



## USCGC HICKORY (WLB 212) UNITED STATES COAST GUARD



### BLAZON

**Shield.** Per saltire Sable and Argent, an ancient Chamorro sling stone Gules surmounted by a diminutive sling stone Celeste edged Argent bearing in base a carabao couped affronté Proper and in honor point a Hickory tree of the like bearing on its crown two four-pointed mullets palewise of the fourth.

**Crest.** From a wreath Argent and Sable, a demi-sunburst Or surmounted by cresting waves of the sea Proper charged with between a port side channel buoy Vert and a starboard side channel buoy Gules a latte stone Proper bearing on the shaft stone three stylized Bougainvillea flowers chevronwise of the like and on the capstone the silhouette of a coconut crab Sable.

**Supporters.** On the dexter side a boat hook palewise hook to chief and on the sinister side an oar palewise blade to chief all Proper.

**Motto.** A scroll Gules inscribed “**BULL OF THE PACIFIC**” Argent.

### SYMBOLISM

**Shield.** The shield is colored black and white to indicate excellence in multi-mission operations performed day and night by the crews of Coast Guard seagoing buoy tenders. The ancient Chamorro sling stone is the traditional symbol of Guam, denoting the homeport of **USCGC HICKORY (WLB 212)**. The carabao symbolizes the hard work required by buoy tender crew members and is the cutter’s mascot. The **USCGC HICKORY** was previously known as the “Bull of the North” when home-ported in Homer, Alaska and has assumed its current moniker “Bull of the Pacific” since moving to Guam. The Hickory tree, strong and resilient, reflects the cutter’s mission and bears two stars to



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denote Guam as the second homeport. The stars are displayed as polestars to indicate marine navigation and safe passage.

**Crest.** The sunburst indicates the homeport of the cutter, west of the international date line, highlighting the slogan, “Guam, Where America’s Day Begins.” The waves represent Guam’s crystal-clear waters and the cutter’s area of operation. The buoys indicate the **USCGC HICKORY’s** aids to navigation mission and are numbered to reflect the cutter’s hull number. The latte stone honors the ancient Chamorro people and can still be found throughout Guam. The coconut crab on the capstone alludes to the “shellback” status of crew members who cross the equator while serving in Guam. The Bougainvillea paper flower is the territorial flower of Guam and celebrates the beauty of the Mariana Islands.

In heraldry, the wreath (or torse) is a critical element of a coat of arms, it was the twisted band composed of two strips of gold or silver lace and silk by which the crest is joined to the knight’s helmet. The torse is always composed of six twists of material displayed alternately. The first twist is the primary metal color (gold or silver) and the second twist represents the primary color of arms in the shield.

**Supporters.** The boat hook and oar refer to the Coast Guard’s search and rescue and lifesaving missions.

**MOTTO.** The motto, “**BULL OF THE PACIFIC,**” underscores the hard work and dedication of the crew serving aboard **USCGC HICKORY (WLB 212).**

**Seal.** The coat of arms as blazoned in full color on a circular white background, enclosed by a dark blue designation band edged on the outside with a gold chain terminating at bottom into a sealed shackle, inscribed “**USCGC HICKORY**” above and “**WLB 212**” below in gold.