



NEWS RELEASE

Defense Commissary Agency

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Jones appointed chairman of Commissary Board of Directors

By DeCA Office of Corporate Communication

FORT LEE, Va. – Air Force Lt. Gen. Darrell D. Jones was appointed chairman of the Defense Commissary Agency Board of Directors by the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

Jones' appointment was effective March 31, succeeding Air Force Lt. Gen. Richard Y. Newton III, who had served as chairman since Jan. 1, 2010. Newton recently assumed duties as the Air Force assistant vice chief of staff and director, Air Staff, Headquarters U.S. Air Force.

The Board oversees the operation of the Defense Commissary Agency and assists the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness in overall supervision of the commissary system.

Jones has been the U.S. Air Force deputy chief of staff, manpower, personnel and services since December 2010. Before his current assignment, he served as commander of the Air Force District of Washington, based at Joint Base Andrews, Md.

Jones serves as the senior Air Force officer responsible for comprehensive plans and policies covering all life cycles of military and civilian personnel management, which includes end strength management, education and training, compensation, resource allocation and the worldwide Air Force services program.

Jones entered the Air Force in 1979 as a graduate of Mississippi State's ROTC Program. After graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree, he went on to serve in a variety of

assignments at base level, major command, secretariat, combatant commands and Headquarters U.S. Air Force. He has commanded a squadron, group, two wings and a direct reporting unit.

He also led the Headquarters U.S. Air Force deputy chief of staff for personnel's issues team, served as director of personnel for Pacific Air Forces and was director of manpower and personnel, Headquarters U.S. Central Command.

Jones earned a Master of Arts in business administration from the Webster University, St. Louis, Mo., in 1984 and graduated from both the Air Command and General Staff College (1991) and the Air War College (1994) at Maxwell Air Force Base Ala.

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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 amounting to thousands of dollars annually. For current savings figures for various groups – single member up to a family of seven – visit <http://www.commissaries.com>. 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.*