



# THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT  
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
HAS AWARDED THE

## COAST GUARD MEDAL

TO  
JOHN E. DUNCAN  
BOATSWAIN'S MATE THIRD CLASS  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD  
FOR

EXTRAORDINARY HEROISM ON 25 FEBRUARY 2007

GIVEN THIS 12th

DAY OF JUNE 2007



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. W. Allen". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

T. W. ALLEN  
Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard  
Commandant

**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF  
THE COAST GUARD MEDAL  
TO  
JOHN E. DUNCAN  
BOATSWAIN'S MATE THIRD CLASS  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

**Petty Officer DUNCAN is cited for extraordinary heroism on the evening of 25 February 2007, while part of a land rescue party from Station Humboldt Bay engaged in the perilous rescue of a man swept off the Humboldt Bay north jetty. Petty Officer DUNCAN and the other members of the rescue party ran approximately half a mile to the end of the moss-covered, partly awash jetty and discovered the victim slipping from consciousness as he hung upside down twenty feet below the top of the jetty, between several dolosse, unusually-shaped concrete blocks similar to jacks used to protect harbor walls from the force of the sea. Petty Officer DUNCAN and another member carefully traversed down the twenty feet over the slippery dolosse to reach the victim and discovered he had multiple contusions, abrasions, and a possible leg fracture. Petty Officer DUNCAN and the other rescuer decided that the only way to get the victim to safety was to free him from the dolosse and physically carry him to the top of the jetty. While attempting to free the victim, multiple waves exceeding twenty feet in height pummeled the party with great force, and the rescuers were nearly swept away several times. After freeing the victim, they carried him between them through breaking waves to the top of the jetty. The rescuers quickly determined the victim needed immediate medical attention and ran through breaking surf to the end of the jetty where a waiting Coast Guard Aviation Survival Technician began first aid. A helicopter then transferred the victim to the hospital where he eventually made a full recovery. Petty Officer DUNCAN demonstrated remarkable initiative, exceptional fortitude, and daring in spite of immediate personal danger in this rescue. His courage and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.**





1650

JUN 18 2007

## MEMORANDUM

From: M. L. Gable   
COMDT (CG-1221)

Reply to  
Attn of:

To: BM3 John E. Duncan, 1204952, USCG  
Thru: (1) Commander, Eleventh Coast Guard District  
(2) Commanding Officer, Coast Guard Group Humboldt Bay

Subj: INFORMATION CONCERNING EXTRAORDINARY HEROISM

Ref: (a) Medals and Awards Manual, COMDTINST M1650.25C  
(b) Personnel Manual, COMDTINST M1000.6 (series)  
(c) Title 14, United States Code 357(i)

1. You are advised that on 12 June 2007, the Commandant cited you for extraordinary heroism in conjunction with the Coast Guard Medal awarded to you for your heroic actions on 25 February 2007.
2. Therefore, in accordance with article 1.B.4. of reference (a) and with the provisions and limitations of reference (b) and (c), upon 20-year (or greater) enlisted non-disability retirement, you are entitled to an increase in your retired pay by an amount equal to 10 percent of your active duty pay. Under no circumstances may your retired pay exceed 75 percent of your active duty pay.
3. A copy of this letter will be filed in your official record at Coast Guard Personnel Command.

#

Copy: CGPC (adm-3)