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Breast Insignias and Identification Badges on the Navy Working Uniforms (Type I, II and III)

We have recently received a lot of questions regarding breast and identification insignias while wearing the Navy Working Uniforms (NWU Type I, II and III). So in response to your questions, the goal of this article is to better familiarize you with wearing of breast and identification insignias with the NWU Type I, II and III uniforms and ensure others are proudly and correctly wearing our Navy Working Uniforms.

Command Breast Insignia

There are two types of Command Breast Insignia that can be worn with the NWUs. They are the Command-at-Sea and Command Ashore/Project Manager insignias. Eligible officers in the grade of Captain (O6) and junior wear the Command-at-Sea and Command Ashore/Project Manager insignias (Incumbent or Post-Tour). Incumbent Command Insignias (embroidered on a strip of the applicable NWU Type fabric) are worn on the NWU (All types) blouse above the right pocket centered 1/4 inch above the name strip. Post tour Command Insignia (only one post tour insignia may be worn) will be worn on the left pocket flap centered 1/4 of an inch below the service tape (U.S. NAVY). **Uniform Fact:** Officers are only authorized to wear one post tour insignia at a time.

Identification Badges

Identification badges that are authorized for wear with NWUs are as follows: Navy Fleet and Force Master Chief badges, Command Master, Senior, and Chief badges, Command Career Counselor badge, Recruit Division Commander badge, and Security/Law Enforcement badges. Enlisted personnel are authorized to wear identification badges on the NWU (Type I/II/III) blouse centered on the wearer's left pocket flap, 1/4-inch below the service tape (U.S. NAVY).



Policy fact: IAW OPNAVINST 1306.2G, post tour Command Master Chief(CMC), Chief of the Boat(COB) and Command Senior Chief(CSC) identification badges are only authorized for wear by board-selected CMCs (9580), COBs (9579) or CSCs (9578) who successfully complete at least one 24 month CMC, COB or CSC assignment and subsequently return to assignments in their respective ratings.

Warfare and Qualification Insignia

A maximum of two warfare/qualification insignias may be worn on the NWU. Warfare/Qualification Insignia shall be embroidered on a matching pattern NWU fabric strip rectangular in shape and the approximate size of the metal breast insignia. The primary breast Insignia will be worn centered above and flush with the service tape (U.S. NAVY) on the blouse. Secondary warfare/qualification insignia will be worn centered on the wearer's left pocket flap with the NWUs only. Enlisted personnel authorized to wear two warfare/qualification insignia and an identification badge shall wear the primary and secondary warfare/qualification insignia centered and flush above the "U.S. NAVY" fabric strip and the identification badge centered on the left pocket flap.

Primary and secondary warfare insignia positions rules:

Two warfare insignia are authorized following these rules:

* The warfare insignia of the specialty in which currently serving will be worn in the primary position. **EXAMPLE:** Hospital Corpsman assigned to ship earns ESWS then transfers to a Fleet Marine Force assignment earning the FMF warfare insignia. The Hospital Corpsman earning both ESWS and FMF will only wear the FMF in the primary position when assigned to Fleet Marine Force duty assignments.

If not currently serving in a warfare specialty, or have not earned the warfare insignia of the specialty in which currently serving:

* Officers will wear the insignia corresponding to their designator, otherwise the warfare insignia earned first in the primary position; enlisted personnel will wear the warfare

insignia earned first in the primary position. **EXAMPLE:** Enlisted submariner assigned to an submarine earns SS (dolphins) warfare insignia then transfers to Officer Candidate School. The Sailor will wear their silver dolphins until earning an officer warfare specialty.

When insignia has both gold and silver versions, enlisted personnel wear silver; officers wear gold, within the following rules:

* Enlisted personnel who qualify for insignia, and are subsequently advanced to officer status continue wearing the enlisted insignia in the primary position until qualified for a corresponding officer insignia; then replace the enlisted insignia with the officer insignia. Example: Sailor qualifies for enlisted aviation warfare and then qualifies within the same warfare with an officer aviation warfare. Sailor is only authorized to wear the gold officer warfare from that community.

* Enlisted personnel who qualify for insignia, and are subsequently advanced to officer status continue wearing the enlisted insignia in the primary position until qualified to wear an officer insignia; the enlisted insignia can then be worn in the secondary position below the service tape. Example: Sailor qualifies for enlisted Submarine warfare (SS) and then advanced to officer and earns Surface Warfare Officer (SWO). SWO is worn in the primary position and SS in the secondary position.

* Enlisted personnel who have been awarded the Small Craft insignia and are subsequently advanced to officer status wear the gold Small Craft Insignia. Example: If wearing only the Small Craft insignia place it in the primary position. Those wearing a warfare device will place the Small Craft insignia in the secondary position.

* Enlisted personnel, who qualified in a warfare specialty as officers and were subsequently reverted to enlisted status, may continue to wear the officer insignia unless prohibited from doing so by administrative action. Example: When enlisted and qualified in the warfare insignia earned first in the primary position and the officer insignia in the secondary position.



Uniform Matters Office answers NAVADMIN 164/12 questions

In an effort to keep you updated on the latest questions received from the Fleet and the answers we provided, the Uniform Matters Office will periodically post a series of Uniform Q and A's on the Uniform Matters Website <http://www.public.navy.mil/BUPERS-NPC/SUPPORT/UNIFORMS/UNIFORMREGULATIONS/Pages/default.aspx>

Navy Security Force (NSF) Badges

Q: NAVADMIN 164/12 states that the new NSF badges will be worn centered one quarter of an inch above the right breast pocket of our uniforms, can I start wearing my NSF badge there now?

A: The new NSF badges will be available for command or unit purchase in June 2013. Until then (June 2013), U.S. Navy Security Forces, Corrections Specialists and Command Master-at-Arms will continue to wear their badges as described in Chapter 5, Section 1, paragraph 3.j.(3), parts (a) and (b).

Q: In the past, my Command has been able to procure Navy Security Force badges through civilian commercial vendors, is that still an option?

A: Per NAVADMIN 164/12, official Navy security force identification badges will be available for command purchase as a controlled item via the Defense Logistic Agency (DLA).

Service Dress Blues(SDBs) and Service Dress Whites(SDWs)

Q: When will the new E1-E6 Service Dress uniforms be available for purchase and wear?

A: The introduction of the new E1-E6 jumper style SDB and SDW is planned for introduction at RTC GLAKES beginning 1 October 2015. Fleet introduction will commence incrementally through 1 October 2018. More detailed information will be announced during future NAVADMINs.

Flight Suits

Q: What Insignias/Patches are authorized to be worn with the flight suits?

A: Per NAVADMIN 164/12A US flag patch can be worn on the left shoulder approximately 1 inch below the shoulder seam. If eligible, a weapons school patch may be worn on the right shoulder only, approximately 1 inch below the shoulder seam.

NWU Type I

Q: Is it Mandatory to have your nametags sewn on your NWU Type I Parka?

A: Per NAVADMIN 164/12 the optional wear of the name tape on the left shoulder pocket flap of the NWU Type I Parka is currently authorized. Mandatory wear of the Parka name tape is effective 1 October 2013.

Q: I just purchased a pair of NWU Type I Gore-Tex trousers, when can I wear them?

A: Per NAVADMIN 164/12 Individually purchased Gore-Tex trousers can be worn when transiting to and from home and work during inclement weather conditions. When performing official or assigned duties, commands shall provide NWU Type I foul weather trousers as needed.

Khaki Maternity Blouse

Q: What are the features of the new Khaki maternity Blouse?

A: Per NAVADMIN 164/12 The new Khaki Maternity Top is made of 100 percent polyester fabric. The design features include adjustable waist side tabs (left and right) with three buttons, a hidden vertical side seam pockets (left and right side seams) and an opened notched collar. It is also shorter in length than the current design and will be available in regular and long lengths. The maternity blouse will be introduced in June 2013 in the Uniform Centers and 1-800 call center.