

# NUCLEAR COMMAND CAREER COUNSELOR NEWSLETTER

1 Oct 24

OPNAV N133 – NUCLEAR ENLISTED COMMUNITY MANAGER

### **Topics**

Enlisted Leaders Development Courses
Blended Retirement System
Honor Your Shore Tour PRD
Don't detach from Sea Duty on an extension. Use a Page 13
Zone B BCNR Project
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### Fleet Visits & Upcoming Events

OPNAV N133 & PERS-403 Detailer Waterfront Visits
21-25 Oct – Norfolk, VA
18-22 Nov – Kings Bay, GA
6-18 Jan – HI/Guam/Japan
24-28 Feb – Groton, CT

#### \*\*URGENT\*\*

## **Enlisted Leaders Development Courses**

- Deadline to complete Advance Leader Development Course (ALDC) is 31 December 2024 in order to take the Cycle 266 CPO exam in January 2025!!
- Deadline to complete Intermediate Leader Development Course (ILDC) to take the Spring E6 exam will be released with the NAVADMIN in 2025.
- O IAW NAVADMIN 237/23, beginning in Calendar Year (CY) 2025, Sailors in paygrades E-5 and E-6 must attend the ILDC and ALDC as a prerequisite for the Navy-wide advancement exam. Sailors in paygrade E-7 must attend the CPO Leader Development Course (CPO-LDC) to be eligible for advancement to E-8. Sailors must take their applicable course when they are wearing the rank of their applicable paygrade, i.e. you cannot take a course early.

# **Blended Retirement System (BRS)**

- o How has the military retirement system changed?
  - The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2016, created a new military retirement system that blends a defined benefit annuity with a defined contribution plan, through the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP). The primary difference between BRS and the legacy "High-3" system is that BRS adjusts the years of service multiplier from 2.5 percent to 2.0 percent for calculating monthly retired pay. In addition, the BRS includes automatic government contributions of 1 percent of basic pay and government matching contributions of up to an additional 4 percent of basic pay to a service member's TSP account. The law also included a continuation pay provision, which is a direct cash payout (like a bonus), in return for additional obligated service.
- O Under the BRS, if you stay in the Uniformed Service for 20 or more years, you are eligible to receive a **defined benefit** (pension) based on a percentage of your basic pay.
- Continuation pay is a direct cash payout, like a bonus, available to service members enrolled in the BRS. It is targeted at the mid-career mark, payable between completion of eight years of service, but before completion of 12 years of service (calculated from a service member's Pay Entry Base Date). Most service members will be eligible for continuation pay, but the timing and the amount is determined by your service.
- The **lump sum option** is a feature of the BRS, which gives service members <u>choices at retirement</u>. Service members under BRS who qualify for retired pay, may be eligible to elect either a 25 percent or 50 percent discounted portion of their monthly retired pay as a lump sum in exchange for reduced monthly retired pay. Monthly retired pay returns to the full amount when the service member reaches their full Social Security retirement age, which for most is age 67.

Visit the Blended Retirement Website to learn more!

(https://militarypay.defense.gov/BlendedRetirement/?utm\_source=mnp%20public/)

# **Honor Your Shore Tour PRD**

PERS-403 will not involuntarily transfer Zone B and Enlisted Supervisor Retention Pay (ESRP) Zone 1 Sailors (E-6 and below) prior to their first shore tour (SHORE-1) PRD to their second sea tour (SEA-2). PERS-403 is still authorized to transfer Sailors prior to their PRD for those who volunteer to rotate early from SHORE-1 to SEA-2.

The memo is available to be downloaded on the MyNavy HR Nuclear ECM webpage.

# Do NOT detach from Sea Duty on an extension. Use a Page 13 in lieu of OBLISERVE

- o Circumstances such as potential monetary loss under critical skills bonus or SRB, refer to MILPERSMAN 1306-106. Para 4.
- Use of NAVPERS 1070/613 is only authorized for SRB eligible Sailors. Sse of NAVPERS 1070/613 for periods of more than 12 months requires NAVPERSCOM (BUPERS-328) authorization.
- o Local Command can approve the use of a NAVPERS 1370/613 when OBLISERV requirements are 12 months or less.
- If OBLISERV requirements are greater than 12 months, the CCC must submit ePAR 1306 request to MNCC for approval from BUPERS-328.

Communication with your detailer is crucial to ensure no monetary loss due to transfer and OBLISERV requirements.

#### **Retroactive Zone B SRB BCNR**

- o In July 2023, OPNAV N133 released a memo providing Sailors with an opportunity to reenlist for a Zone B SRB via the Board for Correction of Naval Records (BCNR) for Sailors previously ineligible to reenlist in Zone B due to having not completed six years of service at the time of their transfer from sea or being improperly counselled to use an extension in order to meet their shore duty projected rotation date (PRD).
- o 518 Sailors took advantage of this opportunity with an estimated total payout of \$20,688,394.60.
- o To date, 406 Sailors have been approved by BCNR for a retroactive Zone B reenlistment and \$11,140,201.44 has been deposited into Sailor's bank accounts with more Sailors continuing to receive payments every day.
- o Additionally, 125 Sailors have been approved to transfer their G.I. Bill education benefits to their dependents, 6 Sailors have been approved for CONSUBPAY and 47 Sailors have committed to return to Sea after their Shore tour.

## **NEC Removals**

- OPNAVINST 1220.1F details nuclear NEC removal:
  - o Removal of an NEC is an *administrative action* taken when a Service Member's CO considers the Service Member no longer suitable for assignment to duties in the specialty represented by that NEC. A recommendation to remove an NEC must not be submitted in lieu of appropriate disciplinary action. Since an NEC serves to identify a valued skill in the Navy's personnel inventory, requests from Service Members for removal or change of nuclear NECs cannot be approved. Recommendations for removal of NECs that identify nuclear-trained enlisted personnel must include sufficient information or justification concerning the recommendation. The information must include the details or the specific description of events leading to the CO's decision to recommend NEC removal. Lack of motivation is not a sufficient reason for removal of a nuclear NEC. In addition, a recommendation for removal of an individual's nuclear NEC must be submitted when circumstances of demonstrated unreliability clearly indicate such a recommendation is necessary.
- o If a service member goes to NJP, the documents (complete NJP package including PIO) can be used to provide details and/or specific description of events leading to CO's decision to recommend NEC removal. CO's determination of NJP is separate from CO's recommendation of NEC removal and NEC removal is not dependent on NJP.
- o Nuclear NEC removal remains a separate decision process even if a service member is found not guilty at NJP.

# **Social Media Hot Topics**

#### **SRB Bonus Payments**:

EMN3 Jones preforms a STAR reenlistment for 6 years, at 21 months in the Navy, after qualifying at NPTU. EMN3 Jones will receive ½ of the total bonus upfront as soon as his reenlistment is processed.

EMN3 Jones will then receive 1/5 of the remaining balance on the anniversary of his reenlistment. SRBs are paid upfront for the time a Sailor has committed to serve.

Later...

EMN2 Jones decides to perform a 4 year Zone B reenlistment at 6 years for his shore orders.

EMN2 Jones will receive ½ of the total Zone B SRB upfront and ¼ of the remaining half on the anniversary of his reenlistment.

EMN2 will also receive his last Zone A SRB payment on the anniversary of his STAR reenlistment. Based on Honor your Shore Tour PRD, EMN2 will not be required to go to SEA-2 unless he signs ESRP Zone 1 contract.

#### **SRB Bonus Recoupments**:

EMN3 Smith STAR reenlists just like EMN3 Jones but due to a medical condition her nuclear NEC is removed after only completing 3 ½ years of service.

EMN3 Smith received  $\frac{1}{2}$  upfront of her Zone A SRB and 1 anniversary installment.

EMN3 Smith did not complete her initial 4 years prior to having her NEC removed, therefore EMN3 Smith will repay 6 months of her enlistment bonus, and everything paid (pre-tax) for her Zone A SRB because she would not have started earning her Zone A SRB until completing the initial 4 years.

Contact OPNAV N133D for more information or assistance.

