Mililani Resident Ippert Elected as FRA National Vice President

John Ippert, a resident of Mililani, Hawaii, was recently elected as National Vice President (NVP) of the Fleet Reserve Association (FRA), a congressionally chartered military and veterans' service organization serving current and former enlisted members of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard. He was installed during the organization's 86th National Convention in Chattanooga, Tenn. In the coming year, Ippert will work with FRA's other national officers and members to strengthen the Association's membership base and raise awareness of FRA's highly effective legislative advocacy work focused on enhancing pay and benefits for enlisted Sea Service personnel and their families.

"Being elected National Vice President is such an honor," says Ippert. "My shipmates have my full support and I'm looking forward to doing the best job possible for the FRA in the coming year. One of my top priorities is recruiting and retaining members to ensure our organization continues to thrive for years to come."

NVP Ippert has been a member of the FRA since 1975 and is currently a member of FRA Branch 46 in Honolulu, Hawaii. He has held numerous leadership positions at the local, regional and national levels of the organization, including Branch President (2005-2006) and service as the Association's Northwest Regional President (2006-2007).

Ippert enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1961 and retired in 1986. His military career included assignments on several ships, including two battleships, as well as overseas duty in Vietnam and Europe. He won numerous awards including the Navy Achievement Award (one star), Vietnam Service Award, and Vietnam Humanitarian Action Award. His post-military career includes ten years with the United States Postal Service and four years as elected mayor of Mayetta, Kan.

About FRA

FRA is a congressionally chartered, non-profit organization representing the interests of current and former enlisted personnel of the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard. As the collective voice for all Sea Service personnel since 1924, FRA speaks on behalf of its members on Capitol Hill. There is no law protecting military benefits, so FRA is here to stand guard. In addition to its advocacy work on Capitol Hill, FRA also sponsors a national Americanism Essay Contest and assists its members with disaster relief grants.

The Association additionally sponsors an Education Foundation that awards scholarships to deserving college students and is a recognized charity in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC Code #80236). For more information on the FRA Education Foundation, visit www.fra.org/foundation.

To learn more about FRA, visit <u>www.fra.org</u>; follow us on Twitter at <u>@FRAHQ</u>; or Like us on Facebook at <u>www.fra.org/fb</u>.