

From: FaithTrust Institute
2900 Eastlake Ave E., Suite 200
Seattle, WA 98102



Contact: Jane Fredricksen
Executive Director
Phone: 206-634-1903 x25
Email: jfredricksen@faithtrustinstitute.org

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FAITHTRUST INSTITUTE ANNOUNCES 2014 NAVY CHAPLAINCY TRAINING CONTRACT

FaithTrust Institute today announced a 2014 training contract with The Naval Chaplaincy School & Center (NCSC) through General Dynamics Information Technology. The contract involves the development and delivery of a Professional Development Training Course (PDTC) for Navy chaplains and Religious Program Specialists (RPs) on “Pastoral Care in Cases of Sexual Assault.”

The NCSC is tasked by the Navy’s Chief of Chaplains to develop and deliver a PDTC course at 10 locations in the United States and abroad. The purpose of the training is to prepare chaplains and RPs personally and professionally to facilitate and provide religious ministry/pastoral care for Naval service personnel and other authorized members of the Department of the Navy with a specific emphasis on ensuring that chaplains and RPs are prepared to effectively respond to sexual assault incidents. Reverend Dr. Marie M. Fortune and Reverend Dr. Kristen J. Leslie are subject matter experts who will design, develop and deliver the course from September 2013 through June 2014.

The PDTC training will focus on helping chaplains and RPs analyze the complexities and challenges of addressing sexual assault and providing effective pastoral care responses to victims, perpetrators and the military community. Theological and ethical frameworks utilized during the training will prioritize safety, support, and healing for survivors; accountability for abusers; and the ability of the chaplains to effectively advise those in the command structure. Reverend Dr. Marie M. Fortune and Reverend Dr. Kristen J. Leslie will be delivering this training in conjunction with additional training which will address the legal and psychological aspects of sexual trauma.

As part of the Navy’s continuing effort to address sexual assaults, the training complements on-going efforts to provide for the safety and security of every Sailor, Marine, Coast Guardsman, civilian personnel and family members. Sexual assault is a crime and affects mission readiness. The Department of the Navy is committed to eliminating sexual assault from their ranks.

Rev. Dr. Marie M. Fortune, Founder and Senior Analyst for FaithTrust Institute, was first in the field of religious issues pertaining to violence against women. She is the author of nine books on sexual and domestic violence including *Sexual Violence: The Sin Revisited* (Pilgrim Press, 2005). Rev. Dr. Fortune is a nationally and internationally known writer, speaker, trainer, practicing ethicist and theologian. She was editor of *The Journal of Religion and Abuse* (2000–2008) and served on the National Advisory Council

on Violence Against Women for the U.S. Department of Justice (1995–2000) and the Defense Task Force on Domestic Violence for the U.S. Department of Defense (2000–2003).

Rev. Dr. Kristen Leslie, Professor of Pastoral Care and Theology at Eden Theological Seminary, has 15 years of experience teaching courses related to pastoral counseling theories and skills. She is the author of *When Violence is No Stranger: Pastoral Care and Counseling with Survivors of Acquaintance Rape* (Fortress, 2003) and has written numerous articles on topics related to sexual violence and pastoral care. She has done consulting work with the Air Force Academy chaplains and Operation Enduring Freedom / Operation Iraqi Freedom (OEF/OIF) chaplains on pastoral care with survivors of sexual assault and work with the Air Force Academy Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART). In 2005, Leslie testified in Congress on matters related to religious proselytizing in the military. In 2009, Leslie co-sponsored the Yale Divinity School and Yale Law School Conference on “Faith and Arms in a Democratic Society: A Working Conference on Religion in the Military,” with Eugene Fidell, faculty member at Yale Law School. She worked with Flag officers, and Judge Advocate Generals (JAG), chaplains and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to further the conversation on religious pluralism in the US Armed Forces.

About FaithTrust Institute

Founded in 1977, FaithTrust Institute is a national, multifaith training and education organization with global reach. FaithTrust Institute works to end sexual and domestic violence by providing faith leaders and advocates with the educational tools and knowledge they need to address the religious and cultural issues related to abuse and violence. For more information, please visit www.faithtrustinstitute.org.

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