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MEDIA ADVISORY

Alaska National Guard

Release 16-048

FOR July 8, 2016

Alaska Air National Guard's 176th Wing change of command ceremony

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska — The Alaska Air National Guard's 176th Wing is scheduled to host a change of command ceremony here Tuesday, July 12 at 11 a.m.

Col. Steven deMilliano will accept command of the 176th Wing from Col. Blake Gettys, who is returning to his civilian career and possibly continuing military service at Alaska Joint Forces Headquarters as a drill status Guardsman.

DeMilliano moved here from Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado, where he was the vice director of operations for North American Aerospace Defense Command, responsible to the director of operations for safeguarding the air sovereignty of North America including Canada, Alaska, and the contiguous United States.

As 176th Wing commander, deMilliano will be responsible for one of the busiest wings in the Air National Guard with more than 1,400 members, four different airframes and multiple missions including combat search and rescue, tactical airlift, strategic airlift, air control and rescue coordination.

Gettys has served as the 176th Wing commander, Alaska Air National Guard, since October 2014.

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Details:

What: Change of Command, 176th Wing commander, Alaska ANG

When: **Tuesday, July 12, 2016**

Where: Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson

Note: Media interested in attending the ceremony must call 907-552-3959 to RSVP *no later than 3 p.m. Monday, July 11*. Please leave a message with name, affiliation, and cell number. Plan to meet at the Boniface gate visitor's center at 10:20 a.m. on Tuesday for escort to the event. Both Gettys and deMilliano will be available briefly after the event for interviews.