



NAMDC

Navy Air and Missile Defense Command

Public Affairs Office

Mr. Chris Cleaver (540) 284-4802
5280 4th Street, Suite 162, Dahlgren, VA 22448-5300

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USS Higgins Sailor Named August Defender of the Month

A USS Higgins (DDG 76) Sailor has been recognized by the Missile Defense Advocacy Alliance (MDAA) as Defender of the Month for August. Fire Controlman Chief Petty Officer (SW) Anthony S. Belbeck was nominated by his command for his leadership, technical knowledge, professionalism and managerial excellence. The honor qualifies him to be considered for MDAA's Navy Defender of the Year award to be announced in January 2012.

The MDAA program honors exceptional individuals each month who are responsible for defending the U.S. armed forces, homeland and allies. The defenders are active duty officers, enlisted personnel or reservists from each service branch who work within the missile defense system and are nominated by their peers and commanding officers.

Navy Air and Missile Defense Command in Dahlgren, Va., coordinates Navy submissions and is Navy's the lead organization for naval, joint and combined integrated air and missile defense matters. MDAA is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that educates the American public on the critical role recipients play in defending our national security.

In 2010, three Sailors were honored by MDAA as Defenders of the Month: July - Lt. Travis Klempan, Pacific Missile Range, Kauai, Hawaii; November - Fire Controlman 1st Class (SW) Shawn A. Walker, USS O'Kane (DDG 77). December - Fire Controlman Chief Petty Officer (SW) Nathaniel Melvin, USS Lake Erie (CG 70). In January Walker received the Navy Defender of the Year Award from Vice Chief of Naval Operation Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert and MDAA chairman and founder Riki Ellison.

For more information on the nomination and submission process visit the NAMDC website at <http://namdc.ahf.nmci.navy.mil> or contact NAMDC Public Affairs at NAMDC@navy.mil. To read what last year's winners had to say, visit the MDAA website at <http://missiledefenseadvocacy.org>.

Located in Dahlgren, Va., NAMDC is the Navy's ballistic missile defense warfare center of excellent (COE) and the lead organization for naval, joint and combined integrated air and missile defense matters.