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February 15, 2019

Admiral Karl Schultz
Commandant
United States Coast Guard
2703 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR AVE SE STOP
Washington, D.C. 20593-7000

Re: City of Cordova, U.S. Coast Guard City Designation

Dear Admiral Schultz:

On behalf of the Students, Staff, Administration, and School Board of the Cordova School District, I am pleased to provide a letter of support in designating Cordova, Alaska as a *U.S. Coast Guard City*.

The City of Cordova, an historically small fishing community located at the eastern end of Prince William Sound, has enjoyed a longstanding relationship with the Coast Guard since 1929, when the City's Chamber of Commerce petitioned the U.S. Coast Guard to have a permanent vessel stationed in Cordova. Six years later, on January 10, 1935, the Chamber received official word by telegram that the *Haida*, at port in Seattle, would move north and be stationed permanently in Cordova. Since that time, and in its current duties with a small aircrew and sea crew of more than 50 personnel, the Coast Guard has provided navigation aid, search and rescue and law enforcement missions, and the assurance of safety and support to mariners navigating the region, just to name a few.

As part of the Coast Guard's 150+ years of service in Alaska, the Cordova Crew has more than lived up to its affectionate moniker, "Keeper of the Sound." Always ready to lend a hand, Coast Guard staff and their families have actively contributed to and engaged with the community, despite the short 3-year term of their assignments. From active participation in school activities, including fund-raising, tutoring, volunteering with parent groups, and coaching to City endeavors such as aircraft and ship tours; presentation of colors in City parades; participation in sporting and recreational events; involvement in City-wide clean-up days; and assistance with emergency response procedures, the Coast Guard's impact in Cordova simply cannot be overlooked or undervalued.

The Cordova School District strongly supports the men, women, and families who represent the Coast Guard in our community and look forward to the continued role we play in providing a high-quality education for all students. I respectfully urge you to designate Cordova, Alaska as a *U.S. Coast Guard City*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alex Russin".

Alex Russin, Superintendent of Schools