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PASS TO OFFICE CODES:
FM CNO WASHINGTON DC//N95//
INFO CNO WASHINGTON DC//N95//
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SUBJ/SOLICITATION FOR THE 2026 EXPEDITIONARY WARFARE EXCELLENCE AWARDS
(EWEA)//

REF/A/DOC/DECISION PAPER/20200610//
AMPN/REF A IS THE DECISION PAPER FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EWEA//

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GENTEXT/REMARKS/1. PURPOSE. THE DEPUTY COMMANDANT FOR COMBAT DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION (DC, CD&I) AND THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS FOR WARFIGHTING REQUIREMENTS AND CAPABILITIES (DCNO, N9) ARE PLEASED TO SOLICIT NOMINATIONS FOR THE ANNUAL EXPEDITIONARY WARFARE EXCELLENCE AWARDS (EWEA). THE EWEA RECOGNIZES THOSE MARINES AND SAILORS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES THROUGH EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE WHILE SERVING IN AN EXPEDITIONARY WARFARE ASSIGNMENT AND HAVE SIGNIFICANTLY INFLUENCED THE FUTURE OF NAVAL EXPEDITIONARY WARFARE AND AMPHIBIOUS CAPABILITIES, DOCTRINE AND TRAINING THROUGH INNOVATIVE CONCEPTS, LEADERSHIP, AND TEAMWORK. THE EWEA CEREMONY WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE 2026 MARINE CORPS ASSOCIATION COMBAT DEVELOPMENT DINNER ON OR AROUND 20 AUGUST 2026.

1.A. INCLUSIVE DATES FOR THE AWARDS ARE 1 JANUARY 2025 TO 31 DECEMBER 2025.

1.B. THE EWEA FEATURES FOUR AWARDS: MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY WARFARE OFFICER OF THE YEAR (CWO3 - CWO4, O3-O4), MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY WARFARE STAFF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER OF THE YEAR (E6-E8), NAVY EXPEDITIONARY WARFARE OFFICER OF THE YEAR (CWO3-CWO4, O3-O4), AND NAVY EXPEDITIONARY WARFARE ENLISTED SAILOR OF THE YEAR (E6-E8). THIS AWARDS PROGRAM IS APPLICABLE TO THE ACTIVE AND RESERVE COMPONENTS OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVY.

1.C. AN AWARDS BOARD, CONVENED BY CD&I AND OPNAV N9, WILL REVIEW AND EVALUATE ALL SUBMITTED PACKAGES TO SELECT A WINNER FROM BOTH THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS FOR EACH CATEGORY. THESE SELECTIONS WILL THEN BE FORWARDED TO THE DC, CD&I AND OPNAV N9 FOR FINAL APPROVAL. THE AWARD WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED VIA NAVADMIN.

2. ACTION

2.A. COMMANDS WITH PERSONNEL MEETING THE CRITERIA ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT NOMINATIONS VIA THE FIRST O-6 IN THE CHAIN OF COMMAND TO THE POCS LISTED IN THIS MESSAGE.

2.B. NOMINATION PACKAGES MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 15 MAY 2026.

2.C. NOMINATION PACKAGES SHALL BE SENT ELECTRONICALLY VIA EMAIL AND WILL INCLUDE ONE FILE IN MICROSOFT WORD FORMAT AND ONE FILE IN PORTABLE DOCUMENT FORMAT (PDF) PER NOMINEE. THE SUBJECT LINE SHOULD READ: "CALENDAR YEAR 2025 EWEA ICO RANK/NAME", NOMINATION PACKAGES WILL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

2.C.1. A NOMINATION LETTER FROM THE FIRST O-6, AT A MINIMUM, IN THE CHAIN OF COMMAND.

2.C.2. UNIT POINT OF CONTACT TO INCLUDE PHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL ADDRESS.

2.C.3. PHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL ADDRESS FOR EACH NOMINEE.

2.C.4. A SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE THAT PROVIDES A CONCISE RESUME OF QUALIFICATIONS, INCLUDING THE BILLET DESCRIPTION AND SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS, NOT TO EXCEED TWO PAGES USING 12-PITCH COURIER NEW FONT.

2.C.5. A BIOGRAPHY OF THE NOMINEE.

2.C.6. A PROPOSED CITATION NOT TO EXCEED 10 TYPEWRITTEN LINES USING 12-PITCH COURIER NEW FONT.

3. CD&I WILL FUND TRAVEL FOR THE INDIVIDUAL AWARDEE TO ATTEND THE COMBAT DEVELOPMENT DINNER FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THE AWARD. EVERY EFFORT SHALL BE MADE BY LOCAL COMMANDERS TO ENSURE THE PRESENCE OF THE AWARDEE AT THE CEREMONY. INDIVIDUALS OTHER THAN THE AWARDEE WHO DESIRE TO ATTEND MUST DO SO AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE.

4. ENSURE WIDEST DISSEMINATION OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS MESSAGE.

5. RELEASE AUTHORIZED BY REAR ADMIRAL M. BEHNING, DEPUTY CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS FOR WARFIGHTING REQUIREMENTS AND CAPABILITIES.//

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