

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE COAST GUARD MEDAL
TO
TYRONE M. MONTGOMERY
FIREMAN APPRENTICE
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Fireman Apprentice MONTGOMERY is cited for heroism on 5 December 1993 while assigned as crewmember aboard utility boat CG-41311, U.S. Coast Guard Station St. Inigoes, Maryland. The crew responded to a distress call from the fishing vessel EL TORO II, a charter vessel with 23 persons onboard, that was sinking approximately four nautical miles off Point Lookout, Maryland. Braving frigid temperatures, seven- to nine-foot seas, gale force winds, and limited visibility, Fireman Apprentice MONTGOMERY, without hesitation or regard for his own well-being, voluntarily entered the life raft launched from the utility boat, and rescued three men who were clinging desperately to the partially submerged pilot house of the EL TORO II. Fireman Apprentice MONTGOMERY made several attempts to pass the men a heaving line before one man was able to grab it in spite of his hypothermic state. Immediately recovering the heaving line after reaching the victims, Fireman Apprentice MONTGOMERY carefully guided each one into the raft. When the coxswain had to quickly maneuver to avoid collision with the sinking vessel, the added weight caused the sea painter to part. Maintaining his composure, he made a diving catch for the heaving line thrown from the utility boat. Upon recovery of all survivors, he demonstrated extreme compassion towards a critically hypothermic person by using his own body to warm him until he could be airlifted. Fireman Apprentice MONTGOMERY demonstrated remarkable initiative, exceptional fortitude, and daring in spite of imminent personal danger in this rescue. His courage and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

