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SUBJ/2025 ANNUAL NAVY LEAGUE PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS//

RMKS/1. The Navy League of the United States (NLUS) is a national organization of more than 30,000 members and over 180 councils throughout the United States and overseas. Each year, NLUS presents awards in recognition of outstanding individual achievements in leadership, maritime affairs, scientific progress, engineering excellence, logistics competence, excellence in intelligence, and service to community and country. All Active and Reserve Navy and Marine Corps Service Members are eligible. Members of the Coast Guard, Merchant Marines, and civilians may also be eligible for some awards.

2. The NLUS Annual Professional Excellence Awards are as follows:

- a. The John Paul Jones Award for Inspirational Leadership recognizes a Navy officer who has made an outstanding contribution to the highest standards of leadership in the naval service;
- b. The Admiral Claude V. Ricketts Award for Inspirational Leadership recognizes two Navy enlisted Sailors (one E-7 or above and one E-6 or below) who have demonstrated leadership and professional competence;
- c. The Lieutenant General John A. Lejeune Award for Inspirational Leadership recognizes a Marine Corps officer who has made an outstanding contribution to the highest standards of leadership in the Marine Corps;
- d. The General Gerald C. Thomas Award for Inspirational Leadership recognizes an enlisted Marine who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and professional competence;
- e. The Stephen Decatur Award for Operational Competence recognizes a Navy officer or enlisted Sailor who has made an outstanding personal contribution in the course of actual naval operations that has advanced the readiness and competence of the naval service;
- f. The General Holland M. Smith Award for Operational Competence recognizes a Marine Corps officer or enlisted Marine who has made an outstanding personal contribution in the course of actual operations that has advanced the readiness and competence of the naval service;
- g. The Robert M. Thompson Award for Outstanding Civilian Leadership recognizes a civilian who has furthered the cause of seapower;
- h. The Rear Admiral William S. Parsons Award for Scientific and Technical Progress recognizes a Navy or Marine Corps Service Member or civilian who has made an outstanding contribution in any field of science that has furthered the development and progress of the Navy or Marine Corps;
- i. The Alfred Thayer Mahan Award for Literary Achievement recognizes a Navy or Marine Corps Service Member or civilian for a notable literary

contribution that has advanced the importance and cause of seapower in the United States;

j. The Honorable J. William Middendorf II Award for Engineering Excellence recognizes a Navy Petty Officer who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and professional competence required while assigned to a deployed ship;

k. The Admiral Ben Moreell Award for Logistics Competence recognizes an officer and an enlisted Service Member (Navy or Marine Corps) who has made an outstanding personal contribution that has advanced the logistics readiness and competence of the naval service; and

l. The Vice Admiral Robert F. Batchelder Awards recognizes five Navy officers in the Supply Corps (grades of O-1 through O-4) who have made the most significant personal contributions to the supply readiness of the operating forces.

3. Annual Professional Excellence Awards for Excellence of Naval Professionals in Intelligence, the Merchant Marines, and Coast Guard sponsored by NLUS are as follows:

a. The Captain Arthur L. Johnson Award for Inspirational Leadership is awarded to a Military Sealift Command civil service licensed officer who has made significant and innovative contributions to the maritime defense team;

b. The Able Seaman Oscar Chappell Award for Outstanding Maritime Stewardship is awarded to a Military Sealift Command civil service unlicensed crew member who displayed selfless dedication to a shipmate;

c. The Captain David H. Jarvis Award for Inspirational Leadership by a Coast Guard officer who has made an outstanding contribution to the high standards of leadership in the Coast Guard;

d. The Douglas A. Munro Award for Inspirational Leadership by an enlisted Coast Guardsman who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and professional competence;

e. The Naval Intelligence Professionals Award for Exceptional Leadership in Intelligence Support to the fleet is awarded to that officer of the Sea Services, in the pay grades of O-4, O-5, or O-6, who has demonstrated exceptional leadership in providing excellence in operational intelligence support to the fleet; and

f. The Project Handclasp Humanitarian Service Award recognizes a Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard Service Member for exceptional personal effort and accomplishments in humanitarian assistance.

4. Nominations:

a. Nomination criteria. Nominations must be fully substantiated and reflect a careful and conscientious evaluation of the nominee for accomplishment from 1 December 2024 through 30 November 2025. Each nomination package shall include:

(1) A cover page with nominee's full name, rank/rate, current duty station and address, home address, work and home phone numbers, e-mail address, home of record, length of service (for military nominees), name of award being nominated for, as well as a point of contact name, rank/rate, address, commercial phone number (this cannot be a DSN number), fax number, e-mail address, and signature of the commanding officer;

(2) A nomination achievement/justification section in paragraph or bullet format. It should explain in a manner easily understood by the general public and should avoid acronyms, generalities, or excessive use of superlatives;

(3) A proposed citation in standard paragraph form; and

(4) The total submission packet, excluding the proposed citation, must not exceed four pages.

(5) A template for the required format is available on the Navy League website at <https://www.navyleague.org/programs/awards/sea-services/>.

b. Submission. The requested method of submission is via website to <https://www.navyleague.org/programs/awards/sea-services/> with all attachments in Microsoft Word format or Adobe Acrobat.

Annual Professional Excellence Awards Nominations must be received no later than 31 January 2026. The Vice Admiral Robert F. Batchelder Award Nomination deadline is 31 March 2026.

5. Additional information regarding the awards and nomination process may be found on the Navy League website at, <https://www.navyleague.org/programs/awards/sea-services/>.

6. Awards will be presented at the Navy League Convention held in (location to be determined), in June or July 2026, or at another appropriate event. The Navy League will cover expenses for lodging and meals of award participants, plus one guest. Travel costs will not be covered by the League. Using this message as a reference, commands are encouraged to issue temporary additional duty orders so award recipients may attend the Navy League's Annual Convention.

For additional logistics information about this program, contact Navy League Member Engagement Department at (703) 312-1565 or awards@navyleague.org.

7. Released by the Honorable John C. Phelan, Secretary of the Navy.//

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