



## Coast Guard Flag Voice 07

### OFFICER PROMOTION BOARDS

We recently experienced an unprecedented wait for release of the results for a number of promotion boards. This delay is not in keeping with the Commandant's Direction to "Value our Team." ADM Loy was engaged from the beginning and wanted me to express his personal views on this matter to the officer corps.

Upon completion of a promotion board, the board report, which includes the list of all officers recommended for promotion, is routed by the CG Personnel Command to the Commandant via the Chief Counsel. The Commandant then forwards the board report to the Secretary of Transportation. This process normally takes 3 working days and is expedited throughout by hand carry. By law, approval of the report is reserved for the President, but the Secretary signs as the President's "alter ego," an established practice. The approval is actually not delegated, hence this is not something that the Secretary could turn over to the Commandant, even if he desired to do so.

In this instance, after arrival at the Department, processing of the reports were affected by recent personnel turnovers and a number of major transportation issues (airline strikes, plane crash) at the Office of the Secretary's level. There were no other reasons the results were delayed. The Commandant, Vice Commandant and other senior CG officers were engaged with the Secretary's staff over the subsequent weeks to gain approval of the boards. Ultimately, ADM Loy was successful earlier this week.

Especially with ADM Loy's extensive background in the Coast Guard's personnel business, he understands completely the anxiety this situation caused for many fine officers. ADM Loy expresses his personal apology to all who experienced this unfortunate delay.

Regards, FL Ames

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