



Dear Officers:

We are pleased to report that the pause in new calls-to-active duty has been lifted! The first list of new officers was just transmitted through the Executive Office of the President to the Senate for confirmation and we have established a new process to routinely bring on new officers on a regular basis.

In many areas, we are making great strides and appreciate your assistance, feedback and dedication to strengthening and improving the Corps. Since March 2010, we have been working closely with HHS senior leadership and Commissioned Corps officers on the following:

- Lifting the pause in new calls-to-duty;
- Conducting a Management Review of the Commissioned Corps;
- Clarifying and Crystallizing our Mission; and
- Working towards implementing the Ready Reserve Corps.

We are in the process of streamlining the administrative structure of the Corps by consolidating policy and operations under the Surgeon General. We are also establishing clear lines of reporting and accountability. To accomplish this, we have created ten working groups. Each working group will advise on operations of the new structure so that it will be fully functional in a timely manner.

Working Groups and Chairpersons:

Division of Civilian Medical Reserve Corps	RADM Michael Milner
Division of Science and Communications	RADM Helena Mishoe
Division of Commissioned Corps Personnel and Readiness	RADM William Stokes
Division of Systems Integration	RADM Sven Rodenbeck
Recruitment Branch	RADM William Bailey
Assignments and Career Management Branch	RADM Kerry Nessler
Assignment Team	RADM Ann Knebel
Training Team	RADM Scott Deitchman
Personnel Management Support Team	RADM Denise Canton
Readiness, Deployment and Ready Reserve Branch	RADM Scott Giberson

The Corps will continue its mission to protect and advance the health and safety of the Nation; however we will have a stronger emphasis on vulnerable and medically underserved populations. By doing so, we'll be in a better position to highlight the Corps' strengths and demonstrate the countless contributions made on a daily basis.

We are working on implementing the Ready Reserve Corps and in the coming months we will have more details to share with you on the policies and procedures for appointing new members.

Please continue to share your ideas with us so that we can better articulate the Corps' strengths to the Department, our stakeholders and the Nation. We are confident these changes will ensure a stronger and more responsive Commissioned Corps.

We are proud to serve as your leaders and we thank you for your service to the Nation.

Sincerely,



Howard K Koh, MD, MPH

Assistant Secretary for Health



Regina M Benjamin, MD, MBA

VADM, USPHS
Surgeon General