



NCOA CHANGE OF COMMAND

On Oct. 11, The Non-Commissioned Officers Academy conducted its Change of Command at 10 a.m. on the Park Reserve Forces Training Area Ceremonial Parade Field. Col Aaron P. Walter, who is the Commandant for the Army Reserve Readiness Training Center in Fort Knox, Ky. officiated the event. Sgt. Maj. Darren Williams placed the unit colors in the hands of Col. Walter signifying the end of his command. Then Col. Walter placed the colors in the hands of Command Sgt. Maj. Paul Yingst. This exchange, along with official orders, authorized Yingst to command of the NCOA.

Col. Walter congratulated Sgt. Maj. Williams on a job well done for transitioning the NCOA from Joint Base Lewis-McCord and ensuring the successful start of the first NCOA class here on Parks RFTA. Also he expressed great confidence in Command Sgt. Maj Yingst abilities to command the NCOA and to bring it into a greater level of excellence.

The cadre of the NCOA consist of approximately 70 senior and junior NCOs and an expected student population of 100 per rotation. Their mission is to conduct Noncommissioned Officer Education System (NCOES) training based on the U. S. Army course management plan in accordance with approved regulatory guidance. Also, to develop today's and tomorrow's warrior leaders in those skills and traits necessary to lead, train, and mentor Soldiers for the current and future asymmetric operating environments.

An uncasing ceremony to commemorate the official transfer of the NCOA colors to Parks RFTA will be conducted on Oct. 28 with the first graduating class of the NCOA.

For more photos [click here](#)

