



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

IN REPLY REFER TO  
1730  
Ser N097/02029  
FEB 8 2002

Dear Colleagues:

The response of the American people to the events of September 11 shows the extraordinarily generous character of our Nation. Numerous relief organizations, religious institutions and countless individuals provided much needed support, encouragement, and consolation to the survivors and family members of the victims. Following the attacks, our Nation united to donate clothing, blood, food, and money. Children all across America opened their hearts and gave millions of dollars for relief efforts to the children of Afghanistan.

The agencies, which receive and distribute the donations, must exercise stewardship to ensure donations are used for their intended purposes.

Various organizations have offered to contribute to our religious ministries. We are entrusted with exercising stewardship to ensure all donations are used for their intended purposes. These gifts include books, CDs, and literature designed to uplift Sailors, Marines and their family members. This generosity is in many ways a blessing for those who serve in the Sea Services and especially for those who are deployed and go in harms way.

To assist us in exercising stewardship of donations, I encourage you to remember that Navy instructions regulate the acceptance of any gift, including gifts of travel. SECNAV INST 4001.2G and OPNAV INST 4001.1D provide guidance on the acceptance of gifts and DOD INST 5500.7-R, Joint Ethics Regulations, is the appropriate guidance regarding acceptance of gifts to individuals. Guidance for these instructions is available from your respective command Judge Advocate General. As always, the N097 staff is available to answer any questions that may emerge regarding these policies.

The psalmist says: "Make your vows to the LORD your God, and perform them; let all around him bring gifts to him who is to be feared."  
(Psalms 76:11) May we remember that all gifts are from the Lord, for His glory. Let us use our resources for His purposes. Let us account for them responsibly and rejoice in the gifts God sends.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "B C Black".

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