



Navy League of the United States NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Joe Smith
Phone: 340-555-5555

_____ Resident Attends Navy League National Convention

ST. THOMAS, USVI -- _____ of the _____ Navy League Council was one of nearly 400 Navy League members from around the world who attended the non-profit organization's 104th annual convention in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands July 12-16.

Founded in 1902, the Navy League of the United States is dedicated to educating American citizens and elected officials about the importance of sea power to the United States. The more than 60,000 member advocate group supports the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and the Merchant Marines.

Governor Charles W. Turnbull officially kicked-off the four-day convention when he welcomed the group for the first time to St. Thomas at the opening ceremony.

One of the highlights of the convention was the presentation of more than 20 awards _____ and the other Navy League members gave to Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine military and civilian personnel for outstanding service, particularly while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom in support of the global war on terror. Admiral John B. Nathman, the four-star admiral who heads the U.S. Fleet Forces Command in Norfolk, Virginia and also oversees the Navy's training and operations in the Caribbean region, was guest speaker for the awards presentation.

Smith and the other Navy League members also had the opportunity to meet crewmembers and tour one of the Navy's amphibious landing dock ships, USS *Carter Hall* stationed in Norfolk, Va. and the Coast Guard Cutter *Vigilant*. Both ships made port visits to St. Thomas for the convention.

Also in attendance was the newly sworn-in Commandant of the Coast Guard Admiral Thad Allen. Allen took part in the presentation of the awards and was the keynote speaker at the convention's closing dinner. Allen was formerly Coast Guard's chief of staff and principal federal officer for the recovery operations in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

For more information about the Navy League please visit www.navyleague.org.

###