

January 14, 2011

CNO presents Presidential Volunteer Service Award to retired command master chief

Story and photo by MC2 Robert Stirrup

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs



The Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) presented the Presidential Volunteer Service Award to a retired U.S. Navy command master chief during an awards ceremony at Sharkey Theatre at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Jan. 7.

James Taylor, volunteer Pearl Harbor survivor liaison for Navy Region Hawaii, was awarded the Call to Service pin by Adm. Gary Roughead.

Taylor has been personally responsible for planning, overseeing and conducting approximately 250 burial honors for Pearl Harbor survivors, and has donated more than 3,000 hours of his time over the past two years to the Navy.

“For 54 years, you have served our nation in uniform, in civil service, and now as a volunteer for Commander, Navy Region Hawaii,” Roughead noted. “It is individuals like you who make our Navy and more than nation a better place, and I know your work is especially appreciated by all who have received your support.”

“Your actions bring great credit to our Navy, and I send you my personal thanks for extending yourself to veterans and their families,” Roughead added.

“I was shocked when I first found out that I was receiving an award from the president of the United States,” Taylor said. “It is an honor to be nominated for this, and it is an honor to have it presented by the CNO.”

Taylor also said he couldn’t have earned the award by himself.

“There are a lot of people in my life that helped me get to where I’m at, and I feel they are the true reason why I’m standing where I’m at today,” Taylor stated.

The Presidential Volunteer Service Award Call to Service pin is reserved for those who have committed themselves to more than 4,000 volunteer hours over a lifetime.

The President’s Council on Service and Civic Participation was established in 2003 to recognize the valuable contributions volunteers are making throughout the community.

The council created the President's Volunteer Service Award program as a way to thank and honor Americans who, by their demonstrated commitment and example, inspire others to engage in volunteer service..
