

# **US Coast Guard Briefing to DACOWITS RFI 5B 4 December 2019**

**Presented by:**

**Representative from Coast Guard Office of Aviation Forces  
COMDT (CG-711)**

**for**

**Personnel Service Center, Officer Personnel Management  
Officer Assignments Branch  
(PSC OPM-2)**



## **5B The Committee requests a briefing from the Military Services\* addressing women in the space community, to include the following:**

---

- a. Explain how members of your Service become astronauts or part of the space program (to include support positions).**

The request for military aviators to apply to the space program is initiated by NASA via message to all military services. OPM-2 is responsible for the announcement of the astronaut solicitation as directed by NASA. Announcement of the solicitation is sent out to the total workforce via ALCOAST. Members apply on a voluntary basis. There is no specific recruitment for women applicants. Advisements are gender neutral.

- a. OPM-2s role is to ensure applicants meet the application criteria established by NASA.
- b. All eligible candidates are sent to NASA for consideration and selection.

- b. Provide total number of women by astronaut designation. Provide whole numbers, percent of total community, and breakdown by rank.**

NASA has not selected any female applicants from the Coast Guard. Only two Coast Guardsmen have been chosen by NASA to serve in the Astronaut Program – both were men.

- a. Bruce Melnick, CDR (ret)
- b. Daniel Burbank, CAPT (ret)

- c. What is the percentage of women in space support fields by rank/MOS (i.e., maintenance, flight equipment, intelligence, supply, etc.)?**

The Coast Guard does not have any specific positions for personnel in space support fields.

---



## **5B The Committee requests a briefing from the Military Services\* addressing women in the space community, to include the following:**

---

- d. What barriers have you identified that may hinder women's ascension into space specialties (e.g., equipment, anthropomorphic measures, etc.)?**

N/A: NASA has never selected a female Coast Guard aviator for the space program. As such, the Coast Guard is unaware of any challenges.

- e. What barriers have you identified that may limit women's promotion potential once in space specialties (i.e., berthing limitations, facilities, deployment time, etc.)?**

N/A: NASA has never selected a female Coast Guard aviator for the space program. As such, the Coast Guard is unaware of any challenges.

- f. What initiatives (current or planned) are being pursued to increase women in the space community?**

N/A: OPM-2 is responsible for the announcement of the astronaut solicitation as directed by NASA. Announcement of the solicitation is sent out to the total workforce via ALCOAST. Members apply on a voluntary basis. There is no specific recruitment for women applicants. Solicitations are gender neutral.

