

Navy Bloodborne Infection Management Center

NBIMC NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2022



The Navy Bloodborne Infection Management Center (NBIMC) will have a severe staff shortage beginning 1 January 2022. Two of NBIMC most senior employees (Ms. Valerie Akins and Mrs. Mildred Figueroa) are retiring at the end of the year. As we wish them the best, their absence will significantly impact the response time to our customer because we will be staffed at 60%. Please be assured NBIMC is working to solve our staffing challenges and intends to continue to provide you with the best customer service possible, but there will/may be delays in our work products and response times. We will diligently seek to minimize to the best of our ability, the effects this staff shortage will have on our work and responses. NBIMC ask for your patience and forbearance as we navigate our way through this unprecedented event.

Please address inquiries to:
Navy Bloodborne Infection Management
Center: dha.bethesda.ncr-medical.mbx.nbimc@mail.mil

The Navy Bloodborne Infection Management Center is located on NSA Bethesda campus in Bldg. 17B.

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Farewell from NBIMC retirees

As 2021 comes to a close, NBIMC would like to announce the retirement of Ms. Valerie Akins and Ms. Mildred Figueroa, as their service will conclude at the end of December 2021.

Below is their farewell to the NAVY community and NBIMC stakeholders.

Dear colleagues and friends,

Out of my 40 plus years as a medical technologist, I believe that the last 20 at NBIMC have been the best! It has been an honor working with you and being part of the NBIMC team. Together as a team; we survived changes in HIV testing, system crashes, last-minute taskers and became wiser and more compassionate. Thanks to those who mentored me and paved the way for my professional and personal growth. You are forever in my heart. Saying goodbye to my team is hard but I am excited to spend time with family and explore what retirement has for me.

Take care of each other and stay healthy !

Fare winds and following seas,

Mildred V. Figueroa



As my time with Navy Bloodborne Infection Management Center, my government career as a whole comes to an end I just want to say thank you and farewell to all of the wonderful colleagues and friends I have met, made and learned from throughout these many years. When I began my career 39 years (WOW!) ago I could not imagine this is where I would be here today. My government employment (100% with the Department of Navy btw) has allowed me many opportunities and to experience very diverse career path. It has been challenging, scary, exciting and oh so satisfying. You all will be greatly missed, the day to day interactions and experiences we shared over the years has been some of the most positive and rewarding of my career. It has been an honor to have work with so many wonderful people, who are dedicated and continually provide the best service to our customers. Please know I will be thinking of you and wishing you continual success and good luck on future endeavors. I am very proud of what we (as a team) have accomplished and very grateful to have been a part of this amazing team. I am confident you will continue to improve on ground work to that our customers will have the opportunity to serve our country. Take care, be strong, stay healthy, keep smiling and doing an awesome job!

Fare winds and following seas.

Valerie R. Akins

