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From: LCDR Gilbert Shaw, USCG (Ret.)

To: President, Chief Warrant and Warrant Officers Association, U. S. Coast Guard

Subj: Nomination for Distinguished Member

It is with very special honor that I nominate and present CWO4 Joseph Howard to be a Distinguished Member of the Chief Warrant and Warrant Officer Association, USCG. Joe joined the Association on September 1, 1982, almost immediately after reporting to his first CWO assignment at Coast Guard Headquarters. During his tour in Washington, D. C., he served as the D.C Chapter Treasurer (1983-1984) and as President (1984-1986). Joe was the National Council Chairman at the 1986-1987 Annual Meeting. One goal during this period was increasing membership in the chapter. Joe was one of the leaders who were in the forefront in meeting this goal. Membership increased from 42 to over one hundred.

CWO Howard was transferred to the Ninth District Office in Cleveland from 1987, where he served until his retirement in 1994. During that tour he served as Chapter President 1990-1992 and as Chapter Treasurer 1992-1993. When Joe arrived in Cleveland he found that the Great Lakes Chapter was basically inactive. He and CWO Mike West decided that the charter was worth saving and they started a recruiting campaign. The charter became active again and membership grew. When he arrived in Cleveland, membership was five. When he retired, membership was at 40.

Joe Howard was one of the instigators and leaders in the Great Lakes Chapter raising funds for Fruit Baskets for delivery to patients in the Veteran's Administration Hospital during the Holiday Season.

Upon retirement CWO Howard relocated to Las Vegas, Nevada. He found there was no chapter in this desert city and set forth to change this. He wrote letters to all members of the CWOA who lived in Nevada and was rewarded by twelve members who stated a desire to have a chapter.

The Silver State Chapter was chartered on August 4, 1995. Joe has continued to be a strong and effective member of our Chapter. He has served as Secretary/Treasurer 1995-2000; President 2001-2004; and President/Treasurer 2006-Present.

In 2009 Joe did another mass-mailing to eligible officers in Nevada and Arizona and membership increased to over 20. Through CWO Howard's and other Chapter leaders funds were raised to build and dedicate a Coast Guard Memorial at the Veteran's Administration Cemetery in Boulder City, Nevada. (This was a joint project with the CPOA locally). Enough money remained that a Coast Guard headstone was placed at the VA Cemetery in Fallon, (in Northern Nevada). Joe was also the liaison with the USO at the airport in Las Vegas, on how to use the Chapter's \$5000 donation.

During his membership in the Association, Joe has attended over ten Annual Meetings and has served as Chairman and Co-Chair of the Scholarship Committee three times and, in 2012, as chair of the Long Range Planning Committee.

In my over 50 years in the Association, I have seen no one with the dedication to an organization as CWO Howard to the Chief Warrant and Warrant Officers Association, USCG. I wholeheartedly nominate him to be named a Distinguished Member