



COMDTINST 1800.6A
FEB 11 2016

Subj: PRESIDENTIAL RECOGNITION UPON RETIREMENT FROM THE COAST GUARD

Ref: (a) Presidential Recognition Upon Retirement From Military Service, DODI 1348.34

1. PURPOSE. This Instruction publishes information concerning the issuance of certificates and letters to military members of the Coast Guard, upon retirement, conveying the President's appreciation for their contribution of honorable service to our country.
2. ACTION. All Coast Guard unit commanders, commanding officers, officers-in-charge, deputy/assistant commandants, and chiefs of headquarters staff elements shall comply with the provisions of this Instruction. Internet release is authorized.
3. DIRECTIVES AFFECTED. Presidential Recognition Upon Retirement From The Coast Guard, COMDTINST 1800.6 is cancelled.
4. DISCUSSION. Reference (a) does not include the Coast Guard, but the Coast Guard shall follow Reference (a), as amended by this Instruction.
5. DISCLAIMER. This guidance is not a substitute for applicable legal requirements, nor is it itself a rule. It is intended to provide operational guidance for Coast Guard personnel and is not intended to nor does it impose legally-binding requirements on any party outside the Coast Guard.
6. MAJOR CHANGES.
 - a. References to commands and Headquarters offices have been updated to reflect the current Coast Guard organizational structure.
 - b. Duplication with Reference (a) has been removed. Only content unique to the Coast Guard remains in this Instruction.

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7. ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT AND IMPACT CONSIDERATIONS.

a. The development of this Instruction and the general policies contained within it have been thoroughly reviewed by the originating office in conjunction with the Office of Environmental Management, and are categorically excluded (CE) under current USCG CE # 33 from further environmental analysis, in accordance with Section 2.B.2. and Figure 2-1 of the National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures and Policy for Considering Environmental Impacts, COMDTINST M16475.1 (series).

b. This directive will not have any of the following: significant cumulative impacts on the human environment; substantial controversy or substantial change to existing environmental conditions; or inconsistencies with any Federal, State, or local laws or administrative determinations relating to the environment. All future specific actions resulting from the general policies in this Instruction must be individually evaluated for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Policy NEPA regulations at 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508, DHS and Coast Guard NEPA policy, and compliance with all other environmental mandates.

8. RECORDS MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS. This Instruction has been evaluated for potential records management impacts. The development of this Instruction has been thoroughly reviewed during the directives clearance process, and it has been determined there are no further records scheduling requirements, in accordance with Federal Records Act, 44 U.S.C. 3101 et seq., National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) requirements, and the Information and Life Cycle Management Manual, COMDTINST M5212.12 (series). This policy does not have any significant or substantial change to existing records management requirements.

9. POLICY.

a. For the purposes of this policy, the Coast Guard shall interpret the term “Military Service,” defined in Reference (a), to include the Coast Guard.

b. In accordance with Article 3.a.(2) of Reference (a), the following additional members may receive a Certificate of Appreciation for Service in the Armed Forces of the United States, DD Form 2542.

(1) Members receiving a permanent physical disability retirement.

(2) Any other member (individually or a group), as determined by Commander (CG PSC).

c. In addition to the personnel listed in Article 2 of the Enclosure to Reference (a), the following members may receive a Presidential Letter of Appreciation for Thirty Years of Service:

(1) Coast Guard members retiring with at least 30 years of military service. Reserve Component members must have served 30 years of creditable service for retired pay purposes in order to qualify for a retirement letter of appreciation from the President of the United States.

(2) The Commandant of the Coast Guard.

(3) The Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard.

- d. Commander (CG PSC) shall issue procedures for members to request the Certificate of Appreciation and the Presidential Letter of Appreciation for Thirty Years of Service.
- 10. FORMS/REPORTS. The Certificate of Appreciation for Service in the Armed Forces of the United States, DD Form 2542, is issued only by Commander (CG PSC).
- 11. REQUESTS FOR CHANGES. Units and individuals may recommend changes via their chain of command using the Coast Guard memorandum to: HQS-PolicyandStandards@uscg.mil.

KURT B. HINRICHS /s/
Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard
Director of Reserve and Military Personnel