



THE COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD  
WASHINGTON 20593

6 October 2014

The Commandant of the United States Coast Guard takes pleasure in presenting the  
COAST GUARD MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION to:

USCGC BOUTWELL (WHEC 719)  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

for service as set forth in the following

**CITATION:**

“For meritorious service from July 2014 to October 2014 in direct support of Operation MARTILLO with the Eleventh Coast Guard District and Joint Interagency Task Force South, conducting counter-narcotics patrols in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. Demonstrating superior tactical acumen and expert seamanship BOUTWELL coordinated with U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Navy, Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security, and partner-nation assets with the execution of 15 go-fast pursuits resulting in the interdiction of six drug laden vessels and disruption of nine additional cases. Seamlessly integrating with their Coast Guard Helicopter Interdiction Tactical Squadron, BOUTWELL apprehended 19 smugglers and seized 2,283 kilograms of cocaine with a wholesale value of 75 million dollars. Additionally, BOUTWELL bolstered U.S. international relations with Panama, Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Mexico during port calls by coordinating professional exchanges aimed at strengthening vital partnerships. BOUTWELL’s outstanding diplomacy with Costa Rica and Guatemala proved to be instrumental during the execution and transfer of four suspected drug smuggling cases. Throughout this time period, BOUTWELL successfully confronted the significant risks the Coast Guard faces with respect to regional security and prosperity brought on by the rising threat of Transnational Organized Crime networks and exposed the challenges which must be met to ensure maritime safety, efficiency, and security in the Western Hemisphere for decades to come. The devotion to duty and outstanding performance demonstrated by USCGC BOUTWELL are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.”

The Operational Distinguishing Device is authorized.

For the Commandant,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C. W. RAY".

C. W. RAY  
Vice Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard  
Commander, Coast Guard Pacific Area