

# Commissioned Personnel Center CYBERFLASH



May 16, 2008

## Director's Message

Many officers have asked over the past several weeks if CPC could share the contents of the precept letters and director's guidance to the selection board members for this year. In an effort to be more transparent on the promotion process and to assist officers in preparation for future selection boards, the precept letters and directors guidance have been posted on the NOAA Corps website at the link below. Board membership has been redacted from these letters to keep board members anonymous. I hope by releasing this information, officers will find that the best-qualified system allows all officers to be impartially and equally considered; applies the same criteria of selection to all officers; and evaluates officers in the zone by comparison, with the best-qualified officers advancing to positions of higher responsibility.

### Precept Letters for Selection Boards by Grade:

[http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/perservices/pdf/precepts2008/Precept\\_CAPT.pdf](http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/perservices/pdf/precepts2008/Precept_CAPT.pdf)

[http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/perservices/pdf/precepts2008/Precept\\_CDR.pdf](http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/perservices/pdf/precepts2008/Precept_CDR.pdf)

[http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/perservices/pdf/precepts2008/Precept\\_LCDR.pdf](http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/perservices/pdf/precepts2008/Precept_LCDR.pdf)

[http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/perservices/pdf/precepts2008/Precept\\_LT.pdf](http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/perservices/pdf/precepts2008/Precept_LT.pdf)

[http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/perservices/pdf/precepts2008/Precept\\_LTJG.pdf](http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/perservices/pdf/precepts2008/Precept_LTJG.pdf)

### Director of the NOAA Corps Guidance to FY08 Officer Selection Boards:

<http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/perservices/pdf/precepts2008/FY08DirectorsGuidancetotheOPB.pdf>

Happy 91st Birthday NOAA Corps!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. B. Kearse".

CAPT William B. Kearse, NOAA  
Director, Commissioned Personnel Center

## Announcements

### Update to CPC's Assignments Website

An updated Billet List along with approved BOTC-112 and May OAB assignments has been posted and can be viewed on the following link:

<http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/careermgmt/assignments.html>

If you should have any questions regarding the information, please feel free to contact LCDR John T. Caskey at 301-713-7748 or [john.caskey@noaa.gov](mailto:john.caskey@noaa.gov)

### **The Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) for MERCHANT MARINERS**

All credentialed U.S. merchant mariners must obtain a TWIC (no later than September 25, 2008). This includes all persons holding a Coast Guard-issued merchant mariner's license, merchant mariner's document (MMD), Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW) Certificate, or certificate of registry (COR). With the implementation of TWIC, the Coast Guard MMD would primarily serve as proof of the bearer's professional qualifications. The Coast Guard has drafted a supplementary proposed rule (published in the same Federal Register edition as the TWIC final rule) that proposes to combine the elements of all four current merchant mariner professional credentials into one certificate called the Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC). The Coast Guard and TSA are streamlining the process for the two credentials to reduce costs, duplication of effort, and processing time for mariners. If the MMC proposed rulemaking is finalized as currently written, the Coast Guard would

begin issuing the MMC in September of 2008 and would phase in the replacement of mariner's current credentials over a period of five years. Mariners would be issued their credential in the form of an MMC at the time they renew their current credential, or when applying for a new credential. The proposed rulemaking would not affect the validity of a mariner's current credential.

The fee for TWIC will be \$132.50 and it is valid for five years. Workers with current, comparable background checks will pay a reduced fee of \$105.25. If workers are eligible to pay the lower price, their TWIC will expire 5 years from the date of the comparable credential (additional information is provided in the next question). The cost of a replacement TWIC, if the original is lost, stolen or damaged is \$60.

The following website will help address questions regarding the TWIC program:

[http://www.tsa.gov/what\\_we\\_do/layers/twic/index.shtm](http://www.tsa.gov/what_we_do/layers/twic/index.shtm)

### **Approved Retirements**

The following officers have approved retirements. Be sure to thank them for their service to NOAA and nation and wish them the best the next time you see these officers!

LCDR Stephen J. Thumm	July 1, 2008
CDR Thomas E. Strong	July 1, 2008
CAPT Stephen A. Kozak	January 1, 2009
CAPT John W. Humphrey, Jr.	January 1, 2009
CAPT Sean R. White	July 1, 2009

## On the Horizon

January-May, 2008	Billet Review
June 6, 2008	Aviation Selection and O-5 OAB
June 9, 2008	BOTC 112 Graduation
July 10, 2008	O-4 OAB
July 31, 2008	End of OER Reporting Period for O-1s and O-2s
August 4, 2008	Start of BOTC 113
October 6-31, 2008	REFTRA 65

**Please see NOAA Corps website for additional information:**

Assignments: <http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/careermgmt/assignments.html>

Evaluations: <http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/careermgmt/evaluation.html>

Training: <http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/careermgmt/training.html>

Uniforms & Awards: <http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/perservices/awards.html>