DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
2000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-2000

IN REPLY REFER TO
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Dear Colleagues,

The Psalmist rhapsodizes in Psalm 133:1, "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!" But unfortunately, as Navy chaplains, we behold disunity as well. Few brothers (and sisters, and husbands and wives, and parents and children, and friends and coworkers and neighbors and nations) actually live in unity. We spend so much of our ministry helping people resolve conflicts.

And for that reason, we have devoted the FY 2003 Professional Development Training Course (PDTC) to the subject of Conflict Management. This gives you a tremendous opportunity to hone your skills in this ministry area. Simply attend one of the 11 PDTCs that will be conducted between January and June of this coming year. The PDTC schedule is available on-line at the Chaplain Resource Branch web site or at https://www.cnet.navy.mil/netpdtc/chaplain/course_03.html.

I mention this now because we recently concluded the validation, or trial run, for the PDTC. Forty of your chaplain and RP colleagues gathered at NAS Whiting Field near Pensacola for a preview of the four-day course entitled "Lessons in Conflict Management: Human Factors in Managing Conflict." The Subject Matter Experts, conflict management professionals with corporate and governmental agencies, provided the validation group with many new insights and effective techniques, supported by stimulating group exercises and discussion. And now they are busy incorporating into the final product the lessons learned from feedback they received, making their presentations even stronger.

This year, we are bringing a new level of technical support to the PDTC experience. We will supplement the traditional PDTC course notebook with a CD-ROM filled with PowerPoint slides, class notes, background articles, and other useful material. In additional, we will maintain a web site throughout the "PDTC season" and for several months beyond to allow on-going discussion throughout the chaplain and RP community about the PDTC experience and subject matter.

You are the recognized conflict management experts in your commands; that's why so many people come to you with their conflicts. They expect—and deserve—the best help you can give them, and this PDTC will enable you to make your best even better. Plan now so that you will have the time and funding available to attend. Everyone will benefit from what you learn.

Sincerely,

Barry C. Black

BARRY C. BLACK
Rear Admiral, Chaplain Corps
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Chief of Navy Chaplains