



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Meals-on-Wheels Greater San Diego, Inc. Names James A. Johnson, MD as New President/CEO**

Senior Service Organization Chooses Candidate with a Legacy of Service

**SAN DIEGO, CA – April 27, 2006** – Meals-on-Wheels Greater San Diego, Inc. today announces the appointment of James A. Johnson, MD as its new President/CEO. Dr. Johnson, a veteran service official who has been a navy surgeon, commanding officer, proven fundraiser and a champion of community service, will lead the 45 year old organization serving over 3,000 seniors in San Diego after 28 years of service in the Military.

Dr. Johnson brings to the organization a wealth of knowledge in the healthcare arena, including the areas of hospitals, healthcare systems and health plan/insurance organizations. In addition to his military service, Dr. Johnson's experience as a solo practitioner enhanced his knowledge of the ins and outs of running a business. Dr. Johnson brings his proven track record of successful leadership, both within the private and military sectors.

"His experience really set him apart," said Neil Larson, chairman of the board and a member of the presidential search committee. "He's very personable and has the ability to engage people. He comes out of a strong Military background and we were very impressed with his commitment to service. It is with great honor and anticipation that Meals-on-Wheels welcomes Dr. Johnson to the organization."

Following his residency, Dr. Johnson remained at the University of California, Los Angeles as a lecturer for one year. He went on to solo practice and though his private practice was quite successful, Dr. Johnson chose to return to full-time

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active duty in the Navy. During a subsequent assignment to Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton in Oceanside, CA, he held a progression of assignments including Staff Surgeon; Chairman, Department of Surgery; and finally, Director of Surgical Services.

During his 28 year military career in assignments such as the Naval Hospital, San Diego and Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps, Washington DC, and TRICARE Region Office West Dr. Johnson achieved the rank of Rear Admiral. He earned certificates from the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Medical Management, and is also recognized as an Assistant Clinical Professor of Surgery at the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences. His affiliation with civilian medical organizations includes his status as a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, and he is a member of the American Medical Association, National Medical Association, American College of Physician Executives, Association of Military Surgeons of the United States, and Society of Medical Consultants to the Armed Forces. He has also been highly decorated for his service in the military.

Dr. Johnson earned his undergraduate degree in Biology/Chemistry at Oberlin College in Oberlin, OH, in 1965. He received his Doctor of Medicine with Distinction in Research at the University of Rochester in Rochester, NY, in 1970 and completed both his general surgery internship and residency at the University of California at Los Angeles in 1977.

### **ABOUT MEALS-ON-WHEELS**

Meals-on-Wheels Greater San Diego, Inc. has been delivering meals to local seniors for 45 years. Agency-wide, over 2,500 volunteers donate their time to serve more than 3,000 seniors throughout San Diego County each year. Meals-on-Wheels volunteers deliver two meals a day, seven days a week, to seniors, age 60 and older, at all income levels. The nutritional content of the meals makes up two-thirds of the Recommended Daily Allowance of nutrition prescribed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and special diets are available for those who need them. The agency's mission is to help seniors remain independent in the security of their own homes, and with the support of the community, Meals-On-Wheels will continue to flourish. For more information, please contact Meals-on-Wheels at (619) 260-6110 or via email at [mow@meals-on-wheels.org](mailto:mow@meals-on-wheels.org).

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