



NEWS RELEASE

Defense Commissary Agency

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Release Number: 45-09
Date: May 15, 2009
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Williams selected manager of Zone 25

*By Rick Brink,
DeCA East public affairs officer*

FORT LEE, Va. – Mary C. Williams, former store director of the Fort Meade, Md., commissary, didn't have far to travel for her latest assignment as DeCA East Zone 25 manager, which is a bit of a change from her travels for previous assignments in Europe and stateside commissaries.

The zone manager's office is located in the Fort Meade store so Williams simply moved into the space held by longtime zone manager Bill Busick, who retired earlier this year.

"It's one of the easiest moves I've ever made – literally from one office to another in the same building – and it's for one of the most demanding jobs I've ever had," Williams said.

"Thanks to the great support and work of all the people in the stores and at the region it's quickly become one of the most personally rewarding jobs I've had – seeing how everyone works together to provide a premier commissary benefit to so many customers."

Williams oversees the operation of eight commissaries in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware and the District of Columbia with annual sales of nearly \$250 million. She was promoted to zone manager in March after serving nearly one year as the Fort Meade store director. Her commissary career began in 1985 and she's been director of five other commissaries in assignments ranging from stores in Germany to the East and West coasts of the United States.

"Mary brings a positive, can-do attitude to every job she's been in, and her depth of commissary experience makes her very ready to handle the rigors of Zone 25 management," said

Bob Vitikacs, acting DeCA East director. “It’s a great group of stores and she’s taking them to even greater levels of accomplishments in sales and service.”

- 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.*