

*A Letter From Our Command Ombudsmen:*

Hello RALPH JOHNSON Family!

If you are not familiar with the Ombudsman program, the Ombudsman is here to be your voice to the command. We also relay information from the Commanding Officer back to you. The Ombudsman program belongs to the command and is shaped by the CO's perception of the needs of RALPH JOHNSON families. An Ombudsman is a voluntary representative of the command, appointed by the Commanding Officer. They serve the two important roles as both the communication link between the CO and command family members, and as a professionally trained information and referral specialist. We work under the guidance of the Command Master Chief, Executive Officer and Commanding Officer.

Meet your Ombudsman:

I'm Sarah, as a Military Spouse, I have experienced firsthand the hardship that many spouses and families face throughout their time as military dependents. It is my hope and my goal to keep families informed to the best of my ability, as well as to provide a voice to those families whose service members are stationed aboard RALPH JOHNSON. Through quick communication, as well as strong knowledge of referral resources for families, I strive to keep our families as prepared as possible as we navigate the life of OCONUS living. I am always more than happy to help families whenever and wherever I can.

I have frequent contact with the command and relay information to our families via the ship's Family Group on Facebook and email for those who are not on Facebook. Any of your family members are welcome to join this group to receive the most current information about our ship, command activities, and events in the area.

I can provide a confidential ear and a friendly voice to turn to in times of need or crisis. I am dedicated to pointing you in the right direction toward finding solutions to any issue that may arise. While serving in this role, I am committed to supporting our command's mission, maintaining strict confidentiality, and working within the chain of command as I am directed.

I am honored to be chosen as the Ombudsman for RALPH JOHNSON. Please don't hesitate to contact me. My contact information is listed below.

Sarah Hardel & Ella Fienberg

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