

## Civilian disturbances, national ceremonies and Covid-19 confirms the need for relationships

By Robert Martin, USAWC PAO 23 March 2021



*Maj. Gen. Omar Jones, Commanding General of U.S Army Military District of Washington and Joint Force Headquarters-National Capital Region.*

Maj. Gen. Omar Jones, Commanding General of U.S Army Military District of Washington and Joint Force Headquarters-National Capital Region, spoke of the challenges of civilian disturbances that occurred after the death of George Floyd and the events of January 6.

Speaking in Bliss Hall, March 23, to about 90 socially distanced students while the majority were watching virtually, Jones began the presentation talking about the unique command with responsibility to protect the National Capital Region. He then gave a brief outline of JTF component commands responsibilities and mission.

Jones told the USAWC Class of 2021 a story of his first 22 months: planning for the July 4 Salute to America in the middle of Washington DC.; the ceremonies and outreach events that require military planning and security; Covid19 response and adjustment as the headquarters emptied

out and work remotely.

Changing gears, he offered key take-aways that have only been reinforced during these months. People First; invest in relationship; authorities matter; importance of mission command; and understanding the strategic, operational and tactical context, he noted.

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