Congratulations on your selection to Chief Petty Officer! I impart upon you a few words of wisdom that I have tried to uphold both professionally and personally throughout my 34 years of service. The spirit and intent of these simple edicts apply universally in the profession of arms.

**Loyalty to Country, Team, and Teammate**
We are a team of patriots that serve a higher cause. Mission first, people always.

**Serve with Honor and Integrity On and Off the Battlefield**
Your actions hold an even higher level of consequence. Not only for yourself but for the Navy and Chiefs Mess as a whole. When you don the Anchors, you will have more freedom to maneuver but less room for error. Chiefs must act quickly and decisively but still bear in mind the impact of each decision.

**Ready to Lead, Ready to Follow, Never Quit**
Being a newly pinned Chief does not make you a "new" leader. The same traits that got you to this point will carry you well into the Mess. Remember, there will be times to lead, whether that’s Officers, fellow Chiefs or junior Sailors. Equally as important, Chiefs must be willing to follow those same groups. Above all, NEVER QUIT; whether you are on point or securing the flank, always push yourself and your teammates to succeed.

**Take responsibility for your actions and the actions of your teammates**
You are the keeper of the anchor, and that doesn’t mean just yours. You represent every Chief that has come before you and all that will come after. Holding yourself and your teammates accountable maintains the integrity of the mess and ensures our credibility.

**Excel as Warriors through Discipline and Innovation**
We operate in a volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous security environment that requires a lethal force that is precise, agile and creative in our execution. To be a warrior leader, you must be a warrior first.

**Train for War, Fight to Win, Defeat our Nation's Enemies**
The many threats to our national security dictates that our forces be ready to fight tonight! You are now the Chief and this begins with YOU; our newly minted front-line leaders.

**Earn your Trident everyday**
The only easy day was yesterday; earn your anchors everyday.

Hoo-Yah,