



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the United States Coast Guard has had a presence in Alaskan waters for over 150 years; and

WHEREAS, the United States Coast Guard's 17th District encompasses over 3,853,500 sq. miles and over 47,300 miles of shoreline throughout Alaska and the Arctic, with the mission to serve and safeguard the public, protect the environment and its resources, and defend the nation's interests in the Alaska maritime region; and

WHEREAS, during an average month in the 17th District, the Coast Guard saves 22 lives; assists 53 people; reports and investigates 25 marine casualties; performs 74 living marine resource boardings; responds to 22 pollution incidents; services 93 buoys and fixed aids to navigation; conducts 13 security boardings and 22 security patrols; performs 143 commercial fishing vessel safety exams; saves over \$1.65 million in property; teaches 375 children about proper life jacket use; and performs 95 marine inspections; and

WHEREAS, the United States Coast Guard played an instrumental role in managing Valdez's two largest historic disasters, with the response of the Coast Guard Cutter Sedge after the 1964 Earthquake and the Coast Guard's oversight of response efforts and coordination of other federal resources after the 1989 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill, an event that involved service from about 1100 Coast Guard personnel over a six-month period; and

WHEREAS, Valdez serves as the home to Marine Safety Unit Valdez and Coast Guard Station Valdez, and has been the homeport for many cutters throughout the years, most recently the Coast Guard Cutter Liberty, which arrived this year; and

WHEREAS, the significant presence of the United States Coast Guard in Valdez greatly aids maritime industry operations, safe vessel navigation and emergency response capabilities in the area; and

WHEREAS, Coast Guard service members and their families play a key role in making Valdez a vital and appealing place to live; and

WHEREAS, on April 7th 2021, Valdez was named a Coast Guard City in recognition of the efforts made to make Coast Guard men and women feel at home in our community; and

WHEREAS, Coast Guard Day is an annual celebration of the founding of the United States Coast Guard as the Revenue Marine on August 4th 1790, by then-Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dennis Fleming, Mayor of the City of Valdez, Alaska, do hereby recognize that August 4th 2024 was celebrated as

Coast Guard Day

In Valdez, and urge our community to show our sincere appreciation to the service members who provide critical support for maritime safety and security in Port Valdez, Prince William Sound and across Alaska throughout this month.

Dated this 6th day of August, 2024.

CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA

ATTEST:

Dennis Fleming, Mayor

Sheri L. Pierce, MMC, City Clerk