Subject: New AFRH Chief Operating Officer Selected

On Sunday, September 25, 2011, the Department of Defense, issued a press release announcing the selection of Mr. Steven G. McManus to be the Armed Forces Retirement Home’s (AFRH) new Chief Operating Officer (COO) effective September 25, 2011.

Mr. McManus is well qualified for this position. He is a retired Army veteran with 25 years of military experience, serving in both the enlisted and officer ranks. He served in Western Germany and multiple positions stateside. His military awards include the Legion of Merit with bronze oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with two bronze oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal with bronze oak leaf cluster, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award with bronze oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Unit Commendation with bronze leaf cluster, Army Superior Unit Award, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal with bronze star, Overseas Service Ribbon, Parachutist Badge and Ranger Tab.

After retiring from the U.S. Army in 2001, Mr. McManus worked as a senior consultant for the Navy and for a short period as the Deputy Director of the Army’s Working Capital Fund. In 2002, he joined the Armed Forces Retirement Home and served at the AFRH-Washington (AFRH-W) facility as its Financial Officer, and then subsequently as the facility’s Associate Director of Resource Management. Between 2002 and 2008 he served at multiple levels in AFRH Agency’s – i.e., the Agency’s Chief Financial Officer with associate roles such as the Agency’s first Inspector General, its Chief Information Officer, and the Agency Procurement Head. Mr. McManus served as the Interim Director for the Gulfport facility between May – August 2005, and personally led the safe evacuation of Resident’s from Gulfport to Washington, DC within 24 hours of Hurricane Katrina landfall. In March 2008 Mr. McManus accepted an assignment as the Chief Financial Officer for another Independent Agency - the Federal Labor Relations Authority. In September 2009, he returned to the AFRH in the newly created Senior Executive Service position of Deputy COO/Chief Financial Officer. In January 2011, with the departure of the former COO, Mr. McManus assumed the role of AFRH Acting COO.

As the Acting COO, Mr. McManus was responsible for all facets of the AFRH operation to include: Resident care, policy development, advocacy and oversight ensuring quality programs and services are delivered throughout the Agency. Additionally, he continued to carry out the duties of the Agency’s Financial Program to include budget formulation, overseeing budget execution, conducting annual mid-year reviews, preparing Congressional budget submits, preparing annual hearing testimony, fielding questions at Congressional Appropriations hearings when needed, and interfacing with external sources regarding the AFRH finance program, i.e., the Department of Defense, the Office of Management and Budget, and Congress.
Most recently, Mr. McManus has demonstrated his leadership ability by guiding the Home, its Residents, employees, contractor staff and on-site construction teams during post earthquake repairs, reconstruction, office/staff relocations, etc.

In addition to his Bachelor of Science degree Mr. McManus also holds a Master of Business Administration with special emphasis in Finance and Accounting.

Sheila R. Abarr
AFRH Public Affairs Officer