

12 April 2021

From: Chaplain of Navy Medicine (M00G)

To: Professional Naval Chaplaincy Award Advisory Group (FY21)

Subj: NOMINATION FOR 2021 MILITARY CHAPLAINS ASSOCIATION
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD NOMINATION IN THE CASE OF
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER YONATAN M. WARREN/4100 USN

Encl: (1) Letter of Recommendation from CAPT W. M. Haddad (MEDLANT Chaplain)
(2) Letter of Recommendation from CAPT M. C. Austin (Acting Commanding Officer)
(3) 2021 MCA Nomination Form
(4) LCDR Yonatan Warren's Official Photograph
(5) LCDR Yonatan Warren's Official Biography
(6) Summary of Ministry Action

1. I wholeheartedly and enthusiastically nominate Lieutenant Commander Yonatan Warren for the 2021 Military Chaplains Association Distinguished Service Award.

2. Fearlessly stepping into the front lines of the COVID response for Navy Medicine, Rabbi Warren's pastoral strength and organizational creativity maximized the response of Pastoral Care to ensure delivery of care throughout Navy medicine that is both safe and meaningful. Lieutenant Commander Warren's professional portfolio and personal commitment to Professional Naval Chaplaincy while serving at Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command Portsmouth during the COVID-19 pandemic commend him for this recognition.

3. Lieutenant Commander Warren is a leader and mentor that cares for his colleagues and the entire command. Every day he proves his unrelenting commitment of ministry to the patients, families, and staff members.

4. The point of contact for this matter is CAPT Ray Houk, 757-572-4118 or email: Raymond.j.houk.mil@mail.mil.



R. J. HOUK

8 Apr 2021

From: Regional Chaplain, Naval Medical Forces Atlantic
To: Professional Naval Chaplaincy Award Advisory Group FY21

Subj: RECOMMENDATION FOR THE 2021 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD IN
THE CASE OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER YONATAN M. WARREN/4100 USN

Ref: (a) COCINST 1650.2

1. With sincere appreciation and joy, I give my highest recommendation for LCDR Yonatan M. Warren to receive the prestigious Military Chaplains Association Distinguished Service Award. LCDR Warren demonstrates exceptional service, superb leadership, and academic acumen focused on mission essential tasks, operational readiness and process improvement in a high velocity environment. Serving as the Pastoral Care Services Operations and Readiness Officer at Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command, Portsmouth, and nine Branch Medical Clinics, LCDR Warren skillfully attends to the spiritual needs for any of the 136,000 enrollees, or staff of 6,350 during a major medical pandemic response initiative. With good number of his chaplain colleagues constrained to teleworking this past year, LCDR Warren is on the front lines: in rooms with patients, at bedside with the bereaved, walking with the grief-stricken, and resiliently supporting engaged care staff processing the most difficult cases.

2. A quick wit, lively sense of humor, and passion for superior care has made LCDR Warren a pleasure to work alongside for the past two years—he gets things done! His inestimable efforts on over 30 different regional projects and working groups demonstrates his ability to inspire productive team work and organize efficiencies with strategy and vision. From Vice Chair of the Palliative Care Committee to the Chaplain Corps Facilitation Working Group, LCDR Warren's keen advisory skills and developed resource capabilities are paramount in service to Fleet readiness, and the lively pursuit of excellence. In particular, I want to highlight his work with senior chaplains in 2nd Fleet and COMNAVSURFLANT to initiate transformative mental health integration training across the waterfront that will dramatically increase the quality of pastoral care engagement for the entire fleet.

3. The tremendous personal initiative, superior dedication, and superb service make LCDR Warren a well-deserved selection for distinguished award. Please know of my availability should the board have any questions (757-217-5264; wayne.m.haddad.mil@mail.mil) and thank you for considering LCDR Warren among the best in the Chaplain Corps.



W. M. HADDAD
CAPT, CHC, USN



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY MEDICINE READINESS AND TRAINING COMMAND PORTSMOUTH
620 JOHN PAUL JONES CIRCLE
PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA 23708-2197

1650
Ser 09/

From: Commanding Officer, Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command, Portsmouth
To: Professional Naval Chaplaincy Award Advisory Group (FY21)

Subj: LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION ISO 2021 MILITARY CHAPLAINS
ASSOCIATION DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD ICO LCDR YONATAN M.
WARREN/4100 USN

1. As Lieutenant Commander Yonatan M. Warren's Commanding Officer, I enthusiastically offer my recommendation on his behalf for the 2021 Military Chaplains Association Distinguished Service Award.
2. Through his extraordinary work at Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth, Lieutenant Commander Warren provides superb leadership and chaplain support to over 6,350 staff and 25,000 beneficiaries on an annual basis.
3. Since arriving at the Nation's "First and Finest" Medical Center, Lieutenant Commander Warren has consistently performed above and beyond his required scope of responsibilities in order to engage leadership, staff, patients, and beneficiaries with unparalleled quality and care. Through the COVID-19 pandemic, he has offered the highest level of spiritual care in the hospital and carried the banner of operationalization of pastoral care to the fleet. His pristine efforts and dynamic service make him an absolute "must select" for the Distinguished Service Award.
5. My point of contact for this matter is CAPT Wayne Haddad at (757) 953-5550 or via e-mail at wayne.m.haddad.mil@mail.mil.

MCAustin

M. C. AUSTIN
Acting



**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
2021 NOMINATION FORM**
Please submit to MCA by 29 May 2021

NOMINEE PERSONAL INFORMATION

Last Name: Warren **First Name:** Yonatan **MI:** M **Suffix:** _____
Mailing Address: 620 John Paul Jones Circle
Mailing Address 2: _____
City: Portsmouth **State (APO/FPO):** Virginia
Zip: 23708 **Plus 4:** 2111 **Male:** X **Female:** _____

NOMINEE CONTACT INFORMATION

E-mail Address: Yonatan.m.warren.mil@mail.mil
Mobile Phone: 347-886-1934 **Alternate Phone:** 757-953-5550
Faith Group/Denomination: Jewish / JWB: Jewish Chaplain's Council (Rabbinical Assembly)
Year/Month of Commissioning or Appointment: 2011 / JUNE
Service: Army _____ Navy X Air Force _____ Civil Air Patrol _____ Veterans Affairs _____
Rank: Lieutenant Commander **Military Component:** Active _____ Reserve _____ Guard _____

COMMANDER'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Commander/Commanding Officer CAPT Lisa Mulligan, MC, USN
Mailing Address: 620 John Paul Jones Circle
Mailing Address 2: _____
City: Portsmouth **State (APO/FPO):** Virginia
Zip: 23708 **Plus 4:** 2111 **Commercial Phone:** 757-953-5104
E-mail Address: usn.hampton-roads/.navhospporsva.list.nmcp_commanderswebpage@mail.mil

PLEASE NOTE!

The information provided by this form is crucial for timely contact with those selected to receive the MCA 2019 Distinguished Service Award. This form must accompany nominations forwarded to the MCA by the respective Chiefs of Chaplains or the National Director for the Veterans Affairs Department chaplaincy. Please return to MCA at chaplains@mca-usa.org and RazzW@aol.com by close of business Friday, 29 May 2021

LCDR YONATAN M. WARREN, CHC USN
NAVY MEDICINE READINESS & TRAINING COMMAND, PORTSMOUTH VA





**LIEUTENANT COMMANDER YONATAN M. WARREN
CHAPLAIN CORPS
UNITED STATES NAVY**

A native of Hampton, VA, Chaplain Yonatan Warren graduated the University of Maryland, College Park in 2005. He received both his Masters of Arts and Rabbinic Ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary (New York, NY) in May 2011. As of 2021, he is a board certified chaplain with the National Association of Veterans Affairs Chaplains.

Chaplain Warren was commissioned as a Chaplain Candidate in March of 2009, and participated in several training opportunities while also attending Seminary. He graduated Chaplain School in August of 2011. Following his rabbinical ordination, he was commissioned to Active Duty in the U.S. Navy Chaplain Corps. In November, Chaplain Warren reported as a Battalion Chaplain to 3d Marine Logistics Group, Okinawa, Japan and was assigned to 9th Engineer Support Battalion on Camp Hansen. In addition to his battalion duties, Chaplain Warren was tasked to serve as the Rabbi for the Jewish communities of Okinawa and the Western Pacific, and deployed to Helmand Province, Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. In December 2013, he was transferred to Combat Logistics Battalion 31, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit where he deployed on two Western Pacific patrols. In January 2015, he was assigned to the U.S. Naval Academy as Rabbi and 4th Battalion Chaplain. In January 2018, he was assigned as Command Chaplain, USS OAK HILL (LSD-51) where he deployed to the 5th and 6th Fleet Areas of Responsibility. In 2019, Chaplain Warren was selected as a Clinical Pastoral Education Resident at Navy Medical and Readiness Training Command, Portsmouth, VA where he completed the requirements for a 1440N Subspecialty Code in Pastoral Care.

Rabbi Warren is currently a staff chaplain at Navy Medical and Readiness Training Command, Portsmouth, VA. His personal awards include the Navy and Marine Corp Commendation Medal (1 star), Navy and Marine Corp Achievement Medal (1 star), and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal; additionally, he is qualified to wear the Fleet Marine Force Qualified Officer insignia.

Summary of Ministry Action for LCDR Yonatan M. Warren, Staff Chaplain at Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command, Portsmouth VA

STRATEGIC COLLABORATION

Beginning in August 2020, Chaplain Warren began working with senior Chaplain at 2nd Fleet and COMNAVSURFLANT to operationalize Mental Health Integration within the RMT Training Plan. This program will transform training for chaplains across the waterfront to increase pastoral care ability dramatically and better engage with mental health providers as part of DD2025 initiative.

DELIBERATE PROFESSIONALISM:

As Duty Watch Bill Coordinator at the largest military hospital on the East Coast, Chaplain Warren supervised and trained watch standers to ensure seamless coverage of hospital emergency duty: covering regional mental health crises, emergency care for Gunshot Wound victims and Car Accident victims, responding to Infant death, facilitation of Sacraments, and responding to the loss of family members.

INNOVATIVE PROVISION:

In June 2020, Chaplain Warren recruited military rabbis from across the branches and planned integrative celebration of Shavuot organizing a Tikkun Leil Shavuot (learning for Feast of Weeks) across time-zones and hemispheres into a 16-hr learn-a-thon that included 25 rabbis from Army Navy and Air Force.

CHAPLAINCY OF PRESENCE:

Beginning in March 2020, Chaplain Warren was on the front lines of the COVID Pandemic. As patients were struggling to breathe and some were passing, he was the first chaplain into the COVID Treatment Unit. Engaged through physical presence and screen/virtual capabilities (when available), Chaplain Warren brought pastoral care to the actively dying; he sat with sailors and beneficiaries facing their mortality and mothers unable to clench their babies. He was in the hospital throughout the pandemic.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE:

Moving into Operations and Planning Officer billet, Chaplain Warren introduced constructs to streamline and maximize throughput of operational and planning meetings; meetings are to the point and intentional using multiple streams of communication; developed Planning Board for Training to aid in intentional planning 3-6 months out.

TEAM CRITICAL:

In January 2021, Chaplain Warren completed the Pediatric Chaplains Network Fellowship and assigned to partnership with Women's Health, NICU, and Pediatrics; he established himself as a primary partner in perinatal and infant loss; he has been integral to the grief processes of dozens of families since acquiring that billet.

TRUSTED ADVISOR:

Installed as Vice Chairman of Hospital Palliative Care Committee, he introduced Honor Salute to the hospital, recognizing deceased service members and veterans by creating a program to value their contribution to Americas defense; additionally, he developed plans to extend partnership with Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC) training for a 2-year trial integrating training for Physicians, Registered Nurses, Social Workers, Chaplains, and Clinical Care Managers for support of the seriously ill.

LCDR Yonatan Warren Summary of Ministry Action (Continued)

RESEARCH LEADER:

Chaplain Warren led a collaborative team to explore Chaplaincy Innovations related to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Chaplain Warren's efforts and cooperative spirit led to the production of the 127-page *A Clinical Pastoral Response to Pandemic: A Study in Best Practices from Civilian and Military Hospitals and their Applicability to Navy Medicine and Fleet Chaplaincy* which he then presented to the 2020 BUMED Symposium. Aspects of the study have been filtered out to other BUMED sites and will be studied for application to the fleet after pandemic.

FORCE MULTIPLIER:

Chaplain Warren is consistently engaged in working with the Fleet and local installations to provide faith-specific support. With every Jewish holiday, Chaplain Warren provides religious services on no less than three installations, connects with chaplains on deployed assets, and finds ways using local community and other resources to augment Jewish practice. This includes ensuring Passover Seders for the short-notice USNORTHCOM COVID Response Mission aboard USNS COMFORT; delivering Passover Seder kits to sailors in ROM; reading the Purim Megillah at NMRTC, Oceana, and JEB Little Creek-Fort Story; a series of candle lighting events both in person and virtual for Chanukah; and, myriad offerings for the Jewish High Holiday season, to include aboard USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER.

Rabbi Warren is ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary of America and the Rabbinical Assembly through the Conservative Movement. He is endorsed by the Jewish Welfare Board: Jewish Chaplains Council, and board certified through the National Association of Veterans Affairs Chaplains.