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SUBJ/2024 SHANNON M. KENT AWARD FOR LANGUAGE PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE,
LANGUAGE PROFESSIONALS OF THE YEAR, LINGUISTS OF THE YEAR, AND COMMAND
LANGUAGE PROGRAM OF THE YEAR ANNOUNCEMENT//

REF/A/DOC/OPNAVINST 5400.46A/18MAY21//

AMPN/REF A IS OPNAVINST 5400.46A, COMMAND LANGUAGE PROGRAMS AND AWARDS.//

RMKS/1. This NAVADMIN announces the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Shannon M.
Kent Award for Language Professional Excellence, Language Professionals,
Linguists, and Command Language Program of the Year winners.

2. Congratulations to all nominees for their remarkable contributions,
leveraging their foreign language expertise in service of our Navy and
national objectives. It is my distinct pleasure to announce the 2024 Navy
award winners:

- a. Shannon M. Kent Award for Language Professional Excellence:
CTI1 Samanta Alvarenga, Navy Information Operations Command Georgia, Fort
Eisenhower GA
- b. Senior Language Professional of the Year:
CTIC(IW/SW) Neal Knudsvig, Information Warfare Training Command, Monterey CA
- c. Officer Language Professional of the Year:
LCDR Warren Brookes, Defense Attach Office, Ascuncin Paraguay
- d. Civilian Language Professional of the Year:
Mr. Stephen Ramirez, Navy Information Operations Command, Fort Eisenhower GA
- e. Linguist of the Year:
EO2(EXW/SW) Hung Ho, Naval Construction Group ONE, Port Hueneme CA
- f. Officer Linguist of the Year:
LT LaDonna Sales, NAVSOUTH/FOURTHFLT, Jacksonville FL
- g. Civilian Linguist of the Year:
Mr. Matthew Jennings, Office of Naval Intelligence, Suitland MD
- h. Command Language Program of the Year:
Navy Information Operations Command Pacific (NIOC PAC), Wahiawa HI

3. As the winners of the Shannon M. Kent Award for Language Professional
Excellence and Command Language Program of the Year,
CTI1 Alvarenga and NIOC PAC will go on to compete at the Department of
Defense level and will be recognized at the FY25 Advanced Command Language
Program Manager Workshop, 9 to 11 September 2025.

4. Language, Regional Expertise, and Culture capabilities are vital to enhancing our Navy's warfighting effectiveness. The individuals recognized above, and those who competed alongside them, have demonstrated exceptional skill and commitment in using their language skills, regional expertise, and cultural knowledge to strengthen nation security, address both enduring and emerging threats, and foster lasting strategic partnerships. I commend their continued dedication and professionalism in advancing the Navy's mission.

5. Bravo Zulu to our award winners!

6. Released by Ms. Lisa M. St. Andre, Acting N1.////

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