

Team AFMOA,

In 1962, the President of the United States took a brief trip to visit NASA. At one point in the tour, he encountered a custodian dutifully sweeping the floor. The president approached the man and said, "Hello, I'm Jack Kennedy. What's your job here?" To his surprise, the janitor enthusiastically responded, "Well, Mr. President, I'm helping put a man on the moon!" Clearly, the custodian understood how his job – one that many would consider menial – affected the greater mission at NASA.

Perhaps you've heard me tell this story before, but it bears repeating. It reminds us that the work we do on a daily basis has a huge impact. No matter what role you play on Team AFMOA, your efforts are absolutely critical to meeting the overall mission.

This is especially true now, as our mission statement was recently revised to "Leading change for better care and mission support through policy execution across the Air Force Medical Service." Ultimately, what you do here at AFMOA drives better care for warfighters and their families. It provides vital mission support, not only to ensure optimal medical readiness, but also to engender trust that those who go into harm's way will come home safely.

In the coming days, you'll see some visual reminders in the area about AFMOA's new mission statement, as well as our updated vision statement. I hope you will think about them as you go about your daily work, and thoughtfully consider how your duties connect to the greater mission. How would you answer the question, "What's your job here?" The answer is likely much more impactful than you realize.

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