U.S. Department of Homeland Security
United States Coast Guard

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MAY 22 2014

Dear Coast Guard Family Member:

Base Miami Beach is preparing to provide "all hands on deck" mission support during this rapidly approaching hurricane season. I am asking you to be prepared if a hurricane strikes your area. Having a plan and knowing what you and your family are going to do in the event of a major storm will greatly enhance your safety and security. I urge you to make a family hurricane evacuation kit and have it ready to go if a mandatory evacuation of your residence is ordered.

I cannot overstate the importance of having a family action plan during the hurricane season. If a major hurricane threatens, local emergency management officials may order you to leave your home and seek shelter. These evacuations can cause a serious emotional and financial drain to our families. Having a plan for where to go, and preparing yourself for what to expect if an evacuation is ordered, will relieve a lot of unnecessary anxiety for your entire family. At a minimum, you should have a credit card and cash reserve set aside to use in the event of one or more evacuations. Save the Personnel Support Team (PST) phone number to your phones (305 290-3848) and bookmark our internet site to find the most up-to-date information if an evacuation order is issued http://www.uscg.mil/basemiamibeach/hurricane.asp. You should also prepare a "hurricane kit" ready to load in the car at a moment's notice.

New this year is the use of the Alert and Warning System (AWS). This new Coast Guard wide notification system will send alerts and official "Order to Report" messages via Phone (text-to-voice), email, text and/or fax to personnel in the affected areas. Please listen to and/or read carefully the messages you receive. Our Coast Guard Family (Active Duty, Civilian, Select Reserve and dependents) must report their accountability (status and location) when the order to report is issued and can do so by responding to the AWS alert as directed. The updated status and location information of our members and dependents is paramount to assure the accountability of our Families. Our members must be reported using the Coast Guard Personnel Accountability and Assessment System (CGPAAS) at https://cgpaas.uscg.mil. The Coast Guard may issue an "Order to Report" following any natural disaster or event in your area.

I have included a Hurricane Evacuation Package to help answer many questions you might have about entitlements, pre-storm preparation, and useful hurricane planning tips. Please take a few minutes to read through the attached information. I hope you will find this helpful in preparing your family for the possibility of a hurricane evacuation.

Sincerely,

B.L. Davis, CAPT

B.L. DAVIS
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard
Commanding Officer

Enclosures: (1) Hurricane Evacuation Package