



ASSISTANT COMMANDANT FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL (CG-1M)
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20593-7907

Dear Long Blue Line Recipient,

I'm writing to make you aware of an **IMPORTANT** planned change to the mailing of **THE LONG BLUE LINE** (LBL), published/distributed on my behalf as Director of Retiree Services to +67,000 retirees & annuitants. The LBL, formerly *The Retiree Newsletter*, remains the primary means by which the Coast Guard communicates information of interest/importance to the retiree community.

As many may recall, it was announced in *The Retiree Newsletter*, April 2019, that the publication would transition to all digital/e-mail distribution in January 2020, with temporary mailing to those without internet access. Many retirees, including CG National Retiree Council (CGNRC) members, requested a solution to preserve a paper newsletter. The National Coast Guard Museum Association (NCGMA) offered such a solution, providing a more robust publication including the same CG content (e.g. pay & benefits updates, retirements, TAPS, reunions/notices, retiree resources) – and much more. The NCGMA has funded, published, and distributed the LBL since January 2020 through a cooperative agreement with the CG and it continues to be highly well received by readers.

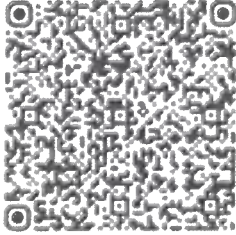
While the NCGMA remains steadfast in its intent to distribute the LBL **at no cost** to the CG and readership, considering ever-growing publication and mailing costs, it will be necessary to make changes. Everyone who wants to continue receiving a **FREE** paper copy of the LBL by mail, including those currently receiving other NCGMA mailings, will need to “**opt-in**” to the **NCGMA mailing list**. LBL subscribers will also need to maintain a current mailing address with the NCGMA as the U.S. Postal Service does not forward this class of mail. Individuals on the NCGMA mailing list can also expect to receive NCGMA updates, invitations to NCGMA events, campaign information, and other **no obligation** opportunities to support the National Coast Guard Museum. The NCGMA will continue to protect the personal information of individuals on the NCGMA mailing list and will **NOT** share or use personal information for any other purposes.

Beginning in January 2025, those who've not “opted-in” to the **NCGMA mailing list** will only receive a digital version of the LBL from the CG via GovDelivery at their home e-mail address in Direct Access (DA). You may check/update your e-mail address(es), and/or elect not to receive the LBL, through your DA Self-Service account at: <https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/ppc/ras/gp/>. Those needing additional assistance may contact PPC at ppc-dg-customer@uscg.mil or by phone at 866-772-8724. The LBL is also accessible to the public at: <https://www.longblueline.org/>.

I'm joined by RADM Merrie Austin, USCG (Ret.), and MCPO Lloyd Pierce, USCG (Ret.), CGNRC Co-Chairs, in encouraging all retirees & annuitants who want to continue receiving a **FREE** paper copy of

the LBL via U.S. Mail beginning in January 2025 to “opt-in” to the NCGMA mailing list at your earliest convenience through ONE of the options below:

1. Scan the QR Code below to complete the online form, or



2. Visit LongBlueLine.org and select the “OPT IN” button, or
3. Call NCGMA at 860-443-4200 or e-mail info@coastguardmuseum.org to provide your name and mailing address.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. W. Raymond', with a stylized flourish at the end.

RADM M. W. RAYMOND, USCG

Assistant Commandant for Military Personnel

My POC for this initiative is Mr. Robert Hinds, Retiree Services Program Manager,
Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil, 202-475-5451.