



NEWS RELEASE FROM THE NAVFAC HAWAII PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 19, 2014

Release No. 14-16

POC/

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NAVFAC Hawaii 2015 Engineers of the Year

PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii – Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii honored two of its own Nov. 19 at a command gathering held at Hickam Theater, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), Hawaii.

Selected from an outstanding pool of engineers and architects, Mr. Cey Murakami, Mililani, Hawaii and Lt. Steven Ferrara, Seekonk, Mass., were identified as the best in their field for 2015.

“Each year we canvas our phenomenal engineering workforce to acknowledge two of the many who have made significant contributions to our command, the Navy and the Marine Corps in Hawaii,” said NAVFAC Hawaii Commanding Officer Capt. Dean Tufts. “I am proud to say that we are never at a loss for exceptional candidates and Cey and Steve represent the absolute best we have as our 2015 Engineers of the Year.”

Murakami is the command’s civilian 2015 Engineer of the Year. His selection was due to consistent superior leadership and technical abilities, providing outstanding facilities engineering support to JBPHH. Murakami’s knowledge of design-build and design-bid-build processes has enabled his branch to adapt to a new organizational model. This model integrates both Navy and Air Force requirements supporting the Joint Base engineering concept and develops and manages designs for projects involving multiple disciplines and a wide range of military facilities including, waterfront, airfield and high security facilities.

“Murakami’s ability to identify resource conflicts, stay on top of his team’s and customers’ needs and make good business decisions allowed the most efficient and effective use of those resources,” said NAVFAC Hawaii Project Management Engineering Branch Head Mike Williams.

In 2014, he managed and led his team to successfully track and complete over two hundred projects at a projected value exceeding \$40 million despite challenges imposed by government shutdown and furloughs during 2013 and reductions in manpower and resources of 2014. With his knowledge of base facilities, acquisition methods and design procedures, Murakami has provided key input to acquisition strategies for hundreds of projects, providing sound advice to senior leadership for prioritization and sequencing of projects and management of customer expectations.

Murakami graduated from the University of Hawaii with a Bachelor and Masters of Science in Civil Engineering and is a registered Professional Engineer in the state of Hawaii.

The command’s military selection for 2015 Engineer of the Year is Lt. Steven Ferrara. He distinguished himself within NAVFAC Hawaii as Lead Construction Manager in the Facilities Engineering and Acquisition Division for the \$156 million National Oceanographic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Inouye Regional Center (IRC) project at JBPHH located on historic Ford Island.

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“This project had substantial design and construction challenges,” said NAVFAC Hawaii Facilities Engineering and Acquisition Division Deputy Lt. Cmdr. Marc Nelson. “Ferrara’s engineering influence resulted in a significant improvement in mission readiness for NOAA as it consolidated many facilities into a single facility, maximizing synergy and capitalizing on capabilities in the Pacific.”

For the NOAA project, Ferrara streamlined the process for tracking of 22 customer requested change orders, 465 design change orders, and 3,000 requests for information, significantly reducing turnaround time and minimizing delays. His direct involvement with the mitigation of \$25 million in existing changes and \$8 million in potential future claims enabled a win-win situation for all stakeholders and allowed for an accurate financial outlook to support future program decisions.

In addition, his steadfast devotion to NAVFAC Hawaii’s mission and vision, superb technical expertise and exceptional communication ability significantly improved construction execution for our customer commands.

Ferrara has a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Northeastern University and a registered Professional Engineer in the state of Michigan.

Both Murakami and Ferrara will be considered for the NAVFAC Headquarters Engineer of the Year as well as compete for the National Society of Professional Engineers Federal Engineer of the Year Award.

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Photos/cutline: High-resolution images are available. Please contact Denise Emsley.



141119-N-OF713-151 PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii (November 19, 2014) On Nov. 19, Mr. Cey Murakami receives a plaque from Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii Commanding Officer Capt. Dean Tufts to acknowledge his selection as the command’s civilian 2015 Engineer of the Year. (U.S. Navy photo by Denise Emsley, NAVFAC Hawaii Public Affairs/Released)



141119-N-OF713-152 PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii (November 19, 2014) On Nov. 19, Lt. Steven Ferrara receives a plaque from Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii Commanding Officer Capt. Dean Tufts to acknowledge his selection as the command’s military 2015 Engineer of the Year. (U.S. Navy photo by Denise Emsley, NAVFAC Hawaii Public Affairs/Released)



141119-N-OF713-154 PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii (November 19, 2014) On Nov. 19, Mr. Cey Murakami and Lt. Steven Ferrara receive plaques from Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii Commanding Officer Capt. Dean Tufts to acknowledge their selection as the command’s civilian and military 2015 Engineers of the Year. (U.S. Navy photo by Denise Emsley, NAVFAC Hawaii Public Affairs/Released)

For more information about NAVFAC Hawaii and/or Naval Facilities Engineering Command visit:

www.navfac.navy.mil

Naval Facilities Engineering Command: The Facilities and Expeditionary Combat Systems Command

NAVFAC is the Systems Command that delivers and maintains quality, sustainable facilities, acquires and manages capabilities for the Navy’s expeditionary combat forces, provides contingency engineering response, and enables energy security and environmental stewardship. Additional updates and information about NAVFAC can be found on social media sites Facebook and Twitter. Become a Fan at www.facebook.com/navfac and follow us at www.twitter.com/navfac, or visit our Photostream on Flickr at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/navfac>.

Naval Facilities Engineering Command: www.navfac.navy.mil