

## **Navy Nurse Corps Holds Change of Command**

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WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The 23rd director of the Navy Nurse Corps was appointed in a ceremony at the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery in Washington, D.C, Aug. 27.

In the ceremony, Rear Adm. Elizabeth S. Niemyer relieved Rear Adm. Karen Flaherty.

Flaherty will continue her responsibilities as the deputy chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.

During the ceremony, Niemyer was promoted to rear admiral (upper half) and was appointed as the 23rd director of the Navy Nurse Corp by Vice Adm. Adam M. Robinson Jr., the surgeon general of the Navy.

Niemyer said there is no greater honor or privilege for her than to serve as the director of the Nurse Corps.

"It is a responsibility that I accept humbly and without reservation knowing the nurses serving Navy Medicine, uniformed and civilian are the very best in the world," said Niemyer, to the nurses in attendance at the ceremony. "With your assistance and dedication we will build upon an already impressive record of 102 years of service by collectively raising the bar. Know that I will challenge you to think differently, ensure collaboration with the other services and hone your clinical excellence as we continue to meet Navy Medicine's mission...anytime, anywhere!"

Niemyer is a native of Annapolis, Md., and attended the University of Maryland where she received a Bachelor of Science in nursing in 1978. She was commissioned a lieutenant in the Navy Nurse Corps in 1981. Prior to joining the Nurse Corps, she worked as a medical surgical nurse and a public health nurse for the state of Virginia.

In her distinguished career, she has held numerous clinical nursing and nursing leadership positions at National Naval Medical Center Bethesda, Md., Naval Medical Clinic Quantico, Va., and Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton, Calif.

As a lieutenant commander she was transferred to Naval Hospital, Okinawa, Japan, as the risk manager. During this tour, she earned a Master of Science in human resource management from Chapman University. Following her Okinawa assignment, she was selected to attend graduate school at San Diego State University as a full time student in the Education and Training Management Subspecialty Program. She completed a Master of Arts in education with an emphasis in education technology in 1994 and transferred to Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton, Calif., as the department head for staff education and training.

Niemyer has held executive positions at the National Naval Medical Center, where she served as director for managed care; at Naval Hospital Rota, Spain, as the executive officer and commanding officer; at TRICARE Area Office – Europe as the executive director; at the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery as the assistant deputy chief of staff for operations; and at the TRICARE Regional Office – West as the regional director.

She is also a graduate of the Naval War College's non-resident program.

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Her personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal (Bronze Oak Leaf), Legion of Merit Medal (Gold Star), Meritorious Service Medal (Gold Star), Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal and National Defense Medal (Bronze Star).

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