THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1200

HEALTH AFFAIRS

AUG 20 2018

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American Psychological Association Board of Directors
American Psychological Association
750 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002-4242

To the American Psychological Association Board of Directors,

I am writing to reaffirm the Department of Defense's (DoD) view on the American Psychological Association (APA) policy regarding the participation of military psychologists in national security settings as noted in the attached response to the APA, dated January 8, 2016.

The DoD and the Military Health System (MHS) continue to hold great value and respect for the professional associations associated with the Nation's health care system. Psychologists remain an integral and vital part of the MHS, leading programs and providing care related to behavioral health, post-traumatic stress, suicide prevention, substance use disorders, resiliency, domestic violence prevention, and special needs children. These programs cannot be successful without the support of the psychological community as a whole.

The policy adopted by the APA continues to be of concern to military psychologists. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Tom McCaffery
Acting

Attachment:
As stated