

Commissioned Personnel Center CYBERFLASH



08 February 2013

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Director's Message

I received the following message this week from an officer who recently completed a seminar about understanding yourself and others. I thought it was appropriate to share this message which focuses on choice.

What constitutes making the "right" choice consists of assessing a number of factors related to the situation at hand. There are occasions when the choice is not ours to make, such as being struck by a major illness or significant life event. Some choices (such as which future assignments to consider) are easier to make than others. Yet, the difficult choices are the most character-defining. Making decisions can be aided by having a strong moral compass, values including honor, respect and commitment in which we believe, and as appropriate, relying on the advice of others.

I appreciate him sharing these insights with us. There are certainly some valuable reminders in his musings.

Too often we blame our behavior, attitude and overall happiness (or unhappiness) on the circumstances that surround us. In reality, we are not a product of our circumstances, but instead a product of our choices. We have the freedom of choice. We can choose to be happy, we can choose to be angry, and we can choose to give others the power over our emotions, or not. In turn, we are responsible for those choices. Not only do we have the freedom to make choices, but we have the freedom to choose our response and reaction to outside influences we may not have control over (moods, feelings, circumstances).

Our life is a result of our own decisions, not of our conditions. As officers in the NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps, we took an Oath of Office. This Oath was taken under our own free will. It was the result of our choice to serve our Country. And *that* choice comes with sacrifices. We develop relationships, we acquire pets, and some choose to start families - get married, have children. Some of us then choose to resign our commission, because family or other priorities do not enable us to leave for the long periods of time required for the job we do. Others of us choose to continue to serve our Country and provide for our families the best way we can...and we choose to accept our next assignment, well knowing the sacrifice we make. We miss soccer games or ballet recitals. We miss weddings, friends, and family vacations. We miss our significant others, our spouses, our children, our cats and our dogs. That sacrifice is not taken lightly, nor should it be undermined. But the sheer beauty of it all is that we are the owners of our life, and we have the freedom of choice.

"When we can no longer change a situation, we are challenged to change ourselves." Viktor Frankl, legendary psychiatrist and Holocaust-survivor.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne K. Lynch".

**CAPT Anne K. Lynch, NOAA
Director, Commissioned Personnel Center**

Unit Identification Code

Several officers attempting to receive medical services at a Military Treatment Facility

(MTF) are being asked for a Unit Identification Code (UIC). A UIC identifies your active duty

service unit. The NOAA Corps does not utilize this code.

When a UIC is requested from an

MTF employee, officers should:

1) inform him/her that NOAA Corps does not use a UIC, and

2) provide

them with the code "55555" which is classified as unknown.

Officers with a change

in duty station from one region to another region must register for healthcare at the Patient

Administration Office within the new MTF, and provide the representative with the above code

prior to changing his/her enrollment status with the TRICARE office. Any questions or concerns

from the MTF should be directed to [CDR Hobson-Powell](#), Chief, Medical Administration

Branch at (301) 713-7718.

Leave Accounts and Emails From UCGP1PH - Clarification

CPC received a question regarding emails received from "ucgp1ph" with the subject line "Absence Request Routed for Approval" and/or "Absence Request Approved". As you know, the USCG has transitioned to an automated leave system accessible through PeopleSoft. These emails are products of that transition. When a NOAA Corps officer submits their endorsed 56-12 form to the NOAA Corps Payroll Unit for processing, the information is entered into the USCG's leave system, and then the Payroll Unit acts as the approving official for all leave transactions. As a result, an email is generated and sent to the officer confirming the receipt of their completed form, and a second email is sent when processing of the form has been completed.

There is no additional action required for the officer other than submitting the endorsed form

to NOAACorps.PayrollUnit@noaa.gov upon completing your leave. NOAA Corps is still using the NOAA Form 56-12

"[Request and Authorization for Leave](#)" for requesting, authorizing and reporting leave, and will continue to monitor the USCG automated system for potential future implementation.

CPC Closed February 28th and March 1st

To complete processing of End of Year Package materials and perform some much needed archiving and housekeeping, CPC will be closed February 28th and March 1st. All service requests received on these dates will not be reviewed until Monday, March 4th. In case of an emergency, please contact Deputy Director, CPC, Monica M.P. Matthews directly 301-523-2217 for assistance.

Awards Conveyed between July 2012 and January 2013

Please join us in congratulating the following officers who were awarded for their achievements in the last 6 months.

NOAA Corps Commendation Medal	NOAA Corps Achievement Medal	NOAA Corps Director's Ribbon
CDR Nancy Hann CDR Robert Kamphaus CDR Keith Roberts CDR Peter Siegel CDR Shepard Smith LCDR Chad Cary LCDR Keith Golden LT Megan Guberski LT Jonathan Heesch	CDR Nancy Hann LCDR Bradley Fritzier LCDR Catherine Martin LCDR Jennifer Pralgo LCDR Nicholas Toth LCDR Kristie Twining LT Madeleine Adler LT Matthew Burton LT Matthew Glazewski LT Paul Hemmick LT Megan Nadeau LT Matthew Nardi LT John Rossi	CDR Lawrence Krepp LCDR David Demers LCDR Benjamin Evans LT Christopher Daniels LT Matthew Forney LT Adrienne Hopper LT Matthew Nardi LT Carl Rhodes LTJG Van Helker LTJG Anthony Klemm ENS John Kidd

	LT Timothy Smith LTJG David Cowan LTJG Laura Gibson LTJG Matthew O'Leary LTJG Kyle Salling LTJG Timothy Siquefield	
		Public Health Service Award LT Adrienne Hopper LTJG Van Helker LTJG Anthony Imberi LTJG Larry Thomas
NOAA Unit Citation Award		
NOAA Ship <i>Henry B. Bigelow</i> CAPT Anne Lynch CDR Kurt Zegowitz LCDR Erich Bohaboy LT Stephen Kuzirian LTJG Anthony Imberi LTJG Kyle Jellison	NOAA Ship <i>Nancy Foster</i> LCDR Holly Jablonski LT Joshua Slater LTJG Richard Park ENS Richard DeTriquet ENS Michael Doig ENS Kelsey Jeffers	

On the Horizon

End of Year Package Submissions Due	15 February 2013
Officer Assignment Board	21 February 2013
RefTra 74	03 -23 March 2013
CAWG for Operations Officers	August 2013

Approved Resignations, Separations, and Retirements

The following officers have approved retirements, resignations, or separations with in the **next three months**. Be sure to thank them for their service to NOAA and nation.

LT Matthew Glazewski	30 March 2013
LTJG Marina O. Kosenko	01 April 2013
CDR Gregory G. Glover	01 April 2013
CDR Todd A. Haupt	1 April 2013
CAPT David O. Neander	1 April 2013