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SUBJ: MILITARY SAVES WEEK, 25 FEB - 2 MAR 2013

1. Military Saves is a national social marketing campaign to persuade, motivate, and encourage military families to save money every month, and to convince leaders and organizations to be aggressive in promoting automatic savings. The Coast Guard is a partner in the Military Saves Campaign and is committed to helping its service members, family members, retirees, and civilians take immediate action to Build Wealth, Not Debt.
 2. Each year during Military Saves Week, we encourage everyone to take the pledge as a first step in their commitment to Build Wealth, Not Debt. Taking the Military Saves Pledge provides an opportunity for individuals to consider developing or improving a personal savings plan. Visit www.militarysaves.org/take-the-pledge to take the pledge.
 3. The Military Saves Campaign is a total force, command-level program. It provides an opportunity for leaders at all levels to motivate and educate others to make saving a regular habit. Engaging Coast Guard spouses is particularly important as they play a vital role in maintaining financial discipline and stability within our families. By encouraging our children to save they can develop good financial habits early in life, strengthening their financial fitness for the future. Therefore, consider sponsoring financial awareness events within your command.
 4. Additional Personal Financial Management resources include:
 - a. Military saves - www.militarysaves.org. In addition to providing an opportunity to take the savings pledge, this website provides information on how to save on auto purchases, save for emergencies, save for a home, get out of debt, and manage savings and investments.
 - b. CG SUPRT - www.CGSUPRT.com or 1-855-CG-SUPRT (1-855-247-8778). If you are experiencing financial difficulty or need advice on money matters, visit this site and click "Personal Financial Management" under Quick Links. Services include one-on-one telephonic money coaching, educational webinars, and other financial resources.
 - c. Thrift Savings Plans (TSP) - www.uscg.mil/ppc/tsp.asp. Provides Coast Guard members and employees with information, forms, Coast Guard contacts and related links for initiating and updating TSP accounts.
 - d. MyMoney.gov - www.mymoney.gov. This government website is dedicated to teaching all Americans the basics about financial education. It provides practical information and tools to help with a variety of financial issues from buying a home, investing in a 401(k), to balancing your checkbook.
 - e. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) - www.consumerfinance.gov. This agency central mission is to make markets for consumer financial products and services work for all Americans. It provides consumer advice on a wide range of financial subjects, including mortgages and credit cards. You can also file a consumer complaint at this site regarding any financial product or service.
 - f. Visit the Office of Work-Life Personal Financial Management Program webpage, www.uscg.mil/worklife/financial.asp, for more financial information and resources.
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5. For additional information, please contact the Office of Work-Life Family Support Services Specialist, Ms. Mitchia (Shay) D. Tull-Cook, at HQS-SMB-FamilySupportServices(AT)USCG.MIL.
6. RADM Maura K. Dollymore, Director of Health, Safety and Work-Life sends.
7. Internet release authorized.
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