

# Hookele – Pearl Harbor – Hickam News

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Guest speaker Ann Munch, a career prosecutor and advocate for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking, gives a talk to senior Navy leadership in Hawaii at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam as part of the Personal Readiness Summit. The Personal Readiness Summits focuses on drug and alcohol prevention to include discussions in sexual assaults, suicide and physical readiness.

**Story and photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico**

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

A series of subject matter experts arrived in Hawaii to provide Sailors with current information regarding several Navy issues during a personal readiness summit at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) and Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) in Kauai from Jan. 31 to Feb. 3.

Subject matter experts from Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet and the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations provided up to date changes, policy guidance and interactive discussions on a variety of programs including drug and alcohol, sexual assault prevention and physical readiness.

Lanorfeia Holder, the deputy director for the Navy's alcohol and drug abuse prevention program, said that the summit is important because the fleet needs to think more from a preventive perspective to address issues concerning the Navy.

"If we can get them engaging early and providing intervention when we see the first sign of incident, then we can eliminate the rise in number of what we are seeing: a lot of dysfunctional behaviors like sexual assaults, suicide, drug and alcohol abuse as well as sexual harassments," Holder said.

One of the guest speakers at the event was Attorney Ann Munch, a career prosecutor and advocate for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. As subject matter expert for the Navy, Army and Air Force, she has worked extensively on the development of sexual assault prevention and response programs in the military.

"The one thing I want people to take home with them is an understanding of what it's like for those victims who still don't have the ability to come forward and talk about what happened to them and what a great position the leaders are in to create a climate where we can really increase comfort to talk about something that they are not at fault for," Munch said.

In Munch's presentation, she said that 57 percent of rapes happen on dates, 42 percent told no one of the assault, and only five percent reported to the police.

Munch said that one of the biggest contributors to the problem is the “unnamed conspirator,” who enables the unwanted behavior to go unnoticed.

“It is important to make sure that nothing that we do inhibits victims of this crime from getting the help that they need and from holding the offenders accountable,” Munch said.

On average, one or more Sailors are sexually assaulted every day. In 2010, a Department of Defense annual report estimated that 70-80 percent of all sexual assaults in the military go unreported.

Cmdr. Sheri Snively, the deputy region chaplain of Navy Region Hawaii, said that the summit is one of the best trainings she has attended.

“What it did was help all of us question our assumptions, help look at the way our society has conditioned us, and the summit gave us a lot of food for thought,” Snively said. “Munch’s presentation was truly outstanding.”