

Department of the Navy/HENAAC Press Release
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**Department of the Navy Creates Partnership with HENAAC
To Advance Workforce Diversity**

ANAHEIM, CA – The Department of the Navy’s Manpower and Reserve Affairs Office announced a new partnership with the Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Awards Corporation (HENAAC). This partnership will bring a new approach to attract more diverse people to the Department’s workforce. It will highlight specific, high-demand military and civilian job opportunities available in both the U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps.

The partnership was announced jointly by the Honorable William A. Navas, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, and Mr. Ray Mellado, CEO and founder, HENAAC, at HENAAC’s 18th annual Careers Conference and Awards Show running October 5-7 at the Anaheim Marriott Hotel and Anaheim Convention Center, California.

“With HENAAC we will have many new avenues to promote the wide range of exciting career opportunities in the Department of the Navy to Hispanic Americans,” says Navas. “In launching our Career Opportunities initiative at the HENAAC conference we’re taking an important step forward in making our jobs requiring skilled individuals more visible to the Hispanic men and women who have the interest and talents to fill them.

“Furthermore, this effort will provide information, career counseling, and mentoring to individuals who may not be ready to pursue an active duty or civilian job in the Navy or Marine

Corps right now, but want to know more about the requirements and benefits so they can work toward a role with us in the future.”

Visitors to the Department of the Navy’s booth at the HENAAC conference exhibitor’s hall quickly see that this initiative is very different from typical military recruiting efforts. It addresses the Department’s Total Force – Navy and Marine Corps (active and reserves), civilians, and contractors. On hand were representatives from the Department’s technical engineering group, including Naval Sea Systems Command and Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command. Also included were hands-on demonstrations and the Blue Angels’ flight simulator to show prospective candidates some of the opportunities for engineers and advanced technicians.

In addition to participation in HENAAC’s annual conference, the partnership agreement provides for Department of the Navy personnel conducting employment-related lectures at HENAAC-sponsored programs; a presence in HENAAC’s monthly newsletter with job-related information, and various efforts to assess candidates’ qualifications provided by HENAAC. Particular emphasis will be made to convert as many qualified applicants as possible to actual hires and enlistment. Tracking the progress and success of individuals hired through this program will help further fine-tune recruiting programs for Hispanic Americans.

“This partnership will be a big advantage for HENAAC as well as the Department of the Navy,” says Mellado. “The Department of the Navy will be providing us valuable data and other feedback about its interested Hispanic candidates and recruits that HENAAC can use to educate and better serve those in our community seeking rewarding careers in the Navy and Marine Corps.”

For more information, visit the Assistant Secretary for the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs website at www.hq.navy.mil/mra or HENAAC’s website at www.henaac.org.

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