

William E. Strickland
125 Lakewood Drive
Guyton, GA 31312
September 21, 2015

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley,

I am writing to ask you and your staff for your consideration to allow me to serve the people of South Carolina (SC) as a state employee. I currently reside near Savannah, GA, but my wife and I have a strong desire to return to our home state to begin the next chapter in our lives. I was born and raised in Newberry County. My father, Jerry, was a Newberry County Deputy and later retired from the State as a Constable. My brother is a retired Spartanburg County Deputy. My wife's family live in and around Greenville and Simpsonville.

I recently retired from the United States Coast Guard as a Lieutenant Commander after 23 years of Active Duty service. Prior to that I served 3 years with the SC Air National Guard. My primary duty with the Coast Guard was as a MH-65D Dolphin helicopter pilot, but I have extensive leadership experience in Operations, Emergency Planning, Disaster Response, Information Security, Counter Narcotics, Airborne Use of Force, Rotary Wing Air Intercept and the Incident Command System. I also have experience as a Casualty Officer and with the Sexual Assault Victim Advocacy Program.

During my career I have had direct operational experience in 8 different hurricanes/tropical storms. I received an Air Medal after Hurricane Katrina and was the Mission Commander of one of the first international response teams to reach Port au Prince, Haiti, after the 2010 earthquake. My team and I laid the groundwork for follow on military operations by identifying landing zones and hazards, establishing workable communications and providing operational feedback regarding risk mitigation and best practices to Navy and Coast Guard air and sea assets in the area. We also medevac'd 27 severely injured men, women and children and delivered hundreds of pounds of medical supplies and lifesaving equipment and personnel. I served as the Operations Officer for Coast Guard Air Station Savannah and as the Safety Officer at Helicopter Interdiction Tactical Squadron (HITRON) Jacksonville. I have served as lead investigator on 2 Headquarters level Class "A" mishap investigations. I have spent over 8 years at Air Station Savannah. This has given me extensive knowledge of the SC maritime environment, critical infrastructure and coastal geography. As an Aircraft Commander and Operations Officer I have had a high degree of interaction, both operationally and in training, with many state, county and local agencies along the SC coast.

I truly believe that my CG career has given me training, education, experiences and skills that can be of good service to the people of SC. I have a pending application online for Risk Management & Compliance Manager III – 61049753. I could not find any current openings relating to Emergency Response, Public Safety or Disaster Planning but I would be very interested if a position becomes available within this fields.

If hired for any position within the state, I would perform it with the same level of professionalism, honor and integrity that have defined my life and my career with the US Coast Guard.

I've included supporting documentation within this packet for your staff's review; including my resume', DD214 other career documentation. If they have questions or concerns they can call me anytime at 251 599-7593.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I also want to say that as a South Carolinian living in another state, I'm extremely proud of the job you've done for South Carolina. In a tough political landscape you've managed to do great things by bridging party gaps, staying grounded and sticking to your beliefs. Best of luck to you and your family and I hope the rest of your second term brings many great rewards, both to you personally and the people of SC. I'd like to also wish your husband Michael well and thank him for his service in the SC Guard and for deploying in support of the people of the United States.

Very Respectfully,



William E. Strickland

William Strickland

125 Lakewood Dr, Guyton GA 31312

Phone: (251) 599-7593. E-Mail: westrickland71@gmail.com

Summary

I recently retired as a Lieutenant Commander in the US Coast Guard with 23 years of active service. My time in the Coast Guard has provided me with an extensive amount of leadership training and management experience across a variety of fields, with specific expertise in Operations, Risk Management and Safety and Environmental Safety. I also have several years of experience in the retail and industrial sectors serving in a variety of job fields. I have a Bachelor's Degree in Management and I'm a graduate of numerous military leadership and management courses.

Experience

Senior Flight Examiner. Director of the Facilities Engineering Department

July 2013 - May 2015

- Head of the Air Station Flight Examining Board. Instructor Pilot and Flight Examiner. I oversaw the training, qualification and standardization for 27 pilots and 30+ enlisted flight crew; to include emphasis on the Coast Guard's Flight Safety, Crew Resource Management (CRM) and Operational Risk Management (ORM) programs.
- Supervised both officers and civilians within the Facilities ENG Dept in the upkeep, maintenance and oversight of a 10 acre complex consisting of 11 buildings and over 5 million dollars in capital facilities.
- Planned and supervised a 1.6 million dollar major unit rehabilitation project. I worked closely with outside contractors and Coast Guard representatives to ensure all tasks with completed in accordance with the Scope of Work and in compliance with Federal and State regulations. The project with completed early and under budget.

Operations Officer/Assistant Operations Officer, CG Air Station Savannah

July 2011-June 2013

- Chief pilot. Head of the Air Station Flight Examining Board. Instructor Pilot and Flight Examiner.
- Supervised 27 pilots and 75+ enlisted crewmen in the safe execution of search and rescue, law enforcement, marine environmental protection and other statutory missions along 450NM of coastline from the NC/SC border to Melbourne, FL. Planned, authorized and supervised over 2000 individual sorties and 3100+ flight hours.
- Supervised the Safety Officer in oversight of the Operational Flight Hazard Program and Operational Risk Management (ORM) process. Gave quarterly ORM/Operational Weakness assessment summaries to Coast Guard District 7 staff. Approved all operational commitments after careful review of the risk management/mitigation process.
- Directly supervised the Information Security and Communications Security Programs. Personally reviewed and approved quarterly and yearly unit security and risk mitigation training and processes.
- Direct liaison with federal, state and local partners; ensuring safe, effective joint operations crossing multi-state jurisdictions and areas of operations.

Flight Safety Department Head/Flight Safety Officer, CG HITRON Jacksonville July 2008-July 2011

- Directly responsible for Flight Safety, Operational Risk Management (ORM) and Crew Resource Management (CRM) programs at the Coast Guard's 3rd largest Air Station (300+ personnel and 9 aircraft). Lead ORM and CRM instructor/facilitator.
- Directly supervised 9 Safety Department representatives, all HITRON aviation safety officers, the Ground Safety program, Human Factors Council, and federal monitoring programs.
- Weapons Department Assistant Department Head- supervised a \$300K armory and training division responsible for the basic and recurring qualification of all of HITRON's Aerial Gunners and Pilots, including the SIG Sauer .40, Barrett M107, M240, and M14 weapons systems.
- Senior Mission Commander: Deployed 9 times in support of Counter Narcotics operations. Ordered the employment of both warning fire and disabling fire on 7 separate interdictions resulting in the seizure of over \$150 Million dollars in illegal drugs and the arrest of 11 narco-terrorists.
- Investigated or supervised 35+ flight or ground safety mishaps. Made, recommended or supervised procedural, doctrine or system changes to reduce opportunities for future mishaps.

Fleet Standardization Instructor Pilot and Crew Resource Management (CRM) and Operational Risk Management Program Instructor, CG Aviation Training Center, Mobile AL NOV 2004-July 2008

- One of 22 HH65 Dolphin Fleet Standardization Instructor Pilots. Responsible for the review/oversight of the flight operations and training programs at all Coast Guard Air Stations in the US.
- Responsible for the design, implementation and review of the Coast Guard's CRM and ORM programs fleet wide across all aircraft platforms.
- Responsible for the review and update of the HH65 helicopter operators' manual; to include revisions due to safety mishaps, flight test and simulations data.

From 2007 - 2012 I was selected to serve on 2 CG Commandant Mishap Analysis Boards (MABs) involving Class A accidents, which included loss of life. On the first I served as the fleet Standardization representative. On the second I was the lead Flight Safety Investigator. In both cases, these in-depth investigations resulted in Coast Guard wide recommendations, which have, and will, continue to improve aviation safety across the service.

Pilot; Information Security & Communications Officer, CG Air Station Savannah GA JUL 2001- NOV 2004

- Responsible for information security compliance for all unit personnel.
- Managed external and internal communications and network security
- Supervised and reviewed yearly training requirements for all unit personnel involving information security, security of classified information, and the protection/safeguarding of personal information.

Education

Park University: Bachelors of Science, Management, Computer Information Systems	1999
US Navy Flight School	2000-2001
US Navy Aviation Safety Officers (ASO) Course	2009
Fixed Wing Accident Investigation Course, Human Factors in Accident Investigation Course, Ramp and Maintenance Course, Reverse Cycle and Sleep Studies Course	2008-2011

Awards, Achievements and Recognition

3800+ flight hours (T34, OH 58A/B, TH 58, HH65 A/B, MH65C, MH 65D).

Commercial fixed and rotary wing ratings.

CFI/II (rotary wing).

Coast Guard Aircraft Commander, Counter Drug Airborne Use of Force Mission Commander, Rotary Wing Air Intercept Aircraft Commander, Instructor Pilot/Flight Examiner.

Coast Guard Pilot of the Year, all airframes, and (2010-2011).

Recipient of the English Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators (GAPAN) Masters Medal (2011) - first US military pilot in history to receive this award.

2 Coast Guard Air Medals (Post Hurricane Katrina operations and post Haiti earthquake operations).

26 years of total military service (23 US Coast Guard and 3 US Army National Guard).

Miscellaneous:

I own a home in Guyton, GA. My wife and I have 2 sons, both active in their schools and in the community. I am involved as an assistant youth sports coach in the Effingham Recreation League.

CERTIFICATE OF RELEASE OR DISCHARGE FROM ACTIVE DUTY (Continuation Sheet)

This Report Contains Information Subject to the Privacy Act of 1974, As Amended

1. NAME (Last, First, Middle) STRICKLAND, WILLIAM, EVERETTE	2. DEPARTMENT, COMPONENT AND BRANCH HOMELAND SECURITY: USCG AD	3. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER 248 65 0152
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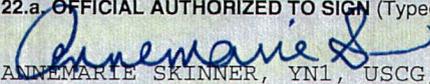
(Specify the item number of the block continued for each entry.)

BLOCK 13 CONTINUED: COAST GUARD UNIT COMMENDATION RIBBON W/ FOUR GOLD STARS; COAST GUARD MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION RIBBON W/ THREE GOLD STARS; COAST GUARD PISTOL SHARPSHOOTER RIBBON; COAST GUARD COMMANDANT'S LETTER OF COMMENDATION RIBBON W/ TWO GOLD STARS; NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL; HUMANITARIAN SERVICE MEDAL W/ THREE BRONZE STARS; COAST GUARD SPECIAL OPERATIONS SERVICE RIBBON; COAST GUARD RIFLE EXPERT MEDAL; COAST GUARD PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION RIBBON W/ HURRICANE DEVICE; COAST GUARD SEA SERVICE RIBBON; SECOND COAST GUARD GOOD CONDUCT AWARD FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 98 02 17; DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 9-11 RIBBON; DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD;

BLOCK 14 CONTINUED: BLOCK 14 CONTINUED: EMERGENCY EGRESS TRAINING, 1 DAY, JUL 2012; HUMAN FACTORS, 3 DAYS, JUL 2010; FSO/GSO STANDARDIZATION COURSE, 5 DAYS, MAY 2010; AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT INVESTIGATOR, 5 DAYS, DEC 2009; RAMP AND MAINTENANCE SAFETY, 5 DAYS, SEP 2009; AVIATION SAFETY OFFICER, (NAVY), 31 DAYS, APR 2009; AVIATION HUMAN FACTORS, 5 DAYS, SEP 2008; CIVIL RIGHTS/HUMAN RESOURCE AWARENESS BASIC HUMAN AWARENESS, 1 DAY, MAY 2005; SE AVIATION, 2 DAYS, AUG 2004; INTERMEDIATE ICS I-300, 2 DAYS, NOV 2002; BASIC ICS I-200, 1 DAY, NOV 2002; HH-65 TRANSITION, 47 DAYS, MAR 2002; MARITIME SEARCH AND RESCUE PLANNING, 18 DAYS, DEC 2001; ICS-100 INTRO TO ICS, 1 DAY, DEC 2001; DECK WATCH OFFICER INTERNATIONAL/INLAND-ORIGINAL, 1 DAY, JAN 2000; LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT ROADSHOW, 1 DAY, FEB 1998; STANDARD WORKSTATION SYSTEM OPERATIONS COURSE, 1 DAY, DEC 1996 COMMAND STATION WATCHSTANDER (SHIPBOARD), 1 DAY, JUL 1993; RADIOMAN, 1 DAY, JUL 1993;

BLOCK 18 CONTINUED: BLOCKS 12A, 12B, AND 12C. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION APPLIED REGARDING EACH ENLISTMENT/REENLISTMENT: PERIOD OF SERVICE: 92 02 18 TO 98 05 30 AND 98 05 30 TO ACCEPTANCE AND OATH OF OFFICE RE CODE: RE-1 SPD: JBK TL: NONE

*****NOTHING FOLLOWS*****

21.a. MEMBER SIGNATURE  WILLIAM EVERETTE STRICKLAND	b. DATE 20150427 (YYYYMMDD)	22.a. OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO SIGN (Typed name, grade, title, signature)  ANNEMARIE SKINNER, YN1, USCG, BYDIR	b. DATE 20150430 (YYYYMMDD)
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CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

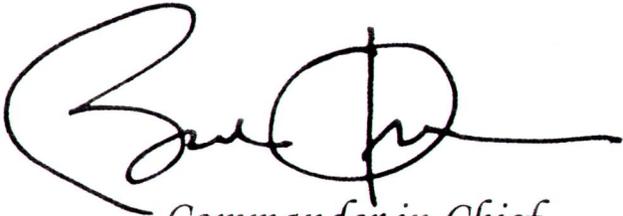
FOR SERVICE IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

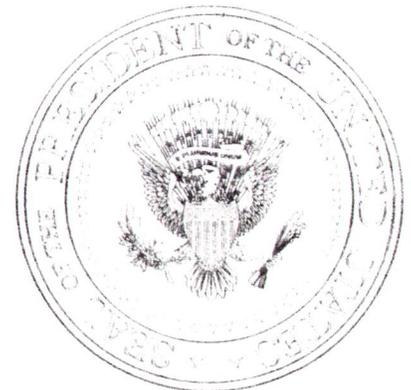
**LIEUTENANT COMMANDER
WILLIAM E. STRICKLAND**

I extend to you my personal thanks and the sincere appreciation of a grateful nation for your contribution of honorable service to our country. You have helped maintain the security of the nation during a critical time in its history with a devotion to duty and a spirit of sacrifice in keeping with the proud traditions of military service.

Your commitment and dedication have been an inspiration for those who will follow in your footsteps, and for all Americans who join me today in saluting you for a job extremely "well done."

My best wishes to you for happiness and success in the future.


Commander in Chief



CITATION
TO ACCOMPANY THE PRESENTATION OF THE
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD EXCEPTIONAL PILOT AWARD
TO
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER WILLIAM E. STRICKLAND

Lieutenant Commander Strickland is recognized for superior airmanship while serving as the Mission and Aircraft commander of CG-6518 for Operation Unified Response for the catastrophic earthquake that ravaged Haiti on 12 January 2010. He and the crew of CG-6518 reacted quickly and effectively assisted the Haitian people from 13 to 21 January. During this period, LCDR Strickland and the crew flew 35.3 hours, completed 28 sorties with 70 landings and directly saved 27 lives plus hundreds more through indirect action.

The Commander made multiple landings in confined areas and landing zones throughout Port Au Prince speeding up the evacuation of critically injured people. He and the crew were the first to land at the improvised hospital in Milot, Haiti. This required navigating over 50 miles of unfamiliar mountainous terrain, capped in fog, without charts while fighting up and down drafts. This allowed them to transport four victims with multiple injuries ranging from multiple amputations, gangrene infection and open head wounds to waiting surgical teams. The crew made multiple trips to transport injured to the trauma center. LCDR Strickland developed critical route and operational hazard briefings and laid the groundwork for the air rescue effort for other support crews to continue follow-on MEDEVACS safely from the Port Au Prince area to Milot. In addition, despite a lack of adequate crew rest, the commander transported medical personnel and supplies throughout the area to make shift clinics and U.S. Navy hospital ships.

The achievements of LCDR Strickland exemplify the high standards of the Daedalian Exceptional Pilot Award and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Coast Guard.



DEPARTMENT OF
HOMELAND
SECURITY
U. S. COAST GUARD
CG-4229 (Rev. 3-03)

DIGEST

APPROVAL:
SIGNATURE:
INFORMATION:

From: CG-711 *Gay*

AUG 19 2011

To: CG-7
Thru: DCO-I

Re: THE GUILD OF AIR PILOTS AND AIR NAVIGATORS

1. The Office of Coast Guard Aviation Forces is pleased to announce LCDR William Strickland has been awarded the Master's Medal for 2010 from The Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators.
2. The Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators is a civilian organization created in 1929 by the City of London Livery Companies to establish rules for the profession of aviation. Today, Guilds of London are highly recognized and respected throughout the United Kingdom as organizations which promote various industries. This award recognizes worldwide achievements in aviation.
3. LCDR William Strickland is being recognized for his role as the Mission Commander of HITRON Aviation Detachment 11-05 aboard USCGC TAHOMA. During this deployment LCDR Strickland and his crew were the first international response to the disaster under Operation Unified Response for the nation of Haiti following the 12 January 2010 earthquake. Quickly shifting focus to providing humanitarian aid before a world-wide audience, LCDR Strickland and crew saved 27 lives and delivered critical medical supplies and health care personnel throughout an eight-day period.
4. LCDR Strickland is the first Coast Guard Aviator to receive this award.

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SIGNER'S COMMENTS

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF THE

AIR MEDAL

TO

LIEUTENANT WILLIAM E. STRICKLAND

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Lieutenant STRICKLAND is cited for meritorious achievement in aerial flight from 29 August 2005 to 03 September 2005, while serving as a pilot aboard Coast Guard HH-65 helicopters during Hurricane Katrina rescue operations. Testing the limits of his aeronautical skill and endurance, Lieutenant STRICKLAND flew 26 hours, conducting day and night search and rescue missions in a hazardous urban disaster environment. On the night of 29 August, fatigued from flying through the outer bands of Hurricane Katrina, Lieutenant STRICKLAND departed for Gulfport, Mississippi; one of the first HH-65 crews to arrive in the storm ravaged area. His brave action led to the location and immediate rescue of survivors hardest hit by the hurricane's devastating force. On 30 August, hovering beneath power lines and within one rotor disk of other Coast Guard helicopters, Lieutenant STRICKLAND executed seven hoists of critically ill survivors from a rooftop while weaving the rescue swimmer through wires, telephone poles and trees. During the transport of a critically injured man, the local hospitals refused to accept further patients. Lieutenant STRICKLAND quickly improvised a solution when his crew located and hailed an ambulance traveling on I-10. Landing on the interstate, the patient suffering from arterial bleeding was delivered to awaiting medical personnel. In the early morning hours of 01 September, Lieutenant STRICKLAND demonstrated exceptional bravery while navigating through smoke to arrive over the Days Inn in New Orleans. Emerging upon a scene of 200 confused and desperate survivors, he displayed superior piloting skills by conducting a series of 18 hoists in near zero visibility. He expertly repeated this dangerous cycle until fuel exhaustion, but not before saving 30 lives. On the night of 03 September, Lieutenant STRICKLAND was tasked to MEDEVAC an elderly patient from Gulfport, Mississippi. Racing against the clock with the patient's condition rapidly deteriorating from uncontrollable bleeding, he piloted through turbulent darkness and ultimately saved the man's life. Lieutenant STRICKLAND's actions and aeronautical skill were instrumental in saving 49 lives. His courage, judgment and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.



CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF

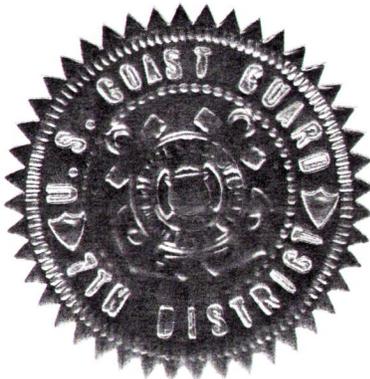
**THE AIR MEDAL
(GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A SECOND)**

TO

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER WILLIAM E. STRICKLAND

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Lieutenant Commander STRICKLAND is cited for heroic achievement in aerial flight while serving as Aircraft Commander aboard Coast Guard helicopter CG-6518, from 13 to 21 January 2010. Lieutenant Commander STRICKLAND led the first international aircrew under Operation UNIFIED RESPONSE following the devastating earthquake that struck Haiti on 12 January 2010. Rapidly shifting missions from shipboard counterdrug operations to humanitarian aid, he saved 27 lives and assisted thousands more while flying critical medical supplies and health care personnel during 28 sorties and more than 35 flight hours over an eight-day period. On the night of 17 January, Lieutenant Commander STRICKLAND's exceptional navigation throughout the earthquake ravaged region allowed CG-6518 to clear unlit towers and perilous obstructions during multiple operations in and out of crude and hastily established confined landing zones, expediting the evacuation of critically injured survivors. Lieutenant Commander STRICKLAND safely piloted CG-6518 and crew through 50 miles of high-altitude, fog-obscured and mountainous terrain becoming the first U.S. helicopter to arrive at Milot, Haiti. He delivered four victims to urgently needed medical care and established the first safe corridor to a key trauma center for hundreds of missions to follow. On 19 January, during a case that gained international media attention, he demonstrated extraordinary aeronautical skill navigating through and around darkness, smoke, unlit towers, and downed power lines in the heart of Port Au Prince to extract a 69-year-old woman found alive after being trapped in rubble for seven days. Lieutenant Commander STRICKLAND expertly operated in a hostile and uncertain environment, topographically altered due to the earthquake, recovering the helicopter each night to an allied vessel. Lieutenant Commander STRICKLAND's actions and aeronautical skill were instrumental in the rescue of hundreds of people. His courage, judgment, and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.



**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE COAST GUARD COMMENDATION MEDAL
(GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A THIRD)**

TO

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER WILLIAM E. STRICKLAND

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Lieutenant Commander STRICKLAND is cited for outstanding achievement while serving as an MH-65C Airborne Use of Force Counter-Drug (AUF-CD) Mission Commander (MC), Instructor Pilot (IP), and Safety Department Head at Helicopter Interdiction Tactical Squadron (HITRON) Jacksonville from July 2008 to July 2011. Demonstrating exceptional aeronautical skill during five Counter-Drug Airborne Use of Force (AUF-CD) deployments, Lieutenant Commander STRICKLAND interdicted four go-fast vessels leading to the apprehension of eight narco-terrorists. His courageous efforts prevented almost 6,000 pounds of cocaine and over 200 illicit automatic weapons from entering the United States. He also played a key role in developing mission-ready aircrews by flying 122 instructional flight hours as an IP during a period where HITRON doubled its pilot corps. Due to his extensive AUF-CD experience, Lieutenant Commander STRICKLAND was selected to participate in the multi-million dollar Service Life Extension Program, which tested and evaluated the long-term effects of aggressive AUF flight maneuvers. His efforts directly resulted in tactics modifications designed to reduce MH65C airframe fatigue, ultimately extending the life of aircraft components. Following Hurricane Ike's devastation in September 2008, Lieutenant Commander STRICKLAND valiantly supported relief efforts to survey rivers and ports, remap flood-zones, and transport vital aids to navigation. As HITRON's Safety Officer, he managed an eleven-member Council which created a vibrant and safety-minded culture while managing flight and ground safety programs for over 230 personnel and ten helicopters. During this time, HITRON flew over 9,300 land and shipboard based flight hours without any major mishaps. Lieutenant Commander STRICKLAND's dedication, judgment, and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

The Operational distinguishing device is authorized.

