



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY  
121 BLAKE ROAD  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21402-5000

COMDTMIDNINST 1650.7  
19 May 97

COMDTMIDN INSTRUCTION 1650.7

From: Commandant of Midshipmen

Subj: VADM THOMAS ROSS COOLEY LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE AWARD

1. Purpose. To establish policy concerning the nomination, selection and presentation procedures for the VADM Thomas Ross Cooley Leadership Excellence Award.

2. Background. The Cooley Award was established by Mrs. Mary Lawrence Aitken in the memory of her father, VADM Cooley, Class of 1917. The award is given to the member of the graduating class who stands highest in the academic courses in leadership and has demonstrated outstanding leadership in practical drills. The Cooley Award consists of a pair of binoculars and a plaque and is awarded at the Prizes and Award Ceremony during Commissioning Week.

3. Eligibility for Award. First Class Midshipmen who have received semester grades of A's in all leadership-related courses (NL102, NE203, NL302, and NL400) as well as A's in performance and conduct during all semesters shall be eligible for the award. In the case of First Class Midshipmen taking NL400 in their final semester, A's in NL102, NE203, NL302, performance, and conduct will be sufficient to screen initially.

4. Method of Nomination and Selection

a. A member of the Leadership, Ethics and Law Department, appointed by the Chairman, will be assigned the collateral duty as the Cooley Award Coordinator. This individual, henceforth known as the coordinator, will normally be an NL302 instructor and will be responsible to the Chairman, Department of Leadership, Ethics and Law for carrying out the guidance provided in this instruction.

b. The selection process begins in the second semester of the nominee's First Class year. A search of academic records performed by the Registrar's Office will list all First Class Midshipmen who have received A's in NL102, NE203, NL302, NL400, performance, and conduct, or in the case of First Class Midshipmen taking NL400 in their final semester, A's in NL102, NE203, NL302, performance, and conduct will be sufficient to screen initially.

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c. From the list of eligible First Class Midshipmen, Company Officers will recommend those First Class who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in practical drills. "Practical drills" may include striper positions, ECA involvement, varsity and intramural sports, etc. Recommendations will include a letter of recommendation and copies of the midshipman's MIDGRADE\*\*\* and MIDPERF\*\*\*. The coordinator will distribute nominees' letters of nomination and MIDGRADE\*\*\* and MIDPERF\*\*\* marks to the board, and will coordinate all the requirements of the selection board as directed by the Chairman. Based on these recommendations, a group of finalists will be selected by the Cooley Award Board to be interviewed.

d. The Cooley Award Board composition will be as follows: Director, Division of Professional Development; Chairman, Department of Leadership, Ethics and Law; the Section Heads in the department; and two junior officers from the department (normally the coordinator plus one other officer).

e. The coordinator will forward the board's result to the Commandant and Registrar's Office.

  
W.T.R. BOGIE