DoD Appoints Chief Operating Officer at the Armed Forces Retirement Home

WASHINGTON – Mr. Steve McManus officially assumed the role of Chief Operating Officer (COO), Armed Forces Retirement Home on Sept. 25. McManus has served as Acting COO since January 16th.

“Steve McManus is tremendously well-qualified to serve as COO, having served in senior leadership positions at the Armed Forces Retirement Home since 2002,” said Robert L. Gordon, deputy assistant secretary of defense for military community and family policy. “In addition to serving as Acting COO, he has served as both Deputy COO and Chief Financial Officer. This critical experience coupled with his tremendous leadership will undoubtedly continue the tradition of ensuring the highest standard of care for our residents in both the Washington, DC and Gulfport, MS retirement homes.”

McManus is a member of the Senior Executive Service. By accepting this appointment, he serves at the pleasure of the Secretary of Defense as delegated to the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

AFRH is a one-of-a-kind, independent agency in the Executive branch of the federal government that was originally established as the “Soldier’s Home” in 1851. There are two campuses: AFRH-Washington in Washington, DC and AFRH-Gulfport in Gulfport, MS. AFRH-Washington is also the location of President Lincoln’s Cottage, a historical site under the National Trust for Historic Preservation where the President often stayed to enjoy family vacations and conduct important business, especially during the Civil War. The average age for residents is 86 years old, and resident eligibility depends on age of the applicant, length of service, theaters of service, limitations due to sustained disabilities, and participation in special service programs for women prior to 1948.

All AFRH-Gulfport residents were safely relocated to the Washington, DC campus in 2005 in response to Hurricane Katrina and were relocated again in 2010 back to a rebuilt, state-of-the-art facility in Gulfport. AFRH-Washington is undergoing significant renovations that include a new facility for long-term care and new community support facilities for all residents. In his new role as COO, Mr. McManus will oversee these and other significant enhancements that will dramatically impact the quality of life of all AFRH residents.

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