

Major General Gale Pollock, CRNA, Assumes Command at Walter Reed

Army Surgeon General Submits Retirement Request

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On March 11 Lt. Gen. Kevin C. Kiley, Army Surgeon General and Commanding General of Army Medical Command, submitted his request to retire from the U.S. Army to Acting Secretary of the Army Pete Geren. Maj. Gen. Gale Pollock, CRNA, current Deputy Surgeon General, immediately assumed the Surgeon General's duties.

Acting Secretary Geren further directed March 11 the immediate convening of the required advisory board who will recommend a slate of candidates from among officers in the Army Medical Department for consideration as the next Surgeon General, to be approved by the President of the United States and confirmed by the Senate. Major General Pollock will execute the duties of The Surgeon General/Commanding General, Army Medical Command until a new officer is named.

Maj. Gen. Gale S. Pollock became the U.S. Army Deputy Surgeon General in October 2006. Pollock received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Maryland. She attended the U.S. Army Nurse Anesthesia Program and is a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA). She received her Master of Business Administration from Boston University; a Master's in Healthcare Administration from Baylor University, a Master's in National Security and Strategy from the National Defense University, and an honorary Doctorate of Public Service from the University of Maryland. She is also a Fellow in The American College of Healthcare Executives (FACHE).

Pollock's last position was Commanding General, Tripler Army Medical Center, Pacific Regional Medical Command, U.S. Army Pacific Surgeon; and Lead Agent, TRICARE Pacific, Honolulu, Hawaii. Her military education includes the Department of Defense CAPSTONE Program; the Senior Service College at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces; the U.S. Air Force War College; the Interagency Institute for Federal Health Care Executives; the Military Health System CAPSTONE program; the Principles of Advanced Nurse Administrators; and the NATO Staff Officer Course.

Her past military assignments include Special Assistant to the Surgeon General for Information Management and Health Policy; Commander, Martin Army Community Hospital, Fort Benning, Ga.; Commander, U.S. Army Medical Activity, Fort Drum, N.Y.; Staff Officer, Strategic Initiatives Command Group for the Army Surgeon General; Department of Defense Healthcare Advisor to the Congressional Commission on Service Members and Veterans Transition Assistance; Health Fitness Advisor at the National Defense University; Senior Policy Analyst in Health Affairs, DoD; and Chief, Anesthesia Nursing Service at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C.

Pollock's awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit (with 2 oak leaf clusters), the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (with 4 oak leaf clusters), the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal. She earned the coveted Expert Field Medical Badge, and is proud to wear the Parachutist Badge. She received the Army Staff Identification Badge for her work at the Pentagon and earned the German Armed Forces Military Efficiency Badge "Leistungsabzeichen" in gold.