

CNIC Holds Awards Ceremony for SARCs

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Ten Navy Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) professionals were recognized for their outstanding performance in a ceremony held on Oct. 8, at the headquarters for Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) in Washington, D.C.

The ceremony was part of an annual 4-day training event held for SARCs representing commands from across the shore enterprise.



Washington, D.C (Oct 8, 2014) Vice Adm., William D. French, Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) addresses the CNIC Sexual Assault Response Coordinators, Oct. 8, at the Admiral Gooding Center, Washington D.C. This was part of a 4-day meeting for CNIC SARCs. (U.S. Navy Photo by Ed Wright/Released)

Commander, Navy Installations Command Vice Adm. William French presented the awardees with command coins and praised the coordinators and their teams for a job well done.

"I certainly appreciate what you do every day," said French. "You are making a big difference and I am honored to be able to participate in this recognition ceremony for these deserving people."

Sexual Assault Response Coordinators are considered the front line representative when it comes to ensuring that victims of a sexual assault receive appropriate and responsive care. Working to support Sailors around the world, SARCs manage the more than 4,000 victim advocates during the performance of advocacy duties, have oversight of all sexual assault cases for their commands, assign a victim advocate to a case, conduct sexual assault case management, and oversee training and education for victim advocates and the community.

French emphasized the importance of the role of SARCs in the Navy and their contributions to promoting a safe and healthy work environment.

"The impact you have had is visible in the results that we are seeing," French said. "I feel fortunate to be able to work with all the folks on a daily basis who make all the good things happen."

Nominations for the awards are submitted from Navy regions across the CNIC enterprise to CNIC headquarters, where the winning selection is made. The winner is forwarded to the Office of Secretary of Defense where the final approval is made. Nominations are based on criteria such as, but not limited to, what the awardee has accomplished on behalf of the service members and sexual assault victims and how their actions helped shape and influence policies, practices and attitudes for victim services.

"We had more nominations this year than last," said Tammy O'Rourke, CNIC sexual assault prevention and response program manager. "It was a difficult choice. They went above and beyond with their ability to engage their Sailors and go beyond the fence line to engage the community," she added.

The Office of the Secretary of Defense Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO) recognizes individuals

(military or civilian) from each service/component and the National Guard Bureau who perform above and beyond as the SARC either on an installation, for a state, or in a deployed environment.

The 2014 Navy Exceptional SARC of the Year was Shannon Moyer from Naval Air Station Lemoore, Calif.

“It is a real honor to have been recognized for this award,” said Moyer. “I am really passionate about the mission and I feel really lucky to be working for our Sailors. I feel the Sailors want to change and they are looking to us for those tools,” she added.

Other 2014 nominees for the Navy included:

- Fernando Meave (former SARC of Naval Base Guam)
- Elizabeth Blanc (Naval District Washington)
- Lori Walsh (Naval Base Coronado, Calif.)
- Katie Robinson (Naval Station Great Lakes, Ill.)
- Tiffany Mizzell (Naval Weapons Station Charleston, S.C.)
- Seletha Jones-Willis (San Antonio, Texas)
- Tina Vaughn (Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Fla.)
- Pat Kapitan (Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas)
- Toni Genovese (Naval Weapons Station Earle, N.J.)

For more information on the Navy’s Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program visit

https://www.cnic.navy.mil/ffr/family_readiness/fleet_and_family_support_program/sexual_assault_prevention_and_response.html

For more information about Navy shore installations visit www.cnic.navy.mil.