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SUBJ/OMBUDSMAN APPRECIATION DAY//

RMKS/1. On September 14, 2026, we will observe Ombudsman Appreciation Day and recognize the dedicated volunteers who support our Sailors, families, and commands. For more than five decades, Navy Ombudsmen have served as a trusted link between command leadership and Navy families, helping families remain informed, connected, and prepared for the demands of Navy life. Their service strengthens our commands and directly contributes to Fleet readiness.

2. Our Sailors are the strength of our Navy, but no Sailor serves alone. Navy families are essential to the readiness and resilience of our force, and Ombudsmen turn our commitment to those families into action. They provide timely information, connect families with trusted resources, and help them navigate deployments and periods of uncertainty. They also give command leaders valuable insight into family needs, enabling commands to respond effectively. This two-way communication strengthens trust across the command and helps our Sailors remain focused on the mission and ready to fight and win.

3. Our Ombudsmen devote their time and energy to serving others. They welcome new Navy families to the command, respond when families need support most, and provide a steady presence during routine operations and times of crisis. Their professionalism, commitment, and compassion make a lasting difference throughout the Navy community.

4. We encourage Commanding Officers and command leaders across the Fleet to personally recognize their Ombudsmen and express appreciation for their contributions. We also ask every Sailor and family member who has benefited from an Ombudsman's support to take a moment to thank them. Their service deserves our recognition and gratitude.

5. To our Navy Ombudsmen, thank you for your selfless service and steadfast commitment to our Sailors and families. Your contributions strengthen our families, reinforce command readiness, and enhance the Fleet's ability to fight and win.

6. Built in the Foundry - Tempered in the Fleet - Forged to Fight.

7. Released by ADM Daryl Caudle, 34th Chief of Naval Operations, MCPON John Perryman, 17th Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy and our Ombudsmen-At-Large, Mrs. Donna Caudle and Mrs. Angie Perryman.//

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