



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
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WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

OPNAVINST 1427.1A
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28 Jul 2014

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 1427.1A

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: REGULATIONS GOVERNING RUNNING MATES, PRECEDENCE, AND
COMPETITIVE CATEGORIES FOR OFFICERS OF THE NAVY RESERVE

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C.
(b) SECNAVINST 1400.1B
(c) OPNAVINST 1427.2

1. Purpose

a. To provide procedures for a running mate system with officers on the active duty list (ADL) governing the promotion of officers of the Navy Reserve under reference (a), sections 14304, 14305 and 14306.

b. To prescribe regulations governing the assignment of running mates and the establishment of precedence and competitive categories for officers on the Reserve Active Status List (RASL) of the Navy. This is a complete revision and should be reviewed in its entirety.

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 1427.1.

3. Background

a. Reference (a), section 14306:

(1) provides discretionary authority to the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) to establish Reserve Component (RC) officer promotion zones using a running mate system (RMS). Promotion zones for competitive categories not covered by the RMS will be determined using the criteria of reference (a), sections 14304 and 14305; and

(2) authorizes the determination of promotion zones for consideration of officers on the RASL of the Navy for promotion to the next higher grade by means of an RMS. An officer on the

RASL who has not been previously considered for promotion is in the promotion zone and is eligible for consideration for promotion to the next higher grade by a selection board convened under reference (a), section 14101, when that officer's running mate is in or above the promotion zone established for that grade under reference (a), chapter 36.

b. Reference (a), section 14308, directs that a reserve officer who is selected for promotion under a running mate system is eligible for promotion to the grade for which selected when the officer who is that officer's running mate becomes eligible for promotion. The effective date of the reserve officer's promotion shall be the same as that of the officer's running mate.

4. Policy. Officers on the RASL of the Navy may be assigned running mates under this instruction. Matters involving precedence and competitive promotion categories for such officers will follow the guidance in this instruction.

5. Definitions. The following definitions apply throughout this instruction.

a. Reserve Officer. An officer on the RASL of the Navy under reference (a), section 14002, serving in the grade of lieutenant junior grade or higher in the Navy Reserve.

b. Same Competitive Category. For purposes of assigning a running mate, a reserve officer is considered to be in the same competitive category as that officer on the ADL whose competitive category, per reference (b), corresponds to the reserve officer's competitive category listed in paragraph 8. For purposes of the foregoing:

(1) A Navy Reserve officer serving on active duty in connection with the full-time support (FTS) of the RC who is assigned to a competitive category under subparagraph 8b is considered for purposes of assigning a running mate to be in the same competitive category as the officer on the ADL whose competitive category, per reference (b), most closely corresponds to the FTS officer's competitive category.

(2) A Navy Reserve officer assigned to the competitive category of strategic sealift officer is considered for purposes

of assigning a running mate to be in the same competitive category as an officer on the ADL serving in the competitive category of unrestricted line officer.

6. Assignment of Running Mates. While in the grade of lieutenant junior grade or higher, each officer on the RASL in a competitive category under the RMS shall have an assigned running mate of the same grade from the Navy ADL.

a. A reserve officer shall have assigned as a running mate the next junior officer on the ADL in the same competitive category having the same grade and date of rank. If the next most junior officer in the same competitive category on the ADL in that grade has the same date of rank as the reserve officer, then the officer assigned as the reserve officer's running mate is the most senior officer on the ADL in the same competitive category with the next later date of rank serving in the same grade; if there is no such officer, then the most junior officer in the same competitive category on the ADL with the next earlier date of rank will be assigned. Relative seniority between a Navy Reserve officer and an officer on the ADL with the same grade and date of rank shall be determined by applying the criteria in reference (c).

b. If the running mate of a reserve officer is separated or released from the ADL, changes competitive categories, or loses seniority, the reserve officer shall be assigned a new running mate. The running mate to be assigned is the officer on the ADL in the same competitive category and grade who was next junior to the former running mate, or if there is none, the eligible officer on the ADL in the same competitive category and grade who was next senior to the former running mate.

c. When a reserve officer is promoted after selection, such officer shall have a running mate in the higher grade. The officer on the ADL to be assigned as the running mate of the reserve officer is the same officer who was the running mate of the reserve officer before the reserve officer was promoted, if that running mate was selected for promotion by a selection board convened under reference (a), section 611, immediately preceding the board which selected the reserve officer. Otherwise, the officer to be assigned as the new running mate is the officer on the ADL in the same competitive category and

among those selected, who was next junior to the former running mate in the grade for which promoted, or the next senior if no junior were selected.

d. If the running mate of a reserve officer is promoted to a higher grade and the reserve officer is not promoted, the reserve officer shall be assigned a new running mate in the grade in which that officer remains. The officer to be assigned is the officer on the ADL in the same grade and same competitive category as the reserve officer who was next junior to the former running mate and who was not selected for promotion, or if there is none, the eligible officer on the ADL in the same grade and same competitive category who was next senior to the former running mate and who was not selected for promotion.

e. If a reserve officer is appointed or redesignated in a different competitive category than that in which presently serving, the reserve officer shall be assigned a new running mate in the competitive category and grade to which appointed or redesignated.

f. When a Navy Reserve officer is assigned to a competitive category which has no corresponding ADL officers of the same grade being considered for promotion during a fiscal year promotion cycle, during that cycle the officer shall be assigned, for purposes of promotion eligibility, and for determination of date of rank in the new grade (if selected), a running mate in the unrestricted line on the ADL, following the guidelines in subparagraph 6a, 6b, or 6c. Thereafter, the normal running mate rules for the Navy Reserve officer's competitive category will apply.

7. RASL

a. A precedence listing of officers in an active status in the Navy Reserve who are not on the ADL will be maintained for each competitive category established per reference (a), section 14002.

b. The relative precedence among reserve officers in each competitive category will be based on grade and date of rank. Those officers having the same grade and date of rank shall be placed on the precedence list applying the criteria in reference (c) for precedence of officers on the ADL.

c. The reserve officer precedence listings for each competitive category will be updated at least annually, to establish promotion zones for each category as directed by reference (a), section 14305.

8. Navy Reserve Officer Competitive Categories

a. Each Navy Reserve officer, other than an FTS officer, who is not on the ADL will be assigned to one of the following competitive categories for promotion.

<u>DESIGNATOR</u>	<u>COMPETITIVE CATEGORY</u>
(1) 11XX/13XX	unrestricted line officer
(2) 120X	human resources
(3) 14XX	engineering duty officer
(4) 150X (see note 1)	aerospace engineering duty officer (certain officers in the grade of captain and all officers in the grade of admiral)
(5) 151X (see note 1)	aerospace engineering duty officer (engineering) (through the grade of captain, until designated 150X)
(6) 152X (see note 1)	aerospace engineering duty officer (maintenance) (through the grade of captain, until designated 150X)
(7) 165X	public affairs officer
(8) 166X	strategic sealift officer
(9) 171X	foreign area officer
(10) 180X	oceanography
(11) 181X	information warfare

- (12) 182X information professional
- (13) 183X intelligence
- (14) 186X (see note 2) Information Dominance Corps (IDC)
flag officer
- (15) 210X Medical Corps
- (16) 220X Dental Corps
- (17) 230X Medical Services Corps
- (18) 250X Judge Advocate Generals Corps
- (19) 290X Nurse Corps
- (20) 270X (see note 3) senior health care executive
- (21) 310X Supply Corps
- (22) 410X Chaplain Corps
- (23) 510X Civil Engineer Corps
- (24) 61XX/62XX/63XX/
64XX limited duty officer (line)
- (25) 65XX limited duty officer (staff)

Note 1. All aerospace engineering duty officers, designators 151X and 152X in pay grade O-6 will be assigned to the competitive category aerospace engineering duty officer, designator 150X; unless the officer specifically declines such redesignation when they are, by virtue of their experience, considered qualified in both aerospace engineering, designator 151X, and maintenance, designator 152X. This change of competitive category, to designator 150X, will normally occur approximately 3 years from date of rank as O-6. The 3 years time-in-grade may be changed at the discretion of the Chief of Naval Operations. However, the redesignation to designator 150X officers must occur not later than 1 month prior to the convening date of the

next selection board to consider redesignated 150X for promotion to pay grade O-7. For the purpose of membership on selection boards, officers assigned the 150X designator will be considered as being in the same competitive category as officers assigned 151X or 152X.

Note 2. All oceanography, information warfare, information professional and intelligence officers in the grade of O-7 will be assigned to the competitive category of IDC flag officer (186X) upon assignment of date of rank. This change of competitive category will allow an IDC O-7 to compete for O-8 as an IDC flag. For the purpose of membership on selection boards officers assigned the IDC Flag 186X designator will be considered as being in the same competitive category as their permanent corps designator.

Note 3. All Medical Corps, Dental Corps, Medical Service Corps, and Nurse Corps officers in the grade of O-7 will be assigned to the competitive category of senior health care executive (270X) upon assignment of date of rank. This change of competitive category will allow a medical department O-7 to compete for O-8 as a senior health care executive. For the purpose of membership on selection boards officers assigned, the senior health care executive 270X designator will be considered as being in the same competitive category as their permanent corps designator.

b. Each FTS officer will compete for promotion in one of the following categories:

<u>DESIGNATOR</u>	<u>COMPETITIVE CATEGORY</u>
(1) 11X7/13X7	unrestricted line officer
(2) 1207	human resources
(3) 1527	aerospace engineering duty officer (maintenance)
(4) 3107	Supply Corps

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9. Action. The Chief of Naval Personnel will take appropriate action to ensure implementation of the provisions of this instruction.

10. Records Management. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of media and format, shall be managed per SECNAV Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.



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