

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF THE COAST GUARD COMMENDATION MEDAL

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LIEUTENANT MITCHELL E. HOLLOWAY UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Lieutenant HOLLOWAY is cited for outstanding achievement on 14 January 2023 while serving as the Co-Pilot on CGNR 6566 during the rescue of seven survivors onboard the disabled 95-foot tugboat LEGACY. Located 35 nautical miles offshore Ocean City, MD, Lieutenant HOLLOWAY completed critical flight planning to coordinate on-scene times and rendezvous with CGNR 6024. CGNR 6566 departed AIRSTA Atlantic City with Lieutenant HOLLOWAY coordinating entrance into the Air Defense Identification Zone and warning areas while the crew began discussing potential rescue plans. Lieutenant HOLLOWAY identified LEGACY from multiple vessels on-scene and skillfully maneuvered the helicopter into a 100-foot hover adjacent to the stern of the vessel, which was rolling beam-to in 12-foot seas and 30-knot winds. Lieutenant HOLLOWAY expertly maintained position with limited visual references while the crew evaluated the rescue plan. During hoisting, Lieutenant HOLLOWAY maintained communications with LEGACY, Sector Maryland NCR, USCGC LAWRENCE LAWSON, CGNR 6024, and the Rescue Swimmer and conducted precise calculations which allowed three survivors to be rescued while leaving the Rescue Swimmer on-scene. While enroute to Ocean City airport, Lieutenant HOLLOWAY briefed CGNR 6024 which expedited the hoisting of the last four survivors and CGNR 6566's Rescue Swimmer. Lieutenant HOLLOWAY's dedication, judgement, 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.