

Col. Jeffrey Brand Assumes DCMA Chief of Staff Position

by Mr. Mark Woodbury, DCMA Public Affairs

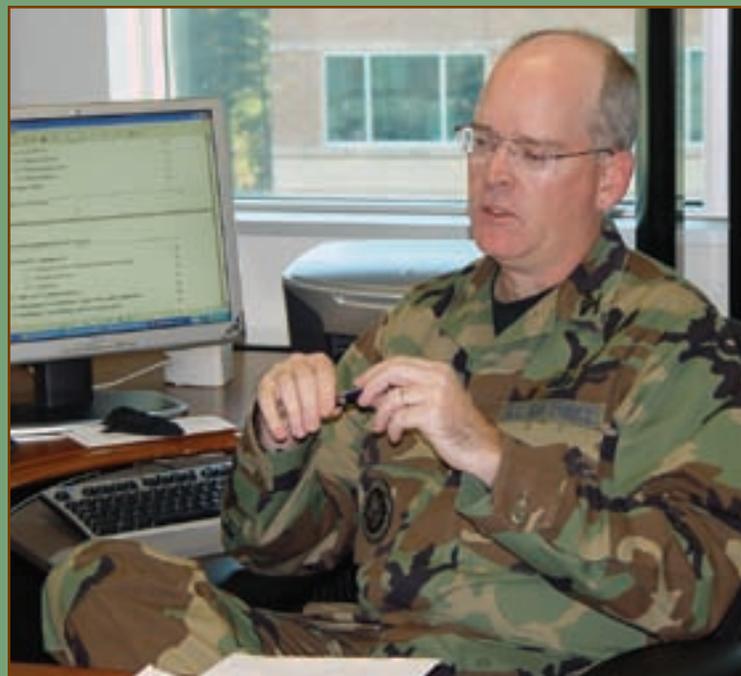
Air Force Col. Jeffrey Brand recently assumed the duties of chief of staff at Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA) Headquarters in Alexandria, Va., after serving as DCMA's NASA Product Operations commander in San Antonio, Texas.

As chief of staff, Col. Brand is the principal advisor to the DCMA director, providing mission support services across the Agency while maintaining responsibility for the

operation of the headquarters' special staff and the Combat Support Center.

Col. Brand's special staff includes congressional and public affairs, facilities and transportation, organization and administration, equal employment opportunity, procurement, protocol and security. His Combat Support Center duties include oversight of contingency contract administration services deployment activities and the DCMA liaison officers assigned to the U.S. combatant commanders.

Col. Brand said he feels his two prior DCMA assignments have given him the understanding and Agency insight needed for



the chief of staff position: "I think that being with the Agency for the past three-and-a-half years, and dealing with enterprise issues that came with being in those positions, has really prepared me for my assignment here," he said.

During his time as chief of staff, there are two key benchmarks Col. Brand wants to see accomplished: integrating performance-based management (PBM) into the Agency and assisting in the Headquarters' smooth "transfer of the flag" to Fort Lee, Va., in 2010. "We need to get top dead-center on integrating PBM as the integrated management style throughout

As chief of staff, Col. Brand is the principal advisor to the DCMA director, providing mission support services across the Agency while maintaining responsibility for the operation of the headquarters' special staff and the Combat Support Center.

(Above) Air Force Col. Jeffrey Brand, DCMA's newly appointed chief of staff, in his office at DCMA Headquarters in Alexandria, Va. (Photo by Ms. Julia Wyant, DCMA Public Affairs)

“We are involved in serious work, but we must strive to find the area within our work that puts a smile on our faces.”

the Agency,” he said. “I want to see, and assist in, making PBM a way of life here.”

Col. Brand said he is not worried about the growing pains that may come with PBM implementation within the Agency. “When you think of it from a staff perspective versus the challenges the field has, we almost have an easier time of it,” he said. “We do not have to try to analyze the contractor and figure out where we can best influence the contractor to do the job. We are, in fact, a service organization. And because of this, we should be able to analyze who are the customers and their priorities.”

Regarding his expectations for those he works with, Col. Brand says there are basically two: (1) think beyond the scope of your desk; and (2) seek out and strive for excellence. These expectations are in line with his leadership style, which he describes as integrative with emphasis on holding people accountable for their responsibilities. Within all of this, however, “I try to have fun with any job at

hand,” he said. “We are involved in serious work, but we must strive to find the area within our work that puts a smile on our faces.”

When he has time to relax, Col. Brand enjoys playing golf, reading and traveling “anywhere warm” with his wife, Barbara — also an Air Force colonel — who is currently serving as an appellate court judge at Bolling Air Force Base, D.C. Col. Brand and his wife have a joke that coming from Texas, they thought it was going to be nice to have the four seasons again. They quickly realized, “The only bad thing is ... we’re going to have the four seasons again.”

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Col. Brand is an ROTC distinguished military graduate of the University of Minnesota, Duluth. He also holds a Masters of Science degree in public administration and organizational theory from Golden Gate University, Calif.



(Above) DCMA's newly appointed chief of staff, Air Force Col. Jeffrey Brand (right), is interviewed by Mr. Mark Woodbury (left), DCMA Public Affairs. (Photo by Ms. Julia Wyant, DCMA Public Affairs)