



All Hands Briefer

MAY 2018

THIS PRODUCT IS INTENDED TO BE UTILIZED AT ALL HANDS

SESSIONS TO PASS CURRENT INTERNAL INFORMATION.

GENERAL

Change of Watch:

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard (MCPOCG) Stephen Cantrell will be relieved of the watch by Master Chief Jason Vanderhaden at 1100 on 17 MAY at TISCOM. The ceremony will be filmed and posted on the MCPOCG's Facebook and Twitter accounts.

Medical Travel Benefits:

Effective immediately, if an active duty member or family member or a retiree or their family member are referred by their primary care manager for a medically necessary procedure or appointment that falls outside a 100-mile radius of their primary care manager's office, they are entitled to travel benefits. The Defense Health Agency will now process claims for reimbursement of travel and admin expenses associated with receiving care. There must be no other health specialist within the 100-mile radius who can complete the work in order for the claim to be processed.

To process your claim, contact DHA Tricare Prime Travel Benefits at 1-844-204-9351. All travel requests must be sent to: dha.tricareptb@mail.mil.

Coast Guard Beneficiary Counseling and Assistance Coordinators are available to answer your questions. They can be reached at 1-800-9HBA-HBA (800-942-2422). For more information see ALCOAST 122/18.

Improve the Coast Guard:

Every civilian employee in the Coast Guard will receive the annual Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey on 10 May. Please take the survey as soon as you get it! Leaders take the results seriously, and the findings have led to real change. All these changes are thanks to employee FEVs feedback:



- A more fair and consistent system for performance-based awards
- A team focused on improving new supervisor training
- Better access to leadership training and career development opportunities
- More civilian recognition through awards, the Civilian Service Commendation Medal, and the "You Rock!" peer-to-peer recognition tool.
- Better workforce communications through the Advisory Notices from Civilian Human Resources (ANCHRS).

Direct Access Facelift:

Direct Access has added new and improved functionalities to provide a more customized and simplified user experience. The cleaner new look includes:



- 1 A Direct Access URL to better protect your personal data. Initially, users will be redirected to the new website – but update your "Favorites" tab!
- 2 Work centers or "mini homepages" where you complete your work for functions in one area without returning to the homepage.
- 3 Custom notifications and better navigation features, such as a "Favorites List" and "Five Most Recent Places Visited" icons.

The changes will be available to you right after Memorial Day Weekend.

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POLICY

New R&R Policy:

Several changes have been made to the Mil Assignments and Authorized Absences Manual in response to the results of the Enlisted Assignment Priority Survey and Working Group. Members can now:



- Enjoy 30 days of R&R time following any high op-tempo unaccompanied overseas assignment;
- Have updated position criteria for Deployable Specialized Forces and HITRON Precision Marksman;
- Members diagnosed with folliculitis can (now) apply for recruiter positions.

To align with the spirit of the new Enlisted Evaluation System, a mark of “3” is no longer an exclusive disqualifying factor for enlisted members applying for certain leadership positions or special assignments.

BRS:

The BRS team reports many members are opting into the Blended Retirement system, but aren’t taking the next step of adjusting their TSP. If you opted in to BRS, you’re missing out on free money if you aren’t contributing to your TSP. To increase your TSP contributions – and get federal matching funds – go to Direct Access and click on “Tasks” > “Thrift Savings Plan” > “Savings Summary.” For more information, visit: <http://militarypay.defense.gov/Portals/3/Documents/BlendedRetirementDocuments/Fact%20Sheet-Defined%20Contribution.pdf?ver=2017-12-15-093233-913>.

TRAINING

Anti-Harassment Training:

Reminder that all members (active, reserve, civilian) are required to complete Civil Rights Awareness training triennially. The instructor-led training covers procedures in place to address harassing behavior. All Coast Guard men and women are responsible for creating a culture of respect, trust and integrity toward each other and those we serve.

Training Officers are encouraged to visit the CGBI CGPortal at <https://cgbi.osc.uscg.mil/2.0/personal.cfm> to ensure unit and individual compliance with CRA. Units should view the schedule accessible at: <https://www.uscg.mil/Resources/Civil-Rights/Service-Providers/>. For more information see ALCOAST 148/18.

HEALTH

Mental health plays an important role in everyone’s sense of well-being. Overall wellness is closely tied to the balance that exists between our emotional, physical, spiritual and mental health. In honor of Mental Health Month this May, take a few moments to learn about TRICARE’s mental health coverage by visiting: <https://tricare.mil/mentalhealth/>. Civilians can access mental health support by reaching out to CG SUPRT at www.cgsuprt.com or 855-247-8778 (855-CGSUPRT).

CONGRESSIONAL

Sen. Thad Cochran (R-MS), Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee has resigned from Congress and Sen. Richard Shelby (R-AL) is the new Appropriations Chair. The Homeland Security Sub-Committee gavel also changed hands—from Sen. John Boozman (R-AR) to Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV).

Senate appropriators hope to mark up their FY2019 appropriations bills in May, bring some to the floor by June, and pass them all before the new fiscal year begins 01 Oct.



LEADERSHIP CORNER

Awards:

The 2018 Inspirational Leadership Award Winners have been announced. Each winner will be highlighted in an upcoming Compass blog:

Witherspoon (Active Duty): LCDR William Jacobs
(Air Station Clearwater)

Witherspoon (Reserve) - LT Waymando Brown
(PSU 308)

McShan (Active Duty) - SKC Brynn Simonetti (DCMS-8)

McShan (Reserve) - BMC Gregory Rogers (Sta. Buffalo)

Putnam (Civilian) - Ms. Aidalis Mills (D9)

Greanoff (Auxiliary) - FC Linda Jones (070-15-01)

Jarvis - CDR Zeita Merchant (MSU Chicago)

Munro - CS1 Elizabeth Meister (Sector San Francisco)

Leader-grams:

In honor of DHS Leadership Year and as part of Public Service Week (May 6-12), please recognize employees who make a difference, increase morale, deliver results and influence engagement with the “Caught You Leading!” Leader-gram on the Office of Leadership website (www.dcms.uscg.mil/leadership). Each recipient will receive an appreciation email from DHS. Help someone feel appreciated!

Civilian Leadership:

The President’s Management Council is sponsoring an interagency rotational program for high potential GS 13-15 employees. Deadline to apply is 4 MAY. Visit the Office of Leadership website: www.dcms.uscg.mil/leadership for amplifying information.

Military and Civilian Leadership:

Are you a new supervisor of civilians? Or, are you an experienced supervisor looking for a chance to improve your supervisory skills? Supervisor of Civilian Tier II is coming to the following locations on the West Coast:

- Alameda, CA - Aug. 2018
- Honolulu, HI - Aug. 2018
- Anchorage, AK - Sept. 2018

This course is open to military and civilian supervisors of civilians. For more information, visit the Office of Leadership website: www.dcms.uscg.mil/leadership

KEY DATES IN MAY

THIS MONTH IS:

National Bike Month

National Mental Health Awareness Month

Lyme Disease Awareness Month

Lupus Awareness Month

1 MAY

May Day

11 MAY

Military Spouses’ Day /
Childcare Provider Day

17 MAY

MCPOCG
Change of Watch

4 MAY

Star Wars Day
("May the Fourth be with you.")

13 MAY

Mother’s Day

19-25 MAY

Armed Forces
Day

5 MAY

Cinco de Mayo

15 MAY

New York City becomes
a Coast Guard City
Ramadan (starts at sundown)

31 MAY

Memorial Day



**Share Your
NEWS!**

Please send your news and announcements to Christie St. Clair,
Chief of Integrated Communications, at Christie.E.StClair@uscg.mil