



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, Sharon Scheidt, Mayor of the City of Valdez, Alaska, do hereby recognize August 4th 2022 as

Coast Guard Day

and urge our community to join in the celebration of this day and express 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.

Dated this 2nd day of August, 2022.

CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA

ATTEST:

Sharon Scheidt, Mayor

Sheri L. Pierce, MMC, City Clerk