FIRST ENDORSEMENT on NAVNUPWRTRACOM ltr 1611 Ser Legal/047 of 17 Feb 15

From: LCDR Wesley J. Modder, USN, CHC,

To: Commanding Officer, Naval Nuclear Power Training Command

Subj: DETACHMENT FOR CAUSE ICO LCDR WESLEY J. MODDER, USN,

/4100, FOR SUBSTANDARD PERFORMANCE OF DUTY

- 1. I have received the letter requesting my detachment for cause and I understand the request may be filed in my official record.
- 2. I am aware of the contents of MILPERSMAN 1070-020 and (1) (do/do not) desire to make a written statement.
- 3. I further understand that I have 15 calendar days from this date until 5 March 2015 to submit my statement. If I make such election and then fail to submit a statement in that period of time, it will be treated as a waiver of that right. I understand that any statement I make must be couched in temperate language, be confined to the pertinent facts, and not impugn the motives of others or make countercharges.

M. J. MODDER



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL NUCLEAR POWER TRAINING COMMAND 101 NNPTC CIRCLE GOOSE CREEK, SC 29445-6324

> 1611 Ser LEGAL/047 17 Feb 15

From: Commanding Officer, Naval Nuclear Power Training Command

To: Commander, Navy Personnel Command (PERS 83)

Via: (1) LCDR Wesley J. Modder, USN, CHC,

(2) Commanding Officer, Naval Nuclear Power Training Command

(3) Commander, Navy Region Southeast

Subj: DETACHMENT FOR CAUSE ICO LCDR WESLEY J. MODDER, USN, 4100, FOR SUBSTANDARD PERFORMANCE OF DUTY

Ref: (a) MILPERSMAN 1611-020 (b) SECNAVINST 1730.7D

ncl: (1) NNPTC Command Investigation of 27 Jan 15

(2) Acknowledgement form ICO LCDR Wesley J. Modder, USN

- 1. Per references (a), I request that Lieutenant Commander Wesley J. Modder be detached for cause from Naval Nuclear Power Training Command (NNPTC) by reason of substandard performance involving significant events resulting from complete disregard of duty. LCDR Modder's conduct detracts NNPTC from accomplishing its mission, and LCDR Modder's continuance in the billet can only negatively impact the command.
- 2. LCDR Modder has been assigned to this command since 24 April 2014 and has been performing duties as Nuclear Field "A" School Chaplain since 24 April 2014.
- 3. Per enclosure (1) LCDR Modder, on multiple occasions, conducted himself in a manner that was a significant departure of what is expected of a chaplain in the United States Navy. LCDR Modder was unable to function in the diverse and pluralistic environment of NNPTC in that he was unable to provide counseling and attend to personal and relational needs outside of a specific faith group context. He failed to show tolerance and respect for the rights of individuals to determine their own religious convictions as required by reference (b). On multiple occasions he discriminated against students who were of different faiths and backgrounds.
- 4. Enclosure (1) is a command investigation that originated due to a multi-complainant Command Managed Equal Opportunity complaint, and it was discovered that:

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- a. LCDR Modder told a student that she was "shaming herself in the eyes of god" for having premarital sex.
 - b. He told another student that homosexuality was wrong.
- c. He told a student that "the penis was meant for the vagina and not for the anus," while making an inappropriate hand gesture.
- d. He insinuated that he had the ability to "save" gay people.
- e. He asked a staff member about her sexual conduct and then told her that she should be in love with God and not her partner.
- f. He berated a pregnant student for becoming pregnant while not married.
- g. In addition, the command has reason to believe that LCDR Modder provided false official statements in denying statements he made during briefs to students.
- 5. LCDR Modder stated that he will not follow Navy policy if it conflicts with his faith. LCDR Modder is intolerant and will not follow Navy policy.
- 6. Based on the nature of the confidential communications between chaplains and the members they counsel, it would be extremely difficult if not impossible for the command to discover future misconduct committed during counseling sessions. Furthermore, it is impossible for the command to discover the magnitude of his misconduct in light of the confidential nature of the communications between him and those he counsels. Students who receive counseling from a chaplain can be among the most vulnerable, and to expose them to LCDR Modder may be a recipe for tragedy. A letter of instruction and counseling is inappropriate in this case, and LCDR Modder must be removed from the command.
- 7. It is not feasible to reassign LCDR Modder based on the specialized nature of his duties as a chaplain. Disciplinary action in this case would not be appropriate based on the nature of his offenses; however, his conduct warrants his removal.

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- 8. LCDR Modder should be made to:
 - a. show cause for retention in naval service; and
 - b. be removed from any promotion list.
- 9. I have given a copy of this request to LCDR Modder this date and by enclosure (2), have informed him that the request may be filed in his official record. He was also informed by enclosure (2) that he has the right to submit a written statement and has 15 days, until 5 March 2015 to do so.
- 10. Command point of contact is my Staff Judge Advocate, LT Jean-Marc Chanoine, JAGC, USN, at DSN 794-8009, COMM (843) 794-8009, or jeanmarc.chanoine@navy.mil.

J. R. FAHS