
what's up doc?



by Dr. Mary Livers

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Hello, Everyone:

As I am sure most of you are aware, today is the anniversary of the worst attack on U.S. soil in our nation's history. 9/11. We all know what it means, and I'm sure that none of us will ever forget where we were or how we felt when we learned that the World Trade Center in New York had been attacked. For the next 24 - 72 hours after that horrific act, we in America had no idea what was really happening, and the terror of not knowing was paralyzing. We were all struck with absolute terror and horror. And we were all in concert with the people of New York who had suffered so much – we were one family at that moment in time. We should never forget. We **will** never forget.

That event should remind us of how quickly things can change. In an instant, whatever seems familiar and comfortable can be gone forever. There are lots of changes in our lives. Some we have control over, some we don't. The people who went to work in the Twin Towers that day eight years ago had no idea that their lives would be changed drastically and that many of them would not return home to their families that evening or any evening, as they had done every day for years. One thing we know for sure, change is certain.

Sometimes we make conscious decisions to change voluntarily. Sometimes the change is forced upon us.

Organizations are the same as people in this regard. When we stay in one place or situation too long, we can get stagnant, complacent, and set in our ways, and we resist change. But, change can be our best friend if we are striving to become better and we are doing it for the right reasons.

Seasons change. People change. Organizations change. Positions change. Politicians are often elected on the promise of change.

Change, whether it is forced upon us, or it's something we choose, keeps us challenged, keeps us on our toes, when we are striving to be the best we can be.

One thing I can promise you, is that more changes are coming. I don't mean to upset any of you, and I don't know what the changes will look like, but with the budget challenges our state is facing, we are going to continue to have to figure out how to do more with less.

Corporations change to stay competitive, organizations change to stay vital.

I invite each of us who is facing changes in the workplace to embrace it, celebrate it, and make it your friend.

And on this day, 9/11, I thank the people of the United States for standing strong, and the great people of OJJ for the work you do every day to meet the mission, in the face of constant change.

Sincerely,

“Doc”

Dr. Mary Livers

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