

From: **Pendley, William**

Date: Thu, Sep 12, 2019 at 9:01 AM

Subject: Good News on Relocation Incentive and PCS Allowances

To:

Folks –

When Deputy Director Mike Nedd and I met with many of you last week at M Street or via telephone, we mentioned that we had made recommendations to the Secretary regarding relocation incentives and Permanent Change of Station (PCS) allowances.

I am happy to report today that the Secretary approved our recommendations, and we can now provide you with more information about the relocation incentive we will offer to every Washington Office employee who is geographically reassigned as part of the BLM's move West. We continue to strive for the most thoughtful and considerate approach whenever possible to ensure that employees who wish to continue working for the BLM may do so.

We are authorized to offer, consistent with applicable law, Washington Office employees reassigned geographically from the Washington, DC metro area to a new duty station in the Western U.S., a relocation incentive of 25 percent of basic pay. Geographically reassigned employees who sign a written service agreement committing to complete two years of employment with the BLM will be paid a one-time lump sum payment equal to 25 percent of their rate of basic pay, which includes their rate of base pay in addition to any locality-based pay.

Also, I am able to confirm the benefits to be included in the Permanent Change of Station (PCS) package for those Washington Office employees geographically reassigned to the West. In addition to the moving allowances that the BLM will pay for every Washington Office employee who is geographically reassigned outside the Washington metro area, we will offer either a funded house-hunting trip in advance of your reporting to the new duty station, or up to 60 days of temporary housing and related living expenses.

Your supervisor and members of the Transition Support Team can give you additional information about PCS allowances and the relocation incentive, as well as vacancies in the BLM for interested and qualified Washington Office employees who may not be able to move with their position. Team members will again be available for individual consultation by appointment at the M Street office, using the online sign-up system

here:

[REDACTED]

Employee Assistance Program (EAP) counselors will also be at M Street again next week, Wednesday, September 18, through Friday, September 20. You can make an appointment with an EAP counselor using the link above or drop by for a walk-up appointment, speak with a counselor any time (24/7/365) by telephone, 1-800-869-0276, or visit the EAP website, [REDACTED] (password: [REDACTED]).

Our move West is taking shape, and we will continue to provide additional updates as soon as we are able. I hope you join me in welcoming this good news while we work to maximize our service to the American people and continue working to make this move as smooth as possible for all Washington Office employees. Thank you! Best, Perry

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