



Chapter 11

Auxiliarist Recognition/Awards

Introduction

Auxiliarists, as volunteers, receive no direct compensation for the many hours of time and effort they donate to the Coast Guard. The recognition of an Auxiliarist's service, through the presentation of timely and appropriate awards, is essential to the success of the Auxiliary program. Recognition of Auxiliarists by Coast Guard unit COs, XO's, and all other Coast Guard leaders is very important. In many respects, the recognition they receive through these awards can be considered to be their nominal payment. The service and actions of the Auxiliarists should receive the appropriate recognition and awards to the maximum extent possible. Medals and awards will be worn as prescribed in *Coast Guard Medals and Awards Manual*, COMDTINST M1650.25 (series), except as noted in this chapter.

In this Chapter

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Section A. Auxiliary Awards

Introduction	This section provides a description of Auxiliary awards.
A.1. Auxiliary Distinguished Service Medal	The Auxiliary Distinguished Service Medal (DSM) recognizes Auxiliarists who distinguish themselves by contributing exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service to the Coast Guard Auxiliary. The Coast Guard Auxiliary Distinguished Service Award is only awarded by the Commandant.
A.1.a. Eligibility Criteria	<p>The performance required to justify this award is exceptional performance of duty, which benefits the Auxiliary as a whole. This performance, therefore, must be clearly much higher than normally expected, and must have a measurable, positive effect on the entire organization. Normally this award will be given to elected and appointed officers for extraordinary achievement. This statement should not be interpreted so as to preclude the award to any Auxiliarist whose service meets the requirement.</p> <p>The key words for this award are distinguished, operational, and exceptional meritorious service. To justify this award, exceptional performance of duty, clearly much higher than normally expected, which has resulted in significant benefit to the entire Auxiliary organization, is required.</p>
A.1.b. Award Elements	This award consists of a Commandant's citation letter, a plaque, ribbon, miniature medal, and lapel pin. The operational "O" attachment is not authorized for this award. Subsequent awards are signified by $\frac{5}{16}$ -inch gold or silver stars as appropriate.
A.2. Auxiliary Plaque of Merit	The Auxiliary Plaque of Merit is given to Auxiliarists in recognition of extreme skill in performing an assist or rescue that involves risk to the Auxiliarist's life. The Auxiliary Plaque of Merit may be awarded by any Flag officer with Chief Director of Auxiliary concurrence.
A.2.a. Eligibility Criteria	<p>This award recognizes heroism in the face of grave personal risk and which clearly stands out as above normal expectations.</p> <p>The key aspects of performance for award of the Auxiliary Plaque of Merit are extreme skill, assist or rescue, and risk to the Auxiliarist's life. As can be seen, the Auxiliary Plaque of Merit can only be given for an assist, or rescue. The Auxiliarist must have exercised extreme skill, as opposed to just skill required for the Medal of Operational Merit. Lastly, there must have been risk to the Auxiliarist's life. Neither the assist nor rescue need be successful, only that the action required extreme skill and was performed or attempted at risk to the Auxiliarist's life.</p>
A.2.b. Award Elements	This award consists of a bronze plaque, ribbon, and miniature medal. There is no certificate. The operational "O" attachment is not authorized for this award. Subsequent awards are signified by $\frac{5}{16}$ -inch gold or silver stars as appropriate.



A.3. Auxiliary Meritorious Service Medal

The Auxiliary Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) is awarded to Auxiliarists who have contributed exceptional meritorious service to the Coast Guard and/or Auxiliary. Auxiliarists who serve in any capacity within the Auxiliary are eligible. The Auxiliary MSM may be awarded by any Flag officer.

A.3.a. Eligibility Criteria

The meritorious performance of duty must have enhanced Auxiliary goals. This performance must clearly be of a nature much higher than that normally expected, and which has a significant positive effect on the ability of the Coast Guard and/or the Auxiliary to complete its missions and goals.

For this award, the key words are outstanding and meritorious service worthy of special recognition, which contributes significantly to fulfillment of Auxiliary goals at the local level.

A.3.b. Award Elements

This award consists of a ribbon, miniature medal, and certificate. The operational "O" attachment may be authorized for this award. Subsequent awards are signified by ⁵/₁₆-inch gold or silver stars as appropriate.

A.4. Medal of Operational Merit

The Medal of Operational Merit is given to Auxiliarists in recognition of outstanding skill in performing an assist, rescue, or other meritorious operational service. The Medal of Operational Merit may be awarded by any Coast Guard Commanding officer (06 and above) of an operational unit or serving as DVC or higher at a district office, MLC, HQ, or serving as a Director.

A.4.a. Eligibility Criteria

This award recognizes outstanding achievement or service of an operational nature (defined as direct, hands on, underway, surface or airborne aviation mission activity) worthy of special recognition.

For this award, the key words are outstanding operational performance, skill, assist, rescue or other meritorious operational service. To receive the Medal of Operational Merit, only skill is required, not extreme skill, and therefore does not have to be a risk to the Auxiliarist's life. Outstanding operational performance and other meritorious operational service have been included in this category. This was added to allow recognition of a cumulative series of operational services, none of which, standing alone, would merit this award, but taken as a group, do merit this level of recognition.

A.4.b. Award Elements

This award consists of a ribbon, miniature medal, and certificate. The operational "O" attachment is not authorized for this award. Subsequent awards are signified by ⁵/₁₆-inch gold or silver stars as appropriate.

A.5. Auxiliary Commendation Medal

The Auxiliary Commendation Medal (ACM) is given to Auxiliarists in recognition of outstanding assistance that furthers any of the Auxiliary's authorized activities, except operations (since the Medal of Operational Merit is for operations). The Auxiliary Commendation Medal may be awarded by any Coast Guard Commanding officer (06 or above) of an operational unit or serving as DVC or higher at a district office, MLC, HQ, or serving as a Director.



A.5.a. Eligibility Criteria This award recognizes outstanding achievement or service worthy of special recognition as described below.

The key words for the Auxiliary Commendation Medal are outstanding achievement, which significantly furthers any of the Auxiliary's authorized activities. The Auxiliary Commendation Medal is for outstanding administrative services. This requires services accomplished in a manner, which is much better than could normally be expected from an Auxiliarist of like capability and experience. Neither doing a difficult job well nor doing a routine job in an excellent manner will suffice. The achievement must be truly outstanding.

A.5.b. Award Elements This award consists of a ribbon, miniature medal, and certificate. The operational "O" attachment is not authorized for this award. Subsequent awards are signified by ⁵/₁₆-inch gold or silver stars as appropriate.

A.6. Auxiliary Achievement Medal The Auxiliary Achievement Medal (AAM) is given to Auxiliarists in recognition of their sustained professional and/or leadership achievements in administration or operations. The Auxiliary Achievement Medal may be awarded by any Coast Guard Commanding officer (O-4 and above) of an operational unit or serving as a DVC or higher at a district office, MLC, HQ or Director.

A.6.a. Eligibility Criteria This award recognizes outstanding achievement or service of a nature, which is worthy of special recognition as described below.

The key words for the Auxiliary Achievement Medal are sustained professional, leadership achievements and period of time. The Auxiliary Achievement is for recognition of Auxiliarists who have maintained an outstanding level of performance and/or achievement over a period of time to further authorized activities of the Auxiliary. The achievements could be in administration or operations.

A.6.b. Award Elements This award consists of a ribbon, miniature medal, and certificate. For achievement in operations (defined as direct hands on, underway, surface or airborne aviation mission activity), Auxiliarists may wear the operational "O" attachment centered on the ribbon or the medal's suspension ribbon. Subsequent awards are signified by ⁵/₁₆-inch gold or silver stars as appropriate.



**A.7. Auxiliary
Commandant
Letter of
Commendation
Ribbon**

The Auxiliary Letter of Commendation Ribbon (ACLOC) is the Auxiliary's equivalent to the Coast Guard's Commandant Letter of Commendation (CLOC) Ribbon. Coast Guard units and Directors can prepare award citations using the same criteria, format, and style as the CLOC.

**A.7.a. Eligibility
Criteria**

The award is intended for Auxiliarists serving in any capacity with the Coast Guard or Auxiliary for an act of service resulting in unusual and/or outstanding achievement, whose performance is lesser than that required for the Auxiliary Achievement Medal. The award can also be used to recognize an Auxiliarist's service/performance for a special event or project. Commanding officers/Group Commanders, Directors, DVCs of HQ, MLC, ISC or district offices, O-4 and above, can approve the ACLOC. Recommendations are made on the CG-1650 award recommendation form and submitted to the approving official, via the Auxiliarist's chain of leadership and management.

**A.7.b. Award
Elements**

The ribbon is similar to the Coast Guard Letter of Commendation ribbon with the addition of a vertical white stripe in the middle to identify the ribbon as an Auxiliary award. The Auxiliary award consists of a ribbon and a miniature medal (the Coast Guard award is a ribbon only). The "O" device may be authorized for direct participation in missions of an operational hands-on nature. Auxiliarists indicate multiple awards by adding a $\frac{5}{16}$ -inch gold or silver stars.

**A.8. Auxiliary
Humanitarian
Service Award**

The Auxiliary Humanitarian Service Award (HSA) is presented to Auxiliarists who distinguish themselves as individuals or as members of an operational unit by meritorious, direct, non-routine participation in a significant act or operation of a humanitarian nature. Direct participation is defined as being physically present at the designated location, having directly contributed and influenced the action.

This award is considered the Auxiliary equivalent of the military Humanitarian Service Medal (HSM). Since Auxiliarists are not eligible to receive the HSM, the Auxiliary Humanitarian Service Award is awarded to Auxiliarists who participate in the same operations where Coast Guard active duty personnel are awarded the HSM.

Participation in domestic disturbances involving law enforcement, equal rights to citizens or the protection of properties are excluded from this award.



A.8.a. Eligibility Criteria	<p>Service rendered in the act or operation being considered must meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be above and beyond normal duties. • Must have major significance. • Must have provided immediate relief, relieved human suffering and should have saved lives. • Must have affected the outcome of the situation. • Must have specific dates and must be restricted to the period of immediate relief. <p>Examples of the types of acts or operations which may qualify for this award include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant assistance in the event of national or international disasters, natural or man-made, such as, but not limited to earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, typhoons or conflagrations. • Support or resettlement of refugees or evacuees. • Significant acts or operations directly related to humanitarian service, which are above and beyond routine service.
A.8.b. Award Elements	<p>This award consists of a ribbon and miniature medal. There is no certificate. For subsequent awards, a $\frac{3}{16}$-inch bronze star is authorized to be worn on the suspension ribbon and ribbon bar.</p>
A.9. Multiple Awards	<p>Auxiliarists indicate multiple awards of any of the above by adding $\frac{5}{16}$-inch or $\frac{3}{16}$-inch gold or silver stars as specified above.</p>
A.10. Auxiliary Annual Service Performance Awards	<p>These awards recognize the individual contributions of Auxiliarists in Auxiliary Recruiting, VE, RBSV, PE, and Operations programs.</p>
A.10.a. Eligibility Criteria	<p>Similar to the discontinued AMOS awards, the annual performance awards are to promote activity in critical areas and recognize individual efforts.</p> <p>Annual Performance Service Awards may be issued in the following categories using the following criteria (completed annually by calendar year - 1 January through 31 December), no retroactive entitlement authorized. Once an Auxiliarist is determined to be eligible for an award it may be presented when an appropriate presentation opportunity arises. It is not necessary to wait until the end of the year to present the award.</p>



A.10.b. Award Elements	<p>The awards use the old AMOS ribbons with an additional device to distinguish the new system from the discontinued awards and will include a miniature medal with device and citation. Multiple awards for subsequent years are indicated by adding ³/₁₆-inch bronze or silver stars. One award in each category may be issued to an Auxiliarist each calendar year, as the award is earned. The Annual Performance Auxiliary Recruiting Service Award uses the same ribbon as the discontinued AMOS Member Resources Award with an “S” device, the Auxiliary VE/RBSVP Service Award uses the discontinued AMOS VE ribbon with a “V” device, the Auxiliary PE Service Award uses the discontinued AMOS PE ribbon with an “E” device, and the Auxiliary Operations Service Award uses the discontinued AMOS Operations ribbon with either an “O” or “S” device as prescribed below (only one device may be worn, and the “O” device takes precedence). Auxiliarists may continue to wear the old AMOS ribbons previously earned. When a new ribbon of that same category is awarded under the new system, only the new Annual Performance Service ribbon (with associated device) is worn. For example, when earned, the Annual Performance Auxiliary Recruiting Service Award with an “S” device replaces the wearing of the discontinued AMOS Member Resources Award.</p>
A.10.c. Auxiliary Recruiting Service	<p>The Auxiliary Recruiting Service award is awarded for recruiting seven or more new Auxiliarists into the Auxiliary as determined and credited through the FC.</p>
A.10.d. VE/RBSVP Service	<p>The VE/RBSVP Service award is awarded for completing sixty or more VSCs, which include examinations of recreational boats, personal watercraft, commercial fishing vessels and uninspected passenger vessels, or conducting sixty or more RBSVPs or conducting a combination of VSCs, CFVEs and RBSVPs, which totals at least sixty checks/visits. Also, the award may be earned by conducting a total of twenty CFVEs.</p>
A.10.e. PE Service	<p>The PE Service award is awarded for IT and/or ITs aides completing thirty or more hours of instruction (in PE or MT), or serving as an ITs aide for sixty or more hours, or completing a combination of IT hours and ITs aide hours to total at least thirty credits (one IT hour equals one credit and one aide hour equals one-half a credit, for example, twenty hours as an IT equals twenty credits and twenty hours as an aide equals ten credits, totaling thirty credits and qualifying to receive the award).</p>
A.10.f. Operations Service	<p>The Operations Service award is awarded for supporting Coast Guard units and missions, including surface operations, air operations, and operational watchstanding (such as communications watchstander, OOD, manning the SAR desk, etc.). Operations support does not include administrative support to operational units, such as answering the office phones, filing case files, and service in the Director’s office.</p>



A.10.f.1. “S” Device	Displays the support “S” device for support activities not involving the movement of a facility, (i.e., watchstanding). Complete 200 or more hours of Operational Support activity as included in category 07, 20, 21, 23, and 55 on AUXDATA report 4 (ANSC 7030).
A.10.f.2. “O” Device	Displays the operational “O” device for underway (excluding underway for training), surface mission activity (sixty or more hours), or for airborne aviation mission activity (excluding training) (thirty or more hours). Support for on-the-water readiness exercises does qualify as operational service. No combination of surface and air operations is allowable for this award. Support activity includes categories 01, 02, 03, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 51, 52, 53, and 54 identified on AUXDATA report 4. Activities 30 (AtoN-Federal) and 31 (AtoN-private) and 32 (Bridge Administration) should be for afloat activity, vice ashore, for this award.
A.10.f.3. Required Data for Ribbons	The data to support the above ribbons will be obtained from AUXDATA printouts, with the exception of Auxiliary recruiting information, which may be provided by the DSO-PS. Directors, (LCDR (O-4) and above), have authority to issue the awards once the Auxiliarist has performed the prescribed activity levels. Ribbons can only be earned once per calendar year.
A.10.g. Award Precedence and Order	The Auxiliary Recruiting Service Award precedence is immediately above the Coast Guard Recruiting ribbon in the Auxiliary Award order of precedence. The Auxiliary VE/RBSVP, PE, and Operations Service Awards rank immediately below the Flotilla Meritorious Achievement Medal. With the exception of the Auxiliary Recruiting Service Award, these awards are worn in the order first earned.
A.11. Posthumous Awards	All of the above awards may be made posthumously.
A.12. Auxiliary Specialty Ribbon	This recognition is presented to an Auxiliarist who has satisfactorily completed any of the specialty courses. Auxiliarists add ³ / ₁₆ -inch bronze or silver stars to show completion of additional courses. This designation recognizes the satisfactory completion of all six specialty courses, which entitles the Auxiliarist to wear the AUXOP device. After earning the device, Auxiliarists no longer wear the Specialty Ribbon.
A.13. Auxiliary Program Ribbons	Ribbons are awarded for the following Auxiliary programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operations • Operational Excellence • Examiner • Instructor



A.13.a.
Operations
Program

This ribbon recognizes qualifications in the various operations program areas. Auxiliarists who qualify as an Auxiliary crew member, air observer, AtoN verifier, Coast Guard watchstander, Coast Guard boat crewman, or Coast Guard boat engineer may wear the Operations Program Ribbon. Watchstanders and boat engineers are defined as Auxiliarists who have been designated in writing by a Coast Guard unit, or the Director, as qualified in that position. Auxiliarists show multiple qualifications by adding $\frac{3}{16}$ -inch bronze or silver stars. The “E” device is authorized to be worn on the Auxiliary Operations Program ribbon by Auxiliarists who are currently appointed, or have been appointed, as a QE. No miniature “E” device for miniature medals is authorized.

A.13.b.
Operational
Excellence
Program

The Operational Excellence Program will provide Coast Guard Auxiliary boat crews with a challenging opportunity to highlight their proficiency and skills through the completion of a series of evaluated scenarios. Boat crew members will receive a letter of successful completion, and Coxswains will be issued the Operational Excellence Program E-Decal (see **Figure 11-1**). The Coast Guard Auxiliary Excellence “E” ribbon will be issued to those team members who earned the Operational Excellence Program E-Decal award. This operational recognition program is not mandatory, and does not replace qualifications or certification. It is intended to give Auxiliarists certified in the Boat Crew Program an incentive to train and increase proficiency by working together as a highly trained and coordinated crew and to encourage additional Auxiliarists to offer their boats as Facilities. The team’s FC, at a regularly scheduled Auxiliary meeting to promote recognition and achievement among all Auxiliarists, presents the award.



Figure 11-1
Operational Excellence Program E-Decal



A.13.c. Examiner Program The ribbon recognizes qualifications in various examiner program areas. Auxiliarists who qualify as a VE, RBSV, or a CFVE may wear the Examiner Program Ribbon. Auxiliarists show multiple qualifications by adding ³/₁₆-inch bronze or silver stars.

A.13.d. Instructor Program This ribbon recognizes qualification in the IT program.

A.14. Auxiliary Service Awards Auxiliary Service Awards are presented for sustained Auxiliary Service and Auxiliary Member Service.

A.14.a. Sustained Auxiliary Service Award This award is presented to an Auxiliarist contributing a documented total of 750 volunteer hours of Auxiliary service. Subsequent awards are presented for each additional 750 hours of service until the tenth award is achieved. Auxiliarists indicate multiple awards by adding ³/₁₆-inch bronze or silver stars, until the tenth award, at which time an hourglass device will be used. This award includes a miniature medal, ribbon, and certificate. Eligibility for this award is documented by the Director, using AUXDATA information, whose staff shall then forward the initial medal/ribbon set issue and a prepared certificate to be presented per district/regional policy. Subsequent awards receive the star or hourglass device and a certificate showing the number of hours being recognized.

A.14.b. Hourglass Device Auxiliarists wear a single bronze, silver, or gold hourglass device centered on the Sustained Auxiliary Service Award. A ribbon with a bronze hourglass device will designate accumulation of 7,500 volunteer service hours. Multiple star devices shall be removed. A gold hourglass will be awarded after accumulation of 15,000 total volunteer hours. A silver hourglass device shall be awarded after accumulation of 25,000 total volunteer hours. No further star devices or multiple hourglass devices will be added to the ribbon after the hours for each hourglass device level are awarded. Directors will provide the ribbon with a bronze, silver or gold hourglass as replacement for any previous level award. Appropriate service certificates will be provided to Directors by the Chief Director to accompany all hourglass awards.

A.14.c. Auxiliary Member Service Award This award is presented to any Auxiliarist who completes five cumulative (needs not be consecutive) years of Auxiliary membership. Auxiliarists indicate multiple five-year award increments by adding appropriate bronze or silver ³/₁₆-inch stars. This award, at the first five-year award increment, includes a miniature medal, ribbon, and certificate. Subsequent awards receive the star device and a certificate showing the numbered years of service.

A.15. Additional Auxiliary Awards The following are additional Auxiliary awards presented to deserving Auxiliarists.



A.15.a. Life Membership	This award is given to DCOs in recognition of service at the conclusion of their office term. Award of Life Membership does not change membership status or carry any special rights, except exemption from paying National dues by past DCOs. The award consists of a certificate to be presented by the Chief Director and NACO at an appropriate ceremony at a national level meeting. There is no ribbon, medal or plaque connected with Life Membership.
A.15.b. Certificate of Appreciation	At the Chief Director's discretion, a Chief Director's Certificate of Appreciation may be presented to any Auxiliarist in appreciation for outstanding service in furthering Coast Guard Auxiliary aims or programs. Recommendations for this special certificate should be forwarded through the Director to the Chief Director for consideration and/or processing.
A.15.c. National Board Auxiliary Awards	The Auxiliary National Board may establish national awards for outstanding performance by Auxiliarists and units in Auxiliary activities and programs. These awards may consist of trophies, plaques or certificates. The Board's Standing Rules will specify the name, purpose, nature and applicable conditions of all awards offered.
A.15.d. District Board Auxiliary Awards	A District Board may establish district awards for outstanding performance by Auxiliarists and units in Auxiliary activities and programs. These awards may consist of trophies, plaques, or certificates. The District Board's Standing Rules will specify the name, purpose, nature and applicable conditions of all awards offered.
A.15.e. Awards for Non-Auxiliarists	There are occasions when individuals, who are not Auxiliarists, contribute significantly to promoting Auxiliary goals and missions. Such contributions and efforts are important to recognize in the following manner:
A.15.e.1. Certificate of Appreciation	An Auxiliary award, known as the Certificate of Appreciation, is authorized for presentation to Non-Auxiliarists. Those persons who, in the NACO's or DCO's opinion, have given noteworthy cooperation or assistance to the Auxiliary and its activities are eligible to receive this certificate with the NACO's or DCO's signature and with an embossed Auxiliary seal. Award recommendations are submitted via Auxiliary channels to NACO or DCO.
A.15.e.2. Honorary Membership	Individuals, who are not Auxiliarists, may be awarded Honorary Membership. Such distinction is intended to honor individuals who provide notable service to the Auxiliary and its programs. In certain limited and selected cases, non-Auxiliarists may be awarded the title of Honorary Commodore. See <i>Chapter 3, paragraph D.5</i> of this manual for specific information.



A.16. Flotilla Meritorious Achievement Medal

This award is given annually to one flotilla in each district or region. The winning flotilla is subjectively judged by the DCO and Director to have made the most significant contributions to the Auxiliary program that year. Auxiliarists, who have been flotilla members for at least six months and a day during the award period, are eligible to wear the award's ribbon and receive the award's certificate. Auxiliarists indicate multiple awards by adding $\frac{5}{16}$ -inch gold or silver stars.

A.17. Discontinued Awards

The following listed awards are no longer issued:

- Air Observer/Pilot Ribbon
 - Auxiliary Service Award
 - Flotilla Achievement Medals (the six GAP ribbons)
 - $\frac{3}{16}$ -inch bronze star denoting qualification as Master IT
-



Chapter 11 - Auxiliarist Recognition/Awards



Section B. Applicable Coast Guard Awards

Introduction	This section describes the Coast Guard awards that Auxiliarists are eligible to receive. Table 11-1 depicts the relationship between Coast Guard and Auxiliary awards and is provided at the end of this section.
B.1. Coast Guard Unit Commendation Medals	Auxiliarists are eligible to receive the Coast Guard Unit Commendation and the Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation Medals. The award consists of a ribbon only, there are no miniature medals. A Flag officer must approve these awards. To be eligible, an Auxiliarist must have participated directly in at least 50% of the action in a single operational incident for which the Coast Guard unit involved received a citation for one of these awards. The operational "O" is attached when authorized. Auxiliarists indicate multiple awards by $\frac{5}{16}$ -inch gold or silver stars. Specific Auxiliary units awarded the Coast Guard Unit Commendation are authorized to fly the award pennant for three years after the award.
B.2. Commandant Award of Coast Guard Unit Commendation	On 1 September 1993, the Commandant awarded the Coast Guard Unit Commendation to Auxiliarists who served during the period October 1991 through November 1992. On 10 August 1999, the Commandant awarded a second Coast Guard Unit Commendation to the Auxiliary for service from 23 June 1939 through 23 June 1999. On 1 September 2002, the Commandant awarded the third Coast Guard Unit Commendation with Operational Distinguishing Device to Auxiliarists who served during the period 11 September 2001 through 1 September 2002. Auxiliarists indicate multiple awards by adding $\frac{5}{16}$ -inch gold or silver stars as appropriate.
B.3. Coast Guard Bicentennial Unit Commendation	Only those Auxiliarists who were Auxiliarists during the entire period from March 1989 to October 1989 are authorized to wear the Coast Guard Bicentennial Unit Commendation. The award consists of a ribbon only. There is no miniature medal.
B.4. Coast Guard Meritorious Team Commendation Medal	The Meritorious Team Commendation (MTC) Award must be processed via the respective Coast Guard administrative or operational unit awards board. To be eligible, an Auxiliarist must have made a significant contribution to the group or team cited for the award.



B.4.a. Recommendations	<p>The Coast Guard command, exercising operational or administrative control of the chartered team, should initiate the recommendation. Recommendations for the MTC are made to the appropriate Coast Guard commander for actions under their control. Awards involving Auxiliary flotilla, division, or district staffs must be forwarded to the applicable Director who will process via an Auxiliary or District Awards Board, as appropriate. Recommendations involving Auxiliary National Staff members must be forwarded to the Chief Director for action.</p> <p>Separate recommendations for each team member are not required. A single award recommendation form (CG-1650) with a proposed citation, together with a complete listing of all eligible Auxiliarists must be included. If the operational “O” device is recommended, the citation should indicate the same.</p>
B.4.b. Eligibility Criteria	<p>Only those Auxiliarists who serve for the entire meritorious period and made a significant contribution to the overall team accomplishments should be included. For Auxiliarists, include full name, EMLID, and current office held. For Coast Guard members, include full name, rank/grade, SSN, and current unit assignments.</p>
B.4.c. Award Elements	<p>The award consists of a ribbon only. There is no miniature medal. The operational “O” is attached when authorized. Auxiliarists indicate multiple awards by adding $\frac{5}{16}$-inch gold or silver stars as appropriate.</p>
B.4.d. Retired Award	<p>The MTC and the Auxiliary Group Action Award recognize the same levels of performance and Auxiliarists are eligible to recommend or receive either award, however, the Auxiliary Group Action Award is retired. Auxiliarists who previously earned the Group Action Award may continue to wear it until unserviceable.</p>
B.5. Special Operations Service Ribbon	<p>Auxiliarists who participate in a Coast Guard special operation, not involving combat, may receive this award. It is for Auxiliarists not recognized by another service award for the same operation, during the same period of service. This award can be authorized by the Commandant or an Area Commander.</p>
B.6. Awards for Recruiting Personnel into the Coast Guard Active Duty or Reserves	<p>Auxiliarists who complete the Coast Guard recruiter PQS and have augmented a recruiting office for two years are eligible for the Coast Guard Recruiting Service ribbon. Auxiliarists apply via the Coast Guard recruiter at the recruiting office they augment. Approval authority is the Director, Coast Guard Recruiting Center.</p> <p>Recommendations should be forwarded to: Director (CGPC-CGRC-3) Coast Guard Recruiting Center 4200 Wilson Blvd., Suite 450 Arlington, VA 22203-1804</p>



**B.6.a. Enlisted
Recruit**

Awards issued for recruiting per *Revised Incentive Program for Assistance for Recruiting*, ALCOAST 095/98 (COMDTNOTE 1100, dated 06 October 1998), have been modified, and Auxiliarists will be awarded an ACLOC for their first referral that results in an enlistment and an Auxiliary Achievement Medal for their third referral that results in an enlistment. This includes recruiting under the RAP. Auxiliarists apply via the Coast Guard recruiter at the recruiting office they augment. Approval authority is the Director, Coast Guard Recruiting Center.

**B.6.b. Academy
Recruit**

Auxiliarists will also be awarded an ACLOC for the first person they recruit and an Auxiliary Achievement Medal for the third person they recruit who successfully enter the Academy under the Academy Introduction Mission (AIM) program. Auxiliarists apply via their Auxiliary chain of leadership and management to their Director (O-4 and above), who can approve and issue the awards.

**B.7. Award for
Team Coast
Guard Members**

Coast Guard active duty/Reserve military personnel, and civilian employees may be awarded the DSM to recognize any person who makes significant contributions to the Auxiliary on the national level. Coast Guard active duty military personnel are not authorized to wear any Auxiliary miniature medal, ribbon, badge, or device on any uniforms.

Auxiliarists are encouraged to work through the Coast Guard chain of leadership and management to ensure Team Coast Guard members who make significant contributions to the Auxiliary program receive due recognition. DCOs, DCPs, and FCs should work closely with their Coast Guard active duty, Reserve, and civilian counterparts to recommend deserving Coast Guard members for appropriate military and civilian awards.



**Table 11-1
Relationship Between Coast Guard and Auxiliary Medals**

Coast Guard Auxiliary Medal	Coast Guard Medal	Reason For Coast Guard Medal	Final Approval Authority
Auxiliary Distinguished Service Medal	Distinguished Service Medal	Exemplary meritorious achievement	Commandant via Chief Director and G-O
(none)	Legion of Merit	Outstanding meritorious service	
Auxiliary Plaque of Merit	Coast Guard Medal	Heroism not involving conflict with an enemy	Commandant via Chief Director and G-O
Auxiliary Meritorious Service Medal	Meritorious Service Medal	Meritorious service in the performance of duty	G-O via Chief Director
Auxiliary Medal of Operational Merit	Coast Guard Commendation Medal with "O" device	Outstanding operational achievement	Chief Director
Auxiliary Commendation Medal	Coast Guard Commendation Medal without "O" device	Outstanding administrative achievement	Any operational Commanding Officer (O-6 or above) or Chief Director
Auxiliary Achievement Medal	Coast Guard Achievement Medal "O" on device optional	Individual sustained service	Any operational Commanding Officer (O-5 or above) or Director of Auxiliary
Auxiliary Commandant Letter of Commendation	Commandant Letter of Commendation "O" device optional	Superior performance of duty	Any operational Commanding Officer or Director of Auxiliary



Section C. Applicable Non-Military Awards

Introduction	This section describes the miscellaneous non-military awards that Coast Guard Auxiliarists are eligible to receive.
C.1. Secretary of Transportation's Outstanding Unit Award	Only those Auxiliarists enrolled in the Auxiliary from October 1993 to 30 September 1994 are authorized to wear the ribbon that accompanies the DOT Secretary's Outstanding Unit Award. The ribbon is surrounded by a gold frame. No miniature medals are authorized for this award.
C.2. Department of Transportation 9-11 Medal	This medal is awarded to employees of the DOT and private citizens for meritorious service resulting from unusual and outstanding achievement in response to the attacks on 11 September 2001. Specifically, this award is authorized for the following personnel:
C.2.a. Eligibility Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posthumously presented to those who lost their lives during the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001 that had immediate family employed by DOT. • Employees of DOT who were on scene at the World Trade Center Complex in New York, the crash site in Pennsylvania, or at the Pentagon on 11 September 2001 and performed a role in the initial rescue and recovery operations. • All personnel directly involved in the evacuation of lower Manhattan to include DOT employees, masters and crews of commercial vessels and crews of recreational boats that actually transported evacuees during the evacuation on 11 September 2001. The level of effort must clearly set the Auxiliarist above that described in the 9/11 Ribbon. • Personnel that demonstrated extraordinary participation or leadership while patrolling harbors, securing critical infrastructure facilities, escorting high interest vessels and conducting boardings of vessels entering U.S. waters during the period of 11 September 2001 to 11 September 2002. The level of effort must clearly set the Auxiliarist above that described in the 9/11 ribbon. • Employees of DOT who demonstrated extraordinary dedication or leadership between 11 September 2001 and 11 September 2002. Participation must have been at an exceptional level to warrant consideration for the awarding of the 9/11 Medal. The level of effort must clearly set the Auxiliarist well above that described in the 9/11 Ribbon.
C.2.b. Submission Requirements	Commanding officers of Coast Guard Units or Flotilla Commanders shall forward a complete list of names for those individuals eligible, a brief description of involvement, and TAD orders if applicable via the chain of leadership and management to G-WPM-1. Commander, Activities New York shall prepare packages on behalf of merchant marine and non-military vessel operators and crews outlined in eligibility requirements above.
C.2.c. Sample Citations	A sample citation is available from G-WPM-1.



C.3. Department of Transportation 9-11 Ribbon

This ribbon is awarded to an individual serving in any capacity with the DOT, merchant marines, or other civilians, for an act or service that contributed to recovery from the attacks of 11 September 2001, and force protection following the attacks or efforts that directly contributed to the increased infrastructure security effort between 11 September 2001 and 11 September 2002.

C.3.a. Eligibility Criteria

Specifically, it may be awarded to the following authorized personnel:

- Coast Guard units that shifted Operational Control (OPCON) to Operations Enduring Freedom, Noble Eagle, or Protecting Liberty for any amount of time between 11 September 2001 and 11 September 2002.
 - All personnel involved in patrolling harbors, critical infrastructure facilities, escorting high interest vessels, and conducting boardings of vessels entering U.S. waters during the period of 11 September 2001 to 11 September 2002. Participation in these operations must be no less than 14 days.
 - All personnel to include active, Reserve, Auxiliary, and civilian personnel that manned or augmented for no less than 14 days, Coast Guard, DOT, FEMA, and DoD command centers (including Operations Centers at Groups and above, COTP ICS, FEMA Regional Operations Centers, and VTS) between 11 September 2001 and 11 September 2002.
-

C.3.b. Submission Requirements

Commanding officers of eligible Coast Guard units or FCs shall submit a complete list of all Auxiliarists who have participated in any of the above events with a brief description of involvement, and copies of orders if applicable to G-WPM-1 via the chain of leadership and management. The Commander, Activities New York shall prepare packages on behalf of merchant marine and non-military vessel operators and crews outlined in requirements above.

C.3.c. Sample Citation

A sample citation is available from G-WPM-1.

C.4. Department of Transportation Guardian Medal

This medal is awarded to senior Government transportation officials, who through visionary leadership, have re-directed the focus and resources of their organization, or major entities within their organization, and had a profound impact in their field, Federal Government, or on the general public in providing for the protection and security of the U.S. and its citizens.

C.4.a. Eligibility Criteria

To justify this decoration, nominations must demonstrate exceptional performance of duty while in a position of great responsibility, clearly above that normally expected, which has contributed materially to the betterment of the U.S.

C.4.b. Submission Requirements

Commanding officers of Coast Guard Units or FCs shall forward completed nominations, with CG-1650 and a draft citation available from G-WPM-1, via the chain of leadership and management to G-WPM-1.



C.5. Lifesaving Awards

Auxiliarists are eligible to receive the Gold or Silver Lifesaving Medal for rescuing or trying to rescue another person from drowning, shipwreck, or other peril of the water. The Gold Lifesaving Medal is earned only when the rescue or attempt is at the risk of one's own life. If the action was taken while assigned to duty as an Auxiliarist, award of the Auxiliary Plaque of Merit is more appropriate than the Lifesaving Medals.

C.6. Public Service Awards

Under the provisions of the *Public Affairs Manual*, COMDTINST M5728.2 (series), Auxiliarists are not normally eligible for Coast Guard Public Service Awards. If recommended by the District Commander, however, such recommendations will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Commandant.

C.7. Coast Guard Foundation, Inc. Award of the Year

Auxiliarists, by outstanding service to the Coast Guard, also may be eligible for the annual Coast Guard Foundation Award. The *Coast Guard Medals and Awards Manual*, COMDTINST M1650.25 (series), contains the authorization and criteria for this award.

C.8. Association for Rescue at Sea Silver Medal Award

The Association for Rescue at Sea (AFRAS) has created the Silver Medal Award to recognize a Coast Guard Auxiliarist involved in a heroic rescue at sea. The event must involve the rescue of life from sea where heroic action of the person being nominated is uniquely distinguished. Nominations should consist of a short cover letter indicating the nominee's name and flotilla and a short narrative (1 to 2 pages) to fully document the event. The award is submitted to Coast Guard Headquarters, Office of Search and Rescue (G-OPR), via the NACO through the National Awards Committee and the Auxiliarist's chain of leadership and management. Award nominations are due at G-OPR 1 February of each calendar year. The award is presented at a ceremony in Washington, D.C., attended by members of Congress, AFRAS members, the Commandant of the Coast Guard, and senior Coast Guard personnel. More information on AFRAS and the AFRAS awards can be found at www.afras.org.



Chapter 11 - Auxiliarist Recognition/Awards



Section D. Making a Recommendation

Introduction	This section provides general guidance and procedures for making award recommendations.
D.1. Who Can Recommend	Military and Coast Guard civilian personnel are highly encouraged to make Auxiliary award recommendations, and may submit them directly to the Chief Director of Auxiliary. For consideration of all listed awards (except the DSM and the Flotilla Meritorious Achievement), any Auxiliarist may make an Auxiliary award recommendation via the chain of leadership and management to the designated Auxiliary awarding elected or appointed leader.
D.2. National Commodore	National Staff members may recommend to the NACO, via the chain of leadership and management, the consideration of a staff member for an award. The NACO will review it and forward it to the Chief Director with either a favorable or unfavorable endorsement. The Chief Director will endorse, as desired, and forward to the Auxiliary Awards Board for appropriate final action.
D.3. Command Initiated Awards	All Coast Guard personnel shall initiate and/or approve meritorious awards for deserving Auxiliarists at the appropriate awarding authority levels. Coast Guard Senior Executive Service (SES) civilian personnel, serving in appropriate award authority positions, may take action or approve Auxiliary Awards in the same manner as comparable Flag officers.
D.4. What to Recommend	The key words in the paragraphs describing the meritorious awards will help with the decision. If the act or service meets the requirements, the recommendation is appropriate. If they do not, either an award is not indicated or, the wrong award is being considered.
D.5. Philosophy	Only the truly deserving should receive recognition. To do otherwise dilutes the significance of the award for the deserving recipient and minimizes the value of these awards to the entire organization. Good performance and service should always be recognized, but the presentation of formal awards should be reserved for Auxiliarists who have truly distinguished themselves in their Auxiliary service.
D.6. Procedures	The recommending Auxiliary elected or appointed leader shall submit the recommendation form and the supporting documents, through the chain of leadership and management, to the NACO or DCO, as appropriate, who will endorse the recommendation, ensure its citation is quality checked and signature ready, and send it to the applicable reviewing personnel for consideration. Award citations coming through the chain of leadership and management shall be signature ready or at the very least shall closely follow the quality of sample citations found in the <i>Coast Guard Auxiliary Program Awards Booklet</i> . Coast Guard personnel will use the appropriate chain of leadership and management with appropriate copies to the Director. The following documentation is required to have an award recommendation considered.



D.6.a. Award Recommendation Form

A Coast Guard Award Recommendation Form (CG-1650) shall be prepared by the recommending Auxiliarist elected or appointed leader. (see *Appendix G*)

D.6.b. Summary of Action or Service

To make the recommendation for any of the above awards, a summary of action or service (except as noted below) must be prepared by the recommending Auxiliarist elected or appointed leader. This must be attached to the award recommendation, along with any documents (newspaper clippings, statements from those assisted, copies of Coast Guard station logs, letters, etc.) that help justify the recommendation. This summary is the most important part of the recommendation. Approval or disapproval will be based on the justification presented. Avoid generalities and excessive use of superlatives. Include any of the following, if pertinent or available:

- Specific examples.
- Service impact.
- Positive results.
- Monetary savings.
- Eyewitness statements.
- Nature of action.
- Date or inclusive dates.
- Precise location.
- Time of day.
- Names of all involved.
- Detailed weather conditions.
- Amount of natural or artificial light.
- Any other pertinent information.

The Summary of Action is not required for the Medal of Operational Merit, Auxiliary Commendation Medal, the Auxiliary Achievement Medal, or the ACLOC Award. The Summary of Action for the Auxiliary MSM should be limited to one page.

D.6.c. Citation

The citation is the account of heroic acts or of meritorious achievement of services. It is essentially a condensation of the summary of action or service. Recipients of awards are entitled to well prepared citations that will be cherished by the Auxiliarist and be a source of pride to their families. The citation may be prepared by an Auxiliary Awards Committee. NACO and DCOs are responsible to maintain and directly contribute to high quality signature ready citations. It is through their experience and leadership that the awards program will be successful for truly deserving Auxiliarists.



Section E. Procurement of Awards

Introduction	This section briefly describes how awards are procured for issue.
E.1. Initial Issue	Any initial award issue should be provided through the Coast Guard at no cost to the Auxiliarist. Directors acquire Auxiliary award stocks through the ANSC. Coast Guard awards should be acquired through district channels or through Commandant (G-WPM-1).
E.2. Replacements	Auxiliarists may purchase replacement Auxiliary ribbons, medals, and devices, for all appropriate awards and qualifications, from the AUXCEN through established district channels. Replacement Coast Guard awards may be purchased through Department of Defense/Coast Guard exchanges or through the Coast Guard UDC in Woodbine, NJ.



Chapter 11 - Auxiliarist Recognition/Awards



Section F. Manner of Wearing Miniatures and Ribbon Attachments

Introduction	This section describes the manner in which miniatures and ribbons shall be worn by Auxiliarists.
F.1. Miniature Medals	Most Auxiliary awards, except the Specialty Award, have a corresponding miniature medal. When an award has no miniature medal, Auxiliarists may not wear the ribbon alone on dinner dress uniforms.
F.2. Miniature Devices	Auxiliarists should wear only miniature medals and devices on dinner dress uniforms. Auxiliarists may wear the AUXOP and past officer devices on dress uniforms.
F.3. Placement of Attachments	<p>Figure 11-2 shows the proper placement of various ribbon attachments to include stars, the operational silver letter “O” device, and hourglass device.</p> <p>Attachments may be centered on suspension ribbons of miniature medals as authorized on the award. For the sake of neatness, Auxiliarists should wear no more than five attachments per ribbon.</p>
F.3.a. Silver “O”	The silver “O” attachment may be worn on the Auxiliary MSA, Auxiliary Achievement Medal, ACLOC and Annual Service Performance Operations Service Award. When worn, Auxiliarists should center the “O” on the ribbon.
F.3.b. Large Stars	Auxiliarists show multiple personal (also used on the ACLOC Award), unit, and discontinued AMOS awards by wearing large gold or silver $\frac{5}{16}$ -inch stars on the specified award ribbons. A gold star represents the second award. Auxiliarists add gold stars for each additional award through the fifth award. For the sixth award, a silver star replaces the four gold stars.
F.3.c. Small Stars	Auxiliarists wear small bronze or silver $\frac{3}{16}$ -inch stars on the Annual Service Performance Award ribbons, the Sustained Auxiliary Service Award, the Membership Service Award, and Specialty ribbons. The $\frac{3}{16}$ -inch stars will show additional qualifications and multiple awards, respectively. A bronze star represents a second award or an advanced qualification. Auxiliarists add bronze stars for each additional award or advanced qualification, through the fifth occasion. For the sixth award or advanced qualification, Auxiliarists replace the four bronze stars with a silver star shown in the illustration provided.



**F.4.
Discontinued
Attachments to
Retired Ribbons**

Auxiliarists are not authorized to wear anchors, the letter "X", and numerals on any Coast Guard or Auxiliary ribbons. Those Auxiliarists still wearing retired ribbons should remove these attachments from them.

**F.5. Other
Organizations**

Coast Guard personnel who have received awards from other military services or departments of the U.S. Government, foreign Governments, or other agencies will wear such awards on the Coast Guard uniform only as prescribed.



Ribbons with the “O”

Ribbons without an “O”



First Award



Second Award



Third Award



Fourth Award



Fifth Award



Sixth Award



Seventh Award




Eighth Award



Ninth Award



 Silver Letter “O”



Tenth Award



	$\frac{5}{16}$ " Gold Star
	$\frac{3}{16}$ " Bronze Star

Eleventh Award



	$\frac{5}{16}$ " Silver Star
	$\frac{3}{16}$ " Silver Star

Twelfth Award



Thirteenth Award



Figure 11-2
Ribbons With and Without “O”



Chapter 11 - Auxiliarist Recognition/Awards



Section G. Precedence for Awards

Introduction The Auxiliary's Awards, as the parent organization, will precede all other organizational awards, except as noted. DOT awards are listed, but other civilian Governmental departments, international, and foreign awards may be appropriately worn. Information on other award precedence not shown is available from the Chief Director (G-WPM-1) or as found in the *Coast Guard Medals and Awards Manual*, COMDTINST M1650.25 (series), or *Uniform Regulations*, COMDTINST M1020.6 (series). When the wearing of ribbons is required, Auxiliarists may wear all ribbons authorized, their three senior ribbons or their choice of nine of their authorized ribbons. The order of precedence for most awards, which may be worn by Auxiliarists is provided in **Table 11-2** through **11-8** as follows:



**Table 11-2
Personal Decorations**

Order of Precedence	Award
1	Medal of Honor
2	* Distinguished Service Cross; Air Force Cross
3	Navy Cross 11-18
4	Auxiliary Distinguished Service Medal
5	Defense Distinguished Service Medal
6	* Coast Guard Distinguished Service Medal
7	Distinguished Service Medals: Navy; Air Force
8	Presidential Medal of Freedom
9	National Security Medal
10	NASA Distinguished Service Medal
11	National Science Medal
12	Merchant Marine Distinguished Service Medal
13	PHS Distinguished Service Medal
14	Silver Star Medal
15	Secretary's Award for Outstanding Achievement (DOT Individual Bronze Medal)
16	Defense Superior Service Medal
17	DOT Guardian Medal
18	Legion of Merit
19	Distinguished Flying Cross
20	Auxiliary Plaque of Merit
21	Coast Guard Medal
22	* Navy/Marine Corps Medal
23	Soldier's Medal
24	Airman's Medal
25	Gold Lifesaving Medal
26	Bronze Star Medal
27	Purple Heart Medal
28	Auxiliary Meritorious Service Medal
29	Defense Meritorious Service Medal
30	Meritorious Service Medal
31	Merchant Marine Meritorious Service Medal



**Table 11-2
Personal Decorations - Continued**

Order of Precedence	Award
32	PHS Meritorious Service Medal
33	Air Medal
34	Silver Lifesaving Medal
35	Secretary's Award for Meritorious Achievement (DOT Individual Silver Medal)
36	Auxiliary Medal of Operational Merit
37	Auxiliary Commendation Medal
38	* Joint Service Commendation Medal
39	Coast Guard Commendation Medal
40	Commendation Medals: Navy; Army; Air Force
41	Merchant Marine Mariner's Medal
42	PHS Outstanding Service Medal
43	PHS Commendation Medal
44	Secretary's Award for Superior Achievement (DOT Individual Bronze Medal)
45	Auxiliary Achievement Medal
46	Joint Service Achievement Medal
47	DOT 9/11 Medal
48	* Coast Guard Achievement Medal
49	Achievement Medals: Navy; Army; Air Force
50	PHS Achievement Medal
51	NOAA Corps Director's Ribbon
52	Sustained Auxiliary Service Award
53	Auxiliary Commandant's Letter of Commendation Ribbon Bar
54	Commandant's Letter of Commendation Ribbon Bar
55	Combat Action Ribbon
Legend:	* - Indicates equivalent awards, worn in the order first earned. # - Indicates discontinued/retired Auxiliary awards. BOLD - Indicates awards an Auxiliarist may be awarded.



**Table 11-3
Unit Awards**


Order of Precedence	Award
1	Presidential Unit Citation
2	Joint Meritorious Unit Award
3	DOT Outstanding Unit Award
4	Coast Guard Unit Commendation
5	* Navy Unit Commendation; Army Valorous Unit Award; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award; Air Force Organizational Excellence Award NOTE  Note if both Air Force awards are earned, they are worn together, with the Outstanding Unit Award ahead of the Organizational Excellence Award.
6	Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation
7	* Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation
8	* Army Meritorious Unit Commendation
9	Coast Guard Meritorious Team Commendation
10	# Auxiliary Group Action Award
11	Coast Guard “E” Ribbon
12	Coast Guard Auxiliary Operational Excellence “E” Ribbon
13	Navy “E” Ribbon
14	Coast Guard Bicentennial Unit Commendation
Legend:	* - Indicates equivalent awards, worn in the order first earned. # - Indicates discontinued/retired Auxiliary awards. BOLD - Indicates awards an Auxiliarist may be awarded.



Table 11-4
Campaign and Service Awards

Order of Precedence	Award
1	Prisoner of War Medal
2	Coast Guard Good Conduct Medal
3	* Good Conduct Medals: Navy; Marine Corps; Army; Air Force
4	Coast Guard Reserve Good Conduct Medal
5	Naval Reserve Meritorious Service Medal
6	Organized Marine Corps Reserve Medal
7	* Expeditionary Medals: Navy; Marine Corps
8	American Defense Service Medal
9	American Campaign Medal
10	European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal
11	Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal
12	World War II Victory Medal
13	U.S. Antarctic Expedition Medal
14	Navy Occupation Service Medal
15	Army of Occupation Medal
16	Medal for Humane Action
17	China Service Medal
18	National Defense Service Medal
19	Korean Service Medal
20	Antarctica Service Medal
21	Arctic Service Medal
22	Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
23	Vietnam Service Medal
24	Southwest Asia Service Medal
25	Auxiliary Humanitarian Service Award
26	Humanitarian Service Medal
27	DOT 9/11 Ribbon
28	Special Operations Service Ribbon
29	Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal
30	Coast Guard Sea Service Ribbon
31	Coast Guard Restricted Duty Ribbon



**Table 11-4
Campaign and Service Awards - Continued**

Order of Precedence	Award
32	Navy/Marine Corps Sea Service Deployment Ribbon; Army Overseas Ribbon; Navy/Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon; Air Force Overseas Ribbon (“Short Tour” replaces “Long Tour” version)
33	Navy Arctic Service Ribbon
34	Naval Reserve Sea Service Ribbon
35	Coast Guard Basic Training Honor Graduate Ribbon
36	Air Force Basic Military Training Honor Graduate Ribbon
37	* Auxiliary Annual Service Performance Award
38	* Auxiliary Recruiting Service
39	Coast Guard Recruiting Service Ribbon
40	* Armed Forces Reserve Medal
41	Naval Reserve Medal; Marine Corps Reserve Ribbon; Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal; Air Reserve Forces
42	Auxiliary Meritorious Service Specialty Ribbon
43	*Operations Program Ribbon
44	*Examiner Program Ribbon
45	*Instructor Program Ribbon
46	Auxiliary Membership Service Award
47	Flotilla Meritorious Achievement Medal
48	* Auxiliary Annual Service Performance Award Vessel, Examinations/Recreational Boating Safety Visitation Program
49	* Auxiliary Annual Service Performance Award Public Education Service
50	* Auxiliary Annual Service Performance Award Operations Service
51	# Auxiliary AMOS Member Resource Unit Award
52	# Auxiliary AMOS Vessel Examination Unit Award
53	# Auxiliary AMOS Public Education Unit Award
54	# Auxiliary AMOS Operations Unit Award
55	Merchant Marine Gallant Ship Unit Citation
56	Merchant Marine Defense Bar
57	Merchant Marine Combat Bar
58	Merchant Marine Atlantic War Zone Bar



**Table 11-4
Campaign and Service Awards - Continued**

Order of Precedence	Award
59	Merchant Marine Pacific War Zone Bar
60	Merchant Marine Mediterranean/Middle East War Zone Bar
61	Merchant Marine World War 11 Victory Medal
62	Merchant Marine Korean Service Bar
63	Merchant Marine Vietnam Service Bar
64	Public Health Service Outstanding Unit Citation
65	Public Health Service Unit Commendation
66	Public Health Service Hazardous Duty Ribbon
67	Public Health Service Foreign Duty Ribbon
68	Public Health Service Special Assignment Ribbon
69	Public Health Service Isolated Hardship Ribbon
Legend:	* - Indicates equivalent awards, worn in the order first earned. # - Indicates discontinued/retired Auxiliary awards. BOLD - Indicates awards an Auxiliarist may be awarded.

**Table 11-5
Foreign Personal Decorations and Unit Awards**

Order of Precedence	Award
1	Philippine Presidential Unit Citation
2	Korean Presidential Unit Citation
3	Vietnam Presidential Unit Citation
4	Vietnam Air Service Medal
5	Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation Gallantry Cross Medal
6	Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation
7	Civil Actions Medal First Class
Legend:	* - Indicates equivalent awards, worn in the order first earned. # - Indicates discontinued/retired Auxiliary awards. BOLD - Indicates awards an Auxiliarist may be awarded.



**Table 11-6
Non-U.S. Service Awards**


Order of Precedence	Award
1	Philippine Defense Ribbon
2	Philippine Liberation Ribbon
3	Philippine Independence Ribbon
4	United Nations Service Medal United Nations Medal
Legend:	* - Indicates equivalent awards, worn in the order first earned. # - Indicates discontinued/retired Auxiliary awards. BOLD - Indicates awards an Auxiliarist may be awarded.

**Table 11-7
Foreign Service Awards**

Order of Precedence	Award
1	Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal ('60 medal)
2	Kuwait Liberation Medal
3	Bosnia Service Medal
Legend:	* - Indicates equivalent awards, worn in the order first earned. # - Indicates discontinued/retired Auxiliary awards. BOLD - Indicates awards an Auxiliarist may be awarded.



**Table 11-8
Marksmanship Awards**

Order of Precedence	Award
1	Coast Guard Expert Rifleman Medal or Sharpshooter/Marksmanship Ribbon
2	Coast Guard Expert Pistol Shot Medal or Sharpshooter/Marksmanship Ribbon
3	Other Service Marksmanship Ribbons
NOTE 	Marksmanship Medals are included in breast device choices, if suspended from a pocket flap (Army and Marine).
Legend:	* - Indicates equivalent awards, worn in the order first earned. # - Indicates discontinued/retired Auxiliary awards. BOLD - Indicates awards an Auxiliarist may be awarded.



Chapter 11 - Auxiliarist Recognition/Awards



Section H. Informal Recognition

Introduction In addition to formally recognizing an Auxiliarist’s service through appropriate awards, there is immeasurable value to providing positive feedback to those Auxiliarists who give valuable time and effort to the flotilla, division, district, or national Auxiliary organization. Auxiliarists need personal recognition for their efforts to continue to perform at consistently high levels.

H.1. Methods Informal recognition can be provided in a number of different ways limited only by the imagination of the person giving the recognition. Some examples include:

- Certificates or letters of appreciation to Auxiliarists from the Auxiliary unit’s senior elected or appointed leader.
- Public recognition at all Auxiliary unit gatherings and social events.
- An article in flotilla, division or district newsletters or other significant publications such as the Navigator or Coast Guard magazine. Recognition in local military base newspapers, home town news release program, or local military Public Affairs officer releases are helpful to both Auxiliarist and organizational recognition in the community. All Coast Guard and Auxiliary PA officers should be involved.
- The creation of specific informal awards such as “Auxiliarist of the Month/Quarter” or “Commander’s Award of Excellence.” These awards could be accompanied by certificates, pins, or other items purchased with Auxiliary unit funds.

H.2. Purpose The most important recognition aspect is that the honor goes directly from one person to another, from peers and supervisors alike. Giving such recognition demonstrates a high level of interpersonal skill and is another distinguishing mark of an accomplished leader.

H.3. Additional Source An additional source for informal recognition awards is the *Rewards and Recognition Handbook*, COMDTPUB P1650.37 (series).





Section I. Terms for Referencing Awards

Introduction	This section provides a list of terms and their definitions when referencing awards.
I.1. Award	An all-inclusive term covering any decoration, medal, badge, ribbon, or an attachment thereof, bestowed upon an individual.
I.2. Attachment	Any appurtenance such as a star, letter device, clasp or other device worn on the suspension ribbon of a medal or on the ribbon (ribbon bar).
I.3. Badge	An award to an Auxiliarist for some special proficiency, which consists of, a medallion often hung from a bar or bars.
I.4. Decoration	An award bestowed upon an Auxiliarist for a specific individual act of gallantry or meritorious service.
I.5. Lapel Button	A miniature replica of the ribbon or ribbon bar.
I.6. Ribbon or Ribbon Bar	Consists of a portion of the suspension ribbon of a medal, and is worn in lieu of the medal. The dimensions of the ribbon will be $1\frac{3}{8}$ inches by $\frac{3}{8}$ inch (see Figure 11-3).
I.7. Medal	An award presented to an Auxiliarist for performance of certain duties, acts, or services. Medals consist of a suspension ribbon made in distinctive colors from which hangs a medallion.
I.8. Miniature Medal	A replica of a large medal, made to a $\frac{1}{2}$ scale of the original (see Figure 11-4). The Medal of Honor does not have a miniature medal
I.9. Rosette	Lapel device made by gathering the suspension ribbon of the medal into a circular shape.
I.10. Service Award	An award made to those who have participated in designated wars, campaigns, expeditions, or who have fulfilled in a creditable manner specified service requirements.
I.11. Unit Award	An award made to a Coast Guard operational unit and worn only by members of that Coast Guard operational unit or Auxiliarists volunteering at that operational unit, meeting the award criteria and who participated in the cited action.



	COAST GUARD AUXILIARY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL			
	GUARDIAN MEDAL			
	AUXILIARY PLAQUE OF MERIT			
	COAST GUARD AUXILIARY MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL			
	MEDAL OF OPERATIONAL MERIT			
	AUXILIARY COMMENDATION MEDAL			
	AUXILIARY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL			
	TRANSPORTATION 9/11 MEDAL			
	AUXILIARY COMMANDANT LETTER OF COMMENDATION			
	COAST GUARD SUSTAINED AUXILIARY SERVICE AWARD			
	SECRETARY'S OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD			
	⁵ / ₁₆ " (Gold Star) Denotes each subsequent award of the same meritorious unit or unit award.		Silver – Denotes support activities not involving the movement of a facility (Auxiliary Operations Service Award) denotes performance in member recruiting support. Worn centered on ribbon.	
	⁵ / ₁₆ " (Silver Star) Worn in the same manner as the gold star, in lieu of five gold stars.		Silver – Denote performance in vessel examinations/RBSVP service area. Worn centered on ribbon.	
	³ / ₁₆ " (Bronze Star) Denotes additional qualifications and multiple awards.		Silver – Denotes performance in public education service area. Worn centered on ribbon. Denotes QE designation.	
	³ / ₁₆ " (Silver Star) Worn in the same manner as the bronze star, but each silver star is worn in lieu of five bronze stars.		Silver – Denotes performance in operations service area, "Direct Hands-On" underway, surface mission activity (80 or more hours); or for "Direct Hands-On" underway, aviation mission activity (30 or more hours). Worn centered on ribbon.	
	Silver – Accumulation of 25,000 volunteer service hours.		Bronze – Accumulation of 7,500 volunteer service hours.	
	Gold – Accumulation of 15,000 volunteer service hours.	DISCONTINUED AWARDS MAY BE WORN IF IN GOOD CONDITION		

Figure 11-3
Coast Guard Auxiliary Awards (In Order of Precedence)



	COAST GUARD UNIT COMMENDATION				
	COAST GUARD MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION				
	COAST GUARD MERITORIOUS TEAM COMMENDATION				
	COAST GUARD BICENTENNIAL UNIT COMMENDATION				
	COAST GUARD AUXILIARY HUMANITARIAN SERVICE AWARD				
	TRANSPORTATION 9/11 RIBBON				
	COAST GUARD SPECIAL OPERATIONS SERVICE RIBBON				
	COAST GUARD RECRUITING SERVICE RIBBON				
	SPECIALTY TRAINING RIBBON				
	OPERATIONS PROGRAM RIBBON				
	EXAMINER PROGRAM RIBBON				
⁵ / ₁₆ " (Gold Star) Denotes each subsequent award of the same meritorious unit or unit award.			Silver – Denotes support activities not involving the movement of a facility (Auxiliary Operations Service Award) denotes performance in member recruiting support. Worn centered on ribbon.		
⁵ / ₁₆ " (Silver Star) Worn in the same manner as the gold star, in lieu of five gold stars.			Silver – Denote performance in vessel examinations/RBSVP service area. Worn centered on ribbon.		
³ / ₁₆ " (Bronze Star) Denotes additional qualifications and multiple awards.			Silver – Denotes performance in public education service area. Worn centered on ribbon. Denotes QE designation.		
³ / ₁₆ " (Silver Star) Worn in the same manner as the bronze star, but each silver star is worn in lieu of five bronze stars.			Silver – Denotes performance in operations service area, "Direct Hands-On" underway, surface mission activity (80 or more hours); or for "Direct Hands-On" underway, aviation mission activity (30 or more hours). Worn centered on ribbon.		
Silver – Accumulation of 25,000 volunteer service hours.			Bronze – Accumulation of 7,500 volunteer service hours.		
Gold – Accumulation of 15,000 volunteer service hours.		DISCONTINUED AWARDS MAY BE WORN IF IN GOOD CONDITION			

**Figure 11-3
Coast Guard Auxiliary Awards (In Order of Precedence) - Continued**



	INSTRUCTOR PROGRAM RIBBON				
	AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP SERVICE RIBBON				
	FLOTILLA MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL				
	COAST GUARD AUXILIARY GROUP ACTION AWARD				
	AUXILIARY RECRUITING SERVICE AWARD*				
	AUXILIARY VESSEL EXAMINATIONS				
	RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY VISITATION PROGRAM SERVICE AWARD*				
	AUXILIARY PUBLIC EDUCATION SERVICE AWARD*				
	AUXILIARY OPERATIONS SERVICE AWARD*				
	U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY EXCELLENCE "E" RIBBON				
*Four Awards comprise the Auxiliary Annual Service Performance Awards.					
	⁵ / ₁₆ " (Gold Star) Denotes each subsequent award of the same meritorious unit or unit award.		Silver – Denotes support activities not involving the movement of a facility (Auxiliary Operations Service Award) denotes performance in member recruiting support. Worn centered on ribbon		
	⁵ / ₁₆ " (Silver Star) Worn in the same manner as the gold star, in lieu of five gold stars.		Silver – Denote performance in vessel examinations/RBSVP service area. Worn centered on ribbon.		
	³ / ₁₆ " (Bronze Star) Denotes additional qualifications and multiple awards		Silver – Denotes performance in public education service area. Worn centered on ribbon. Denotes QE designation		
	³ / ₁₆ " (Silver Star) Worn in the same manner as the bronze star, but each silver star is worn in lieu of five bronze stars.		Silver – Denotes performance in operations service area, "Direct Hands-On" underway, surface mission activity (80 or more hours); or for "Direct Hands-On" underway, aviation mission activity (30 or more hours). Worn centered on ribbon.		
	Silver – Accumulation of 25,000 volunteer service hours.		Bronze – Accumulation of 7,500 volunteer service hours.		
	Gold – Accumulation of 15,000 volunteer service hours.	DISCONTINUED AWARDS MAY BE WORN IF IN GOOD CONDITION			

**Figure 11-3
Coast Guard Auxiliary Awards (In Order of Precedence) - Continued**



CG Auxiliary Distinguished Service Medal



Guardian Medal



Auxiliary Plaque of Merit



CG Auxiliary Meritorious Service Medal



Medal of Operational Merit



Auxiliary Commendation Medal



Transportation 9/11 Medal



Auxiliary Achievement Medal



Auxiliary Commandant Letter of Commendation



Sustained Auxiliary Service Award



CG Auxiliary Humanitarian Service Award



Operations Program Ribbon



Examiner Program Ribbon



Instructor Program Ribbon



Auxiliary Membership Service



Flotilla Meritorious Achievement Medal

**Figure 11-4
Auxiliary Miniature Medals (In Order of Precedence)**



Auxiliary Recruiting Service Award



Auxiliary Vessel Examinations/Recreational Boating Safety Visitation Program Service Award



Auxiliary Public Education Service Award



Auxiliary Operations Service Award

Authorized "S" and "O" device "O" takes precedence over "S" device. Only one device is authorized.

**Figure 11-4
Auxiliary Miniature Medals (In Order of Precedence) - Continued**



COLLAR INSIGNIA

NACO	NAVCO	DCO	DC & N-A	DVC	BC	BA	VCO & RCO	DSO & D-AA	ADSO & D-AD	Auxiliary Aviator	Coxswain Device	Auxiliary Button	AUXOP Device

SHOULDER INSIGNIA

NACO	NAVCO	DCO	DC & N-A	DVC	BC	BA	VCO & RCO	DSO & D-AA	ADSO & D-AD	Auxiliary Aviator	Coxswain Device	Auxiliary Button	AUXOP Device

FOR INFORMATION ONLY - NOT INTENDED TO BE EXACT SCALE

CAP ORNAMENTATION

NACO	NAVCO	DCO	DC & N-A	DVC	BC	BA	VCO, RCO, DCP, DC, DVC, N-A	NACO, NAVCO, DCO

Other Insignia:

- Past Officer Device (Silver)
- Shield Elected Officer and Member (Embroidered)
- Shield Officer Staff Officer (Embroidered)
- Combination Cap Device
- Auxiliary National Staff Identification Badge
- Garrison & Working Cap Device
- Auxiliary Name Tag (Example: SMITH, U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY)
- Retired Pin

Cap Ornamentation (men): VCO, RCO, DCP, DC, DVC, N-A

Cap Ornamentation (women): NACO, NAVCO, DCO

Figure 11-5 Authorized Coast Guard Auxiliary Uniform Insignia



Current and past National Commodore



Current and past National Vice Commodore and Area Commodore



Current and past District Commodore



Current and past National Directorate Commodore

**Figure 11-6
Auxiliary Flags, Pennants, and Burgees**

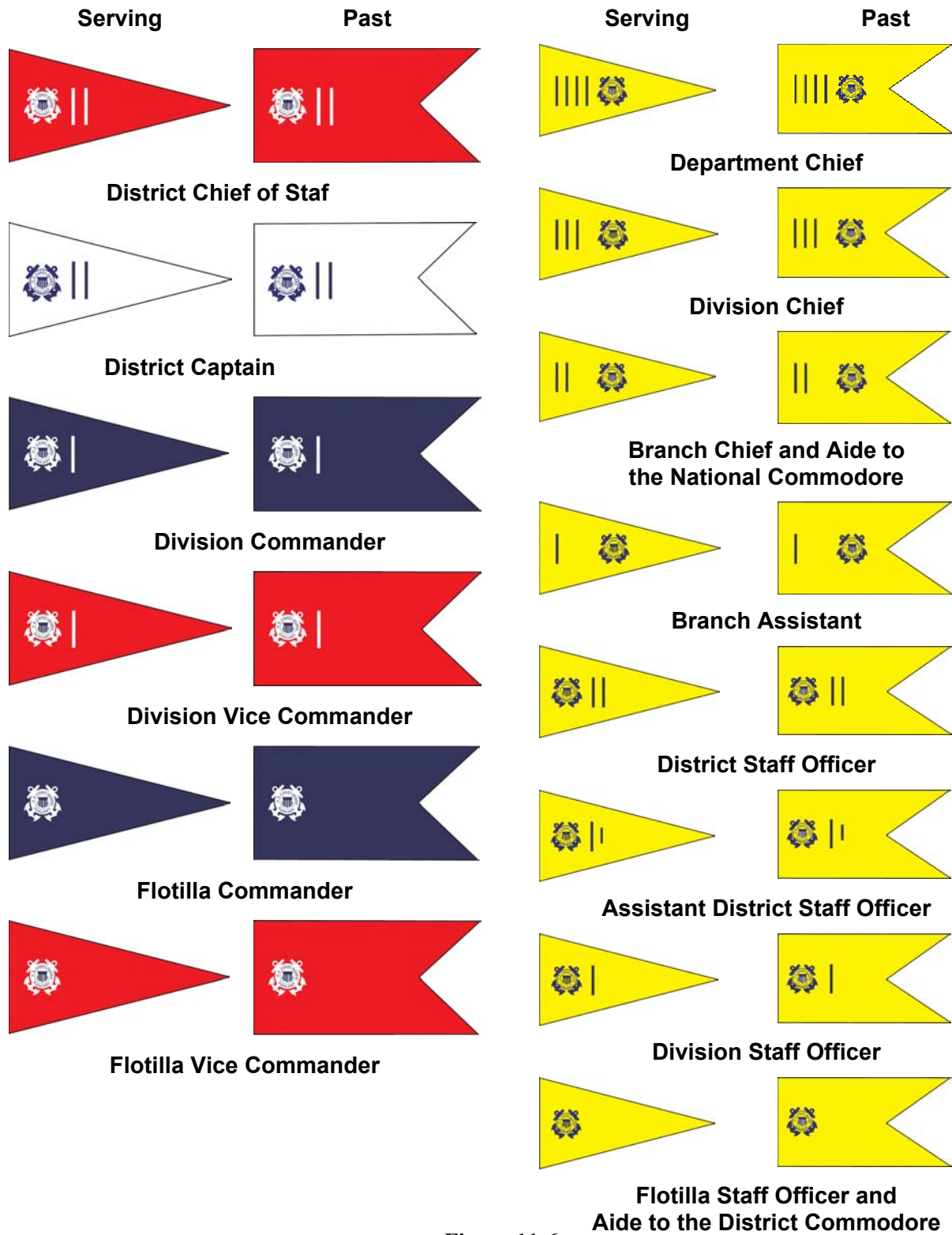


Figure 11-6
Auxiliary Flags, Pennants, and Burgees - Continued



Chapter 11 - Auxiliarist Recognition/Awards