



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDANT OF MIDSHIPMEN
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY
101 BUCHANAN ROAD
ANNAPOLIS MARYLAND 21402-5100

21 July 2021

COMMANDANT'S INTENT

My intent supports the Superintendent's Strategic Plan 2030 and the Chief of Naval Operations Guidance to the Force in which he states, "*We must be ready to fight today...not tomorrow...not in some distant future...but today. That all starts with good order and discipline at every level of the chain of command.*"

Background

All around the globe, Marines and Sailors are in daily competition with our nation's foes. The Navy and Marine Corps team stands ready to fight our nation's battles as the main effort in this Great Power Competition.

The mission of the Naval Academy is as relevant today as ever, such as during World War II or following the attacks of 9/11. Every member of my staff shall weigh their actions against the Academy's mission and this intent.

In order for the Naval Academy to be the premier leadership and educational institution for developing naval officers who will preserve peace and prevail in conflict, we will live by these core principles:

Character, Professionalism, and a Warrior Spirit.

Character above all else

- You must be a good person to be a good midshipman and leader.
- Character is the root of our **Navy Core Values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment.**
- We will exercise and develop our character and integrity every day like we do our minds and bodies.

Professionals, 24/7/365

- As midshipmen you shall strive for excellence in all three aspects of the mission - moral, mental, and physical, in order to lay the foundation for future success as an officer of the Naval Service.
- Professionals treat everyone with dignity and respect. We live by the Golden Rule, and mutual respect is a fundamental expectation. We tolerate nothing less.
- Discipline and accountability are hallmarks of a professional organization. Discipline will start with the individual and be fostered up and down the chain of command. Self-discipline is the best form of discipline.

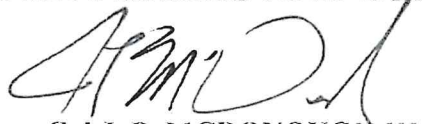
Warrior Spirit: The Fighting Spirit of the Brigade starts inside each Midshipman

- Every Midshipman shall exercise and strengthen their individual warrior toughness - mindfulness, resilience and grit - to allow them to succeed in the stresses of combat upon graduation.
- Strong esprit de corps at the unit level is based on shared hardship and successes. Every squad, platoon and company shall foster that same spirit that began in Plebe Summer...every day.
- Spirit comes from competition at every level - from intramurals to varsity and club sports to innovation and creativity in the classroom. This same spirit propels a growth mindset that ultimately leads to the competitive advantage we need to win against our nation's enemies.

Endstate

We will accomplish the Mission of the Academy by graduating selfless leaders of character who are prepared to lead Sailors and Marines from day one, and we will create a Brigade we can be proud of while building rewarding individual and collective experiences (i.e. have fun!).

SEMPER FIDELIS AND BEAT ARMY!!!


Col. J. P. MCDONOUGH HL USMC
89th Commandant of Midshipmen