



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

**United States Coast Guard Birthday  
August 4, 2023  
Message from the Acting Governor**

On this momentous day, August 4th, we commemorate a pivotal event in our nation's maritime history—the authorization of the Revenue Cutter Service by the United States on this very date in 1790. Under the guidance of Alexander Hamilton, the Secretary of the Treasury, this service was established as an armed customs enforcement agency, marking the birth of what we now proudly call the United States Coast Guard.

Since those early beginnings, the Coast Guard has emerged as our nation's oldest continuous seagoing service, a distinction that even predates the revered United States Navy. Today, with great joy and admiration, we gather to celebrate 233 years of unwavering dedication to our beloved country. Throughout their storied history, the Coast Guard has exemplified the true spirit of service, courage, and sacrifice.

As we reflect on their remarkable journey, we are reminded of the significant role they play in safeguarding our lives, protecting our ports and coasts, and upholding the rule of law along with international treaties. Their tireless efforts have made them the unparalleled force in ensuring maritime safety, security, and stewardship.

Governor Lemanu P. S. Mauga and our entire community stand united in expressing our deep gratitude to the Coast Guardsmen, both present, and past, for their selfless commitment to protecting our great nation. Their dedication remains an inspiration to us all, and we take this opportunity to honor their sacrifices and bravery.

On this splendid occasion, we extend our warmest wishes to the United States Coast Guard as they celebrate their 233rd birthday. May the timeless motto of *Semper Paratus* continue to guide them in all their noble endeavors.

Happy Birthday, United States Coast Guard!

**TALAEUGA E. V. ALE**  
Acting Governor