FISCAL YEAR 2021 COPERNICUS AWARD NOMINATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. The Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Information Warfare in partnership with the AFCEA International and United States Naval Institute (USNI) announce the request for nominations for the fiscal year 2021 Copernicus Award.

   a. The nomination deadline is 01 November 2021. Nominations received after the nomination deadline will not be considered.

   b. The nomination summary of action must highlight specific, demonstrable contribution(s) to the advancement of command, control, communications, computers and intelligence (C4I), information systems, cyber operations, or information warfare. Contributions need not be technical in nature, but may arise from doctrinal, financial, organizational, or other dimensions of information systems. The contribution should demonstrate exceptional initiative, leadership and insight within the nominee's area of expertise. The summary of action must be UNCLASSIFIED, limited to 500 words or less, and NOT contain any PII.

   c. Nominations must be signed and submitted by the commanding officer / officer in charge following the format outlined on the following pages.

2. Submit your nomination as a PDF to edfoundation@afcea.org. Please contact Ms. Sarah Fischetti with any questions. She can be reached via e-mail at edfoundation@afcea.org.

3. There is no option to have classified nominations accepted.
From: Commanding Officer
To: Ms. Sarah Fischetti, Coordinator, Educational Programs
     Administration AFCEA Educational Foundation

Subj: NOMINATION FOR COPERNICUS AWARD IN THE CASE OF (FULL NAME OF NOMINEE)

1. NAME: First, Middle Initial, and Last name

2. GRADE: (ex. LCDR/CTRCM)

3. JOB TITLE/DESCRIPTION: Assistant XXXXX, LCDR XXXXX is assigned as the Assistant Officer-in-Charge for the Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Information, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Detachment (C4ISR) within XXXXXXXXXX. He is also the Director of Operations for the Detachment, overseeing all production tasking, while serving as the unit’s inherent expert for all Information Operations requirements.

4. SUMMARY OF ACTION:

   LCDR XXXXX is a natural leader who quickly synthesizes vast amounts of data, creates a challenging vision, and effectively leverages resources to achieve the defined ends. In response to a change in XXX priorities, LCDR XXXXX information processing tools such as XXXXXXX and XXXXX resulted in completion of this project 25 percent earlier than anticipated. Furthermore, his efforts positioned the detachment to continue to function as the country expert within XXXXX for this country’s C4ISR capabilities for the foreseeable future.

   In addition, LCDR XXXXX utilized his training in terrorism and counter terrorism and his unparalleled expertise in Computer Network Attack and Computer Network Defense to quickly identify a gap in the intelligence community “tool sets” shortly after the events of 11 September 2001. In response, LCDR XXXXX developed a web-based computer network attack threat matrix that was then adopted by XXXXX and the XXXXX XXXXXXXXXX XXXX for Computer Network Operations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.
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LCDR XXXXX was also individually selected by the gaining command, to author the XXXXXXXX XXXXXXX XXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXX Assessment. His representation of XXXXXXXX in coordination with Naval XXXXXXXXXX and other commands has been instrumental to developing appropriate guidelines for the completion of this analysis. The results of this assessment are expected to have far reaching impact on the design and development of future Naval system platforms and their ability to maintain a superior posture in a hostile environment.

A staunch advocate for individual professional development, LCDR XXXXX has also dedicated time and leadership to the design and delivery of unit wide training initiatives. His knowledge and experience in the area of fleet intelligence support requirements has been shared through both formal and informal training evolutions; internal training surveys determined that he is the most frequently requested instructor in the unit.

LCDR XXXXX clearly demonstrates the value of the reserve intelligence community as a force multiplier in support of active duty and civilian intelligence components. His work with the computer network attack matrix clearly shows that the reserve force can provide critical contributions even during the most severe crisis while still performing as drilling reservists. Similarly, the other production requirements he has overseen represent vital interests within the gaining command and represents savings to the gaining command of at least two senior intelligence analysts.

5. POC: Name of POC, RANK, Commercial phone number, DSN phone number, e-mail address of POC.

I. M. COMMANDING