



DIRECTOR OF
GOVERNMENTAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
WASHINGTON, DC 20593-0001

August 1, 2011

Dear Mr. Oberacker,

On behalf of the Commandant, I would like to thank you for your service with the United States Coast Guard Pipe Band. You play 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. You chose to participate despite personal sacrifices and out-of-pocket expenses averaging \$1,000 per trip.

The 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.

Your participation raises the visibility of the Pipe Band and helps give back to a community that supports the U.S. Coast Guard every day.

Semper Paratus!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karl L. Schultz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "K".

K. L. SCHULTZ
Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard