

SOCIETY FOR MILITARY PSYCHOLOGY

Presents this 2019 Presidential Citation to

Commander Tatana M. Olson, PhD

For her leadership and dedication to the Society through her contributions to the Division's strategic plan, commitment to streamlining the Division's election process, and eloquent bylaw revisions, as well as significant contributions to assessment and selection and the advancement of the field of aerospace experimental psychology.

CDR Olson has served in various capacities in the Society for Military Psychology. She currently utilizes her expertise in selection as the Chair of the Assessment and Selection Think Tank for the Society. Serving as a Member at Large for Division 19, CDR Olson was instrumental on the Strategic Planning Committee that revised a new five-year strategic plan for the future of the Society. Additionally, she served on the Election Committee to help redefine the election process for the Division. She served on the Bylaws Committee that helped revise and improve the Society governing rules and regulations. Finally, CDR Olson served as a mentor for the Society Leadership Program. In addition to these specific roles that CDR Olson served in the Society, she also brings years of experience as an aerospace experimental psychologist to the Society and shares her expertise in the Society to promote the betterment of military psychology more broadly by mentoring other psychologists. As a member of the Society, CDR Olson has achieved great successes. In 2019, she was awarded the Julius E. Uhlener Award for her leadership in the development of the first selection test in the Department of Defense for Unmanned Aircraft System operators. She also received the Charles S. Gersoni award in 2012 for her outstanding work in support of repeal of the law known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" in the military.

At present, CDR Olson serves as the Deputy Director of the Naval Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory, where she oversees a staff of 72 individuals in the research of the psychological and physiological effects of aerospace flight. Prior to her current role, CDR Olson was the Operational Psychology Department Head at the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute, where she managed the Aviation Selection Test Battery, the primary tool used to assess aviation candidates in the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. For over 15 years, CDR Olson's research has been instrumental to the successful selection of military aviators.

For her selfless service, vision, and leadership for the Society foundational processes of bylaws, elections, and strategic planning, as well as her pioneering work in the field of aerospace experimental psychology, I, Stephen V. Bowles, take great pleasure in presenting the Society for Military Psychology Presidential Citation to CDR Tatana M. Olson.

Stephen V. Bowles, PhD, ABPP
President, Society for Military Psychology

