding, recognition and appreciation of the history, traditions, contributions, sacrifices, roles and missions of the men and women of the U.S. Coast Guard. CWO Gilheany's support of the U.S. Coast Guard Pipe Band is most heartily commended and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.