



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

**TO**

**JASON N. GENZONE  
AVIONICS ELECTRICAL TECHNICIAN THIRD CLASS  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Petty Officer GEZONE is cited for outstanding achievement while serving as Flight Mechanic aboard Coast Guard helicopter 6024 on 14 January 2023. The crew of CGNR 6024 launched from Air Station Elizabeth City and flew 140 nautical miles northeast where they located the TUG LEGACY in distress, beam to the seas and darkened ship after it had parted towing lines with a barge due to heavy weather. Petty Officer GENZONE quickly identified numerous safety hazards and conned the flying pilot to deploy the Rescue Swimmer to the stern of the vessel amongst several stanchions, tow cables, and snag hazards. Combating 40 knots of wind and 20 foot seas, Petty Officer GENZONE displayed superior cable management and precise conning commands while consecutively recovering four survivors in the rescue basket between swells from the violently pitching boat in his first operational hoist. During the simultaneous recovery of both Rescue Swimmers, a massive swell rolled across the tug's aft deck and tossed them into the water approximately eight feet below. Petty Officer GENZONE quickly recognized the imminent danger of the submerged lines and exposed propeller and announced the condition while making hoist cable inputs to pull the swimmers from the turbulent waters. His impeccable situational awareness was critical to the safe execution of the mission and resulted in four lives saved. Petty Officer GENZONE's courage, 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.