



CHIEF OF NAVAL PERSONNEL:
VADM Jeffrey J. Czerewko

**FLEET MASTER CHIEF OF PERSONNEL,
MANPOWER, AND TRAINING:**
FLTCM John H. Walker Jr.

S2S PRODUCED BY
CNP Public Affairs

NAVY SUBSTANCE PREVENTION EFFORTS SUPPORT A READY, RESILIENT FORCE

By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class
Jaimar Carson-Bondurant

ARLINGTON, Va. — Each October, Red Ribbon Week provides an opportunity for communities across the country to renew their focus on drug prevention and education. For the Navy, that effort is part of a year-round mission to provide Sailors, families and commands with the information and resources needed to prevent substance misuse.

This year, the Navy's recipient of the 36th Annual Secretary of Defense Community Drug Awareness Award was OPNAV N173 Substance Prevention and Deterrence Branch, Culture and Force Resilience. The service was recognized for continued commitment to substance misuse prevention and awareness through drumbeat communications to approximately 9,000 military and civilian personnel via email, an increase of 1,200

(continued on next page)



My Navy Career Center

24/7 support for pay benefits,
records, leave, and PCS

📞 (833) 330-6622

✉️ AskMNCC@us.navy.mil

SAILOR MOVES



- The Navy announced the [FY27 Active-Duty Officer Lateral Transfer and Redesignation Boards](#), offering eligible officers opportunities to transition into new communities. Applications for the February board are due Jan. 16, 2027, and applications for the August board are due July 16, 2027.
- Congratulations to the [Sailors selected for the Academic Year 2027 Medical Service Corps In-Service Procurement Program!](#) Selectees should coordinate with their commands to complete commissioning requirements.

FIT TO FIGHT



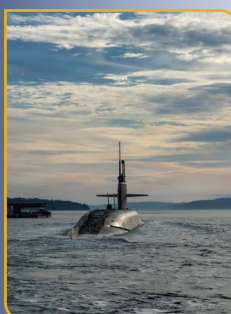
- CNO Caudle introduces the [Total Sailor: Fit to Fight Playbook](#) in [C-NOte #13](#), emphasizing the importance of developing warfighters through Mind, Body and Spirit. The Playbook provides practical guidance on cognitive fitness, physical readiness, nutrition, recovery and personal resilience to help Sailors strengthen their readiness and perform under pressure.
- Navy Wounded Warrior is [accepting applications](#) for its [2026-2027 Adaptive Sports and Reconditioning Program](#). Eligible Sailors and Coast Guardsmen can participate in activities designed to support recovery, rehabilitation and resilience.
- The Navy continues to support service members' voting rights through Military Voting Stand Down activities. Commands should provide Sailors with voting resources, registration assistance and opportunities to participate in upcoming elections during a designated duty day, consistent with NAVADMINs [234/26](#) and [242/26](#).

WHAT RIGHT LOOKS LIKE



- Calling all Navy artists! The [2026 Active-Duty Navy Art Contest](#) invites Sailors to showcase their creativity and share their experiences through original artwork. Submissions are due Dec. 31, 2026.
- The Calendar Year 2026 Naval Oceanography Awards recognize outstanding professional achievements, leadership and contributions across the Naval Oceanography community. Nominations are due Jan. 31, 2027, with submission requirements outlined in [NAVADMIN 226/26](#).
- Congratulations to the [winners of the 2026 CNO Naval History Essay Contest!](#) The annual competition recognizes outstanding writing and historical analysis that connect lessons from naval history to today's maritime challenges.

MODERNIZING THE SAILOR EXPERIENCE



- The Navy has renamed Navy Expeditionary Combat Command as Chief of Naval Expeditionary Forces (CNEF), better reflecting the command's responsibilities for developing, training and sustaining expeditionary forces, as outlined in [NAVADMIN 229/26](#).
- The Navy announced [updated career management guidance for nuclear-trained Surface Warfare Officers](#), refining assignment pathways, screening procedures and career milestones to support Fleet requirements and professional development.
- The Navy has established the [Chief of the Boat](#) rating to recognize the unique responsibilities of senior enlisted submarine leaders and strengthen leadership development within the submarine force.



(Story continued from front)

since the start of the fiscal year. The award recognizes military organizations for their drug prevention and community outreach efforts and encourages participation in the national Red Ribbon Week campaign.

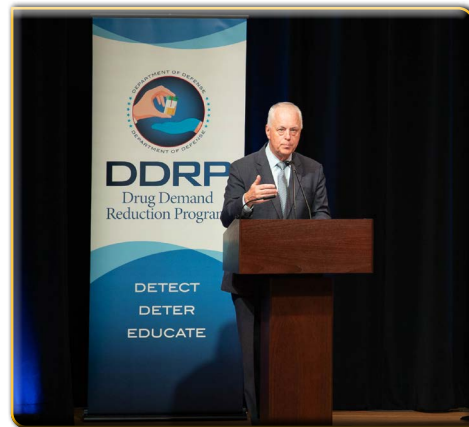
Observed annually from Oct. 23-31, Red Ribbon Week traces its origins to 1985, following the death of Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent Enrique “Kiki” Camarena, who was killed while investigating drug trafficking in Mexico. In his honor, members of his hometown community in California began wearing red ribbons and pledging to live drug-free lives. The movement eventually spread nationwide, leading to the first official National Red Ribbon Week in 1988.

“In a military environment, being drug-free is not simply a matter of compliance; it’s really a non-negotiable,” said the Honorable Anthony Tata, Under Secretary of War for Personnel and Readiness. “Our mission demands

“Our mission demands absolute focus, split-second decision-making, and total trust in our fellow service members working alongside us.”

absolute focus, split-second decision-making, and total trust in our fellow service members working alongside us.”

While Red Ribbon Week brings increased attention to substance misuse prevention each October, the Navy’s approach extends throughout the year. Through education, prevention campaigns, webinars and other resources, the Substance Prevention and Deterrence Branch works to give Sailors and commands the tools to recognize risks and make informed decisions surrounding substance use.



As part of this year’s observance, the Navy will host a fleetwide Red Ribbon Week Substance Prevention and Awareness webinar Oct. 29. The event is open to the Navy community, and participants can [register for the 10 a.m. or 5 p.m. Central time.](#)

The effort is ultimately about more than avoiding prohibited substances. Substance misuse can affect a Sailor’s health, relationships, career and ability to perform their duties, giving prevention a direct connection to the health and readiness of the force.

Sailors seeking substance misuse prevention information, educational materials or additional support can visit the [Navy Substance Prevention and Deterrence Prevention Toolkit](#). Sailors who need personal assistance can also contact their command Drug and Alcohol Program Advisor (DAPA) for guidance on available support and treatment resources.

TRAINING TO MASTERY

- The Navy announced guidance for the January 2027 Cycle 274 E7 Navy-Wide Advancement Examination and Rating Knowledge Exam for active-duty and Training and Administration of the Reserve (TAR) Sailors. Commands must validate and finalize Enlisted Advancement Worksheets in NSIPS, with exam administration scheduled for January 2027 under [NAVADMIN 241/26](#).
- Additionally, the Marine Corps Expeditionary Warfare School is offering its 2027 Marine Air-Ground Task Force Operations course to eligible Navy officers in paygrades O-3 through O-4, providing instruction in expeditionary operations, planning and Marine Air-Ground Task Force capabilities. Course information and eligibility requirements are outlined in [NAVADMIN 248/26](#).

STAY NAVY

- The Navy continues to offer [special and incentive pays for eligible Medical Service Corps officers in FY27](#). These financial incentives support recruitment and retention of qualified medical professionals across the Fleet.
- Interested in becoming a Navy Judge Advocate General? The [FY27 Judge Advocate General's Corps In-Service Procurement Program](#) offers eligible enlisted Sailors an opportunity to pursue a legal education and commission as Navy officers. Applications are due Dec. 4, 2026.
- The Navy announced FY28 advancement selection board guidance for eligible senior enlisted Sailors pursuing advancement to senior chief, master chief and command master chief petty officer. [NAVADMINs 239/26](#) and [240/26](#) outline eligibility requirements, board schedules and submission deadlines.