



## 2020 SEVERE WEATHER/HURRICANE EVACUATION ENTITLEMENT GUIDANCE

The 2020 Severe Weather/Hurricane Season runs from 1 June 2020 through 30 November 2020.

The designated "safe haven" evacuation site for Coast Guard personnel and families within Special Mission Training Center is Raleigh, NC, Charlotte, NC, or as directed by SMTC's Commanding Officer.

Those military members stationed at Special Missions Training Center will be ordered to evacuate to Raleigh, NC, Charlotte, NC or an alternate safe haven. A military member may evacuate elsewhere if he/she takes annual leave, which is subject to the approval of their supervisor.

In Raleigh, NC, Charlotte, NC or an alternate safe haven, all Coast Guard members and dependents will be lodged in hotels and reimbursed by the Coast Guard for lodging, meals and transportation. You will be reimbursed for mileage, per diem, and lodging expenses for traveling to the designated safe haven. For those traveling with pets, please ensure they have identification collars, a travel kennel, and shot records. Many hotels do not allow pets; consider making plans to lodge your pet elsewhere. When you call to make hotel reservations, ask the hotel if they allow pets. You will not be reimbursed for any pet fees.

Many highways departing coastal North Carolina communities will become congested quickly once the evacuation order is given (often before the order is given); therefore, you should consider leaving early. However, reimbursement is not authorized until the evacuation order is given, so you must weigh the convenience of departing ahead of the crowds against the possibility that you may not receive reimbursement. In any case, fill up your gas tank, pack your bags, and be ready to go.

You are strongly encouraged to use the buddy system to travel to Raleigh, Charlotte, or other safe haven. Drive in tandem with another Coast Guard family - do not trust your evacuation to just one car. Leave as early as you can; travel will be slow and stressful.

Some families choose to make separate evacuation arrangements and stay with family or friends. Please understand that these options may increase your expenses and are not reimbursable. If you stay with relatives or friends, whether in Raleigh, Charlotte, or another location, you will not be reimbursed for lodging, but you are eligible for reimbursement of meals and mileage.

Depending on the District 5 Evacuation authorization, entitlements will be based on the message criteria. Note, once you evacuate to one location, you need to remain in place to continue evacuation entitlements. The maximum reimbursement you receive for lodging and meals cannot exceed the daily rates for the designated safe haven. Remember to save all your hotel and toll receipts.

A Hurricane Evacuation Assistance Team (HEAT) will be in place at a hotel to assist you with the administrative details after an evacuation order is given. Contact the HEAT Team at (910) 581-8919.

Remember, you will only be reimbursed up to the maximum federal government per diem rate for your room. If you choose to stay at a hotel charging more than the federal government per diem rate, you will not be reimbursed for the difference.

Your safety is extremely important. If at any time you feel unsafe or you are in danger, call 911. If you are uncertain about what you should do, or need help, contact the SMTC Officer of the Day, (910) 376-0824 at any time. Personnel affected by severe weather can also call the Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune Information System (910) 451-1717 for the most up to date Weather Advisory and Hurricane Information, or the Special Missions Training Center Training Support Cell at (910) 440-6678. Additional information regarding Shelters, Family Planning, Local, State and Federal Information can be found at: <https://www.mcieast.marines.mil/Staff-Offices/Emergency-Management/MCB-Camp-Lejeune/>