

Supporting the Department's Efficiency Initiative



As most of you know, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates launched an Efficiency Initiative in June to significantly reduce the Department of Defense's excess overhead costs and apply the savings to force structure and modernization. Dr. Ashton Carter, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, then issued a memorandum for acquisition professionals that provided the framework of the initiative. Our agency can play a key role toward the success of the Department's effort and we must.

At the September Defense Contract Management Agency Council meeting, the senior leadership team identified four targets of opportunity, areas our agency can pursue to meet the Department's efficiency goals. The four areas consist of developing cost-savings strategies both internally at DCMA and externally for our customers. Internally, we will:

- Reexamine the way DCMA does training and development
- Reduce spending in the areas of conference and mission travel

Externally, we will:

- Better leverage our expertise in the contracts arena to find savings
- Work in tandem with industry to reduce redundancies and increase output for our customers.

I believe we can achieve significant efficiencies by pursuing each of these focus areas. We have already begun the process of identifying and implementing policy enhancements, and you will soon learn more details on action items for each target. In the meantime, I want every commander, manager, supervisor and leader, as well as each DCMA employee, to work diligently to identify ways to be more efficient in our business operations and find savings opportunities for our customers. Let's together challenge the status quo of doing business and find ways to make a difference.

Meeting the Department's challenge on the Efficiency Initiative provides yet another opportunity to highlight DCMA's mission performance. The hardworking men and women of this agency have continued to provide exceptional support to our warfighters in performing Contract Administration Service duties. This issue of the *Communicator* — Duty Today in DCMA — is dedicated to showcasing the great things our employees do every day in the field. The many photos included in this issue capture the diverse and critical work we perform across the agency. I want to thank each of you for all the work you have put in over the past couple of years moving our agency forward while tackling many of the challenges we have faced. You should know that I am proud of what you are doing, and I am confident we are making a difference for the warfighters and the taxpayers.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Charlie Williams, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Charlie Williams, Jr.
DCMA Director