

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commanding Officer
United States Coast Guard
Marine Safety Unit Galveston

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5216
October 24, 2010

Captain Ebert
Texas City Fire Department
825 10th Street North
Texas City, TX 77590

Dear Captain Ebert,

On behalf of the U.S. Coast Guard, I want to sincerely thank Captain Steve Strickhausen, Fire Fighter Greg Garrett, and Fire Fighter James Gaus for their responsiveness and decisive actions during a Search and Rescue operation near the Texas City Dike on October 3rd, 2010.

While on a law enforcement patrol in Texas City, our law enforcement team discovered two young girls and their father in a life threatening situation. After calling in additional air and surface assets, two of our officers entered the water in an attempt to rescue the swimmers that had been caught in a rip current. During this rescue attempt, one of our officers was overcome by the strong current and pulled away from shore. The quick actions by Captain Strickhausen and his boat crew ensured our officer was safely recovered and prevented the situation from becoming far worse.

Thank you again for your service to our community and for your selfless responsiveness in our time of need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James E. Elliott". The signature is fluid and cursive.

J. E. ELLIOTT
Commander, U. S. Coast Guard
Commanding Officer