



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
THE MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER OF THE NAVY
2000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20350-2000

June 8, 2022

Goats, good day!

Each year our selection boards recommend the best and fully qualified for advancement to Chief Petty Officer. Then, in only a few short weeks, we provide meaningful training and appropriate events to prepare them to serve within our CPO Mess. All of the training must directly contribute to enhancing our capability as a CPO Mess, and every event must increase confidence, trust and teamwork. The readiness of selectees to enter the CPO Mess is a direct reflection on the tone we set and the quality of the mentoring they receive during the season.

This year we expect the Reserve E-7 Board results to be released on 18 July 2022, and the Active E-7 Board results to be released on 06 September 2022. The CPO Initiation Season begins upon release of the results and culminates with Final Night on 20 October and pinning ceremonies on 21 October, 2022. As we have always allowed, Commanding Officers and Command Senior Enlisted Leaders can communicate through their ISIC to their Fleet Master Chief, or the OPNAV CMC for direct report commands, to coordinate alternate dates due to operational requirements. In the event scheduling changes are required, all CPO Initiation events shall be completed by 2359 on 21 October.

Command Senior Enlisted Leaders will ensure that all selectees are guided through the Teaching to the Creed syllabus, as these sessions form the backbone of our training effort. Each of our selectees must understand what is expected of them as a Chief Petty Officer, and leveraging our Creed as the primary focus will accomplish this goal. Additionally, a specific Get Real Get Better and Warrior Toughness training session will be conducted. Other training topics that have historically been included as “additional items” should be carefully weighed to determine the actual value they provide. Laying the Keel (May 2019) remains in effect and provides guidelines and a framework for a successful Initiation.

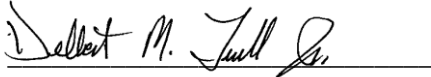
The focus of our season is “preparing” our newest Chiefs to enter the Mess, not screening them out. The Chief of Naval Personnel has already determined they are authorized to wear the uniform of an E-7; it is the process of enculturation and their acceptance of the responsibility inherent of a Chief Petty Officer that makes what we do so incredibly valuable. The Command Senior Enlisted Leader and the CPO Mess are responsible and accountable for the quality of execution, and the readiness of each selectee to perform at the level of a Chief Petty Officer on day one. The strength of our Mess is teamwork and our commitment to a common vision, therefore we must focus on transitioning them into their new role by leveraging their existing leadership attributes. They will not be perfect, but they will continue to learn, and we will make our Navy better together.

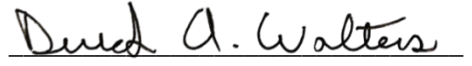
The continued viability of our Initiation relies on our ability to professionally execute this process. Command Senior Enlisted Leaders will thoroughly brief their respective Commanding Officer to ensure a clear vision and proper alignment exists with unit leadership. I look forward to watching our Chief’s Mess step forward and execute yet another safe and successful Season.


Navy Chief, Navy Pride – HOOYAH!

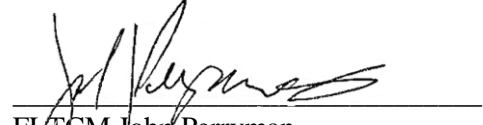
Very respectfully,

MCPON Russell Smith


FLTCM Delbert Terrell
MyNavyHR


FLTCM Derrick Walters
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