



CMM

# THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETING:  
THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AUTHORIZED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER, 16 JANUARY 1969 HAS AWARDED  
**THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL**

TO

MAJOR KAIALII KAHELE

676-29-8544

FOR

MERITORIOUS SERVICE  
9 FEBRUARY 2015 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2015

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Major Kaialii Kahele distinguished himself by outstanding achievement as Chief, Airlift Control Team, 613th Air Operations Center, Pacific Air Forces, Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam, Hawaii. During this period, Major Kahele led 16 cross-functional mobility experts to execute 200 missions and transport 3,500 passengers and 5.3 million pounds of cargo across the Pacific Theater. He successfully orchestrated the first ever seven-ship C-17 joint strategic airdrop with the Royal Australian Air Force as the opening event for Exercise TALISMAN SABRE. His leadership was pivotal for 420 United States and Australian defense force paratroopers to conduct combat and humanitarian operations in a combined, joint, and interagency environment. Major Kahele's keen oversight was crucial in the evacuation of 129 personnel from Wake Island, hours before Super Typhoon Ioke made landfall, which mitigated suffering and potential loss of life. In addition, he led recovery efforts by coordinating with State Department, United States Agency for International Development, and the 36th Contingency Response Group to deliver time critical material handling equipment and rations on typhoon ravaged Saipan to increase the victims' quality of life. Finally, Major Kahele's proven leadership and dedication was twice highlighted with his selection as the 2015 Headquarters Pacific Air Forces' Guard Member of the Quarter. The singularly distinctive accomplishments of Major Kahele reflect great credit upon himself, the Air National Guard, and the United States Air Force.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND

3 DECEMBER 2015

  
DAVID K. MOELLER, Colonel, USAF  
Commander, 613th Air Operations Center

