

From: Commandant

To: LCDR John Danaher, LT Juan Posada and Ms. Jammie Fisher USCG

Subject: CAPTAIN MARION "GUS" SHRODE AVIATION SAFETY AWARD

1. I note with pride and am pleased to commend you on your selection to receive the 2006 Captain Marion "Gus" Shrode Aviation Safety Award.

2. For the period 01 Jun 05 to 31 May 06, LCDR John Danaher, LT Juan Posada and Ms. Jammie Fisher orchestrated a renaissance in the Safety program at Air Station Corpus Christi while simultaneously instilling the same concepts and practices within the "Sector" construct. Hosting quarterly Sector Safety Committee meetings, the Safety Division gathers representatives from each Sector unit to discuss issues and risks facing the various units. As a result of these meetings, Sector units are made aware of services that the Safety Division can provide and have resolved long standing issues. The afloat communities within the sector have quickly adapted to the proven methods of the aviation safety program and now engage in open forums and raise legitimate concerns and questions at their units. The Safety Division scours every Aviation mishap from all communities for applicable lessons for Air Station aircrews. These messages are then forwarded to generate awareness and prompt discussion. This technique is also used with non-aviation Sector units, generating discussions between Sector unit COs and OINCs and providing talking points and highlighting risks faced by Sector personnel.

3. The Safety Division is assigned responsibility for Ground Safety and Environmental Compliance for the Sector. The environmental expert, Ms. Fisher has led the way in transitioning to the Sector organization by relentlessly pursuing conformity from all units within the AOR. Her efforts have ensured the environmental awareness and compliance of more than 600 active duty and reserve members. Immediately after receiving notification of the Coast Guard's plans to implement the new Environmental Management System (EMS), Ms. Fisher was actively engaged in the 7th and 8th District working groups that drafted the new doctrine, and initiated a strategy to get the Sector on board ahead of schedule. Her efforts to cover a wide array of ground and environmental issues has improved the awareness and readiness of the entire sector and effectively dispersed the workload within the Safety Division.

4. Recognizing that many Coast Guard mishaps occur when hoisting to 47 foot MLBs and 25 foot RBSs, the Safety Division led a team of Aviators, Aircrewmen, small boat Station CO's and Coxswains in the development of procedures to safely conduct hoist training. The Coast Guard's Small-boat Manual hoisting guidance was written when the primary small boat was the 41 foot UTB. Using the Operational Risk Management process, the team developed strategies and techniques to address these new assets. The team's findings, recommendations and techniques were presented at the annual Aviation CO and FSO conferences, and provided to the Tri-P, CG-RCB, and ATC Mobile garnering very positive reviews.

5. The Safety Division routinely works with CG Auxiliary Aviation crews to provide support and guidance in various aviation safety matters. Operational Hazard Awareness Training was provided at the annual fly-in and Organizational Risk Management (ORM)/Crew Resource Management (CRM) refresher training was made available immediately following a pre-flight planning incident

6. Your outstanding performance highlights your devotion to the Coast Guard's Aviation Safety Program. You are hereby commended for your outstanding performance of duty. By your meritorious service, you have upheld the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

7. Your names will be placed on the Captain "Gus" Shrode Award Plaque in the Aviator Hall of Fame at the Coast Guard Aviation Training Center, Mobile, Alabama.

For the Commandant,

Rear Admiral, U. S. Public Health Service
Director of Health and Safety