

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF

**THE COAST GUARD COMMENDATION MEDAL
(GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A THIRD)**

TO

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER JOHN PHILLIPS

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Chief Warrant Officer PHILLIPS is cited for outstanding achievement while serving as the Operations Training Officer, First Coast Guard District Auxiliary, Southern Region (D1SR), from July 2016 to June 2019. Chief Warrant Officer PHILLIPS actively supported more than 3,000 dedicated uniformed volunteers, ensuring adherence to high safety standards and complete integration with Coast Guard operations. During his tenure, the Auxiliaries assigned to D1SR provided almost 1.1 million hours of service, saved 22 lives, assisted 648 people, protected more than \$4.3 million in property, and provided recreational boating safety education to more than 21,000 students. Overseeing the training, qualification, and documentation of more than 500 boat and air crew members, he expertly implemented processes that ensured all required safety gear was efficiently purchased, distributed, and accounted for; his fiscally conservative stewardship saved the Coast Guard nearly \$20,000. Furthermore, he recognized a critical flaw with historic issuance of personal locator beacons to Auxiliary Boat Crew members and spearheaded a program to systematically register more than 500 of the devices, preventing false distress calls that would have needlessly expended critical search and rescue resources. Chief Warrant Officer PHILLIPS' dedication, judgment and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.