

Navy

January/February 2007

Judge Advocate General's Corps
JAGG



**Accomplishments
of 2006**

**Re-discovering the
law of war**

NSPS begins

**Focus on 2020:
The military justice
career path**

**Paralegal education
opportunities for LNs**

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JAG

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A New Way to Communicate

Looking back over the past year, our JAG Corps has accomplished much for which we can all be proud. Whether deploying in support of the Global War on Terror, providing legal counsel and assistance at home and abroad, or transforming the way we do business, your performance has been truly extraordinary. Navy and Joint leaders everywhere understand and appreciate that the work you do is an indispensable part of their mission accomplishment.

Over the past few years, a supportive culture of transformation in the Navy has allowed us to look at our own community and begin to change it in ways that will better meet the challenges of the future. You have read and heard much about *JAG Corps 2020*, our transformation strategy. We completed the plan and have already begun to execute it. Critical to its success is communicating our accomplishments, which is where the JAG Magazine comes in.

In this inaugural issue, you will read about our major accomplishments for 2006. Also in the January edition, you will find the details of many community-wide changes that will affect your working environment – from JAG Corps implementation of the National

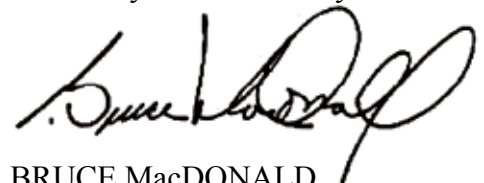
Security Personnel System, to the ongoing development of our military justice career path and Legalmen educational opportunities. Finally, our JAG Corps continues to play a key role in the Global War on Terror throughout the world; the article discussing the Military Commissions Act describes one area in which we have prominently contributed to the GWOT.

Look for future issues of the JAG Magazine with articles containing the latest news for our officer, enlisted and civilian communities. It is important for each of us to read about and understand our collective accomplishments as they continue to shape the Navy JAG Corps of the future. Please give us your feedback; we truly value your thoughts and suggestions.

Once again, Rear Admiral Houck,



Rear Admiral Joerg and I could not be more proud of you and your many accomplishments. Thank you for all you do each day.



BRUCE MacDONALD
Rear Admiral, JAGC, U.S. Navy
Judge Advocate General

JAG Corps Accomplishments for 2006: *Looking Ahead to 2007*

From Iraq, Afghanistan, the Horn of Africa, and Guantanamo Bay, to courtrooms and senior staff offices, on the waterfront and at sea, our judge advocates, legalmen, and civilians serve as legal navigators to our Navy's senior leaders, Sailors, and families. In 2006, our accomplishments were considerable and widespread. Most notably, we laid down our strategic course with the publication of *JAG Corps 2020*. The result of countless hours of work and the input of our entire JAG Community, *JAG Corps 2020* charts the JAG Corps' future as an integral part of the naval, joint, and combined forces. As we transform into a more agile and effective force, we will continue to provide timely, authoritative advice to our leaders, enabling them to complete their mission, both operationally and organizationally, while constantly examining ways to improve. We are already making strides toward our strategic objectives. The following are just some of our major accomplishments in each transformation focus area.

Operations

This past year, the Navy JAG Corps was engaged in the full spectrum of military operations, providing superb legal solutions in the naval, joint, and combined operational commands. The JAG Corps completed 115 individual augment (IA) assignments during 2006 (active and reserve, officer and enlisted), bringing our total IA deployments since the initiation of the GWOT to 278. The JAG Corps remained the only officer community in the Navy to provide an all-volunteer IA

force, a testament to the dedication and commitment of our personnel.

Many of our headquarters personnel provided invaluable support to the interagency process in fashioning the legislative response to the case of *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld*, resulting in the Military Commissions Act of 2006. In a truly critical and historic moment in U.S. history, Navy Judge Advocates ensured that our nation's jurisprudence reflects an appropriate balance between national security interests and the individual rights of alien unlawful enemy combatants brought before military commissions.

Accountability

The American people expect, and deserve, the highest standards of personal and professional conduct from the Armed Forces, and the JAG Corps is charged with providing legal advice and solutions on all issues related to accountability. In 2006, we took important steps to increase our efficiency and effectiveness in this area.

In the area of standards of conduct, we provided leadership to the SECNAV working group tasked to reinforce ethical standards as a foundation of exemplary conduct within the Department of the Navy (DON). In addition, we

partnered with the Navy Office of General Counsel (NOGC) to create a collaborative website for ethics advice and to develop a specified training program for DON ethics counselors.

We took steps to adjudicate the backlog of cases pending UCMJ Article 66 review by increasing the size of the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals (NMCCA). The NMCCA doubled in size from nine to 18 appellate judges. Five reserve military judges serving in Active Duty for Special Work (ADSW) assignments provided the majority of the "surge capability" that resulted in a significant increase in productivity. Seven ADSW reserve judge advocates also contributed by serving as personal law clerks to the appellate judges.

The process to create a military justice litigation career track is well underway. We drafted precept language directing that selection boards specifically recognize and consider military justice litigation expertise as a critical skill in our ranks. Selection board precepts incorporate this language beginning this promotion season. Our goal is to establish a cadre of specialists and detail them to billets that capitalize on their skills, both as litigators and as mentors for the next generation of litigation specialists. Concentrating our military justice expertise will allow the JAG Corps to realize efficiencies in this field, freeing up personnel to provide direct support to operational commanders.

Sailor Legal Readiness

The Navy's most important asset is its people. In 2006, the JAG Corps

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ensured the legal readiness of military personnel and their families so that Sailors could properly focus on their mission. The Navy's legal assistance offices provided 247,548 services and generated 159,880 documents for 167,758 clients. Additionally, legal assistance personnel provided 1896 preventive law and pre-deployment briefs for 36,954 Sailors and family members.

As part of the Navy's Electronic Tax Filing program, volunteers at 133 tax centers filed 82,633 federal and state tax returns for more than 60,000 clients. This resulted in expediting approximately \$116 million in refunds and saving clients \$8.9 million in tax preparation services.

We are thoroughly examining our legal assistance practice under **JAG Corps 2020**. A senior coordination group, comprised of Commanding Officers, from Naval Legal Service Offices (NLSOs) and Region Legal Service Office, Europe and Southwest Asia (RLSO EURSWA), and Code 16, Legal Assistance, is conducting a detailed analysis of our legal assistance practice and will soon provide detailed recommendations of essential legal assistance services that will most benefit our Sailors and their families.

Navy Legal Readiness

In 2006, the JAG Corps provided legal solutions that ensured the Navy's ability to organize, man, train, and mobilize military forces. We tried more than 450 courts-martial; adjudicated more than 18,000 claims; collected more than \$22.5M in Medical Care Recovery Act (MCRA), Federal Claims Collection Act (FCCA), and Carrier Recovery claims; reviewed scores of selection board precepts and promotion cases; and rendered thousands of legal opinions throughout the Navy on an astounding range of issues.

The JAG Corps supported U.S. government attorneys in the federal courts and in framing, drafting, and reviewing

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policy, legislation, and regulatory matters affecting a broad spectrum of Navy personnel issues such as diversity programs for the future, the privilege protecting promotion board deliberations, and the Department's recruiting, accession, promotion, and retention policies.

We provided legal review and analysis for numerous changes to the Navy's officer promotion process including transition to an All-Regular-Force, a new process for screening adverse information for flag promotion boards, and a zero-based review of Navy promotion board precepts.

JAG Corps Organization

We established the RLSOs to provide quality legal services to fleet and installation commands worldwide. In the EURSWA theatre, we initiated a two-part pilot project. The Naval Legal Service Office (NLSO) transferred its legal assistance mission to the RLSO, establishing the NLSO as solely a provider of defense services. If this reorganization of missions is deemed successful, it could shape the future organization of the Naval Legal Service Command (NLSC).

The JAG Corps also reorganized and realigned claims processing with all offices now reporting to Claims & Tort Litigation Division (Code 15) at OJAG. Personnel Claims Act, Federal Torts Claims Act, and Federal Claims Collection Act functions are now centralized in Norfolk and the Personnel Claims Unit Norfolk and the Tort Claims Unit Norfolk are up and running. Three Medical Care Recovery Units remain in Norfolk, San Diego, and Pensacola, but are now linked directly to Code 15. The result of this consolidation is a more cost-effective, efficient, and responsive claims practice.

The Navy-Marine Corps Trial Judi-

ciary has also undergone significant reorganization in the past year by consolidating circuits. The net result has been that our Navy and our Marine Corps judges are working more closely together within the circuits. Navy and Marine Corps Reserve judges have made significant contributions in the past year, having served as the primary providers of judicial support for the Southern Circuit during the first half of the year and by providing judicial support to our deployed forces in Iraq.

We are establishing a new Article 6, UCMJ/Command Assessment process with revised inspection criteria that more closely align with **JAG Corps 2020** and focus on metrics-driven performance measures and leadership standards. In February 2007, we will conduct a pilot inspection at RLSO Japan and NLSO Pacific using the new process.

Active-Reserve Integration

During 2006, we continued to receive superb support from our Reserve component. More than 50 officer and enlisted personnel devoted their time, extensive knowledge, and professional expertise by accepting extended periods of active-duty time in support of the GWOT. Reserve personnel also readily adjusted their work schedules to provide "flex drilling" services during normal weekday business hours. Additionally, members of our Reserve team were fully engaged in **JAG Corps 2020** transformation, proposing a major reserve unit and billet restructuring to more closely integrate and align reserve units and personnel with supported commands to improve efficiencies in delivering quality, effective and timely legal services to the fleet.

JAG Corps Personnel Policy

We completed preparations to convert to the National Security Personnel System (NSPS) during 2006 in anticipation of the January 21, 2007 conversion. We trained our employees and supervisors (military and civilian) to ensure they understood their respective responsibilities under NSPS. Additionally, we developed standard criteria for use across the enterprise to ensure consistency in evaluating and rewarding employee performance.

The competition to join the Navy JAG Corps remains remarkably keen – our overall officer accession selection rate was 21 percent. In 2006, we accessed 67 new judge advocates of unparalleled quality. To keep pace with our competitors for legal talent, we funded a web-based JAG Corps recruiting video, increased our recruiting travel budget, and developed a new comprehensive instruction on JAG Corps recruitment and accessions boards.

We continue to maintain demographic and experiential diversity in our Corps. Statistically, our demographics are already better than the overall Navy's; however, true diversity encompasses more than race and gender related statistics. In order to develop and implement a comprehensive diversity strategy plan consistent with the Chief of Naval Operations' Navy-wide diversity program, we appointed a new Special Assistant for Diversity last year. In 2007, we will implement a comprehensive plan to further enhance a culture of diversity in the JAG Corps that values and recognizes

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Professional Development

Through the Naval Justice School (NJS), we trained more than 10,000 lawyers, PCO/PXO and other fleet leaders, paralegals, legal support personnel, and limited duty officers in 143 courses offered in 13 different geographic locations. A “just-in-time” training course was developed specifically for officer and enlisted IAs headed to Iraq. The course, offered in March and September 2006, drew upon lessons learned and provided up-to-date information on TF-134 operations, the political and insurgent landscape, the U.S. mission, and more practical issues such as handling classified information, Army familiarization, and recommended packing list. The Lieutenant Commander (Select) Leadership Training Symposium focused on practical training in areas including leadership philosophy and ethical decision-making, fitness report writing, and effective use of paralegals.

The Legalmen (LN) Professional Development Program continued to take shape as we prepared for the first LN Accession Course at NJS in almost three years. We have partnered with Roger Williams University to establish four completely new, ABA-approved, courses: Ethics, Introduction to Law, Emerging Legal Technologies, and Research and Writing. These courses provide our LN Accession Course students ten face-to-face credit hours applicable to any ABA-approved paralegal course. Our NJS JAG officer staff will teach these courses in-house in conjunction with the newly-formed Paralegal Department. NJS also received approval to extend the LN Accession course from nine weeks to eleven weeks to accommodate the additional academic workload. The first class to benefit from these improvements will con-

vene on April 16, 2007 and will graduate on June 29, 2007. We look forward to seeing these new accessions in the Fleet!

Those LNs who choose to work with Roger Williams to pursue their paralegal degree will also benefit from NJS's efforts to obtain American Council on Education (ACE) college credit for all of our resident LN training courses. Roger Williams has been a tremendous partner in our education efforts, waiving application fees and lowering tuition costs for our LN students. Roger Williams' faculty have also worked with Code 65 and members of the Transformation Team to develop long-distance education modules that can be accessed by all LNs, regardless of where they may be.

Also within the LN community, we have developed a comprehensive LN training module and Personnel Qualification Standards (PQS) continuum that use the Navy's Work Space Trainer program, which requires all LNs to maintain knowledge, skills, and abilities commensurate with their pay grade. This program will enhance existing training by making relevant rate training available to all LNs via Navy Knowledge Online (NKO).

Knowledge Management and Information Technology

In late 2006, we completed Phase I of upgrading our court reporting system by purchasing more than \$100,000 in state-of-the art digital court reporting equipment and training RLSO personnel in proper operation to facilitate the emailing of proceedings to transcription firms for expeditious transcription and processing. We will now pursue Phase II, the implementation of a system which will deliver the digitally recorded proceedings to a single source transcription service to further increase standardization. The ability to transfer records electronically will greatly enhance our ability to meet post trial processing guidelines.

We established Communities of Prac-

tice (COPs) on NKO for all JAG Corps functional areas, including Military Justice, Legal Assistance, and Civil Law. Code 11 is committed to expanding fleet-wide awareness of common admiralty issues through Command Judge Advocate training and fleet-wide publication of Division newsletters via web-based COP. We also established the Ethics COP with NOGC as mentioned above and developed a joint JAG COP template for future collaborative initiatives with the other Department of Defense legal entities, uniformed and civilian.

The military justice COP is a true success story. The invaluable reach-back capability Code 20 provides through the military justice COP has already resulted in a nearly 500% increase in inquiries from the field and greatly expedited response time. Moreover, implementation of an NKO chat room (in which practitioners exchange ideas and share opinions on matters of importance to the community as a whole) has drawn enterprise-wide interest and participation. Recognizing that creating a truly vibrant community of practice requires us to tap into the experience of successful litigators not currently practicing in the area of military justice litigation, we have also established a cohort of experts, with specialized knowledge in areas such as capital litigation, litigation before members, and national security/classified material litigation. These experts are now available via the COP to provide guidance in their respective areas to attorneys in need of assistance.

Facilities

It was a banner year for JAG Corps facilities improvements and it would not have been possible but for the proactive planning, diligence, professionalism, and teamwork of the Office of the Judge Advocate General (OJAG), NLSC, Regional Commanders, and Navy Facilities staff. We funded major design and construction initiatives to improve and upgrade court-

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room security and functionality. With an eye on our present and future needs for reach-back communication and distance learning opportunities, we also invested in video teleconferencing capability for JAG headquarters, for the Naval Justice School and its detachments, and for “smart courtroom” complexes in Bremerton, San Diego, Great Lakes, Pensacola, Jacksonville, Norfolk, Washington DC, Yokosuka, and Pearl Harbor.

End-of-year funding generously provided by our two Budget Submitting Offices, Field Support Activity and the Assistant for Administration for the Under Secretary of the Navy, facilitated our ability to accomplish all of these initiatives. In total, we wisely planned for and invested over \$3.7 million in end-of-year funds, an all-time record for our Corps. Additionally, we are building a new \$14 million JAG Corps Legal Center of Excellence at the Washington Navy Yard. This state-of-the-art building will house NMCCA, the Navy and Marine Corps Trial Judiciary Activity, Appellate Government, Appellate Defense, and their supporting codes, as well as the headquarters elements for RLSO Naval District Washington and NLSO North Central.

Performance Measures

Meeting another *JAG Corps 2020* strategic goal, we developed and instituted

the Case Management and Tracking Information System (CMTIS) that merges several existing data collection tools into a single JAG Enterprise database. CMTIS collects data in all areas of our trial and defense practice, and includes data modules that collect productivity data for Legal Assistance, Personal Representation, Physical Evaluation Boards, and legal services provided by NLSC personnel and staff judge advocates. CMTIS data collection allows us to understand the impact of our services, our level of effectiveness and efficiency, and our ability to sustain those services

consistent with the needs of our nation and our Navy. This system is a critical component of an effects-based culture that will tabulate the metrics from which we will draw many of our performance measures of success.

Efficiency

Efforts are underway to understand the cost of the services we provide. Effective cost accounting will allow us to optimize our processes, which will lead to greater efficiencies. A critical aspect of the cost accounting will be achieved using CMTIS. We have also embarked on an administrative re-engineering effort that will make our administrative, travel and purchase modules more efficient.

Conclusion

These are only some of our JAG Corps’ outstanding achievements for 2006. As we move forward into 2007 and beyond, we anticipate that we will increasingly be involved in every aspect of joint military operations, including major combat operations at sea and ashore, asymmetric warfare, humanitarian and peacekeeping operations, homeland defense, homeland security and defense support of civil authorities operations. We are proud of your noteworthy accomplishments in 2006 and are excited to see you already engaged in executing our goals for 2007!

Re-discovering the Law of War: The Military Commissions Act of 2006

By Capt. Patrick Neher
OJAG International & Operational Law

On Oct. 17, the President signed the Military Commissions Act of 2006, establishing for the first time since 9-11, a clear and unified position within the Executive branch that the law of war applies to our treatment of unlawful enemy combatants captured during armed conflict.

The Act has been unfairly criticized by some for denying Constitutional rights to detainees, and inaccurately hailed by others for permitting the continuation of the Central Intelligence Agency's secret detention and interrogation program. The Act, of course, does neither; the Congress and President simply aligned our domestic laws with the law of war, including:

-- Endorsement of the central finding of the Supreme Court in *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld* that Common Article 3 of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 applies, at a minimum, to the treatment of unlawful enemy combatants.

-- Clarification regarding Common Article 3 that only grave breaches rise to the level of war crimes. This means, for example, that torture and rape are war crimes, but verbally insulting a detainee is not.

-- Requirement that military commissions provide unlawful enemy combatants judicial guarantees recognized as indispensable by civilized peoples. This includes, in part, the right to counsel, protection against self-incrimination at trial, an independent and impartial judge who rules on all issues of law, prohibition against introduction of evidence outside the presence of the accused, exclusion of unlawfully coerced statements, and provision to the accused of exculpatory evidence.

The Act confirms the President's authority to interpret the meaning and application of the Geneva Conventions (beyond the terms of the Act itself), to set standards higher than Geneva, and to promulgate administrative regulations for violations falling short of war crimes. However, the Act also requires that

the President formally publish such interpretations and administrative regulations via an Executive Order in the Federal Register.

The Act also strips federal courts of jurisdiction to consider writs of *Habeas Corpus* filed by or on behalf of unlawful enemy combatants (except for limited access to the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals per the Detainee Treatment Act of 2005), and precludes any person from invoking the Geneva Conventions as a source of any right enforceable in U.S. courts.

In summary, the Military Commissions Act of 2006 accomplishes three major objectives: it requires the Executive to apply Common Article 3, at a minimum, to the treatment of unlawful enemy combatants captured during armed conflict, it clarifies domestic criminal law to comport with the international rule that only the most serious violations of Common Article 3 rise to the level of war crimes, and it prevents unlawful enemy combatants from using federal courts to litigate the terms and conditions of their detention.

“The Military Commissions Act of 2006 accomplishes three major objectives: (1) it requires the Executive to apply Common Article 3, at a minimum, to the treatment of unlawful enemy combatants captured during armed conflict; (2) it clarifies domestic criminal law to comport with the international rule that only the most serious violations of Common Article 3 rise to the level of war crimes; and (3) it prevents unlawful enemy combatants from using federal courts to litigate the terms and conditions of their detention.”

-- Capt. Patrick Neher

Focus on JAG Corps 2020: The Military Justice Career Path

By Capt. Chris Reismeier
OJAG Criminal Law Division

Our *JAG Corps 2020* vision declares that the JAG Corps would create a career track that would enable selected judge advocates to specialize in military justice litigation. The goal of the track is to improve the quality of military justice litigation by keeping experienced and effective counsel in the courtroom, and then continuing to detail them to increasingly senior military justice and military-justice-related billets. The benefit of this longevity and increased expertise will be to improve the efficiency with which courts-martial are conducted and reviewed, and -- perhaps even more importantly -- to provide expert supervision and mentoring for new counsel.

Sounds great, but didn't we hear that same idea back in 1995 or so? Maybe you did, but what you did not see before was an actual execution of the plan.

On Oct. 24, the execution began with the achievement of the first major initiative in the Military Justice Litigation Career Track of the Accountability Transformation Focus Area in *JAG Corps 2020*. The Secretary of the Navy approved precept language for this coming year's (FY-08 cycle) active-duty promotion boards that recognizes our desire to build a strong cadre of military justice litigators and experts throughout our ranks. While the language does not create quotas, it does directly emphasize to selection board members that the JAG Corps and the Navy recognize the vital importance of military justice litigation expertise.

The significance of this first step cannot be understated. Historically, counsel with special experience in military justice litigation have been disadvantaged in promotion boards because their career paths have precluded opportunities for a wide variety of assignments -- variety on which promotion boards have typically placed a premium. Since litigation skills tend to be perishable over time, litigation prowess and agility has often come at the price of promotion. At the same time, junior counsel, fearing the historic price associated with building a resume of solid litigation excellence, have moved to other areas of practice or have left the JAG Corps entirely. The new precept language addresses these concerns by recognizing the need to grow an experienced cadre of military justice litigators who, by virtue of their skill and experience, will be able to handle more cases, and those of greater complexity, with fewer overall people. In other words, the goal is precept language that fosters an increase in the litigation experience for those who have "the right stuff."

Ensuring that promotion selection boards give favorable consideration to critical military justice litigation assignments is crucial to developing and maintaining a military justice litigation

career path, since the career path will be a path to nowhere without that assurance. This precept language is exactly what the JAG Corps is talking about when stressing that the key to this plan is in the execution.

This is only the first step. Yet to come is the instruction that formally establishes the military justice litigation career path and the development of a military justice litigation professional subspecialty code (P-code). By the way, in case you are still one of the "wait and see" types, the waiting should not be long. The JAGINST implementing the career path has been drafted and is being routed for coordination, and the request for the creation of the new 1202 military justice litigation S-code has been submitted to the Bureau.

My direction since arriving in Washington has been to help fix military justice litigation. As a career-long pedestrian on what has historically been the litigation-path-to-nowhere, I can say that the concrete steps taken to fulfill the promise to the community means it is time to start believing that this plan is different.

What's next? The real proof in the success of these plans will be realized in the out-years through the detailing phase of plan execution. As we begin to grow our cadre of military justice litigation experts, and those experts grow in seniority, the expectation is that our litigation specialists will begin moving into leadership billets throughout the courts (trial and appellate), trial and defense offices, and litigation support offices. For now, believe it or not, the components of the plan actually are rapidly being put in place, and this is a promise you can rest assured will be kept!



The military justice career path will promote expertise in the courtroom

Legalman Rating Prepares to Launch New Course of Instruction

By LNCM(SW/AW)
Stephen DiStefano
Senior Enlisted Advisor

In April 2007, the Legalman community and Naval Justice School (NJS) will launch the inaugural Legalman (LN) Paralegal Accession course.

After tremendous efforts by the NJS staff, we are now ready to train and educate LN conversions in a new and innovative way. Applauded by Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Joe Campa, the recently designed course will bring education to our Legalmen in a manner never before seen in the Navy.

In April 2005, after discussions with Pat Lyons of Roger Williams University (RWU), a partnership with the university was formed that brought their schoolhouse to us. After looking at many different methods to bring paralegal education to the Navy, an agreement was reached by which we would install four paralegal courses into the LN accession course at the Naval Justice School. These four courses are Introduction to Law, Ethics, Legal Research and Writing and Emerging Legal Technologies. These courses are significant because the American Bar Association requires that at least 10 semester hours be taught in a classroom environment before they consider the program eligible for approval.

In November 2004, Rear Adm. Bruce MacDonald and I met for the first time and discussed the importance of education within the Legalman rating. We both felt that this direction was needed if we were to make the needed contributions to the JAG Corps and the Navy's future.

A critical piece in our review saw the LN rating teetering on the edge of merger with an administrative rating

group made up of YN, CTA and RP ratings. Clearly, our vision of paralegal education and the future roles and responsibilities of our Legalmen were key to avoiding this merger.

The paralegal education plan may just be the first of future Legalman education initiatives as we look at the possibilities of allowing legal specialists to compete for the Law Education Program, as well as possible Masters Paralegal programs for some of our senior enlisted. Additionally, we have had some discussion with Naval Justice School about converting current NJS LN courses to RWU type courses for credit as well as developing new courses that might allow current LNs to enroll to gain college credit. For now, our focus is on the paralegal education program and setting career milestones for our new Legalmen.

Earlier this year, Rear Adm. MacDonald and I both agreed that we could not put this burden on our current Legalmen. The reasons are many but they primarily focused on the following:

* Many of our current Legalmen have already begun pursuit of degrees in other fields of study such as Business, Human Resource Management, and

Criminal Justice.

* Currently, we could not come up with a way to gain the 10 semester hours of face-to-face instruction with RWU, an ABA requirement. As mentioned earlier, there are discussions with NJS to develop such a course or courses.

We are strongly encouraging all of our current Legalmen to look at paralegal education as their course of study and have invited all Legalmen to seek assistance through Roger Williams University.

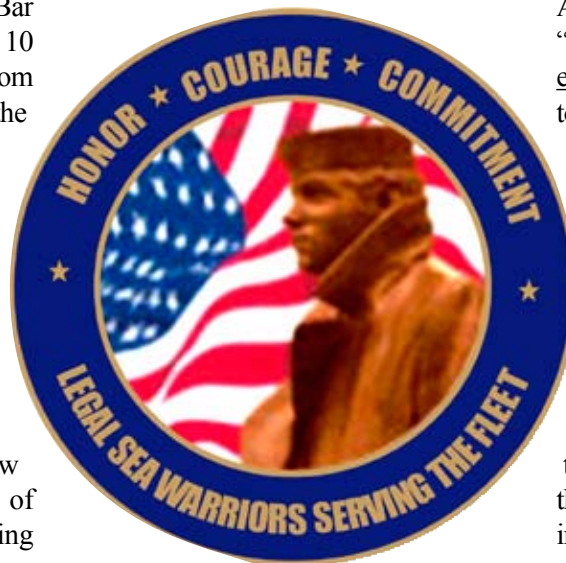
Focusing on our new conversions will be a priority beginning in April 2007. We have requested permission from Naval Education and Training Command to implement more aggressive education requirements for our new Legalmen. Those requirements are:

* All E-5 Legalmen must complete requirements for their A.A. degree in paralegal studies before they are eligible to compete for E-6 commencing in the 2009 advancement cycle; and

* All E-7 Legalmen must complete requirements for their B.A. degree in paralegal studies before they are eligible to compete for E-8 commencing with the FY-2014 selection board.

The National Federation of Paralegal Associations defines a paralegal as "a person who is qualified through education, training or work experience to perform substantive legal work that requires knowledge of legal concepts and is customarily, but not exclusively, performed by a lawyer."

Education is an important pillar that the Legalman community has been missing throughout its existence as a Navy rating. As we move into the future, the legal landscape will change and we, too, must be able to adapt to the changing role of the JAG Corps and the Navy. We believe that education is an important tool in our toolbox of success.



Navy Raises Tuition Assistance Limits for Sailors

By Joy Samsel, Naval Education and Training Command Public Affairs

To assist Sailors in their pursuit of higher educational goals, as well as certifications and qualifications associated with their Navy career field, the U.S. Navy is raising the limits on Tuition Assistance (TA) available to all active-duty members (officer and enlisted).

Sailors are now eligible for 100 percent of tuition costs, up to \$250 per semester hour (SH) and up to 16 SH per fiscal year, an increase from the previous limit of 12 SH.

“Sailors in today’s Navy need to be highly motivated and educated professionals,” said Vice Adm. Kevin Moran, commander, Naval Education and Training Command (NETC). “The critical thinking skills developed through higher education are essential elements to the success of Sailors in the 21st century. It is our job to provide the opportunities for these highly valued and committed individuals to grow and develop in the Navy. All our programs must be responsive to this new Sailor, including Voluntary Education.”

According to a Navy message sent to the fleet June 9 (NAVADMIN 166/06), TA will remain at 16 SH throughout FY-07 and use will be closely monitored by NETC. If the rate of overall TA expenditures creates a danger of running out of funding prior to the end of the fiscal year, NETC may impose management controls and priorities to ensure that academic planning is not disrupted. Funding controls may include limiting TA requests over 12 SH to courses tied directly to degree completion.

“In addition to TA, the Navy College Program has two other significant programs to help Sailors earn a college degree,” explained NETC Force Master Chief (SW/AW/SS/PJ) Mike McCalip. “A visit to the local Navy College Office (NCO) is a logical first step for Sailors to learn about what is available to them, from the wide variety of college level examinations to the Navy College Program for Afloat Education (NCPACE). The Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) Examination Program, the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) and the DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST) program offer testing opportunities that can help Sailors to take advantage of knowledge they already have and accelerate their progress toward degree completion.”

McCalip said through these programs and others, Sailors can take tests in a variety of subjects and receive recommended college credit for each test successfully completed.

There are also several college admission tests given through the NCOs, including the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) and the American College Test (ACT) Assessment Program. The Graduate Record Exam may be taken at certain testing sites off-base and DANTES will reimburse the Sailor for the cost of the test. The Sailor must personally fund the test administration fee.

NCPACE is an important program for Sailors afloat, offering both academic skills and college (undergraduate and graduate) courses. McCalip said, “NCPACE gives Sailors the opportunity to experience challenging education while on sea duty assignments preparing them for personal and professional growth.” He added that Sailors should take advantage of this program to enable them to continue to progress toward degree completion.

GI Bill for Active-Duty

By Michael McLellan

NAVPERSCOM Public Affairs

Queries received at the Education Program and Services Branch office at Navy Personnel Command suggest that many Sailors aren’t aware that if they are enrolled in the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) and have completed 24 months of active duty, they may begin to use their MGIB benefits. In fact, active-duty Sailors can use regular MGIB payments or MGIB Top-Up (used with tuition assistance) when taking advantage of their education benefits.

The current MGIB full-time rate is \$900 per month for 36 months of benefits. While members may use MGIB after 24 months active duty, they are not fully eligible until they complete 36 full months of active duty. In other words, if for some reason a Sailor who has begun using their benefits after 24 months is discharged prior to reaching 36 months of active duty, he is liable to pay back the government.

Sailors who choose to use these benefits can file claims to the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) by submitting a VA Form 22-1990 (available on DVA’s website at www.vba.va.gov/pubs/educationforms.htm) by mail or online. MGIB Top-Up benefits TA claims are processed by an initial submission of the VA Form 22-1990, along with a copy of the completed TA form clearly marked “Top-Up.” Subsequent Top-Up claims require only a copy of the completed TA form marked “Top-Up.” No school certification is required. More information is available on VA’s website at www.vba.va.gov.

OJAG Implements National Security Personnel System in January

Naval Legal Service Command to follow March 18, 2007

By Amy Stevens
OJAG Fiscal and Resources Services

Beginning this month, January 2007 (Spiral 1.2), the Office of the Judge Advocate General (OJAG) will begin a new system of personnel management known as National Security Personnel System (NSPS). Except for the Naval Justice School (NJS), Naval Legal Service Command (NLSC) activities will convert to NSPS in March/April 2007 (Spiral 1.3). NSPS replaces the General Schedule (GS) system with a system focused on compensating employees based on performance. Both Rear Adm. Bruce MacDonald and Rear Adm. James W. Houck are deeply engaged in implementing NSPS to ensure improvement in personnel management across the JAGC Enterprise. In an Oct. 5 JAGINFO e-mail, they stressed that NSPS is vital to the future of our JAG Corps. As OJAG and NLSC adopt this paradigm shift in personnel management, proper training and job objective construction are of the utmost importance to our managers/supervisors and civilian personnel. Additionally, we plan to conduct a test period for this system to better prepare for the special situations and

concerns inherent in an organization of our size.

Background

NSPS is a new way of doing business for civilian employees that will tie employee compensation to job performance in a proportional rate. The greater the contribution of the employee to achieving his/her job objectives, the greater the compensation afforded to that employee.

NSPS cornerstones are identified as accountability of the employee, results garnered by the employee, and flexibility of employment. Because the employee's pay increases will be

based upon the employee's individual contribution and achievement, the employee is personally responsible for his/her own success or failure. This will empower the employee to control his/her own future and make the employee accountable for his/her own growth within an organization. NSPS also focuses an employee's efforts toward specific outputs or results to meet established job objectives in a measurable way. This is opposed to a discussion about the actual tasks that might comprise a result. This will allow an employee to recognize his/her level of personal success, make him/her aware of possible areas for improvement, and



Dan Barnes, Military Personnel, and Rodney Perry, Knowledge and Information Services, discuss the importance of job objectives at the Washington Navy Yard.

seek the most efficient way to complete the objective. Additionally, the use of pay bands in NSPS provides increased flexibility to assign work. These key changes will serve as the backdrop to NSPS as OJAG and NLSC make the transformation.

Training

To prepare for NSPS implementation, a three-fold training plan was established for all civilian employees and managers/supervisors of civilian employees.

1. NSPS 101 – This online course takes 45-60 minutes and may be found at <http://cpms.osd.mil/nsps/training.html>. It is a basic overview of NSPS design and concepts to introduce the subject. Those who complete the course will have a general, working knowledge about NSPS.

2. Human Resource (HR) Elements – This is a three to four hour classroom course that speaks to specific human resource issues in NSPS (promotion, reassignments, pay banding, etc). Employees and manager/supervisors will learn what employment protections are still in place and which protections (if any) have been modified.

3. Performance Management – This is an eight hour classroom course for employees and a 16 hour classroom course for supervisors/managers. Main topics are the functions and make-up of the NSPS system. The audience will learn the composition of a well-written job objective, the operation of the rating system, and the importance of communication between employee and supervisor.

In addition to these established training courses, OJAG developed an OJAG-oriented NSPS informational class called “HR Essentials.” By combining the highlights of the

“Employees will have a greater opportunity to affect their pay through excellent performance and contribution towards the mission of the JAG Corps.”

– Joyce Sherwood, OJAG Fiscal and Resource Services

three required courses and editing in JAG-specific components (e.g., pay pool composition and panel members, OJAG strategic plan, etc.), this two hour course focuses the employee’s and manager/supervisor’s knowledge of NSPS to JAG-themed goals. Each activity has been responsible for delivering HR Essentials locally.

At the close of December 2006, OJAG personnel in Spiral 1.2 completed approximately 89 percent of required training while NLSC personnel in Spiral 1.3 completed approximately 56 percent of required training. If you have questions regarding NSPS training, contact your chain-of-command or Amy Stevens at 202-685-5286.

Job Objectives

Job objectives are the basis of the success of NSPS implementation. Our focus has been to create a matrix of job objective templates that can be used across the JAGC Enterprise. Beginning in August 2006, various groups met to discuss commonalities in positions within various OJAG/NLSC offices. The group proceeded to write template job objectives with some fundamental, OJAG approved ideals in mind — each job objective should incorporate efficiency, timeliness, and quality of product standards. After the initial brainstorming sessions, a draft objectives matrix was disseminated to each activity to receive feedback and suggestions for improvement from both employees and supervisors. The matrix was finalized in preparation

for a test period of NSPS implementation prior to conversion.

Test Period of NSPS

NLSC is conducting a test period of NSPS and OJAG has completed this

test period. During the test period, we will ask managers/supervisors and employees to identify any areas of concern within the new system. The test NSPS performance appraisals will be done concurrent with the existing system until NSPS conversion. After reviewing the job objectives matrix, supervisors will discuss with their employees what job objectives should be used for the employee’s position and establish the performance plan and job objectives for the employee.

At the end of the test period, managers/supervisors will rate employees on their performance based upon the employee’s accomplished assigned job objectives. They will note any peculiarities that occur and provide feedback (positive or negative) to OJAG and NLSC so the matrix can be re-evaluated before final conversion to NSPS. We expect that this test period will help us identify weaknesses and/or strengths of the job objectives matrix and assist us in resolving any issues prior to actual NSPS conversion.

OJAG and NLSC will see many changes to the personnel management structure as part of the conversion to NSPS. These changes will allow more accountability and flexibility. As these changes reach us, we embrace the ability to excel within the new management system and reward employees as deserved.

For more information regarding NSPS, please visit <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/> to access references and tutorials for this management system.

Navy JAG Finishes Marine Corps Marathon 12th Overall

WASHINGTON NAVY YARD, DC -- Lt. Phil Reutlinger took first place for the Navy and 12th place overall in the Marine Corps Marathon Oct. 29. Also racing that day was his newlywed wife, Becky Reutlinger.

Phil Reutlinger's time was 2:33:26 and Becky Reutlinger finished in 3:33:17.

Phil Reutlinger is a member of the Navy's Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps and is stationed at Naval Legal Services Office North Central located on the Washington Navy Yard. He is also on the All-Navy Marathon Team.

The couple's training mainly consisted of "a lot of running," Phil Reutlinger stated. Phil Reutlinger ran 85 to 110 miles a week while he kept up a demanding Navy work schedule. Phil Reutlinger found a parallel in his marathon training and his professional legal career in the Navy. He explained both took a lot of persistence.

"Things don't happen in running or in a law career quickly. It takes lots of training miles to have a great 26 mile race. It also takes a lot of studying and work to become a great lawyer," said Phil Reutlinger.

Phil Reutlinger praised the Navy for allowing him the flexibility to accomplish his running goals. "My command wants me to achieve the goals I have set for myself," said Phil Reutlinger. "They are willing to work with me to accomplish these goals. My command allows me to schedule my training runs around work. I know this would not have been possible if I were working as a civilian attorney."

Becky and Phil Reutlinger were married in July 2006 and started a newlywed tradition of special running dates. Once or twice a week, Phil and Becky Reutlinger go on training runs together. These consist of either a short run together as recovery from a harder morning run, or a speed workout on the track where they race each other. To make the speed workout competition fair, the races are handicapped. For instance, Phil Reutlinger will run a

mile and Becky Reutlinger will run $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile.

"Running together is beneficial to both of our training programs because we push each other and it is our unique way of getting extra time together," said Becky Reutlinger.

As to the future, Becky Reutlinger added "we have not decided on what the next race will be for the two of us. Right now the goal is a fast recovery and then looking to some races in the spring."

Running a Marathon in Baghdad



Navy Lt. Kim McCann, assigned to MNC-I OSJA in Camp Victory, Baghdad, ran the Baghdad Marathon in the International Zone with a joint group of runners from OSJA Nov. 11. The 26.1 mile race wended its way through the International Zone including under the Saddam ceremonial swords/parade field.

LCN Brian Minock from TF-134 Legal/CCCI ran as well.

"He probably would have won it but he followed the race car that was supposed to lead the runners through the entire race," said Capt. Bruce MacKenzie, TF-134. "The car got lost and Chief Minock ran a few extra miles. He finished well."

Navy Legalman Honored With Top Notary Award

YOKOSUKA, JAPAN -- The National Notary Association (NNA) has selected Legalman First Class Edward Holland as a 2007 Notary of the Year Special Honoree, an award given annually to four American Notary Publics for dedicated, exemplary, and unsurpassed service to a community.

Holland is a senior paralegal stationed at Naval Legal Service Office (NLSO) Pacific located in Yokosuka, Japan.

The NNA lauded Holland for providing more than 6,888 notary services since March 2005 to Navy members, their families and civilian employees.

Holland's "efforts have had a direct impact on our nation's forward-deployed readiness in fighting the global war on terrorism," said Timothy Reiniger, executive director for NNA.

An NNA committee selects notaries who "best exemplify the ideals of integrity, impartiality, competence and public service in their critical role as America's front line of defense against identity theft and document fraud,"

according to a letter sent by NNA to Holland.

"In an overseas environment, [Holland's] willingness to be available as a notary at any hour has provided a great service to Sailors, families and others serving with our forces," said Rear Adm. James W. Houck, Commander Naval Legal Service Command.

Notary public is one of many services provided by NLSO to guarantee Sailor Legal Readiness, which ensures Sailors can deploy and operate without concern about unresolved personal legal matters.

"Holland is a superb paralegal and Sailor, and this recognition acknowledges his individual outstanding service and in many ways, embodies the National Notary Association's appreciation for the outstanding service all of our legalmen provide everyday," said Capt. Jon Fink, Commanding Officer for NLSO Pacific.

Holland will be featured in an upcoming issue of "The National Notary" and will be honored at the 2007 NNA



LN1 Edward Holland

Annual Conference for his award.

"I am not deserving of all the praise but I am happy to say that the news made my wife and my family very happy," said Holland. "I am honored; but for now I am focused on the mission."

A graphic advertisement with a blue and white circuit board background. At the top, the text "N@VY" is written in large, bold, blue letters. Below it, "KNOWLEDGE ONLINE" is written in smaller blue letters. Underneath that, "Communities of Practice" is written in red. Below that, "Authoritative reach back for Fleet Legal Professionals" is written in red. On the left side, there is a small inset image of a hand typing on a keyboard. To the right of the keyboard image, the text "Civil Law", "Legal Assistance", and "Military Justice" is listed in large blue letters. At the bottom, the website address "WWW.NKO.NAVY.MIL" is written in large blue letters.

JAG Corps member wins local Gospel Dream competition

Jermaine Pressley, an office automation assistant in OJAG Code 65, won the local Gospel Dream competition in the District of Columbia July 29. He went on to represent the District in the semi-finals in Nashville, TN. He answered a few questions about his experience and how he started singing.

Tell us how you started singing.

Pressley: I was around seven or eight years old when I went with my aunt to her church choir's anniversary in South Carolina. It was one of those old country churches where you didn't have a piano player, drums, or any other musician. You kept rhythm and time by rocking and patting your feet on a wooden floor that sounded like an army marching. They used what they had and sang a song by the late Reverend Julius Cheeks "Jesus Please Don't Drive Me Away!"

I liked what I heard and I wanted to sing like them. So when I got home, I asked [my grandmother] about the song. She told me that she had the entire album on an 8-track tape. I can remember playing that tape until the wee hours of the morning. Before the night's end, I had learned half of the songs on the album. From listening to that tape and hearing the sound and music, I knew right then that I wanted to sing gospel. I have been singing ever since!

How did you find out about the competition?

Pressley: I actually stumbled on the competition by accident. A friend of mine is a friend of Dave Hollister [former lead singer of the R&B group Black Street] and his #1 fan. My friend sent me an e-mail link to the Gospel Music Channel that featured an article on Dave as well as songs on his new album. As I was reading the article, the flash page was scrolling through different segments. That's when I saw the competition page entitled: "Gospel Dream 2006 Competition." Just out of curiosity, I wanted to see where the auditions were being held. DC was the last stop and I

signed up right then and there.

What did you sing in the competitions?

Pressley: I sang an old Thomas Whitfield song, "We Need a Word from the Lord!" I had a minute and a half to perform the 1st verse and chorus! WOW! Talk about pressure!

What was it like to win?

Pressley: Winning and being chosen as a semi-finalist to represent the District was unbelievable because there is definitely some serious talent here in the District and surrounding area. So to be chosen over some very outstanding singers is really an honor and a very humbling experience. The DC metropolitan area has been home for me all my life and it was very exciting to represent DC in the competition in the semi-finals in Nashville, TN.

What happened there?

Pressley: Before we got to Nashville we were told to pick five songs from their song list and then two more songs that we wanted to sing. [We were told] when we arrived in Nashville, it would be revealed to us what song we would sing for the competition. The song that was chosen for me wasn't from my song list. I had to learn it in 30 minutes and remember the key before Wednesday night's competition. Well.... I didn't make the finals but it was an unforgettable experience.

How did your JAG colleagues react to your fame?

Pressley: They were proud of me and glad of my success. Many of them didn't know that I could sing. I wanted to keep



Jermaine Pressley, office automation assistant in Code 65 and winner of local Gospel Dream competition

a low profile here at JAG. When I worked at NAVSEA, I would sing for everything. The national anthem at picnics, award ceremonies, and retirements. So I just wanted to come in and do my job and be Jermaine for a change and not Jermaine the singer.

What draws you to this type of music?

Pressley: First of all, I love all kinds of music -- R&B, hip-hop, country, rock, and classical. Gospel music is a music that embraces the listener and no matter what you're going through or what you're feeling, there's something about gospel music that will pick you up or help you to deal with your situation and/or circumstance.

You can always find strength and inner peace from gospel music. If I'm going to sing anything, I want to sing something that will help minister to someone. This is what draws me to gospel music... the effect that it has on the listener. You couldn't hear a song and not be impacted some kind of way!



Feedback and Dialogue are essential

By now, everyone should have read the Strategic Plan. As you know, we have been making significant progress on many initiatives. Specifics of that progress can be found on the *JAG Corps 2020* webpage on NKO by clicking on the Strategic Transformation Execution Plan (STEP). The STEP lists all of the initiatives that are being worked in order to transform the JAG Corps.

The SAT Team is not responsible for all of the big wins you read about in JAGINFOs and this JAG Magazine – you are! We are responsible for facilitating the initiatives. Our primary responsibility is finding new

ideas and seeing if there is a JAG Corps fit for the idea. This is where you come in. We cannot stress enough the importance of feedback and active dialogue with the SAT Office, and we encourage you to send your ideas and comments to us on our NKO website. If you have an idea that you think would be worthwhile for the JAG Corps to pursue, please post it on our webpage or call one of the staff. We are always interested in your thoughts! There are many exciting ideas being reviewed already, but we're certain there are more to discover.

Case Management, Tracking, and Information System

Since rolling-out CMTIS on Oct. 10, almost 1,300 active and reserve judge advocates, legalmen and civilians have logged on the system and have begun working through the various data collection processes. Since roll-out, the CMTIS team has received excellent feedback. Based on your valuable recommendations, they have made numerous enhancements, including: the capability that will allow paralegals and legalmen to perform duties within the Courts-Martial, Legal Assistance and PersRep modules; implementation of a pop-up if required data is missing; removal of mandatory input for SSN and DOB in Legal Assistance; more than 999 pages may now be entered as part of a ROT; and a New Cases Docketed Report.

In addition, the Center for Naval Analysis (CNA) has visited our commands and SJAs in the Southwest and Pacific (Hawaii). CNA will be traveling to Naples in February on a similar trip. In the Pacific AOR, CNA found that the effort to incorporate CMTIS in individuals' daily routines was outstanding, with an overall positive response from users. With the additional feedback we received, and by analyzing our data, we can continue to streamline the process. Our goal is to attain the data as comprehensively as possible, while minimizing the data entry impact on everyone.

As with any new program, there have been some initial growing pains. With your patience and help, however, we will be able to make the necessary adjustments and continue to move forward. Complete and accurate data collection is vital for achieving our *JAG Corps 2020* goals. Every member of the JAG Corps team - NLSC, SJA and OJAG HQ - must continue to make CMTIS a part of his or her daily routine.

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Awards

Captain Patrick Neher

Captain Patrick Neher was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for outstanding meritorious achievement while serving as Director, International and Operational Law Division, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Washington, DC from July to September 2006.

During the period of this award, the nation was transfixed on the efforts of the Executive and Legislative Branches to craft the Military Commissions Act of 2006. Demonstrating his mastery not only of international and national precedents for war crime tribunals, but also expertise regarding courts-martial procedure, Captain Neher assumed the lead in representing the Department of the Navy in the interagency process. He influenced the legislative proposal in numerous and substantive ways,

earning the praise of all who worked to address the significant issues identified by the Supreme Court in the *Hamden v. Rumsfeld* decision.

His unparalleled understanding of the Geneva Conventions and remarkable ability to weave the many complicated strands of law and policy pertaining to the handling of unlawful enemy combatants into a single, authoritative tapestry proved instrumental in his insightful briefings to the Secretary of the Navy and in preparing the Judge Advocate General for testimony before both the Senate Judiciary Committee and the House Armed Services Committee.

Captain Neher never tired nor wavered in providing round-the-clock support to this historic effort and, through his personal efforts, ensured



the law reached an appropriate balance between the national security interests of the United States and the individual rights of those brought before military commissions.

The exceptional professional ability, steadfast initiative, and selfless dedication to duty exhibited by Captain Neher reflected great credit upon him and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

Mr. Joseph Baggett

The Judge Advocate General takes pleasure in commending Mr. Joseph Baggett for outstanding meritorious achievement while serving as Deputy Director, International and Operational Law Division, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Washington, DC from July to September 2006.

During the period of this award, the nation was transfixed on the efforts of the Executive and Legislative Branches to craft the Military Commissions Act of 2006. Demonstrating mastery of international and national precedents for war crime tribunals, Mr. Baggett provided outstanding support in the development of Navy input and positions during the interagency process. Through his many contributions, the legislative proposal was positively influenced in numerous and substantive ways, earning recognition of those who worked to address the significant issues identified by the Supreme Court in the *Hamden v. Rumsfeld* decision.

His authoritative interpretations of the Geneva Conventions, combined with an expertise in legislative

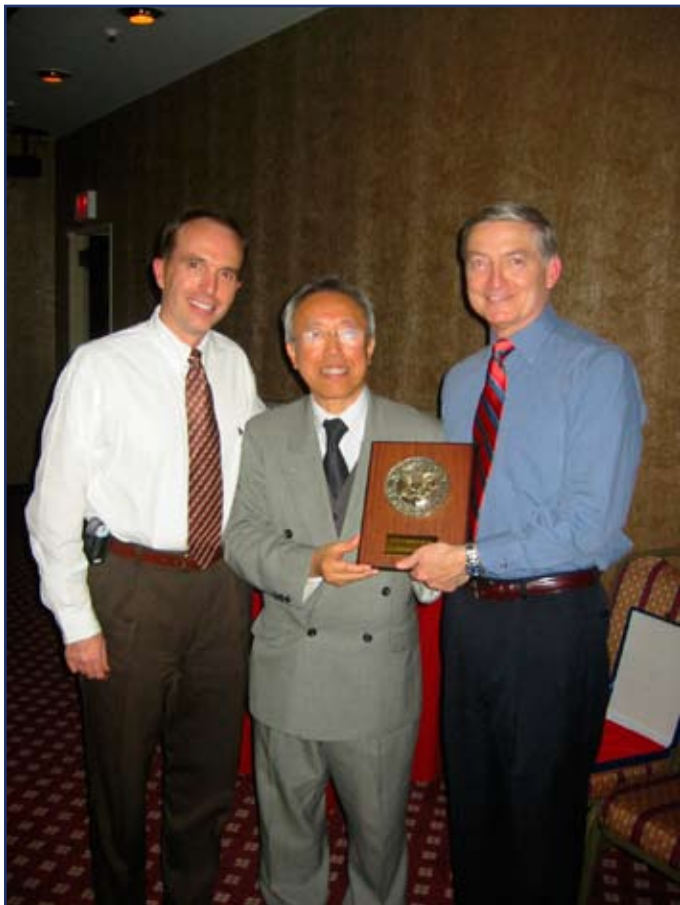
affairs, proved instrumental in preparing the Judge Advocate General for testimony before both the Senate Judiciary Committee and the House Armed Services Committee.

Mr. Baggett provided round-the-clock support to this historic effort and, through his personal efforts, ensured the law reached an appropriate balance between the national security interests of the United States and the individual rights of those brought before military commissions.

The exceptional professional ability, steadfast initiative, and selfless dedication to duty exhibited by Mr. Baggett reflected great credit upon him and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.



Awards



Mr. Koichi Sekizawa

Mr. Koichi Sekizawa received the Master Labor Contract (MLC) Employee Enabler of the Year award from Rear Admiral James Kelly at the annual Commander, Naval Forces Japan holiday event. Sekizawa-san has worked for the Navy for 30 years and is the recognized expert on foreign criminal jurisdiction (FCJ). Rear Admiral Kelly chose him for this award because of his exceptional work during the Reese case (U.S. servicemember tried in Japanese court) in January 2006 and his continued devotion to duty. For example, Sekizawa-san has been part of two fly-away teams to Misawa and Sasebo for high-profile FCJ cases where his experience was required.

See your name in print!
Submit your command awards
or photos to
jennifer.zeldis@navy.mil

News and Notes

The publication of the latest edition of Naval Law Review, Volume 53, is on the JAG webpage of Navy Knowledge Online (NKO).

The Naval Law Review is the Sea Services' pre-eminent forum for scholarly legal discussion, and the efforts of the following authors and the editors who assisted them are greatly appreciated: Col. James P. Terry, USMC (Ret.); Col. Joseph L. Falvey, Jr., USMCR; Capt. Keith J. Allred, JAGC, USN; Capt. Eileen C. Riley, JAGC, USN; Cmdr. Andrew H. Henderson, JAGC, USN; Cmdr. Sean P. Henseler, JAGC, USN; Lt. Cmdr. James Paul Benoit, JAGC, USN; Lt. Cmdr. Eva Loser, JAGC, USN; Lt. Cmdr. Peter R. Koebler, JAGC, USN; Lt. Cmdr. Sabatino F. Leo, JAGC, USN; Lt. Cmdr. Timothy D. Stone, JAGC, USN; Lt. Cmdr. Jay Tangney, JAGC, USN; Lt. Cmdr. Ann M. Vallandingham, JAGC, USN; Lt. Mark A. Lindsey,

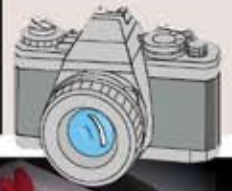
JAGC, USN; Lt. Steven R. Obert, USN; Lt. James M. O'Brien, JAGC, USN; Lt. Kevin R. Powers, JAGC, USN; Lt. Kristina B. Reeves, JAGC, USN; Lt. Dustin E. Wallace, JAGC, USN; Capt. Joseph C. Silvio, USMC; Lt. j.g. Salvatore F. Vonella, JAGC, USN; Ms. Heather DePremio; and Ms. Sara Espahbodi.

Whether the intention is to educate the Sea Services' legal community in an area of the law you find interesting or to fuel discussion on a current issue, the Naval Law Review provides an excellent outlet to communicate your ideas. Publication in the Naval Law Review is definitive recognition of your commitment to scholarly pursuits of interest to the Sea Services. All are encouraged to take full advantage of this opportunity.

Submissions to the Naval Law Review may be forwarded to Lt. Mark Lindsey, Editor-in-Chief, at mark.lindsey@navy.mil.



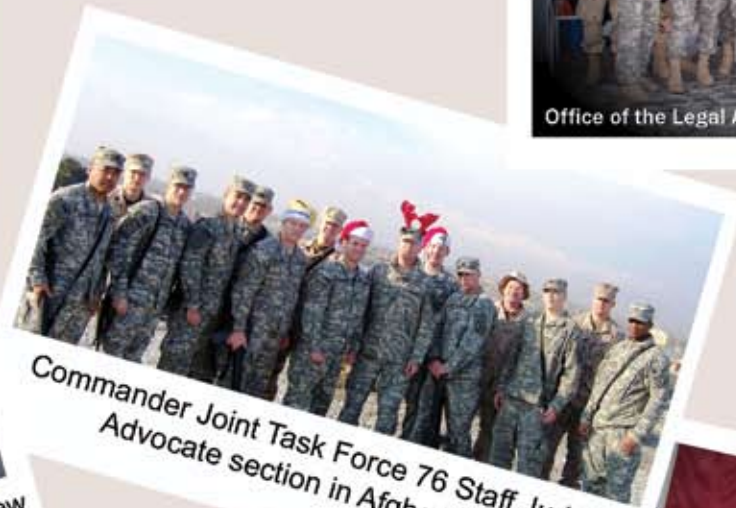
Photos from the Fleet



Task Force 134's Legalmen with MCPON and CNO



Office of the Legal Advisor, CFC-A & OSJA, CSTC-A



Commander Joint Task Force 76 Staff Judge Advocate section in Afghanistan



LN1 Erin Cobb (RLSO Det New Orleans) with colleagues from Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan



LT Chris Phan, assigned to Naval Special Warfare Task Group at an undisclosed location somewhere in Iraq, made it to see CNO and MCPON at Marine base



Lt. Liam Connel was selected by the city leaders of Rota, Spain to serve as this year's "El Cartero Real," a very important and traditional position for the local holiday celebration. He accepted cards and talked with children about what they wanted from the Three Kings. Connel served as a great ambassador for the United States Navy to the people of Rota.



Promoted recently?

Received an **Award**?

Remember,
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a **Fleet Hometown News** release form.