



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
2000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-2000

IN REPLY REFER TO
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Ser N097/01308
2 Nov 01

Dear Colleagues,

I pray for each of you as you deliver religious ministry to the men and women of the Sea Services. I pray especially for God's blessing and protection on those of you who are deployed or preparing to deploy. Each Tuesday and Thursday at 0745, my staff and I gather to pray for our Corps, the Religious Program Specialist community, our military, and our Nation's leaders. We have seen God answer our prayers and bless our efforts.

One of the blessings God has showered on us is the progress I am pleased to report on our Strategic Plan. This plan will help us meet both current and emerging needs, and make our vision a reality. I recently reviewed the plan in light of the September 11th events and the wartime realities that have ensued. I find that the plan continues to provide a solid and relevant foundation for us. Our vision, mission, and guiding principles are as valid today as they were before September 11th. Our priorities, initiatives, and objectives are still germane.

Because we cannot work on all of the initiatives and objectives simultaneously, I have selected for immediate attention those that will have a swift and positive impact on current needs. I have also changed some of the Lead Agents and Action Officers for implementation in response to the increased operational requirements placed on some of our original Lead Agents. These adjustments will enable us to employ our Chaplain Corps personnel more effectively.

We are already implementing our Strategic Plan. Next, we must develop action plans, take action, track status, and communicate progress. We are training Lead Agents in their responsibilities for assigned priorities. Action Officers and their working groups will be trained as needed to refine and carry out the initiatives and objectives assigned to them. And your support is absolutely essential if we are to implement the Strategic Plan.

Sea Services men and women expect us to support their religious needs. We have made, and will continue to make, a significant, positive difference throughout and beyond the Sea Services. Your efforts, regardless of how unsung they may seem to you, have been heralded in comments I receive from both service members and civilians. I am honored to serve you at this *kairos* time in Chaplain Corps history.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "BC Black".

BARRY C. BLACK
Rear Admiral, CHC, U.S. Navy
Chief of Chaplains