



# WEST POINT

## UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

January 23, 2007

**Re: Candidate Reception - Saturday, March 3, 2007 at 5:00 p.m.**

Dear Candidate and Parents:

You are cordially invited to attend a special meeting of candidates for admission to the United States Military Academy at West Point. Our guest speaker, Brigadier General Robert L. Caslen, Jr. Commandant, US Corps of Cadets is a member of the USMA Class of 1975. He will be the principal speaker at this meeting to highlight the many opportunities available and challenges that you would face if you attend West Point.

Invitations to this meeting are being sent to candidates who have received offers of admission to West Point, the USMA Preparatory School program, USMA sponsored scholarships and others who have been recognized as being very competitive for obtaining such offers this year. For those candidates without offers of admission from West Point, this invitation should not be considered an offer or a guarantee that an offer of admission will be forthcoming. All offers of admission will come directly from the Director of Admissions at West Point.

Since many candidates may still be considering an offer to West Point, and other college opportunities, this meeting represents an opportunity to ask questions of admission representatives and meet other candidates and their parents from the Houston area that will be attending or are considering attending West Point. Before making a decision whether to accept or decline an offer, it is important that a person not only understands the opportunities available, but is also aware of the challenges and demands facing a cadet. West Point challenges may differ significantly from other outstanding civilian colleges that candidates may be considering. These challenges include academics (all cadets pursue a rigorous academic curriculum in math, science and the humanities), physical fitness (every cadet is an athlete) and discipline (this is a military school designed to train military officers to lead our nation's soldiers).

It has been our experience that those cadets who resign within a short time after entering West Point have not prepared themselves either physically or mentally for the challenges of cadet life. Our goal is to ensure that all of those who accept appointments from the Houston area are prepared to become cadets and are motivated to graduate. Now is the time, and this meeting is an opportunity to focus your questions on those matters which you may consider important in making a decision to accept an offer of admission to the United States Military Academy.

This meeting will begin at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 3, 2007, at the Marriott Houston Westchase (formerly the Adams Mark Hotel). The meeting will be held in the Briar Park Room on the lobby level. A map is provided below for your convenience. The meeting is scheduled to take place in a room to be designated. The hotel is located at 2900 Briarpark Rd, in Houston (77042) just inside Beltway 8 and Westheimer. The meeting will last approximately one and one half-hours. Please indicate by February 24, 2007 whether or not you will be able to join us for this informative meeting. Please contact Sergeant Major Kraus by e-mail (pkraus8887@aol.com) indicating your name, high school and number of persons attending.

In addition to this meeting, West Point alumni and cadet parents will be attending an annual dinner and program beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Marriott Houston Westchase commemorating the founding of West Point in 1802 (called "Founder's Day"). Founder's Day is a traditional and formal military dinner and program that is conducted annually by West Point graduates all over the world. The Founder's Day program is distinctly separate from the Candidate Reception meeting. You will be formally invited to the Founder's Day program and receive a reservation form in a separate mailing from Joannie Parr for RSVP.

*Map to the Marriott Houston Westchase at 2900 Briarpark Rd*

