1. **Policy.** Flag officer aides are authorized only by the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) and entitlement is reflected by billets in activity manning documents.

   a. The number of aides and their titles are determined concurrently with the establishment of each new flag officer billet.

   b. Aides assigned to flag officers of the Restricted Line or Staff Corps will be of the same designator as the flag officer.

   c. Designators for Unrestricted Line aides are per activity manning documents.

2. **Types of Assignments**

   a. Chief of staff, flag secretary and flag lieutenant billets apply to billets on the staffs of flag officers in command *afloat*; chief of staff, executive assistant, flag secretary, and aide billets apply to *shore* commands.

   b. All flag officer aide billets are nominative. Aides will be assigned only when a flag officer is occupying the flag billet. Whenever a flag officer is dual-hatted and both positions have assigned aides, only one aide will be assigned for correlating billets.

3. **Control of Billets**

   a. There are three types of aide billets coordinated through Navy Personnel Command (NAVPERSCOM), Restricted Line/
Staff Corps Officer Distribution and Special Placement Division (PERS-44ES):

(1) flag lieutenant;

(2) flag secretary; and

(3) aide.

b. Chief of staff and executive assistant billets are coordinated by the cognizant placement officer. Assistant Commander, Navy Personnel Command (PERS-4) reviews all nominations for executive assistant positions and military assistant positions to high-level civilian executives.

4. Aiguillettes. The wearing of aiguillettes is authorized for naval officer billet codes 9015, 9021, 9082, 9930, and 9935.

5. Tour Lengths. The tour lengths for all commander and junior aides (ashore and afloat) is 2 years, with the exception of the 1-year unaccompanied tour with Commander Middle East Forces.