

COMMANDER NAVAL SURFACE FORCES EXPERT SHIPHANDLER AWARD

This award recognizes Surface Warfare professionals that excel in the art of naval shiphandling.



LTJG NOAH SPAHR, USN
USS DEWEY (DDG 105)

Lieutenant Junior Grade Spahr while serving as Aviation Coordination Assistant onboard USS Dewey (DDG 105) from January 2022 to December 2022, defeated a pool of surface warfare officers from 109 crews across all surface forces winning the Junior Officer Shiphandler of the Year Competition. With distinction and aplomb, he surpassed all other contestants in a series of simulator events including pierwork, underway replenishment and man overboard. He was evaluated by senior surface warfare officers using an objective gradesheet. His confidence and composure led him to victory amongst peers assessed as the premier shiphandlers in their respective fleets. LTJG Spahr's unswerving determination, wise judgement and complete dedication to duty reflected credit upon him and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.



HONORABLE MENTION

LT JOHN KIEFER, USN
USS DEVASTATOR (MCM 6)

Lieutenant Kiefer while serving as Navigator onboard USS Devastator (MCM 6) from January 2022 to December 2022, competed against a pool of surface warfare officers from 109 crews across all surface forces in the Junior Officer Shiphandler of the Year Competition. With distinction and aplomb, he demonstrated professionalism and skill in a series of simulator events including pierwork, underway replenishment and man overboard. Evaluated by senior surface warfare officers, his confidence and composure led to his selection as one of the premier shiphandlers in the surface force. Lieutenant Kiefer's unswerving determination, wise judgement and complete dedication to duty reflected credit upon him and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.