

# THE AVENGER

JULY 2022



Mutts With A Mission

Sully H.W. Bush

Deployment Checklist

Meet the DRE & DRC

United Through Reading

July Observances

PLUS MORE!



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USS GEORGE H.W. BUSH (CVN 77)  
CCSG10



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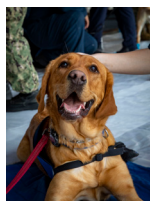
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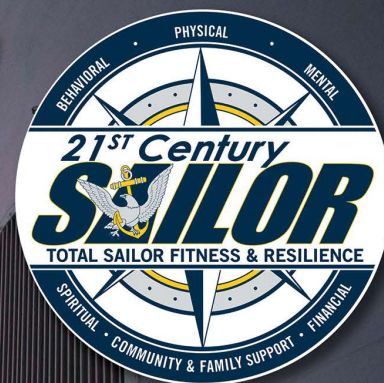


## FRONT COVER

A dog brought to the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) by Mutts With a Mission is pet by Sailors, July 20, 2022. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Bryan Valek)

The "Avenger" is produced, edited and approved by the Media Department of USS George H. W. Bush (CVN 77). "Avenger" is an authorized publication for the members of USS George H. W. Bush (CVN 77) and their families.

# Sexual Harassment Prevention and Equal Opportunity Information



## INFORMAL REPORT PROCEDURES

Any Service Member who believes to have been subjected to sexual harassment, harassment or unlawful discrimination is encouraged to utilize the informal resolution system.

### DIRECT APPROACH

Approach the person involved directly.

### INFORMAL THIRD PARTY

Ask a friend or co-worker to accompany you to talk with the individual(s) involved. Bring the situation to the attention of your chain of command, Command Managed Equal Opportunity (CMEO) Program Manager or Command Climate Specialist.

### REQUEST TRAINING

Presenting training in the areas of discrimination, harassment, sexual harassment or inappropriate behavior is a good method of communication to the offending person(s) in a non-threatening way, that the behavior is inappropriate.

**\*\*If you are unable to resolve the conflict using the Informal Resolution System use the Formal Report Procedures\*\***

## FORMAL REPORT PROCEDURES

### NAVPER 5354/2

(Navy Equal Opportunity/Sexual Harassment Report Form) - Used to process harassment, sexual harassment, and unlawful discrimination reports within a command. Provides strict timelines and outlines a detailed procedure for grievance resolution.

### NAVREGS Article 1150

(Redress of Wrong Committed by a Superior) - If the complaint is against a superior and you do not wish to use the NAVPER 5354/2 report form, you may file a complaint under NAVREGS ART 1150.

### UCMJ Article 138

(Complaint of Wrongs Against the Commanding Officer) - If the grievance is against your commanding officer, submit the formal complaint to the person exercising general court-martial authority over the commanding officer, via the chain of command.

**\*\*Contact your local Regional Legal Service Office (RLSO) for assistance when filing an ART 1150 or ART 138\*\***

## ANONYMOUS REPORT PROCEDURES

An anonymous report is information received by the commander, regardless of the means of transmission, from an unknown or unidentified source, that includes allegations of harassment, sexual harassment, and unlawful discrimination. The individual reporting the information is not required to divulge any personally identifiable information. Anonymous reports may be communicated by several means, including but not limited to the Navy Sexual Harassment and Equal Opportunity Advice Line, e-mail, or official telephone lines.

## Local Command Points of Contact

Command Climate Specialist POC: \_\_\_\_\_

CMEO Program Manager POC: \_\_\_\_\_

Equal Employment Opportunity POC: \_\_\_\_\_

Legal: \_\_\_\_\_

## Resources

Navy Sexual Harassment Prevention and Equal Opportunity Advice Line:  
1 (800) 253-0931 | Commercial: (901) 874-2507 DSN: 882

Email: [Mill\\_NavyEOAdvice@navy.mil](mailto:Mill_NavyEOAdvice@navy.mil)

[http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/support/21st\\_Century\\_Sailor/equal\\_opportunity/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/support/21st_Century_Sailor/equal_opportunity/Pages/default.aspx)

Navy Inspector General Fraud, Waste and Mismanagement Hotline  
1 (800) 522-3451 | Commercial: (202) 433-6743 DSN: 288

## References

NAVPER 5354/2 revision 8/2017 (Navy EO/SH Report Form)

UCMJ ART 138

(Complaint of Wrongs Against the Commanding Officer)

NAVREGS ART 1150

(Redress of Wrong Committed by a Superior)

OPNAVINST 5354.1 (Series)

(Navy Equal Opportunity Program Manual)

OPNAVINST 5300.13 (Series)

(Navy Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response Program Manual)

SECNAVINST 5300.26 (Series)

(Department of the Navy Policy on Sexual Harassment)

Manual for the Judge Advocate General

# Professionalism By All Hands, At All Times!



## A Sailor's Best Friend

USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) Public Affairs

Wagging tails and smiling faces are filling the hangar bays of the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) once a week throughout the month of July as the ship prepares for an upcoming deployment. The canines are welcome visitors to the ship increasing morale, joy, connectedness, and toughness while decreasing stress for Sailors as the ship wraps up preparations for deployment.

The visits are the results of strategic partnerships developed and collaboration between the ship, Avenger family members, Mutts with a Mission, Crisis Response Canines and the USO of Hampton Roads and Central Virginia.

"A lot of people already sent their dogs to other places in preparation for deployment," said Lt. Sarah Faber, assistant air operations officer for George H.W. Bush and a key organizer of the program. "You don't always realize the place that your animal holds in your life. They have an incredible impact on life and stress management because of the unconditional love that they give."

The partnerships began with an idea from a military spouse, led to discussions with a constellation of organizations inside-and-outside ship, and ended with puppies in the arms of Sailors in the hangar bay. The success of the concept is already driving interest at other commands in the region who began requesting visits from the dogs and volunteers as well. The spark of ingenuity and drive toward an achievable, worthy goal collaboratively is an example of how each Sailor or family member of a ship plays a significant role in creating the environment they want to serve and work within.

Much like the Avenger crew reflects the best elements of team – the whole of the diverse group of Sailors is greater than the sum of its parts - the ship's collaborative partnerships with community partners, its Family Readiness Group, and Ombudsmen deliver incredible value to the crew who will deploy as the warriors, leaders, teachers, and ambassadors of America.

And it isn't just the ship's Sailors and leadership team that are taking notice of the impact the furry friends have on the crew.

"It has been a great experience getting to watch the canines strengthen the moral, well-being and mental health of the Sailors on the USS George H. W. Bush," said Emily Ramsey, an operations specialist with the USO of Hampton Roads and Central Virginia. "Seeing a Sailor come up to the group of dogs with the joy and comfort on their faces is like no other. What is even better is when the Sailors sit down, get comfortable and really connect with the dogs. It gives them a sense of home."

The extension of the program beyond a single-day event was particularly beneficial to the crew. In just a short time, Sailors built bonds with the puppies who came a week earlier, which is helping them connect and express emotions in a way they cannot otherwise, which opens doors of dialogue and connection between shipmates. It also forges relationships between Sailors, Avenger family members, and the organizations involved for future collaboration after deployment.

"After the first couple of discussions, I was encouraged that we were moving forward, but I was concerned that we weren't going to have enough dogs to support what we were looking to do for the crew," said Jen Pollard who helped to spearhead the effort. "As we continued to press forward and support began to develop organically, it really took off. The opportunities for long-term relationships between our Sailors, their families, and these organizations and the faces of the Sailors as they meet the dogs each week make it all worth it."

And while the dogs won't deploy with the ship, the memories and

photos from their visits, along with updates from their handlers on where they are at in their training program, will provide continued connection. In fact, Mutts with a Mission has five puppies – three boys and two girls – that they plan to name based on their experience with the ship and its crew. Sailors aboard the ship already began pitching name ideas for the boys such as Sully, Crew, Avenger, CAVU, Freedom, Sailor, Light, Aviator, and Poppy, and Pearl, Liberty, and Robin for the girls.

In addition to the joy and stress relief that comes through playing with the puppies, many of the volunteers and staff from the organizations supporting these events are also veterans including retired nurses, psychologists, and other highly-trained professionals. This adds additional weight and depth to the experience, and also allows Sailors and veterans to work hand-in-hand to deliberately develop a positive culture and psychological safety aboard the ship – trust being the most important output and beating heart of any team.

After visiting with Sailors on the ship, many of the dogs will continue training and continue a life in service and companionship as specially trained service and/or assistance dogs to qualified veterans, law enforcement officers, and first responders. For example, Brooke Corson founded Mutts with a Mission in 2008 after witnessing the positive impact dogs provided to the troops returning from overseas deployments.

During her time working at Fort Benning, she was inspired by watching her dog Angus interact with the troops, and it was clear to her that dogs held the power to heal invisible wounds. The organization placed its first service dog in 2008 and continues to help alleviate the burdens of mobility disabilities and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) today. Renice Zimmerman with Crisis Response Canines and two additional therapy canines joined the visits to further harness the power of the human-canine bond. Their mission is to inspire resiliency and recovery in people affected by crisis, trauma or disaster.

Of course, the ship's namesake President George H.W. Bush was no stranger to man's best friend. While in office President and Mrs. Bush had a Springer Spaniel named Millie who had puppies, one named Spot who eventually lived in the White House as President George W. Bush's dog. Most recently, President Bush's service dog – a Labrador retriever named Sully – was with him for the last six months of his life. Sully received wide attention for the way he laid by the President's casket at the state funeral honoring Bush's life of service to his family and the country. Sully continued serving after the President's death at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center's Facility Dog Program where he "will visit injured veterans helping to provide comfort during rehabilitation center sessions and visit with families during what can be an emotional and very difficult time."

One thing is for certain, these dogs are proving week-after-week that they are a Sailor's best friend.

George H.W. Bush provides the national command authority flexible, tailorable warfighting capability as the flagship of a carrier strike group that maintains maritime stability and security to ensure access, deter aggression and defend U.S., allied and partner interests. For more information about the ship you can visit its Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, or official webpage. For more information about George H.W. Bush Carrier Strike Group you can visit its official website, Facebook, or LinkedIn page.



## A Sailor's Best Friend Redux: Sully H.W. Bush, Arriving!

USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) Public Affairs



The crew of the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) rounded out a month of relationship building and companionship with their canine companions with a visit from another special dog here, July 27.

Sully H.W. Bush, the yellow Lab who was former President George H.W. Bush's service dog, joined the Avenger crew as they prepare for an upcoming, scheduled deployment while wearing his new rank of Chief Petty Officer. After serving President Bush at the end of his life, Sully became one of seven dogs currently serving within the Facility Dog Program at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC). Each dog in the program completes training with an accredited outside organization before they complete additional training at WRNMMC to become 'inducted' through an enlistment or commissioning ceremony into the program by which comes with a rank, service, and uniform for each dog. Sully H.W. Bush completed his training with America's Vet Dogs before landing at WRNMMC, fulfilling one of President Bush's final wishes that his canine companion would continue serving other veterans.

Sully's visit coincided with the last of a month-long, Wednesday tradition of volunteers and dogs from Mutts With A Mission, Crisis Response Canines, and the USO of Hampton Roads and

Central Virginia visiting the ship's crew to increase morale, joy, connectedness, and toughness while decreasing stress for Sailors as the ship wraps up preparations for deployment.

As luck would have it, Sully H.W. Bush not only met the crew, but he also met with a young yellow Lab named after him who is in the process of becoming a service dog himself. The Sully-to-Sully connection took place after Mutts With A Mission founder Brooke Corson announced the younger Sully's name along with six other golden Labs the organization and volunteer puppy raisers are training to become service dogs. The George H.W. Bush and its crew inspired the names of the puppies named Avenger, CAVU, Pearl, Crew, Sailor, Liberty, and Sully.

The naming of the pups in training and Sully's visit to the ship were a fitting way to close out the weekly visits throughout July that developed bonds between Sailors and the dogs and the organizations raising them, reduced stress, and strengthened the connections between shipmates.

"It would be difficult to write a better script than having Sully here on the same day as the puppies named after our crew from Mutts With A Mission," said Lt. Sarah Faber, the ship's assistant air operations officer who lead coordination for the event. "It's great to see the relationships that Sailors have developed with the dogs, and with each other through these visits. It's been a team effort from everyone involved and I know a lot of us are looking forward to seeing the puppies grow through the pictures and updates Mutts With A Mission will share with our crew."

George H.W. Bush provides the national command authority flexible, tailorable war fighting capability as the flagship of the George H.W. Bush Carrier Strike Group which maintains maritime stability and security to ensure access, deter aggression and defend U.S., allied and partner interests. For more information about the ship you can visit its Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, or official webpage.

For more information about the George H.W. Bush Carrier Strike Group you can visit its official website, Facebook, or LinkedIn page.







# DEPLOYMENT CHECKLIST



## FOR SINGLE SAILORS

### Do you know where each of the following documents is located?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birth Certificates                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance Policies (life, health, home, vehicle, flood, others) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Divorce Decrees                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate Documents (lease, deed, first and second mortgages) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Death Certificates                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Car/Motorcycle title, registration and inspection               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical/Dental Records              | <input type="checkbox"/> Most recent Leave and Earnings Statement (LES)                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veterinarian Records (for each pet) | <input type="checkbox"/> Current Address and Phone Number of Immediate Family Members    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Passports/Visas                     |  |

### Legal Documents

- ☐ Do you have/need a will?
- ☐ Is your Record of Emergency Data (Page 2) current?
- ☐ Is the amount and beneficiary information current for the Service Member's Group Life Insurance?
- ☐ Will a general or specific power of attorney be needed to manage your affairs in your absence?
- ☐ Will your ID card expire during deployment?

### Financial Planning

- ☐ Do you have a written monthly spending plan?
- ☐ Does your budget include money for port visits, phone calls, gifts/souvenirs?
- ☐ Does your budget include additional funds for sea pay and other special payments (flight, submarine, combat duty, etc)?
- ☐ Will there be promotion during deployment?
- ☐ Will a reenlistment bonus be received during deployment?
- ☐ Do you have access to myPay?
- ☐ Are you enrolled in the Thrift Savings Plan?
- ☐ Have you established a financial goal(s) for this deployment such as pay off a vehicle, increase savings, save money to purchase a new vehicle, etc.?

### Banking

- ☐ Is pay distribution set up the way you want? Direct deposit to correct account(s)? Split pay? Any allotments or automatic check drafts?
- ☐ Do you have overdraft protection for your checking accounts?
- ☐ Will your debit/credit cards expire during the deployment?

### Taxes

- ☐ If you plan to file federal or state taxes while deployed, do you have all the necessary documents?
- ☐ Do you have a specific power of attorney if someone else will be filing your taxes, or are you going to re-request a filing extension?

### Vehicles

- ☐ Are vehicle insurance, tags, registration, title and inspection stickers current?
- ☐ Is all routine maintenance current?
- ☐ Have you made arrangements for storing your vehicle(s)?
- ☐ Have you talked with your insurance agent about reducing coverage while your vehicle is in storage?
- ☐ If a friend or family member is storing your vehicle for you, does your insurance cover them?





# DEPLOYMENT CHECKLIST



## FOR SINGLE SAILORS (CONT'D)

### House

- \_\_\_ Are you able to terminate your lease due to military deployment? Will there be a financial penalty?
- \_\_\_ If you plan to maintain your house or apartment, is your renter's/homeowner's insurance current?
- \_\_\_ Is your house/apartment prepared if it will be vacant for an extended period during deployment? Did you stop mail and newspaper, turn off or reduce temperature of water heater, air conditioning or heat, arrange lawn maintenance, etc.?

### Pets

- \_\_\_ Have you made arrangements for your pets to be cared for by family, friends or an animal foster care group (<http://www.operationnoblefoster.org>)
- \_\_\_ Does your pet's caregiver have a copy of veterinary and immunization records, current license, if required, and your vet's contact information?
- \_\_\_ Have you made arrangements to pay for food, treats and vet care while deployed?

### Emergencies

- \_\_\_ Do you have at least one month's pay saved in case of financial emergency?
- \_\_\_ Does your family know to use the American Red Cross in case of an emergency?
- \_\_\_ Does your family have the name and number to the command ombudsman? Have you given the ombudsman permission to provide information to your family members?

### Relationships

- \_\_\_ If you are in a relationship, have you discussed the effect of an extended separation?
- \_\_\_ Have you told friends and family you are deploying, provided them with your contact information and asked them to keep in touch?
- \_\_\_ If you share a house or apartment, have you instructed your housemates on the use of your household goods or are you planning to store them?

### Communication

- \_\_\_ Have you discussed how often you will communicate and by which methods?
- \_\_\_ Have you discussed how sensitive news will be shared?
- \_\_\_ Does your family have the number to the command care line, if available?
- \_\_\_ Is your family on the command phone/email tree?







# DEPLOYMENT CHECKLIST



## FOR MARRIED SAILORS

### Do you know where each of the following documents is located?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birth Certificates                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Wills   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marriage License                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Passports/Visas   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Divorce Decrees                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance Policies (life, health, home, vehicle, flood, others) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Death Certificates                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate Documents (lease, deed, first and second mortgages) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical/Dental Records              | <input type="checkbox"/> Car/Motorcycle title, registration and inspection               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veterinarian Records (for each pet) | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Security numbers for each family member                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption Papers                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Most recent Leave and Earnings Statement (LES)                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Citizenship/Naturalization Papers   | <input type="checkbox"/> Current Address and Phone Number of Immediate Family Members    |

### Legal Documents

- ☐ Is your Record of Emergency Data (Page 2) current?
- ☐ Is the amount and beneficiary information current for the Service Member's Group Life Insurance?
- ☐ Are power of attorneys needed for buying a house, moving into government quarters, completing taxes, etc.?
- ☐ Is a Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act form required to access medical records?
- ☐ Will military identification cards expire during deployment?
- ☐ Are all family members enrolled in Defense Eligibility Enrollment and Reporting System (DEERS)?

### Financial Planning

- ☐ Do you have a written monthly spending plan?
- ☐ Does your budget include money for port visits, phone calls, gifts/souvenirs?
- ☐ Does your budget include additional funds for sea pay, family separation allowance and other special payments (flight, submarine, combat duty, etc.)?
- ☐ Will there be promotion during deployment?
- ☐ Will a reenlistment bonus be received during deployment?
- ☐ Do you/your spouse have access to myPay?
- ☐ Are you enrolled in the Thrift Savings Plan?
- ☐ Do both you and your spouse understand and agree to how finances will be handled during the deployment?
- ☐ Have you decided who will be using which credit cards during the deployment?

### Banking

- ☐ Is pay distribution set up the way you want? Direct deposit to correct account(s)? Split pay? Any allotments or automatic check drafts?
- ☐ Are you using joint or separate checking accounts? If joint, have you discussed how you will manage?
- ☐ Do you need overdraft protection for your checking accounts?
- ☐ Will your debit/credit cards expire during your absence?

### Bills

- ☐ How will you be making payments to creditors? Do they have your correct address?
- ☐ How will you be paying rent/mortgage/utilities?
- ☐ Are there any annual/quarterly expenses such as car or home insurance or tuition payments due while you are deployed? If so, how will they be paid?

### Taxes

- ☐ If you plan to file federal or state taxes while deployed, do you have all the required documents?
- ☐ Do you have a specific power of attorney if someone else will be filing your taxes, or are you going to request a filing extension?





# DEPLOYMENT CHECKLIST



## FOR MARRIED SAILORS (CONT'D)

### Vehicles

- \_\_\_ Are vehicle insurance, tags, registration, title and inspection stickers current?
- \_\_\_ Is all routine maintenance current?
- \_\_\_ Have you left the name of a trusted mechanic/repair garage with your family?
- \_\_\_ Have you provided information about types of routine maintenance such as oil, filters and tires?

### House

- \_\_\_ Is all routine household maintenance complete?
- \_\_\_ Is your renter's/homeowner's insurance current?
- \_\_\_ If expecting to move into government quarters during the deployment, is a special power of attorney available to arrange the move?
- \_\_\_ If your family is planning to stay with extended family during the deployment, note that this is not covered in the military clause of most leases.
- \_\_\_ Does your lease allow you to sublet or will there be a penalty?

### Emergencies

- \_\_\_ Do you have at least one month's pay saved in case of financial emergency?
- \_\_\_ Have you considered signing a preauthorization form with Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society for your spouse?
- \_\_\_ Does your family know to use the American Red Cross in case of an emergency?
- \_\_\_ Does your family have the name and number of the command ombudsman?

### Communication

- \_\_\_ Have you discussed how often you will communicate and by which methods?
- \_\_\_ Have you discussed how sensitive news will be shared?
- \_\_\_ Does your family have the number to the command care line, if available?
- \_\_\_ Is your family on the command phone/email tree and newsletter distribution list?

### Homecoming

- \_\_\_ Have you discussed homecoming plans and expectations?
- \_\_\_ Do you want to stay at home or take a vacation upon reuniting?
- \_\_\_ If you have children, what are the homecoming plans for them?







# DEPLOYMENT CHECKLIST



## FOR SINGLE PARENT SAILORS

### Do you know where each of the following documents is located?

- \_\_\_ Does your will include who will become your child/children's guardians should something happen to you?
- \_\_\_ Have you updated your Family Care Plan? This document ensures that arrangements are in place for your dependent children.
- \_\_\_ Is your Record of Emergency Data (Page 2) current?
- \_\_\_ Is the amount and beneficiary information current for your Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance?
- \_\_\_ Do your children have ID cards and are they enrolled in DEERS?
- \_\_\_ Do you have a written financial agreement with your caregiver?
- \_\_\_ Do you have an "agent letter" to allow your child's caregiver access to the base and to services such as the commissary, exchange and medical clinic for your child?
- \_\_\_ Does your child's caregiver have a medical power of attorney to access emergency and routine care for your child/children? Do they know how to access the military medical clinic or how to file TRICARE claims if using civilian facilities?
- \_\_\_ Is a Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act form required in order for your child's care giver to access your child's medical records?
- \_\_\_ Have you discussed rules and discipline with your child's caregiver?
- \_\_\_ Do you have a plan for celebrating your child's birthday during your absence?
- \_\_\_ Have you developed a communication plan with your child's caregiver? How often will you email, phone, or send regular mail? What types of information would you like to know? Have you asked your child's care-giver to send pictures?
- \_\_\_ Does your child's caregiver have the number to the command care line, if available?
- \_\_\_ Have you asked the command ombudsman to keep your child's caregiver informed on the status of the command via the command phone/email tree and newsletter distribution list?
- \_\_\_ Does your child's caregiver have an age-appropriate car seat for transporting your child?

### Your Child

- \_\_\_ Have you told your child that you will be leaving and that you will return?
- \_\_\_ Have you made a communication plan with your child and provided them with the tools they need to stay in touch with you, such as stationery, pens, markers, stamped, self-addressed envelopes, etc?
- \_\_\_ Did you include money in your budget for phone calls, gifts/souvenirs for your children?
- \_\_\_ If you have pets, is your child's caregiver caring for them too? If the pets will be cared for elsewhere, have you explained this to your child?
- \_\_\_ Do you and your child have a support system — people you can reach in person, by phone or email — you can turn to for assistance during the deployment?
- \_\_\_ Will your child be able to see you off when you leave for deployment?
- \_\_\_ In conjunction with your child's caregiver, do you have plans to keep your child/children busy during deployment with fun activities including sports, scouts, music, church, etc.?

### Comfort Items

- \_\_\_ Have you created a photo album for you and each of your children doing things together?
- \_\_\_ Have you read and recorded your child's favorite books on audio or videotape?
- \_\_\_ Did you leave a personal item of yours for each of your children to keep until your return?

### Homecoming

- \_\_\_ Will your children be able to meet you at homecoming? If so, have you made arrangements?



# UNITED THROUGH READING®

Deployments, temporary duty or any variation of separation as a military family is undeniably hard, but reading is proving to be a useful tool in closing the distance gap. United Through Reading is a nonprofit organization providing military families with a continued bonding experience through recordings of service members reading to their families back home. For 30 years, its founder has set out to strengthen the home front through the use of literature, and the organization continues to evolve its program using innovation and technology.

Sailors can and should reach out the command religious ministries department (CRMD) to learn more about how they can use the program and benefit their loves ones.

## ***ON GHWB, WE OFFER:***



Make your appointments at the ship's library onboard GHWB to read to your children or young relatives in the library's United Through Reading lounge. They have many children's books for a wide age range already on-hand. Most Sailors use their own smart phone to record the reading (upholding PEDCON conditions).

- WHERE: Ship's Library (03-118-6L)
- J-DIAL: 5504
- EMAIL: CRMD@cvn77.navy.mil

For more information go to [unitedthroughreading.org](http://unitedthroughreading.org)



## United Through Reading: Honoring the Bush Legacy through Literacy & Family Connections

USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) Public Affairs



The United Through Reading Program's mobile story station visited the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77), July 26-27, 2022.

The mobile story station, which is a library and video studio on wheels, provided the Sailors of George H.W. Bush and Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 10 the opportunity to record themselves reading books to their loved ones before the upcoming deployment.

The two day event was organized by Chief Religious Program Specialist Angel Pacheco and Religious Program Specialist 3rd Class Chauncey Phillips to honor the Bush family legacy and lifetime mission of spreading literacy and resiliency across military families through the program.

"It was a great opportunity to bring this event to our crew prior to our deployment," said Pacheco. "Families will be able to have a recording during the first portion of deployment, instead of waiting for Sailors to mail the first recording. It was a great morale enhancing event."

The Mobile Story Unit's visit to George H.W. Bush also marked a successful first visit to the east coast, with 71 Sailors participating in 81 recorded reading sessions and taking home many free children's books.

"The act of shared reading has a profound impact on the connection between the reader and the child," said Laura Steiner, program manager Navy East, United Through Reading. "We strive to enable service members the opportunity to maintain and grow this connection during deployments and other times of separation, wherever they serve. It is our pleasure to make this accessible through our on-board Story Stations, our App, and our Mobile Story Stations. We hope this week's visit from our Mobile

Story Station brings a positive start to the USS George H. W. Bush's upcoming deployment for its crew and their families."

United Through Reading video recording sessions will continue at sea across CSG-10 as coordinated by the respective ships' religious ministry teams of chaplains and religious program specialists. Any Sailor is able to talk to a religious program specialist, chaplain, or representative about recording a video while out to sea. After the video is recorded, the video and card will be mailed to the recipient's home through the command ministries department and United Through Reading on the Sailor's behalf.

"Chaplains care for the soul of the Sailor and their families, and the best way to show that, is through acts of compassion," said Cmdr. Douglas Grace, CSG-10 chaplain. "Our entire George H.W. Bush Strike Group has built a foundation of leadership and compassion that starts at home. Just as Barbara Bush believed in family as the foundation for a legacy to endure, the Sailors within the Strike Group shared their passion for literacy by using the United through Reading program that facilitates a read-aloud experience for military families. This proven benefit strengthens family bonds and encourages early childhood literacy."

George H.W. Bush provides the national command authority flexible, tailorable warfighting capability as the flagship of the George H.W. Bush Carrier Strike Group which maintains maritime stability and security to ensure access, deter aggression and defend U.S., allied and partner interests. For more information about the ship you can visit its Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, or official webpage. For more information about the George H.W. Bush Carrier Strike Group you can visit its official website, Facebook, or LinkedIn page.



# DEPLOYED RESILIENCY EDUCATOR & DEPLOYED RESILIENCY COUNSELOR

## Deployed Resiliency Educator



**I** would say that this deployment will be as great as we make it. For some, it will be a brand new experience. For others it will be an act of reliving former deployments. For all of us, our self-awareness, attitudes, and empathy toward others will determine the outcome of the deployment. A positive attitude goes a long way in creating a positive outcome. We can accomplish the Navy's mission and create some great memories while we do it."

**Q:** How long have you been a Deployed Resiliency Educator?

**A:** I began this adventure August 1st, 2021. I am one of four retired sailors who are pioneering this prevention program. Before that, I served for 30 years in the Navy as a hospital corpsman. I have deployed with Marines and on five different surface ships around the world. I have also served as an ATG Instructor/Facilitator.

**Q:** What is your role as the DRE and what are your priorities for the crew/command?

**A:** I provide life skills training such as basic core skills, to manage stress, increase personal communication and share tools and resources to successfully navigate shipboard and family life.

**Q:** How can Sailors contact/find you?

**A:** The best way is through email. I work out of various classrooms throughout the ship.  
Email: dre@cvn77.navy.mil

## Deployed Resiliency Counselor



**D**on't look at deployment as a doom/gloom situation. Look at it as an opportunity to help out others that are less fortunate than us, and that deployment will give you an opportunity to see what kind of impact we can make on a larger scale."

**Q:** How long have you been a Deployed Resiliency Counselor?

**A:** I've been in the DRC role since January 2021 and on the Bush since March 31st, 2021. Before that, I served in the Army for 3.5 years.

**Q:** What is your role as the DRC and what are your priorities for the crew/command?

**A:** I provide short term counseling for up to 12 sessions for Sailors who may be struggling with anxiety, depression and adjustments to the military lifestyle.

**Q:** How can Sailors contact/find you?

**A:** If someone needs to get ahold of me, usually the best way to schedule with me is through email or stopping by my office and if we're in port, through cell.  
Cell: (757)-870-9618  
Email: drc@cvn77.navy.mil  
Location: 2-103-2-Q



# *PHOTOS OF THE MONTH*





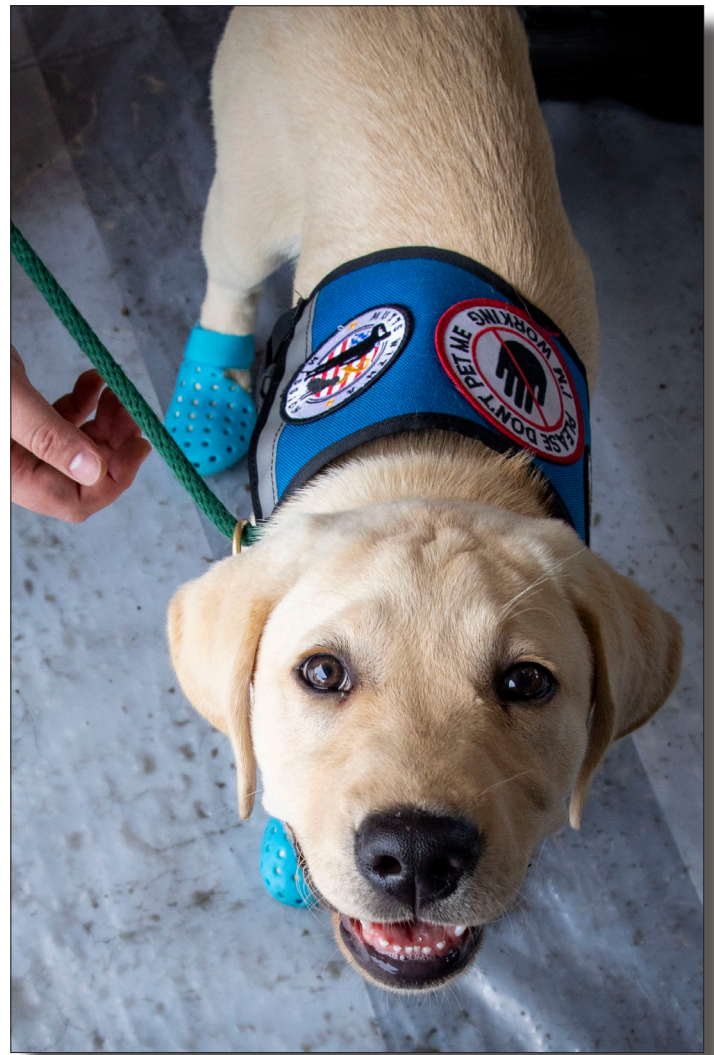


A dog brought to the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) by Mutts With a Mission is pet by Sailors, July 6, 2022. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Bryan Valek)











# INDEPENDENCE DAY

On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.

Though the vote for actual independence took place on July 2nd, from then on the 4th became the day that was celebrated as the birth of American independence. The tradition of patriotic celebration became even more widespread after the War of 1812, in which the United States again faced Great Britain. In 1870, the U.S. Congress made July 4th a federal holiday.

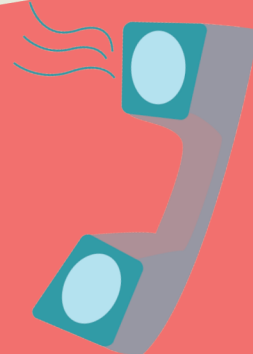


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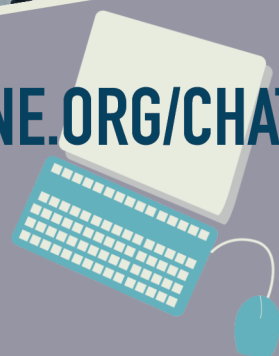
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