America’s Coast Guard is an Armed Service, a critical instrument of national security, and a key component to the Nation’s emergency response capability. As the Coast Guard’s ready force in garrison, the Reserve Component provides operationally capable and ready personnel to support Coast Guard surge and mobilization requirements in the Homeland and abroad. For over seventy-five years, our extraordinary reservists have accomplished this through augmenting the Service’s day-to-day missions while standing ready to mobilize in times of crisis.

Serving as the Coast Guard’s only dedicated surge force the Reserve Component is a contingency-based workforce, trained locally and deployed globally to provide appropriately trained personnel to meet mission requirements within the prioritized focus areas of Defense Operations, Ports, Waterways, and Coastal Security, Incident Response and Management, & Mission Support.

It is the duty of every commander, commanding officer, officer-in-charge and program manager to provide the leadership and training necessary for assigned Reserve Component members to be expertly trained and prepared for active-duty when and where they are required. Active Duty for Training (ADT), Inactive Duty Training (IDT) and assigned competencies should relate to the prioritized focus areas. Additionally I place the same level of responsibility on every reservist to acquire and maintain the skills and personal readiness that our Coast Guard mission sets and core values demand.

The Reserve Component is as relevant and critical to the Coast Guard’s organizational success today as at any time since 1941. We will continue to honor our citizen-sailors and meet the needs of the Nation by adhering to our core values and bringing a total workforce perspective to solve complex problems.

KARL L. SCHULTZ
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