



NEWS RELEASE



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Release Number: 035-11
Sept. 30, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Navy Region Southeast Hosts Navy Chaplain Corps Professional Development Training Course

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Navy Region Southeast Public Affairs

Commander, Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE) hosted the first session of the Navy Chaplain Corps Fiscal Year 2012 Professional Development Training Course on board Naval Air Station (NAS) Jacksonville Sept. 27-30.

Forty-eight Navy chaplains and religious program specialists (RP) from throughout the southeast region attended the course, which was geared toward enhancing the overall ability of religious ministry personnel to support service members in need of spiritual guidance. The training was the first of eight sessions to be held in various regions throughout the world during the next year.

“This year’s goal is to continue to improve our skills in providing pastoral care to Sailors, Marines, Coast-Guardsmen and their families in a number of areas of particular importance, such as sexual assault, suicide prevention and domestic violence,” said Rear Adm. Mark L. Tidd, chief of Navy chaplains. “We’d like to improve in those areas and do that specifically in our role as chaplains supported by RPs.”

According to Capt. Timothy S. Lance, CNRSE chaplain, it was an honor for CNRSE to

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host the event.

“We were very pleased we were chosen to be the host location because of the many different installations in the area,” he said. “We had people here from a variety of different backgrounds, including submariners, aviators and surface forces, as well as members of the Coast Guard and Marine Corps. Many of them didn’t have to travel very far to attend this, so that makes NAS Jacksonville an ideal location and I consider it a privilege.”

During the four-day course, chaplains and RPs listened to subject matter experts from throughout the country as they presented statistics in designated areas of concern, including sexual assault, suicide prevention and awareness, post-traumatic stress disorder, domestic violence and more. Afterward, they discussed potential approaches to help maximize their ability to help service members who may experience difficulties in those areas.

“It was really of great value to us – getting some new information and being introduced to new policies,” Lance said. “Being the first of this year’s sessions, it was especially beneficial to those who are crafting it because it should help them make it a better product. Overall, the course should be very beneficial to the Department of the Navy because of the relevance of the focus areas. They are areas that people are talking about.”

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110927-N-UA460-011 - JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (Sept. 27, 2011) -- Rear Adm. Mark L. Tidd, chief of Navy chaplains, speaks at the Navy Chaplain Corps Fiscal Year 2012 Professional Development Training Course on board Naval Air Station Jacksonville. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Greg Johnson/Released)

