

**U.S. Department of
Homeland Security**

**United States
Coast Guard**



Commandant
United States Coast Guard

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27 Dec 18

To Whom It May Concern:

On December 22, 2018, the United States Coast Guard partially shut down due to a lapse in appropriations. While all Coast Guard military members continue to report for duty in service of our country during this partial shut down, they do so without pay until an appropriation is passed by Congress.

Because Coast Guard members will not receive pay during the lapse in appropriations, our members may have difficulty in timely meeting their financial obligations. This lapse in appropriations is beyond our members' control and is expected to be a temporary situation. We appreciate your organization's understanding and flexibility in working with Coast Guard members who request forbearance on their obligations until this situation is resolved.

Coast Guard members will return to pay status as soon as possible. In the interim, they will continue to execute their duties and ensure our homeland remains secure. I hope this letter helps explain the shut down process for Coast Guard members, and I extend my personal thanks for your patience and compassion toward our members during this time when they may be negatively impacted by the lapse in appropriations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matthew W. Sibley" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Matthew W. Sibley
Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard
Acting Assistant Commandant for Human Resources