



**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE AIR MEDAL
(GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF SECOND)**

TO

**LIEUTENANT JUNIOR GRADE DAKATA B. BRODIE
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Lieutenant Junior Grade BRODIE is cited for heroic achievement while participating in aerial flight as the Co-Pilot on CGNR 6512 from 12 to 14 September 2008, during the Sector Houston-Galveston response and recovery operations to Hurricane IKE, a devastating Category 2 storm that struck Southeast Texas on 13 September 2008. Coming ashore with a storm surge of 15 feet and 100 MPH winds, Hurricane IKE decimated Galveston Island, Bolivar Peninsula and other low lying areas, resulting in the rescue of 235 people. In the morning hours, Lieutenant Junior Grade BRODIE was dispatched into IKE's harsh winds and pounding storm surge to attempt the rescue of persons trapped on a pick-up truck on Bolivar Peninsula. The seven people were in immediate danger of succumbing to the sea due to the storm surge, undertow conditions, and the imminent arrival of hurricane force winds. Lieutenant Junior Grade BRODIE confidently maneuvered CGNR 6512 to deliver the Rescue Swimmer to the survivors in the bed of the pickup truck, despite gusty winds between 30 and 40 knots. During one of the hoisting evolutions, when a wave knocked the Rescue Swimmer and the survivor from the truck into the water, he calmly maneuvered CGNR 6512 facilitating the immediate hoist of the Rescue Swimmer and survivor. Through his heroic actions in executing this rescue, seven lives were saved. On a later sortie, he provided critical safety advisories to the Aircraft Commander, preventing contact with power lines during the hoist of an injured woman from a hazard riddled street. He aided in the selection of a landing zone, rescuing an additional 13 people. The following day, he provided safety advisories during the hoisting of three people from a patio. Later, he expertly landed the CGNR 6512 in a small parking lot littered with 25 foot tall light posts and power lines during a MEDEVAC of an elderly woman. Lieutenant Junior Grade BRODIE's actions and aeronautical skill were instrumental in the rescue of 24 people. His courage, judgment, and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.