



THE COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20593-0001

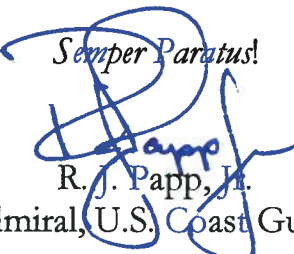
June 24, 2010

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**A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE COAST
GUARD**

Congratulations on your first joint National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) and Association of Naval Service Officers (ANSO) conference! The theme "Passionate Partners in Achieving the Possible – Now and in the Future" is very appropriate and relevant for this momentous conference and sets the tone for continued relationships and partnerships for the future in building a more diverse workforce and improving diversity within the Sea Services.

I fully support and take great pride in the relationships I have with the NNOA and ANSO. During my tenure as Commandant, I will look to ANSO and NNOA for support and assistance in recruiting, developing and retaining a diverse workforce. Along with your assistance, the Coast Guard's Diversity Strategic Action Plan will guide our efforts to expand diversity in our workforce. You can read our plan at <http://www.uscg.mil/diversity/>. I am personally committed to making the Coast Guard the Service of choice for all Americans who seek to serve our Nation and its people.

Semper Paratus!

R. J. Papp, Jr.
Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard

*Congratulations
Shipmates!*