



# DEOMI

DEFENSE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE



## NEWS RELEASE

### **DEOMI RELEASES 2017 ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH POSTER:**

**March 30, 2017**

PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. – In observance of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, celebrated each year during the month of May; the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) proudly announces the availability of original artwork available for download from DEOMI’s public website, [www.deomi.org](http://www.deomi.org). Each year, Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month recognizes the challenges faced by Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, and Native Hawaiians and their vital contributions to the American story.

In June 1978, Representative Frank Horton introduced House Joint Resolution 1007. This joint resolution was passed by the House and Senate, and was later signed by President Jimmy Carter on October 5, 1978. This law directed the President to declare a seven day period, beginning May 4, 1979, as ‘Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week.’ It wasn’t until 1992, that Congress designated May as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month.



May was selected to commemorate the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad, May 10, 1869, which was laid by a majority of Chinese workers, and the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States, May 7, 1843.

Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month honors Americans with a proud heritage that encompasses all of the Asian continent and the Pacific islands of Polynesia (New Zealand, Hawaiian Islands, Rotuma, Midway Islands, Samoa, American Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, Cook Islands, French Polynesia and Easter Island), Melanesia (New Guinea, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Fiji and the Solomon Islands), and Micronesia (Marianas, Guam, Wake Island, Palau, Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Nauru and the Federated States of Micronesia).

The Federal Asian Pacific American Council (FAPAC) theme for this year is: “Unite Our Voice by Speaking Together.” The history of the United States is shaped by the immigrants from Asia and the Pacific and the native people of the Pacific Islands. They have retained their cultural heritages that stretch across the globe. The design team wanted to illustrate the rich diversity of the AAPI community and their national origins coming together as one voice. The voice of AAPI Americans.

Please note that you may take the high-resolution poster image file accompanying this news release to your preferred printing facility for display in your organization or use during your special observance program. All DEOMI special observance poster images are high-resolution and may be used to print posters up to 30 x 40 inches.

DEOMI does not have the capability to print posters and mail them out to customers upon request. All DEOMI observance month poster files are in the public domain unless otherwise indicated.

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