

## March 5, 2009 - Murtha Awarded the Department of the Navy "Distinguished Public Service Award"

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Congressman John P. Murtha, Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, was presented this week with the Department of the Navy's Distinguished Public Service Award. The award, granted by the Secretary of the Navy, is the highest form of public service recognition bestowed by the Department of the Navy for a non-employee. It consists of a gold medal, miniature medal, lapel bar, rosette, and a certificate signed by the Secretary.

According to the Department, "nominations for this award will be limited to those extraordinary cases where individuals have demonstrated exceptionally outstanding service of substantial and long term benefit to the Navy, Marine Corps, or as Department of the Navy as a whole." Murtha was presented with the award in appreciation of his distinguished public service to the Department of the Navy.

"I'm proud of the service and sacrifices our troops are making, and I'm honored to receive this distinguished award from the Navy," commented Murtha. "We have an obligation to ensure that our men and women in uniform have the most modern equipment, effective training, first-class medical care, and family advocacy resources."

The Citation reads:

"Congressman Murtha's selfless devotion to the Nation's Sailors and Marines ensured they were provided the resources necessary to effectively conduct the Global War on Terrorism. His courageous leadership, vision, and loyalty to the men and women of the Department of the Navy greatly contributed to their quality of life and helped create the most modern and highly trained fighting force in history. As Chairman of Subcommittee on Defense of the House Appropriations Committee, Congressman Murtha's tireless advocacy helped maintain the Navy and Marine Corps team at the highest levels of combat

readiness to meet the challenges of the 21st century. With grateful appreciation for his outstanding contributions to the Nation and the Navy and Marine Corps, Congressman Murtha is awarded the Department of the Navy Distinguished Public Service Award.&rdquo;

The certificate of award is signed by Donald C. Winter, the 74th Secretary of the Navy. Secretary Winter was nominated by President George W. Bush and was sworn into office on January 3, 2006.

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