



Proclamation

Established in 1970, the Navy's ombudsman program has served as a link between commanding officers and family members. Ombudsmen help provide timely and accurate news to family members, while bringing about a better understanding of the needs of Navy family to the command.

Ombudsmen, who are trained by the Navy's Fleet and Family Support Center, are official representatives appointed by the commanding officer who provide information, referral resources and advocacy services for military family members. These volunteers are instrumental in resolving family issues, helping families adjust to their homes and coordinating services for families during mobilization or geographic separation. In addition, ombudsmen must be aware of support agencies and organizations available to Navy families and develop newsletters and compile and submit monthly date reports on the services they provided.

This year, the Pearl Harbor Fleet and Family Support Center is sponsoring the annual Ombudsman Appreciation Dinner on September 4, 2009 at the Hickam Officers Club on Hickam Air Force Base. With 350 individuals expected to attend, the dinner will honor Navy ombudsmen from Commander Navy Region Hawai'i, the Pacific Submarine Force and the Kāne'ōhe Bay Ombudsmen Assemblies.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and **I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR.**, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **September 4, 2009** as

OMBUDSMAN APPRECIATION DAY

in Hawai'i, and recognize these "Home Front Heroes" for their time and dedication in supporting members of the armed forces and their families.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this third day of September 2009.

Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i

James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i