



P R E S S R E L E A S E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2009

CONTACT: KRISTINA TANASICHUK
(202) 470-6443

**COMMANDANT ALLEN AWARDED
LIFETIME DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

WASHINGTON, D.C. December 11 – Admiral Thad W. Allen, Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard, was presented with the Homeland Security & Defense Business Council’s *Lifetime Distinguished Service Award* at the organization’s Annual Dinner last night.

“The Admiral’s unflinching and tireless work in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita would alone put him in the Public Service Hall of Fame. But over the course of the past few years at the helm of the Coast Guard his work as a transformational force has distinguished him as a unique leader who understands that at times – an organization must change and develop the resiliency that we all too often only ‘preach’ about,” said Marc Pearl, President & CEO of the Council. “It takes a devoted, dedicated and visionary change agent with the skill and brilliance that resides in a recognized leader to actually set an organization on a path to achieve such resiliency and accomplish its mission. The Commandant has those qualities and has done just that. He has directed and nurtured a new page in the Coast Guard’s history and playbook, and has done so to the benefit of the men and women who have served under him, the Department of Homeland Security, and our nation. Council members thank Admiral Allen for his strong leadership, exemplary accomplishments and steadfast dedication to our nation.”

Over 100 business leaders, government officials and guests celebrated the 5th Anniversary Dinner – an opportunity for the Council to bring together senior level private and public sector executives to recognize and celebrate the historic steps that have been taken and continue to made every day in the joint pursuit of our nation’s security by industry homeland security solution providers and their government counterparts.

###

About the Council

The Homeland Security & Defense Business Council is a non-profit, non-partisan corporate membership organization of the nation’s leading corporations engaged in the homeland security mission. The Council’s mission is to serve as a conduit to build stronger and more meaningful relationships between senior leadership in the public and private sectors. The Council’s vision is to create a seamless continuum of preparedness and a foundation of resiliency that utilizes the resources and expertise of the private sector

to coordinate more effectively with the public sector. For more information, please visit: www.homelandcouncil.org.

