

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

# Citation

## HONORING MIKE CALLAHAN AND CHARLES BACKUS

**WHEREAS,** late at night on November 23, 2010 while walking back to their boat in the Ketchikan harbor system, Sitka crew members Mike Callahan and Charles Backus saw a man struggling in the water; and

**WHEREAS,** Mike Callahan instructed Charles Backus to call 911 and then jumped into the very cold water and swam to the man, only to realize it was his friend and crew mate, Chris Papa; and

**WHEREAS,** through tireless efforts, Mike Callahan, swam back to the dock with Chris, and upon returning to the dock, Charles Backus managed to pull both men out of the water; and

**WHEREAS,** these two extraordinary individuals who took heroic action at personal risk deserve our recognition and admiration for their bravery.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka does hereby bestow a special recognition of:

### HEROISM

Demonstrated by Mike Callahan and Charles Backus, on November 23, 2010, when they answered their friend's call for help. These two bravely risked their lives in order to save the life of another.

*Signed and sealed on behalf of the City & Borough of Sitka this 11<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2011.*



\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Cheryl Westover

ATTEST:

*Sara Peterson*  
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Sara Peterson  
Acting Municipal Clerk