



NEWS RELEASE

Defense Commissary Agency

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Johnson selected as Zone 8 manager

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

FORT LEE, Va. – Donald E. Johnson was appointed DeCA’s Zone 8 manager in August through the Defense Commissary Agency’s career assignment program. He oversees 12 commissaries in New Mexico, Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas, with the hub store at Fort Sill, Okla.

Johnson had served as the Zone 8 acting manager since March, when Ronald R. McMasters, the previous Zone 8 manager, was tapped as director of operations for DeCA West, with headquarters at McClellan, Calif.

“Don’s appointment further strengthens DeCA’s ability to meet the needs of our military community,” said Keith C. Hagenbuch, DeCA West director. “He is a well-rounded leader with strong operational and customer-relationship management skills. He has already made a positive impact on the stores he supports, and I am confident he will continue to enhance the overall quality shopping experience Zone 8 stores deliver every day.”

Johnson worked in private industry for 20 years before joining civil service. He served as a store manager for Fairway Foods Inc., Grand Forks, N.D., for 11 years; as the owner and operator of a grocery store in Cavalier, N.D., for eight years; and as the owner and operator of a sign shop in Grand Forks for one year.

His first commissary position was in 1980 at Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D., where he served as meat cutter for two years before becoming meat manager at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb. From 1983 to 1990, he gained above-store-level experience as a management specialist

with the Air Force Commissary Service, North Central Region, Offutt Air Force Base. In 1990, Johnson returned to store level serving as store administrator at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, for 10 years, then as store director for two years. From 2002 to 2010, the eight years prior to his selection as zone manager, he was store director at Fort Sill.

Clyde E. Nolen, former store director at the U.S. Military Academy West Point Commissary, N.Y., has been selected to replace Johnson as the Fort Sill store director.

-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 more than \$4,400 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.*