



THE COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD  
WASHINGTON 20593

JAN 16 2008

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

**USCGC JUNIPER (WLB 201)  
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND**

For service set forth in the following

**CITATION:**

“For meritorious service from 26 August 2007 to 20 November 2007 while preparing for and successfully completing a 37-day Alien Migrant Interdiction Operations deployment to the Straits of Florida in support of Sector Key West’s Operation BLUE HAMMER and the 123-foot WPB Mitigation Project. Embodying the core value of Devotion to Duty, JUNIPER’s crew fully prepared for the deployment by conducting specialized migrant training and honing law enforcement skills by completing a Living Marine Resources law enforcement patrol. Once in theatre, JUNIPER served with distinction both as an effective interdiction asset and as a migrant holding platform despite having only one operable engine for most of the deployment. Displaying exceptional determination, JUNIPER detected, pursued and interdicted a stolen go-fast vessel and apprehended two suspected smugglers and one migrant. JUNIPER also assisted in the interdiction of two other vessels with three suspected smugglers and 18 migrants. As a holding platform, JUNIPER personified genuine humanitarianism by caring for a total of 138 migrants, including children and injured persons. Despite having 81 migrants on deck, JUNIPER took USCGC KEY BISCAYNE in tow and transferred 5000 gallons of fuel, allowing the patrol boat to divert for search and rescue, hence saving four crewmembers from a sinking fishing vessel. During the approach of Tropical Storm Noel, JUNIPER leveraged the ship’s unique capabilities to safely remain at sea with 37 migrants on deck for four days of 35 knot winds, gusting to 45 knots. Exhibiting true multi-mission expertise, JUNIPER diverted during their transit to homeport to successfully correct the discrepant Chesapeake Bay/Cape Henry “CH” buoy, which was 550 yards off station and marks the convergence of four traffic separation zones. The devotion to duty and outstanding performance demonstrated by JUNIPER 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 "T. S. Sullivan".

T. S. SULLIVAN

Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard  
Commander, First Coast Guard District