FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Twin Cities Senior Achieves Highest Rank in the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corp

Arden Hills, Minn., December 16, 2023 — Maximus Schantzen of the Twin Cities Squadron of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps to become the squadron's first Chief Petty Officer, the highest rank in the Sea Cadets, in over five years.

Chief's Pinning to take place on Sunday, December 10, 2023 at 1445 hrs at the Hamline Building at the Arden Hills Army Training Site (AHATS) in Arden Hills, MN.

Chief-select Maximus Schantzen joined the Sea Cadets in 2020 and has since attended six trainings, completed 101 hours of community service, and earned 26 awards. Schanzen has been the Lead Petty Officer for the unit since August 2022.

Commanding Officer, LTJG Shawn Wilson stated that "Chief Schantzen embodies the 'ship, shipmate, self ' mantra and espouses the ideals exemplified by chief petty officers before him to educate junior cadets in naval traditions, motivating them to internalize the values of honor, courage and commitment."

The Twin Cities Squadron drills one weekend a month at the Arden Hills Army Training Site (AHATS) and is currently made up of 35 cadets and 8 adult leaders.

The U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps is a nonprofit leadership development organization for youth ages 10 through 17. Sponsored by the Navy League of the United States and supported by both the U.S. Navy and Coast Guard, our passionate all-volunteer force leads 380 units across the United States. Each year our cadets participate in training opportunities across the country, including scuba, medical training, photojournalism, military police, STEM, sailing and more. When cadets join the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps, they embark upon a path of lifelong leadership. The program teaches them how to lead groups of their peers successfully and will also inspire them to become leaders in their schools and communities. For more information, please visit seacadets.org.

For more information about the local Sea Cadet unit Twin Cities Squadron, contact ENS Lisa Anderson at 612-405-0756 or visit their website at <u>usnscctwincities.org</u>. For additional information on the national program, please visit <u>seacadets.org</u>.