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CAPT. SCOTT L. JOHNSTON TO SERVE AS NAVY MEDICINE'S TOP PSYCHOLOGIST

SAN DIEGO – Navy Capt. Scott L. Johnston has been named the Navy's specialty leader for psychology. Johnston, a clinical psychologist, is the director of the Naval Center for Combat & Operational Stress Control (NCCOSC). NCCOSC improves the psychological health of Sailors and Marines through comprehensive programs that educate service members, decrease stigma, build resilience, aid research and promote best practices in the treatment of combat and operational stress injuries.

"Capt. Johnston is a tireless advocate in promoting psychological health in our Sailors and Marines, and I'm confident he will be a passionate mentor to the Navy's psychological community," said Vice Adm. Matthew L. Nathan, Navy Surgeon General and Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, "Your appointment as specialty leader reflects your significant professional accomplishments and the esteem of your community."

The mission of Navy Clinical Psychology is to improve the psychological health of Sailors and Marines by delivering evidence-based comprehensive care, supporting warriors across the deployment cycle, and building a ready and resilient fighting force.

The psychology specialty leader provides technical and professional knowledge and experience. As the senior person in the discipline, he ensures specialty interests are linked to and aid sound management decisions within Navy Medicine. Specialty leaders are critical to the community management and leadership of Navy Medicine. Their roles provide essential focus and expertise for definitive problem solving and tactical and strategic planning.

Johnston is a native Californian and received his bachelor's degree from the University of California at Davis and his Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the Pacific Graduate School in Palo Alto. He also completed a post-doctoral fellowship in pediatric psychology at Harvard Medical School. He has been a licensed clinical psychologist since 1995 and is board certified in both forensic and clinical psychology.

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.

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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