

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
January 7, 2011



**Contact:**  
Debbie George  
757-514-4106  
757-374-1770

**SUFFOLK MAYOR RESPONDS TO THE WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE  
DISESTABLISHMENT OF THE U. S. JOINT FORCES COMMAND**

SUFFOLK, VA (January 7, 2011) Yesterday's news of President Obama's acceptance of Secretary of Defense Robert Gates' recommendations to disestablish United States Joint Forces Command (JFCOM) was imminent.

However, Mayor Johnson was encouraged that Secretary Gates provided some official notice regarding the future of the JFCOM functions remaining in the area. "I remain hopeful that a number of critical joint training missions have been identified, and will be retained in Suffolk," Johnson stated. Gates briefed that approximately 50 percent of the capabilities currently performed at JFCOM will be kept at their current locations, to include the retention of some functions at both Naval Station Norfolk and the Suffolk campus.

Mayor Johnson will be meeting with JFCOM Commander, General Raymond T. Odierno next week. She advised, "I look forward to meeting with General Odierno, and learning more about the vital functions that will remain in Hampton Roads and Suffolk."

##