

Chapter 10

**PRECEDENCE, AUTHORITY AND COMMAND**

**Section 1. Precedence**

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Chapter 10  
**PRECEDENCE, AUTHORITY AND COMMAND**  
 Section 1. Precedence

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**1001. Officers of the Naval Service.**

1. Officers of the United States naval service shall be known as officers in the line, officers in the staff corps, chief warrant officers and warrant officers.

2. Officers in the line of the Navy include the following officers in the grade of ensign and above:

- a. line officers not restricted in the performance of duty;
- b. limited duty officers designated for duty in line technical fields; and
- c. line officers restricted in the performance of duty designated for engineering duty, aeronautical engineering duty, and types of special duty which include cryptology, intelligence, public affairs, and oceanography.

3. Officers in the staff corps of the Navy include:

- a. officers in the Medical, Supply, Chaplain, Civil Engineer, Judge Advocate General's, Dental, Medical Service and Nurse Corps, not restricted in the performance of duty within their respective corps; and
- b. officers in staff corps designated for limited duty within their respective corps.

4. In the Navy there are chief warrant officers and warrant officers. Chief warrant officers and warrant officers whose technical specialty is within the cognizance of a staff corps are classed

as in the staff corps. All other chief warrant officers and warrant officers are classed as in the line.

5. Officers of the Marine Corps of and above the grade of second lieutenant are officers in the line and include:

- a. officers not restricted in the performance of duty; and
- b. officers designated for limited duty in appropriate technical fields.

6. Chief warrant officers and warrant officers of the Marine Corps are classed as in the line.

7. The term "line officer of the naval service" includes line officers of both the Navy and the Marine Corps.

8. Within the Manual for Courts-Martial, United States, 1984, and the Manual of the Judge Advocate General, the term "officer" includes a chief warrant officer, but does not include a warrant officer, unless the context indicates otherwise.

9. Certain officers are selected and designated material specialists. They continue to serve as officers in the line or in the staff corps from which selected, with duties appropriate to that line or staff corps, including material acquisition and support duties appropriate to their experience, training and education.

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### 1002. Precedence of Officers.

1. The date of rank of an officer is that stated in his or her commission, or, when no commission for the current grade has been issued to the officer, the date established by the Secretary of the Navy.

2. All officers of the same grade take precedence with each other according to their respective dates of rank. However, in the case of officers with the same date of rank, or of officers who have gained or lost numbers, their precedence shall be as indicated in the appropriate active-duty list, retired list, or Reserve Officer precedence list maintained in accordance with law or regulation.

3. Chief warrant officers of the Navy or Marine Corps, in the same grade, take precedence with each other according to the dates of rank stated in their commissions. When the commissions of two or more of them are of the same date, they take precedence according to the order in which their names are shown in the appropriate lineal lists.

4. Warrant officers of the Navy or Marine Corps take precedence with each other according to the dates of rank stated in their warrants. When the warrants of two or more of them are the same date, they take precedence according to the order in which their names are shown in the appropriate lineal lists.

5. The details of computing precedence of officers of the reserve components shall be as prescribed by separate regulation.

### 1003. Relative Rank and Precedence of Officers of Different Services.

1. Relative rank of grades of officers in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard, whether on the active or retired lists, and of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Public Health Service when serving with the military, is indicated in Table 1.

2. The precedence of officers of the same relative grade shall be in accordance with their respective dates of rank, the senior in date of rank taking precedence over the junior.

3. When officers in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Public Health Service, having the same or relative

grade and the same date of rank, are serving together, they shall have precedence according to the time each has service on active duty as a commissioned officer of the United States.

4. When serving with the Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Air Force, commissioned officers of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall rank with and after officers of corresponding grade in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Air Force of the same length of service in grade.

5. A Public Health Service officer in uniform may use, for the purpose of identification and address, the military or naval rank corresponding to the grade marking worn. An officer of the Public Health Service detailed for duty with the Navy, Marine Corps, Army, Air Force, Coast Guard or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration may use in official correspondence the military or naval rank corresponding to the grade marking worn.

### 1004. Precedence of an Officer in Command.

An officer, either of the line or of a staff corps, detailed to command by competent authority or who has succeeded to command, has precedence over all officers or other persons attached to the command of whatever rank and whether they are of the line or of a staff corps.

### 1005. Precedence of the Executive Officer.

The executive officer, while in the execution of duties as such, shall take precedence over all persons under the command of the commanding officer.

### 1006. Precedence on Courts and Boards.

The precedence established by these regulations shall be observed on all courts and boards.

### 1007. Precedence in Processions Ashore.

1. Officers in processions on shore shall be placed in formation according to their grade but not necessarily according to their order of precedence in grade. All processions on shore where officers appear in an official capacity, and where formation is necessary, shall be regarded as military formations. The command thereof shall devolve upon the senior line officer in the formation, except where the commander or

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commanding officer of the unit in formation is a member of a staff corps, the senior officer in the formation who is a member of that staff corps shall be in command thereof.

2. When serving on shore with a mixed detachment composed of sailors and marines, the marines shall always be placed on the right in battalion or other infantry formation on occasions of ceremony.

### **1008. Title of Officers Holding Acting Appointments.**

An officer holding an acting appointment shall have the title of his or her acting grade and, when such appointment is revoked, shall resume the title of his or her actual grade.

### **1009. Titles and Authority of Certain Officers.**

1. The Commander, Naval Supply Systems Command, the Commander Naval Facilities Engineering Command, and the Chief of the Dental Division shall have, while so serving, the additional titles of *Chief of Supply Corps*, *Chief of Civil Engineers*, and *Chief of Dental Corps*, respectively.

2. The Surgeon General, the Chief of Supply Corps, the Chief of Chaplains, the Chief of Civil

Engineers, the Judge Advocate General, the Chief of the Dental Corps, the Chief of the Medical Service Corps and the Director of the Nurse Corps, shall be the principal advisors and sponsors on matters concerned with officers in their respective corps and enlisted personnel with ratings associated with the corps. Also, as heads of corps, they shall be spokesmen regarding professional matters with the military and civilian communities.

### **1010. Manner of Addressing Officers.**

1. Except as provided in paragraph 2, every officer in the naval service shall be designated and addressed in official communications by the title of his or her grade, preceding the name.

2. In oral official communications, an officer will be addressed by the his or her grade, except that officers of the Medical Corps and the Dental Corps may be addressed as "Doctor" and officers of the Chaplain Corps may be addressed as "Chaplain." When addressing an officer whose grade includes a modifier, the modifier may be dropped.

3. In written communications, the name of the corps to which any staff corps officer belongs shall be indicated immediately after the officer's name.

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**Section 2. Authority**

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**1020. Exercise of Authority.**

1. All persons in the naval service on active service, and those on the retired list with pay, and transferred members of the Fleet Reserve and the Fleet Marine Corps Reserve, are at all times subject to naval authority. While on active service they may, if not on leave of absence except as noted below, on the sick list, taken into custody, under arrest, suspended from duty, in confinement or otherwise incapable of discharging their duties, exercise authority over all persons who are subordinate to them.

2. A person in the naval service, although on leave, may exercise authority:

a. When in a naval ship or aircraft and placed on duty by the commanding officer or aircraft commander.

b. When in a ship or aircraft of the armed services of the United States, other than a naval ship or aircraft, as the commanding officer of

naval personnel embarked, or when placed on duty by such officer.

c. When senior officer at the scene of a riot or other emergency, or when placed on duty by such officer.

**1021. Authority Over Subordinates.**

All officers of the naval service, of whatever designation or corps, shall have all the necessary authority for the performance of their duties and shall be obeyed by all persons, of whatever designation or corps, who are, in accordance with these regulations and orders from competent authority, subordinate to them.

**1022. Delegation of Authority.**

The delegation of authority and the issuance of orders and instructions by a person in the naval service shall not relieve such person from any responsibility imposed upon him or her. He or she shall ensure that the delegated authority is

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properly exercised and that his or her orders and instructions are properly executed.

### 1023. Abuse of Authority.

Persons in authority are forbidden to injure their subordinates by tyrannical or capricious conduct, or by abusive language.

### 1024. Contradictory and Conflicting Orders.

1. An officer who diverts another from any service upon which he or she has been ordered by a common superior, or who requires a person to act contrary to the orders of such superior, or interferes with those under such superior's command, must immediately report this action to the officer whose orders have been contravened, and show that the public interest required such action. All orders under such circumstances shall be given in writing when possible.

2. If an officer receives an order which annuls, suspends or modifies one received from another superior, or one contrary to instructions or orders from the Secretary of the Navy, he or she shall exhibit the original order, unless under instructions not to do so, and represent the facts in writing to the superior from whom the last order was received. If, after such representation, the officer from whom the last order was received should insist upon the execution of that order, it shall be obeyed. The officer receiving and executing such order shall report the circumstances to the superior from whom the original order was received.

3. If an enlisted person in the naval service receives an order which annuls, suspends or modifies one received from another superior, he or she shall immediately represent the facts to the superior from whom the last order was received. If, after such representation, the superior from whom the last order was received should insist upon execution of that order, it shall be obeyed. The person receiving and executing such order shall report the circumstances as soon as practicable to the superior from whom the original order was received.

### 1025. Authority of an Officer in Command.

An officer, either of the line or of a staff corps, detailed to command by competent authority, has authority over all officers or other persons attached to the command, whatever their rank, and whether they are of the line or of a staff corps.

### 1026. Authority of an Officer Who Succeeds to Command.

1. An officer who succeeds to command due to incapacity, death, departure on leave, detachment without relief or absence due to orders from competent authority of the officer detailed to command, has the same authority and responsibility as the officer whom he or she succeeds.

2. An officer who succeeds to command during the temporary absence of the commanding officer shall make no changes in the existing organization, and shall endeavor to have the routine and other affairs of the command carried on in the usual manner.

3. When an officer temporarily succeeding to command signs official correspondence, the word "Acting" shall appear below his or her signature.

### 1027. Authority of a Vice Commander or Deputy.

A vice commander or deputy shall exercise command or control only over activities and matters specified in his or her orders, or as directed by his or her superior.

### 1028. Authority of the Commander or Commanding Officer of a Base or Station Over Visiting Commands.

While at a naval base or naval station and not under the command of the naval base commander or naval station commanding officer, the officer in command or in charge of a ship, craft, unit of aircraft or troops shall conform to the orders of the naval base commander or naval station commanding officer related to common or specific services which he or she may provide. Such common or specific services may include field operations, security, fire protection, safety, defense, sanitation, recreation and welfare.



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### 1029. Authority of the Commanding Officer of a Hospital Ship.

1. The naval hospital in a hospital ship embraces all persons attached to the hospital either for duty or for treatment, all activities within the ship which are devoted to the care or treatment of the sick or injured, and all parts of the ship which are used for the care and treatment of the sick or injured, as living quarters by persons attached to the hospital, or for the stowage of the supplies and equipment belonging to the hospital.

2. The commanding officer of the naval hospital is under the command of the commanding officer of the hospital ship. The commanding officer of the ship shall normally limit the exercise of command over the naval hospital to such military matters as discipline, security, intelligence, communications, fire protection, watertight integrity, stability, preservation and maintenance, and overall cleanliness, with regard for the responsibility of the commanding officer of the hospital for the sanitary conditions of the naval hospital. Except as above stated, the commanding officer of the hospital ship shall not exercise control, within the hospital, over its administration or organization, including the expenditure or accountability of funds allotted the hospital, the assignment of personnel and work, and the establishment of technical methods and procedures, unless such control has been specifically delegated to him or her by competent authority. Nothing in this article shall be construed to prevent the appropriate assignment of a proportionate share of work of a general nature to personnel attached to the naval hospital.

### 1030. Authority of an Officer of the Marine Corps Over Naval Forces.

Officers of the Marine Corps may not command ships or Navy shore facilities. This article shall not be construed to prevent an officer of the Marine Corps, when so detailed by the Secretary of the Navy or a commander in chief, from having and exercising such authority as may be necessary to direct the operations of all forces assigned to him or her.

### 1031. Authority of Officers Embarked as Passengers.

1. The commanding officer of a ship or aircraft, not a flagship, with a flag officer eligible for command at sea embarked as a passenger, shall be subject to the orders of such flag officer. Other officers embarked as passengers, senior to the commanding officer, shall have no authority over the commanding officer.

2. Officers embarked as passengers who are junior to the commanding officer, or officer in charge of the military detachment of a ship of the Military Sealift Command, if not on the staff of an officer also embarked, may be assigned to duty when the exigencies of the service render it necessary. The commanding officer or officer in charge of the military detachment shall be the judge of such necessity. Passengers thus assigned shall have the same authority as though regularly attached to the ship.

### 1032. Authority to Place Self on Duty.

No officer may place him- or her self on duty by virtue of his or her commission or warrant alone.

### 1033. Authority in a Boat.

Except when embarked in a boat authorized by the Chief of Naval Operations to have an officer or petty officer in charge, the senior line officer (including commissioned warrant and warrant officer) eligible for command at sea has authority over all persons embarked therein, and is responsible for the safety and management of the boat. see  
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### 1034. Authority and Responsibility of a Senior Officer Under Certain Circumstances.

1. In the event of a riot or quarrel between persons in the naval service or in other circumstances not provided for in these regulations in which persons in the naval service are involved and the exercise of naval authority is necessary, the senior officer in the naval service at the scene shall assume command and take the action necessary, until relieved of this responsibility by competent authority. All persons in the naval service in the vicinity shall render prompt assistance and obedience to the officer thus engaged in the restoration of order.

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2. Should there be no commissioned officer or warrant officer at the scene, the senior petty officer or noncommissioned officer present shall assume command.

3. The person who assumed command under the circumstances described in this Article shall have the authority to apprehend any person in the naval service.

### **1035. Authority and Status of Persons in the Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Public Health Service.**

Whenever, by order of the President, personnel of the Coast Guard and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and officers of the Public Health Service, are serving as part of the naval service, they shall be subject to the laws, regulations and orders which pertain to the Navy insofar as maybe necessary for command discipline and effective naval administration. Otherwise, they shall continue to be subject to laws, regulations and orders of their respective services. They shall have the same authority and control over officers and enlisted persons of the other services as that to which their grade, rank or rate entitles them in their respective services.

### **1036. Authority of Officers With Acting Appointments.**

An officer duly appointed to act in any grade shall, while serving under such an appointment, have the same authority as if he or she held a commission in the acting grade.

### **1037. Authority of Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Petty Officers.**

Chief warrant officers, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and petty officers shall have, under their superiors, all necessary authority for the proper performance of their duties, and they shall be obeyed accordingly.

### **1038. Authority of a Sentry.**

A sentry, within the limits stated in his or her orders, has authority over all persons on his or her post.

### **1039. Authority of Juniors to Issue Orders to Seniors.**

No member of the armed forces is authorized, by virtue of his or her rank alone, to give any order or grant any privilege, permission or liberty to any officer senior to him or her. A member is not required to receive such order, privilege, permission or liberty from a junior, unless such junior is at the time:

a. in command of the ship or other command to which the senior is attached;

b. in command or direction of the military expedition or duty on which such senior is serving

c. an executive officer executing an order of the commanding officer

d. a sentinel or member of the armed forces police issuing an order in connection with such duties or

e. a military judge issuing an order in connection with court-martial proceedings.

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 Section 3. Detail to Duty

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**1050. Basis for Details.**

Appointments, details, transfers and assignments shall be made on the basis of official records.

**1051. Changes in Details to Duty.**

No officer, except the senior officer present, shall change the detail of a person assigned by a superior to a specific duty without the permission of that superior. The senior officer present shall not change the detail of any person without good and sufficient reason and shall report all changes and the reasons for them to the superior without delay.

**1052. Orders to Active Service.**

1. No person who is on leave of absence or not on active service shall be ordered into active service or on duty without permission of the Commandant of the Marine Corps, or the Chief of Naval Personnel, as appropriate, except:

a. In the case of a person on leave of absence, by the officer who granted the leave or a superior.

b. By the senior officer present on a foreign station.

2. In the event that the senior officer present on a foreign station issues any orders as contemplated by this article, he or she shall report the facts, including the reasons for issuing such orders, to the Commandant of the Marine Corps, or the Chief of Naval Personnel, as appropriate, without delay.

3. Retired officers of the Navy and Marine Corps may be ordered to active service, with their consent, in time of peace. In time of war or a national emergency, such retired officers may, at the discretion of the Secretary of the Navy, be ordered to active service.

**1053. Command of a Task Force.**

1. A commander in chief, and any other naval commander, may detail in command of a task force, or other task command, any eligible officer within his or her command whom he or she desires. All other officers ordered to the task force or the task command shall be considered subordinate to the designated commander.

2. All orders issued under the authority of this article shall continue in effect after the death or disability of the officer issuing them until they are revoked by his or her successor in command or higher authority.

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3. The powers delegated to a commander by this article are not conferred on any other officer by virtue of the fact that he or she is the senior officer present.

### 1054. Command of a Naval Base.

The officer detailed to command a naval base shall be an officer of the line in the Navy, eligible for command at sea.

### 1055. Command of a Naval Shipyard.

The officer detailed to command a naval shipyard shall be trained in the technical aspects of building and repair of ships and shall have had substantial previous experience in the technical and management phases of such work. Such officer may have been designated for engineering duty.

### 1056. Command of a Ship.

1. The officer detailed to command a commissioned ship shall be an officer of the line in the Navy eligible for command at sea.

2. The officer detailed to command an aircraft carrier, an aircraft tender, or a ship with a primary task of operating or supporting aircraft shall be an officer of the line in the Navy, eligible for command at sea, designated as a naval aviator or naval flight officer.

### 1057. Command of an Air Activity.

1. The officer detailed to command a naval aviation school, a naval air station, or a naval air unit organized for flight tactical or administrative purposes shall be an officer of the line in the Navy, designated as a naval aviator or naval flight officer, eligible for command at sea.

2. The officer detailed to command a naval air activity of a technical nature on shore may be an officer of the line in the Navy not eligible for command at sea but designated as a naval aviator or naval flight officer or designated for aeronautical engineering duty.

3. The officer detailed to command a Marine Corps aviation school, a Marine Corps air activity on shore or a Marine Corps air unit organized for flight tactical purposes shall be an officer of the Marine Corps, designated as a naval aviator or naval flight officer.

~~4. An officer of the Navy shall not normally be detailed to command an aviation unit of the Marine Corps nor shall an officer of the Marine Corps normally be detailed to command an aviation unit of the Navy. Aircraft units of the Marine Corps may, however, be assigned to ships or to naval air activities in the same manner as aircraft units of the Navy and, conversely, aircraft units of the Navy may be so assigned to Marine Corps air activities. A group composed of aircraft units of the Navy and aircraft units of the Marine Corps may be commanded either by an officer of the Navy or an officer of the Marine Corps.~~

### 1058. Command of a Submarine.

The officer detailed to command a submarine shall be an officer of the line in the Navy, eligible for command at sea and qualified for command of submarines.

### 1059. Command of a Staff Corps Activity.

Officers in a staff corps shall be detailed to command only such activities as are appropriate to their corps.

### 1060. Multiservice Commands.

1. When different commands of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard join or serve together, the officer highest in rank in any of the armed services on duty there, who is otherwise eligible to command, commands all those forces unless otherwise directed by the President.

2. An officer of the naval service in command of a unified, specified, joint or combined command is not authorized to exercise operational control over United States naval forces not specifically assigned to that command for operations, nor is he or she authorized to exercise authority as senior officer present or senior officer present afloat over such United States naval forces.

### 1061. Detail of Executive Officer.

1. The officer detailed as executive officer shall be an officer eligible to succeed to command who, when practicable, is next in rank to the commanding officer.

2. When no officer has been detailed as executive officer by the Commandant of the Marine Corps or the Chief of Naval Personnel,

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SUBJ/U.S. NAVY REGULATIONS, 1990 INTERIM CHANGE//

REF/A/DOC/SECDEF/16APR93//

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REF/C/DOC/U.S.CODE/26FEB70//

NARR/REF A IS SECDEF LTR OF 16 APR 93, ROLES, MISSIONS, AND FUNCTIONS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES. REF B IS U.S. NAVY REGULATIONS, 1990. REF C IS 10 U.S.C. SECTION 5942.//

RMKS/1. IN REF A, SECDEF DIRECTED SECDEF, ASSISTED BY SECNAV, TO CONSOLIDATE INITIAL FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT TRAINING FOR ALL SERVICES. IN IMPLEMENTING THIS DIRECTIVE IN PRIMARY TRAINING, AIR FORCE AND NAVY BEGAN INSTRUCTOR EXCHANGES IN EARLY FY94 AND FOLLOWED WITH STUDENT EXCHANGES IN LATE FY94.

2. FURTHER PLANS CALL FOR THE PROTOTYPE MULTI-SERVICE TRAINING PAGE 02 RUENAAA2836 UNCLAS

SQUADRONS, 35 FTS REESE AFB, TEXAS AND VT 3, NAS WHITING FIELD, FLORIDA, TO HAVE ALTERNATING USAF AND USN/USMC OFFICERS ASSIGNED AS COMMANDING OFFICERS OF THE SQUADRONS.

3. THERE IS NO STATUTORY LIMITATION THAT WOULD PRECLUDE NAVY TRAINING SQUADRONS FROM BEING COMMANDED BY AIR FORCE OR MARINE CORPS OFFICERS; HOWEVER, A CHANGE TO ARTICLE 1057 OF REF B IS NECESSARY IN ORDER TO PROCEED WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMAND PHASE OF SECDEF'S CONSOLIDATION DIRECTIVE.

4. ARTICLE 1057 OF REF B IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

1057. COMMAND OF AN AIR ACTIVITY:

1. THE OFFICER DETAILED TO COMMAND A NAVAL AVIATION SCHOOL, A NAVAL AIR STATION, OR A NAVAL AIR UNIT ORGANIZED FOR FLIGHT TACTICAL PURPOSES SHALL BE AN OFFICER OF THE LINE IN THE NAVY, DESIGNATED AS A NAVAL AVIATOR OR NAVAL FLIGHT OFFICER, ELIGIBLE FOR COMMAND AT SEA.

2. FOR THE PURPOSES OF TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 5942, A NAVAL AIR TRAINING SQUADRON IS NOT CONSIDERED TO BE A NAVAL AVIATION SCHOOL OR A NAVAL AIR UNIT ORGANIZED FOR FLIGHT TACTICAL PURPOSES. THE OFFICER DETAILED TO COMMAND A NAVAL AIR TRAINING SQUADRON OR AN AIR UNIT ORGANIZED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES SHALL BE A LINE OFFICER OF THE NAVAL SERVICE, DESIGNATED AS A NAVAL AVIATOR OR NAVAL FLIGHT PAGE 03 RUENAAA2836 UNCLAS

OFFICER, ELIGIBLE FOR COMMAND. IF A NAVAL AIR TRAINING SQUADRON HAS BEEN DESIGNATED A MULTI-SERVICE TRAINING SQUADRON, THE OFFICER DETAILED TO COMMAND THAT SQUADRON MAY BE A LINE OFFICER FROM ANY ARMED SERVICE DESIGNATED AS THE EQUIVALENT OF A NAVAL AVIATOR OR NAVAL FLIGHT OFFICER AND OTHERWISE ELIGIBLE TO COMMAND AN AVIATION SQUADRON OR UNIT UNDER THAT OFFICER'S PERTINENT SERVICE REGULATIONS.

3. THE OFFICER DETAILED TO COMMAND A NAVAL AIR ACTIVITY OF A TECHNICAL NATURE ON SHORE MAY BE AN OFFICER OF THE LINE IN THE NAVY NOT ELIGIBLE FOR COMMAND AT SEA, BUT DESIGNATED AS A NAVAL AVIATOR OR A NAVAL FLIGHT OFFICER OR DESIGNATED FOR AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERING DUTY.

4. THE OFFICER DETAILED TO COMMAND A MARINE CORPS AVIATION SCHOOL, A MARINE CORPS AIR ACTIVITY ON SHORE OR A MARINE CORPS AIR UNIT ORGANIZED FOR FLIGHT TACTICAL PURPOSES SHALL BE AN OFFICER OF THE MARINE CORPS, DESIGNATED AS A NAVAL AVIATOR OR NAVAL FLIGHT OFFICER.

5. OTHER THAN AN AIR TRAINING SQUADRON, AN OFFICER OF THE NAVY SHALL NOT NORMALLY BE DETAILED TO COMMAND AN AVIATION UNIT OF THE MARINE CORPS NOR SHALL AN OFFICER OF THE MARINE CORPS NORMALLY BE DETAILED TO COMMAND AN AVIATION UNIT OF THE NAVY. AIRCRAFT UNITS OF  
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THE MARINE CORPS MAY, HOWEVER, BE ASSIGNED TO SHIPS OR TO NAVAL AIR ACTIVITIES IN THE SAME MANNER AS AIRCRAFT UNITS OF THE NAVY AND, CONVERSELY, AIRCRAFT UNITS OF THE NAVY MAY BE SO ASSIGNED TO MARINE CORPS AIR ACTIVITIES. A GROUP COMPOSED OF AIRCRAFT UNITS OF THE NAVY AND AIRCRAFT UNITS OF THE MARINE CORPS MAY BE COMMANDED EITHER BY AN OFFICER OF THE NAVY OR AN OFFICER OF THE MARINE CORPS.

5. NOTES REGARDING THE ABOVE CHANGES. NAVREGS 1057.1 HAS BEEN CHANGED TO BE CONSISTENT WITH THE RELEVANT STATUTE, REF C (I.E., DELETING UNITS ORGANIZED FOR "ADMINISTRATIVE" PURPOSES FROM NAVREGS 1057.1 COVERAGE). ARTICLE 1057.2 IS ENTIRELY NEW AND, CONSISTENT WITH REF C, DOES NOT REQUIRE THE COMMANDER OF A TRAINING SQUADRON TO BE A NAVAL AVIATOR OR NAVAL FLIGHT OFFICER. IT PERMITS OTHER SERVICE OFFICERS TO SERVE AS COMMANDING OFFICERS OF DESIGNATED MULTI-SERVICE NAVAL AIR TRAINING SQUADRONS. NAVREGS 1057.3 AND 1057.4

HAVE NOT BEEN CHANGED BUT HAVE BEEN RENUMBERED. NAVREGS 1057.5 ADDS THE WORDS "OTHER THAN AN AIR TRAINING SQUADRON" AT THE BEGINNING TO CONFIRM THE ACCEPTABILITY OF THE PRACTICE OF ASSIGNING MARINE CORPS OFFICERS TO COMMAND OF NAVAL AVIATION TRAINING SQUADRONS.

6. IN LIEU OF ENTERING THIS INTERIM CHANGE IN REF B, MAKE BOLD  
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LETTER NOTATION AT BEGINNING OF ART 1057, "SEE ALNAV XXX/95" AND FILE THIS ALNAV WITH REF B.

7. THIS INTERIM CHANGE WILL BE INCORPORATED INTO THE NEXT PRINTED REVISION OF REF B.//

8. RELEASED BY THE HONORABLE JOHN H. DALTON.

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## PRECEDENCE, AUTHORITY AND COMMAND

as appropriate, or when the officer so detailed is absent or incapable of performing the duties of the office, the commanding officer shall detail the senior line officer within the command and eligible to succeed to command as executive officer except that, if the commanding officer is a member of a staff corps, he or she may detail as executive officer the next senior officer in the appropriate staff corps.

### **1062. Detail of Heads of Departments and Other Officers.**

When no officer has been detailed by the Commandant of the Marine Corps or the Chief of Naval Personnel, as appropriate, as head of a department or other subdivision of the command, or to specific duty within the department or subdivision, or when the officer so detailed is absent or incapable of performing the duties so assigned, the commanding officer may detail a suitable officer to perform such duty.

### **1063. Detail of Persons Performing Medical or Religious Services.**

While assigned to a combat area during a period of armed conflict, members of Medical, Dental, Chaplain, Medical Service, Nurse or Hospital Corps and Dental Technicians shall be detailed

or permitted to perform only such duties as are related to medical, dental or religious service and the administration of medical, dental or religious units and establishments. This restriction is necessary to protect the non-combatant status of these personnel under the Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949.

### **1064. Detail of Enlisted Persons for Certain Duties.**

1. Petty officers and noncommissioned officers shall not be detailed to perform mess duties, except when nonrated personnel are not available.
2. Marines shall not be detailed to perform the duties of master-at-arms, yeoman or hospital corpsman, except in case of emergency, which shall be determined by the commanding officer. When necessary to make such an assignment, it shall continue only until a suitable person can be selected for the required duty.
3. Under such regulations as the Secretary of the Navy prescribes, enlisted members of the naval service and enlisted members of the Coast Guard when it is operating as a service in the Navy may be assigned to duty in a service capacity in officers' messes and public quarters where the Secretary finds that this use of the members is desirable for military reasons.

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# Chapter 10

## PRECEDENCE, AUTHORITY AND COMMAND

### Section 4. Succession to Command

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**1070. Rank and Grade of an Officer who succeeds to Command.**

An officer who succeeds to command acquires no increase of rank nor change in grade by virtue of such succession alone.

**1071. Succession Prescribed by a Commander in Chief.**

A commander in chief and, when empowered by the Chief of Naval Operations, any other naval commander may prescribe the order of succession to command, including his or her own, among the various officers whom he or she has detailed to command task forces or other task commands. All orders issued under the authority of this article shall continue into effect after the incapacity or death of the officer issuing them until revoked by his or her successor in command or by higher authority. The powers delegated to a naval commander under this article are not conferred on any other

officer by virtue of the fact that he or she is the senior officer present.

**1072. Succession of a Deputy or Vice Commander.**

Except as otherwise provided for specific cases, a deputy or vice commander shall succeed to command in the case of the incapacity or death of the officer whose deputy or vice commander he or she is, and, unless the latter directs otherwise, at other times during the absence of such officer.

**1073. Succession of a Chief of Staff and Other Staff Officers.**

In the absence or incapacity of the commander on whose staff he is serving, a chief of staff, chief staff officer, or other officer on a staff may succeed to command if next in rank within the command and otherwise eligible as provided in these regulations.

## PRECEDENCE, AUTHORITY AND COMMAND

### 1074. Succession to Command of a Fleet, Subdivision of a Fleet, Fleet Marine Force or Subdivision of a Fleet Marine Force.

1. In the event of the incapacity, death, departure on leave or detachment without relief of a commander in chief of a fleet, a commander of a subdivision of a fleet, a commanding general of a fleet marine force, or a commanding general of a subdivision of a fleet marine force, or when such officer is absent from his or her command due to orders from competent authority and so directs, the following applies with regard to succession to command, unless competent authority prescribes that a deputy or other officer shall succeed to command. With respect to:

a. A fleet, the senior line officer of the Navy, eligible for command at sea, in the fleet or subdivision of a fleet shall succeed to command.

b. A fleet marine force, the senior officer of the Marine Corps, eligible for command, in the fleet marine force or subdivision of a fleet marine force shall succeed to command.

2. During the absence from his or her command or headquarters of any of the commanders referred to in paragraph 1 of this article, and when such officer has not directed that he or she be succeeded in command as provided in the preceding paragraph, succession to command shall be as follows:

a. The chief of staff or chief staff officer within a fleet.

b. The deputy or assistant commander within a fleet marine force, or the chief of staff if a deputy or assistant commander is not assigned.

3. An officer succeeding to command shall have authority to issue orders required to carry on the established routine and to perform the administrative functions of the command. He shall be the officer commanding for the time being for the administration and for the exercise of general court-martial jurisdiction within the command. This shall not be construed to limit the authority and responsibility of the senior

officer present in emergency or other unforeseen situations which demand his or her action.

### 1075. Succession to Command of a Naval Systems Command.

1. When there is a vacancy in the office of the commander of a naval systems command or during the disability of the commander of a naval systems command, or during the absence of a commander of a naval systems command and unless he or she directs otherwise, the vice commander shall succeed to the command of the naval systems command until a successor takes office, or the disability or the absence ceases.

2. When the foregoing paragraph cannot be complied with because of the disability or absence of the vice commander, the officer on the staff of the commander next senior in rank of the line or of the same staff corps as the commander, as appropriate, shall succeed to command of the naval systems command, unless otherwise directed by the Chief of Naval Operations, until a successor takes office or the disability or the absence of the commander or vice commander ceases.

### 1076. Succession to Command of a Naval Base.

1. In the event of the incapacity or death of the commander of a naval base, or when he or she is absent and provided he or she so directs, he or she shall be succeeded by the officer, eligible for command at sea, designated by the commander of the naval base, with the approval of the immediate superior.

2. During the absence of the commander of a naval base, and when he or she has not directed that he or she be succeeded in command as provided in the preceding paragraph, the chief of staff or chief staff officer shall have authority to issue the orders required to carry on the established routine and perform the administrative functions of the naval base. This shall not be construed to limit the authority or responsibility of the senior officer present in emergencies or other unforeseen situations which demand his or her action.

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### 1077. Succession to Command of a Naval Shore Activity.

1. In the event of the incapacity, death or absence of the commanding officer or officer in charge of a naval shore activity not otherwise provided for in these regulations, the officer next in rank shall succeed to command, except:

a. The commanding officer shall be succeeded by the executive officer who, if so detailed by the Chief of Naval Personnel, need not be next in rank.

b. When appropriate, and notwithstanding the above subparagraph, the Chief of Naval Operations may specify that the commanding officer shall be succeeded by an officer eligible for command at sea, who need not be next in rank.

### 1078. Succession to Command of a Ship.

In the event of the incapacity, death, relief from duty or absence of the officer detailed to command a ship, the executive officer shall succeed to command until relieved by competent authority or until the regular commanding officer returns. Succession to command, after the commanding officer and the executive officer, shall be by the line officer in the Navy eligible for command at sea, next in rank and regularly attached to and on board the ship, until relieved by competent authority or until the regular commanding officer or executive officer returns.

### 1079. Succession to Command of an Aircraft Unit.

1. In the event of the incapacity, death, relief from duty or absence of the officer detailed to command an aircraft squadron, the executive officer shall succeed to command until relieved by competent authority or until the regular commanding officer returns. Succession to command, after the commanding officer and the executive officer, of an aircraft squadron shall be by the line officer regularly attached to and on board the aircraft squadron who is next in rank and qualified to command an aircraft unit, until relieved by competent authority or until the regular commanding officer or executive officer returns.

2. In the event of the incapacity, death, relief from duty or absence of the officer detailed to command an aircraft group or wing, the line officer next in rank within the command and otherwise eligible as provided in these regulations shall succeed to command or control, as appropriate, until relieved by competent authority or until the regular commander returns.

### 1080. Succession to Command of a Submarine.

1. In the event of the incapacity, death, relief from duty or absence of the officer detailed to command a submarine, the executive officer shall succeed to command until relieved by competent authority or until the regular commanding officer returns. Succession to command, after the commanding officer and the executive officer, of a submarine shall be by the line officer regularly attached to and on board the submarine who is next in rank and qualified in submarines, until relieved by competent authority or until the regular commanding officer or executive officer returns.

2. In nuclear powered submarines, succession shall be by the line officer satisfying the criteria in paragraph 1. and who is additionally currently qualified for the supervision, operation and maintenance of nuclear propulsion plants.

### 1081. Succession in Battle.

When a flag officer or other commander of ships is incapacitated in battle the officer next in rank in the flagship and eligible to succeed him or her shall succeed provisionally until the officer who would succeed as provided in Article 1074 announces that he or she has taken command. It is the duty of the officer who succeeds provisionally to report, as soon as practicable, the incapacity of the flag officer to the officer who will succeed to command and to the immediate superior of the flag officer.

### 1082. Succession to Command by Officers in the Staff Corps.

Officers in the staff corps may succeed to command only at such activities as are appropriate to their corps.

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### 1083. Succession to Command by Officers Designated for Engineering Duty or Special Duty.

Officers designated for engineering duty, aeronautical engineering duty, or special duty who are otherwise eligible as provided in these regulations, may succeed to command only on shore.

### 1084. Succession to Command by Line Officers Designated for Limited Duty.

Officers of the line designated for limited duty may succeed to command of an activity in conformity with the following:

a. In ships, officers of the line of the Navy designated for limited duty who are authorized to perform all deck duties afloat may succeed to command.

b. Within other commands of the naval service, any limited duty officer with a designator appropriate to the function of the activity may succeed to command.

### 1085. Succession to Command by Chief Warrant Officers and Warrant Officers.

Chief warrant officers and warrant officers may succeed to command of an activity in conformity with the following:

a. In ships, chief warrant officers and warrant officers who are authorized to perform all deck duties afloat may succeed to command.

b. Within other commands of the naval service, any chief warrant officer or warrant officer with a designator appropriate to the function of the activity may succeed to command.

### 1086. Succession to Command by Officers of the Marine Corps.

An officer in the Marine Corps shall not succeed to command of any ship or naval shipyard, or of a naval station, except when the officer detailed to command the station is an officer of the Marine Corps.

### 1087. Succession to Command on Detachment of an Officer in Command Without Relief.

Should an officer in command be detached without relief, succession to command shall be by the officer who, in accordance with these regulations, would succeed to command in case of the incapacity, death or absence of the officer in command.

### 1088. Relief of a Commanding Officer by a Subordinate.

1. It is conceivable that most unusual and extraordinary circumstances may arise in which the relief from duty of a commanding officer by a subordinate becomes necessary, either by placing the commanding officer under arrest or on the sick list. Such action shall never be taken without the approval of the Commandant of the Marine Corps or the Chief of Naval Personnel, as appropriate, or the senior officer present, except when reference to such higher authority is undoubtedly impracticable because of the delay involved or for other clearly obvious reasons. In any event, a complete report of the matter shall be made to the Commandant of the Marine Corps or the Chief of Naval Personnel, as appropriate, and the senior officer present, setting forth all facts in the case and the reasons for the action or recommendation, with particular regard to the degree of urgency involved.

2. In order that a subordinate officer, acting upon his or her own initiative, may be vindicated for relieving a commanding officer from duty, the situation must be obvious and clear, and must admit of the single conclusion that the retention of command by such commanding officer will seriously and irretrievably prejudice the public interests. The subordinate officer so acting:

a. Must be next in succession to command.

b. Must be unable to refer the matter to a common superior for the reasons set forth in the preceding paragraph.

c. Must be certain that the prejudicial actions of the commanding officer are not caused by instructions unknown to him or her.

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d. Must have given the matter much careful consideration, and have made such exhaustive investigation of all the circumstances as may be practicable.

e. Must be thoroughly convinced that the conclusion to relieve the commanding officer is one which a reasonable, prudent and experienced officer would regard as a necessary consequence from the facts thus determined to exist.

3. Intelligent, fearless initiative is an important trait of military character. It is not the purpose

of these regulations to discourage its employment in cases of this nature. However, because the action of relieving a senior from command involves most serious possibilities, a decision to do so, or to so recommend, must be based upon facts established by substantial evidence, and upon the official views of others in a position to form valid opinions, especially of a technical character. An officer relieving his or her commanding officer, or recommending such action, together with all others who so counsel, must bear the legitimate responsibility for, and must be prepared to justify, such action.

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