



An Interview With Chief Master-at-Arms Reginald Jones

Please describe your experience with the Navy: What motivated you to enlist?

I was motivated to join the world's finest Navy back in 1995. The most important thing to me was experience and doing something different for at least 3 years (nothing too special).

How long have you served?

I joined the Navy on August 24, 1995.

What is your current rank?

My current rank is E-7, and my current rate is Chief Master-at-Arms (MAC).

Where are you stationed?

My current duty Station is Naval Air Station, Pensacola, FL.

What are your responsibilities?

My current job title is NAS Pensacola Security Department Leading Chief Petty Officer. I am responsible for 80 Naval Security Forces and 55 Auxiliary Security Force Personnel; I perform law enforcement and anti-terrorism/force protection duties.

Please describe your experience with the Certified in Homeland Security Program: How did you first hear about CHS? What motivated you to join? What effect has CHS had on your professional development?

I first heard about CHS from another Chief Petty Officer; he made it seem as if this was the new thing for the Navy. I feel as you get the inside track you need to act on it. After I

checked it out for myself, I felt that this was a great move on the Navy's part. This takes all the experience and training we use on a daily basis and turns it into a civilian equivalent certification. On a professional level, it brings everything full circle. It shows the outside sources that the military believes in self-improvement for Sailors.

What was the certification class like?

Feel free to comment on the instruction, the content of the class, or any other aspect of the course.

For those who want to qualify for Levels IV or V, it's a lot of information in a 2-day span. The instruction during the course was current and easy to marry with the information that the military provides.

What feedback did you receive from the others in the class?

I spoke with someone after the class. He stated, "After the course, I felt more prepared, knowing that other organizations were handling terrorism and world threatening events in the same manner. I also like the idea of a certification for homeland security. That shows that we are a community that is holding members accountable for information, current tactics, and methods of combating world changing crisis events."

How do you anticipate the certification will contribute to the Navy?

It creates a National Standard that can be used between uniformed services and federal and state law enforcement agencies. It also allows for civilian agencies to be on the same

page as state and federal law enforcement agencies and the uniformed services, especially referencing oil companies, large venue entertainment parks, and college and universities. It is a great program, one that has been necessary for the last 20+ years.

How will the information presented benefit the sailors?

The information was presented in a logical format, which will help to keep Sailors in tune with the needs of the Navy, the civilian community, and other law enforcement agencies. In short, it simply keeps the major players reading off of the same playbook. I may not be familiar with the exact plan that a certain agency is using; however, it is now similar to the plan my agency is using, barring any minor changes. The transition will be quick, allowing more time for the actual event and less time for the administrative part of any organization.

How will the credential affect their careers?

The credentialing will affect careers in numerous ways. Similar to a college degree, this is a certificate that proves an individual has a level of understanding in a particular field. In addition, most of the Master-At-Arms will be practicing these traits and disciplines during their time in the Navy. It will also be a huge benefit in the area of yearly evaluations, which are directly linked to promotion. General knowledge is also paramount as real world situations are examined and reviewed. We see what part of a disaster relief plan worked, and what part failed.