

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CAPT. SCOTT L. JOHNSTON TO SERVE AS INTERIM DIRECTOR OF NAVAL CENTER FOR COMBAT & OPERATIONAL STRESS CONTROL

SAN DIEGO – Navy Capt. Scott L. Johnston has been named interim director of the Naval Center for Combat & Operational Stress Control (NCCOSC) following the appointment of the center’s current director, Navy Capt. Paul S. Hammer, MC, to lead the Defense Center of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury.

Johnston, a clinical psychologist, has been the assistant director of NCCOSC since January 2010. NCCOSC, which is based at Naval Medical Center San Diego, works to improve the psychological health of Navy and Marine Corps forces through programs that aid research, educate service members, build resilience and promote best practices in the treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury. Established in 2008 by Hammer, NCCOSC is a program of the Navy Bureau of Medicine & Surgery (BUMED).

“I’m completely confident that the NCCOSC mission to promote psychological health in our Sailors and Marines will continue to vigorously progress under Capt. Johnston’s guidance,” said Rear Adm. Elizabeth S. Niemyer, deputy chief, Wounded, Ill and Injured, and director of the Navy Nurse Corps. “His passion and dedication are exemplary.”

NCCOSC has developed standardized clinical programs for quality mental healthcare, designed evidence-based teaching materials for line leaders and warriors, and assisted scores of military and civilian clinicians with military mental health research.

Commissioned in 1993, Johnston has had five deployments, including two with Operation Iraqi Freedom and one with the Joint Task Force, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Academically, he has published and lectured around the world on the treatment of combat-related PTSD, building resilience in Marines and Sailors, and transitional interventions for returning warriors. He is board-certified in both forensic and clinical psychology.

His awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (two awards), Navy Achievement Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal (Fleet Marine Force), Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (Fleet Marine Force) and various service and unit awards.

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