



**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE COAST GUARD COMMENDATION MEDAL**

TO

**LIEUTENANT JAMES C. BASHELOR
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Lieutenant BASHELOR is cited for outstanding achievement while serving as aircraft commander of Coast Guard helicopter 1485 on 9 and 10 August 1990 in the medical evacuation of a severely injured crewman from the F/V OCEAN PHOENIX northwest of St. Paul Island, Alaska. Lieutenant BASHELOR flew the aircraft through extremely adverse weather conditions; low ceilings, fog, rain, winds to 30 knots and visibility near zero throughout the demanding two leg flight from Kodiak to St. Paul. The following morning Lieutenant BASHELOR flew the aircraft 150 nautical miles in similar weather conditions making visual contact only when 100 feet from the vessel. While circling the vessel as the injured crewman was prepared for hoist, the fog was so dense that sight of the vessel was lost three times. Lieutenant BASHELOR expertly maneuvered the aircraft to hoist the injured crewman from the pitching bow of the vessel. Lieutenant BASHELOR again navigated in adverse weather conditions and around dangerous terrain to deliver the severely injured crewman to medical assistance at St. Paul. Lieutenant BASHELOR's dedication, judgment and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

The Operational Distinguishing Device is authorized.