



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

TRAINING SQUADRON FOUR
250 SAN CARLOS ROAD SUITE 1
PENSACOLA FL 32508-5502

TRARONFOURINST 5370.1 CH-1

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26 Aug 14

TRAINING SQUADRON FOUR INSTRUCTION 5370.1

Subj: FRATERNIZATION POLICY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5370.2C
(b) CNATRAININST 5370.2B
(c) Navy Regulations, Article 1165

1. Purpose. To implement the policy and guidelines set forth in references (a) through (c) on fraternization and to establish policy on staff/student military relationships.

2. Background. Throughout the Military's history, custom and tradition have defined the bounds of acceptable personal relationships among its members. Proper social interaction among officer-enlisted and instructor-student members has always been encouraged, as it enhances unit morale and "esprit de corps." At the same time, unduly familiar personal relationships between officer-enlisted and instructor-student have traditionally been contrary to military custom, for they undermine the respect for authority which is essential to the military's ability to accomplish its mission. This also holds true for senior-subordinate relationships, whether those involved are officer or enlisted personnel. Due to the nature of its mission, a training command must consider the instructor-student relationship tantamount to that of the senior-subordinate. The Navy's fraternization policy, promulgated in references (a) through (c), are intended to define propriety in all areas where the use of grade or position could result in, or give the impression of, favoritism, preferential treatment, unfair personal gain, or involve actions otherwise reasonably perceived to undermine good order, discipline, authority, or high unit morale.

3. Information.

a. Reference (a) specifically prohibits fraternization. Personal relationships between officer-enlisted and instructor-student that are unduly familiar and that do not respect differences in grade or rank are prohibited. Such relationships are prejudicial to good order and discipline and violate long-standing traditions of the military services.

Enclosure (1)

b. Personal relationships between members that are unduly familiar and that do not respect differences in grade or rank are prohibited. Prejudice to good order and discipline or discredit to the Naval service may result from, but are not limited to circumstances which:

- (1) Call into question a senior's objectivity;
- (2) Result in actual or apparent preferential treatment;
- (3) Undermine the authority of a senior; or
- (4) Compromise the chain-of-command.

c. If mitigating circumstances exist, it is the responsibility of the service members involved to consult their Department Head/Class Advisor who shall determine if the circumstances constitute a violation of policy and provide guidance to the members as to the bounds of acceptable conduct.

4. Policy. This command fully supports the policies, direction, and guidance provided by references (a) through (c). A high degree of professionalism will be maintained by all command members in all official relationships. All personnel assigned, whether staff or student, are directed to comply with the spirit and intent of references (a) through (c) and this instruction.

5. Action

a. The Commanding Officer will provide advice to Department Heads/Class Advisors on the fraternization policy.

b. The Executive Officer will ensure that all hands are trained in the requirements of references (a) through (c) and this instruction at all initial and annual Standards of Conduct briefings.

c. Training Officers will ensure that the fraternization policy is covered annually during General Military Training.

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d. All personnel, regular and reserve, will comply with official policy as set forth in references (a) through (c) and this instruction. Violation of this instruction may result in administrative and/or punitive action. All hands are charged with immediately reporting suspected violations of the Navy's fraternization policies, utilizing the chain-of-command.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "S. White". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

S. S. WHITE

Distribution:
TRARONFOURINST 5216.2
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