

***Greeting Shipmates!***

***Remember, you matter! Make a positive impact on someone's life today!***

### **Latest Updates**

***Reserve Component Sailor Of The Year Program.*** There are two Sailor of the Year (SOY) categories that exist within the Commander, Navy Reserve Force (COMNAVRESFOR). They are the COMNAVRESFOR Shore SOY and the Office of the Chief of Navy Reserve (OCNR) SOY. The competitive cycles for both are from 1 October 2011 through 30 September 2012. The COMNAVRESFOR Shore SOY will be selected from all Full Time Support (FTS)/Active Component (AC) E6 and below enlisted personnel. The OCNR Navy Reserve SOY will be selected from all Selected Reserve (SELRES) E6 and below enlisted personnel. One Nomination in the format in OPNAVINST 1700.10L is requested from each echelon II, III, and IV command within COMNAVRESFOR. The following dates are for your planning purposes:

15 FEB FTS/AC Packages due  
15 MAR SELRES Packages due

You can expect to see updates that will include additional information.

***Navy Convenes Second Phase of the Enlisted Retention Board.*** The second phase of the Navy's Enlisted Retention Board convened at Navy Personnel Command (NPC) Sept. 26.

ERB Phase II will review the records of 7,792 Sailors in pay grades E-6 thru E-8 who meet eligibility requirements outlined in NAVADMIN 129/11. The quota and performance based board is charged with identifying the most fully qualified Sailors for retention. Combined, the first and second phase ERB will review approximately 16,000 records for about 13,000 available retention quotas. The primary criterion for retention is sustained superior performance.

ERB was announced earlier this year as the Navy faces record-high retention and low attrition among active-duty Sailors. The purpose of the board is to reduce over manning in 31 ratings and to help the Navy meet congressionally mandated end-strength.

The ERB was divided into two four-week phases in order to reduce the amount of time selection board members would be required to be away from their commands. The first phase of the ERB convened Aug. 22 to review the records of ERB-eligible Sailors in pay grades E-4 and E-5. That board adjourned Sept. 16 and forwarded its recommendations to NPC.

Community managers from the Bureau of Naval Personnel (BUPERS) are currently reviewing the Phase I board's recommendations for conversion opportunities outlined in NAVADMIN 180/11 before forwarding the board's recommendations to the Chief of Naval Personnel for approval.

Phase II results will also be reviewed by BUPERS for conversion opportunities after the board adjourns. Navy expects to release Phase I results in October and Phase II results in November.

Sailors not selected for retention on active-duty are encouraged to consider Reserve affiliation and will have access to the Navy's transition assistance management program and

other benefits for members who are involuntary separated.

**Advancements and Board Results on BOL.** Please ensure your CO/XO/CMC access for BUPERS ONLINE (BOL) is current to obtain immediate enlisted selection board and enlisted advancement results. Enlisted selection board results and E4-E6 advancement results for both active and reserve are posted to BOL immediately following the approval of making those results public. Why is this important?

- If any of your Sailors are selected by a board and placed in a hold status, this will be your first indication as an "H" will appear in the "SEL STATUS" column next to their name. You may contact enlisted postboard matters, PERS-833, via e-mail at [enlistedpostboard@navy.mil](mailto:enlistedpostboard@navy.mil) for more information on the hold status.

- Enlisted Retention Board and Senior Enlisted Continuation Board results for those not retained or not continued will first be posted on BOL after release of a NAVADMIN announcing that the results are posted on BOL. Seven days following release of the results of those not retained or not continued, the full results will be posted to BOL providing results to individual candidates. Without CO/XO/CMC access BOL, command leadership will not have access to these results during the seven days prior to results being made to the candidates. During those seven days, command notification to those not retained or not continued shall take place. This access can be for multiple UICs, i.e. an ISIC supporting multiple commands or a NOSC supporting multiple units.

For the form to request BOL access or to update access to multiple UICs, For BOL access for Navy personnel: E-mail the PERS-4 Help Desk at [mill\\_pers-4helpdesk@navy.mil](mailto:mill_pers-4helpdesk@navy.mil)  
For BOL access for Civilian or Contractor personnel: E-mail the Legacy Help Desk at [mill\\_legacyhelpdesk@navy.mil](mailto:mill_legacyhelpdesk@navy.mil)

**MCPON Speaks at Family Readiness Symposium.** Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) addressed participants at the Navy Expeditionary Combat Command (NECC) Family Readiness Symposium Sept. 26, and offered his personal gratitude and appreciation to family members as well as his thoughts on the importance of the program.

"Family readiness is a cornerstone of warfighting readiness and has a direct impact on job satisfaction, job performance and personnel retention," said MCPON (SS/SW) Rick D. West. "A strong family support structure enables Sailors to serve and excel, and reinforces the foundation for success."

This year's NECC Family Readiness Symposium's theme was 'Improving Family Readiness: Putting Lessons Learned Into Practice.' The agenda set for the symposium incorporated lessons and best practices over the last ten years.

"The Navy's family readiness programs, policies and services continue to evolve to meet the needs of our Sailors and their families," said West. "I think this is a priority that needs to continue getting a lot of attention as it directly impacts our Sailors and Fleet readiness."

The symposium included subjects such as Joint Service Military Spouse Employment Partnership, Family Readiness Group, educational materials, Family Emergency Response Program and clinical counseling.

"The Navy continues to have the most advanced equipment, technology, weapons systems and platforms, but one thing remains the same, the engine that truly drives our Navy and the reason we are the best is because of our people," said West.

**Family programs exist to assist and empower our Reserve leaders to care for service members.**

***Federal Department of Veterans Affairs:***

The United States Department of Veterans Affairs is a federal government agency. VA is the second largest cabinet-level agency behind the Department of Defense. The primary function of VA is to provide veterans' benefits to eligible military veterans and service members.

***State Departments of Veterans Affairs:***

In addition to your federal VA benefits, individual states offer completely separate and additional state benefits to veteran residents and/or their dependents. State veterans' benefits and eligibility requirements vary by state. Visit <http://www.nasdva.net/modules.php?name=Content&pa=showpage&pid=14> to learn more about benefits available in each state.

***County Veterans Services Officers:***

County Veterans Services Officers provide assistance to veterans, their family members, and/or survivors with obtaining any county, state, and federal benefits that they may be entitled to based on military service. To locate a County Veterans Services Officer, visit <http://www.nacvso.org/modules.php?name=Content&pa=showpage&pid=10>

***Campus Veteran Services Offices:***

Many college and university campuses have a "veteran affairs" or "veteran services" office to assist veteran students.

**Navy Reserve Policy Board Issue Submission.** Every Sailor has the opportunity to participate in shaping policies which guide our Reserve Force. The Navy Reserve Policy Board (NRPB) meets in Norfolk to address issues provided from the field. The Policy board reviews issues throughout the year and is your direct line of communication to the Force policy makers. Electronic inputs are the preferred method and can be emailed to [NRPB@navy.mil](mailto:NRPB@navy.mil). For initial inputs, a blank issue submission form and additional guidance is available on the NRWS (private side). Just click on the link below. Thank you for your input and bringing Deckplate issues to senior Navy Leadership.

<https://private.navyreserve.navy.mil/3447B/n5/Shared%20Documents/n5a.aspx>

**The Weekly NR Employment Scorecard:**

<https://private.navyreserve.navy.mil/3447B/n3/NR%20Employment%20for%20OCNR/Forms/AllItems.aspx>

**October Ready Now! Newsletter:**

<http://www.navyreserve.navy.mil/Ready%20Now/Shared%20Documents/Newsletter.aspx>

**Administrative Procedures for Navy Reservists [BUPERSINST 1001.39F](#)  
Administrative Procedures for the Drilling Reserve and Participating Members of the Individual Ready Reserve [COMNAVRESFORINST 1001.5F](#)**

Please use the above links if you have any questions regarding Administrative Policy. Make sure you are up to date regarding any changes to current policy regarding your Sailors!

**NAVADMIN**

285/11 [\*\*EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM CAPABILITY IN THE NAVY FAMILY ACCOUNTABILITY AND ASSESSMENT SYSTEM\*\*](#)



**Around the Force**

***Transition Benefits: FFSC's Financial Management Program Makes Budgeting***

**Work.** Fleet and Family Support Centers (FFSC) offer the Personal Financial Management Programs to all Sailors and their families to help them become financially savvy and teach them how to handle financial crises before trouble arrives. The program, one of many Commander, Navy Installations Command FFSC programs designed to help the fleet, fighter and family, encompasses a variety if budgeting and financial planning courses and workshops.

"We offer financial management counseling courses and workshops to help military personnel and their families handle any financial situation," said Margarita Mason, Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling Military and Family Support Center transition manager. "With the many stresses already associated with a military lifestyle, Sailors and their families can alleviate financial stress by becoming educated so they can be more prepared to make sound financial decisions."

The main financial management course covers several topics including military pay and allowances and establishing and maintaining credit. During the course, attendees also learn how to avoid becoming victims of fraud, exercise their consumer protection rights, and effectively budget for their household and save and invest.

Other workshops offered through the Personal Financial Management Program include consumer awareness, credit management, car buying strategies, developing a spending plan, retirement planning, home/buying and Thrift Savings Plan. The skills Sailors learn in the program will leave them and their families better prepared to successfully navigate the transitions of Navy life, such as promotions, new family members, changes of duty station, separation or retirement.

FFSC also offers free financial counseling and can provide one-on-one assistance to completing a financial planning worksheet to help families budget. All FFSC programs are free at Fleet and Family Support Centers on installations worldwide.

FFSC also offers federal employment workshops, job fairs, transition assistance, education information, relocation assistance, and more. These services are free of charge to military personnel and their dependents. The Personal Financial Management Program is one of many transition benefits available to separating Sailors including those affected by the Enlisted Retention Board (ERB).

**Event Outlook**

- \* RC SEAC Meeting – Southington, CT (4-7 Oct)
- \* 2011 Navy National Capital Region Birthday Celebration – Alexandria, VA (14 Oct)
- \* MCPON Leadership Mess Conference – Suffolk, VA (23-28 Oct)

<b>As of 30 September 2011:</b>			
<u>Operational Support Snapshot</u>		<u>RC Medical Readiness</u>	
FY11 Pres Bud End Strength	65,500	Fully Medically Ready:	85.7% (from 85.8%)
RC Sailors (FTS/SELRES) Onboard:	65,044	Partially Medically Ready:	4.3% (from 4.2%)
RC Sailors Performing Operational Support:	15,128	Total:	90.0% (from 90.0%)
RC Sailors Mobilized or Deployed:	4,175		
RC CPOs Mobilized	691		
RC Flag Officers on Active Duty:	31		