

# Proclamation of the United States Coast Guard



**W**HEREAS, the people of Clearwater, Florida share a special and unique history with the United States Coast Guard and have provided a home for the Coast Guard since 1934, when Air Station St. Petersburg was commissioned at Albert Whitted Airport; and

**W**HEREAS, the Coast Guard presence in the city has grown and evolved, with the cultivation of a mutually supportive and beneficial relationship between local Coast Guard units and the people of Clearwater; and

**W**HEREAS, the people of Clearwater, following the tsunami in Southeast Asia and Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, instituted an awards program to recognize Coast Guard personnel for their roles in relief efforts, with specific recognition to Air Station Clearwater where 300 of 650 personnel were deployed to disaster areas; and

**W**HEREAS, the Clearwater Police and Pinellas County Sheriff operate jointly with the Coast Guard in Search and Rescue and law enforcement missions; and

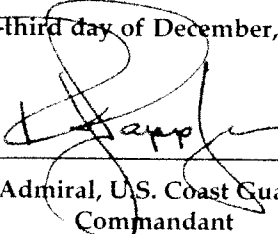
**W**HEREAS, the people of Clearwater encourage Coast Guard families to participate in educational programs, support scholarship programs for Service members and families, host monthly job fairs and offer free transition assistance to members retiring or leaving military service; and

**W**HEREAS, the Clearwater Chamber of Commerce regularly honors members of the Coast Guard as community heroes at its annual Chamber Banquet and hosts a community Birthday Bash at Air Station Clearwater to celebrate the Coast Guard's birthday; and

**W**HEREAS, the friendliness and hospitality of Clearwater are reflected in the multitude of special events throughout the year and services from local businesses for Coast Guard members and their families to honor their contributions to the nation;

**N**OW, THEREFORE, I, ROBERT J. PAPP, Jr., Commandant of the United States Coast Guard, in accordance with Public Law 105-383 enacted by the United States Congress and signed by the President on November 13, 1998, do hereby take great pleasure in proclaiming that Clearwater, Florida is to be known officially as "A Coast Guard City."

**I**N WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-third day of December, in the year of our Lord two thousand eleven.

  
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Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard  
Commandant