

# JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL

This edition of the magazine gave me pause to take a look at where we have been and where we are going. Looking back five years, the JAG Corps published *JAG Corps 2020* to chart our strategic vision and course for the future of the community and our practice. To reflect where the JAG Corps is now and what we have learned from our experiences in strategic planning, we refreshed our strategic plan with the publication of *JAG Corps 2020.1*. Read about the updates we made to our strategic plan as well as what has remained constant on page 15. Through *JAG Corps 2020.1*, our Corps will ensure now, and in the future, we are prepared to meet our mission's challenges.

Looking back to earlier this year in our cover story, CDR Jonathan Odom describes *Operation Tomodachi* -- the large-scale disaster relief operation to support Japan following the earthquake, tsunami and subsequent nuclear accident on March 11. He details how the JAG Corps community provided legal solutions to the challenging and unique issues faced by both the U.S. military and our Japanese allies in the wake of the disaster.

Additionally, the other stories in this edition, highlight the four critical areas our corps must focus on to be successful now and in the future: recruit and retain the right people; prepare our people for success; assign the right people to the right positions; and execute best practices. From the legalmen who explain the Legalman Paralegal Education Program to OJAG Code 61's view on personnel matters, the articles in the following pages are both interesting and informative.

More than four years ago, we released the first *JAG Magazine* to share news about our reserve and active officer, enlisted and civilian communities. While the printed *JAG Magazine* has been a great resource, we now believe there are better ways to communicate with you in a more timely and effective way through social and electronic media. Concluding with this edition, we will only print *JAG Magazine* once a year and use other online media to tell our story and engage with our audiences. The annual hardcopy *JAG Magazine* will become a showcase of the best photos and stories from the year.

The use of social media by the general public has increased exponentially over the past several years. According to a 2009 poll conducted by the Navy Personnel, Research, Studies, & Technology, almost 90 percent of Sailors have a personal social networking site page. In another study conducted by Forrester Research, 80 percent of U.S. online users engage with social media. Concentrating more heavily on this type of communication will allow us to improve the JAG Corps dialogue with members of our Corps, our clients, our alumni, and potential applicants interested in a career in the JAG Corps.

The JAG Corps has established an official presence on three social media sites for you to keep up with the latest news:

1. Facebook ([www.facebook.com/navyjag](http://www.facebook.com/navyjag)) is a social networking site that links people as well as organizations through status updates, photos and other posts.
2. Twitter ([www.twitter.com/Navy\\_JAG](http://www.twitter.com/Navy_JAG)) is a social networking site that allows us to send and read short updates called "tweets."
3. You Tube ([www.youtube.com/NavyJAGCorps](http://www.youtube.com/NavyJAGCorps)) allows us to share our command videos with millions of people.

You may sign up for updates on these sites or visit them on a regular basis to get your latest JAG Corps news. If you have any questions or ideas about our social media plan, please e-mail our public affairs officer, Jen Zeldis, at [jennifer.zeldis@navy.mil](mailto:jennifer.zeldis@navy.mil).



The content provided by the *JAG Magazine*, our website, and social networking sites are collaborative efforts by all the members of the JAG Corps and greatly depend on your submissions. Your sustained input is the key to ensuring that the content we provide is timely and useful. Please continue to contribute by forwarding photos and stories.

  
JAMES W. HOUCK  
VADM, JAGC, U.S. Navy

# JAG MAGAZINE

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