



THE COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
WASHINGTON 20593

25 May 2011

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

**FOURTEENTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT
VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA) TEAM**

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

“For exceptionally meritorious service from 5 January 2011 to 18 April 2011 while serving on the D14 Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Team. During this period, the VITA team selflessly provided volunteer income tax assistance to 172 taxpayers by preparing their 2010 state and federal income tax returns. Their client pool was incredibly diverse and was comprised of active duty, reserve and retired military members, civilian employees, and military dependents. Their contribution to the D14 VITA team began in January with their participation in the Hawaii Income Tax Law Course held by the U. S. Army Judge Advocate General at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, and continued with the Internal Revenue Service VITA Tax Program. These courses covered all aspects of the Internal Revenue Code and electronic filing program and taught them important tax preparation techniques that they then used to better assist their clients. The vast majority of VITA clients took advantage of the free electronic filing service the Team provided, allowing most of them to receive their income tax refund in as little as ten days. As a result of their services, members saved over \$15,500 in tax preparation and filing fees and received over \$569,335 in federal and state income tax returns. The VITA Team sacrificed their personal time in support of this effort; and as a result of their outstanding efforts, the Team greatly contributed to the financial well-being and morale of the personnel living on Oahu. The dedication, pride, and professionalism displayed by the members of the Fourteenth Coast Guard District VITA Team reflect great credit upon themselves, their team, and the United States Coast Guard.”

For the Commandant,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Charles W. Ray".

CHARLES W. RAY

**Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard
Commander, Fourteenth Coast Guard District**