



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

U.S. NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY, NAPLES, ITALY  
PSC 817 BOX 1  
FPO AE 09622-0001

Canc: May 2025

NAVSUPPACTNAPLESNOTE 5060  
N00  
31 Mar 25

NAVSUPPACT NAPLES NOTICE 5060

From: Commanding Officer, U.S, Naval Support Activity, Naples, Italy

Subj: CHIEF PETTY OFFICER BIRTHDAY CEREMONY

Encl: (1) Assignment of Duties and Responsibilities  
(2) Schedule of Events  
(3) CPO Birthday Ceremony Script

1. Purpose. To establish a guide and assign responsibilities for the Chief Petty Officer (CPO) Birthday Ceremony to be held at the Capodichino Base Spine at 0800 on 1 April 2025.
2. Background. The CPO Birthday Ceremony is a time-honored tradition when CPOs celebrate the history, heritage, and establishment of the Chief Petty Officer Mess.
3. General. Uniforms:
  - a. CPOs – Service Khakis with combination cover.
  - b. Officers – Uniform of the day.
  - c. E6 and junior – Uniform of the day.
  - d. Civilians – Business casual.
4. Procedures. Preparations for and execution of the CPO Birthday Ceremony are described in the attached enclosures:
  - a. Enclosure (1) assigns responsibilities and enclosure (2) is the schedule of events.
  - b. Enclosure (3) is the script for the ceremony.
  - c. Unassigned CPOs from the Naples area will be requested to assist as necessary.
5. Action. Implement as scheduled; incorporate further guidance through the completion of this event.

6. Records Management

a. Records created as a result of this notice, regardless of format or media, must be maintained and dispositioned per the records disposition schedules located on the Department of the Navy Assistant for Administrative, Directives, and Records Management Division portal page at: <https://portal.secnav.mil/orgs/DUSNM/DONAA/DRM/Records-and-Information-Management/Approved%20Record%20Schedules/Forms/AllItems.aspx>

b. For questions concerning the management of records related to this instruction or the records disposition schedules, please contact the local records manager or the OPNAV Records Management Program (DNS-16).

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ASSIGNMENT OF DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

<u>Guest Speaker:</u>	FLTCM Lateef Compton
<u>Master of Ceremonies:</u>	YNC Ann Geiman
<u>National Anthems:</u>	U.S. Naval Forces Europe / Africa Band
<u>Color Guard:</u>	Naples Area Chiefs Mess
<u>Reading:</u>	
CPO Pledge:	EMNC Stefanie Piacquadio
1st CPO:	CSSC Zackery Lee
Naval Act of 1949:	MAC Pedro Morales, IV
First Female CPO:	LSC Blanca Garcia
CSEL Program:	NCC Fior Cordova
First MCPON:	MAC Stanley Volne
GMC Turpin:	ISC Jeffrey Turner
Carl Brashear:	AGC Alvin Vintayen
John Finn:	CTTC Chemongo Isles
Peter Tomich:	MCC Ridge Leoni
John P. Conroy:	RSC Aloha Mencias
The Anchor:	ISC Ariel Macon
CPO Creed:	ACC Lekia Turner
<u>Photo Coverage:</u>	NPASE Naples
<u>PA System:</u>	NSA Naples MWR
<u>Medical:</u>	NMRTC Naples Chiefs Mess

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

0700	Prepare for Ceremony
0730	Begin Formation
0745	Welcoming Remarks
0755	Post Color Guard / First Call
0800	Observe Colors
0805	Presentation of CPO History
0820	Reciting of the CPO Creed
0825	Closing Remarks
0830	Anchors Aweigh / End of Ceremony
0845	Breakdown of Ceremony

CPO BIRTHDAY CEREMONY SCRIPT

TIME

0745 (CALL TO FORMATION)

Mater of Ceremony (MC): Ladies and gentlemen our ceremony will begin in 10 minutes; we ask that you please silence all communication devices. For our military guests in attendance, today's ceremony will be covered. Thank you.

0755 COMMENCE CHIEF PETTY OFFICER (CPO) BIRTHDAY CEREMONY

MC: Good morning, distinguished guests, family, friends, and shipmates. Welcome to Naples Area Chief Petty Officer Birthday Ceremony. I am Chief Yeoman Ann Geiman, and I have the honor of being your Master of Ceremonies for this special day, recognizing a truly important milestone in the 250 years of our Navy.

Also, welcome to all the past, present and future Chiefs assembled here today. I like to think of a birthday as an anniversary, where we as a collective can think back and reflect on where we were this time last year. For some of us, we were blissfully unaware that our Selection was looming on the horizon. For some, a year from now your khakis will be hung up for good as you reflect on a career well served. For all of us here in the Mess, today above all is a time for celebration on what it means to be a Chief.

The Mess is a sentinel of Navy history. For the past 132 years, the Chief has stood the watch, trained the fleet, and held the heritage of the greatest maritime fighting force in the world. Ours is a legacy built with blood, sweat and tears, and written in blue and gold. It continues every day we don the anchor, pushing us to grow and evolve as we solve new and ever-changing problems. We wear the anchor every day, but it is an active choice to embody what it stands for:

It is Class 131's honor to carry that legacy today, so that we may pass it to our future Chiefs of tomorrow.

MC: COLOR GUARD POST! FORMATION, ATTENTION!

*COLOR GUARD WILL PREP COLORS. NATIONAL ANTHEMS WILL BE PLAYED BY  
CNE/CNA NAVY BAND.*

MC: Thank you, U.S. Naval Forces Europe and Africa Band.

MC: FORMATIONS, PARADE REST!

MC: Chief Intelligence Specialist Ariel Macon will now read the Fouled Anchor.

ISC MACON READS THE FOULED ANCHOR

The fouled Anchor is the Emblem of the rate of Chief Petty Officer in the United States Navy. Attached to the Anchor is a length of chain and the letters U.S.N.

To the novice, the Anchor, chain and letters only identify a Chief Petty Officer of the United States Navy, but, to a Chief, these have a more noble and glorious meaning.

The "U" stands for unity, which reminds us of cooperation, maintaining harmony and continuity of purpose and action.

The "S" stands for service, which reminds us of service to our God, our Country, and our fellow man.

The "N" stands for navigation, which reminds us to keep ourselves on a true course so that we may walk upright before God and man in our transactions with all mankind, but especially with our fellow chiefs.

The chain is symbolic of flexibility and reminds us of the chain of life that we forge day by day, link by link and may it be forged with honor, morality and virtue.

Finally, the Anchor is emblematic of the hope and glory of the fulfillment of all God's promises to our souls; the golden or precious anchor by which we must be kept steadfast in faith and encouraged to abide in our proper station amidst the storm of temptation, affliction and persecution.

MC: Thank You Chief Macon!

MC: Chief Electrician's Mate-Nuclear Stefanie Piacquadio will now read the CPO Pledge.

EMNC PIACQUADIO RECITES THE PLEDGE

I am a Chief Petty Officer in the United States Navy...  
I serve my country and her people with pride and honor.  
I seek no special favors.  
I make things happen, and do the best I can do.  
I am charged with a leadership role like no other in the world.  
I develop junior officers and mold my Sailors.  
I acknowledge full responsibility for the actions of my Sailors...  
because these Sailors are the seeds of future chief petty officers.  
I live by the Navy's core values of honor, courage, and commitment.  
I set the example.  
I establish the standards of performance.  
My Sailors are students and I am their teacher.

I guide and influence the lives of these young men and women.  
In the final analysis, I will determine the quality of these Sailors.  
They look up to me because I treat them with dignity and respect.  
Because they need a leader, I am there for them.

After all... I am a Chief Petty Officer in the United States Navy.

MC: Thank You Chief Piacquadio!

MC: Chief Culinary Specialist-Submarine Zackery Lee will now present on the first Chief.

CSSC LEE PRESENTS THE FIRST CPO

During the Revolutionary War, Jacob Wasbie, a Cook's Mate serving on board the Alfred, one of the first Continental Navy warships, was promoted to "Chief Cook" on June 1, 1776. Chief Cook is construed to mean Cook or Ship's Cook which was the official rating title at that time. This is the earliest example of the use the term "Chief" located to date.

MC: Thank You Chief Lee!

MC: Chief Master-at-Arms Pedro Morales IV will now present the Career Compensation Act of October 12, 1949.

MAC MORALES PRESENTS THE ACT OF 1949

The Career Compensation Act of October 12, 1949 signified no more acting appointments for Chief Petty Officers after October 1, 1949. From that time, CPOs received the same pay regardless of whether they held permanent or acting appointments. Pay for Chief Petty Officers, in 1902, ranged from \$50.00 to \$70.00 depending upon the specialty held.

The pay grades of E-8 and E-9, Senior Chief and Master Chief, were created effective June 1, 1958, under a 1958 Amendment to the Career Compensation Act of 1949. Eligibility for promotion to E-8, the Senior Chief level, was restricted to Chiefs with a minimum of four years in grade and a total of ten years of service. For elevation from E-7 to Master Chief, a minimum of six years' service as a Chief Petty Officer with a total of 13 years' service was required.

MC: Thank You Chief Morales!

MC: Chief Navy Career Counselor Fior Cordova will now present the Command Senior Enlisted Leader Program.

NCC CORDOVA PRESENTS THE CSEL PROGRAM

Today, as we celebrate the birthday of the Chief Petty Officer, we reflect on the legacy of leadership, mentorship, and unwavering dedication that defines what it means to wear the anchors. Since April 1, 1893, Chiefs have been the backbone of the Navy, guiding Sailors, shaping future leaders, and ensuring mission success. Our traditions, our commitment to excellence, and our ability to bridge the gap between officers and enlisted have been key to the strength of our fleet. It is in this spirit of leadership and service that the Command Senior Enlisted Leader (CSEL) Program was established in September of 1981 further reinforcing the crucial role that senior enlisted leaders play in every command.

The CSEL Program ensures that experienced, battle-hardened leaders—those who have walked the deck plates, led from the front, and upheld the values of honor, courage, and commitment—are empowered to advise commanding officers and advocate for Sailors. It is a testament to the trust placed in Chiefs and senior enlisted leaders across the fleet. As we celebrate the rich history of the Chief Petty Officer, let us also recognize how programs like CSEL continue to uphold our proud traditions while shaping the future of our Navy. The responsibility we carry is great, but so is the impact we make. Happy birthday, Chiefs—may we continue to lead with strength, wisdom, and humility.

MC: Thank You Chief Cordova!

MC: Chief Logistics Specialist Blanca Garcia will now present on YNC Loretta P. Walsh.

LSC GARCIA PRESENTS ON YNC WALSH

The first female Chief Petty Officer in the U.S. Navy was Loretta Perfectus Walsh. She made history on March 21, 1917, when she was sworn in as Chief Yeoman. This was a groundbreaking moment, as she became the first woman to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces in a non-nursing capacity. Loretta Perfectus Walsh made significant contributions to the U.S. Navy during her service. She made the paving way for women to serve in various roles within the armed forces. As a Chief Yeoman, she primarily worked in clerical positions, demonstrating that women could perform essential duties alongside men. Her enlistment also ensured that women received equal pay and benefits as their male counterparts, a groundbreaking achievement at the time. Walsh's actions inspired over 11,000 women to join the Navy during World War I, proving that women could handle diverse responsibilities, from clerical work to recruitment and production jobs. This not only expanded opportunities for women in the military but also laid the foundation for their increased participation in various roles during subsequent conflicts.

MC: Thank You Chief Garcia!

MC: Chief Master at Arms Stanley Volne will now present on MCPON Delbert Black.



MAC VOLNE PRESENTS ON MCPON BLACK

Master Chief Petty Officer Delbert Black, a distinguished leader in the U.S. Navy, has dedicated over three decades to serving his country with honor and integrity. Born in 1930 in Atlanta, Georgia, he enlisted in the Navy in 1948, embarking on a journey that would shape his life and career.

Throughout his service, Master Chief Black held a variety of pivotal roles, demonstrating exceptional skill and leadership in both operational and administrative capacities. He rose through the ranks, earning accolades for his commitment to excellence and unwavering dedication to his fellow sailors.

In 1971, he was appointed the first Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON). Master Chief Black's tenure as MCPON is marked by his advocacy for enlisted personnel, driving initiatives that improved quality of life, professional development, and recognition for sailors across the fleet.

His legacy extends beyond his time in office, as he continued to mentor and inspire future generations of naval leaders. Master Chief Black's contributions to the Navy have left an indelible mark, and his commitment to service is a testament to the values of integrity, accountability, and excellence that define the Navy.

As we gather to celebrate our shared commitment to duty, honor, and country, let us remember the remarkable service of Master Chief Delbert Black and the profound impact he has made on the U.S. Navy and its enlisted force.

MC: Thank You Chief Volne!

MC: Chief Intelligence Specialist Jeffery Turner will now present on GMC John Turpin.

ISC TURNER PRESENTS ON GMC JOHN TURPIN

John Henry Turpin was born on August 20, 1876. He enlisted in the Navy on November 4, 1896. Resilience and fearlessness in the face of unthinkable obstacles characterized his service. Chief Turpin escaped one of the Navy's most devastating catastrophes, the dreadful explosion in Havana Harbor in 1898, while serving on board the USS Maine. His quick thinking and selflessness saved lives when he survived another devastating boiler explosion aboard the USS Bennington in 1905. When the United States entered World War I in 1917, Chief Turpin, who had retired in 1916, was called back to active duty.

On June 1, 1917, he was promoted to Chief Gunner's Mate while serving onboard USS Marblehead, becoming one of the Navy's first African-American Chief Petty Officers. His achievement marked a significant moment in naval history and acted as an example

for future African-American Sailors to rise into leadership positions. He remained committed to the Navy even after he retired. In his civilian life, he obtained certifications as a Master Diver and worked as a Master Rigger at the Puget Sound Navy Yard, showcasing his technical proficiency and dedication to duty. GMC Turpin traveled to Navy Training Centers and military facilities during World War II to inspire sailors and laborers to continue their hard work and dedication to the war effort. The story of Chief Turpin is one of tenacity, bravery, and dismantling obstacles. His legacy lives on as a symbol of strength and determination for all Chiefs who wear the uniform today.

MC: Thank You Chief Turner!

MC: Chief Aerographer's Mate Alvin Vintayen will now present on Master Diver Carl Brashear.

AGC VINTAYEN PRESENTS ON CARL BRASHEAR

Master Chief Carl Maxie Brashear was born January 19 1931 in Tonieville, Kentucky. Master Chief enlisted from Kentucky in February 1948 and completed Basic Training at Naval Training Center, Great Lakes Illinois and was assigned to Naval Air Station, Key West, Florida as his first duty station. In June 1950, he reported on board USS Palau (CVE-122), later transferring to USS Tripoli (CVE-64). In October 1954, Brashear graduated as a Salvage Diver at the Navy Diving School in Bayonne, New Jersey and returned to USS Tripoli. In 1955, he was promoted to Boatswain's Mate First Class and served on board USS Opportune (ARS-41), departing a year later for shore duty at Naval Air Station, Quonset Point, Rhode Island. In June 1958, Brashear received orders to the Ship Repair Facility on Guam. In September 1960, he was promoted to Chief Boatswain's Mate and reported to USS Nereus (AS-17). Less than a year later, he had shore duty at Fleet Training Center, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, where he qualified as a Second Class Diver.

In 1966, Carl Brashear encountered tragedy while serving onboard the USS Hoist (ARS-40). Master Chief Brashear participated in the recovery of atomic bombs following the crash of two U.S. Air Force planes off the coast of Palomares, Spain. During the retrieval of one of the bombs, a towing line broke loose and struck Carl Brashear's left leg resulting in life threatening injuries which led to his leg eventually amputated. During his time of recovery, Carl Brashear continued to train despite the Navy seeking to retire him from Active Duty and was promoted to Senior Chief Boatswain's Mate.

March 1967, he reported to the Diving School at Harbor Clearance Unit Two in Little Creek, Virginia for rehabilitation and training. After becoming recertified in March 1968 as a diver, the first amputee to serve in the U.S. Navy, he reported to Naval Air Station Norfolk, Virginia. In June 1970, Brashear graduated from the Deep-Sea Diving School at the Experimental Diving Unit located in Washington Navy Yard at Washington, D.C. and became the first African American Master Diver in the Navy. While serving onboard USS Recovery (ARS-43), Brashear was promoted to Master Chief Boatswain's Mate in 1971. Retired from active duty in April 1979 and passed away on July 25, 2006.

Master Chief Carl M Brashear is the epitome of grit and determination and remains a prime example of outstanding Character. In the face of adversity in the forms of racism, poverty, illiteracy, physical disability and dependency he achieved greatness and stood by his words ' It's Not a Sin to Get Knocked Down; It's a Sin to Stay Down.'

MC: Thank You Chief Vintayen!

MC: Chief Cryptologic Technician Technical Chemongo Isles will now present on AOC John Finn.

*CTTC ISLES PRESENTS ON AOC JOHN FINN*

Today, we celebrate the legacy of the Navy Chief, leaders forged in resilience, defined by service, and bound by an unshakable commitment to their people. A prime example is Chief Aviation Ordnanceman John Finn. December 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor. Chaos, Fire and Death were coming from above. And in the thick of it? A Chief. Wounded, bleeding, refusing to fall back, refusing to give in, John Finn mounted a machine gun in the open and alone, unloading round after round at enemy aircraft while taking hit after hit. He fought for over two hours standing his ground when everything around him was falling apart. As we celebrate this anniversary, let us not only honor the title of Chief but also the values and actions that John Finn embodied. Here's to the past, present, and future of this incredible journey that continues to inspire all of us.

MC: Thank You Chief Isles!

MC: Chief Mass Communications Specialist Ridge Leoni will now present on Chief Watertender Peter Tomich.

*MCC LEONI PRESENTS ON CPO PETER TOMICH*

Today, as we celebrate the proud heritage of the United States Navy Chief Petty Officer, we honor a legacy built on unwavering dedication, unmatched skill, and unyielding courage. And there are few stories that embody these qualities more profoundly than that of Chief Watertender Peter Tomich.

On December 7th, 1941, the tranquility of a Sunday morning at Pearl Harbor was shattered by the fury of a surprise attack. As chaos engulfed the harbor, the USS Utah, Tomich's station, was struck by multiple torpedoes. The ship, mortally wounded, began to capsize. Imagine yourselves in that moment. The deafening roar of explosions, the biting smell of fire and seawater, the gut-wrenching groan of a ship giving way to the ocean depths. Fear would be a natural response. Panic would be understandable. But not for Chief Tomich. He embodied the very essence of a Chief Petty Officer. He knew his duty, and he knew his shipmates were counting on him.

Disregarding his own safety, Chief Tomich remained steadfast at his post deep within the engineering plant of the USS Utah. He ensured every boiler was secured, meticulously verifying that each fire room personnel had evacuated their stations. He acted with precision and unwavering courage even as the ship slipped beneath the waves, ultimately making the ultimate sacrifice.

Chief Tomich's actions that day were not driven by a desire for recognition. They were the embodiment of a Chief's inherent understanding of responsibility, a commitment to his shipmates that transcended even the instinct of self-preservation. His story is a testament to the extraordinary courage that resides within the heart of every Chief Petty Officer. It's a reminder that the title of "Chief" is not simply a rank, but a mantle of leadership forged in dedication and selflessness.

Today, as we celebrate the legacy of the Chief Petty Officer, let us remember Chief Watertender Peter Tomich. Let his unwavering courage inspire us, his dedication motivate us, and his sacrifice remind us of the profound responsibility we carry as leaders and guardians of our nation's freedom. May his story forever echo through the passageways of our ships and resonate in the hearts of every sailor who wears the anchors of a United States Navy Chief Petty Officer.

MC: Thank You Chief Leoni!

MC: Chief Retail Services Specialist Aloha Mencias will now present on Chief Gunners Mate John P. Conroy.

RSC MENCIAS PRESENTS ON GMC JOHN P. CONROY

John P. Conroy, a distinguished Chief Petty Officer in the United States Navy, is remembered for his exceptional service and dedication. He was a recipient of the prestigious Navy Cross, one of the highest honors awarded for acts of extraordinary heroism in combat. This recognition highlights his bravery and commitment to duty, exemplifying the core values of the Navy: honor, courage, and commitment.

Chief Conroy's legacy is preserved through historical records and photographs, which serve as a testament to his contributions to the Navy and his country. His story continues to inspire sailors and service members, reminding them the sacrifices and valor that define military service

MC: Chief Air Traffic Controller Lekia Turner will now read the Fouled Anchor.

MC: ATTENTION TO THE CHIEF PETTY OFFICER'S CREED.

ACC TURNER RECITES THE CREED

**CHIEF PETTY OFFICER'S CREED**

During the course of this day, you have been caused to humbly accept challenge and face adversity. This you have accomplished with rare good grace. Pointless as some of these challenges may have seemed, there were valid, time-honored reasons behind each pointed barb. It was necessary to meet these hurdles with blind faith in the fellowship of chief petty officers. The goal was to instill in you that trust is inherent with the donning of the uniform of a chief. It was our intent to impress upon you that challenge is good; a great and necessary reality which cannot mar you — which, in fact, strengthens you.

In your future as a Chief Petty Officer, you will be forced to endure adversity far beyond that imposed upon you today. You must face each challenge and adversity with the same dignity and good grace you demonstrated today.

By experience, by performance, and by testing, you have been this day advanced to Chief Petty Officer. In The United States Navy — and only in the United States Navy — the rank of E7 carries with it unique responsibilities and privileges you are now bound to observe and expected to fulfill.

Your entire way of life is now changed. More will be expected of you; more will be demanded of you. Not because you are an E7 but because you are now a Chief Petty Officer. You have not merely been promoted one paygrade, you have joined an exclusive fellowship and, as in all fellowships, you have a special responsibility to your comrades, even as they have a special responsibility to you.

This is why we in the United States Navy may maintain with pride our feelings of accomplishment once we have attained the position of chief petty officer. Your new responsibilities and privileges do not appear in print. They have no official standing; they cannot be referred to by name, number, nor file. They have existed for over 100 years, chiefs before you have freely accepted responsibility beyond the call of printed assignment. Their actions and their performance demanded the respect of their seniors as well as their juniors. It is now required that you be the fountain of wisdom, the ambassador of good will, the authority in personal relations as well as in technical applications.

"Ask the Chief" is a household phrase in and out of the navy. You are now the chief. The exalted position you have now achieved — and the word exalted is used advisedly — exists because of the attitude and performance of the chiefs before you. It shall exist only as long as you and your fellow chiefs maintain these standards. It was our intention that you never forget this day. It was our intention to test you, to try you, and to accept you.

Your performance has assured us that you will wear "the hat" with the same pride as your comrades in arms before you. We take a deep and sincere pleasure in clasping your hand, and accepting you as a chief petty officer in the United States Navy.

MC: Thank You Chief Turner!

MC: On behalf of the Naples Area Chiefs Mess, I would like to extend a sincere "Thank You" to all the Committee Members and the Chiefs for making this year's celebration a great success.

MC: Before we conclude today's Ceremony, I would like to invite the entire Chiefs' Mess, to sing one more Rendition of Anchors Aweigh!

**AFTER LAST VERSE: NAVY CHIEF...**

1125 (Conclusion)

MC: This concludes today's ceremony. On behalf of Naples Area Chiefs Mess, thank you for taking part in this time-honored tradition and I personally thank you for making this day special. Please join us in congratulating the Navy's newest Chiefs Petty Officers.

MC: ALL CHIEFS WILL STANDBY FOR A GROUP PHOTO WITH THE MESS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.