Be Prepared: Register in WAAN and NFAAS Today

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By Navy Installations Command Public Affairs

Sailors, both active and reserve, Navy civilian employees, and contractors working aboard installations with Navy Marine Corps Intranet or One Net user accounts are required to register in the Wide Area Alert Network (WAAN) and the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS) from their desktop computers right away.

"The number of Navy personnel who have completed their required WAAN registration is shockingly low," said Dan Haacke, Navy Installations Command's emergency management systems operations specialist, noting roughly 44 percent compliancy rate across the enterprise.

Capt. Bill Hiscock, Naval Support Activity Washington emergency management officer addresses emergency action officers from Washington Navy Yard tenant commands during a table top exercise as part of Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield 2014.

Updating WAAN and NFAAS is part of the Navy Ready program under Navy Installations Command. Navy Ready is vitally important in the event of a catastrophic situation. Part of an ongoing effort to emphasize the importance of preparedness, Navy Ready needs everyone's participation in order for the accountability system to be effective. In what only takes a few moments, registering in the WANN or NFAAS is the key to success.

Registration is not automatic, however. The two programs are independent and perform unique functions critical to force protection and personnel accountability and must be updated separately.

"Whereas NFAAS is used for accountability and needs assessments after an emergency, updating your information in NFAAS does not update your information in the WAAN", said Haacke. "The WAAN is used by Region Commanders and Installation Commanding Officers to provide real-time alerts before, during, and after emergencies, force protection condition (FPCON) changes, severe weather hazards, major traffic changes, and other situations that may affect personnel.

Sailors and civilians should update their NFAAS information twice a year to avoid outdated information which can delay the Navy's ability to account for and provide assistance to affected personnel.

Haacke cited Superstorm Sandy and recent typhoons in Hawaii as prime examples when those who had self-registered in the WAAN were able to receive alerts and updates on the evolving situation.

"While work phone numbers and e-mails are required to be registered, personnel have the option of registering personal cell phones as well as alternate cell phones of family members so personnel may receive alerts at work, at home, or on the go," added Haacke. " In doing so, personnel and their families have access to information on what to do and where to go in case of an emergency, base closure, or all-clear notice. Bottom line, your command cannot inform you if they cannot reach you; register today!"

To register on the Wide Area Alert Network go to www.ready.navy.mil/stay_informed/waan.html and for NFAAS go to http://www.cnic.navy.mil/ffr/family_readiness/fleet_and_family_support_program/disaster_preparedness/navy-family-accountability-and-assessment-system--nfaas-.html.

For more information on emergency preparedness and Ready Navy, visit www.Ready.Navy.mil**, or** contact Ready Navy by e-mail at ready.navy@navy.mil or by phone at (202)433-9348, DSN 288-9348.

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