



# NEWS RELEASE

## Defense Commissary Agency

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## DeCA West director announces April retirement

*By Nancy O’Nell  
DeCA West public affairs officer*

**FORT LEE, Va.** – Scott E. Simpson, director of Defense Commissary Agency-West, will retire from federal service April 30, culminating a career that has spanned more than 30 years. At this time, his successor has not been named.

Simpson, a member of the Senior Executive Service, has served as director of DeCA West since May 2007, after three years as the Defense Commissary Agency’s chief operating officer.

“Scott has enriched the commissary benefit immeasurably,” said Philip E. Sakowitz Jr., DeCA director and chief executive officer. “He has touched nearly every aspect and geographic corner of commissary operations and leaves a legacy of customer-centric management. We wish him well in the next phase of his life.”

Simpson played an integral role in shaping DeCA’s development since its inception in 1991. He was one of the original members of DeCA’s transition team in 1990, which laid the foundation and future course for the then fledgling agency. He served as DeCA’s Southwest Region director from 1992 to 1997 and as region director for DeCA East from 2002 to 2004.

“I’m proud of DeCA’s accomplishments and grateful that I was able to play a role in many of the agency’s successes,” Simpson said. “I have had the great fortune of working in many different assignments with world-class professionals. The commitment and dedication of our store directors and their workforce is unparalleled in our industry.”

Simpson began his career in the retail grocery business with the Grand Union Company

in 1970, while attending James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va., where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in history and education. He entered federal service with the Army Troop Support Agency in 1979 as a commissary officer, and later served in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Logistics at the Pentagon and as chief of operations for the Troop Support Agency's Southeast Region. He switched services in 1987 to become the first civilian commissary director in the Navy's San Diego Region.

Following his retirement, Simpson said he and his wife, Sandi, will be heading to San Diego to be near their family where he plans to continue working part time and "enjoying life one day at a time."

"I have loved coming to work every day and serving the greatest customers in the world, our armed forces and their families," Simpson said. "As I depart, I take great satisfaction in knowing that the commissary benefit is being delivered at the highest level ever."

**- DeCA-**

**About DeCA:** *The Defense Commissary Agency operates a worldwide chain of commissaries providing groceries to military personnel, retirees and their families in a safe and secure shopping environment. Authorized patrons purchase items at cost plus a 5-percent surcharge, which covers the costs of building new commissaries and modernizing existing ones. Shoppers save an average of more than 30 percent on their purchases compared to commercial prices – savings worth about \$3,400 annually for a family of four. A core military family support element, and a valued part of military pay and benefits, commissaries contribute to family readiness, enhance the quality of life for America's military and their families, and help recruit and retain the best and brightest men and women to serve their country.*