



NPS IN THE NEWS

Weekly Media Report – January 4-10, 2022

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RESEARCH:

[Bringing Hypersonic Missiles To The Fleet: A Case Study Analysis](#)

(Naval News 3 Jan 22) ... Peter Ong

In September, 2021, Sebastian I. Banuchi, Thomas M. Hughes, Cole Rice, and Thia N. Tank had a report published by the U.S. Navy's **Naval Postgraduate School** titled: "Bringing hypersonic Missile Capability to the Fleet." Their System Engineering Report essentially focused on how to transport, load, set up, fire, breakdown, and store the U.S. Navy's Conventional Prompt Strike (CPS) or the U.S. Army's Long-Range Hypersonic Weapon (LRHW) missile carried on U.S. Army M870A3 trailers using existing U.S. Navy ships because the Navy has not designed and built a custom ship or submarine specifically to fire hypersonic missiles; the Navy is modifying existing ships and subs for CPS. The goal of the report is to examine how to launch a CPS or LRHW missile from in-service U.S. Navy ships, as the 1,725 mile (2,776 kilometers) hypersonic missile's range can pose a threat to a huge battlespace area.

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[Keith Squires Named Chief Safety Officer](#)

(University of Utah 5 Jan 22)

The University of Utah today announced Keith Squires as the university's next chief safety officer... Prior to joining the university, Squires served in former Utah Gov. Gary Herbert's cabinet, retiring in 2018 after 31 years as a law enforcement officer. His years in public safety include serving as homeland security advisor to two Utah governors; leading the State Bureau of Investigation and Utah Highway Patrol; and working as a local law enforcement advisor to the U.S. Director of National Intelligence James Clapper. Squires holds a master's degree in homeland defense and security from the U.S. **Naval Postgraduate School**, a bachelor's degree in administration of criminal justice and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and FBI National Executive Institute.



[VTG Appoints Navy Retired Admiral Jim Shannon as EVP for Government Relations](#)

(Yahoo! Finance 5 Jan 22)

VTG, an industry-leading provider of force modernization and digital transformation solutions, announced it has appointed retired Navy admiral (RADM) Jim Shannon to a new leadership team role as Executive Vice President for Government Relations. Shannon is the former president of ASSETT, Inc., VTG's latest acquisition... Shannon holds degrees from the U.S. Naval Academy, the **Naval Postgraduate School**, and the College of Naval Warfare in Newport, Rhode Island. He was also certified Level III as a program manager in the Defense Acquisition Workforce and attended the Defense Acquisition University.

[Fostering Resiliency in Our Youth: California's Inclusion of Anti-Trafficking Curriculum in Public Schools](#)

(American Security Today 6 Jan 22) ... Benjamin Thomas Greer

Preparing our youth for academic rigor and societal challenges is the driving force of our academic institutions. As we learn more about human trafficking and how traffickers groom young boys and girls in order to exploit them, we must provide our educators with the tools to help identify suspicious behavior and position our children to be resilient against coercive methods. The State of California, often seen as a leader in counter-trafficking policies, has begun applying a novel approach – to fostering greater public awareness and attempting to instill resiliency in their youth by mandating anti-human trafficking in junior and senior high school curricula... Benjamin Thomas Greer, J.D., M.A. is an Emergency Management Instructor for the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES); a Research Associate for the University of Cambridge's Centre for Applied Research in Human Trafficking (CCARHT); and holds a Master's Degree from **Naval Postgraduate School's** Center for Homeland Defense and Security Program (NPS-CHDS), which was recognized in the 2021 'ASTORS' Awards Program for 'Excellence in Homeland Security'.

[Author Spotlight: Brad Taylor](#)

(ABC News 4 7 Jan 22) ... Leigha Reid

Brad Taylor—the New York Times-bestselling author of the Pike Logan series and former Special Ops officer—delivers an action-packed international thriller involving a plot to bring about the end of the world and a serial killer on the loose in the heart of Rome in **END OF DAYS: A Pike Logan Novel**... Science at The Citadel. He holds a Master's of Science in Defense Analysis from the **Naval Postgraduate School**, with a concentration in Irregular Warfare.

[Mayor Adams Appoints Philip Banks as Deputy Mayor for Public Safety](#)

(New York City 7 Jan 22)

Mayor Eric Adams today announced the appointment of Philip Banks III as Deputy Mayor for Public Safety. He most recently served as the New York City Police Department (NYPD) chief of department. As deputy mayor, Banks will be tasked with coordinating all agencies on public safety matters to ensure they align with the Mayor's vision. Mayor Adams noted Banks' long and distinguished career in law enforcement, and how he is well-suited to fill the role of the City's first deputy mayor for public safety since the 1990s... Banks joined the New York City Police Department (NYPD) in 1986, beginning his career on patrol in the 81st Precinct. In 2010 he was appointed Chief of Community Affairs, a role he served in before being appointed chief of department in 2013. Banks earned a B.S. in business administration from Lincoln University. He is a graduate of the Police Management Institute at Columbia University, and has completed advanced management training for senior executives in state and local government at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and the Executive Leaders Program in Counterterrorism at the Center for Homeland Defense and Security at the **Naval Postgraduate School**. Banks is also a member of the founding chapter of the philanthropic institution 100 Black Men, Inc. and has served on the board of South Bronx Overall Development Corporation. He has also served as adviser to a number of mid- and large-sized cities on best practices for implementing relationship-based solutions to address public safety challenges.

[NASA Announces New Astronaut Candidates](#)

(The Watch Dog Online 9 Jan 22) ... Olivia Curtis

On Dec. 6, NASA publicly announced the newest astronaut class, Group 23, who will report for duty in 2022. However, all astronauts that are selected must go through training to become eligible for future flights... Luke Delaney, 42, is a retired major in the United States Marine Corps from Florida. Born in Miami, he calls DeBarry his



hometown. He has a master's degree in aerospace engineering from the **Naval Postgraduate School**. He's an avid nature enthusiast and likes to raise chickens on his family's farm.

UPCOMING NEWS & EVENTS:

Jan 10-13: [Center for Executive Education LCSS Seminar](#)

Jan 17: Martin Luther King's Birthday (Federal Holiday)

Jan 25-28: [Center for Executive Education SC Workshop](#)



RESEARCH:

Bringing Hypersonic Missiles To The Fleet: A Case Study Analysis

(Naval News 3 Jan 22) ... Peter Ong

In September, 2021, Sebastian I. Banuchi, Thomas M. Hughes, Cole Rice, and Thia N. Tank had a report published by the U.S. Navy's **Naval Postgraduate School** titled: "Bringing hypersonic Missile Capability to the Fleet." Their System Engineering Report essentially focused on how to transport, load, set up, fire, breakdown, and store the U.S. Navy's Conventional Prompt Strike (CPS) or the U.S. Army's Long-Range Hypersonic Weapon (LRHW) missile carried on U.S. Army M870A3 trailers using existing U.S. Navy ships because the Navy has not designed and built a custom ship or submarine specifically to fire hypersonic missiles; the Navy is modifying existing ships and subs for CPS. The goal of the report is to examine how to launch a CPS or LRHW missile from in-service U.S. Navy ships, as the 1,725 mile (2,776 kilometers) hypersonic missile's range can pose a threat to a huge battlespace area.

The U.S. Navy ships mentioned by the three authors in the "Unclassified, Approved for Public Release" report cover the San Antonio-class Landing Platform Dock (LPD) amphibious assault ship, the Littoral Combat Ship (LCS), and the Spearhead-class Expeditionary Fast Transport (EPF), none of which possess and are configured to carry and launch hypersonic missiles as these three ship types lack the vertical launch systems for the CPS hypersonic missile.

Therefore, the "Bringing Hypersonic Missile Capability to the Fleet" Engineering Report explored the ways to increase the flexibility and capability of U.S. Navy's ships to launch hypersonic missiles from mobile vehicles being developed by the U.S. Army since the only existing ships planned for the CPS hypersonic missile are the three Zumwalt-class stealth destroyers.

The LCS and LPD will use the U.S. Army's M870A3 trailer (towed by the M983A4 tractor) to fire the LRHW whereas the EPF will use a stern crane to hoist, suspend, and fire the LRHW missile canister. The reason for this is that the LPD has a Mission Bay and lift that can get the M870 trailer and 6×6 FMTV fire control truck to the helicopter landing deck whereas the LCS and EPF lack such a vehicle lift (either none or too small) to move the vehicles to its Flight Deck. While nascent and speculative, the Engineering Report (which can be accessed at this link) does analyze the possibilities of transporting and launching CPS or LRHW hypersonic missiles from these three ships, including the time involved for setup and breakdown, and the at-sea storage possibilities aboard these vessels.

The Engineering Study Report predicts that if a single M870A3 trailer is used as a launching platform, and by measuring the cargo storage space aboard these three ships, upwards of 10 to 20 LRHW canisters can be stored on a LPD, around 30 hypersonic canisters on a EPF (the EPF can store more than 30 LRHW missiles, but missile weight and cost make storing more than 30 LRHW missile canisters unrealistic), and the LCS can store four LRHW canisters on two M870 trailers in the helicopter hangar since the cargo lift cannot accommodate a 40-foot trailer.

Computer simulations predicted the times estimated to move the M870 trailer, the loading of LRHW canisters onto the M870, launch and preparation setup, missile firing, breakdown and storage of the M870, and spent missile canisters as about 55 minutes for the LPD concept, 50 minutes for the EPF concept, and 22 minutes for the LCS concept. These factors take into account the time it takes to get the trailer to the helicopter flight deck via cargo lift from the interior decks of the ship and how easy it is to maneuver and drive the M870 to and from the launch position. The LPD and EPF can still retain their helicopter landing status on the Flight Deck, but the LCS cannot since the LCS's interior Mission Bay has no way of getting the M870 trailer to the helicopter flight deck (the lift elevator is too small), hence the trailer can sit inside the helicopter hangar until launch rollout.

Naval News Comments

This Naval Postgraduate School's Engineering Report seems feasible if the battlespace is secure enough to allow the setup, firing, and breakdown of the LRHW canisters for launch, and according to the Report, that takes close to 22 minutes (LCS) to 55 minutes (LPD and EPF) from setup to breakdown and storage depending on the vessel selected. The LCS can send four LRHW missile rounds to target in 22



minutes (M870 trailer rolled out of the helicopter hangar) whereas the LPD and EPF can store three to seven times more LRHW missiles than the LCS but requires about an hour to setup and breakdown due to retrieving and then storing the M870 trailer back in the interior of the ship. Therefore, the U.S. Navy's quest to retrofit CPS missile tubes to the three Zumwalt-class stealth destroyers and the four Ohio-class nuclear-powered cruise missile submarines (SSGNs) is logical, or in the future, purpose-build a new ship class specifically designed to carry hypersonic missiles and their vertical launch tubes integrated into the ship's hull.

The Opinion-Editorial on the Large Unmanned Surface Vessel (LUSV) as an open cargo deck platform, with the LUSV anywhere from 200 to 300 feet long, would also be an ideal place to fire the LRHW from the M870A3 trailer.

Hypothetically, a few M870A3 trailers and the FMTV 6×6 fire control trucks can be placed on the LUSV, or a mix-and-match of Tomahawk cruise missiles in transportable Mark 41 Vertical Launch System (VLS) shipping containers can give the U.S. Navy two missile speed options, hypersonic and subsonic, for Long-Range Precision Fires (LRPF) for deep land attack capabilities.

Another option would be to use the Defense Advanced Research Project Agency's (DARPA) developing OpFires hypersonic missiles placed on an U.S. Army's Palletized Load System (PLS) or an USMC's Logistic Vehicle Replacement System (LVSR) 10×10 wheeled truck. The OpFires medium-range hypersonic missile assembly is more mobile and maneuverable than using a M870A3 trailer, and thus the setup, firing, breakdown, and storage times can be significantly reduced by using a 10×10 truck. The disadvantage would be that the LRHW has a range of 1,725 miles (2,776 kilometers) whereas the OpFires missile has a range of 1,000 miles (1,609 kilometers). As of Winter 2021, the U.S. Army and the USMC have not confirmed their commitment to fielding DARPA's OpFires.

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ALUMNI:

Need An Extra Boost With Your Career? A Mentor Can Help

(CEO World 4 Jan 22) ... Barbara Bell

(Roanoke Star 5 Jan 22) ... Barbara Bell

The importance of mentors was on full display when retired Navy Capt. Barbara Bell recently attended the unveiling of a new exhibit that featured her and seven other women in aviation at Patuxent River Naval Air Museum in Maryland.

One of the other women in attendance, Colleen Nevius, the first woman to graduate from the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School, once served as a mentor for Bell. A woman whom Bell mentored also was there. For Bell, one of the first women to graduate from the U.S. Naval Academy and the Naval Test Pilot School, the moment served as a reminder about the importance of mentors.

Now, with January marking National Mentoring Month, she hopes others – especially girls and young women – will come to understand the same thing.

“The right mentor at the right time can help you produce remarkable results,” says Barbara Bell, a professor of leadership at Vanderbilt University and author of *Flight Lessons: Navigating Through Life's Turbulence and Learning to Fly High*.

This certainly proved true for her. When Bell was in the Navy's flight school, she was assigned a mentor who didn't appear to be someone who would instantly be in her corner.

“He was an older, somewhat crusty lieutenant who started his career as a sailor before becoming an officer,” she says.

Even though Bell hadn't yet finished flight school, she told him that ultimately she wanted to go to Test Pilot School, so she needed to be a top performer.



Instead of shooting down the young woman’s ambitions, the lieutenant declared he thought she was indeed capable of graduating at the top of her flight class.

What followed could be set to the “Rocky” theme.

“My mentor challenged me to study extra hours each night,” Bell says. “He urged me to go back to base after hours and do extra trainers and simulators the night before each flight. He tasked me with knowing my navigation charts so well that I could fly my flights with my eyes closed. He checked my knowledge and pushed me ever further.”

With the lieutenant urging her along, Bell did graduate at the top of her class, but mentors can do more than motivate, she says. They also can:

Share wisdom. A mentor has had experiences you haven’t, Bell says, so it’s incumbent on you to soak up as much of their wisdom as you can. That mentor likely overcame obstacles and made mistakes on the way to achieving success, and you can learn from what they did right and what they did wrong.

Open doors. Mentors can introduce you to people who can provide jobs, knowledge or serve as additional mentors. Ultimately, though, the heavy lifting is still up to you. “Mentors will open doors for you,” Bell says, “but through those doors only you can walk.”

Make you accountable. Plans and dreams can quickly get derailed if you let them. It is all too easy to let “life” get in the way. “We tell ourselves we will do ‘it’ later, never to pick ‘it’ up again,” Bell says. “This is why an accountability partner or mentor is crucial. They help us see when we are limiting ourselves and clipping our own wings.”

Bell says anyone can benefit from a mentor, whether that mentor is male or female, but as someone who broke down gender barriers, she says it’s especially important for women and girls to find women who can serve as their mentors.

“I encourage women to not only seek out women role models, but to also see themselves as a role model and mentor,” Bell says. “A female colleague and I recently spoke about the fact that during our mostly male-dominated careers we had mentors, but few role models. ‘We are the role models now,’ she said to me, and she was right.

“Girls and young women must be exposed to role models. They must be able to see themselves in the future college majors they select and in the careers that may follow. As so many people say, they need to ‘see it to be it.’

Barbara Bell, author of *Flight Lessons: Navigating Through Life’s Turbulence and Learning to Fly High*, was one of the first women to graduate from the U.S. Naval Academy and the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School. Now she wants to empower the next generation of female leaders. In 1992, Bell and fellow aviators went to Capitol Hill to help successfully repeal the combat exclusions laws, opening up combat aircraft and ships to women in the military. Bell holds a B.S. in systems engineering from the United States Naval Academy, an M.S. in astronautical engineering from the **Naval Postgraduate School**, an M.A. in theology from Marylhurst University, and a doctorate in education from Vanderbilt University.

[Need An Extra Boost With Your Career? A Mentor Can Help - CEOWORLD magazine](#)
[Need An Extra Boost With Your Career? A Mentor Can Help | The Roanoke Star News](#)

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Keith Squires Named Chief Safety Officer

(University of Utah 5 Jan 22)

The University of Utah today announced Keith Squires as the university’s next chief safety officer.

Squires has been serving as interim chief safety officer since April 2021. His appointment to lead the university’s safety operations is effective as of Jan. 1, 2022, and provides continuity of leadership and strategic initiatives, including the work already underway to become accredited through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies.

“We are pleased to have such a seasoned public safety executive lead our campus safety initiatives,” said University of Utah President Taylor Randall. “Keith Squires brings a wealth of experience to this



important job—both from his many years as Utah’s Commissioner of Public Safety, as well as his time helping to build our newly reimagined University Safety Department.”

Squires was appointed interim chief safety officer when inaugural Chief Safety Officer Marlon Lynch accepted a similar position at his alma mater, Michigan State University. Lynch hired Squires in July 2020 as his executive officer.

The hiring of a chief safety officer was among one of the most significant and visible investments made to campus safety by Ruth Watkins, president emerita, in 2019. Lynch moved quickly after joining the U to make changes to the public safety infrastructure with the goal of increasing capacity, improving accountability and transparency and moving safety efforts forward to best serve the U community.

Some of the changes implemented by Lynch and Squires include establishing new safety divisions, creating new safety committees and developing a SafeU Student Ambassador program. A new, centralized administrative office guides strategic initiatives, communication, campus partnerships and relationships with external public safety agencies.

“I’m honored to continue leading the University Safety Department,” Squires said. “This work involves going beyond historical policing. With the changes we are implementing, University Safety operations are becoming part of a holistic, transparent and strategic effort that allows us to work genuinely with our campus community in creating an environment where everyone can feel safe with a sense of belonging. I’m confident that our continued innovations will demonstrate the effectiveness and help serve as a model for others.”

Prior to joining the university, Squires served in former Utah Gov. Gary Herbert’s cabinet, retiring in 2018 after 31 years as a law enforcement officer. His years in public safety include serving as homeland security advisor to two Utah governors; leading the State Bureau of Investigation and Utah Highway Patrol; and working as a local law enforcement advisor to the U.S. Director of National Intelligence James Clapper. Squires holds a master’s degree in homeland defense and security from the U.S. **Naval Postgraduate School**, a bachelor’s degree in administration of criminal justice and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and FBI National Executive Institute.

“Keith Squires has provided a steady hand in our University of Utah Safety Department as we made important structural and cultural changes,” said Cathy Anderson, the U’s chief administrative and financial officer. “His appointment will provide critical continuity as we continue to elevate, innovate and improve safety operations.”

As the chief safety officer, Squires will oversee University Police, Emergency Management, U of U Health Security, Campus Security, Emergency Communications and Community Services.

[Keith Squires named chief safety officer | @theU \(utah.edu\)](#)

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VTG Appoints Navy Retired Admiral Jim Shannon as EVP for Government Relations

(Yahoo! Finance 5 Jan 22)

VTG, an industry-leading provider of force modernization and digital transformation solutions, announced it has appointed retired Navy admiral (RADM) Jim Shannon to a new leadership team role as Executive Vice President for Government Relations. Shannon is the former president of ASSETT, Inc., VTG’s latest acquisition.

Jim Shannon, RADM USN (Ret.) | VTG’s Executive Vice President, Government Relations

"We are honored to have Jim take on this new responsibility," said VTG President and CEO John Hassoun. "He will be a force multiplier across the VTG enterprise, enhancing the support we deliver to our Defense and Intelligence Community customers and positioning our growing technology portfolio to meet our customers' emerging mission requirements."

Shannon was a leader in the Department of the Navy's acquisition workforce for over 15 years, with his final eight years as a flag officer. He spent his first 20 years in the Navy as a fleet operator, serving on seven different afloat commands including as commanding officer of a guided missile frigate. Shannon



was also a leading Navy spokesperson for weapon system architectures; oversaw future modernization plans and budgets for all non-nuclear ships while serving as a deputy commander, Naval Sea Systems Command; and led the Navy's warfare center enterprise of over 20,000 personnel and a diverse group of programs from cruise missile defense to counter IED threats.

As deputy assistant secretary of the Navy for International Programs, Shannon advised dozens of partner national leaders, among more than 40 countries, and coordinated maritime solutions for local and regional security problems across the globe.

After retiring from the Navy, Shannon joined PricewaterhouseCoopers public sector as a leading consultant for all Naval Executive advisory supporting maritime security.

Shannon first joined VTG's executive team when VTG acquired ASSETT in August 2021. ASSETT develops AI/ML applications for undersea and unmanned systems and is a longstanding industry leader in submarine SONAR acoustics and signal processing. The acquisition enhanced VTG's core capabilities, including systems and cybersecurity engineering, software development and data science, with deep expertise in model-based systems engineering, DevSecOps, AI/ML, and human-machine teaming.

Shannon holds degrees from the U.S. Naval Academy, the **Naval Postgraduate School**, and the College of Naval Warfare in Newport, Rhode Island. He was also certified Level III as a program manager in the Defense Acquisition Workforce and attended the Defense Acquisition University.

[VTG Appoints Navy Retired Admiral Jim Shannon as EVP for Government Relations \(yahoo.com\)](#)

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Fostering Resiliency in Our Youth: California's Inclusion of Anti-Trafficking Curriculum in Public Schools

(American Security Today 6 Jan 22) ... Benjamin Thomas Greer

Preparing our youth for academic rigor and societal challenges is the driving force of our academic institutions. As we learn more about human trafficking and how traffickers groom young boys and girls in order to exploit them, we must provide our educators with the tools to help identify suspicious behavior and position our children to be resilient against coercive methods. The State of California, often seen as a leader in counter-trafficking policies, has begun applying a novel approach – to fostering greater public awareness and attempting to instill resiliency in their youth by mandating anti-human trafficking in junior and senior high school curricula.

The term “human trafficking” can be jarring and too often is a loaded phrase used for political purposes. This is done because it invokes a visceral reaction. Unfortunately, many of the connotations the public conjure are cultural stereotypes, gender or ethnic bias, or Hollywood based hysteria and hyperbole. Approaching this issue from a fact-based lens, assessing and addressing root causes, and then building a resiliency response from a practical application perspective can help put our children in a position to repel inappropriate and harmful interactions.

Human trafficking is best described as the despicable sexual or labor exploitation of others for profit through the use of force, fraud, or coercion. This kind of activity decimates the lives of the trafficked, fractures families, and exploits the victim's body and labor as a continual source of revenue for a trafficker. Traffickers seek out vulnerable populations, typically using techniques of physical and psychological abuse - utilizing fear and intimidation to exert control over their victims. Some traffickers may keep their victims under lock and key, while others use less obvious methods, specifically debt bondage – asserting erroneous financial obligations wherein the victim feels honor-bound to satisfy a dubious debt. Traffickers are men and women of all races and nationalities. Like perpetrators of sexual assault and abuse, they may know their victims as family members, intimate partners, or acquaintances; however, they can also be strangers. Victims can be any age, from the very young to much more senior. They come from all socioeconomic strata and ethnicities. School-based prevention and intervention programs are powerful tools in the fight against human trafficking as educators, school counselors, and other staff may be among the first to identify signs of vulnerable youth and exploitative coercion.



Human Trafficking Prevention Education and Training Act (HTPETA)

On October 7, 2017, Governor Jerry Brown signed Assembly Bill 1227, the Human Trafficking Prevention Education and Training Act (HTPETA). HTPETA's passage made California the first state to adopt human trafficking prevention education training for both teachers and students.

Championed by then Assembly member and now California Attorney General 14 Rob Bonta, HTPETA integrated trafficking into 3 primary sections of the Education Code:

Part 1: Frequency of Instruction California Education Code Section 51934 (a): Each school district shall ensure that all pupils in grades 7 to 12, inclusive, receive comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education from instructors trained in the appropriate courses. Each pupil shall receive this instruction at least: Once in junior high or middle school, and At least once in high school.[i]

Part 2: Content of Instruction California Education Code Section 51934(a) (10), Information About Sexual Harassment, Sexual Assault, Sexual Abuse, and Human Trafficking was amended to require human trafficking prevention education that includes all the following: Information on prevalence, nature, and strategies to reduce the risk of trafficking; Techniques to set healthy boundaries, and; How to safely seek assistance.

Part 3: Continuous Training California Education Code Section 51950: Sexual Abuse and Sex Trafficking Prevention Education provides; o In-service training may be conducted periodically to: enable school district personnel to learn about new developments in the understanding of abuse, including sexual abuse, and human trafficking, and; receive instruction on current prevention efforts and methods. o continues: A school district is encouraged to include training on early identification of abuse, including sexual abuse, and human trafficking of pupils and other minors.

California's policy and social experiments often become the foundational model upon which other governments follow. Traffickers prey upon the dreams and fears of the vulnerable. A comprehensive "whole-of-government" approach to fighting exploitation involves strong public awareness, competency and knowledgeable youth. Instilling the confidence to enforce personal boundaries is crucial to a sense of self-worth and empowerment. California is attempting to formulate a systematic and structured response to protect those susceptible by giving them the tools to identify exploitative behavior before they find themselves coerced or beholden to an exploiter. Combating human trafficking demands a broad multi-tactic approach. It requires more than just harsh penal punishment for perpetrators. It demands applying a nuanced understanding of the criminal activity to prevent victimization.

Educators are uniquely positioned to recognize and help immunize our youth from exploitation. An implicit component of this public education social contract is that we provide our educators with the skills and tools to be successful. As a practitioner in this field, it is incumbent upon me to be responsible with my messaging and content and to ensure my curriculum is research-based and the tone is resonating and appropriate for my audience. As the California school system is in its infancy of this new journey, I expect them to do the same - ensure the message is appropriate for the listener – be it student or faculty. The global pandemic created by COVID-19 delayed the full implementation of this curriculum; however, I anxiously await to see how this new aspect of youth empowerment develops.

Benjamin Thomas Greer, J.D., M.A.. is an Emergency Management Instructor for the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES); a Research Associate for the University of Cambridge's Centre for Applied Research in Human Trafficking (CCARHT); and holds a Master's Degree from **Naval Postgraduate School's** Center for Homeland Defense and Security Program (NPS-CHDS), which was recognized in the 2021 'ASTORS' Awards Program for 'Excellence in Homeland Security'.

[Help for Children & Families: A MUST Read for Parents from PWPORG Ed. 5 - American Security Today](#)



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Author Spotlight: Brad Taylor

(ABC News 4 7 Jan 22) ... Leigha Reid

Brad Taylor—the New York Times-bestselling author of the Pike Logan series and former Special Ops officer—delivers an action-packed international thriller involving a plot to bring about the end of the world and a serial killer on the loose in the heart of Rome in *END OF DAYS: A Pike Logan Novel*.

Brad Taylor, Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.), is a 21-year veteran of the U.S. Army Infantry and Special Forces, including eight years with the 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment – Delta, popularly known as Delta Force, where he commanded multiple troops and a squadron.

Taylor retired in 2010 after serving more than two decades and participating in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, as well as classified operations in Afghanistan and around the globe. His final military post was as Assistant Professor of Military

Science at The Citadel. He holds a Master’s of Science in Defense Analysis from the **Naval Postgraduate School**, with a concentration in Irregular Warfare.

[Author Spotlight: Brad Taylor | WCIV \(abcnews4.com\)](#)

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Mayor Adams Appoints Philip Banks as Deputy Mayor for Public Safety

(New York City 7 Jan 22)

Mayor Eric Adams today announced the appointment of Philip Banks III as Deputy Mayor for Public Safety. He most recently served as the New York City Police Department (NYPD) chief of department. As deputy mayor, Banks will be tasked with coordinating all agencies on public safety matters to ensure they align with the Mayor’s vision. Mayor Adams noted Banks’ long and distinguished career in law enforcement, and how he is well-suited to fill the role of the City’s first deputy mayor for public safety since the 1990s.

“I say it often: Public safety and justice are the prerequisites to prosperity. As someone who wore a bulletproof vest protecting the children and families of this city for 22 years, and now has the privilege of serving as mayor, I need a partner in government who understands what it takes to keep New Yorkers safe. Phil Banks is that person, and I am grateful for his continued public service in this new role to help our administration deliver the safety we need and the justice we deserve,” said Mayor Eric Adams.

“I thank Mayor Adams for appointing me as Deputy Mayor for Public Safety. The fact that he is restoring this position in his administration speaks volumes about how dedicated he is to tackling the real public safety crisis on our streets. My goal will be to carry out the Mayor’s plan, working with all City agencies to make this a safer, more equitable city for all New Yorkers,” said Deputy Mayor for Public Safety Philip Banks III.

“Congratulations to Deputy Mayor Banks on his historic appointment as deputy mayor of public safety, the first to be appointed since former mayor David Dinkins did so. Like Mayor Dinkins, Mayor Adams understands how essential it is that we get public safety right, protecting our most vulnerable in the right way,” said National Action Network Founder and President Reverend Al Sharpton.

“Chief Banks has always been there for our community. He has been a faithful servant and a man for all seasons. We trust him,” said NAACP New York State Conference President Dr. Hazel Dukes.

Banks joined the New York City Police Department (NYPD) in 1986, beginning his career on patrol in the 81st Precinct. In 2010 he was appointed Chief of Community Affairs, a role he served in before being appointed chief of department in 2013. Banks earned a B.S. in business administration from Lincoln University. He is a graduate of the Police Management Institute at Columbia University, and has completed advanced management training for senior executives in state and local government at Harvard



University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and the Executive Leaders Program in Counterterrorism at the Center for Homeland Defense and Security at the **Naval Postgraduate School**. Banks is also a member of the founding chapter of the philanthropic institution 100 Black Men, Inc. and has served on the board of South Bronx Overall Development Corporation. He has also served as adviser to a number of mid- and large-sized cities on best practices for implementing relationship-based solutions to address public safety challenges.

[Mayor Adams Appoints Philip Banks as Deputy Mayor for Public Safety | City of New York \(nyc.gov\)](https://www.nyc.gov/newsroom/2021/05/11/mayor-adams-appoints-philip-banks-as-deputy-mayor-for-public-safety)

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NASA Announces New Astronaut Candidates

(The Watch Dog Online 9 Jan 22) ... Olivia Curtis

On Dec. 6, NASA publicly announced the newest astronaut class, Group 23, who will report for duty in 2022. However, all astronauts that are selected must go through training to become eligible for future flights.

Becoming an astronaut isn't easy — for starters, those who aspire to be candidates have to have a wide variety of education. In previous groups, the minimum was a bachelor's degree in a STEM field, but the bar has been raised to a master's degree, all from an accredited institution. Since NASA is an American space organization, American citizenship is required.

Deciding who would be chosen for Group 23 was a grueling process that began in February 2020 — over 12,000 applications were looked through in order to select their next corps.

Consisting of six men and four women, Group 23 is filled with a plethora of different types of people and backgrounds. From an Olympic track cyclist to a military fighter pilot, it's one of the most diverse groups in NASA's extensive history.

Nicole Ayers, 32, is a major in the United States Air Force from San Diego, although she considers Colorado Springs her home. She holds a master's degree in computational and applied mathematics from Rice University. She enjoys outdoor sports such as biking, skiing, and sailing.

Marcos Berrios, 36, is a major in the United States Air Force, reigning from Fort Campbell, Tennessee. He grew up in Puerto Rico and is the only one who holds Hispanic descent in Group 23. He holds a doctorate in aeronautics and astronautics from Stanford University. His hobbies consist of swimming and strength training.

Christina Birch, 35, is a bioengineer and former Olympic team racing cyclist from Mesa, Arizona. She has a doctorate from MIT specializing in biological engineering. She was named to the 2020 Olympics cycling team.

Deniz Burnham, 36, is a lieutenant in the United States Navy Reserve and drilling engineer who calls Wasilla, Alaska her home. She was born at a military base in Adana, Turkey, but moved to Fairfield, California where she gained a master's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Southern California. She likes to explore the wilderness and its wonders.

Luke Delaney, 42, is a retired major in the United States Marine Corps from Florida. Born in Miami, he calls Debary his hometown. He has a master's degree in aerospace engineering from the **Naval Postgraduate School**. He's an avid nature enthusiast and likes to raise chickens on his family's farm.

Andre Douglas, 34, is a space systems engineer from Miami, Florida, though he grew up in Virginia. He holds a doctorate in systems engineering from George Washington University. In his free time, he enjoys anything from kayaking to billiards.

Jack Hathaway, 38, is a commander in the United States Navy, and a native of South Windsor, Connecticut. He earned a master's degree from the U.S. Naval War College in national security and strategic studies. He enjoys test piloting for the Navy.

Anil Menon, 44, is a lieutenant colonel in the United States Air Force. He was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, to Indian and Ukrainian immigrants. He holds a medical doctorate from Stanford Medical



School and served as NASA's crew flight surgeon for multiple missions to the International Space Station. He likes to participate in endurance activities such as backpacking.

Christopher Williams, 37, is a medical physicist from New York City, though calls Potomac, Maryland, his hometown. He gained a doctorate in physics from MIT, specializing in astrophysics. He spends his time hiking and traveling.

Jessica Wittner, 37, is a lieutenant commander in the United States Navy and research engineer from Fresno, California. She attended the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School, earning a master's in aerospace engineering. She loves traveling to the corners of the world, along with learning new outdoor skills.

The Group 23 astronaut candidates must complete further training which will take roughly two years. Once astronauts, they can fly to the International Space Station, or partake in future Artemis missions to the moon. Within several years, NASA will make history when they inevitably send the first-ever woman to the moon.

When questioned about this possibility for women, Kate S., a local science enthusiast, appeared very optimistic. "By stepping foot on the surface, the first woman on the moon would be opening a door for young women all around the globe to look up at the moon and know that anything is possible, on this Earth or beyond."

[NASA Announces New Astronaut Candidates – The Watchdog \(thewatchdogonline.com\)](https://thewatchdogonline.com)

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