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SUBJ/2017 OMBUDSMAN APPRECIATION DAY//

RMKS/1. 14 September 2017 is a day set aside for Navy personnel and families to show appreciation to command Ombudsmen for their dedicated service to the fleet, fighter, and family. This practice goes back to the inception of the program in 1970, when ADM Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr. introduced the Navy Family Command Ombudsman Program via Z-Gram 24.

- 2. The contribution Ombudsmen make to the success of the command's mission is immeasurable. Their efforts in supporting Navy families enable Sailors and commands to focus on mission requirements all while knowing families have a trained and reliable resource to provide support on the home front.
- 3. Ombudsmen, your diligence and steadfast commitment are unmatched. You are a key line of communication between the command and families, offering information and referral services that are essential to family readiness. On behalf of Navy families, thank you for your service!
- 4. Commanders, you have an important role in ensuring your Ombudsmen are ready to serve and are successful. Commanders shall communicate with their Ombudsman regularly to gauge command families' morale, health, and welfare and to share command information that is relevant to our Navy families. OPNAVINST 1750.1G (CH-2) directs commands to provide an updated roster of command familiy members in order to relay official information directly related to family readiness. Commanders should make every effort to support their Ombudsman by fulfilling all requirements as set forth in OPNAVINST 1750.1G (CH-2).
- 5. Navy team, please take the opportunity to express well-deserved appreciation and gratitude to these selfless volunteers who are so crucial to the success of our Navy. Make every effort to attend a recognition event near you.
- 6. Additional information about the Ombudsman Program is available at www.ffsp.navy.mil.
- 7. Released by ADM J. M. Richardson, Chief of Naval Operations.//

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