

# COMMAND SUPPORT TEAM RELATIONSHIPS

## **INTRODUCTION:**

The operational readiness of a command not only depends on a strong military but also on the support of family members. The Command Support Team (CST) can be an invaluable resource to other spouses of deployed service members. The CST is comprised of the spouses of the Commanding Officer (CO), Executive Officer ( XO) and Command Master Chief/Chief of the Boat (CMC/COB), the Ombudsman and when available, the chaplain. This module explores how the CST, through effective leadership, can enhance the morale of the command family through sharing resources and positive social interaction.

## **GOAL:**

The goal of this module is to:

- understand the value of team identity and group effort
- understand the composition and role of the CST
- discuss the interaction between the Family Readiness Group (FRG) and the CST
- interaction between the CST and the Ombudsman

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:**

- United Through Reading: [www.unitedthroughreading.org](http://www.unitedthroughreading.org)
- Ombudsman Instruction OPNAVINST 1750.1G CH-2
- Navy Family Ombudsman Program Manual
- Family Readiness Group OPNAVINST 1754.5C
- U.S. Navy Family Readiness Groups Handbook 2018
- Fleet and Family Support Programs: [www.ffsp.navy.mil](http://www.ffsp.navy.mil)

# TOPIC OUTLINE

1. Command Support Teams
2. Command Leadership Team, 2nd Triad and the Command Support Team
3. Command Support Team Players/Relationships
4. Role of the Ombudsman and Family Readiness Group
5. Command Support Team composition
  - define your team
  - level of involvement
  - strengths and interests
6. Purpose of the Command Support Team
7. Plan of Action
8. Suggestions for CMC/COB Spouses
  - check in/check out list
  - spouse turnover

## **IDEAS FOR TEAMBUILDING SUGGESTIONS FOR NEW CMC/COB SPOUSES**

### **Check-in List**

During the first two weeks following your arrival at the command:

1. Contact the CO Spouse and XO Spouses
  - phone or email is preferable
  - schedule a "coffee date" to meet personally
2. Accompany spouse when visiting base resources:
  - Chaplain
  - Fleet and Family Support Center
  - Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society
  - Public Affairs Office
  - ISIC (Immediate Superior in Command) Command Master Chief
3. Obtain a social roster and/or recall list from the command
4. Make a personal telephone call to other spouses in the chief's mess
5. Set up meetings with:
  - Ombudsman
  - Family Readiness Group (FRG) board or leader
6. Make contact with the local Senior Enlisted spouse group

### **Check-out List**

Prior to leaving the command:

1. Meet with new CMC/COB couple
  - invite them to dinner
  - share information (chief's mess traditions for hail and farewell gifts)
  - make a turnover notebook to include:
    - social roster
    - leadership roster (spouses of CO and XO) (Ombudsman, FRG officers)
    - list of local resources (people and places)
    - local spouse organizations
2. Introduce new CMC/COB spouse to other spouses and FRG as feasible at hail and farewell/FRG meeting
3. Provide thank you gifts for Ombudsman, CO and XO spouses
4. Be gracious, be thankful and be gone!

# **CMC/COB SPOUSE TURNOVER**

## *Suggested Items of Discussion*

### Installation Information

Base map

Base newspaper/Local newspaper

Phone directory/Base contact phone numbers (PAO, Chaplain, NMCRS, FFSC)

“Welcome Aboard” packets

### Ombudsman Information

Base and regional contacts

Command phone numbers

### Family Readiness Group (FRG) Activity

Issues/Mechanics of group

Families with specific needs (EFM, IA/GSA/OSA and geo-bachelors)

Crisis plans

### ISIC Contact Information

### CIAC Contact Information

### Deployment Related Activities

Command specific (IA/GSA /OSA Support for Families)

Base wide information

Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS)

### Social Events

Seasonal - picnics, holiday parties, Navy ball

Traditional - hail and farewells, change of command ceremonies, change of office ceremonies, chief's pinning's, reenlistments, retirements, graduations, frockings/wetting downs [Reserve Units- drill weekend functions]

### Involvements with Other Commands

Informal interaction

Formal events (i.e. fundraisers)

### Organized Spouse Groups in Area

Chief's spouse groups

Family Readiness Groups (FRGs)

### Area Information

USO

Navy League

Armed Services YMCA

