



## THE STRONG AND ENDURING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AND THE PEOPLE OF CAPE MAY COUNTY



Coast Guard Community Application  
Cape May County Region

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**Coast Guard Community Application**  
**Cape May County Region**



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**Coast Guard Community Application  
Cape May County Region**



## INTRODUCTION AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In the context of Cape May County's long and storied history with the United States Coast Guard, the past five years have been a short but significant chapter. Long before a "Coast Guard Community" designation had been conceived, our county, surrounded by water, was a nexus of maritime activity and developed a deep and essential connection to the Coast Guard. Through over one-hundred years of defending our waters, safeguarding mariners, and training enlisted servicemen in Cape May County, the Coast Guard grew to become and continues to be part of the fabric of life in our region.

Since 2015, community members have embraced the Coast Guard Community designation and further intensified support for and celebration of our Coast Guard friends and neighbors. Perhaps even more significant than the specific programs, initiatives, and events outlined in this document is a greater sense of awareness of and support for Coast Guard members in our community, expressed through person-to-person interactions as residents navigate their daily lives. Coast Guard flags fly in front of Cape May businesses; recruits on liberty are showered with well-wishes; our civic leaders and elected officials express their welcome and appreciation for Coast Guard personnel in the course of their duties. Whether or not they are documented or enumerated, these interactions form the foundation of what it means to be a Coast Guard Community.

While initiatives outlined in our original application have largely continued, this submission places greater emphasis on the programs that have developed since 2015. It begins by explaining actions taken by County government since the designation, including a comprehensive signage program and the establishment of a dedicated non-profit. The next section captures examples of widespread and ongoing support from the broader community, especially the response to the recent government shutdown that left Coast Guard members temporarily without pay. Next, this document includes a review and summary of key items from the initial application that are ongoing and contribute to our status as a Coast Guard Community. Finally, appendices include resolutions and letters in support of the County's redesignation, and an economic impact study illuminating Training Center Cape May's role in our regional economy.



### Coast Guard Community Application Cape May County Region



## ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE APPLICANT SINCE THE ORIGINAL DESIGNATION

Cape May County Government has treated its status as a Coast Guard Community with gravity and care since receiving the designation in 2015. The following are examples of actions and projects that the County has initiated to continue supporting and celebrating our Coast Guard neighbors.



### County-Wide Signage Program

The County of Cape May led a signage program that culminated in production of 4' by 6' road signs placed at all entry points to the County, as well as two signs for each of the County's sixteen municipalities. The signs bear the Coast Guard crest and read "Welcome to Cape May County: A Proud Coast Guard Community," or include the municipality name and the phrase "a Coast Guard Community Member."

Visitors see these 35+ signs both as they enter the County and travel throughout the area, and residents are reminded of the Coast Guard connection as they go about their daily lives. Each of the County's component towns were enthusiastic to place the signs and proud to display their "Coast Guard Community Member" title.

### Cape May County Coast Guard Community Foundation

In early 2015, County government and community members came together to form the Cape May County Coast Guard Community Foundation, an independent 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, in an effort to organize and coordinate activities spread across the region.

The mission of this designated non-profit is to nurture strong relationships between Coast Guard members, their families and the community by developing programs, supporting the efforts of others, and facilitating active engagement between the Coast Guard and Cape May County. The Foundation's vision: *"We envision Cape May County as a vibrant and welcoming "hometown" for the Coast Guard personnel and their families."*

## Foundation Structure

The Foundation is structured to ensure continuity, integrity, and diversity of perspective. The Board of Trustees holds designated seats for two Cape May County Freeholders (County Commissioners), the mayor of the City of Cape May, and the President of the Cape May County Chamber of Commerce, as well as additional seats which are encouraged to be filled by retired members of the Coast Guard, those with experience in historic and cultural education, and those with strong ties to various geographic regions within the County. The Foundation employs two part-time workers and has recruited a great deal of volunteers to carry out its missions.

## Foundation Programs

Since its inception, the Foundation has developed a variety of initiatives and programs to meet its mission:

- The **Coast Guard Community Festival** is the Foundation's premier event, and is described in more detail and with impacts on the community in the next section.
- A **Community Activity Program** reimburses Coast Guard families for the registration fees for children's activities such as dance, soccer, and swimming. The purpose of this program is to give back to Coast Guard families and to help them feel welcomed and supported by the community. A tangible effect of the program is to facilitate informal interactions between Coast Guard parents and community members as they meet incidental to their children's activities. Feedback on this program from Coast Guard families has been positive.
- The Foundation has established **award programs** which recognize (1) the contributions of Coast Guard members to the community, and (2) local businesses and individuals whose actions help to connect the community and Coast Guard members. Awards are distributed annually during Coast Guard Community Festival Week. Until 2019, the local Coast Guard command also participated by presenting an award to a community member who made an impact on the Coast Guard. Award recipients to-date are listed below.

- **2015 Award Winners:**

Hometown Heroes (from USCG)

Gretchen Whitman, Nature Center

Mark Kulkowitz, Carol Villa Hotel & Mad Batter



Gregg Coffey, C-View  
Patricia Marten & Ms. Kelley Helbig, Cape May City Elementary

Coast Guard Community Spouse of the Year: Jill Simcox  
Community Coast Guardian: Chief Warrant Officer Lawrence P. Antonucci Jr.

o **2016 Award Winners:**

Hometown Heroes (from USCG)  
Nelson Brown, Coast Guard Auxiliary  
Anna Shustack, Teitelman Junior High School

Coast Guard Community Spouse of the Year: Kristen Gallego  
Community Coast Guardian: ITC Robert Hasty

o **2017 Award Winners:**

Hometown Hero (from USCG): CG Auxiliarist Tony Kupstas  
Coast Guard Community Spouse of the Year: Tracy Grant  
Community Coast Guardian: MK3 Lantz Bowman

o **2018 Award Winners:**

Coast Guard Community Spouse of the Year: Janelle Quigley  
Hometown Hero: Cape May Brewing Company



*Bob Krill of Cape May Brewing Company receiving the Hometown Hero award from Cape May County Freeholders.*

o **2019 Award Winners:**

Coast Guard Community Spouse of the Year: Kathy Gibbons  
Hometown Hero: Crest Savings Bank  
Coast Guardsman of the Year: Kellie Dean

o **2020 Award Winners:**

Hometown Hero: Jason Ruffenach  
Hometown Hero: Caleigh Vazquez  
Hometown Hero: La Mer Beachfront Inn



- **Support for Coast Guard MWR events**, including the annual Coast Guard Day celebration at Training Center Cape May, where the Foundation sponsors free ice cream for Coast Guard members and their families.
- Sponsorship or partnership in **community events** that raise the profile of and/or educate the community regarding the Coast Guard, including:
  - Annual art show for local artists with a Coast Guard or nautical theme at the Mad Batter Restaurant in Cape May.
  - “Salute to the Coast Guard” at the Mudhen Brewing Company in Wildwood with the release of a Coast Guard themed beer.



*Students pose with their work at the “Heroes on Land and Sea” Youth Art Show.*

- “U.S. Coast Guard - Heroes on Land and Sea” Youth Art show for local students displayed at the NJ Audubon Nature Center Cape May.
- “Always Ready: Always Here” Coast Guard continuing exhibition at the Museum of Cape May County in Cape May Court House, NJ.
- Open house at the U.S. Life Saving Station #30 in Ocean City, NJ.
- Educational programs targeted for members of the Coast Guard, including

financial seminars for Coast Guard families, presented in partnership with the Jersey Cape Military Spouses’ Club.

- Foundation **donations to important Coast Guard causes**, including:
  - Contribution to the commissioning celebrations for new Fast Response Cutters that are homeported in Cape May, including the USCGC Lawrence Lawson, Rollin Fritch and Angela McShan.



- o Donation to support the construction of the U.S. Coast Guard Enlisted Memorial at Training Center Cape May.
- o Donation to the Jersey Cape Military Spouses' Club to develop an online course to help Coast Guard spouses navigate life in the military.
- o Sponsorship of a table at the Cape May Nature Center's fundraiser, the Catch of Cape May, and invitations to eight USCG personnel to attend.



*Community members donated to support, and attended the dedication of, the Enlisted Memorial.*

- **Coast Guard Community Art Show:** this year the Cape May County Coast Guard Community Foundation was excited to partner with the Coast Guard Art Program and planned for exhibiting the event at the Cape May County Historical Museum. However, because of the Covid-19 pandemic, the actual show could not take place in person, and instead it became a virtual art exhibit on the Cape May County Coast Guard Community Foundation website. The virtual art exhibit will show so much to the community and others, all that the Coast Guard does and contributes to our great country. The exhibit can be viewed at: <https://coastguardcommunity.org/foundation/programs/virtual-coast-guard-art-exhibit/>

The Foundation continues to identify programs which will meet the needs of Coast Guard members and their families in our community.



*One entry to the Coast Guard Community Foundation art show, "Coast Guard to the Rescue" (U.S. Coast Guard Art Program work by Ralph Star, ID# 90547r)*

## Coast Guard Community Festival

The Foundation's premier program is an annual Festival taking place on the first weekend of May. Because it is held at Training Center Cape May, the Festival provides the local public with an opportunity to enter and tour the military base that is not typically open to them. Upwards of 20,000 people have attended the Coast Guard Community Festival over five years. Through explorations during the Festival, the importance of Coast Guard missions becomes clearer to visitors, promoting the Coast Guard cause. Festival activities include:



*Visitors enjoy a static helicopter display at the Festival.*

- **Search & rescue** demonstrations, courtesy of nearby Air Station Atlantic City
- Educational trolley **tours of the base**
- **Ship tours** of cutters homeported at TRACEN, plus visiting craft
- Interaction with Coast Guard **recruits and personnel** stationed at various Festival activities
- Typical festival components such as **food, music, vendors and games.**



*The Festival provides opportunities for visitors to engage up-close with Coast Guard assets.*

As well as providing an educational opportunity for local residents, the Festival is intended to celebrate Coast Guard members and families. To this end, the Foundation provides free lunch vouchers to all active military and dependents that attend the Festival. Additionally, feedback from local "Coasties" indicates members and families enjoy the amenities such as live music and children's activities, right in their backyard.

The Festival is sponsored by a range of businesses, the County government and local municipalities. Community groups attend the Festival to table and provide children's activities. The event is made possible by the support of the community as a whole.



A portion of the funds from the Festival support the USCG Training Center Cape May's Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) branch to provide leisure programs and services to improve the quality of life of service members and their families.



*CAPT Owen Gibbons, former CO at TRACEN Cape May, enjoys the Ball.*

As part of the Coast Guard Community Festival, since 2017 the Southern New Jersey Coast Guard Ball has been opened to members of the general public, and is supported by the Foundation. This presents a unique opportunity for community members to attend a formal military event, and for all attendees to share a special experience.

To view short videos of Festival components, and learn about other events

and programs, visit the Foundation's website at [www.coastguardcommunity.org](http://www.coastguardcommunity.org).



*Coast Guard personnel and community members join together during the Southern New Jersey Coast Guard Ball.*



*The Coast Guard Community Festival attracts both local and out-of-state attendees.*

## WIDESPREAD & ONGOING SUPPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY

Organic contributions to our Coast Guard Community abound, and include intangible and daily expressions of support on a person-to-person basis. In addition to informal interactions, community members participate widely in official Coast Guard events, including Changes of Command, ship commissionings, dedication of the Enlisted Memorial, Sunset Parades, and more. The items listed below represent concrete examples of community support for the Coast Guard.



*Community leaders attend a Sunset Parade at Training Center Cape May, with CO CAPT Kathy Felger.*

### Swift and Comprehensive Response to Government Shutdown

During the recent unprecedented government shutdown, which prevented Coast Guard members from being paid for a period of 35 days from December of 2018 into January of 2019, the Cape May County community rallied around their military counterparts.

Donations from residents overflowed the food pantry run by the Jersey Cape Military Spouses' Club. The volume of donations was so high that the facility had to be expanded and equipment upgraded. Ultimately, the stock amassed by the community was so plentiful that arrangements were made to transport items to other areas in need.

Additionally, Crest Savings Bank launched a loan program to support local Coast Guard personnel affected by the shutdown. Local businesses provided \$250,000 in collateral for potential loans. The program supported thirty-seven Coast Guard families with total loans of \$51,700. This program was offered to any federal employee who lived or worked in Cape May County whose pay was temporarily interrupted by the government shutdown. The program provided up to 75% replacement of pay. The existence of CD collateral eliminated the need for a loan approval process. There was no credit report inquiry, no interest expense, no monthly payments and no fees.

Program beneficiaries shared their stories about their fear of missing car loan payments and needing gas money, and many sleepless nights that were relieved by the loan program. The partial government



shutdown resulted in one missed paycheck for the Coast Guard, but the loan program was ready in the event the situation was extended and other financial support programs were exhausted.

Individual businesses also offered free and discounted products and services to Coast Guard families affected by the shutdown.

The Cape May County Government responded to the shutdown as well. The Cape May County Division of Social Services developed packets that included how to apply for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), WorkFirst NJ Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, and the Social Services for the Homeless (SSH) funding that can assist with rent and/or utility arrears. Applying online for SNAP/WFNJ was encouraged to allow for the employees to apply when it was convenient for them. The information was provided to all TRACEN employees in an email and/or hard copy format. There was near-daily contact between the Coast Guard and the Division of Social Services.

Supervisors and Human Services specialists from the Division of Social Services attended an informational session at TRACEN to explain the benefits, requirements, documentation required, and how to apply. After the presentation, the representatives were available for one-on-one questions. There were approximately 250 impacted employees in attendance. Staff fielded questions and concerns from many in attendance.

The Division of Social Services designated an internal process so that any applications could be processed as expeditiously as possible, within state and federal regulations.

Media coverage of the shutdown and community's response can be found in several articles; see the following stories:

- [https://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/press/cape\\_may/cape-may-rallies-for-its-coast-guard-neighbors/article\\_1f243d3f-74fe-5494-bc5f-dbea3ac34fcc.html](https://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/press/cape_may/cape-may-rallies-for-its-coast-guard-neighbors/article_1f243d3f-74fe-5494-bc5f-dbea3ac34fcc.html)
- [https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/i-see-people-panicking-in-a-coast-guard-town-hardship-and-resolveamid-the-shutdown/2019/01/18/32706d5a-1b3a-11e9-8813-cb9dec761e73\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/i-see-people-panicking-in-a-coast-guard-town-hardship-and-resolveamid-the-shutdown/2019/01/18/32706d5a-1b3a-11e9-8813-cb9dec761e73_story.html)
- [https://www.capemaycountyherald.com/community/coast\\_guard/article\\_5467ff90-6ab3-11e9-9d08-1bbab09bfe24.html](https://www.capemaycountyherald.com/community/coast_guard/article_5467ff90-6ab3-11e9-9d08-1bbab09bfe24.html)



## Local Business Community Engagement



*Recruits on liberty receive free coffees at Coffee Tyme, courtesy of community members.*

A wide nexus of businesses and organizations in the community have created their own initiatives to support Coast Guard members since the designation.

3,000 "Coast Guard Community" decals have been printed and distributed through local Chambers of Commerce. These are intended for businesses that offer discounts/special consideration to Coast Guard families, or that support the Coast Guard Community Foundation. The decals state: "We Support Our Coast Guard Community and Military Families"

Many businesses in Cape May County offer discounts for military families, and they are represented in a list compiled by the County Clerk (<https://capemaycountynj.gov/DocumentCenter/View/210/Cape-May-County-Veterans-Discounts-PDF?bidId=>). The Coast Guard Community designation has increased awareness of these discounts among community members, who extend deals not only to Coast Guard personnel, but to members of all military branches and, in some cases, to veterans.

Additionally, businesses support Coast Guard personnel with special programs, including:

- In 2018, beloved Cape May café **Coffee Tyme** created an online fundraiser that collected over \$5,000 in donations to treat Coast Guard recruits on liberty to a coffee.
- **La Mer Beachfront Hotel** offers a package specific to recruits on liberty, who enjoy hotel rooms as a quiet space to rest. The hotel offers a special discounted room rate and 50% off of the breakfast and lunch menu specifically for Coast Guard recruits.
- **Local breweries** have dedicated beers in the Coast Guard's honor. In 2018, Cape May Brewing Co., headquartered in Lower Township, introduced a new brew to salute those who



*We can neither confirm nor deny that Cape May Brewing Co. (along with other local establishments) is a popular stop for Coast Guard members!*



are “Always Ready,” a Northeast Pale Ale. And, in 2019, Wildwood’s Mudhen Brewing Co. dedicated “Open Brow” at a special celebration with Coast Guard representatives.

Local Chambers of Commerce serve as information hubs for Coast Guard benefits in each of the County’s sixteen communities. For example, the Greater Wildwood Chamber of Commerce hosts a page on their website specific to the Coast Guard Community and military discounts.

These examples represent a selection of only the most visible efforts by local businesses to welcome the Coast Guard. Doubtless there are countless other efforts put forward by small businesses county-wide.

### Support Extended from All Areas of Cape May County

With understanding of the importance of the City of Cape May as the host to Training Center Cape May and its tenant commands, it is important to note the County’s pride in having received a regional designation, and that support, gratitude, and honor for our Coast Guard continue to flow from each of Cape May County’s sixteen municipalities. Just a few examples are summarized in this section.

Several towns boast museums and cultural sites related to the Coast Guard, maintained by passionate volunteers and supported by the whole community. In particular, life-saving stations, preserved in some cases for 150+ years, create a network of sites throughout the County that memorialize Coast Guard history.

- **U.S. Lifesaving Station 30**, located in Ocean City, is a meticulously restored example of a nineteenth century Lifesaving station, complete with accurate interior and interpretive videos explaining the daily life of lifesaving crews.
- The **Hereford Inlet Lighthouse**, built in 1873 as a Lifesaving Station, is still maintained by the U.S. Coast Guard as an aid to navigation. The site is open to the public for tours, and features a celebrated public garden.
- **Steven C. Ludlam Post 331**, an American Legion chapter located in Stone Harbor, is



*Community members learn C.G. history at Lifesaving Station 30 in Ocean City, NJ, as part of a Coast Guard Community Foundation-sponsored program.*



housed in a preserved 1895 Lifesaving Station. The ground floor of the building showcases an extensive exhibition on local Coast Guard history, and upper floors house a museum of general military history.

Beyond cultural sites, Cape May County's towns celebrate the presence of the Coast Guard today. Many Coast Guard personnel and families live and work throughout the County, and some choose to retire to the County's towns at the conclusion of their careers. In 2015, the Borough of Woodbine both celebrated its very own Coast Guard facility, the Uniform Distribution Center,



*The community celebrated the Coast Guard at the Uniform Distribution Center in Woodbine during a 2015 event.*

and honored Rear Adm. David Ciancaglini and Rear Adm. Fred Golove, two retired Coast Guard admirals with family roots in Woodbine, who each retired to the town. At the June 29 event, Woodbine's Mayor Pikolycky recognized the town's partnership with the Coast Guard Uniform Distribution Center, which has provided employment opportunities for not only

borough residents but also county residents as well as overall economic benefits.



**Community Support During Pandemic:** For several weeks in the spring of this year, the newest enlisted members of the Coast Guard graduated with no loved ones in attendance due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Through the efforts of the Cape May County Coast Guard Community Foundation, Cape May County residents stepped in so the new Coasties' accomplishments did not go unnoticed. Several hundred people safely lined the streets after the graduations and offered congratulations, flag-waving and clapping of hands as the buses departed the Training Center to the





frontlines of the United States Coast Guard. In a recent Facebook post, Vice Commandant Admiral Ray Charles shared about these gestures of support and stated: “This heartwarming act of kindness is not only indicative of the long-time support we receive from the residents of Cape May County, but it shows how people everywhere are staying socially connected despite physical distance.”



## Coast Guard Community Application Cape May County Region



## REVIEW OF KEY ITEMS INCLUDED IN THE ORIGINAL APPLICATION

Each component mentioned in our original application surely has contributed to the County earning the Coast Guard Community designation, and we continue to treasure the efforts of each community member that expressed support of the Coast Guard prior to receipt of the designation. Without taking away from the importance of each individual instance, a few of the most significant and ongoing examples that were included in the original application are listed below.

### Operation Fireside in its 39<sup>th</sup> Year



*Coast Guard recruits line up to be placed with local families as part of Operation Fireside.*

One program that exemplified the community support highlighted in the original application was Operation Fireside, a program that places Coast Guard recruits in the homes of Cape May County residents to provide comfort and a home-cooked meal on holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Each year more than 500 recruits are placed with over 180 families

throughout the region, and the program has provided a “home for the holidays” for more than 10,000 recruits since its inception in 1981.

A typical Operation Fireside day includes a recruit being picked up early in the morning, and accompanied to a day of conversation, relaxation and food at the host family’s resident. Recruits also have opportunities during the day to communicate with loved ones, in surroundings of comfort and hospitality. It is a rewarding day all around, and host families frequently maintain contact with “their recruits” even after the holidays, attending the recruits’ graduations and staying in touch long after boot camp.



## County Chamber of Commerce Partners in Designation Efforts

The Cape May County Chamber of Commerce, headquartered in Middle Township, was an important partner in efforts to gain the regional designation, and has continued to partner in efforts to maintain the designation and coordinate community support efforts.

Chamber members frequently are the first to welcome new TRACEN personnel to the region, whether as realtors, or bankers, or serving in some other manner to facilitate the lives of these new members of the community. The Chamber prepares and distributes welcome packets to new TRACEN families, and regularly promotes the beautiful Sunset Parades held four times yearly at the base.

The Chamber also has been an essential member of the team developing the framework for the Coast Guard Community Foundation and Coast Guard Community Festival, and assists in publicizing Foundation events, contributing to the wide network of community support and engagement around these activities.

## Inter-agency Cooperation and Support

Support from the region's residents and businesses for our Coast Guard neighbors is matched only by that of public entities throughout the region. Schools, hospitals, and every one of the County's municipalities are among those committed to providing Coast Guard personnel and families with the top-level services and caring afforded to all residents. These efforts include:

- Welcoming information packets provided by the Coast Guard in its "Welcome Aboard!" packages for new personnel include important links to our many excellent schools in Cape May County, and those schools, in turn, welcome Coast Guard children with open arms.
- The Cape Regional Medical Center frequently provides services to Coast Guard families, and has medical transfer agreements in place with TRACEN ensuring that recruits have emergency medical services readily available and can be transported back to the base as soon as medically advisable.
- Cape May County's Fare Free Transportation Department provides the Coast Guard with transportation in various situations, including shuttling recruits on liberty, ferrying members of the band or color guard to ceremonial events, and more.



- The Coast Guard is welcomed to use various facilities of government agencies on a regular basis. For example, the County of Cape May regularly invites and licenses Coast Guard personnel to use the firing range at the Cape May County Public Safety Training Center, to help quality and train Coast Guard personnel participating in Coast Guard missions, and the City of Cape May permits the Coast Guard to use its Convention Hall without charge.



**APPENDICES**

Resolutions

Letters of Support

Economic Impact Study



# Resolutions

**BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS  
CAPE MAY COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION**

*No. 47-20*

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND SUPPORTING CAPE MAY COUNTY'S  
RECERTIFICATION APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD  
FOR OFFICIAL DESIGNATION AS A "COAST GUARD COMMUNITY"**

**WHEREAS**, the United States Congress, through federal legislation, has enabled the United States Coast Guard to designate a community having a special relationship with the Coast Guard as a "Coast Guard Community"; and

**WHEREAS**, local Coast Guard command is empowered to recommend that the "Coast Guard Community" designation be awarded to a surrounding city, county or other juridical entity that meets rigorous application standards, with only 28 communities across the nation having received such designation; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of Cape May County have enjoyed a unique relationship with Coast Guard personnel and their families for nearly a century, by virtue of, among other things, the Coast Guard's ownership and maintenance of properties in municipalities throughout the County; and

**WHEREAS**, most notably, since as early as 1917 the Coast Guard has had a presence at what has grown into the 352-acre site in Cape May City, County of Cape May, now known as Training Center Cape May, or "TRACEN"; and

**WHEREAS**, Coast Guard personnel and their families reside in both on-base housing in Cape May City and in private housing located in municipalities throughout the County, which, by virtue of its unique geographic configuration as a peninsula surrounded by water, is comprised of 16 contiguous municipalities whose economic, social and civic structures are closely interdependent; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cape May County community members interact with and support Coast Guard personnel and their families in all aspects of community living; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coast Guard presence at TRACEN today includes approximately 600 permanent party staff consisting of active duty, reserve, civilian and contractor personnel. At any given time, 500 or more recruits are on base in training. From 2014 to present, TRACEN has trained 14,997 recruits, or approximately 3,000 per year. Additionally, TRACEN provides officer training and education, vessel support, air/sea rescue, investigative services, communication facilities, and homeland security services, all in furtherance of the continuous coastal patrol and defense of our nation; and

**BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS  
CAPE MAY COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION**

No. 47-20

**WHEREAS**, Coast Guard personnel and their families welcome over 41,000 visitors into Cape May County annually, with approximately 21,000 of those being for graduations. The rest are visitors for tours, sunset parades and other special events held on base; and

**WHEREAS**, Coast Guard families are an integral part of our Jersey Cape community who live and work in our neighborhoods. Their presence contributes to a vibrant and welcoming hometown which recognizes their service to both their nation and the community in which they live; and

**WHEREAS**, Cape May County residents and businesses have a longstanding history of recognizing and supporting their Coast Guard neighbors, and wish to formalize their continuing commitment to these men, women and children and make known to the public their commitment by retaining its designation of "Coast Guard Community"; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Cape May has joined with its sixteen municipalities and a local nonprofit, the Cape May County Coast Guard Community Foundation, in this collaborative initiative as a "Coast Guard Community" for the past five years.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Cape May that:

1. The above recitals are incorporated herein by reference;
2. Upon adoption of this Resolution, the appropriate officers of the Board are hereby authorized and directed to execute, individually or jointly, any and all documents necessary and appropriate, complete the recertification application by Cape May County for designation by the United States Coast Guard as an official "Coast Guard Community"; and
3. Cape May County affirms its' lengthy and honored relationship with the United States Coast Guard, and pledges to continue its' long history of full and unwavering support for Coast Guard personnel and their families.

**STATEMENT**

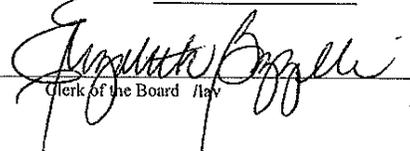
*This Resolution authorizes and supports Cape May County's Recertification Application to the United States Coast Guard for official designation as a "Coast Guard Community".*

cc: United States Coast Guard  
File: Coast Guard Community Designation

STATE OF NEW JERSEY} ss.:  
COUNTY OF CAPE MAY}

I, Elizabeth Bozzelli, Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Cape May, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct and true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at a meeting duly held on the \_\_\_\_\_ 14th day of \_\_\_\_\_ January \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

Signed, \_\_\_\_\_

  
Clerk of the Board /ay

RECORD OF VOTE						
Freeholders	Ayes	Nayes	Abstain	Absent	Moved	Second
Mr. Desiderio	✓					
Ms. Hayes	✓					
Mr. Morey	✓				✓	
Mr. Pierson	✓					✓
Mr. Thornton				✓		

V - Indicates Vote Moved-Resolution Offered Second-Resolution Seconded

BOROUGH OF AVALON  
 CAPE MAY COUNTY  
 NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION NO. 35 -2020

**SUBJECT:** A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT OF THE COUNTY OF CAPE MAY APPLYING TO THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD FOR OFFICIAL DESIGNATION OF CAPE MAY COUNTY AS A "COAST GUARD COMMUNITY"

WHEREAS, the United States Congress, through federal legislation, has enabled the United States Coast Guard to designate a community having a special relationship with the Coast Guard as a "Coast Guard Community"; and

WHEREAS, local Coast Guard command is empowered to recommend that the "Coast Guard" designation be awarded to a surrounding city, county, or juridical entity that meets rigorous application standards, with few communities across the nation having received such designation; and

WHEREAS, the County of Cape May has enjoyed a unique relationship with Coast Guard personnel and their families for nearly a century, by virtue of, among other things, the Coast Guard's ownership and maintenance of properties in municipalities throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, most notably, since as early as 1917, the Coast Guard has had a presence at what has grown into the 5<sup>th</sup> largest base in the Coast Guard and the sole accession point for the entire enlisted workforce in Cape May City, County of Cape May, now known as Training Center Cape May, or "TRACEN"; and

WHEREAS, Coast Guard personnel and their families reside both in on-base housing in Cape May City and in private housing located in municipalities throughout the County, which, by virtue of its unique geographic configuration as a peninsula surrounded by water, is comprised of 16 municipalities whose economic, social and civic structures are closely interdependent; and

WHEREAS, Coast Guard families and non-Coast Guard families interact with and support one another on a daily basis in all aspects of community living; and

WHEREAS, Cape May County residents and businesses have a longstanding history of recognizing and supporting their Coast Guard neighbors, and wish to formalize their continuing commitment to these men, women and children and make known to the public their commitment by attaining the designation of "Coast Guard Community".

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Avalon, in the County of Cape May and State of New Jersey does hereby express support of the County of Cape May applying to the United States Coast Guard for official designation of Cape May County as a "Coast Guard Community".

COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Deever						✓
Hudanich		✓	✓			
Juzaitis			✓			
McCorristin	✓		✓			
Wierman			✓			

*Nancy M. Hudanich*  
 Nancy M. Hudanich, Council President

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Avalon, New Jersey at the Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, February 12, 2020, with the voting record as indicated above.

*C. Danielle Nollett*  
 C. Danielle Nollett, Borough Clerk

**CITY OF CAPE MAY, COUNTY OF CAPE MAY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY****RESOLUTION NO. 52-01-2020****RESOLUTION OF AUTHORIZATION AND SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION  
TO THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD FOR OFFICIAL RE-DESIGNATION AS A  
“COAST GUARD COMMUNITY”****MOTION: Meier****SECOND: Hendricks**

**WHEREAS**, the United States Coast Guard may designate a community having a special relationship with the Coast Guard as a “Coast Guard Community”; and

**WHEREAS**, local Coast Guard command is empowered to recommend that the “Coast Guard Community” designation be awarded to a surrounding city, county or other juridical entity that meets rigorous application standards, with only twenty-four cities and four communities across the nation having such designation; and

**WHEREAS**, Cape May City has enjoyed a unique relationship with the Coast Guard personnel and their families for nearly a century, by virtue of, among other things, the Coast Guard’s ownership and maintenance of the Training Center Cape May in Cape May City; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coast Guard first occupied Sewell Point in Cape May City in 1924 when it occupied the base and established air facilities for planes funded in support of U.S. Custom Service efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, this base has grown into a 352-acre site known as the Training Center Cape May; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coast Guard has become an integral part of the Cape May City family and a special relationship has existed for almost a century between the City of Cape May the Training Center Cape May; and

**WHEREAS**, every aspect of the Cape May City community has supported the Coast Guard including municipal officials, the school district, local businesses, the Nature Center, Mid-Atlantic Center of the Arts, the Chamber of Commerce of Greater Cape May, tourists and residents; and

**WHEREAS**, Cape May City has a longstanding history of recognizing and supporting their Coast Guard neighbors, and wish to formalize their continuing commitment to these men, women and children and make known to the public their commitment by attaining the coveted designation of “Coast Guard Community”; and

**WHEREAS**, Cape May City in particular has had a special relationship with the Coast Guard through many collaborative efforts such as, without limitation, supporting the Coast Guard Enlisted Memorial Foundation, joint mutual aid for fire and rescue services, a proclamation of Coast Guard Day on August 4<sup>th</sup> of each year, joint participation in various parades and civic events honoring Memorial Day, Patriot’s Day and Veteran’s Day, as well as other community events, utilization of the Cape May City Convention Hall at no cost, and attendance by the Mayor and Council at various events at the Training Center; and

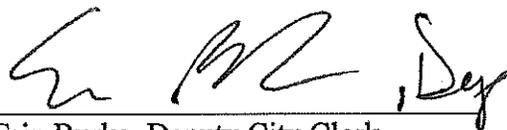
**WHEREAS**, the Cape May City community has embraced the Coast Guard by welcoming recruits and career servicemen and women to their homes, places of business and to various public events held throughout the City of Cape May; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the City of Cape May, on their own and on behalf of all the residents, property owners, business owners, City employees, visitors and guests join with the County of Cape May in this collaborative initiative.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Governing Body of the City of Cape May that:

1. The above recitals are incorporated herein by reference.
2. Upon adoption of this Resolution, the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary and appropriate to complete the application for designation by the United States Coast Guard as an official "Coast Guard Community".
3. Cape May City affirms its lengthy and honored relationship with the United States Coast Guard, and pledges to continue its long history of full and unwavering support for the Coast Guard men, women and children.

I, Erin Burke, Deputy City Clerk of the City of Cape May, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing is a correct and true original Resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Cape May at a meeting held on January 21, 2020.

  
 Erin Burke, Deputy City Clerk

Roll Call	Ayes	Nays	Absent	Abstain
Sheehan	X			
Mullock	X			
Meier	X			
Hendricks	X			
Lear	X			

cc: Coast Guard Community Foundation

BOROUGH OF CAPE MAY POINT  
 COUNTY OF CAPE MAY  
 STATE OF NEW JERSEY

RECEIVED  
 CLERK OF THE BOARD  
 2020 JAN 17 AM 10:24

RESOLUTION NO. 26-20

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
 CAPE MAY COUNTY, N.J.

**SUPPORTING RECERTIFICATION OF THE OFFICIAL DESIGNATION OF  
 CAPE MAY COUNTY AS A "COAST GUARD COMMUNITY"**

**WHEREAS**, the United States Congress, through federal legislation, has enabled the United States Coast Guard to designate a community having a special relationship with the Coast Guard as a "Coast Guard Community"; and

**WHEREAS**, local Coast Guard command is empowered to recommend that the "Coast Guard Community" designation be awarded to a surrounding city, county or other juridical entity that meets rigorous application standards; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 8, 2015, Coast Guard Commandant Admiral Paul Zukunft proclaimed Cape May County a "Coast Guard Community", an honor claimed by only 18 cities and one other county in the nation.

**WHEREAS**, the residents of the Borough of Cape May Point and Cape May County continue to enjoy a unique relationship with Coast Guard personnel and their families that has been ongoing for nearly a century, by virtue of, among other things, the Coast Guard's ownership and maintenance of properties in municipalities throughout the County; and

**WHEREAS**, most notably, since as early as 1917 the Coast Guard has had a presence at what has grown into the 352-acre site in Cape May City, County of Cape May, now known as Training Center Cape May, or "TRACEN"; and

**WHEREAS**, Coast Guard personnel and their families reside both in on-base housing in Cape May City and in private housing located in municipalities throughout the County, which, by virtue of its unique geographic configuration as a peninsula surrounded by water, is comprised of 16 contiguous municipalities whose economic, social and civic structures are closely interdependent; and

**WHEREAS**, Coast Guard families and non-Coast Guard families interact with and support one another on a daily basis in all aspects of community living; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coast Guard presence at TRACEN today includes over 1,160 total military and civilian personnel working at the base, providing recruit training for all entry-level recruits entering Coast Guard service and graduating an average of more than 2,300 recruits yearly, in addition to providing officer training and education, vessel support, air/sea rescue, investigative services,

communication facilities, and homeland security services, all in furtherance of the continuous coastal patrol and defense of our nation; and

**WHEREAS**, Coast Guard personnel and their families also welcome over 41,000 additional guests and visitors annually into Cape May County; and

**WHEREAS**, Cape May County residents and businesses have a longstanding history of recognizing and supporting their Coast Guard neighbors, and wish to formalize their continuing commitment to these men, women and children and make known to the public their commitment by recertifying the designation of "Coast Guard Community"; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Cape May Point joins with the County of Cape May in this collaborative effort;

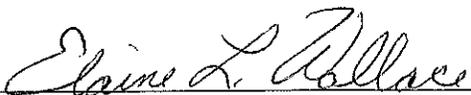
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Cape May Point that:

1. The above recitals are incorporated herein by reference;
2. Upon adoption of this Resolution, the Borough Commissioners are hereby authorized and directed to execute, individually or jointly, any and all documents necessary and appropriate to join efforts with Cape May City to complete an application for regional recertification by the United States Coast Guard as an official "Coast Guard Community"; and
3. The Borough of Cape May Point affirms its lengthy and honored relationship with the United States Coast Guard, and pledges to continue its long history of full and unwavering support for Coast Guard personnel and their families.

	MOTION	SECOND	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mullock		X	X			
vanHeeswyk			X			
Moffatt	X		X			

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution duly passed and adopted by a majority of full membership of the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Cape May Point, County of Cape May, New Jersey, at a meeting held on January 9, 2020.

  
 Municipal Clerk

**TOWNSHIP OF DENNIS****COUNTY OF CAPE MAY  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY****RESOLUTION NO. 2020-58****RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CAPE MAY COUNTY'S APPLICATION TO THE  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD FOR OFFICIAL DESIGNATION AS  
"A COAST GUARD COMMUNITY"**

**WHEREAS**, the United States Congress, through federal legislation, has enabled the United States Coast Guard to designate a community having a special relationship with the Coast Guard as a "Coast Guard Community"; and

**WHEREAS**, local Coast Guard command is empowered to recommend that the "Coast Guard Community" designation be awarded to a surrounding city, county or other juridical entity that meets rigorous application standards with only 14 communities across the nation having received such designation; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of Cape May City and Cape May County have enjoyed a unique relationship with Coast Guard personnel and their families for nearly a century, by virtue of, among other things, the Coast Guard's ownership and maintenance of properties in municipalities throughout the County;

**WHEREAS**, most notably, since as early as 1917 the Coast Guard has had a presence at what has grown into the 352-acre site in Cape May City, County of Cape May, now known as Training Center Cape May, or "TRACEN"; and

**WHEREAS**, Coast Guard personnel and their families reside both in on-base housing in Cape May City and in private housing located in municipalities throughout the County, which, by virtue of its unique geographic configuration as a peninsula surrounded by water, is comprised of 16 contiguous municipalities whose economic, social and civic structures are closely interdependent; and

**WHEREAS**, Coast Guard families and non-Coast Guard families interact with and support one another on a daily basis in all aspects of community living; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coast Guard presence at TRACEN today includes over 1,160 total military and civilian personnel working at the base, providing recruit training for all entry-level recruits entering Coast Guard service and graduating an average of more than 2,300 recruits yearly, in addition to providing officer training and education, vessel support, air/sea rescue, investigative services, communication facilities, and homeland security services, all in furtherance of the continuous coastal patrol and defense of our nation; and

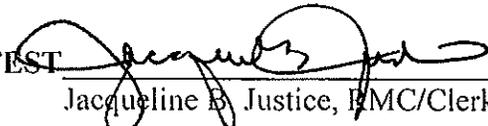
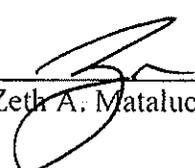
**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-58  
PAGE 2**

**WHEREAS**, Coast Guard personnel and their families also welcome over 41,000 additional guests and visitors annually into Cape May County; and

**WHEREAS**, Cape May County residents and businesses have a longstanding history of recognizing and supporting their Coast Guard neighbors, and wish to formalize their continuing commitment to these men, women and children and make known to the public their commitment by attaining the designation of "Coast Guard Community"; and

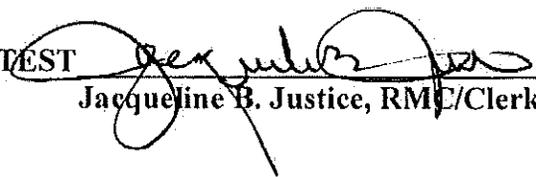
**WHEREAS**, Dennis Township supports the County of Cape May and the City of Cape Mays' collaborative initiative.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Dennis, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey, that the above recitals are incorporated herein by reference and that this governing body does hereby support the County of Cape May and City of Cape Mays' collaborative initiative to obtain regional designation by the United States Coast Guard as an official "Coast Guard Community".

ATTEST  ATTEST   
Jacqueline B. Justice, RMC/Clerk Zeth A. Matalucci, Mayor

	MOTION	SECOND	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
VanArtsdalen						✓
Germanio	✓		✓			
Cox		✓	✓			
Turner			✓			
Matalucci			✓			

This is to certify that this is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Dennis Township Committee at their regular meeting held on April 09, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Dennis Township Municipal Building located at 571 Petersburg Road, Dennisville, NJ.

ATTEST   
Jacqueline B. Justice, RMC/Clerk

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER, COUNTY OF CAPE MAY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION # 2020-93

Title: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CITY OF CAPE MAY AND CAPE MAY COUNTY'S APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD FOR OFFICIAL DESIGNATION OF CAPE MAY COUNTY AS "A COAST GUARD COMMUNITY"

WHEREAS, the United States Congress, through federal legislation, has enabled the United States Coast Guard to designate a community having a special relationship with the Coast Guard as a "Coast Guard Community"; and

WHEREAS, local Coast Guard Command is empowered to recommend that the "Coast Guard Community" designation be awarded to a surrounding city, county or other juridical entity that meets rigorous application standards, with only 14 communities across the nation having received such designation; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Lower Township, Cape May City and Cape May County have enjoyed a unique relationship with Coast Guard personnel and their families for nearly a century, by virtue of, among other things, the Coast Guard's ownership and maintenance of properties in Lower Township; and

WHEREAS, most notably, since as early as 1917 the Coast Guard has had a presence at what has grown in to the 352 acre site in Cape May City now known as the Training Center Cape May; and

WHEREAS, Coast Guard Personnel and their families reside both in on-base housing in Cape May City and in private housing in Lower Township as well as throughout Cape May County; and

WHEREAS, Coast Guard families and non-Coast Guard families interact with and support one another on a daily basis in all aspects of community living.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey that the Township of Lower does hereby support the efforts of the City of Cape May and Cape May County in obtaining the official designation as "A Coast Guard Community" and pledge to continue Lower Township's unwavering support for Coast Guard Personnel and their families.

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	RECUSE	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD			X				
Coomb's			X				
ROY		X	X				
PERRY	X		X				
SIPPEL			X				

I, Julie A. Picard, Township Clerk of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and exact copy of a resolution duly authorized by the Township Council at a meeting held on February 19, 2020.

  
Julie A. Picard, Township Clerk

TOWNSHIP OF MIDDLE  
COUNTY OF CAPE MAY  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION  
46-20

Date: January 6, 2020

Subject: SUPPORTING CAPE MAY COUNTY'S APPLICATION TO THE U.S. COAST GUARD  
FOR REGIONAL DESIGNATION OF COUNTY AS A "COAST GUARD COMMUNITY"

Introduced By: Committeeman Gandy      Seconded By: Committeeman Norris

Vote-Aye: Committeeman Gandy; Committeeman Norris, Mayor Donohue

Nay:

WHEREAS, the United States Congress, through federal legislation, has enabled the United States Coast Guard to designate a community having a special relationship with the Coast Guard as a "Coast Guard Community", and

WHEREAS, the designation of "Coast Guard Community" may be awarded to an area that meets rigorous application standards, with only 14 such designations having been awarded to date across the nation; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Cape May County have enjoyed a unique relationship with Coast Guard personnel and their families for nearly a century, by virtue of, among other things, the Coast Guard's ownership and maintenance of properties in municipalities throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, since as early as 1917 the Coast Guard has had a presence at what has grown into the 352-acre site in Cape May City, County of Cape May, now known as Training Center Cape May or "TRACEN"; and

WHEREAS, Coast Guard personnel and their families reside both in on-base housing at TRACEN and in private housing located in municipalities throughout the County, including the Township of Middle, with the County comprised of 16 contiguous municipalities whose economic, social and civic structures are closely interdependent; and

WHEREAS, Coast Guard personnel and their families interact with families throughout the County on a daily basis in all aspects of community living; and

WHEREAS, the Coast Guard presence at TRACEN today includes over 1,150 military and civilian personnel working at the base, providing recruit-level training for all entry-level recruits entering Coast Guard service and graduating an average of more than 2,300 recruits yearly, in addition to providing officer training and education, vessel support, air/sea rescue, investigative services, communications facilities, and homeland security services, all in furtherance of the continuous coastal patrol and defense of our nation; and

WHEREAS, Coast Guard personnel and their families also welcome over 41,000 additional guests and visitors annually into Cape May County; and

WHEREAS, Cape May County residents and businesses have a longstanding history of recognizing and supporting their Coast Guard neighbors, and wish to formalize their continuing commitment to these men, women and children and make known to the public their commitment by attaining the designation of "Coast Guard Community"; and

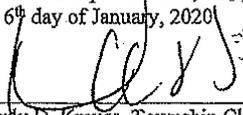
WHEREAS, the County of Cape May and the City of Cape May have engaged in a collaborative initiative to prepare and submit an application seeking the regional designation of "Coast Guard Community" for all of Cape May County, and Middle Township fully supports and desires the regional designation in light of its own substantial ties with Coast Guard personnel, families, visitors and friends;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Middle that:

- (1) The above recitals are incorporated herein by reference as though fully repeated;
- (2) The appropriate officers of the Township of Middle are authorized and directed to execute individually or jointly any and all documents necessary and appropriate to support and complete the application by Cape May County for designation by the United States Coast Guard as an official "Coast Guard Community"; and
- (3) The Township of Middle affirms its deep commitment to the United States Coast Guard, and pledges to continue its long history of full and unwavering support for Coast Guard personnel and their families.

I, Kimberly D. Krauss, Clerk of the Township of Middle, Cape May County, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Township Committee at a meeting of said Middle Township Committee, held on January 6, 2020 and said Resolution was adopted by not less than a two-thirds vote of the members of the Township Committee.

Witness my hand and seal of  
the Township of Middle, this  
6<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2020

  
Kimberly D. Krauss, Township Clerk

# CITY OF NORTH WILDWOOD

## Cape May County, New Jersey

### RESOLUTION

#### SUPPORTING CAPE MAY COUNTY'S APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD FOR OFFICIAL DESIGNATION AS A "COAST GUARD COMMUNITY"

**WHEREAS**, the United States Congress, through federal legislation, has enabled the United States Coast Guard to designate a community having a special relationship with the Coast Guard as a "Coast Guard Community"; and

**WHEREAS**, local Coast Guard command is empowered to recommend that the "Coast Guard Community" designation be awarded to a surrounding city, county or other juridical entity that meets rigorous application standards, with only 14 communities across the nation having received such designation; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of Cape May County have enjoyed a unique relationship with Coast Guard personnel and their families for nearly a century by virtue of, among other things, the Coast Guard's ownership and maintenance of properties in municipalities throughout the County; and

**WHEREAS**, most notably, since as early as 1917 the Coast Guard has had a presence at what has grown into the 352-acre site in Cape May City, County of Cape May, known as Training Center Cape May (TRACEN); and

**WHEREAS**, Coast Guard personnel and their families reside in both on-base housing in Cape May City and in private housing in municipalities throughout the County which, by virtue of its unique geographic configuration as a peninsula, is comprised of 16 contiguous municipalities whose economic, social and civic structures are closely interdependent; and

**WHEREAS**, Coast Guard personnel and their families interact with and support one another on a daily basis in all aspects of community living; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coast Guard presence at TRACEN today includes over 1,150 total military and civilian personnel working at the base, providing recruit training for all entry-level recruits entering Coast Guard service and graduating an average of more than 2,300 recruits annually, in addition to providing officer training and education, vessel support, air/sea rescue, investigative services, communications facilities and homeland security services, all in furtherance of the continuous coastal patrol and defense of our nation; and

**WHEREAS**, Coast Guard personnel and their families also welcome over 41,000 additional guests and visitors annually into Cape May County; and

**WHEREAS**, Cape May County residents and businesses have a longstanding history of recognizing and supporting their Coast Guard neighbors and wish to formalize their continuing commitment to these men, women and children and make known to the public their commitment by attaining the designation of "Coast Guard Community"; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Cape May is joining with the City of Cape May in the application for this official designation, as the current designation will expire on June 30, 2020.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Members of Council of the City of North Wildwood, in the County of Cape May and State of New Jersey, as follows:

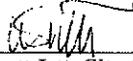
1. All of the allegations of the preamble are incorporated herein by this reference thereto as though the same were set forth at length.
2. The City of North Wildwood does hereby express its support of Cape May County's application to the United States Coast Guard for designation as a "Coast Guard Community."
3. The City Clerk is hereby directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the Cape May County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Cape May County Coast Guard Community Organization and the City of Cape May.

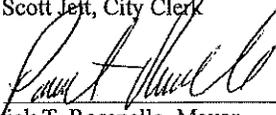
OFFERED BY DEL CONTE

SECONDED BY BISHOP

.....  
 I, W. Scott Jett, City Clerk of the City of North Wildwood, in the County of Cape May, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct and true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the City of North Wildwood at a meeting duly held on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of January 2020.

Dated: January 21, 2020

Signed:   
 W. Scott Jett, City Clerk

Approved:   
 Patrick T. Rosenello, Mayor

	Aye	Naye	Abstain	Absent		Aye	Naye	Abstain	Absent
Tolomeo	X				Koehler	X			
Rullo	X				Bishop	X			
Kane	X				Zampirri	X			
Del Conte	X								

# 47-20

CITY OF OCEAN CITY  
 CAPE MAY COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

**RESOLUTION** 20-56-255

**SUPPORTING THE APPLICATION SEEKING REGIONAL DESIGNATION OF CAPE MAY COUNTY AS A "COAST GUARD COMMUNITY"**

**WHEREAS**, the United States Congress has enabled the United States Coast Guard to designate a community having a special relationship with the Coast Guard as a "Coast Guard Community"; and

**WHEREAS**, the designation of "Coast Guard Community" may be awarded to an area that meets rigorous application standards, with only 14 such designations having been awarded to date across the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of Cape May County have enjoyed a unique relationship with Coast Guard personnel and their families for many years, by virtue of, among other things, the Coast Guard's ownership and maintenance of properties in municipalities throughout the County, and the residence of Coast Guard personnel and their families in municipalities throughout the County; and

**WHEREAS**, since as early as 1917 the Coast Guard has had a presence at what has grown into the 352-acre site in Cape May City now known as Training Center Cape May or "TRACEN"; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coast Guard presence at TRACEN today includes over 1,150 military and civilian personnel working at the base, providing recruit-level training for all entry-level recruits entering Coast Guard service and graduating an average of more than 2,300 recruits yearly, in addition to providing officer training and education, vessel support, air/sea rescue, investigative services, communications facilities, and homeland security services, all in furtherance of the continuous coastal patrol and defense of our nation; and

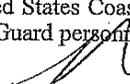
**WHEREAS**, Coast Guard personnel and their families also welcome over 41,000 additional guests and visitors annually into Cape May County; and

**WHEREAS**, Cape May County residents and businesses have a longstanding history of recognizing and supporting their Coast Guard neighbors, and wish to formalize their continuing commitment to these men, women and children and make known to the public their commitment by attaining the designation of "Coast Guard Community"; and

**WHEREAS**, in light of its own substantial ties with Coast Guard personnel, families, visitors and friends, the City of Ocean City supports the collaborative initiative of the County of Cape May and the City of Cape May in preparing and submitting an application seeking the regional designation of "Coast Guard Community" for all of Cape May County;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Ocean City, New Jersey that:

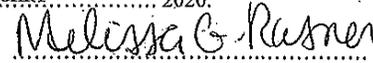
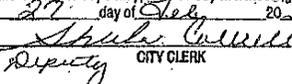
- (1) The above recitals are incorporated herein by reference as though fully repeated;
- (2) The City of Ocean City supports and joins in the application for regional designation of Cape May County as an official "Coast Guard Community"; and
- (3) The City of Ocean City affirms its deep commitment to the United States Coast Guard, and pledges to continue its long history of full and unwavering support for Coast Guard personnel and their families.

  
 Peter V. Madden, Council President

Offered by COUNCILMAN BARR ..... Seconded by COUNCILMAN WILSON .....

The above resolution was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Ocean City, New Jersey, at a meeting of said Council duly held on the 27 day of FEBRUARY, 2020.

NAME	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAINED
Barr	X			
Bergmann			X	
DeVlieger	X			
Hartzell	X			
Madden	X			
Wilson	X			

  
 CLERK'S CERTIFICATE City Clerk  
 I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the city council of the City of Ocean City, in the County of Cape May, New Jersey at a meeting held on the 27 day of Feb, 2020  
  
 Deputy CITY CLERK

**BOROUGH OF STONE HARBOR**

CAPE MAY COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

**RESOLUTION**

2020-S-37

WHEREAS, Cape May County residents and businesses have a longstanding history of recognizing and supporting their Coast Guard neighbors, and wish to formalize their continuing commitment to these men, women and children and make known to the public their commitment by recertification the designation of "Coast Guard Community" and

WHEREAS the Borough of Stone Harbor joins with the County of Cape May in this collaborative initiative;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough of Stone Harbor, in the County of Cape May that:

1. The above recitals are incorporated herein by reference;
2. Upon adoption of this Resolution the appropriate officers of the Borough of Stone Harbor are hereby authorized and directed to execute individually or jointly any and all documents necessary and appropriate to recertify efforts with Cape May County to complete an application for recertifying the designation by the United State Coast Guard as an official "Coast Guard Community" and
3. Cape May County affirms its lengthy and honored relationship with the United States Coast Guard and pledges to continue its long history of full and unwavering support for Coast Guard personnel and their families.

Certified to be a true and correct  
 copy of a resolution adopted by  
 Borough Council at a meeting held  
 on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2020  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Borough Clerk

Offered by Raymond Parzych ..... Seconded by Joselyn O. Rich .....

The above resolution was duly adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Stone Harbor, New Jersey, at a meeting of said Council  
 duly held on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of January....., 2020

.....  
 Borough Clerk

The above resolution approved this 21<sup>st</sup> day of January....., 2020  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mayor

TOWNSHIP OF UPPER  
CAPE MAY COUNTY  
RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO. 25 -2020

RE: SUPPORTING THE CAPE MAY COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS  
RECERTIFICATION APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD  
FOR THE DESIGNATION OF CAPE MAY COUNTY  
AS A "COAST GUARD COMMUNITY"

WHEREAS, the United States Congress, through federal legislation, has enabled the United States Coast Guard to designate a community having a special relationship with the Coast Guard as a "Coast Guard Community"; and

WHEREAS, a local Coast Guard command is empowered to recommend that the "Coast Guard Community" designation be awarded to a surrounding city, county or other jurisdictional entity that meets rigorous application standards, with only 14 communities across the nation having received such designation; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Cape May County have enjoyed a unique relationship with Coast Guard personnel and their families for nearly a century, by virtue of, among other things, the Coast Guard's ownership and maintenance of properties in municipalities throughout the County; and

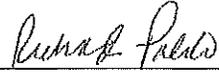
WHEREAS, most notably, since as early as 1917, the Coast Guard has had a presence at what has grown into the 352-acre site in the Cape May City, County of Cape May, now known as Training Center Cape May, or "TRACEN"; and

WHEREAS, Cape May County was officially proclaimed "A Coast Guard Community" on May 8, 2015 as designated by the United States Coast Guard and United States Congress; and

WHEREAS, Cape May County residents and businesses have a longstanding history of supporting their Coast Guard neighbors, and wish to reaffirm their commitment to these men, women, and children and make known to the public their continuing commitment by recertifying the honored "Coast Guard Community" designation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Upper, in the County of Cape May and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The allegations of the preamble are incorporated herein by this reference.
2. The Township Committee of the Township of Upper supports the County of Cape May Board of Chosen Freeholders in their efforts to again attain the regional designation by the United States Coast Guard as an official "Coast Guard Community"
3. On behalf of the residents of the Township of Upper, the Township Committee affirms its honored relationship with the United States Coast Guard and pledges to continue the long history of full and unwavering support for Coast Guard personnel and their families.

  
RICHARD PALOMBO, Mayor

  
BARBARA L. YOUNG, Township Clerk

Resolution No. 25 -2020  
Offered by: BARR  
Adopted: January 13, 2020  
Roll Call Vote:

Seconded by: CORSON

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Barr	X			
Coggins	X			
Corson	X			
Young	X			
Palombo	X			

BOROUGH OF WEST CAPE MAY  
COUNTY OF CAPE MAY  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION #171-19

SUPPORTING APPLICATION TO THE U.S. COAST GUARD  
FOR REGIONAL DESIGNATION OF CAPE MAY COUNTY,  
AS A "COAST GUARD COMMUNITY"

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has enabled the United States Coast Guard to designate a community having a special relationship with the Coast Guard as a "Coast Guard Community"; and

WHEREAS, the designation of "Coast Guard Community" may be awarded to an area that meets rigorous application standards, with only 14 such designations having been awarded to date across the nation; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Cape May County have enjoyed a unique relationship with Coast Guard personnel and their families for nearly a century, for reasons including but not limited to the Coast Guard's presence since as early as 1917 at what has grown into the 352-acre site in Cape May City, County of Cape May, now known as Training Center Cape May or "TRACEN"; and

WHEREAS, the Coast Guard presence at TRACEN today includes over 1,150 military and civilian personnel working at the base, providing recruit-level training for all entry-level recruits entering Coast Guard service and graduating an average of more than 2,300 recruits yearly, in addition to providing officer training and education, vessel support, air/sea rescue, investigative services, communications facilities, and homeland security services, all in furtherance of the continuous coastal patrol and defense of our nation; and

WHEREAS, Coast Guard personnel and their families also welcome over 41,000 additional guests and visitors annually into Cape May County; and

WHEREAS, Coast Guard personnel and their families reside both in on-base housing at TRACEN and in private housing located in municipalities throughout the County, with the County comprised of 16 contiguous municipalities whose economic, social and civic structures are closely interdependent; and

WHEREAS, Coast Guard personnel and their families live, work, shop and attend school in West Cape May, and interact with families throughout the County on a daily basis in all aspects of community living; and

WHEREAS, Cape May County residents and businesses have a longstanding history of recognizing and supporting their Coast Guard neighbors, and wish to formalize their continuing commitment to these men, women and children and make known to the public their commitment by attaining the designation of "Coast Guard Community"; and

WHEREAS, the County of Cape May and the City of Cape May have engaged in a collaborative initiative to prepare and submit an application seeking the regional designation of "Coast Guard Community" for all of Cape May County, and West Cape May fully supports and desires the regional designation in light of its own substantial ties with Coast Guard personnel, families, visitors and friends.

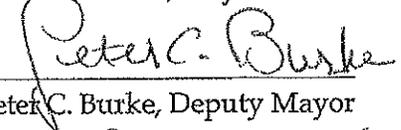
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of West Cape May that:

- (1) The above recitals are incorporated herein by reference as though fully repeated;
- (2) The appropriate officers of the Borough of West Cape May are authorized and directed to execute individually or jointly any and all documents necessary and appropriate to support and complete the application by Cape May County for designation by the United States Coast Guard as an official "Coast Guard Community"; and

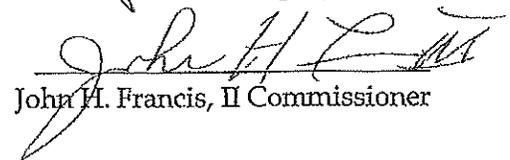
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Borough of West Cape May affirms its deep commitment to the United States Coast Guard, and pledges to continue its long history of full and unwavering support for Coast Guard personnel and their families.



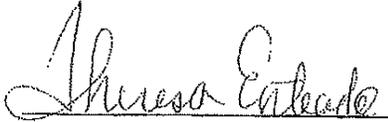
Carol E. Sabo, Mayor



Peter C. Burke, Deputy Mayor



John H. Francis, II Commissioner



Theresa Enteado  
Deputy Municipal Clerk

	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Sabo	✓			
Burke	✓			
Francis	✓			

Adopted: December 18, 2019

cc: CFO  
CMC Freeholders  
City of Cape May Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution duly passed and adopted by a majority of full membership of the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of West Cape May, County of Cape May, New Jersey, at a meeting held on December 18, 2019.

---

Municipal Clerk

**BOROUGH OF WILDWOOD CREST  
COUNTY OF CAPE MAY  
NEW JERSEY**

Resolution No. 2020-55

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUPPORT OF RE-CERTIFICATION OF  
APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD FOR  
OFFICIAL DESIGNATION OF WILDWOOD CREST AS "A COAST  
GUARD COMMUNITY"**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Wildwood Crest passed Resolution No. 1004-13, dated April 24, 2013, which authorized Support of Application to the United States Coast Guard for Official Designation of Wildwood Crest as "A Coast Guard Community;" and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Congress, through federal legislation, has enabled the United States Coast Guard to designate a community having a special relationship with the Coast Guard as a "Coast Guard Community;" and

**WHEREAS**, local Coast Guard command is empowered to recommend that the "Coast Guard Community" designation be awarded to a surrounding city, county or other jurisdictional entity that meets rigorous application standards, with only 14 communities across the nation having received such designation; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of Cape May County and the Borough of Wildwood Crest have enjoyed a unique relationship with Coast Guard personnel and their families for nearly a century, by virtue of, among other things, the Coast Guard's ownership and maintenance of properties in municipalities throughout the County; and

**WHEREAS**, most notably, since as early as 1917 the Coast Guard has had a presence at what has grown into the 352-acre site in Cape May City, County of Cape May, now known as Training Center Cape May, or "TRACEN;" and

**WHEREAS**, Coast Guard personnel and their families reside both in on-base housing in Cape May City and in private housing located in municipalities throughout the County, including the Borough of Wildwood Crest, which, by virtue of its unique geographic configuration as a peninsula surrounded by water, is comprised of 16 contiguous municipalities whose economic, social and civic structures are closely interdependent; and

**WHEREAS**, Coast Guard families and non-Coast Guard families interact with and support one another on a daily basis in all aspects of community living; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coast Guard presence at TRACEN today includes over 1,160 total military and civilian personnel working at the base, providing recruit training for all entry-level recruits entering the Coast Guard service and graduating an average of more than 2,300 recruits yearly, in addition to providing officer training and education, vessel support, air/sea rescue, investigative services, communication facilities, and homeland security services, all in furtherance of the continuous coastal patrol and defense of our nation; and

**WHEREAS**, Coast Guard personnel and their families also welcome over 41,000 additional guests and visitors annually into Cape May County; and

**WHEREAS**, Wildwood Crest residents and businesses have a longstanding history of recognizing and supporting their Coast Guard neighbors, and wish to formalize their continuing commitment to these men, women and children and make known to the public their commitment by attaining the designation of "Coast Guard Community;" and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Wildwood Crest joins with the County of Cape May and the City of Cape May in support to Re-Certify the "Coast Guard Community" Designation.

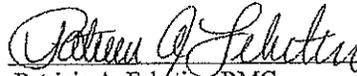
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Wildwood Crest, County of Cape May and State of New Jersey, that;

1. The above recitals are incorporated herein by reference;
2. Upon adoption of this Resolution, the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute any and all documents necessary and appropriate to join efforts with the County of Cape May and the City of Cape May to complete an application for Re-Certification for regional designation by the United States Coast Guard as an official "Coast Guard Community;" and
3. The Borough of Wildwood Crest affirms its lengthy and honored relationship with the United States Coast Guard, and pledges to continue its long history of full and unwavering support for Coast Guard personnel and their families.

	MOTION	SECOND	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Gould	✓		✓			
Thompson		✓	✓			
Cabrera			✓			

CERTIFICATION

I, Patricia A. Feketics, Borough Clerk for the Borough of Wildwood Crest, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution is a correct and accurate copy of a resolution adopted on January 7, 2020 with the voting record as indicated above.

  
 Patricia A. Feketics, RMC

**BOROUGH OF WOODBINE  
COUNTY OF CAPE MAY**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2-28-2020**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBINE  
AUTHORIZING AND SUPPORTING APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES  
COAST GUARD FOR OFFICIAL DESIGNATION OF CAPE MAY COUNTY AS “A  
COAST GUARD COMMUNITY”**

**WHEREAS**, the United States Congress, through federal legislation, has enabled the United States Coast Guard to designate a community having a special relationship with the Coast Guard as a “Coast Guard Community”; and

**WHEREAS**, local Coast Guard command is empowered to recommend that the “Coast Guard Community” designation be awarded to a surrounding city, county or other juridical entity that meets rigorous application standards, with only 14 communities across the nation having received such designation; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of Cape May City, the Borough of Woodbine and Cape May County have enjoyed a unique relationship with Coast Guard personnel and their families for nearly a century, by virtue of, among other things, the Coast Guard’s ownership and maintenance of properties in municipalities throughout the County; and

**WHEREAS**, most notably, since as early as 1917 the Coast Guard has had a presence at what has grown into the 352-acre site in Cape May City, County of Cape May, now known as Training Center Cape May, or “TRACEN”; and Woodbine has served as host to the US Coast Guard Uniform Distribution Center and

**WHEREAS**, Coast Guard personnel and their families reside both in on-base housing in Cape May City and in private housing located in municipalities throughout the County, which, by virtue of its unique geographic configuration as a peninsula surrounded by water, is comprised of 16 contiguous municipalities whose economic, social and civic structures are closely interdependent; and

**WHEREAS**, Coast Guard families and non-Coast Guard families interact with and support one another on a daily basis in all aspects of community living; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coast Guard presence at TRACEN today includes over 1,160 total military and civilian personnel working at the base, providing recruit training for all entry-level recruits entering Coast Guard service and graduating an average of more than 2,300 recruits yearly, in addition to providing officer training and education, vessel support, air/sea rescue, investigative services, communication facilities, and homeland security services, all in furtherance of the continuous coastal patrol and defense of our nation; and the Uniform Distribution Center provides employment for 20 civilians and has the support of local volunteers and

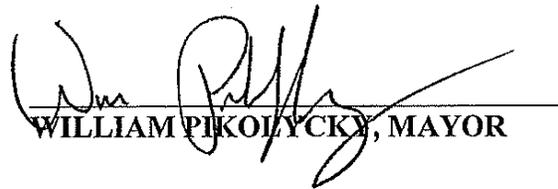
**WHEREAS**, Coast Guard personnel and their families also welcome over 41,000 additional guests and visitors annually into Cape May County; and

WHEREAS, Cape May County residents and businesses have a longstanding history of recognizing and supporting their Coast Guard neighbors, and wish to formalize their continuing commitment to these men, women and children and make known to the public their commitment by attaining the designation of "Coast Guard Community"; and

WHEREAS, the County of Cape May joins with the City of Cape May and the Borough of Woodbine in this collaborative initiative;

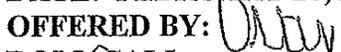
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Woodbine that:

1. The above recitals are incorporated herein by reference;
2. Upon adoption of this Resolution, the Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute, individually or jointly, any and all documents necessary and appropriate to join efforts with Cape May County, Cape May City and the Borough of Woodbine to complete an application for regional designation by the United States Coast Guard as an official "Coast Guard Community"; and
3. The Borough of Woodbine affirms its lengthy and honored relationship with the United States Coast Guard, and pledges to continue its long history of full and unwavering support for Coast Guard personnel and their families.

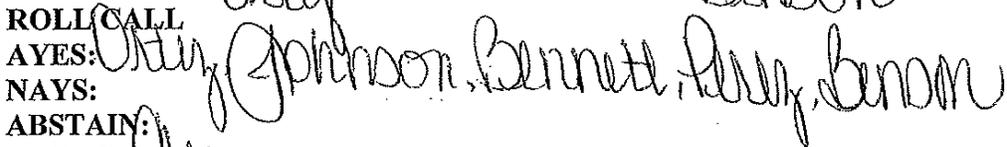
  
 WILLIAM PIKOLYCKY, MAYOR

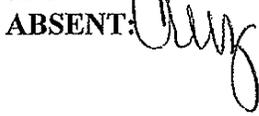
ATTEST:  
  
 LISA GARRISON, CLERK

DATE: FEBRUARY 20, 2020

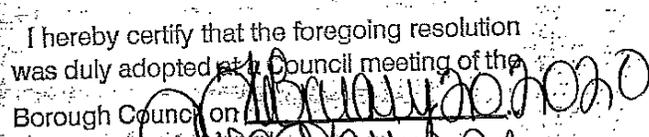
OFFERED BY: 

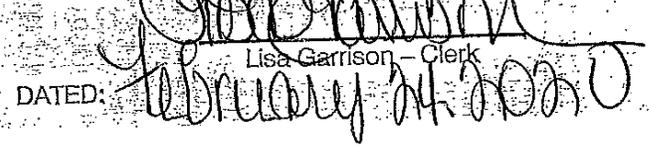
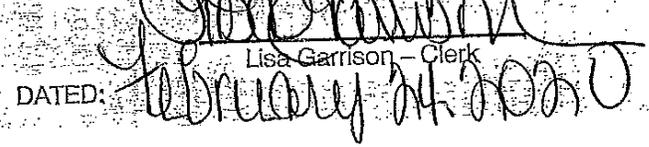
SECONDED BY: 

ROLL CALL  
 AYES: 

NAYS:  
 ABSTAIN:  
 ABSENT: 

STATE OF NEW JERSEY }  
 COUNTY OF CAPE MAY }

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at a Council meeting of the Borough Council on 

  
 Lisa Garrison - Clerk  
 DATED: 

# Letters of Support



NEW JERSEY SENATE

SENATE CHAMBERS

P.O. Box 099

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0099

December 17, 2019

RECEIVED  
CLERK OF THE BOARD  
2019 DEC 19 AM 9:47  
CAPE MAY COUNTY, N.J.

Captain Felger, Commanding Officer  
United States Coast Guard  
Training Center Cape May  
1800 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Cape May City, New Jersey 08204-4017

RE: Recertification of Coast Guard Communities, USA Program  
USCG Training Center Cape May  
Cape May City, New Jersey

Dear Captain Felger,

As a representative of New Jersey's 1st Senate District I am writing in strong support of the County of Cape May and City of Cape May's joint application to be recertified as a Coast Guard Community.

The County of Cape May, the City of Cape May and the United States Coast Guard have had a special connection with each other for almost 94 years. From local businesses and families taking in recruits and making them feel like family especially at holiday time, to Coast Guard Aids to Navigation members volunteering to speak with children, there has always been a special interaction between the USCG, the County of Cape May and City of Cape May.

Every August 4 a "Coast Guard Day" is celebrated, where there are activities for family members of all ages.

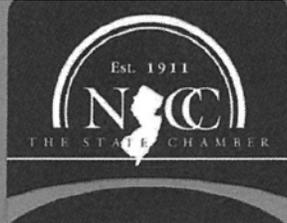
I respectfully request favorable consideration of this recertification application as I believe the County of Cape May and the City of Cape May exemplify the true meaning of a Coast Guard Community. I am proud to have the County of Cape May and the City of Cape May in my district and wholeheartedly believe they deserve this honored designation.

Should you have any questions or need for additional information, please feel free to contact my office at your convenience. Thank you in advance for your courtesy and consideration in assessing this application.

Best wishes,

Michael Testa Jr.  
Senator

Cc: Freeholder Jeffrey L. Pierson, County of Cape May



New Jersey Chamber of Commerce  
 216 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608  
 njchamber.com | (609) 989-7888  
 #NJChamberNow

December 31, 2019

Freeholder Director Gerald M. Thornton  
 County of Cape May  
 4 Moore Road  
 Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

Dear Freeholder Thornton:

I am writing on behalf of the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce and its 1,200 member companies to respectfully endorse Cape May County for the rededication of official Coast Guard Community.

This would honor a long and rich relationship between Cape May County and the U.S. Coast Guard Training Center, which dates back well over a half a century.

The ingredients for the declaration are there and they are compelling. First, the Training Center is the largest single employer in Cape May and its graduation ceremonies draw an estimated 40,000 visitors per year to the region – a crucial component to the local economy. Second, community support for the training center has been strong since day one. That support was evident in 1998, when nearly 1,000 residents appeared at a town meeting to urge the Coast Guard to stay in Cape May when the possibility of relocation was under discussion. It is evident through initiatives like Operation Fireside, in which the American Red Cross in Cape May Court House places recruits in local homes for Thanksgiving and Christmas meals. It is evident through scholarships offered to Coast Guard children for recreation and cultural programs. It is evident through the Cape May police and EMT services provided to base housing on the east side of town, and it is evident through the loud cheers the recruits receive when they march in town parades.

In short, the people of Cape May are proud and grateful for serving as host to the nation's only Coast Guard Training Center, where training began in 1948.

We at the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce were fortunate to get a firsthand look at the facility a few years ago when we held our Board of Directors meeting there, with many top business executives from around the state in attendance. We found the facilities and personnel to be gracious and accommodating, and we won't hesitate to recommend the facility to other groups and companies.

We sincerely hope Cape May County be re-designated as a Coast Guard Community so that the relationship between the base and the county can grow even stronger. Thank you for your consideration of this request. If there is any more I can do for you, don't hesitate to call me at (609) 989-7888 or email me at [tbracken@njchamber.com](mailto:tbracken@njchamber.com).

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Bracken  
 President and CEO  
 New Jersey Chamber of Commerce





P.O. Box 74  
 Cape May Court House, NJ 08210  
 Telephone: (609) 465-7181  
 Fax: (609) 465-5017  
 Email: vicki@cmcchamber.com  
 www.capemaycountychamber.com

RESOLUTION 2019-02.02 SUPPORTING CAPE MAY COUNTY'S RE-APPLICATION FOR  
 RECOGNITION AS AN OFFICIAL "COAST GUARD COMMUNITY DESIGNATION"  
 BY THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

**WHEREAS**, the County of Cape May was recognized by the United States Coast Guard and confirmed by Congress in August 2013 as a Coast Guard Community; and

**WHEREAS**, in the five years since this prestigious designation was bestowed upon Cape May County, the relationship between the citizens of the county and the personnel assigned to Training Center Cape May and the USCG Uniform Distribution Center located in Woodbine, along with their families has grown even stronger; and

**WHEREAS**, a non-profit organization, the Cape May County Coast Guard Community Foundation has been formed to provide organizational leadership and a centralized point of contact for the many programs, activities, and services provided by the community to our friends and neighbors assigned to USCG Training Center Cape May; and

**WHEREAS**, many significant activities have occurred during these past five years to strengthen even greater Cape May County's relationship between the United States Coast Guard and the men and women in service, including organized financial assistance during the partial government shutdown of 2019, supporting the commissioning of three Fast Response Cutters home-ported in Cape May, the creation of an activities fund for personnel and family members expense reimbursement, to highlight just a few; and

**WHEREAS**, Cape May County's Coast Guard Community designation is celebrated each year by paying tribute to the long and enduring relationship between the County of Cape May and the United States Coast Guard with week-long festival that includes hosting the Southern New Jersey Coast Guard Ball and a full day of ship tours, search and rescue exhibits, static helicopter displays, children's activities, food, entertainment, special Coast Guard and military tributes,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE RESOLVED** by the Cape May County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, that this organization representing some 825 businesses in Cape May County and throughout Southern New Jersey does enthusiastically support the Cape May County application for renewal of Coast Guard Community Designation.

Doug Burke, Chairman

Nancy Cleaver, Secretary

Vicki T. Clark, President

December 12, 2019

**U.S. LIFE SAVING STATION 30**

ATLANTIC AVENUE AND 4TH STREET

February 11, 2020

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing this letter in support of Cape May County being a Coast Guard community. This organization supports the mission of U.S. Life Saving Station #30. The museum is living history and tells the story of the brave men who served from 1872 until 1915 when it became the United States Coast Guard. We have received Coast Guard recruits as part of the Thanksgiving and Christmas celebrations. We were invited to the commissioning of the new cutter Angela McShan. Life Saving Station #30 also participates and displays at the Coast Guard Community Festival.

Sincerely,

S. John Loeper, Chairman U.S. Life Saving Station #30

## **OWEN L. GIBBONS III, CAPTAIN, USCG (RET.)**

16823 Destrehan Ct. Parrish, FL 34219 | 484-832-2894 | OwenLG3@gmail.com

**10 January 2020**

Freeholder Director Gerald Thornton  
Cape May County  
4 Moore Rd  
Cape May Courthouse, NJ 08210

**Dear Freeholder Director Gerald Thornton:**

I am writing to offer my enthusiastic support for renewal of the Coast Guard Community designation for Cape May County. Throughout my tenure as Commanding Officer of the Training Center, the County purposefully expanded the scope of its engagement with Coast Guard personnel in meaningful ways that truly cemented its moniker as "The Coast Guard's Hometown."

One of the most notable and effective mechanisms in this expansion was the creation of a dedicated non-profit organization (Cape May County Coast Guard Community Foundation) that served as a focal point for the community's service to the Coast Guard. Sponsoring the 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> annual Coast Guard Festivals, they not only provided meals and entertainment for servicemembers and families of all units at the Training Center, but also leveraged print and social media campaigns that spurred more than 20,000 citizens in total to come out and engage with their local Coast Guard. Through these encounters, our neighbors showed appreciation for our personnel while visiting operational assets, learning more about our missions through demonstrations and static displays, but most importantly created shared experiences that caused our members to be more completely woven into the community.

This engagement was strengthened further by the Mayor of the City of Cape May signing a proclamation designating the first week in May as Coast Guard Community Week in perpetuity even as the Community Foundation developed events to span an entire week of CG related activities and expanded their scope to different venues throughout the County. Moreover, the foundation spearheaded a fundraising drive that created an annual CG

Community Ball that was cost-accessible to our junior members yet drew both Civic and Service leaders together for a formal event that fostered unique exposure to Coast Guard culture and traditions.

The goodwill created through this enhanced community involvement was demonstrated to our members and their families in many tangible ways. The community signed a Shared Services Agreement declaring its intention to design and construct a "Coast Guard Bikeway" to link base housing with the Elementary School ensuring safe transit for our children. Additionally, they launched a multi-year \$500 thousand dollar traffic quieting construction project on the public road leading to the Training Center. The first two phases have already dramatically slowed traffic speeds and improved safety for our families living in government housing units adjacent to the base.

Having experienced all that, I still can scarcely find the right words to describe how fully this community embraced its Coast Guard during the recent appropriations lapse nor how significantly their support bolstered the spirit of our Servicemembers. Even before any member missed a paycheck, unsolicited donations of food began appearing in off-base housing and at our front gate. What started as a trickle quickly turned into a torrent and overflowed our modest charitable food pantry. In a matter of two short days, I watched my crew's anxieties literally vanish as they watched their community mobilize and come to the rescue of those who normally do the rescuing. I Have not seen anything remotely approaching that outpouring of care in my 34 years of service.

From the outset, the Community Foundation actively engaged with our local commands to better understand any unmet needs of our servicemembers. Noting that some Coast Guard members experienced difficulties obtaining low interest loans to cover their expenses, they took the initiative to engage local business leaders securing well over \$250,000 in deposits. These paved the way for a local financial institution to provide readily accessible zero-interest secured loans approximating each member's salary. This innovative effort brought timely and substantial relief to many active duty and civilian Coast Guard members. Programs like these served as a tangible safety net for our members and a sterling example to our country of what sets a Coast Guard Community apart.

Suffice it to say that the examples provided here are mere highlights that are barely sufficient to express the effusion of goodwill that our members experienced. Whether through

organized or grassroots initiatives (like the GoFundMe page of a local shop that enables recruits to get free coffee during off-base liberty), the community of Cape May County made it abundantly clear to my members that we were not simply welcomed as THE Coast Guard but instead adopted as "THEIR" Coast Guard.

Sincerely,



Owen L. Gibbons III, CAPT, USCG (Ret.)



**NAVAL AIR STATION WILDWOOD  
AVIATION MUSEUM**

500 FORRESTAL ROAD  
CAPE MAY AIRPORT, NJ 08242  
(609) 886-8787  
(609) 886-1942 FAX  
[www.usnasw.org](http://www.usnasw.org)

November 27, 2019

Freeholder Director Gerald M. Thornton  
4 Moore Road  
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

RE: Support of Cape May County USCG Community

Dear Mr. Thornton:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and staff at Naval Air Station Wildwood (NASW) Aviation Museum, we would like to express the museum's committed support of the county's reapplication of the Coast Guard Community designation for the County of Cape May, NJ. The museum has a long standing relationship with Training Center Cape May dating back to the 1940's when both facilities were under the direction of the US Navy.

Our museum is located in Lower Township, NJ and the important role of the symbiotic relationship between USCG Training Center Cape May and Cape May County cannot be understated. The existing designation has been met with enthusiasm and pride. The Aviation museum has partnered with the USCG Base for many years in such events as: youth summer camps, shared volunteers, scouting tours of the base and museum, NJ Run for the Fallen, Cape May County Veteran's Day Ceremony, the museum's Runway 5K fundraiser, Free Lecture Series and employment of USCG spouses.

The high regard and friendship with which our Coast Guard neighbors are treated is uniform throughout the County. Indeed, this widespread support for Coast Guard personnel and their families would not only continue but flourish and grow. Here at NASW, guests enjoy the museum's Coast Guard-related items including the museum's 41' USCG patrol boat, Sikorsky helicopter and Coast Guard Humvee.

As previously mentioned, NASW has proudly employed Coast Guard spouses whenever possible. We should add that both the spouses and Coast Guard children whom we have employed have done a top-notch job and, on a personal level, have become our friends and NASW family members. We are always sad to see their tours end, but hold out a hope that when retirement years arrive they will come back to their home in Cape May County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joseph E. Salvatore, M.D.

NASW Foundation, Chairman

Bruce A. Fournier

Chief Operating Officer



## **New Jersey Audubon**

### **Nature Center of Cape May**

1600 Delaware Avenue, Cape May, NJ 08204

*Phone: (609)427-3045 web: [www.njaudubon.org/centers/nccm](http://www.njaudubon.org/centers/nccm)*

*Reply to: Gretchen Whitman, phone ext. 1801, e-mail: [gretchen.whitman@njaudubon.org](mailto:gretchen.whitman@njaudubon.org)*

Freeholder Director Gerald M. Thornton  
County of Cape May  
4 Moore Road  
Cape May Court House, NJ 08204

December 20, 2019

Re: Cape May County Coast Guard Community

Dear Freeholder Thornton:

It is once again my sincere pleasure to offer this letter of support for the reapplication of designating Cape May County as an official U.S. Coast Guard Community. I honestly cannot imagine our County without the Coast Guard as its presence is so clearly imbedded into the fabric of our community. We are the birthplace of the enlisted corps and one does not have to look around very far to find some connection to the Coast Guard whether it be friends, neighbors, coworkers, patrons, etc.... The presences of the Coast Guard define who we are as a community.

As you know, we are neighbors. My Nature Center is located adjacent to the base and surrounded by USCG housing. Our partnership working with the officers and enlisted of the United States Coast Guard is the epitome of the term "good neighbors". And to expand on the idea of neighbors and neighborhood I cannot think of a better way to describe us but to define what we have here as "Coast Guard Community". Therefore, I wholeheartedly endorse the effort to reestablish the designation of our County as an official Coast Guard Community.

I admit that I may be a little impartial having been a recipient in one of the Hometown Heroes awards presented to community members at a previous festival. I also feel like a proud mama in that one of my valued Nature Center volunteers, MK1 Lantz Bowman was awarded Coast Guardsman of the Year. I have also had the pleasure of employing numerous Coast Guard spouses whom even after transferring to different locations still to this day remain dear friends. So, this Coast Guard connection is in my heart now. It's the definition of what community is all about.

I can sing the praises on and on about what the U.S. Coast Guard means to me both personally and professionally. Perhaps the best way to do so is to summarize the numerous ways the USCG-TRACEN and Station Cape May has partnered with the Nature Center of Cape May.

## **Past and Present Partnerships**

- **Clean-up Days:** Twice a year, usually in mid-April and mid-October we request companies of U.S.C.G. recruits to join us for a clean-up day at the Nature Center. Tasks have included garden/landscaping projects, marine debris collection on Cape May Harbor, planting of marsh grasses on the beaches, minor building maintenance, etc... This assistance helps not only spruce up the Nature Center property, but the entire Cape May Harbor conservation area which borders U.S.C.G. housing.
- **Kids Crew:** Years ago, the Nature Center hosted a children's volunteer club. This after school program had the children (90% of them from U.S.C.G. housing) help with maintaining our flower gardens.
- **Good Neighbor Fund:** More than 15 years ago an anonymous donor gave funds to the Nature Center to provide scholarships to Coast Guard dependants to take classes during our eight-week children's camp. This program has provided over 900 USCG dependents children with tuition-free nature camp programs. Funding has ranged from private donations, grants from Operation Military Kids programs and even support from various Coast Guard groups such as the Jersey Cape Military Spouse's Club, the Chief Petty Officer's Association and the Enlisted Association. Over the last 5 years we have increased this annual fund through corporate sponsors and have been able to provide over \$60,000 in summer camp program fees to our wonderful USCG neighbors.
- **Children's Garden:** During the renovation of the Nature Center's Welcome Center the Officer's Spouse Association provided a \$1,000 donation for our children's garden which graces the front of the building.
- **Harbor Fest:** Since its inception in 2008 this annual special event in the City of Cape May has been fortunate to have the cooperation of our neighboring base personal as well as those from Air Station Atlantic City and Station Cape May. SAR demonstrations in the harbor as always, a highlight of the event as well as static land displays. Two years ago, we added "Coastie Corner" which allowed the various USCG groups to highlight what they do for our community as well as engaging recruits in community service work.
- **Programming Support:** Over the years the Nature Center of Cape May has provided programming for children at the Training Center's Child Development Center facility as well as the summer day camp. In addition, we are community partners with Cape May Elementary School where many U.S.C.G. children attend.
- **Ceremonial Detail:** For many years the U.S.C.G. Training Center Cape May band has performed at our annual autumn fundraiser, Harbor Fair and then later at the summertime Harbor Fest. Chief Buggs, Chief Grover and Chief Burke and their musicians have always been a popular part of this community event by helping kick things off with our national anthem and other patriotic songs.

- Employees and Volunteers: Three of our former part-time employees have been wives of Coast Guard personnel (Mary Beth Hale, Beth Parks and Kassia Bowman). As their husbands were transferred, we were very sorry to see them go, since all were very valuable members of our team. Countless volunteers (and good friends) have also come from our neighbors in Coast Guard housing.
- Discounts: Our current policy is to provide Coast Guard personnel and their families the membership discount on our program fees and gift shop sales.
- Previous Special Projects: Coast Guardsmen have assisted the Nature Center over the years in more than just our annual spring and fall clean-up days. Some such projects have included: The Chief Petty Officers Association painted the outside of our building and laboratory and then held a barbeque with a DJ on our grounds. The crew of the *Dependable* tore down the second-story deck from our old building which was public hazard. Most recently, shipmates from Station Cape May brought a small boat onsite to our summer camp program to educate our students about the role the Coast Guard plays in protecting our environment. Some of those same Station crew members return other times during this fall to volunteer on building maintenance evening assisting in hanging our holiday light display which led to winning a "Best Display" Award. Various Coast Guard personnel have helped us move furniture, bags of birdseed, during days off or lunch breaks, etc... All these efforts have saved our non-profit facility thousands of dollars!

On a personal note, I have also been blessed with the wonderful opportunity to participate in Operation Fireside since 2010. My time spent with the recruits during the holidays is so rewarding. The hours spent on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas and then the follow-up graduation ceremonies, thank you letters, e-mails and now even Facebook connections with these fine young men and women have certainly enriched my life.

In closing, I wish Cape May County Coast Guard Community Foundation the best in its effort of reestablishing the designation of Cape May County as an official Coast Guard Community.

Sincerely,



Gretchen Whitman  
Sanctuary Director



*A Train is Coming... Jump On!*

**P: 609-522-8383 INFO@MUDHENBREW.COM**

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Brendan Sciarra, owner of Dogtooth Bar & Grill, MudHen Brewing Company and Poppi's Brick Oven Kitchen in Wildwood, New Jersey. Throughout my years of business in Cape May County I have been extremely fortunate to work hand-in-hand with the Coast Guard Community.

Cape May County's designation as a Coast Guard Community has been an integral part of the county's success and growth. The county attracts approximately 10 million visitors per year; although most will arrive between Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends thus making it incredibly difficult to maintain and develop a year-round economy. Business owners, such as myself, who strive to build upon this economy during the off-season would find it a difficult feat without the support of our local Coast Guard community.

Cape May County business owners and residents have created a unique relationship with the Coast Guard Community, showing gratitude and support throughout the year. Last year's government shutdown put a strain on the Coast Guard community. Multiple local businesses came together to request donations, while Sciarra Restaurants employees raised funds internally.

MudHen Brewing Company was able to build upon this relationship by brewing a beer in honor of our local Coast Guard community. After speaking with members of the Coast Guard Community Foundation, "Open Brow" was created and tapped on Friday night as part of our 2019 MudHen Race Series. Our brewpub also hosted a "Coast Guard Salute" with live music and food specials to begin Coast Guard Community Week and show support to our servicemen and women and their families.

Cape May County is incredibly fortunate to be designated as a Coast Guard Community and share our towns with service members and their families. When deciding whether to renew this designation, please keep in mind the unique relationships our businesses and employees have been able to build over the past five years and the efforts our communities have made in order to make Cape May County a "home away from home" for our local Coast Guard families.

Sincerely,

Brendan Sciarra

*Owner/Operator  
Dogtooth Bar & Grill,  
MudHen Brewing Company  
& Poppi's Brick Oven Kitchen*

**127 W. RIO GRANDE AVENUE • WILDWOOD, NJ 08260**

**WWW.MUDHENBREW.COM**

Michael L. Testa, Jr.  
Senator  
Erik K. Simonsen  
Assemblyman  
Antwan L. McClellan  
Assemblyman



District Office:  
Schoolhouse Office Park  
211 S. Main St., Suite 104  
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210  
Phone: (609) 778-2012  
Fax: (609) 778-2033

February 11, 2020

Dear Freeholder Director Thornton,

We write today to join our voices with Senator Michael Testa in support of the United States Coast Guard and the renewal of Cape May County's proud status as a USCG Community.

The heroic tradition of the Coast Guard in our County traces back to our early history and we are proud and honored to host the USCG Training Center in Cape May.

The recruits are part of our collective, Cape May County Family and we love sharing our homes and holidays with them through Operation Fireside.

For nearly a century, the Coast Guard has called Cape May County home and many recruits have gone on to establish roots here for generations, following their Coast Guard enlistment.

The mission of the USCG is more vital today than ever before. We are proud to support that mission. We know the leadership and citizens of Cape May County remain committed in their steadfast support for the base, the recruits, the mission and the Coast Guard families.

Please include this letter in your supporting documentation for Cape May County's continuing designation as US Coast Guard Community.

Sincerely,

District One Assemblymen

Handwritten signature of Antwan McClellan in black ink.

Handwritten signature of Erik Simonsen in black ink.

Antwan McClellan and Erik Simonsen

Legislative District One  
Assemblyman Erik Simonsen  
Assemblyman Antwan McClellan  
609.778.2012

Cc: Cape May County Coast Guard

JOSEPH A. CASTELLUCCI  
Superintendent

RICHARD J. HOOYMAN  
President

MARK G. MALLETT  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

GARY PLAYFORD  
Vice-President

*Board of Education*  
*Lower Cape May Regional School District*  
687 Route 9 Cape May, New Jersey 08204  
(609) 884-3475 Fax: (609) 884-7067

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CITY OF CAPE MAY

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER

BOROUGH OF WEST CAPE MAY

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November 22, 2019

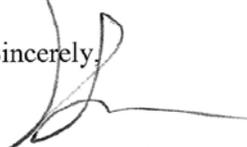
Gerald M. Thornton  
Cape May County Freeholders  
4 Moore Road  
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210-1601

Dear Mr. Thornton:

Enclosed please find the certified motion with the signed resolution that Lower Cape May Regional School District Board of Education supports the county's application to the USCG for official designation as a "Coast Guard Community".

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Mark G. Mallett,  
Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary

MGM/vl  
Enclosure

C: Vicki Clark, IOM  
Cape May County Chamber

JOSEPH A. CASTELLUCCI  
Superintendent

RICHARD J. HOOYMAN  
President  
GARY PLAYFORD  
Vice-President

MARK G. MALLET  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

*Board of Education*  
*Lower Cape May Regional School District*

687 Route 9 Cape May, New Jersey 08204  
(609) 884-3475 Fax: (609) 884-7067

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CITY OF CAPE MAY

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER

BOROUGH OF WEST CAPE MAY

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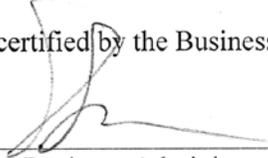
November 21, 2019

The following motion was approved at the Lower Cape May Regional Board of Education Meeting held on November 21, 2019:

A motion was made to approve the attached resolution supporting Cape May County's application to the USCG for official designation as a Coast Guard Community.

Moved: Mr. Playford. Seconded: Mr. Golden. Motion carried unanimously.

This is true and accurate as certified by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary



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Mark G. Mallet, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

RESOLUTION THAT LOWER CAPE MAY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPPORTS CAPE MAY  
COUNTY'S APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD FOR OFFICIAL DESIGNATION  
AS A "COAST GUARD COMMUNITY"

WHEREAS, the United States Coast Guard administers a program through which a community, having a special relationship with the Coast Guard, may apply for and receive official designation as a "Coast Guard Community," provided the applicant meets rigorous application standards, with only 28 communities across the nation having received such designation as of this date, and

WHEREAS, the residents of the Lower Cape May Regional School District in Cape May County have enjoyed a unique relationship with Coast Guard personnel and their families for nearly a century, by way of the Coast Guard's presence since as early as 1917 at what has grown into the 352-acre site in Cape May City known as Training Center Cape May, or "TRACEN", and

WHEREAS, the Coast Guard presence at TRACEN includes over 1,160 total military and civilian personnel working at the base, with 14 tenant commands providing, without limitation, recruit training for all entry-level recruits entering Coast Guard service (with an average of more than 2,300 recruits graduating yearly), officer training and education, vessel support, air/sea rescue, investigative services, communication facilities, and homeland security services, all in furtherance of the continuous coastal patrol and defense of our nation, and

WHEREAS, Coast Guard personnel and their families, who reside both in on-base housing and in private housing throughout the County, form an integral part of the fabric of our community, with Coast Guard families and non-Coast Guard families interacting with, and supporting one another, in every level of civic life – whether it be at social, educational, cultural, religious and civic organization activities, at sporting events, and through businesses, to name a few – through daily experiences as well as life-altering events, all indelibly affecting and bettering one another's lives, and

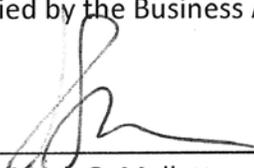
WHEREAS, Coast Guard personnel and their families also welcome over 41,000 additional guests and visitors annually to Cape May County, with the district's residents and businesses also having shown a continual commitment to interact with, and provide welcome and hospitality to, those visitors, and

WHEREAS, Lower Cape May Regional School District has a longstanding history of recognizing and supporting their Coast Guard neighbors, and wish to formalize their continuing commitment to these men, women and children by attaining and proudly proclaiming the designation of "Coast Guard Community," and

WHEREAS, Lower Cape May Regional School District has a partnership with the Coast Guard Base through the Mentoring Program at the Richard M. Teitelman School, providing boating certification, hosting the Coast Guard Graduation if necessary, allowing our swim teams to utilize its pool, and providing transportation services for their band to attend various municipal parades and events,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Lower Cape May Regional School District of the County of Cape May that we support the Board of Chosen Freeholders in the adoption of this Resolution.

This is true and accurate as certified by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark G. Mallett

Business Administrator/Board Secretary

# KATHERINE E. GIBBONS

16823 Destrehen Ct. Parrish, FL 34219 | 484-832-5912 | KatGibbs1@gmail.com

**12 January 2020**

Freeholder Director Gerald Thornton  
Cape May County  
4 Moore Rd  
Cape May Courthouse, NJ 08210

**Dear Freeholder Director Gerald Thornton:**

I am writing in support of renewing the Coast Guard Community designation for Cape May County. I served as an Honorary Board member of the Jersey Cape Military Spouses Club from 2016 until 2019. This non-profit club draws its membership from, and primarily serves, Coast Guard families assigned to all of the units in Cape May County. In that capacity, I have had numerous opportunities to witness the County's commitment to its Coast Guard and also to partner with the Cape May County Coast Guard Community Foundation as they innovatively sought to identify and meet the needs of our family members. There are a few areas in particular where we simply would not have been successful in meeting the needs of Coast Guard family members without their active support.

The first instance involved a strategic initiative that our Guardian Spouse Committee had launched to reach the spouses of recruits and help them transition successfully into military life by providing them an interactive computer-based program while their Servicemember was in basic training. Although our committee had done an extensive amount of content development, the project was stalled because we did not have the expertise to turn the concept into reality. The Community Foundation talked with us about this initiative, recognized its potential impact, and provided a 5,000-dollar grant that allowed us to hire an Instructional Designer to turn our content into courseware. Because of their entrepreneurial efforts, hundreds of new spouses each year now access a free, state of the art course that teaches them about pay, health insurance, military moves, family support

resources and a host of other topics that help them to be informed participants in their Servicemember's career.

In addition to the amazing support that all of Cape May County provided to its Coast Guard during the government shutdown, the Community Foundation was eager to ensure that our families were equipped to face any financial uncertainties in the future. In a joint venture with our Spouses Club, they hosted four weekly Financial Readiness sessions at no cost to military members or their family members. Providing non-vendor experts to discuss topics ranging from budgeting to investing to achieving long term financial solvency, they focused on helping our families not only manage their current finances but more effectively plan for their future. Recognizing that military families can be reluctant to admit financial insecurity and that accessing on-base resources can make families self-conscious, they partnered with the Marquis de Lafayette Hotel for the use of their conference center and even provided complimentary child care services to improve accessibility regardless of family composition.

My husband and I were fortunate to reside twice in Cape May County ultimately making it our home away from home for more than six years. I will freely admit that we eagerly sought our return assignment simply because it was the ONLY community (of the 12 we have been assigned to) that proactively engaged, included, and valued Coast Guard families. I can think of no higher praise for the County than acknowledging how many of our families sought to return for the very same reason.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katherine Gibbons". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "K" and a long, sweeping underline.

**Katherine E. Gibbons**



## CITY OF NORTH WILDWOOD

### Hereford Inlet Lighthouse

111 N. Central Avenue  
North Wildwood, NJ 08260  
(609)-600-1561



December 4, 2019

Freeholder Director Gerald Thornton  
Cape May County Board of Chosen Freeholders  
4 Moore Rd.  
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

Dear Mr. Thornton,

As you are aware, the Hereford Inlet Lighthouse in North Wildwood is the most significant historic structure on Five Mile Beach. Built in 1874, it has acted as a welcoming beacon to beleaguered mariners seeking the refuge of Hereford Inlet for more than 145 years. The City of North Wildwood has leased the Lighthouse from the State of New Jersey since 1982 and, through restoration and maintenance efforts by the Hereford Inlet Lighthouse Commission, the Friends of the Hereford Inlet Lighthouse and currently the North Wildwood Historical Commission, the Lighthouse is open to the public as a museum. The Lighthouse, an active aid to navigation, is maintained by the Aids to Navigation Team (Cape May ANT) of the United States Coast Guard based in Cape May, NJ.

Through the Hereford Inlet Lighthouse, the City of North Wildwood and Cape May ANT have a strong working relationship, highlighted by the following events of the past two years:

1. The 54-year-old DCB-24 beacon in the Lighthouse tower malfunctioned on May 11, 2018, prompting quick action by Cape May ANT to replace the lamp with a fixed-white LED lamp, pending review of possible further replacement with a new VRB-25 beacon.
2. In spite of the usual 12-16 week waiting period for installation of a new VRB-25, the Cape May ANT had the new beacon installed in 9 weeks, on July 19, 2018.

3. Cape May ANT Senior Chief Elijah Reynolds was the keynote speaker at the National Lighthouse Day ceremony held on August 7, 2018 at the Lighthouse.
4. Cape May ANT was instrumental in obtaining permission to turn custody of the old DCB-24 over to the City of North Wildwood Historical Commission, unveiling the beacon at National Lighthouse Day and placing it on display in the parlor of the Lighthouse for the public to see.
5. Certified Physician's Assistant Lt. Felipe DeFreitas was the keynote speaker at National Lighthouse Day on August 7, 2019, giving a well-received presentation on the bravery and valor of Signalman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Douglas Munro, the only person ever to receive the Medal of Honor for heroic actions performed while a member of the United States Coast Guard.
6. North Wildwood City Council, via Resolution 203-19, recognized the importance of the United States Coast Guard in the history of the City and designated August 7, 2019, the date of Lt. DeFreitas' presentation, as "Douglas A. Munro Day" in the City of North Wildwood.

The United States Coast Guard has had a presence in the City of North Wildwood since 1915, when it took over for the Life-Saving Service and maintained the Life Boat Station next to the Lighthouse, which is now part of the New Jersey State Police Marine Unit. Coast Guard members functioned as the live-in keepers of the Lighthouse until 1964 and, as stated, continue to maintain to the present day.

The long and continued history of cooperation between the City of North Wildwood and the United States Coast Guard makes it a privilege for the North Wildwood Historical Commission to whole-heartedly endorse and support the renewal of Cape May County's designation as a "Coast Guard Community."

Thanking you for your consideration of this endorsement and support, I am

Very truly yours,



W. Scott Jett  
City Clerk  
Chairman, North Wildwood Historical Commission



Deposits • Loans • Wealth Management  
Big Bank Products • Community Bank Service

January 3, 2020

Mr. Gerald M. Thornton  
Freeholder Director  
Cape May County Board of Chosen Freeholders  
4 Moore Rd.  
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

Dear Mr. Thornton,

On behalf of the Board of Directors and employees at Crest Savings Bank, I proudly offer our support for the renewal of Cape May County's designation as a Coast Guard Community. The Coast Guard Community designation for Cape May County continues to be one of the defining characteristics of our community and a tremendous source of pride for its residents.

Furthermore, in support of the County's designation, the Cape May County Coast Guard Community Foundation has truly embraced their role of supporting Coast Guard members in Cape May County. I observed this firsthand as members of the Cape May County Coast Guard Community Foundation collaborated with local business leaders to help Coast Guard members during the government shutdown. Crest Savings Bank was honored to work closely with the Cape May County Coast Guard Community Foundation to offer our Coast Guard Loan Program.

I remain impressed by the effort and dedication put forth by the Cape May County Coast Guard Community Foundation to honor the service of our Coast Guard members and to make them feel at home in Cape May County. Please accept our endorsement of this prestigious designation for Cape May County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony DeSalle".

Anthony J. DeSalle  
President and Chief Executive Officer



# Cape May County Historical & Genealogical Society

504 Route 9 North, Cape May Court House, New Jersey 08210

Phone: 609.465.3535

Fax: 609.465.4274

cmchgmuseum@gmail.com

www.cmcmuseum.org

December 19, 2019

Gerald Thornton  
Freeholder Director  
County of Cape May  
4 Moore Road  
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

Dear Mr. Thornton:

I am writing in support of Cape May County's continued designation as a Coast Guard Community. As only one of four such communities with that designation, it is critical that our county maintain its place on that list.

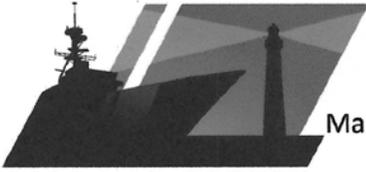
The Cape May County Historical and Genealogical along with The Museum of Cape May County and Alexander Memorial Library have a long and strong relationship with the Coast Guard. Our archives and artifacts include memorabilia dating as far back as the United States Revenue Cutter Service and United States Lifesaving Service, both precursors of today's Coast Guard. Our military collection includes artifacts representing the today's service as well as those from years gone by.

In addition to our collections, we offer free admission to all USCG active personnel and their immediate families. This past season we hosted an exciting exhibit, "Always Ready, Always Here" which showed the history and role of the USCG in Cape May County. Our plans for the 2020 season include a special art exhibit highlighting the work of USCG artists.

The society remains committed to maintaining its strong relationship with the United States Coast Guard Training Center Cape May (TRACENCM). As the Coast Guard's sole accession point for recruits, we pride ourselves on knowing that every Coast Guardsmen's and Coast Guardswomen's history begins in Cape May.

Sincerely,

Donna Matalucci  
Director  
The Museum of Cape May County



March 2, 2020

**CAPE MAY COUNTY**  
**COAST GUARD COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**  
 P.O. Box 1365, Rio Grande, NJ 08242  
 609.888.6120

Freeholder Director Thornton  
 Cape May County Board of Chosen Freeholders  
 4 Moore Road  
 Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

***Board of Trustees***

**Will Morey, Chair**  
 Cape May County Freeholder

**Jeffrey Pierson**  
 Cape May County Freeholder

**Vicki Clark**  
 President, Cape May County  
 Chamber of Commerce

**Clarence F. Lear III**  
 Mayor, City of Cape May

**Herb Godfrey**  
 Trustee

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 Trustee

**Jay Spurl**  
 Trustee

**Richard Weiss**  
 Trustee

**Linda Wolf**  
 Trustee

**Eli Massood**  
 Treasurer

***Executive Director***

Mike Couch

***Festival Director***

Lee Anne Tarr

Dear Freeholder Director Thornton,

Our nonprofit, which was founded in 2015 to support Cape May County's original designation as a Coast Guard Community, fully supports the County's effort for the renewal of the Coast Guard Community designation. The foundation partners with Cape May County, its 16 municipalities and other community partners throughout the year to present activities that educate about the deep connections between the Coast Guard and the region. Our mission is to nurture the relationship between Coast Guard members and their families and the people of Cape May County.

Our nonprofit's main program is the annual Coast Guard Community Week. The inaugural Coast Guard Community Festival was held in 2015 to celebrate Cape May County's designation as a Coast Guard Community. Our programs expanded in 2018 to include hosting the Southern New Jersey Coast Guard Ball in partnership with the United States Coast Guard. The schedule of events increased to a full week in 2019 during our Spring shoulder season, with the Coast Guard Ball held on the last Saturday in April and the Coast Guard Community Festival held on the first Saturday in May. We have added local events throughout Cape May County to create a week-long celebration of the Coast Guard's importance to the region. We also host and promote family friendly activities throughout the year to celebrate the men and women of the United States Coast Guard. The Cape May County Coast Guard Community Foundation will continue to provide programs to honor Coast Guard personnel and their families and create a vibrant and welcoming "hometown" for them in Cape May County.

We look forward to continuing our partnership in support of the Coast Guard Community designation.

Respectfully,

Michael Couch  
 Executive Director

Cape May County, inclusive of sixteen municipalities, is designated as a Coast Guard Community. The Foundation supports the designation by honoring Coast Guard families for their extraordinary service; celebrating and educating regarding the U.S. Coast Guard in Cape May County.



# CAPE REGIONAL

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## MEDICAL CENTER

November 26, 2019

Freeholder Gerald M. Thornton  
County of Cape May  
4 Moore Road  
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

Dear Mr. Thornton:

I am writing in support of the application by Cape May County to renew its official designation as a "Coast Guard Community." Coast Guard personnel and family members are valued residents of Cape May County. Their participation in and support of community services, institutions and activities demonstrates their importance to the community.

The Medical Center is always available to handle any medical emergency which may arise and often treats members of the Coast Guard and their families. Transfer agreements between the Coast Guard and our Emergency Department ensure that recruits receive the highest caliber of emergency medical treatment and are returned to the base as soon as possible.

Here at Cape Regional Medical Center, family members of Coast Guard personnel are an important part of our healthcare team. Many of our employees are either the spouses, children or family members of Coast Guard personnel and work in the various departments of the Medical Center or offer their services as volunteers.

Cape Regional Health System participates in the annual Coast Guard Community Festival. During the Festival, Cape Regional team members provide information and literature about the many services and programs offered throughout Cape Regional Health System. Through our Parish Nursing Program, Cape Regional has conducted Health Fairs where we offer free health screenings to all Coast Guard personnel and their families. We have also offered our Chronic Disease Self-Management Courses to the Coast Guard community. These are free six-week, evidence-based programs that assist the participants in the management of chronic conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, depression and anxiety. These programs have been enthusiastically received and participation by Coast Guard members and family has been high.

Many of our employees are very honored and pleased to participate in Operation Fireside and host Coast Guard recruits during the holidays and often form life-long bonds with them. Your service members, recruits and their families also support our schools and businesses and are of vital economic importance to the County.

2 Stone Harbor Boulevard, Cape May Court House, New Jersey 08210 (609) 463-CAPE

---

An Affiliate of Penn Medicine

I truly believe that Cape May County is a "Coast Guard Community" and renewal of its official designation as such would be a great honor for our County. Thank you very much for your consideration. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joanne Carrocino". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Joanne Carrocino, FACHE  
President & CEO



188 Crest Haven Road, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210 (609) 380-0200 Fax: 465-3069

Dr. Nancy M. Hudanich, Superintendent  
Paula J. Smith, Business Administrator / Board Secretary

December 4, 2019

Ms. Vicki Clark  
Cape May County Chamber  
PO Box 74  
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

Re: CMC Coast Guard Community Designation Reapplication Letter to Support Request

Dear Ms. Clark:

Per your November 19, 2019 email request, enclosed please find letter addressed to Freeholder Director Gerald Thornton.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy M. Hudanich".

Dr. Nancy M. Hudanich  
Superintendent

NMH/kcf

Enclosure



December 4, 2019

Freeholder Director Gerald Thornton  
Cape May County Administration Building  
4 Moore Road  
Cape May Court House, New Jersey 08210

Re: In Support of Cape May County "Coast Guard Community" Designation

Dear Freeholder Director Gerald Thornton:

On behalf of a learning community of approximately 1,900 high school, post secondary, and continuing education students who annually attend the Cape May County Technical School District, I strongly support the "Coast Guard Community" Designation for the Cape May Coast Guard Training Center.

The Coast Guard community of Cape May has a long-standing rich history. In 1917, two years after the establishment of our school, the Navy established a section base in Cape May, to provide training, vessel support and communication facilities for coastal defense. Since 1924, the U.S. Coast Guard has occupied the base. In 1948 all entry level training on the east coast was moved to the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Receiving Station in Cape May. The Coast Guard consolidated all recruit training functions in Cape May in 1982. For over fifty years, the Coast Guard Training Center Cape May has fulfilled its mission by building the enlisted corps. The Coast Guard Training Center Cape May is our nation's only Coast Guard enlisted accession point and recruit training center. Over 2,300 men and women arrive for the first chapter of their Coast Guard career, in addition to over 1,150 military and civilian personnel live in Cape May.

The Technical School District has enjoyed ongoing academic collaboration with the Coast Guard. Both high school and post secondary students have participated in various educational settings on the base. Thus, the Coast Guard community growth and presence has been a pillar in establishing and maintaining the Cape May County Technical School District, as well as, all business economic categories throughout Cape May County. The Cape May County "Coast Guard Community" Designation is truly well deserved. I therefore, am in support and request that the Cape May County "Coast Guard Community" Designation be enacted.

Sincerely,

Dr. Nancy M. Hudanich  
Superintendent

# Cape May Maritime Museum and Education Center, Inc

United States Coast Guard Headquarters  
 U.S. Department of Homeland Security Washington, DC 20593-7000  
 Grace of Captain Sarah "Kathy" Felger, Commanding Officer  
 USCG Training Center Cape May ("TRACEN")

January 11, 2020

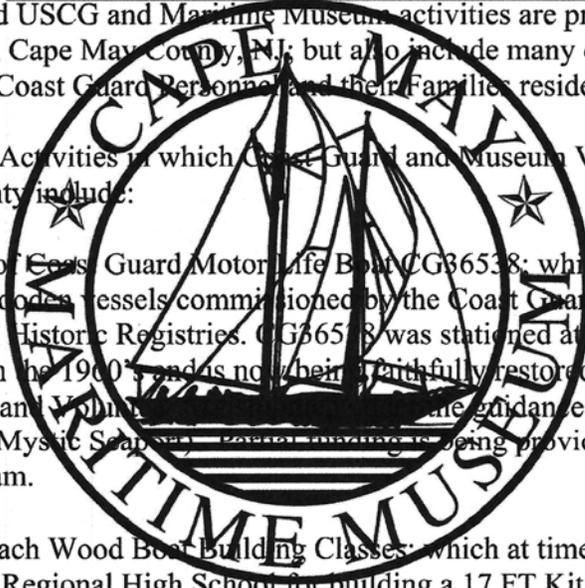
RE: Support for continued Designation of Cape May County as a "Coast Guard Community"

Dear Coast Guard Communities Representatives:

The Cape May Maritime Museum and Education Center enthusiastically supports the proposal to continue to designate Cape May County as a "Coast Guard Community".

Background: Shared USCG and Maritime Museum activities are primarily located in the Township of Lower, Cape May County, NJ; but also include many other communities in Cape May County where Coast Guard Personnel and their Families reside and contribute.

Some of the Shared Activities in which Coast Guard and Museum Volunteers are participating in throughout the County include:

- 
- 1.) Restoration of Coast Guard Motor Life Boat CG36538; which is one of the last remaining wooden vessels commissioned by the Coast Guard. She is included on the NJ and National Historic Registries. CG36538 was stationed at Ocean City, Cape May County NJ in the 1960's and is now being richly restored by local USCG Engineers, Shipwrights and Volunteers under the guidance of Walter Ansel (Master Shipwright, Mystic Seaport). The grant program being provided by the NJ Historic Trust Grant Program.
  - 2.) Youth Outreach Wood Boat Building Classes: which at times include USCG Students at Lower Cape Regional High School for building a 17 FT Kit of a Scottish St. Ayle's Skiff. (See attached photo)
  - 3.) Monomoy Life Saving Boat Restoration by USCG Staff Volunteers at the Lower Township Boat Restoration Workshop is another ongoing project. One of the Monomoy boats is on display at the Cape May Lighthouse which is visited by thousands of tourists and local community members yearly. They are also featured in local parades manned by CG Alumni. (See attached photo)
  - 4.) Proposed Book on Cape May County's Coast Guard and Maritime Heritage with input from USCG Staff and the Historian's Office in Portsmouth Virginia.

## Cape May Maritime Museum and Education Center, Inc

The Maritime Museum has been fortunate enough to have members from the CG Chief's and CG Enlisted associations volunteer for participation in the restoration work of CG 36538.

The Museum also is an active participant in Coast Guard Celebrations at the TRACEN, with the USCG Training Center Cape May Community/Open House day involvement in May of each year. The Wood Boat Restoration Workshops for Youth Programs within the geographic boundaries of the proposed Coast Guard Community continue to enhance and strengthen the designation since CG Dependent children are involved. Indeed, all of the efforts described above have required strong, sustained commitment to the Coast Guard's story by residents of Cape May County, and involve substantial interaction with our Coast Guard friends and neighbors. This commitment and involvement is long-term and enduring, for the Coast Guard is at the very fabric of our community. If Cape May County continues to be honored with the "Coast Guard Community" designation, it will only strengthen our resolve to provide continuing support and enhancement of that designation with our many activities -- from the restoration of Motor Lifeboat CG36538 and the Monomoy, which are a key involvements within the community.

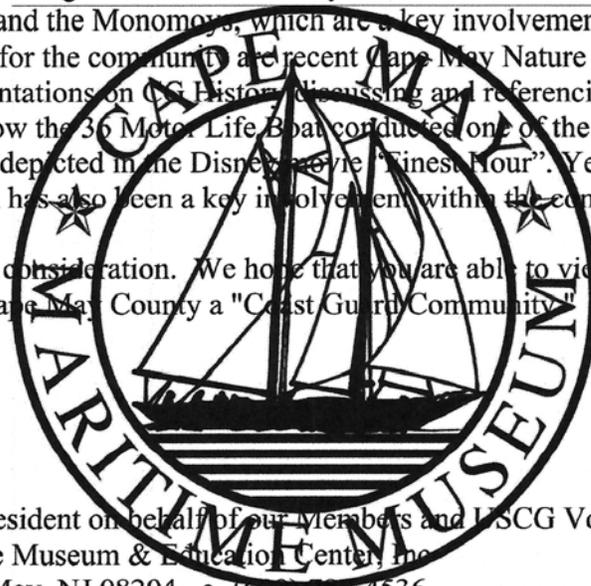
Worthy of mention for the community are recent Cape May Nature Center and Cape May Kiwanis Club presentations on CG History, discussing and referencing the 36 foot Motor life boat restored here and how the 36 Motor Life Boat conducted one of the CG's most famous at sea rescues, which was depicted in the Disney movie "Finest Hour". Yearly 4<sup>th</sup> of July and Xmas parade participation has also been a key involvement within the community and for the many visitors.

Thank you for your consideration. We hope that you are able to view favorably the request to continue to make Cape May County a "Coast Guard Community."

Respectfully;

Edward Melega, President on behalf of our Members and USCG Volunteers  
Cape May Maritime Museum & Education Center, Inc  
PO Box 399 Cape May, NJ 08204 c- (609) 780-4536

"Dedicated to preserving our maritime heritage..."





Zachary Palombo  
Principal

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November 21, 2019

Freeholder Director Gerald M. Thornton  
County of Cape May  
4 Moore Road  
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

Dear Mr. Thornton,

I am writing today in support of the request that the Cape May County region be designated as a "Coast Guard Community" by the Coast Guard and the United States Congress.

As Principal of the Cape May City Elementary School, I am delighted to be a part of the lives of the Coast Guard families through the eyes and hearts of their youngest family members. Children of active duty Coast Guard personnel comprise approximately 75 percent of our student body.

We were greatly honored to be designated by the Coast Guard as a Partnership in Education (PIE) School, and we enjoy a strong partnership with TRACEN personnel and the families of our students throughout the year. We encourage and welcome the active participation of Coast Guard parents in volunteer capacities, and we are sensitive to, and appreciative of, the sacrifices they so often make in the service of our country. We always try, in some small way, to "give back" as much as possible through curriculum, and activities that challenge, encourage and praise our Coast Guard children. Our support for the Coast Guard is also shown through support of Operation Fireside and the Community Weekend.

Indeed, all of our educators and Board of Education are committed to ensuring that the children of military families are feeling "up to speed" after sometimes frequent moves and school changes, and that children of deployed personnel feel an extra level of support which, while it can never substitute for that of a parent, lets them know that educators are especially dedicated to them and thankful for their parents' service.

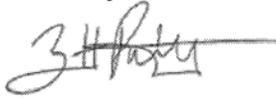


*"To Achieve Excellence in Partnership with Family and Community."*

In short, the Coast Guard Training Center and its resident personnel and families are woven deeply into the fabric of our school and greater community. Just as the Coast Guard has given unfailingly to our region throughout its long history, our commitment to our Coast Guard families has been and will continue to be unfaltering.

If I can provide any additional information for this application, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zachary Palombo", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Zachary Palombo  
Principal

1053 Whitehall Cove  
Annapolis, MD 21409  
December 26, 2019

Freeholder Director Gerald Thornton  
Cape May County  
4 Moore Road  
Cape May Courthouse, NJ 08210

Dear Mr. Thornton,

I'm writing to offer my hearty support for renewal of Cape May County's designation as a Coast Guard Community. I know the area quite well from my eight years as a Cape May City resident while on active duty with the Coast Guard. I was the Commanding Officer of Training Center Cape May during the period when the Service was considering moving recruit training to another location in favor of increased efficiency. I saw first-hand the determination at every level of local and State government to avert that action. Initiatives to quantify the economic impact, the societal implications, and the quality of life in the region clearly demonstrated the criticality of a continued Coast Guard training presence in Cape May County.

While successful in building an incontrovertible case for keeping the Coast Guard's sole boot camp in Cape May, that tumultuous time served further purposes. It became the impetus for local residents and business owners to strengthen their outreach to the units and gain a deeper understanding of the unique roles and responsibilities of the multi-mission Coast Guard. It sparked coordination between the Coast Guard and Community, reaching new levels of open communication and mutual support. When made aware of the possibility of earning the prestigious Congressional designation as a Coast Guard Community, visionary local leaders knew that this would further demonstrate the unique and beneficial partnership between Cape May's citizens and Coastguardsmen.

Since achieving that designation, the community has been visibly proactive in providing the best services to ensure a high quality of life for the active duty, civilian, reservist and retired Coast Guard members and their families who make Cape May County their home. The Coast Guard is proud of its deep roots in south Jersey. The range of activities offered by the Coast Guard Community have demonstrated the good will and respect of the residents and business owner for the Service. In regular visits, I have seen first-hand the initiatives and heard feedback from the Coast Guard. I can attest to the warmth and affection afforded to the women and men assigned to arduous maritime duties of the homeported cutters, Station, Aids to Navigation Team, and the rigorous 24x7 training programs. The base is better integrated into community life now, and will continue to be so with renewal of the Coast Guard Community designation. I urge you to spell out a compelling case in your renewal application. The merit is without question. And, I trust that the community, working collaboratively with the Coast Guard, will find even more meaningful ways to broaden this vital relationship in the years ahead.

Sincerely yours,

  
Sally Brice-O'Hara, VADM, USCG (retired)



**ATLANTIC CAPE**  
**COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
*Office of the President*

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December 12, 2019

Freeholder Director Gerald M. Thornton  
County of Cape May  
4 Moore Road  
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

Dear Freeholder Director Thornton:

Atlantic Cape Community College has a long history of collaboration with the Coast Guard Training Center (TRACEN) located in the city of Cape May in Cape May County, NJ. Atlantic Cape strongly supports Cape May County as it seeks to reapply for the designation of a Coast Guard Community.

Atlantic Cape's Cape May County Campus is the only institution of higher education in the county. Atlantic Cape has been offering classes in Cape May County since 1973 and have classes located near TRACEN's campus over that time period. Over the years, our relationship with TRACEN has grow, and we are now able to offer classes on TRACEN's campus.

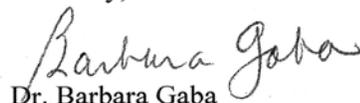
In fact, Atlantic Cape and TRACEN recently created a more formalized partnership in November 2019 with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU establishes that Atlantic Cape will offer college courses on TRACEN's campus to Coast Guard personnel and their immediate family members with a special tuition and fee rate. Enrollment services were offered on the base in December 2019, and courses will be taught on the base starting this Spring Semester 2020.

Atlantic Cape has made it a priority to offer courses as conveniently as possible, especially to members of the military. Many Coast Guard personnel (active and retired) and family members have enrolled in our credit and continuing education courses and programs. As one of the original e-Army online institutions, members of the Coast Guard (and all other branches of the military) were able to enjoy Atlantic Cape courses wherever they were stationed. Our college continues to provide 15 degrees fully online for our military and other traveling virtual students.

Our college administration has worked with TRACEN command over the years, attended countless ceremonies and graduations at the TRACEN campus, and sponsored the annual Coast Guard Community Festival. We are always willing to extend our services and commitment to building knowledge and skill to our Coast Guard neighbors and extended community.

Atlantic Cape has a strong regard for TRACEN and the collaboration that TRACEN has supported in our community.

Sincerely,



Dr. Barbara Gaba  
President

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*Opportunity Starts Here*



**American Red Cross**  
New Jersey Region

November 27, 2019

Freeholder Director Gerald Thornton  
County of Cape May  
4 Moore Road  
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

Dear Director Thornton:

Please accept this letter on behalf of Cape May County's application for the Coast Guard Communities Program, in support of Team Coast Guard and its continued presence throughout the County. We are so proud of the fact that virtually all of Cape May County's 16 municipalities are home to hosts of Operation Fireside.

As you are likely aware, Operation Fireside has been a staple of the Red Cross Service to Armed Forces efforts for more than thirty-five years. We are proud to be able to play even this small part in letting our Coast Guard men and women know how much we value and appreciate them. We look forward to another thirty-five years of providing this emotional comfort and support.

In return, the commitment of the Coast Guard to the Cape May and surrounding communities makes itself evident in the fact that since 2013, TRACEN staff and recruits have collected more than 4,371 pints of blood that have gone on to potentially help save more than 13,000 area hospital patients in need.

We fully support this application and are deeply appreciative of the efforts of our Coast Guard for all they do to keep our country safe.

Sincerely,

Carol Cohen  
Executive Director  
American Red Cross of Southern Shore

The American Red Cross prevents and alleviates human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors.

<b>Northern New Jersey</b> 209 Fairfield Road Fairfield, NJ 07004 973-797-3300	<b>New Jersey Crossroads</b> 695 Springfield Avenue Summit, NJ 07901 908-273-2076	<b>Central New Jersey</b> 707 Alexander Road Princeton, NJ 08540 609-951-8550	<b>Jersey Coast</b> 1540 West Park Avenue Ocean, NJ 07712 732-493-9100	<b>Southwestern New Jersey</b> 5425 Route 70 West Pennsauken, NJ 08109 856-365-7100	<b>Southern Shore</b> 850 North Franklin Blvd. Pleasantville, NJ 08232 609-646-8330
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William J. Lehman  
221 – 87<sup>th</sup> Street  
Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
December 12, 2019

To: Freeholder Director Gerald Thornton

Re: Re-certification of Coast Guard Community Designation

This letter is submitted in support of our counties continuing designation as a Coast Guard Community. I am responding as a Trustee of the American Legion Post 331 in Stone Harbor, NJ. Our Post occupies an old Life-Saving Station and later Coast Guard Station that was built in 1895 and as of 2008 was awarded State and Federal Historic Register status. We are now a combination AL Post and museum that honors the Life-Saving Service, the Coast Guard and our military. The public is welcomed to our facility for ceremonies and lunch on Memorial Day, Flag Day and Veterans Day. It is open for tours during the summer and as scheduled separately by individuals or groups. For the past 10 years, we have been included on The Lighthouse Challenge of NJ, which has brought as many as 1900 people to our facility over the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in October. These things serve to communicate and display the history and importance of the Coast Guard to our many visitors.

We have also maintained a close relationship with The Cape May Coast Guard Basic Training Facility. For several years, trainees would participate in a 5 K run on our island and then come to our Post for a visit and tour. Coast Guard Chief groups continue to visit and tour our facility each year. For years we contributed a holiday monetary gift to many of the more needy and deserving trainees as selected by their leaders. This program has now changed to a "Home for the Holidays" concept where deserving Coast Guard individuals and/or families are awarded travel home funding for the holidays. The support is provided by donors obtained by one of our members who oversees and coordinates the administration of the program with appropriate Coast Guard Base personnel.

Based on the above information, I encourage the decision makers regarding this subject to re-certify our county as a Coast Guard Community. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this topic.

Bill Lehman  
Trustee, American Legion Post 331

# **Economic Impact Study**

**UPDATE 2019:**

***ECONOMIC IMPACT  
OF THE  
U.S. COAST GUARD TRAINING CENTER  
AT  
CAPE MAY, NJ***



**PREPARED BY:**

**RICHARD C. PERNICIARO, PH.D.  
ECONOMIC CONSULTANT**

**JANUARY 2020**

**UPDATE 2019:  
ECONOMIC IMPACT  
OF THE  
U.S. COAST GUARD TRAINING CENTER  
AT  
CAPE MAY, NJ**

**INTRODUCTION:**

In 2013, the United States Coast Guard Training Center Cape May applied for Coast Guard Community status through the Coast Guard Foundation. This status was granted on May 8, 2015, an honor claimed by only 18 cities and one other county in the nation. The designation, which is confirmed by the United States Congress and United States Coast Guard, is recognition of a strong and special relationship between the people of Cape May County and local Coast Guard personnel.

In support of that application, the author provided a document illustrating the economic impact which the activities at the Center bestow on the host County of Cape May. In order to renew the Coast Guard Community designation in 2020, this update is being provided using data from 2019 as provided by the staff of the Center. The author's qualifications are reported at the end of the document.

**BACKGROUND:**

The United States Coast Guard Training Center Cape May, N.J., is the nation's only Coast Guard Recruit Training Center. In 1948, all entry level training on the east coast was moved to the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Receiving Station in Cape May. The Coast Guard consolidated all recruit training functions in Cape May in 1982.

The economic impacts of the Center are substantial. It provides year-round employment in a regional economy which is seasonal in nature. In addition, the employment opportunities are unique to the area with wages that are much higher than the region's average. **As a federal institution, the host community realizes large economic impacts as the capital, operational and personnel expenses are funded directly by dollars imported into the region. But for the location of the Center in the County, these dollars would not be present in the local economy.**

The economic impacts are derived from the following facts about the operations of the Center:

1. The Coast Guard is the largest employer in Cape May County, employing almost 614 military and civilian personnel totaling approximately \$39.5M in

annual salary costs.

2. The annual operational expenses, not including military and civilian wages, equate to \$27.5M.
3. There is an average annual capital expenditure of \$5.3M. In the past five years several large projects were completed.
4. At any point in time, roughly 500 recruits are on base. That average figure equates to a total annual salary cost of close to \$14.5M for recruits.
5. In addition, Training Center Cape May hosts approximately 45,000 visitors annually. These visitors come here from every corner of the United States.

### **MEASURING ECONOMIC IMPACTS:**

The economic impacts of any large institution depend upon a number of established facts and estimates. In the case of military bases, the method for turning this information into impacts is well-practiced and follows that of most economic impact studies.

**In order to resist the overestimation of economic impacts where some variables have not been directly measured – especially visitor spending, for which survey results of visitors to the region were used - the most conservative methods were used.** While this has most likely also resulted in conservative overall impacts, the results can be used for audiences that need clear evidence of results.

#### ***Types of Impacts:***

The spending by the Center as well as visitors creates impacts that are both **direct and indirect**. The direct impacts are generally due to expenditures paid for both goods and services needed to operate the Center. Indirect impacts are those expenditures that are attributable to the direct impacts and are often referred to as spin-off or secondary effects. For instance, recruits may purchase food at stores in Cape May City or the local mall. The **total impacts are the sum** of these and give a complete picture of the economic value of the Center to the County's economy.

#### ***Model:***

In order to provide measurements of these impacts, the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis' most often used economic impact model was used. The *Regional Industrial Multiplier System*, RIMS II, uses multipliers derived from the economic structure of Southern New Jersey as the primary tool. It gives estimates of

economic impacts that are consistent with those of other large projects and events. The multipliers are directly measured from past transactions that can be traced using the government's tax and revenue accounts. They are specific to the Cape May County region and are updated on a regular basis by the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

While the employment (jobs) and wage impacts are easily interpreted because they measure variables that most people are familiar with, the output impacts are broader and not as easily understood. For a region, this is the overall level of economic activity attributed to the spending connected to the Center and its employees (Type II multipliers). In more popular terms, these incorporate the "spin-offs" from the dollars spent directly by the Center and its employees.

***Comparing the Model Information for the 2020 Update and the 2013 Original Study:***

**Two significant changes occurred in the multiplier tables issued in the 2016 benchmarked model compared to the 2010 benchmark used in the 2013 study.** First, the model now includes multipliers for government institutions such as the Center. In 2013, the multipliers used were for the broader industry group of educational institutions. The former is much more appropriate for the Center and how it treats recruits.

Second, the employment and wage multipliers are much larger in the 2016 tables for this industry group. This indicates that there is much less leakage of wages and salaries from the local economy. This makes a great deal of sense in the case of the Center and where it is located. The commutes to neighboring counties are a minimum of 25 miles and the center operates on a 24/7 schedule.

**ESTIMATES OF THE CENTER'S ECONOMIC IMPACT:**

The estimates provided are based on the following assumptions:

- Of the Center's 614 direct employees, 80% (491) live in the County earning \$31.6M in wages. Also, 500 recruits with \$14.5M in wages are on the base at any one time. Therefore, direct employment of 991 and direct wages of \$46.1M were used.
- From an operational budget of \$27.5M, a conservative estimate of 60% is spent in Cape May County. As a federal institution, this is a smaller portion than a local institution would spend. Therefore, \$16.5M was used as local spending.
- Construction projects of \$5.3M are budgeted. This is substantially lower than the lower than the \$9M annual capital expense used in the 2013 impact study.

- Finally, the 45,000 visitors are assumed to act like other typical visitors to Cape May County and spend an average of \$685 per visit per party of 2.25 people. This amounts to \$11.9M in spending each year.

The resulting economic impacts indicate that the Center is a very large contributor to the economy of the region, here defined as Cape May County. As the table below reports, Direct spending by the Center totaled approximately \$80M in 2019. This spending caused a secondary impact of an additional \$68M as vendors, staff, construction workers, and recruits in turn spend the dollars they receive from the Center. The total amount of economic activity created in the County is \$148M for 2019 and will recur on an annual basis.

<b>U.S. COAST GUARD TRAINING CENTER</b>			
<b>ECONOMIC IMPACT ESTIMATES: 2019 Update</b>			
<b>TOTAL IMPACTS</b>			
<b>R. Perniciaro, Ph.D. - Consultant</b>			
	<b>DIRECT</b>	<b>INDIRECT</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<b>IMPACT</b>	<b>IMPACT</b>	<b>IMPACT</b>
<b>ECONOMIC ACTIVITY (MILLIONS)</b>	\$79.8	\$68.1	\$147.9
<b>WAGES (MILLIONS)</b>	\$46.1	\$47.7	\$93.8
<b>EMPLOYMENT</b>	991	1,540.7	2,531.9

One of the most important components of the economic activity is employment and the resulting wages from it. The base directly employs an estimated 991 workers living in the County (including recruits). The non-recruit workforce earns an average of \$65K per year, well in excess of the average earnings in the County.

Finally, in addition to the 991 county residents employed by the Coast Guard, the spending of their wages and salaries supports 1,541 secondary jobs in local stores, offices and other business establishments. As a result, the Center is responsible for the employment of 2,532 total residents of the County. This provides stability to the local economy, especially in the off-season months.

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**\*Author's Qualifications:**

Richard C. Perniciaro, Ph.D. ([phdrcp@gmail.com](mailto:phdrcp@gmail.com)) served as the Director of the *Center for Regional and Business Research* at Atlantic Cape Community College for 18 years and is currently continuing this work as an economic consultant. He has performed studies

similar to this **Update** for federal, state and local agencies as well as for private concerns. See, for example:

The Atlantic City Expressway, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:

[https://www.sjta.com/acexpressway/time\\_capsule\\_items/Celebrating%2050%20Years%20-%20The%20Regional%20Economic%20Impact%20of%20the%20ACE%201964-2014.pdf](https://www.sjta.com/acexpressway/time_capsule_items/Celebrating%2050%20Years%20-%20The%20Regional%20Economic%20Impact%20of%20the%20ACE%201964-2014.pdf)

Expansion of Teligent's pharmaceutical manufacturing facility:

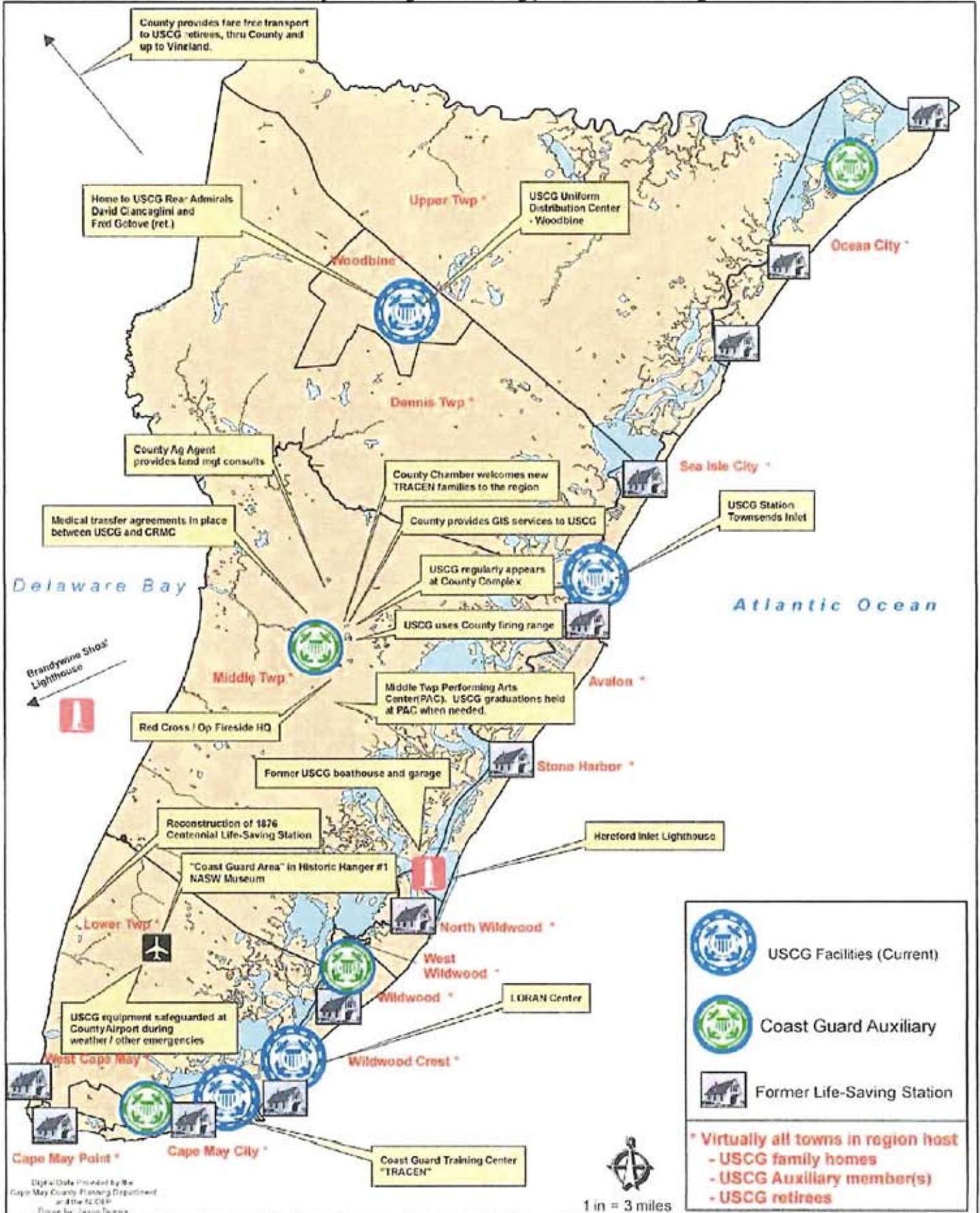
<http://www.teligent.com/assets/groundbreaking-4pg-lr.pdf>

The ten-year economic impact review for the FAA's William J. Hughes Technical Center:

<http://www.tc.faa.gov/its/worldpac/techrpt/tctn15-45.pdf>

Dr. Perniciaro holds a doctorate in Economics from Temple University, a MA degree from the London School of Economics and a BA degree from Columbia University.

# Regional Presence of United States Coast Guard (USCG) in Cape May County, New Jersey





## THE STRONG AND ENDURING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AND THE PEOPLE OF CAPE MAY COUNTY



Coast Guard Community Application  
Cape May County Region