Bottom Line: Up Front

03-10

This document is for information purposes and is designed to ensure that all personnel are aware of the many issues/changes that occur in our Navy. Although not inclusive, it is a great venue to share our best practices. If you have information, programs or best practices that you would like to share Navy-wide, send them via your applicable ISIC or Force Master Chief for inclusion. Thanks for your support and feedback.

MCPON RECOMMENDS:

Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) launched a redesigned Web
www.cnic.navy.mil
See page 8 for more links of interest

Welcome to this edition of "Bottom Line: Up Front." First, I would like to say congratulations to all of the newly selected Master Chief Petty Officers — HOOYAH and Anchor Up!

Speaking of Chiefs Anchoring Up, I, along with SECNAV and CNO attended the 117th anniversary of the establishment of the Chief Petty Officer rank on April 1 at the Navy Memorial. We commemorated the CPO anniversary by laying a wreath at the *The Lone Sailor©* statue, and it was an awesome sight to see all of my fellow CPO brothers and sisters gathered to celebrate "our" day.

During the ceremony, former MCPON Herdt presented the MCPON's office with a two-foot *Lone Sailor©* statue and issued a challenge to the Chief's Mess. The challenge for every Chief's Mess across the Navy to obtain an appropriate sized *Lone Sailor©* statue and display it in a place of prominence in the Mess for all to see.

The Lone Sailor© statue represents the past, present and future Navy bluejacket — adventurous, independent, courageous, self-reliant, and resourceful. His authentic image evokes the lure and romance of service at sea.

When your Mess has obtained *The Lone Sailor©* statue, take a photo and post it on my Facebook page at www.facebook.com/mcpon

HOOYAH Shipmates!

MCPON

What's Hot

-- Every Sailor needs to validate their PRIMS data just as they would validate their service record. PRIMS data is reviewed in the selection board process and you have to be physically qualified for promotion, even if you are medically waived you still need to pass the PRT in those areas in which you are not waived to include body fat to get promoted. This process remains critical to ensuring we maintain the highest standards for our leaders in developing a culture of fitness.

For more information see NAVADMIN 073/09 and Sailors can review their PRIMS data through BUPERS Online at https://www.bol.navy.mil.

-- A question that gets asked a lot is why it takes so long to get paid after someone makes rank. The answer is, the Navy frocks its enlisted Sailors, meaning they are allowed to wear the next paygrade before they are actually advanced. It is about money, but the actual pay date is that last increment to get paid. Officers do not frock and get advanced when their pay date is determined. The frocking letter a Sailor gets really defines the process of being given the opportunity to receive various privileges without pay until the pay date. The Navy is not required to pay anyone early and could wait to advance and pay all at the same time.

Post 9/11 GI Bill Reminder

BLUF: Sailors must take action to transfer their benefits while still in the Armed Forces (Active Duty or SelRes).

Remind your Sailors early and often to heed the transferability rules. First, check to ensure all DEERS-listed dependents are updated. Then, to transfer benefits, log into this site - https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/TEB/.

After transferring, Sailors can change the amount to each recipient at anytime. The safest thing to do is transfer a portion to each family member that you want to have this awesome benefit.   Afterward, check the same DMDC website for approval. Then, Sailors can go to VA's website to the "Veterans Online Application (VONAPP)" - http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/. VA will verify eligibility and provide a certificate of eligibility to the family member designated.

Navy E-Leave

BLUF: E-leave provides visibility and reduces processing time for leave accounting while increasing accuracy of accounting.

When implemented later this year, E-leave will reside inside the Navy Standard Integrated Personnel System (NSIPS) Electronic Service Record (ESR) Application. Sailors must establish access and routinely view the ESR to become comfortable with the look and feel of the program. E-leave will streamline a Sailor's leave request without forcing Sailors to chase paper. It eliminates delays due to misrouting of paper copies. It will automate the command's leave control log and ensure that pay entitlements are properly credited without the need to submit documents to a supporting disbursing office or Personnel Support Detachment (PSD). Shore-based implementation will begin in August 2010. Afloat implementation will occur over the following 24 months. NAVADMIN 103/10 outlines details.

Safeguarding Personally Identifiable Information (PII)

BLUF: We rely on our people to accomplish the mission; they rely on those that have access to PII to safeguard it. This is a leadership responsibility.

During the past year, the Department of the Navy experienced numerous inadvertent releases of PII. This compromised the identity of our people and their families. Careless loss or compromise of PII not only leads to identity theft and other criminal behavior, but prevents our people from focusing on daily tasks and overall mission.

Training, policy, guidance, tips, reporting procedures, and other privacy related information can be found at: www.doncio.navy.mil and www.privacy.navy.mil websites.

Close Proximity Move Policy

BLUF: Service members who have not executed their orders are eligible to remove the household goods funding from those orders in order to fall under the provisions of a close proximity move and may be eligible to receive BAH based on the previous permanent duty station.

NAVADMIN 101/10 clarifies eligibility and procedures for execution of a close proximity move and eligibility to receive Basic Allowance for Housing based on previous Permanent Duty Station.

New Policy for the Execution of General Military Training (GMT) for FY10 and FY11

BLUF: It is leadership's responsibility to ensure these critical core topics are taught and understood by every Sailor for a healthy work environment … Ship, Shipmate, Self.

GMT Core Topics will be addressed via Instructor-led training sessions provided at the Command level by Command Leadership, Command Training Teams, and Collateral Duty Officers/Chief Petty Officers. The topics are: Responsible use of alcohol (use, prevention, and control), Responsible personal behavior (sexual assault prevention and response and equal opportunity and sexual harassment grievance procedures), Ask-Care-Treat (suicide awareness and prevention), Improving personal financial management, and Operational stress control. Facilitator guides and flash presentations can be downloaded from the Center for Personal and Professional Development (CPPD) training library on Navy knowledge online (NKO) at www.nko.navy.mil on the current CPPD GMT Page. GMT topics and procedures are outlined in NAVADMIN 098/10.

PCS Season and Sponsorship

BLUF: Be brilliant on the basics — functional command sponsorship programs and indoctrination programs are necessary tools to ensure Sailor and command effectiveness.

NPC just completed a web poll regarding the Command Sponsorship Program. Though anecdotal, too many Sailors are commenting that a sponsor was not assigned or that they were not contacted or assisted by a sponsor. Sponsors (and command indoc) are essential steps in assuring Sailor satisfaction and top performance at a new command.

United Through Reading Military Program: Feedback Requested

BLUF: United Through Reading helps keep families connected during times of separation and foster a love of reading in children.

For Navy families that have participated - or are currently participating in this nationally-acclaimed program, United Through Reading is actively seeking feedback. Please encourage your Sailors to post their comments, stories and suggestions on United Through Reading's Facebook fan page or complete their online survey at http://www.unitedthroughreading.org/.

Online Career Tools

BLUF: This PDF is essentially a user manual for the top online career tools. Sailors should become familiar with these tools.

There's a lot of web-based technology on the NPC website to assist Sailors. Here's a Career Toolbox link that provides a summary of all online tools: http://www.npc.navy.mil/CareerInfo/StayNavyTools/CareerTools/ Remember, when eyeing a new rating or orders, talk to your Navy Career Counselor to help make informed decisions when using Perform-to-Serve and CMS/ID.

Changes to Education Priorities and Management of Off-Duty Voluntary Education for Tuition Assistance and Navy College Program for Afloat College Education

BLUF: Navy leadership remains committed to providing opportunities and financial assistance to Sailors as they pursue their educational goals.

NAVADMIN 105/10 modifies and amplifies existing policies as implemented in OPNAVINST 1560.9A, Voluntary Education for Navy Sailors, to include Individual education plans, TA/NCPACE Course requirements, required time onboard first permanent duty station (PDS), and course completion. Amplifying information is available on the Navy College website at: https://www.navycollege.navy.mil/. Contact your local Navy College Office for assistance with these new requirements.

Career Transition Office (CTO)

BLUF: The CTO will become the single point of contact for all Navy personnel transitional guidance and transition processing.

The Career Transition Office (CTO) was established to support the Navy's Total Force Vision for the 21st Century and the Chief of Navy Personnel's Continuum of Service (CoS) initiative. This supports rapid and seamless transitions across Active and Reserve Components that encourages a lifetime of Navy service, whether in uniform or as a Civil Servant.
For more information please visit: www.npc.navy.mil/CareerInfo/Transition/

Board Records

BLUF: If it is not in WERR and the candidate wants the board to see it, then submit it via a letter to the board.

Board members are provided Field Codes (electronic documents) from the Official Military Personnel File (OMPF) commonly know as the official record. Board members are also provided the candidate's PSR. What is viewable via Web Enabled Records Review (WERR) available via BOL, is what is contained in the OMPF. Therefore, if a candidate wants the board to see any correspondence other than what is viewable via WERR, they must submit it in their letter to the board. ESR, NTMPS, NSIPS data does not feed directly into the official record.

When a member reenlisted/reenlists (in most cases since Mar 2006), certain ESR documents should have/are printed and submitted for inclusion into the official record. The ESR quick reference guide on NKO dated Mar 2006 refers. Also, the EFSR close out guide, available at the below link, provides record holding commands guidance on documents to be submitted to the official record.
http://www.npc.navy.mil/CareerInfo/RecordsManagement/EFSRClsOut.htm

The NAVPERS 1070/880, ESR Awards Record - Honors and Awards and the NAVPERS 1070/881, ESR Training, Education and Qualification, are the two ESR documents that replaced the NAVPERS 1070/604, the old page 4. In discussions with many candidates on this very issue, it is rare that the 1070/880 and 1070/881 are in the official record. With implementation of the ESR 4 years ago, it appears few ESR documents have made it to the official record since that time. With the ESR close out which is currently underway, I feel this will bring many enlisted OMPFs up to date, reducing the need for candidates to have ESR pages printed and submitted with their letter to the board.

WebTA

BLUF: Prior to using WebTA, your command should have published your internal approval process. There is only one email address block for the CO or By Direction Authority.

As of April 5, all Tuition Assistance applications must be submitted via WebTA. WebTA can be found on the Navy College website, www.navycollege.navy.mil, under the My Education tab.

"Echoes" – Past Trauma to Present Life

BLUF: Combat related stress is an injury … don't be afraid to ask for help!

Many military personnel view combat-related anxiety or mood disorders as a sign of personal weakness and believe peers and leaders would lose confidence in them if they were to seek help. In the video, "Echoes" signifies the spillage of past trauma into present life. The video can be viewed at many Navy websites, including:
http://www.navy.mil/media/multimedia/llvideo/echoes_video.html
For more information on Combat and Operational Stress Control, visit
http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcsd/nccosc/Pages/welcome.aspx?slider2=1

Expeditionary Screening Checklist

BLUF: This checklist applies to all personnel mobilizing or filling a GSA/IA billet.

There is a new version of the Expeditionary Screening Checklist (NAVPERS 1300/22) out and it is vital that your CIACs get this information. The link to the PDF file can be found at:
http://www.npc.navy.mil/NR/rdonlyres/377F1D2F-3E4F-444F-B5CA-D8823FC34716/0/NAVPERS130022.pdf

Useful Links

Operation Prepare:
http://www.cnic.navy.mil/CNIC_HQ_Site/WhatWeDo/EmergencyManagement/OperationPreparedness/CNICD_A064354

Drive Smart - Distracted Driving: http://www.drivesmartva.org/projects/ddad.html

Navy Individual Augmentees: http://www.ia.navy.mil

Naval Services FamilyLine:
http://www.cnic.navy.mil/CNIC_HQ_Site/WhatWeDo/FamilyLine/index.htm