

**NAVAL SUPPLY SYSTEMS COMMAND
FRATERNIZATION POLICY STATEMENT**

As the new Commander of the Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP), I want to refresh all military members on the DON Fraternization Policy. The Navy has drawn from custom and tradition to define the bounds of acceptable personal relationships among its members. Following this tradition will not only continue to eliminate inappropriate personal relationships that could endanger the Fleet's mission, but also prevent any discredit to the naval service. Therefore, I want to ensure all military members understand what constitutes fraternization.



Navy has defined "fraternization" as any personal relationship between officer and enlisted members that has crossed the boundary of a senior-subordinate working relationship and does not respect differences in rank and grade. This also includes any relationship that is unduly familiar between officers or enlisted members of different grade or rank causing discredit to the naval service. Fraternization is a gender-neutral concept. Its focus is on the impairment of good order and discipline resulting from the erosion of respect for authority inherent in an unduly familiar senior-subordinate relationship, not the gender of the members involved.

For the enhancement of morale and esprit-de-corps, I expect appropriate professional and social interaction among officers and enlisted members at NAVSUP. Members found violating this policy will be disciplined in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

Senior members bear the responsibility of ensuring all relationships stay within the boundaries of DON's policy on fraternization. Upholding this policy not only creates a professional work environment at NAVSUP, but will also foster a fellowship throughout the chain of command and will maintain the highest standards of the naval service.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D.H. Stone". The signature is stylized and written over a white background.

D. H. STONE
Rear Admiral, SC, USN