

VBSS Personnel to Receive Hazardous Duty Pay

Following a recent NAVADMIN that announced hazardous duty incentive pay (HDIP) for Visit, Board, Search and Seizure (VBSS) teams, Commander, Naval Surface Forces announced eligibility criteria in a message released Jan. 9.

Members conducting boardings in support of the following mission areas qualify for the HDIP:


- Maritime interception operations, including those in support of Operation Southern Watch, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom and the global war on terrorism.
- Counter-drug operations (CD OPS).
- Homeland defense.

For retroactive eligibility, commands are required to document in a command letter, signed by the current commanding officer, by month, those members who are eligible for retroactive HDIP and verify at least three boardings conducted.

Sailors who believe they are entitled to VBSS HDIP back pay while serving aboard ships that are now decommissioned should contact the appropriate type commander point of contact and provide documentation of eligibility. Documentation may include: watchbills, service record entries, evaluations, fitness reports, awards citations, qualification letters, etc.

For more information, visit http://www.news.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=11339



 Naval Media Center,
Bldg. 168, 2713 Mitscher
Rd., SW, Anacostia
Annex, DC 20373-5819

email: pubs@mediacen.navy.mil
DSN: (288) or (202) 433-0575


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