

CNRH Sailor stands for integrity

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Story and photo by MC2 Robert Stirrup

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After recently being selected as Commander, Navy Region Hawaii's (CNRH) Sailor of the Year, Master-at-Arms 1st Class (MA1) Evette McDowald looks forward to the many opportunities ahead in her career.

The Memphis, Tenn. native described herself as a person who likes to take on challenges and said that is the reason she joined the Navy in the first place.

"I had just graduated from college and I needed something fresh and new to do, but at the same time I wanted a challenge," McDowald said. "I chose master-at-arms knowing at first that I would be a gate guard or doing security operations, but later on, I found out that you can also be a dog handler, investigator along with many other jobs within the master-at-arms community. Once I found that out, I wanted to do this job for sure," she said.

Now, with more than nine years in the Navy, McDowald serves as the drug and alcohol program advisor (DAPA) for CNRH. She also serves as vice president of the CNRH Petty Officers Association and is a member of CNRH's coalition of Sailors against making destructive decisions (CSADD).

During her free time, McDowald said she likes to spend time with her family and enjoy the Hawaii weather.

"Spending time with my family is my first priority. I also like to read and I enjoy running," McDowald stated. "I really enjoy the tropical weather here in Hawaii because I hate to be cold, and who could really complain about being in Hawaii."

Command Master Chief Marcos Sibal, command master chief of CNRH, stated that McDowald is a poster-perfect example of what a Sailor should be.

"MA1 McDowald is an outstanding Sailor on and off duty, and she serves as an excellent role model for all our junior Sailors to emulate," Sibal said. "She embodies the ideals of service with honor and dedication, and her job ensures that we as Sailors conduct ourselves with the utmost integrity."

McDowald noted that the most important topics to her are community involvement through CNRH's partnership with Pearl City Elementary School and the Navy's mentor-ship program.

"My future plans include establishing a tutor program for English and math classes for the students at Pearl City Elementary, because one day they will be our leaders and I want them to be as successful as possible," McDowald said. "I'm also really involved in the mentorship program that the Navy has because I want the people who I am mentoring now to take my place. That is how my mentors taught me, and that is



what I want to pass on to the Sailors I mentor.”