

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
51704(a) .....	46 App.:1295d(c)(1).	June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title XIII, §1305(c), as added Pub. L. 101-595, title VII, §712, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2998.
51704(b) .....	46 App.:1295d(c)(2)(A), (4).	
51704(c) .....	46 App.:1295d(c)(2)(B), (3).	

In subsection (c)(5), the words “or titled under the law of a State” are substituted for “documented under the laws of . . . any State” for consistency with the terminology in 46 U.S.C. 2101(46) (which is being moved to chapter 1 of the revised title) and 46 U.S.C. ch. 125.

**§ 51705. Training for use of force against piracy**

The Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, shall certify a training curriculum for United States mariners on the use of force against pirates. The curriculum shall include—

- (1) information on waters designated as high-risk waters by the Commandant of the Coast Guard;
- (2) information on current threats and patterns of attack by pirates;
- (3) tactics for defense of a vessel, including instruction on the types, use, and limitations of security equipment;
- (4) standard rules for the use of force for self-defense as developed by the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating under section 912(c) of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-281; 46 U.S.C. 8107 note), including instruction on firearm safety for crewmembers of vessels carrying cargo under section 55305 of this title; and
- (5) procedures to follow to improve crewmember survivability if captured and taken hostage by pirates.

(Added Pub. L. 112-213, title V, §502(a), Dec. 20, 2012, 126 Stat. 1574.)

DEADLINE

Pub. L. 112-213, title V, §502(b), Dec. 20, 2012, 126 Stat. 1575, provided that: “The Secretary of Transportation shall certify the curriculum required under the amendment made by subsection (a) [enacting this section] not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act [Dec. 20, 2012].”

**CHAPTER 519—MERCHANT MARINE AWARDS**

- Sec. 51901. Awards for individual acts or service.
- 51902. Gallant Ship Award.
- 51903. Multiple awards.
- 51904. Presentation to representatives.
- 51905. Flags and grave markers.
- 51906. Special certificates for civilian service to armed forces.
- 51907. Provision of decorations, medals, and replacements<sup>1</sup>
- 51908. Prohibition against unauthorized manufacture, sale, possession, or display of awards.

AMENDMENTS

2008—Pub. L. 110-181, div. C, title XXXV, §3523(a)(5)(B), Jan. 28, 2008, 122 Stat. 599, substituted

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be followed by a period.

“Provision of decorations, medals, and replacements” for “Manufacture and sale of awards and replacements.” in item 51907.

**§ 51901. Awards for individual acts or service**

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Transportation may award decorations and medals of appropriate design (including ribbons, ribbon bars, emblems, rosettes, miniature facsimiles, plaques, citations, or other suitable devices or insignia) for individual acts or service in the merchant marine of the United States. The design may be similar to the design of a decoration or medal authorized for members of the armed forces for similar acts or service.

(b) SPECIFIC AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may award—

- (1) a Merchant Marine Distinguished Service Medal to an individual for outstanding acts, conduct, or valor beyond the line of duty;
- (2) a Merchant Marine Meritorious Service Medal to an individual for meritorious acts, conduct, or valor in the line of duty, but not of the outstanding character that would warrant the award of the Merchant Marine Distinguished Service Medal;
- (3) a decoration or medal to an individual for service during a war, national emergency proclaimed by the President or Congress, or operations by the armed forces outside the continental United States under conditions of danger to life and property; and
- (4) a decoration or medal to an individual for other acts or service of conspicuous gallantry, intrepidity, and extraordinary heroism under conditions of danger to life and property that would warrant a similar decoration or medal for a member of the armed forces.

(Pub. L. 109-304, §8(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1584.)

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Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
51901(a) .....	46 App.:2001.	Pub. L. 100-324, §§2, 3, 5(d), May 30, 1988, 102 Stat. 576, 577.
51901(b) .....	46 App.:2004(d). 46 App.:2002.	

**§ 51902. Gallant Ship Award**

(a) AWARDS TO VESSELS.—The Secretary of Transportation may award a Gallant Ship Award and a citation to a vessel (including a foreign vessel) participating in outstanding or gallant action in a marine disaster or other emergency to save life or property at sea. The Secretary may award a plaque to the vessel, and a replica of the plaque may be preserved as a permanent historical record.

(b) AWARDS TO CREWS.—The Secretary of Transportation may award an appropriate citation ribbon bar to the master and each individual serving, at the time of the action, on a vessel issued an award under subsection (a).

(c) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of Transportation shall consult with the Secretary of State before awarding an award or citation to a foreign vessel or its crew under this section.

(Pub. L. 109-304, §8(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1584.)