

Welcome to POLA 2009!!! As the training is just around the corner I wanted to touch base with you and cover a few important points for our time together.

Attached with this Welcome Letter is a travel arrangements form. Please fill out and submit this form to me either by e-mail or USPS no later than 1 July 2009. This form is crucial to ensure that your cadet arrives safely at Fort Lewis. This form is even more important to those of you who will be flying as it tells me when to expect you at the airport so pick up can be arranged. For those of you who will be traveling by air please be sure to book your flight into Seattle/Tacoma International Airport. Due to our training days being very limited it is imperative that all trainees arrive to Fort Lewis no later than 1200 on 11 August 2009.

The third attachment with this document is your seabag list. You will notice you need BDU's and Tropical Whites. If getting either of these uniforms is a problem please contact me as soon as possible to let me know. There are several units that I have contacts for and I may be able to find the items you are missing without purchase being necessary. On the seabag list you will also notice cadets are asked to bring a calling card with a minimum of 30 minutes on it with them. This is to ensure they are able to contact me during travel to training and with their families on the way home from training. This being said if your cadet is bringing a cell phone to training with them a calling card will not be needed. A note on cell phones. They are by NSCC Regulations considered contraband at NSCC trainings and will be confiscated during check in. However, for two hours each evening I will reissue cadets their cell phones so they can keep in touch with their families while at training. This two hour period will be from 1900 to 2100 each evening. (Please take the time change into account for these phone calls) For cadets traveling across several time zones exceptions may be made to ensure they are not waking their families up. In case of an emergency please contact me directly. Cadets are encouraged to bring civilian attire to wear in the evenings, however cadets should pay close attention to the dress code when packing these items.

Graduation will be held on 16 August 2009 at 1400. As soon as the location is determined you will be notified. I strongly encourage each of you to try to attend this graduation ceremony. For those cadets who wish to stay over Sunday night and fly home Monday 17 August you are more than welcome to do so. For those cadets attending consecutive trainings at Fort Lewis you will be on site in time to begin your second training on 16 August 2009. For those of you who do not know what I'm talking about please take the time to look over the training schedule as there are several trainings beginning at Fort Lewis on 16 August 2009 to include Honor Guard, Field Medical, Recruit training (staff positions are available), among others. It's a great way to get more training without paying out the cost of travel multiple times.

A note about energy drinks/boosters. These are strictly prohibited at Fort Lewis for all trainings. Should your trainee choose to purchase them during their time at Fort Lewis they will be sent home immediately. There are no second chances on this policy.

If you have not sent your Hold Harmless Agreement to LTJG Bert Brandt please do so immediately. This can be found on the region 13 website at www.usnsccregion13.org. The address this needs to be sent to is on the training schedule.

If you have questions please feel free to contact me via email or phone at polawa@ymail.com or (509)844-2602. Should you choose to mail your travel forms to me they should be sent to 11439 W Burgundy Ave #302 Littleton, CO 80127. I look forward to meeting your cadets at Fort Lewis this August.

Respectfully,
Midshipman Marlena R Smith
Officer In Charge POLA 2009