

In Celebration of the Anniversary of the Chief

YNCS Wetterstrom has been my mentor and what I consider the prime example of what a Chief should be.

He has accomplished so much thus far in his Coast Guard career with swift advancements and strategic duty assignments. He is never idol in his progression in the Coast Guard. Even though he holds himself to a high standard with constant progression he always remembers his duty to junior members as a Chief. He does not treat it as a responsibility or additional task he truly cares and wants to see success in all of his shipmates he comes across. He currently is the command senior chief, chief of the mess, command security officer, SPO chief, Senior Watch Officer and various other collateral duties. He has completed his associate degree in the past year and is soon beginning her bachelor's degree. He also made the cut for Chief Warrant Officer. His personal and professional successes are due to his desire to succeed for his family and provide well. It amazes me every day that THAT is not what I see...I rarely know of his accomplishments because he is always encouraging and supporting mine and other subordinates. Explaining current messages, opportunities, writing awards, 3307s, career counseling, advice on work technique, leadership improvements, and best study practices. I go to work every day with a personal cheer leader, I then look around and see my entire office receives that from him. Then I look at the base, the other petty officers, chiefs, civilians. Everyone is personally encouraged by YNCS Wetterstrom's funny positive professional leadership skills.

As a seasoned yeoman he holds the seven yeoman guiding principles to the highest regard in every task and decision he makes. The yeoman mission statement " We are a team of dedicated professionals who specialize in helping people and commands by providing them information, guidance, and administrative services, concerning pay, travel, and transportation entitlements, benefits and human resource management" at times can be lost in the transition between the super SPO and P&A offices. YNCS Wetterstrom is one to keep this mission statement live and true in our office and among our units. He will not hesitate to pick up the phone to help a command, member, or remind other yeoman of our purpose in serving members. His attitude and ability to always keep this first in his leadership reminds me of why I love being a yeoman and what the real goal is, helping our members with prompt accurate support.

YNCS Wetterstrom unintentionally became my mentor during our current tour together. It is difficult to describe the influence he has had on me. I personally loved being a yeoman, was very comfortable and complacent as an auditor and did not have a passion for the leadership that a Chief needs to have. After working with Senior Chief Wetterstrom and seeing what positive leadership can create I decided I want to make that difference in the Coast Guard as well. It is amazing what support, trust, and constructive criticism can do to person. I had no idea the passion I had in myself for leadership until I realized how good it felt to have a Chief like YNCS Wetterstrom. I was finally recognized for my extra work and attention to detail. I was trusted with my work, task management, and hours. As a single mother there is often judgement and frustration because of the work interruptions. YNCS allowed me to bring my daughter in to work if needed, leave without consequence if she was sick or had an appointment, listened when I was stressed about my custody issues, and so much more. Being able to be the mother I need to be for my daughter without consequence gave me such motivation to do better and make him proud every day. As a Chief I think it is important to break the cycle of "it's always been done this way"

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and YNCS does that for our office. YNCS helped me become a better Supervisor, Subordinate, and Mother.

Senior Chief Wetterstrom certainly deserves to be recognized during this Chief's Anniversary for his outstanding leadership, commitment to his rating, and ability to continue to advance in his personal career simultaneously.