From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: ASSIGNMENT OF FUNERAL ESCORT COMMANDERS

Ref: (a) U.S. Navy Regulations, 1990

1. **Purpose.** To update procedures for assignment of funeral escort commanders for full honor funerals in Arlington National Cemetery. This instruction is being reissued with a new date, updated version, and signature authority to meet Chief of Naval Operations’ age requirement for Office of the Chief of Naval Operations instructions.

2. **Cancellation.** OPNAVINST 5360.3E.

3. **Background.** Reference (a) requires the participation of a military escort, commanded by an officer of appropriate grade, when full honors are rendered in connection with military funerals.

   a. For funerals held in Arlington National Cemetery for members in the grades of commander and below, the escort commander must be at the direction of the Commander of Troops, United States Navy Ceremonial Guard. For funerals in Arlington National Cemetery for members in the grades of captain and flag officer, the escort commander must be a captain or flag officer who will be assigned by Washington area commanders per Commandant, Naval District Washington (COMNAVDIST WASHINGTON) request.

   b. Escort commanders are responsible for the following:

      (1) Attending the funeral in full dress uniform of the season.

      (2) Presenting the next of kin with the national ensign at the close of the committal service at the interment site.
4. **Responsibility.** COMNAVDIST WASHINGTON is responsible for the coordination of escort commander assignments as outlined in paragraph 5.

5. **Procedures**

   a. The procedures outlined in subparagraphs 5a(1) through 5a(6) must be followed when assigning funeral escort commanders for funerals of captains and flag officers in Arlington National Cemetery.

   (1) Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command will assign escort commanders for funerals of Civil Engineer Corps officers with a designator code 510X only.

   (2) Commander, Naval Supply Systems Command will assign escort commanders for funerals of Supply Corps officers.

   (3) Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery will assign escort commanders for funerals of Medical, Dental, Medical Service, and Nurse Corps officers.

   (4) Judge Advocate General will assign escort commanders for funerals of Judge Advocate General’s Corps officers.

   (5) Naval District Washington Chaplain’s office will assign escort commanders for funerals of Chaplain Corps officers.

   (6) Escort commanders for funerals of other officers will be assigned by the commanders outlined in subparagraphs 5a(6)(a) and 5a(6)(b) using the rotation schedule maintained by COMNAVDIST WASHINGTON.

      (a) Chief of Naval Operations

      (b) Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command

   b. When a funeral escort commander is required, COMNAVDIST WASHINGTON will contact the appropriate command or staff and must provide necessary details concerning the assignment.
6. **Action.** Addressees (as specifically listed in paragraph 5) must:

   a. Designate a primary and secondary point of contact with whom arrangements for funeral escort commander assignments may be made, and submit the names and telephone numbers of those persons so designated to COMNAVDIST WASHINGTON, Assistant for Funeral Support, commercial (202) 433-4589 and DSN 288.

   b. Assign, through the designated point of contact, funeral escort commanders as requested by COMNAVDIST WASHINGTON.

   c. Provide a flag officer of any grade to serve as the escort commander, unless specifically directed by Chief of Naval Operations, Director of Navy Staff, or Chief of Naval Personnel.

7. **Records Management.** Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of media or format, must be managed per Secretary of the Navy Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.

W. F. MORAN

Deputy Chief of Naval Operations
(Manpower, Personnel, Training and Education)

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