

From the Director's Desk

As I continue to settle in, I've begun to communicate with considerably more NOAA Corps officers, both inside and outside the Commissioned Personnel Center, as compared to my last assignment. It's quite refreshing to be interacting with other uniformed service members and experiencing the professional manner in which they have conducted themselves. Of course, as commissioned officers, we are held to such expectation. The standard by which we have set our behavior is defined by our core values; Honor, Respect, and Commitment, and summarized as follows:

Honor – Abide by an uncompromising code of integrity
Respect – Commit to treat each individual with human dignity
Commitment – Commit and dedicate ourselves to the nation and NOAA

As has been previously passed, these values serve to remind us of the importance of the profession we have chosen, the oath we've taken, and the demands placed upon us as members of a uniformed service. Any breakdown of trust or behavior by any single officer reflects on all officers. I encourage all to reflect upon these values often and to continue to conduct oneself accordingly at all times.

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Captain Todd C. Stiles, NOAA Director, Commissioned Personnel Center

CPC Human Resource Audit

During the week of 18 September, CPC will be undergoing a Department of Commerce Human Resource Audit. The Department does a number of HR audits on an annual basis. Please be aware that some of you may receive a call from those performing the audit. Your participation is encouraged and appreciated should you receive a call. CPC will continue operating all services during the audit period.

Promotion Update

Congratulations to the following officers who were promoted effective September 5, 2006.

To Be Commander:

Philip A. Gruccio Richard R. Wingrove Randall J. TeBeest John J. Adler

To Be Lieutenant Commander:

Julie V. Helmers Mark A. Wetzler Kurt A. Zegowitz Timothy J. Gallagher Joe C. Bishop

To Be Lieutenant:

Paul W. Kemp Katherine R. Peet Michael G. Levine Bryan R. Wagonseller Allison B. Melicharek Earl M. Spencer Jeffrey D. Shoup Hector L. Casanova Amanda M. Bittinger Nicole M. Manning Eric T. Johnson Jasper D. Schaer Jessica E. Daum

To Be Lieutenant (junior grade):

Samuel F. Greenaway Tracy L. Hamburger Michael O. Gonsalves Olivia A. Hauser Daniel E. Orr Rebecca J. Almeida Tony Perry, III Jonathan R. French Amy B. Cox Paul S. Hemmick Matthew J. Jaskoski Stephen C. Kuzirian Lindsey M. Vandenberg

11 additional promotions will begin the NOAA clearance process on Monday, September 18. If you have any questions regarding promotions, please contact Greg Raymond at 301-713-7728.

Uniform of the Day

RADM De Bow approved the Winter Uniform of the Day for the NOAA Corps on September 14, 2006. Official notification has been sent to all officers via email. The effective date of the change in Washington, DC, Boulder and Seattle is October 2. Officers in Norfolk make the change on October 9, 2006.

Officer Leave Balances

By law, the account balance of accrued leave must be reduced to 60 days at the end of the fiscal year for all NOAA officers. Officers should take steps to reduce their annual leave balances sufficiently throughout the year to avoid this forfeiture. All leave slips documenting completed leave should be forwarded immediately to the Commissioned Payroll Unit. Questions regarding the forfeiture of leave should be directed to J. Thompson or Carol Holley, 785-339-3497 or 785-339-3499.

On the Horizon

This section is designed to provide the NOAA Corps officers with some of the highlights of items under consideration that may have an impact on them. The items discussed may or may not be approved at a later date.

- 1. NOAA Corps Legislation: CPC staff has drafted and submitted new legislation for the NOAA Corps. The legislation is currently routing though the internal NOAA/DOC processes. This legislation addresses NOAA Corps recruitment, retention, promotion and disciplinary procedures by updating, strengthening, and clarifying the language of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officers Act of 2002.
- 2. Operational Dress Uniform. The NOAA Corps currently purchases the majority of its uniforms from the U. S. Navy. The U. S. Navy is replacing its working uniform with a camouflage battle dress uniform (BDU), which is not suitable to meet the missions of the NOAA Corps. The U. S. Coast Guard uses an operational dress uniform (ODU) that is a suitable replacement for the U. S. Navy working uniform. CPC staff is currently working with the Uniform Staff of the U. S. Coast Guard to

pave the way for using their Operational Dress Uniform. We have developed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), which we hope to have through the routing process and approved by the end of the year.

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