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SUBJ/FISCAL YEAR 2027 VICE ADMIRAL JAMES BOND STOCKDALE LEADERSHIP AWARD
WINNERS//

RMKS/1. This NAVADMIN announces the Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 recipients of the Vice Admiral James Bond Stockdale Leadership Award. Commander Evan Hentschel, Commanding Officer, SEAL Team TWO (U. S. Fleet Forces Command) and Commander Gieorag Andrews, Commanding Officer, USS MISSOURI (SSN 780) (U.S. Pacific Fleet) were selected for their inspirational leadership.

2. This fleet award was established in honor of VADM James Bond Stockdale, whose distinguished naval career symbolized the highest standards of excellence in both personal and professional leadership. The award is presented annually to two commissioned officers on active duty in the grade of commander or below who are serving in command of a single ship, submarine, aviation squadron, Sea, Air, Land (SEAL) team, naval special warfare squadron, SEAL delivery vehicle team, special boat team, explosive ordnance disposal mobile unit, mobile diving and salvage unit, or Navy special clearance team during the nomination cycle. Candidates are nominated by peers who themselves must be eligible for the award.

3. The FY-27 winners were chosen from among ten outstanding finalists in a review process that included screening at the fleet commander level and final selection by a board of senior officers.

4. The following finalists deserve well-earned congratulations:

a. U.S. Fleet Forces finalists:

- (1) CDR Aaron Jefferson III, Commanding Officer, USS JASON DUNHAM (DDG 109)
- (2) CDR Robert Johnson, Commanding Officer, USS OREGON (SSN 793)
- (3) CDR John Damon, Commanding Officer, EOD Tactical Development And Evaluation Squadron
- (4) CDR Arlen Connolly, Commanding Officer, Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron SEVEN ZERO

b. Pacific Fleet finalists:

- (1) CDR Michael Christoph, Commanding Officer, VFA 25
- (2) CDR David Carter, Commanding Officer, Mobile Diving And Salvage Unit ONE
- (3) CDR Adam Shapiro, Commanding Officer, SEAL TEAM ONE
- (4) CDR Linzy Lewis III, Commanding Officer, USS SANTA BARBARA (LCS 32) (GOLD)

5. CDR Evan Hentschel and CDR Gieorag Andrews, as well as all finalists, should be justifiably proud of their achievements.

6. Awards will be presented at a ceremony in November 2026 or as soon as practicable thereafter.

7. This NAVADMIN will be kept for record purposes, and will remain in effect until canceled or superseded, whichever occurs first.

8. Released by Vice Admiral Jeffrey J. Czerewko, N1//

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