MEMORANDUM FOR: Chair, Officer Personnel Board

FROM: Rear Admiral Michael J. Silah, NOAA Director, NOAA Corps

SUBJECT: Precept for Lieutenant (junior grade) Selection Board

Pursuant to NOAA Corps Directives 04203, 04204, and 04205, a Selection Board is appointed to consider officers for promotion to the grade of lieutenant (junior grade).

In accordance with NOAA Corps Directives, Chapter 4, Part 3, Qualifications, NOAA Corps officers eligible for promotion shall be found to be mentally, physically, and professionally qualified. The NOAA Corps’ operational excellence requires an array of skills and expertise. Every community contributes to our overall success. Each community is essential and provides its own path to leadership and technical proficiency, though opportunities for command may come at different levels and numbers depending on the community. Operational competence, including achievement of operational qualifications and certifications, is important in demonstrating an officer’s potential at this rank. The Board is required to review the entire OPF.

All proceedings of this Board will be undertaken consistent with NOAA-wide policies concerning equal employment opportunity and equal treatment, as well as Executive Branch Principles of Ethical Conduct. To assist the Board deliberations, the Director, CPC, will provide summaries of NOAA’s current policies that can have a determining factor on this Board. The NOAA Corps’ commitment to equal opportunity, without regard to race, creed, color, gender, national origin, or occupational specialty, must be without question and readily apparent to all whom would independently review this commitment.

Subject to existing law, directives, and the oath taken, each Board member is to be governed by his/her own judgment when giving weight to the broad qualification criteria, which are contained in NOAA Corps Directive 04303. You should emphasize to the members of the Board the importance of their obligation to confine themselves to facts of records and not predicate judgments on rumor or hearsay. At the end of your deliberations, all members must be able to say that the officers recommended for promotion are in the opinion of at least a majority of the Board, the best qualified to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the grade for which they are selected.

The promotion zone shall consist of fourteen (14) ensigns on the lineal list consisting of the most senior officer in the grade of ensign; namely, ENS Lee Shoemaker and those thirteen (13) officers junior thereto who have not been previously selected for promotion. Those officers
found qualified shall be recommended for promotion. Those officers not qualified for promotion shall be reviewed for separation from the NOAA Corps.

The Board shall convene at 0900 on Friday, May 18, 2018, at OMAO, 8403 Colesville Road, Suite 500, Large Conference Room, for the purpose of considering all officers in the grade of ensign who are eligible for consideration for promotion to the grade of lieutenant (junior grade) in the NOAA Corps. Members of the Board shall swear or affirm that they will, without prejudice or partialities, and having in view the records of the officers and the efficiency of the NOAA Corps, perform the duties imposed upon them.

The following officers will comprise the Board membership:
Captain Keith W. Roberts, NOAA – Chair
Commander Christopher M. Kerns, NOAA
Commander Jason R. Mansour, NOAA
Commander Briana W. Hillstrom, NOAA
Commander Amanda L. Goeller, NOAA

The following non-voting members are authorized to assist the Board as needed:
Captain Devin R. Brakob, Director, Commissioned Personnel Center (CPC)
Katherine Raymond – Chief, OPMD
Charise C. Stewart – Human Resource Specialist, OPMD
LCDR Laura Gibson – Staff Officer, OPMD

The Board shall submit a report in writing signed by all members of the Board. Except for the report of this Board, the proceedings of the Board will not be disclosed to any person not a member of the Board. You will direct the members of the Board that their recommendations and deliberations will be kept confidential and that any violation of the confidentiality of the Board may result in disciplinary action.