



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
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WASHINGTON DC 20350-1000

SECNAVINST 5350.15C

OGC

31 January 2008

SECNAV INSTRUCTION 5350.15C

From: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY CORE VALUES CHARTER AND
ETHICS TRAINING

Ref: (a) DoD Directive 5500.7 of 29 November 2007
(b) U.S. Navy Regulations 1990

Encl: (1) DON Core Values Charter

1. Purpose. To reissue the Department of the Navy (DON) Core Values Charter (enclosure (1)) and establish a regimen of ethics training for the DON total workforce, with DON core values and statutory ethics requirements as its foundation.

2. Cancellation. SECNAVINST 5350.15B.

3. Policy. The DON core values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment are principles that we live by. They shape our standards and define our ethos. They are common among every Sailor, Marine, and DON civilian and serve as the cornerstone of our tradition of strong character and ethical behavior. It is essential that the use of core values as the framework for making ethical decisions be reinforced at every level of the career continuum for all DON personnel. The Core Values Charter outlines the principles embodied in our core values and promotes discussions and personal reflections on these shared values and their impact on how we work, how we fight, and how we live. Knowledge and observation of the statutory and regulatory Standards of Ethical Conduct, reference (a), are equally important in proper ethical decision-making.

4. Scope. This directive applies to all DON active, reserve, and civilian personnel ashore and afloat.

5. Responsibility

a. The Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) and Commandant of the Marine Corps (CMC) are responsible for inculcating DON core values and ethics obligations into the total force and providing

periodic learning opportunities throughout the careers of all our personnel. These opportunities will focus on the tenets and application of the core values and statutory and regulatory ethics obligations, and their role in attaining the highest standard of ethical behavior and exemplary conduct.

b. The CNO and CMC are responsible for designating an executive agent for character development in their respective services who will integrate the education and training of DON core values and ethics throughout the professional military education continuum and civilian career education continuum. To the extent practicable, the executive agents shall standardize DON core values and ethics training.

c. The Assistant for Administration, Office of the Under Secretary of the Navy, is responsible for ensuring that all DON Secretariat personnel are integrated into the DON core values and ethics training and education continuum.

6. Action. Navy Regulations, Article 1131, reference (b), imposes a requirement for exemplary conduct. "All commanding officers and others in authority in the naval service are required to show in themselves a good example of virtue, patriotism and subordination; to be vigilant in inspecting the conduct of all persons who are placed under their command; to guard against and suppress all dissolute and immoral practices, and to correct, according to the laws and regulations of the Navy, all persons who are guilty of them; and to take all necessary and proper measures, under the laws, regulations and customs of the naval service, to promote and safeguard the morale, the physical well-being and the general welfare of the officers and enlisted persons under their command or charge." Although this language was written with military personnel in mind, the same underlying principles and obligations apply to all DON members, military and civilian. All commands shall prominently display the DON Core Values Charter in appropriate, high-traffic areas. Annually, commanding officers shall personally address all members of their command on DON core values and ethics. Additionally, all leaders should address core values and ethics as an integral part of the planning and execution of ashore and afloat missions and activities with special emphasis on applicability to each individual.

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7. Publication Availability. The Core Values Charter shall be made available online for printing onto legal sized paper via the Navy Web site at www.navy.mil and the Marine Corps Web site at www.usmc.mil. Hard copies are available through Navy Logistics Library (S/N 0516LD1085186). The General Counsel of the Navy shall maintain oversight of the DON core values content posted on the Web sites.



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Distribution:

Electronic only, via Department of the Navy Directives Web site
<http://doni.daps.dla.mil/>