



SECNAVINST 1650.1H

NAVY AND MARINE CORPS AWARDS MANUAL



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Agenda

- *General Information
- *Record Management
- *Authority
- *Appurtenances
- *Medal of Honor
- *Lapel Buttons
- *Opening Sentences
- *Commendatory Remarks
- *Precedence of Awards
- *Unit Awards



General Information

- Purpose: To provide guidance and regulations on awards available for recognizing individuals and units in the Naval Service in accordance with SECNAV AWARDS MANUAL.
- Signed: 22 August 2006
- 9 Chapters
- Award Web Sites:
 1. Navy: awards.navy.mil
 2. USMC: awards.manpower.usmc.mil
 3. Civilian: opm.gov/perform/honorawd.asp



General Information

OPNAV1650/3: Personal Award Recommendation

OPNAV1650/14: Unit Award Recommendation

Authority to Establish Awards:

- Congress**
- Executive Order**
- SecDef**
- SECNAV**



Records Management

- CNO (DNS-35) and CMC (MMMA) maintain a master list of all approved awards.
- NDAWS automatically updates NPC on a weekly basis. PERS 32 then extracts awards into PSR.
- Only personal awards NAM and above, shall be entered into NDAWS. Once entered into NDAWS, awards are mailed to PERS-312 for entry into the OMPF.
- Awarding authorities are required to maintain a Permanent record of all awards including the OPNAV 1650/3, a signed copy of the citation, any additional supporting documents (i.e. MOVSM), and any other related information (i.e. foreign awards).



Approval Authority

Medal of Honor:

- President, in the name of Congress

Navy Cross, Distinguished Service Medal, and Silver Star Medal:

- SECNAV, in the name of the President

Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Navy and Marine Corps Medal, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal:

- SECNAV, CNO, CMC, and designees (by SECNAV) (in the name of the President)

Navy and Marine Corps Commendation and Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal:

- Numerous commands, in the name of SECNAV



Approval Authority Cont'd

Combat Action Ribbon:

- CNO, CMC, designees (from SECNAV in the name of SECNAV)

Good Conduct Medal (GCM):

- CNO has review authority over the GCM and designates specific criteria for the award

- Note:
1. GCM was established on 26 April 1869 by SECNAV
 2. Good conduct and performance timeframe changed from 4 years to 3 years of continuous active service on 1 January 1996
 3. Enlisted members who receive any 1.0 trait grade loses eligibility for the Navy Good Conduct Medal and must reestablish a new 3-year period following the end date of the report.



Appurtenances (Devices)

Stars:

- All stars will be worn with two points (rays) pointing down.

Personal Awards:

- 2nd – 5th award: 5/16 inch Gold Stars – 7th – 10th, 12th etc.
- 6th, 11th, etc.: 5/16 inch Silver Stars

Unit, campaign, service, and engagement awards:

- 3/16 inch Bronze and silver stars, similarly

Navy Expert Rifleman and Expert Pistol Shot Medals:

- Silver “E” 1/4 inch block letter

Navy Rifle and Pistol Marksmanship ribbon for Sharpshooters:

- Bronze “S” 1/4 inch block letter

Bronze “V”:

- Combat Distinguishing Device



Appurtenances

Letter Devices:

- Navy “E” 1st – 3rd: 3/16 inch Silver “E”
- Navy “E” 4th award: 1 wreathed “E”
- Navy “E” 5th and beyond: 1 wreathed “E” is worn after the 4th award



Medal of Honor

Only Award Engraved at Government expense w/ the following:

Recipient's grade, name, branch of service and the words, "For action above and beyond the call of duty in (area) on (date)."

Note: When approved by the CNO or CMC for public display; only in exceptional cases; they must be in a secure area, in a locked case, and engraved as "FOR DISPLAY ONLY". If the display medal is removed from display, it must be returned to CNO or CMC as appropriate.



Lapel Buttons

2 Types:

- 1) Lapel button with a gold star on a purple circular background, bordered in gold and surrounded by gold laurel leaves.

(Presented to the NOK who lost their lives and were awarded the Purple Heart during WW I & WW II)

- 2) Lapel button with a gold star within a circle surrounded by sprigs of oak.

(Presented to the NOK who lost their lives, not serving in armed conflict and did not receive the Purple Heart Medal)



Opening Sentence

- Medal of Honor:

“For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his/her life above and beyond the call of duty...”

- Navy Cross:

“For extraordinary heroism...”

- Distinguished Service Medal:

“For exceptionally meritorious service to the Government of the United States in a duty of great responsibility...”

- Silver Star Medal:

“For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action...”



Opening Sentence

- Legion of Merit:

“For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his/her life above and beyond the call of duty...”

- Distinguished Flying Cross:

"For heroism (or extraordinary achievement) while participating in aerial flight..."

- Navy and Marine Corps Medal:

“For heroism...”



Opening Sentence

- Bronze Star Medal:

"For heroic achievement (or meritorious achievement) (or meritorious service) (or heroic service) in connection with combat operations against the enemy (or operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force)..."

- Meritorious Service Medal:

"For outstanding meritorious achievement or service..."

- Air Medal:

"For heroism..."

- Joint Service Commendation Medal:

"For meritorious service (or meritorious achievement) while serving as..."



Opening Sentence

- Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal:

“For meritorious service (or meritorious achievement) (or heroic service) (or heroic achievement) while serving as ..”

- Joint Service Achievement Medal:

“For professional achievement in the superior performance of duties while serving as...”

- Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal:

“For professional achievement (or heroic achievement) in the superior performance of his/her duties while serving as ..



Commendatory Remarks:

1. There are only 2 options for the format of the last sentence. Either begin with either the individual's rank then name (i.e. Lieutenant Navy) or three attributes (i.e. By his bold leadership, wise judgment, and complete dedication...)
2. If an award is given in the name of the President, then the individual has reflected "great credit" upon himself/herself (Air Medal and above).

Note:

The attributes used in the last sentence of the example citations are not mandatory for that award. Attributes appropriate to the individual and/or the act(s) or service being recognized should be used.



Precedence of Awards

U.S. Military Personal Decorations:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) Medal of Honor | 11) Purple Heart Medal |
| 2) Navy Cross | 12) Defense Meritorious Service Medal |
| 3) Defense Distinguished Service Medal | 13) Meritorious Service Medal |
| 4) Distinguished Service Medal | 14) Air Medal |
| 5) Silver Star Medal | 15) Joint Service Commendation Medal |
| 6) Defense Superior Service Medal | 16) Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal |
| 7) Legion of Merit | 17) Joint Service Achievement Medal |
| 8) Distinguished Flying Cross Medal | 18) Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal |
| 9) Navy and Marine Corps Medal | 19) Combat Action Ribbon |
| 10) Bronze Star Medal | |

U.S. Military Unit Awards (after U.S. personal decorations):

- 1) Presidential Unit Citation
- 2) Joint Meritorious Unit Award
- 3) Navy Commendation
- 4) Meritorious Unit Commendation
- 5) Navy "E" Ribbon

Unclassified



Unit Awards

Presidential Unit Citation:

Authorization. E.O 9050, 6 February 1942.

Eligibility Requirements. Awarded in the name of the President of the United States to units of the U.S. Armed Forces and friendly foreign nations for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy. The unit must have displayed such gallantry, determination, and esprit de corps in accomplishing its mission, under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions, to have set it apart from and above other units participating in the same campaign.

****** The degree of heroism required is the same as that which would be required for award of a Navy Cross to an individual.******



Unit Awards

Navy Unit Commendation:

Authorization. ALNAV 224 of 18 December 1944.

Eligibility Requirements: Awarded by SECNAV to any unit of the Navy or Marine Corps that has distinguished itself by outstanding heroism in action against the enemy, but not sufficient to justify the award of the Presidential Unit Citation; or to any such unit that distinguished itself by extremely meritorious service, not involving combat, but in support of military operations rendering the unit outstanding compared to other units performing similar service. This award may also be conferred upon units of the other branches of the U.S. Armed Forces, and of armed forces of friendly foreign nations serving with the U.S. Armed Forces, provided such units meet the standards established for Navy and Marine Corps Units.

****** To justify this award, the unit must have performed service of a character comparable to that which would merit the award of a Silver Star Medal for heroism, or a Legion of Merit for meritorious service to an individual. ******



Unit Awards

Meritorious Unit Commendation:

Authorization. SENAV Notice 1650 of 17 July 1967.

Eligibility Requirements: Awarded by the SECNAV, CNO, or CMC to any unit of the Navy or Marine Corps that has distinguished itself, under combat or non-combat conditions, by either valorous or meritorious achievement, which renders the unit outstanding compared to other units performing similar service, but not sufficient to justify award of the Navy Unit Commendation. This award may also be conferred upon units of the other branches of the U.S. Armed Forces, and the armed forces of friendly foreign nations serving with U.S. Armed Forces, provided such units meet the standards established for Navy and Marine Corps Units.

****** To justify this award, the unit must have performed service of a character comparable to that which would merit the award of a Bronze Star Medal, or achievement of like caliber in a non-combat situation to an individual.******



QUESTIONS????