

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
United States Coast Guard
Sector / Air Station Corpus Christi

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MAY 14 2018

Dear Sector Corpus Christi Family Member:

The 2018 Hurricane Season will begin June 1st and will end November 30th. Hurricane season creates unique challenges and uncertainties for the residents of the Coastal Bend. One of the most challenging circumstances for the dependents of Coast Guard members is the possibility the active duty member in the household may be called to establish a Continuity of Operations site or perform other necessary missions rather than be with the family during an evacuation. I hope to reduce your stress and anxiety by providing information to aid in your planning and preparation for this season. Please review the information in this letter as well as the enclosed hurricane checklists for some suggestions to aid in your preparations. ***My top priority is to ensure you and your family are safe at all times.***

Highways departing the Corpus Christi area will be very congested once an evacuation order is issued. There are multiple route options to the designated safe havens, so please research what will be the best option for you and your family. I urge you to consider leaving early, but realize reimbursement is not authorized until the evacuation order has been issued by the Eighth District Commander. If you are employed in the local economy, ask your employer about their hurricane policy. In any case, fill up your gas tank, pack your bags, and have your supply kit ready to go.

In preparation for evacuation, a Coast Guard Personnel Support Team will coordinate logistics at our primary safe havens. The primary safe havens for those who work in the Corpus Christi area are San Antonio and McAllen. Alternate safe havens may be identified if the two primary safe havens are predicted to be impacted by the storm. Additionally you are authorized to use other safe haven locations but will only be reimbursed at a rate equal to that of your primary safe haven. For your convenience, the following two hotels have been identified as options to consider:

- 1) La Quinta Inn & Suites, 100 W. Cesar Chavez Blvd, San Antonio TX 78204, (210) 212-5400
- 2) La Quinta Inn & Suites, 801 S. Ware Rd. McAllen, TX 78501, (956) 682-6765

These hotels align with per diem rates, are pet friendly, offer free wi-fi and continental breakfast, have outdoor swimming pools and will likely be the location the Personnel Support Teams set up at. Please note that these hotels are only options and you are welcome to identify alternate lodging to best fit your needs. The maximum lodging rates for the primary safe havens are \$121 per night in San Antonio and \$94 per night in McAllen.

Sector's Administrative Staff and Personnel Accountability Unit (PAU) will ensure family members' safety and address any and all needs. If you have any questions or need assistance during an evacuation contact the PAU at PeopleCell@gmail.com or call 361-438-0652/3359.

All active duty, reserve, and civilian personnel shall register with the Coast Guard Personnel Accountability and Assessment System (CGPAAS). CGPAAS will be activated in the event of a catastrophic event and will provide a mechanism for those designated in the system to account for themselves and their dependents. Once activated, the registered member will receive an automated text message and/or phone call that will allow you to provide your status.

Once you have evacuated, you will not be able to return home until the local government allows you to return. Make sure to plan and pack accordingly. Personnel who are ordered to return to their units may do so with the proper credentials and identification. Those who are cleared to return should be prepared for worst case conditions.

Sector / Air Station Corpus Christi will be hosting a Hurricane Preparedness Family Night on May 31, 2018 at Sector Corpus Christi's Valent Hall. The enclosed flyer contains additional information with regards to this event. I hope you are able to come out to learn more about hurricane preparations and how the Coast Guard will help in keeping you and your family safe. There will be free child care available in room 372. If you plan on utilizing the child care, please email YN2 Pamela Warner at Pamela.J.Warner@uscg.mil no later than May 24th with the number of children you will be dropping off. Additionally if you are unable to attend this event or have any questions with regard to hurricane preparations, please contact LCDR Andrew Hawthorne, Chief of Contingency Planning and Force Readiness, at Andrew.T.Hawthorne@uscg.mil or 361-939-0414.

I cannot emphasize enough the need to prepare early for a safe hurricane season. Let us make sure we are all prepared for this hurricane season!

Sincerely,



E. J. GAYNOR
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard

2 Enclosures