

### LHD-7 USS IWO JIMA

"Uncommon Valor"

CO: Captain Midkiff



XO: Captain O'Brien



CMC: CMDCM Mullinax



Homeport: Naval Station Mayport, Florida



### **Welcome Aboard!**



#### **Greetings and Welcome aboard the USS IWO JIMA!**

Whether you are new to the navy or a seasoned veteran the USS IWO JIMA will offer expansive opportunities for professional and personal growth for those who seek it.

As you prepare to join the crew of the USS IWO JIMA observing this brief will be the first steps undertaken in a challenging and rewarding venture. The goal of this presentation is to guide you and help accommodate you to your new life onboard, as well as to provide you useful information on the Mayport and greater Jacksonville Area.

The number one priority of this brief is you! Every individual sailor onboard is an important and valued member of the team. Your personal success is paramount and helps build an overall stronger, greater unified, and more efficient crew here onboard the USS IWO JIMA.

Once again, Welcome aboard the Magnificent 7 shipmate!



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"Of the men who fought at Iwo Jima, uncommon valor was a common virtue" -ADM. Chester Nimitz

The namesake of the USS IWO JIMA carries a storied history with a special meaning and pride all its own.

-USS IWO JIMA (LHD 7) is named for the epic battle of February 1945, in which three divisions of the United States Marine Corps took control of the tiny island of Iwo Jima from 22,000 determined Japanese defenders.

The United States had recovered from the disastrous attack on Pearl Harbor, to the point where routine air attacks on Japanese cities could be made by heavy bombers launched from the Marianas. The successful outcome of the war seemed inevitable, but victory over the Japanese would come only at a high price. The Japanese considered Iwo Jima a part of mainland Japan, and an invader had not set foot on Japanese soil for 4,000 years.







Iwo Jima was a thorn in the side of the U.S. heavy bomber crews. Air attacks on the Marianas bomber bases, and bombers enroute to and from Japan, were launched from Iwo Jima. An assault on the island was necessary to eliminate these air attacks and to provide a haven for damaged American aircraft returning from Japan.

Amphibious forces of the U.S. Pacific Fleet attacked the fortress of Iwo Jima on February 19, 1945, with a formidable force, totaling 495 ships, including 17 aircraft carriers, 1170 planes, and 110,308 troops. Before the amphibious assault, elements of the Air Force and Army Air Corps pounded the island in the longest sustained aerial offensive of the war. Incredibly, this ferocious bombardment had little effect. Hardly any of the Japanese underground fortresses were touched.

The Japanese defenders devised a unique and deadly strategy to defend Iwo Jima from an American assault. Instead of building a barrier to stop the Americans at the beach, they fortified the interior of the island, creating a defense that could not be breached in a day.

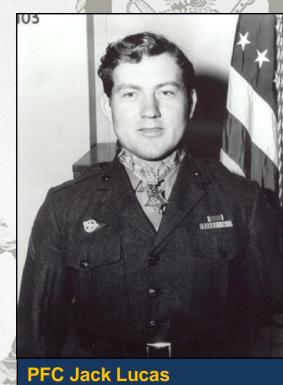
On Feb. 19, 1945, the first wave of Marines were launched after an hour-long bombardment by the Navy's "big guns." The Americans planned to capture, isolate and fortify Mt. Suribachi. The success of the entire assault depended upon the early capture of the mountain.





After an hour of calm, the Japanese defenders, hiding in their network of caves and underground bunkers, unleashed a hail of gunfire. Mortars, machine guns and heavy artillery rained down from scores of machine gun nests atop Suribachi. After the first day of fighting, 566 American men were killed and 1,755 more were wounded. For the next several days, some of the bloodiest battles of the Pacific were fought on the isle of lwo Jima. It was a battle of attrition on terrain that had no front lines; where the attackers were exposed and the defenders fortified.

The battle for Iwo was fought desperately until March 26th, when the island was finally secured by U.S. forces. In the struggle, nearly 7,000 Americans and more than 20,000 Japanese were killed. It was one of the most savage and costly battles in the history of the Marine Corps. As Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz observed, "Among the Americans who served on Iwo Jima, uncommon valor was a common virtue." PFC Jack Lucas was 17 when he earned the Medal of Honor. the youngest awardee in our nation's history. He leapt on two live grenades, saving countless brother Marines. A doctor aboard the hospital ship on which Lucas was treated said he was, "too damned young and too damned tough to die." When asked, 53 years later, why he jumped on the grenades, Jack simply said, "to save my buddies." He and his lovely wife, Ruby, are honorary crew and family members of USS IWO JIMA (LHD 7).





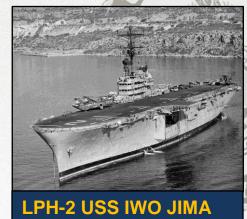


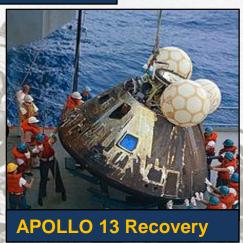
## History of USS IWO JIMA (LPH-2 and LHD-7)

LHD-7 is the second ship to bear the name "IWO JIMA." The first, LPH-2, designed from the keel up as an amphibious assault ship, was launched September 17, 1960 at Bremerton,

Washington and commissioned August 26, 1961. In September 1963, IWO JIMA (LPH 2) made her first deployment to the Western Pacific, one of six deployments the ship would make to the region. In April 1970, IWO JIMA (LPH 2) made history while serving as the Primary Recovery Ship for Apollo 13, the crippled lunar landing mission.

In June 1976, IWO JIMA (LPH 2) commenced her fourth deployment to the Mediterranean and participated in the evacuation of civilians from Beirut, Lebanon. In August 1990, two weeks after the initial deployment of troops to the Persian Gulf for Operation Desert Shield, IWO JIMA (LPH 2) became the first amphibious assault ship to deploy to that area, and served as part of the coalition which ultimately drove Iraqi forces from Kuwait. USS IWO JIMA (LPH 2) was decommissioned in 1993, after 32 years of service.









Fabrication work for the new USS IWO JIMA (LHD 7) began at Ingalls shipyard on Sept. 3, 1996, and the ship's keel was laid on December 12, 1997. The ship was launched on February 4th, 2000, and was christened by her sponsor, Mrs. Zandra Krulak, wife of Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Krulak, in Pascagoula, Mississippi on March 25th, 2000.

The commissioning crew moved aboard in April 2001 and made the ship's maiden voyage (accompanied by more than 2,000 World War II veterans-many of them survivors of the Battle of Iwo Jima) on June 23rd, 2001. She was commissioned a week later in Pensacola, Florida, on June 30th, 2001. Shortly thereafter, the ship and crew began an accelerated Inter-Deployment Training Cycle.

Together with the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable), USS IWO JIMA conducted her maiden, eight-month deployment, returning to Norfolk in October 2003. Completing essentially four deployments in one, IWO JIMA's operational capabilities were put to the test as the ship inserted marines from the 26 MEU (SOC) into Northern Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom, patrolled the Persian Gulf, conducted operations in and around Djibouti as part of Operation Enduring Freedom, and executed a peacekeeping mission off the coast of war-torn Liberia, transiting more than 45,000 nautical miles.

After a post deployment maintenance period, IWO JIMA became the Flag ship for Commander, Second Fleet in October 2004. For over a year, IWO JIMA participated in many high visibility exercises, experiments, and operations with U.S. and allied naval forces.





On Aug. 31, 2005, IWO JIMA was sortied to the Gulf of Mexico to provide disaster relief and to conduct support operations in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. IWO JIMA sailed up the Mississippi River to the city of New Orleans to directly support relief operations and act as the central command center for all federal, state, and local disaster recovery operations. During this critical period, IWO JIMA also served as the region's only fully functional air field for helicopter operations, conducting over one thousand flight deck operations; provided hot meals, showers, drinking water, and berthing to thousands of National Guardsmen and relief workers; provided medical services, including first aid and surgical services, for disaster victims; and conducted clean-up operations in the city and suburbs of New Orleans. IWO JIMA was proud to serve as flagship for the commander-in-chief, George W. Bush, and is only the second Navy ship to have been presented the flag of the President of the United States of America.





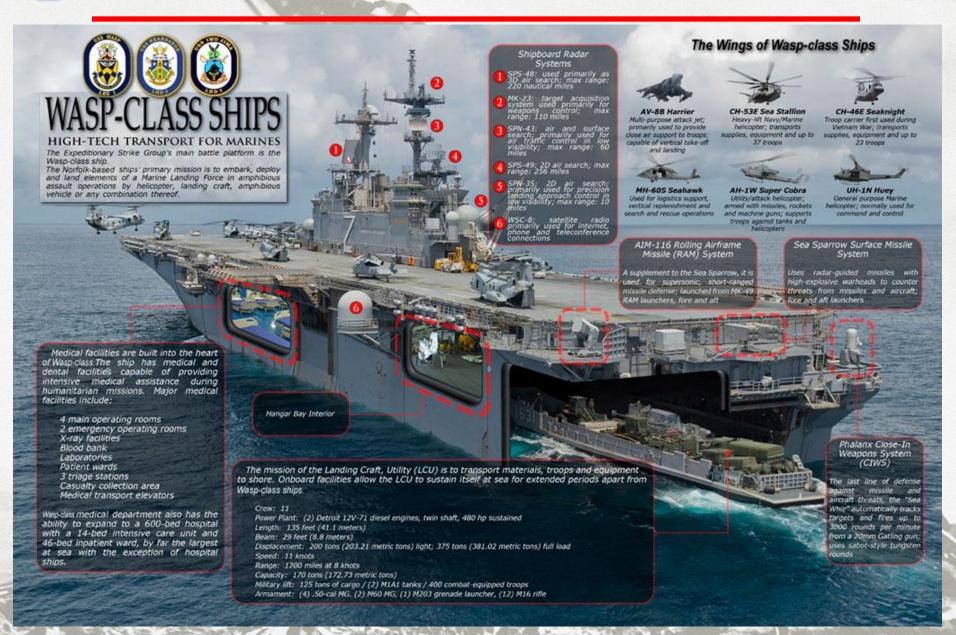


aid to New Orleans after Katrina



## **USS IWO JIMA Overview**







# **Homeport Mayport, FL**



In August 2014 the USS IWO JIMA and its fellow ARG ships shifted their homeports from Norfolk, VA to sunny Mayport, FL. The IWO JIMA serves as Mayport's resident "BIG DECK" and flagship and has been conducting operations out of the base since the shift including a 2014-2015 deployment.



USS IWO JIMA being escorted in to Mayport basin during homeport shift



# **Getting to Base**



Prior to your coming to the IWO JIMA you should have continued communications with your sponsor. This brief was likely provided by your sponsor to answer most questions that you may have, however, if you have any questions not answered in this presentation be sure to ask your sponsor ahead of time. It's your sponsors job to fill you in on any questions you might have and relay any information that they can to help you streamline your transition.

Whether your traveling from an "A" or "C" school or relocating from a previous command be sure to first have a fool-proof travel plan.

<u>Driving-</u> Ensure your vehicle is first up to the drive. Have it inspected by a certified mechanic, change oil if needed (every 4,000 miles), check tires for thread depth, damage, and pressure (32 PSI). Consider plans to relocate your possessions such as renting a moving truck or hiring a moving service. Make sure you don't overload your vehicle and properly package and tether down any loose items.

Using online resources, such as mapquest or google maps, look over and route out your course. Smartphone apps and GPS units will help you estimate drive times. Plan for rest times and unexpected travel delays, 8hrs on the road is the Navy's maximum recommended drive time per day, with breaks every 2-3 hours. Be sure to leave early and give yourself plenty of time to arrive, plan to be in the immediate Mayport area at least a day early.

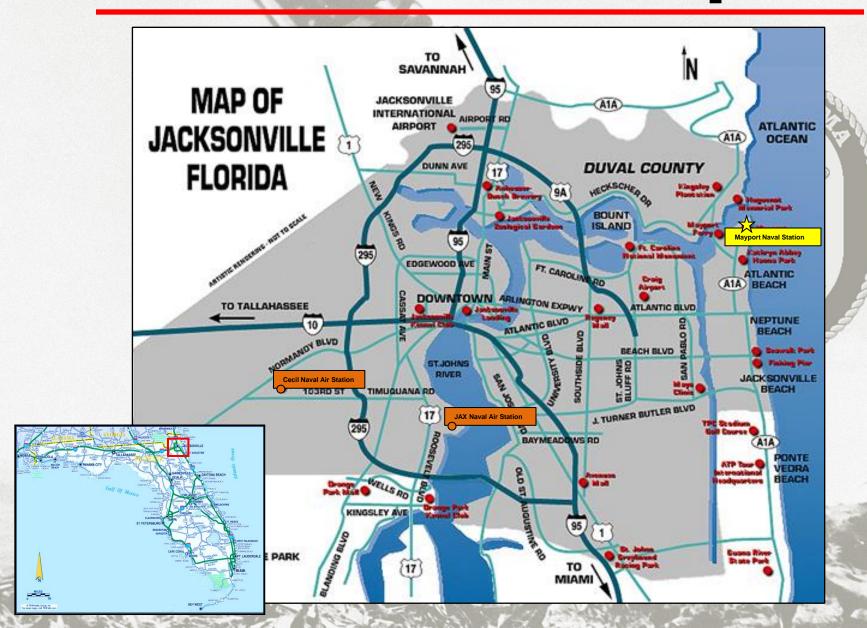
<u>Air Travel-</u> Buy tickets in advance if possible to avoid extra costs. Plan on transportation to and from the airport. Carry a reasonable amount of "emergency cash" separate from your wallet or purse. Expect long wait times for airport security, arrive early! Pack according to TSA standards to make getting through the gates an easy process.

\*Keep your sponsor updated on your travel plans and your current status. If you have ANY issues be sure to let someone know!



# Jacksonville Map

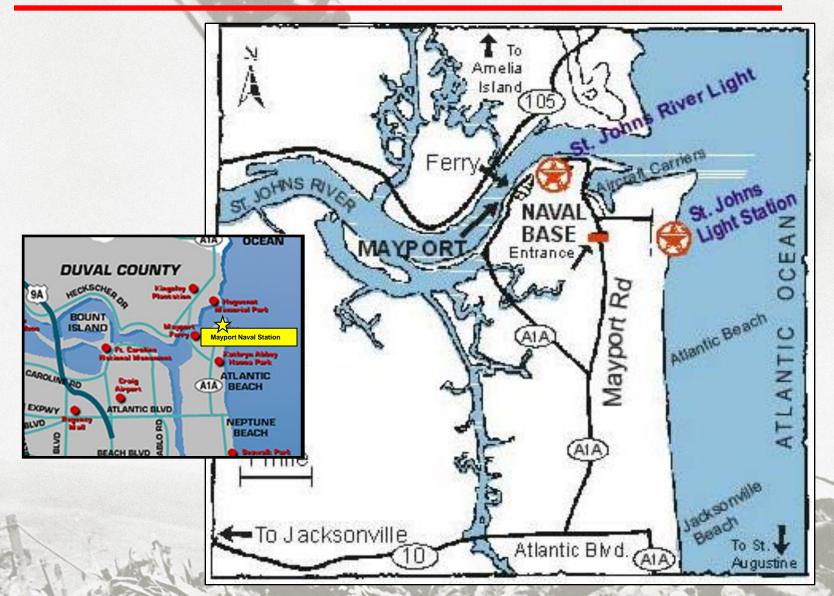






# **Local Mayport Map**

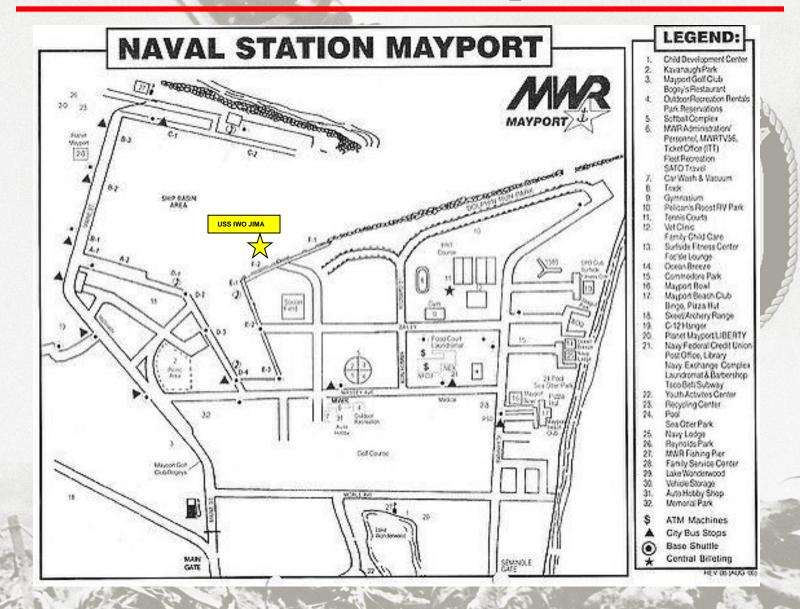






## **Base Map**







## Day One: Check-in



First impressions are very powerful. So on your first day do your best to make a positive impact. Your sponsor should be the one to set up a meeting place and time. Keep their phone number handy, or you can always request assistance at the quarterdeck. The following is a few pointers to keep in mind on your first day!

- 1. Prepare the night before and make sure you have everything you'll need
- 2. Arrive early.
- 3. Wear a clean, sharp dress uniform (unless otherwise instructed)
- 4. Have your hair cut and looking good
- 5. Carry yourself with pride and introduce yourself professionally.
- 6. Ensure you have all your check-in and/or transfer paperwork.
- 7. If wearing a dress uniform, bring along a pair of NWUs and your boots incase you need to change.

What will I need to bring to the ship?

If you're a new sailor then it is a safe bet to bring your seabag full of all the items issued at RTC. These items are the essentials and will enable you to get by until you are settled. Storage space is limited so don't bring many extras or large items until you have a good understanding of the space restrictions. Other key items to consider: hygiene products, shower shoes, towels and wash cloths, cell phone charger, 2x locks (matching pairs can be purchased), a drink bottle, coffee mug with a lid, pillow, twin size linens and blanket (sleeping bags work great), mp3 player/ear buds, athletic clothes, athletic shoes, reading material, and laundry detergent/ pods.





## **Ship Resources**



The USS IWO JIMA is supplied with many amenities that make living at sea possible. You may be surprised to discover some of the resources you'll find onboard.

- Galley and Mess desks
- Gym
- Laundry
- Ship Store
- Post Office
- Berthing/ Living quarters
- Showers
- Library
- Chapel
- MWR events



Naval Station Mayport also has numerous resources at your disposal including a NEX, Mini-NEX/ Gas station, Navy Federal Bank, Subway, Taco Bell, base gym, Outdoor Adventures (outdoor equipment rental and sales), laundromat, MWR, auto center, college office, bowling alley, and MWR recreation center outfitted with free wifi, computer center, lounge, and base bar.



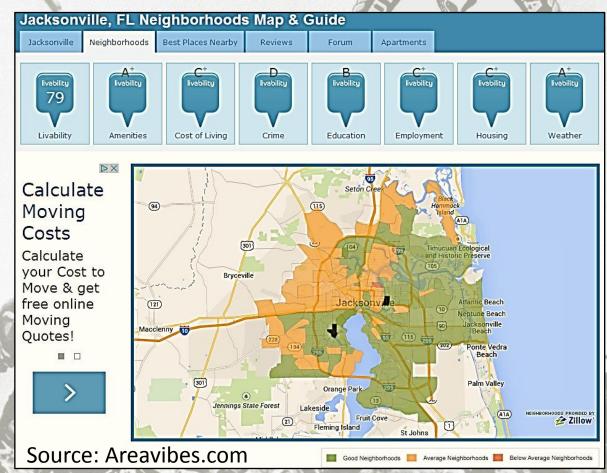
# Housing



The Jacksonville area is a great place to live with a variety of different community and housing options available. For single sailors E4 and below living arrangements will be made onboard the ship and in a barracks room pending availability. Sailors E5 and above and married sailors are eligible for BAH. For more information about housing please contact your sponsor or base housing office.

The graphic to the right is just one example of a search tool found online that can help you select a community that meets your needs. Jacksonville is given an overall "livability" score of 79 on areavibes.com, much higher than the national average.







# Things to Do





## Fleet and Family Support Center



#### Fleet & Family Support Center

The Naval Station Mayport Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) is part of the tri-site organization consisting of Naval Air Station Jacksonville FFSC and Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay FFSC. The FFSC serves active-duty members, retired personnel and family members with programs and services to enhance their quality of life. FFSC is located in Building 1 on the corner of Massey Avenue and Baltimore Street. You may reach the FFSC by calling 904-270-6600, DSN 960-6600 or toll free 800-626-5084. Hours of operation are 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday. Services available include:

#### COUNSELING

Short-term, individual, family, marriage and child counseling are offered at FFSC. Licensed counselors understand the stresses of military life and are aware of civilian resources available to assist military members and their families. Counselors are available to assist with crisis intervention, stress debriefings and educational classes, upon request.

#### **DEPLOYMENT SUPPORT PROGRAMS**

FFSC plays a key role in the deployment preparation process by assisting commands in getting crew and family members ready for each phase of a deployment. The program educates both service members and spouses as to the stressors and typical problems encountered. FFSC offers deployment briefings, resource training, workshops and referral services for family support groups, return and reunion programs, and a variety of other support services.

#### **EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM (EFMP)**

The FFSC EFMP coordinator is available to provide information, referrals and training on EFMP. EFMP medical services are provided at the Branch Medical Clinic, Naval Station Mayport. The EFMP coordinator for Mayport can be contacted at 904-270-5303 or DSN 960-5303 for information and enrollment procedures. Additional EFMP medical assistance is available through the Naval Hospital Jacksonville EFMP coordinator at 904-542-7348 or DSN 942-7384.

#### **FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM (FAP)**

FAP addresses child and spouse maltreatment, including prevention, education, intervention, assessment and treatment. FAP briefings and command consultations are available upon request. All efforts are geared toward victim safety and protection, offender accountability and rehabilitation. Key personnel training for E-7s and above is offered quarterly.

#### **INFORMATION AND REFERRAL (I&R)**

This program is one of the primary functions of the FFSC. The I&R specialist can assist with finding answers to questions or provide the resources and referrals appropriate to your needs in both military and civilian communities.

#### LIFE SKILLS EDUCATIONCLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

Classes and workshops are available to all active-duty members and their family members. Stress and anger management, parenting, expectant parent, employment, financial, transition and resource awareness for leadership are a few of the many classes offered

## Fleet and Family Support Center



#### **NEW PARENT SUPPORT PROGRAM (NPSP)**

FFSC has programs in place to help service members and spouses adjust to parenthood. The NPSP is a voluntary early intervention program focused on bonding, enrichment, communication and understanding between parents and their children. Services include home and hospital visitations, prenatal education and support, referral to community resources, developmental assessments and telephone consultations.

#### **OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM**

FFSC serves as a resource for ombudsmen in areas such as coordination of ombudsmen training, aid to ombudsmen support groups and assistance for commands in the effective use of their ombudsmen.

#### PERSONAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (PFM)

The financial education program provides consumer information, referrals and counseling that emphasize long-term financial responsibility to military members and their families. Assistance is given through instruction on sound money management, debt management, savings, investing and retirement planning.

#### **RELOCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (RAP)**

This program provides counseling services designed to provide information and guidance for all relocating military members and their families. It includes a spouse orientation workshop (Military Spouse 101), relocation counseling, a worldwide duty station library and welcome aboard packets. RAP also provides quarterly command sponsor training at FFSC and upon request by commands.

#### SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION ANDRESPONSE PROGRAM (FORMERLY SAVI)

The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program provides education and awareness training in the prevention of sexual assaults and command training on how to report incidents. The program also provides victim advocacy, resources, referrals and support services for recovery and rebuilding. To schedule training or questions regarding this program, please contact 904-542-2766.

#### SPOUSE EMPLOYMENTASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SEAP)

SEAP provides employment counseling and assistance for military spouses and retiring military personnel. This program focuses on preparation for the job search and also provides job referral services. A job fair is scheduled and publicized several times a year.

#### TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP)

TAP is a cooperative effort between the departments of Defense, Labor and Veterans Affairs. It is designed to provide transition counseling, computerized job listings and a resource library. A three-day Transition Assistance Workshop (job search and transition seminar for separating and retiring personnel and spouses) is offered monthly.

#### **VICTIM SERVICES**

Victim advocates provide personal assistance to victims of spouse abuse. They can assist victims with protection injunctions and court appearance support. The advocates have a vast knowledge of available community resources and services for families involved in domestic violence.



## **Points of Contact**



### KRIS EDMONDSON (USS IWO JIMA'S COMMAND REPRESENTATIVE)

NAVAL STATION MAYPORT FLEET AND FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

Phone: 904) 270-6600x1604

EMAIL: KRISCHELE.EDMONDSON.CTR@NAVY.MIL

#### JUDY CROMARTIE (SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER)

**NAVAL STATION MAYPORT** 

PHONE: (904) 270-6289 x 1305

CELL: (904) 219-3894

EMAIL: MAYPORTSLO@NAVY.MIL

#### **NAVY HOUSING SERVICE CENTER**

NAVAL STATION MAYPORT FL

Phone: (904) 270-5738

EMAIL: MAYPORTHOUSING@NAVY.MIL

#### **ROB NELSON**

HOUSING REFERRAL ASSISTANT

NAVAL STATION MAYPORT

PHONE: (904) 270-5664 FAX: (904) 270-6717

EMAIL: ROBERT.L.NELSON4@NAVY.MIL

#### **DAVE HIXON**

UNACCOMPANIED HOUSING

NAVAL STATION MAYPORT BLDG, 2105

PHONE: (904) 270-7579

EMAIL: DAVID.HIXON@NAVY.MIL DUTY MANAGER: (904) 591-9654

#### **PSD MAYPORT**

PHONE: (904) 270-7614

#### PATTY HOFFMAN

CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT CENTER

**NAVAL STATION MAYPORT** 

PHONE: (904) 247-7740

EMAIL: PATTY.HOFFMAN@NAVY.MIL

HTTPS://QOL.NAVYAIMS.NET/CYPWEB



### References



#### Fleet and Family Support Center

Building #1 – Massey Avenue Mayport, FL 32228-0000

Telephone

Tel: (904) 270-6600, ext. 1701

Tel: (800) 626-5084 Fax: (904) 270-5094

Tel (DSN): (312) 270-6600 (use military DSN phones) Fax (DSN): (312) 270-5094 (use military DSN phones)

#### Military.com base directory

http://www.military.com/base-guide/naval-station-mayport

#### **Areavibes**

http://www.areavibes.com/

#### Facebook

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FFSCNSMAYPORT Many resources now have a Facebook page!

#### **CNIC NS MAYPORT**

http://www.cnic.navy.mil/regions/cnrse/installations/ns\_mayport.html

#### **Mapques**

https://www.mapquest.com/

#### MISC

WWW.ATLANTICFLEET.MIL WWW.MOVE.MIL WWW.CNRMA.NAVY.MIL WWW.FFSCNORVA.NAVY.MIL

#### MWR

414 Massey Avenue Building #414 Mayport, FL 32228-0000

#### Telephone

Tel: (904) 270-5228 Tel: (904) 270-5680

Tel: (904) 270-5145 (ITT Office)

Fax: (904) 270-6817

Tel (DSN): (312) 270-5228 (use military DSN phones) Fax (DSN): (312) 270-6817 (use military DSN phones)

#### Housing

#### **HSC Address:**

#### **Mayport Housing Services Center**

Naval Station Mayport Bldg. 289 Moale Avenue Mayport, FL 32288

#### **Hours of Operation:**

Mon, Tues, Thurs, and Fri 0800-1700; Wed 0800-1900 Sat by appointment only with our partner, Balfour Beatty

#### **Family Housing:**

DSN: 270-5738 (Voice) 270-6717/6964 (Fax)

Commercial: 904-270-5738 Fax: 904-270-6717/6964

#### **Unaccompanied Personnel Housing:**

DSN: 270-7579

Commercial: 904-270-7579

