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SUBJ: 2018 COAST GUARD CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR (CEOY) AND NON-APPROPRIATED FUND EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR (NAF EOY) AWARD SELECTIONS

1. It is my distinct pleasure to announce the following recipients of the 2018 CEOY and NAF EOY Awards.

- a. Mr. Roger T. Taylor, CEOY GS-14, CG Yard;
- b. Ms. Virginia K. Cameron, CEOY GS-14, Community Services Command;
- c. Mr. Brian P. Kindig, CEOY WS-11, CG Yard;
- d. Mr. John G. Haeefele, CEOY WL-10, Base Boston;
- e. Mr. James E. Jeffers, Jr., CEOY GS-7, TRACEN Petaluma;
- f. Mr. Ernest W. Vohnoutka, CEOY WS-9, Base Cape Cod;
- g. Mr. Alan D. Conway, NAF EOY NF-5, Community Services Command; and
- h. Ms. Kristina F. Ary, NAF EOY NF-3, Community Services Command.

2. Mr. Roger T. Taylor, a GS-0301-14, Quality and Safety Manager at the USCG Yard, Baltimore, MD, is responsible for the Yard's training program, encompassing 700 personnel. He ensures safe operation of DHS' largest industrial complex and only shipyard. Mr. Taylor supervised 22 employees and managed the safety and quality assurance of \$103M/year of cutter renovations, cutter repair projects, electronics installation "road shows" and heavy weapons system overhauls across the entire Coast Guard fleet. Mr. Taylor is commended for his outstanding leadership, professionalism, and dedication to duty.

3. Ms. Virginia K. Cameron, a GS-0343-14, Supervisory Program Analyst at the Coast Guard Community Services Command (CSC), Chesapeake, VA, is responsible for administering all HR responsibilities including classifying, hiring, evaluation, disciplining and providing benefits for the entire 1500+ person Non-Appropriated Fund (NAF) workforce. A strong advocate for the CG NAF workforce, she fought for and successfully negotiated a 10% decrease in health insurance premiums without a change in plan coverage. Ms. Cameron is commended for demonstrating honor, compassion for others, and devotion to duty.

4. Mr. Brian P. Kindig, a WS-3801-11, Structural Supervisor at the Coast Guard Yard, is responsible for leading and managing a team of 20 welders and shipfitters. His overall duties included welding, conducting non-destructive testing and inspection of all structural components of ships, procuring material, preparation of condition found reports, budgeting resources, tracking labor hours, coordinating work with management and cutter crews, and overseeing quality of work performed. Mr. Kindig is commended for his exceptional technical knowledge, superlative leadership skills, and unwavering dedication to duty.

5. Mr. John G. Haeefele, a WL-2805-10, Maintenance Supervisor at CG Base Boston, Facilities Engineering Department, is responsible for the continuous operation of all electrical systems for a regional military lead base with 590K square feet (SF) valued at \$353M across 12 sites supporting 20 Coast Guard and interagency tenants, and 1,000+ active duty members and their families. Mr. Haeefele is commended for his leadership, expertise, and outstanding devotion to duty.

6. Mr. James E. Jeffers, Jr., a GS-0081-07, Firefighter (Basic Life Support) at Coast Guard Training Center Petaluma in Petaluma, CA, is responsible for managing the tracking and maintenance of the department's specialized rescue equipment valued at over \$35,000. Mr. Jeffers provided fire protection and emergency rescue response capabilities to safeguard Training Center Petaluma's 1,200 personnel including 200 tenant members and 127 families situated within the installation's 830 acres, and 826,000 square feet of facilities from natural and manmade disasters. Mr. Jeffers is commended for his selfless service, professionalism, compassion, and commitment to duty and mission.

7. Mr. Ernest W. Vohnoutka, a WS-4749-09, Maintenance Mechanical Supervisor at Base Cape Cod, Buzzards Bay, MA, is responsible for leading a team of 19 military and civilian employees who expertly maintain the Coast Guard's second largest Base Shore Plant. Mr. Vohnoutka and his highly skilled team of experts ensured this critical infrastructure sustained the quality of life for over 500 Coast Guard members, 13 tenant commands, and state and DoD agency stakeholders at Joint Base Cape Cod. Mr. Vohnoutka is commended for exceptionally noteworthy leadership, commitment to duty, and dedication to the mission.

8. Mr. Alan D. Conway, is a NF-05, Information Technology Director at the Coast Guard Community Services Command (CSC) in Chesapeake, VA. He is responsible for leading a highly skilled team of 12 IT experts and 1,200 devices. Mr. Conway led his team to develop and implement new technology to enable the online sale of third-party direct shipment to customers, greatly increasing the E-commerce sales. Mr. Conway and his staff collaborated with the Army and Air Force Exchange System to develop a third party pay system that enabled

CGX military patrons usage of the Military Star Card and 100% automated uniform purchases online at ShopCGX.com. He also saved the USCG Exchange over \$100k per year by replacing leased IT equipment with CGX owned equipment. Mr. Conway is commended for his outstanding leadership, exceptional expertise, commitment, and devotion to duty.

9. Ms. Kristina F. Ary, a NF-0303-03, Administrative Specialist at the Coast Guard Community Services Command in Chesapeake, VA, is responsible for processing Workers Compensation reports and claims, and liability insurance for all Non-Appropriated Fund entities. Ms. Ary took the lead on submitting the Business Income and Property damage claims for Puerto Rico following significant damage resulting from Hurricane Maria. She worked diligently to organize \$3.6 million in business interruption claims and \$686k in property damage claims. Additionally, her coordinated efforts yielded over 5,000 lbs of food for Feds Feed Families. Ms. Ary is commended for her positive attitude, selfless service, and unwavering commitment to the CG core values of Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty.

10. The diligence and extraordinary work ethic of our highly skilled civilian employees greatly contributed to the accomplishment of the Coast Guard's operational mission readiness. These exceptional employees represent a small yet impressive snapshot of the quality of our dedicated civilian workforce.

11. I thank all the commands that submitted nominations to recognize their people, over 80 packages were received. All nominated have my heartfelt gratitude for their tremendous efforts and commitment to mission success.

12. The award ceremony is scheduled for 1000 hours on 18 June 2019 and will take place at USCG Headquarters in the CDR Ray Evans Conference Center. All Headquarters and personnel within the National Capital Region are invited to attend.

13. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Taylor, Ms. Cameron, Mr. Kindig, Mr. Haefele, Mr. Jeffers, Jr., Mr. Vohnoutka, Mr. Conway, and Ms. Ary for truly exemplifying Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty.

14. Ms. Michelle R. Godfrey, Director of Civilian Human Resources, Diversity and Leadership, sends.

15. Internet release is authorized.