

Congressman Jeff Van Drew (NJ-02)
U.S. Coast Guard Training Center Cape May
Staff Contact: Haddon Antonucci (202-527-1492)

I appear to request that your subcommittee fund investments at U.S. Coast Guard Training Center Cape May in the Fiscal Year 2025 Homeland Security Appropriations Act.

Training Center Cape May is the beating heart of South Jersey's Coast Guard Community. Every year, thousands of Coast Guard recruits come to Cape May and prepare to serve our country. Over 80% of the entire Coast Guard comes through our training center.

The Training Center was established 70 years ago, and it must be modernized. Deficiencies range from insufficient housing space that limits the number of potential recruits, to hazardous outdoor training conditions.

It is time for the Coast Guard to develop a world-class training facility that promotes recruitment and retention. It is impossible to accomplish this mission without financial resources from Congress.

The Coast Guard has identified two projects for Cape May in its Fiscal Year 2025 budget request. Both are included on the Unfunded Priority List's Housing, Family Support, Safety and Training Facilities category (See Addendum One.)

The first request is for \$15 million to survey and design a state-of-the-art indoor training facility. This facility will enable year-round physical training, improve recruit throughput and readiness, and enhance recruitment and retention capabilities.

The second request is for \$60 million to recapitalize the second of three recruit training barracks. This project will increase the number of potential recruits and importantly allow for more appropriate accommodations for female recruits.

This Committee funded the first barracks project 3 years ago – which is well into design and is preparing for construction. The House Transportation Committee supports all these projects but has informed me of the need for a \$15 million upward revision for the first barracks project due to cost increases.

This means that all in all I am requesting approximately \$90 million be appropriated through the Fiscal Year 2025 Homeland Security bill for improvements at Training Center Cape May. This is a huge priority for me, for the U.S. Coast Guard, and for the United States of America.

I welcome any questions, and I hope that we may work together to fund these items in this fiscal year.

<i>Housing, Family Support, Safety, and Training Facilities (PC&I)</i>		
Training Center Cape May - Multipurpose Recruit Training Facility	\$15,000	Funds survey and design activities to develop a state-of-the-art indoor training facility at Training Center Cape May. This facility will enable year-round physical training and improve recruit throughput and readiness and enhance Service recruiting and retention capabilities.
Training Center Cape May Barracks	\$60,000	Funds the recapitalization of the second of three recruit training barracks at Training Center Cape May, that will include improved berthing and classroom facilities at the Service's sole enlisted accession point.

Addendum One. From the U.S. Coast Guard's FY25 Unfunded Priorities List.