

Meritorious Public Service Award to the Honolulu Fire Department

The Commandant of the United States Coast Guard takes great pleasure in presenting the Meritorious Public Service Award to the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) for their efforts to save the crew members of Coast Guard Helicopter 6505. On the night of 4 September 2008, HFD was called to assist in the search and rescue efforts of Coast Guard Helicopter 6505 which had crashed in the water approximately 3 miles offshore. They responded by immediately dispatching all available crews, including Air One, Rescue One, Rescue Two, and Fireboat. The crews were able to recover three of four downed aircrew and searched the remainder of the night for the last crewman. In the days following the mishap, HFD continued their unfailing support, providing numerous crews to aid in the search and rescue effort. Their efforts provided great comfort and closure to the families of the aircrew and to the Coast Guard. The Honolulu Fire Department's actions and valiant service embodied the spirit of "ohana" and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.