

# CAPTAIN HOPLEY YEATON SUPERIOR CUTTERMAN AWARD

*The Hopley Yeaton Awards, which honor the Coast Guard's legendary sea-going forbearer, Capt. Hopley Yeaton, are given to celebrate and recognize cuttermen and cutter crews who best exemplify what it means to be a top-tier Coast Guard Cutterman in spirit and in action.*



**LT MICHAEL OVERSTREET, USCG**  
*USCGC KATMAI BAY (WTGB 101)*

LT Overstreet led USCGC KATMAI BAY through sub-zero blizzard conditions while conducting domestic icebreaking mission alongside multiple 1000ft vessels in need of assistance when KATMAI BAY was diverted to a search and rescue mission for passenger vessel (PV) HURON. PV HURON had lost steering and had no operational anchor onboard. While closely monitoring and battling crew fatigue, complete darkness, freezing temperatures, and gale force winds, he expertly led a team to take the stricken vessel in side tow and returned it safely to the pier; avoiding a major environmental disaster due to the close proximity of jagged underwater rocks. LT Overstreet also organized multiple events and training opportunities to support and enable the growth of his and other cutters' crews including the first-ever training at the Regional Fire Training Center for multiple WTGBs, an 8 Bells ceremony on the USS NIAGARA, and a Master Cutterman ceremony for his Engineer Officer. After USCGC KATMAI BAY suffered dual boiler casualties in January 2022, severely limiting the cutter's heating system, the crew completed the MEDEVAC of a patient needing immediate medical care in conditions unsuitable for aviation assets. This lifesaving effort was done while wearing the heaviest winter gear available due to the failed heating system, a testament to the resilience of the crew under LT Overstreet's adept leadership.



**OSC COLLIN STRANGE, USCG**  
*USCGC CHARLES MOULTHROPE (WMEC 1133)*

While acting as the Operations Officer for 5+ months, OSC Strange spearheaded the planning for two large scale joint international naval exercises. This bolstered partnerships between the U.S., U.K., Oman, Pakistan, and the U.A.E. while promoting the U.S. as a top regional security partner. OSC Strange also planned three layered defense escorts through the highly contested Strait of Hormuz that protected strategic coalition assets and countered malign Iranian activity. He led the visual imagery collection team that captured video and photos of unsafe maneuvers by Iranian Naval Forces in a near-collision with coalition assets, providing compelling evidence of disregard for international norms and standards. While underway in the Arabian Sea during Operation UNIFIED TAKEDOWN, hundreds of nautical miles away from the nearest medical facility, OSC Strange noticed a ship rider from the Intelligence Exploitation Team exhibiting signs of choking during the noon meal. Displaying quick initiative without hesitation, he effectively identified the distress and cleared the object from the member's airway. OSC Strange further demonstrated exceptional technical prowess when serving as a liaison aboard an Iraqi naval vessel during a trilateral exercise with the CG, USN, and Kuwait Navy. His professionalism engaging with foreign officers from O-1 to O-6 and expertise in coordinating formation maneuvering, tactical signals, and communications enabled the Iraqi Navy's first successful participation since 2008, enhancing international relations and interoperability between the three countries.