



The Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard

2100 2nd Street SW Stop 7000
Washington, DC 20593-7000

“Chiefs – Leading with Integrity, Respect and Courage”

Words of Wisdom for the 2012 Chief’s Call to Indoctrination

Dear Chief,

Congratulations on your advancement to Chief!

While I may not be present for your upcoming CCTI, I would like to take this opportunity to share some words of wisdom.

Unlike past advancements, your advancement to Chief carries very unique responsibilities. As a frontline leader, you are going to be expected to carry out duties, some which may be well outside your current rating. Consequently, there will be times when you will not know the answer. During these times, it is wise to network with and tap into the wisdom of your fellow Chiefs. Furthermore, you will be the “go to” person. As such, it is critical that you continue to learn and grow, both professionally and personally, so that you may share your knowledge and experience with others.

I’ve found that the most effective leaders guide their lives and the lives of their crews by living our Core Values. Great leaders continuously learn, they hone their people skills, and they guide and coach others. They take care of their families, their shipmates and themselves. Oftentimes, you will find that it is not just what we say, but what we do on and off duty, that defines leadership for others. You are the Chief; therefore, it is your duty to set the positive example for others to follow. That is our legacy.

Once again, congratulations!

“Bravo Zulu”

Michael P. Leavitt
Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard