

**Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Jonathan Greenert**  
**Remarks at U.S. Naval Academy Graduation**  
**24 May 2013**

Thank you very much Captain Clark. This is a different Marine Corps Jay, you're flying now. That's not an Osprey though, that's not an Osprey. Thank you Captain Clark. Mr. President it's great to have you here- Governor O'Malley, Secretary Mabus, my shipmate Jay, thanks for being here. Of course, Admiral Miller. Dean Phillips, let's not forget the Dean; you wouldn't be here without him. It's an honor for me to be bringing in the future here today. As General Paxton said, "One team, one fight" I would like to congratulate you Second Lieutenants joining our fleet today, I look forward very much to seeing you on in the fleet.

For those of you who are about to become Ensigns, those of you midshipmen for a little bit longer. I ask you to remember what we talked about a few weeks ago. Now look I like odd numbered classes, some of our finest classes end in odd numbers, so I'm going to just post my remarks on my Facebook, you can read them later.

I want to give an executive summary of a few things. As the President mentioned to you earlier, I want you to guard your integrity. No one can take your integrity away from you. It's uniquely yours, don't lose it. Your allegiance is to the institution, to the country, to the Constitution- not your buddies. It's in your oath today, think about it when you take your oath. Be kind to everybody; treat everybody with dignity and with respect. And trust your Shipmates because your life is going to depend on them. Learn your heritage, that's what we're about, know who you're about. And wear sunscreen, it takes about twenty years to take effect. Wear Sunscreen. And perhaps the most important thing that you can remember today -- I want you to call or email, or write your mothers every week. That's what I'm talking about. Because they're the wind underneath any wings you have and they got you here. Alright.

I'm honored to commission you. Graduates to be commissioned in the United States Navy, please rise.

All midshipmen entering the United States Navy, please raise your right hand.

Having been appointed an Ensign in the United States Navy to rank from 23 May 2013 do you solemnly swear that you will support the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any moral reservation or purpose of evasion; so help you God?

*[I DO]*

Welcome Aboard Shipmates! You may be seated.

###