FLAG VOICE #534

Coast Guard Safe Homes Initiative Update #2

11 January 2021

This Flag Voice is provided as an update to the Coast Guard Safe Homes Initiative (SHI). In my previous Flag Voices (515 and 522) on SHI, I described the Coast Guard's efforts to assess all Coast Guard owned family housing built prior to 1979 to ensure compliance with new standards for lead based dust that took effect in January 2020. Next, I provided guidance to the field for assignment year 2020. The guidance allowed Area Housing Authorities, in certain circumstances, the ability to request a waiver to assign at-risk families to Coast Guard owned housing units that were pending their environmental risk assessment.

An ALCOAST will be released shortly that details the impressive accomplishments of the SHI team despite the challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To date, the Coast Guard has contracted $2.5M for state certified environmental risk assessments for all 1,158 Coast Guard owned homes constructed prior to 1979. Of these 1,148 assessments have been completed and all result have been received. The 10 remaining assessments are delayed due to COVID-19 travel restrictions and are expected to be completed in January 2021.

The completion of the vast majority of assessments and the prompt execution of corrective actions demonstrates the conscientiousness and commitment of stakeholders at all levels of the Coast Guard. Most notably, CG Personnel Service Center, Area Housing Authorities/Officers, and field commanders demonstrated their unwavering commitment to the health and safety of our members and their families by keeping SHI a top priority.

Support and communication continue to be key components of SHI. Our goal is to provide all of our service members and their families with timely support and accurate information as they navigate this year's PCS season. We continue to post updates on the SHI website, at https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/Safe-Homes-Initiative/.

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