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HURRICANES KATRINA AND RITA PEOPLE SUPPORT UPDATE

This updates several Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita related people support items and provides the latest Coast Guard Mutual Assistance Hurricane Support figures.

The Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee (PDTATAC) has extended the payment of 100 percent per diem from 60 days to 90 days for those dependents of active duty military personnel at safe havens. After 90 days, all qualifying active duty dependents will receive 60 percent of these allowances for an additional 90 days, for a total of 180 days.

The deadline for reducing or declining the recent increase in Service Member's Group Life Insurance (SGLI) coverage has been extended to 30 November 05, if a member was unable to make an election due to Hurricanes Katrina or Rita. This extension applies to service members following an order or authorization to evacuate due to Hurricanes Katrina or Rita and to those involved in hurricane rescue and recovery operations. It gives them an additional 90 days to reduce or decline unwanted coverage without charge. PSC will refund premiums deducted for coverage in prior months when the service member files a valid election to reduce or decline the coverage between 01 September 05 and 30 November 05. Coverage is automatically increased to the \$400,000 maximum level unless the service member personally reduces that coverage level. If a service member wishes to decline or reduce the coverage, they must complete a new SGLV 8286 at <http://www.insurance.va.gov> indicating the amount of coverage desired, including no coverage, if applicable.

As of today, the Coast Guard Mutual Assistance "Katrina Account" has received \$1,119,078 in donations. The outpouring of generosity for our people in the affected areas has been terrific. Mutual Assistance has provided a total of \$1,736,951 in financial assistance to 808 members and their families including Active Duty, Reserve, Retired, Civilian and Auxiliary who were victims of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma.

Regards,

RADM Kenneth T. Venuto
Ken Venuto

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