

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

1510 GILBERT ST., STE. 207
NORFOLK, VA 23511
TEL: (757) 322-2853
FAX: (757) 445-1953



NEWS MEDIA ADVISORY

15-13

August 25, 2015

Suspect In Navy Stabbing Case To Appear In Court

NORFOLK, VA (NRMA) – Petty Officer 3rd Class Wilbur G. Harwell, who is accused of a June 6, 2014 stabbing of another Sailor onboard Naval Support Activity (NSA) Hampton Roads, Portsmouth Annex in Portsmouth, Va., is scheduled to appear in a Navy court for an Article 32 preliminary hearing, Aug. 31.

Like a civilian preliminary hearing, the purpose is to consider the form of the charges and make a recommendation to the convening authority as to the disposition of the charges. The military justice system, similar to the civilian justice system, is based on the principle of innocent until proven guilty.

Harwell's initial appearance in federal court was on June 9, 2014, where he requested an attorney and was remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshals. Harwell was transferred into Navy custody on June 12, 2014, and has been confined at Naval Consolidated Brig Chesapeake while pending charges.

-30-

Note to media: Media interested in covering this court proceeding, please call the Regional Public Affairs office at (757) 322-2853, by no later than 4 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 27. No television or still cameras, recording devices, or cell phones will be allowed inside the courtroom.

Navy Region Mid-Atlantic is responsible for the operation of Navy installations from North Carolina to Maine and providing support programs and services for the fleet, fighter and family.

Follow Navy Region Mid-Atlantic's Facebook at <http://bit.ly/9fKiGJ> or on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/CNRMA>.