

Minutes for the Florida Defense Alliance Teleconference on Tuesday, January 28, 2020

The Florida Defense Alliance held a teleconference from 10:00 AM – 11:27 AM EST.

Present at the Meeting:

First Name	Last Name	Organization
Mike	Allen	Florida Makes
Andre	Anderson	Department of Economic Opportunity
Jonathan	Borgert	South Dade MAC
Jim	Breitenfeld	Okaloosa County Defense Support Initiative
Cindy	Brown	Senate Military Affairs Committee
Diana	Caldwell	Florida Senate
Jennifer	Codo-Salisbury	CFRPC/FDA Exec Board
Ray	Collins	Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Harrison	Conyers	City of Jacksonville
Neal	Finkelstein	National Center for Simulation
Pete	Gandy	Santa Rosa County
Bruce	Grant	
Michelle	Griggs	Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Tim	Jones	Cybrix Group/TBDA/FDA Vice Chair
Wayne	Justice	Canaveral Port Authority
Kellie Jo	Kilberg	FDA Chair
Trudy	McCarthy	Space Coast EDC
Tara	McCue	East Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Beth	Medina	Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Liz	Miller	Department of Economic Opportunity
Rick	Miller	South Florida Defense Alliance
Chris	Moore	Bay Defense Alliance
Kay	Rasmussen	Okaloosa County EDC/DSI Committee
Randy	Roy	NAS Whiting Field
Dan	Schneckenburger	CareerSource Tampa Bay
Lynn	Schultz	Building Healthy Military Communities
Matt	Schwalb	Matrix Design Group

A quorum being present, **Michelle Griggs** began the call on January 28, 2020 at 10:00 AM EST.

1) Agenda Item I: Roll Call

Michelle Griggs took roll of members on the call by region.

2) Agenda Item II: Opening Remarks

Chair, Kellie Jo Kilberg began the call by welcoming members and wishing them a Happy New Year. She reminded everyone that the agenda is full and delved into the meeting by introducing Matt Schwalb from Matrix Design Group to discuss the final results of their Economic Impact Study for 2018.

3) Agenda Item III: Economic Impact Study Final Results

Matt Schwalb, Matrix Design Group, presented an update on the Florida Defense Industry Economic Impact Analysis giving an update on the direct spending coming into the state of Florida in FY 2018. National trends in defense spending shows that in 2011 defense spending declined due to sequestration, has since rebounded to just over \$700 Billion and is forecast to decline slightly over the next three or four years. These predictions are provided by the DoD. Defense spending is driven by threats, so these figures may change in the future.

Dating back to 1940, 90% of the federal budget was consumed by defense spending coming out of World War II, then moving forward in 1950 with the Korean War, in 1966-1968 and the Vietnam War were significant contributors and made up a significant portion of the federal budget, but it has declined significantly. Defense is now at about 15% of the federal budget and about 4% of the overall gross domestic product.

At the state level, Matrix Design Group analyzes direct spending from certain spending flows such as installation flow, procurement and transfer payments and breaks them out into components of the federal military, National Guard and Coast Guard. This study will be completed in the next month and at that point they will finalize the Factbook and the report.

Direct spending in the state of Florida in 2018 broken down into the three components shows that procurement spending increased 24%, salaries show an increase of 3.8% and transfer payments increased 4.4%. These increases are from the numbers in the 2016 study.

Good news is that from 2015 to 2018, defense contracts in the aerospace and engineering fields in Brevard and Orange Counties has nearly doubled. This makes up nearly 60% of all manufacturing contracts. If Okaloosa County is included, it increases the total to about 70% of all manufacturing contracts coming out of those three counties. These numbers are sectioned into manufacturing, professional scientific and technical service and construction. The highest numbers are associated with manufacturing and professional scientific and technical services which brings in higher value, higher paying jobs.

Regarding transfer payments and VA benefits, the Florida trend shows that the number of veterans in the state is declining and has done so at about 11% since 2009. Good news is that the national trend is about 15% over that same period, so Florida is doing better in retaining the veteran's population. The number is declining because the overall force structure has declined over time, and Florida is not pushing out the number of veterans relative to historic trends. Increasing amount of expenditures coming into the state are driven primarily by compensation and pensions along with medical (healthcare costs).

The final economic impact numbers are as follows:

2018 Florida Defense Industry Impacts

Installation Footprint	\$50.7B	417,950 jobs	53.4%
• Military Personnel			

- Civilian Personnel
- Base Operations

Procurement **\$21.3B** **225,589 jobs** **22.4%**

- Manufacturing
- Professional and Technical Services
- Construction

Transfer Payments **\$23.0B** **271,248 jobs** **24.2%**

- DoD Retirement Payments
- VA Compensation and Spending

Total **\$94.9B** **914,787 jobs** **100%**

Distribution of Impact by Component: Military 92%; National Guard 5%; Coast Guard 3%

Regional Defense Impacts

Region	Economic Impact (\$B)	Employment	Distribution of Impacts
Northwest Region	\$22.7	209,622	23.9%
East Central Region	\$18.4	190,366	19.3%
Tampa Bay Region	\$19.3	183,942	20.3%
Northeast Region	\$16.1	155,355	16.9%
Southeast Region	\$14.2	124,437	14.9%
Southwest Region	\$2.3	25,346	2.4%
North Central Region	\$1.8	21,928	1.9%
South Central Region	\$0.3	3,790	0.3%

In summary:

- The economic impact is approximately \$95 billion
- Total jobs supported are approximately 915,000
- Impacts have grown by 12% since 2016
- The defense industry continues to account for 9% of Florida's economy
- Since 2015, defense-related manufacturing contracts have doubled to \$9 billion, led by Brevard and Orange counties with \$5.7 billion combined

He discussed the changes from the study performed in 2016 study as compared to the 2018 study. A quick comparison flier can be found [HERE](#).

Matt can be reached at (850) 902.2111 or Matt_Schwab@matrixdesigngroup.com with any further questions.

4) Agenda Item IV: FDSTF Update

Ray Collins briefed that he is currently working on the Task Force's (TF) Progress Report (from the previous year) and Work Plan (for next year) which the TF is statutorily required to submit yearly to the Governor, the Senate President and the Speaker of the House by February 1st. Staff has decided to change submit this report based on fiscal year as it would be more useful for the Legislature as they work on the State Budget.

The TF will be accepting out of cycle grants for the FY2019-2020 grant cycle for new and worthwhile projects. Grant applications must be submitted prior to the March 2020 TF meeting (March 19th). Presentations will be held at the May TF meeting.

Ray will be in Jacksonville tomorrow (Wednesday, January 29th) speaking to the local Florida Defense Groups and all are welcome to attend.

Staff will participate in the FDVA's Governor's Challenge to reduce the rate of suicide for servicemembers and veterans as **Ray Collins** will be the primary representative and **Beth Medina** will be the alternate.

5) Agenda Item V: Legislative Update

Beth Medina briefed that the Florida Defense Act is not in play during this Session. The decision was made to move the discussion on the future of Florida's military & defense structure to after this Legislative Session.

This week the House and Senate Appropriations Sub-Committees will meet. Staff is following roughly 62 bills which have some veterans or military affiliation regarding issues such as education, family services, ad valorem taxes and tax exemptions.

Staff is working on the TF and FDA Strategic Plans, aligning the visions and mission statements. They are working to identify the consolidated visions and ensuring acknowledgement that Florida is the most military friendly state. Staff has spoken with the Governor's office on confirmation on his three main priority activities, which remain the same but in a different order:

- (1) Space Command and Space Force to Florida
- (2) Gulf Range Complex and the extension of the moratorium
- (3) Tyndall AFB rebuild

Staff will keep sharing information to keep everyone on the same page. The Governor's office is very thankful to everyone visiting Washington, DC, keeping the Gulf Range issue in front of everyone.

6) Agenda Item VI: Around the State/Top 3 Challenges

Northwest Florida:

Randy Roy, NAS Whiting Field, discussed a few current base buffering projects near NAS Whiting Field; they will be applying for the REPI Challenge for 2020; and Santa Rosa County's new contract with Leonardo for a total of \$648 million for 32 TH-73 Alpha aircrafts. **Pete Gandy**, Santa Rosa County, added that the contract with Leonardo is financially beneficial to Santa Rosa county because they have committed to build a maintenance and repair facility on the land owned by the county, adjacent to the runway at South Field. The first facility will be about 100,00 square feet and the county is working to install the infrastructure to support that new facility which will bring about 60 high-paying jobs to Santa Rosa County. **Kay Rasmussen**, Okaloosa County EDC and the DSI Committee, discussed that The Defense Support Initiatives (DSI) team will be traveling to Washington, DC for education and advocacy on February 24th through February 26th. Priorities include the Military Mission Line (MML), the Eglin AFB Gulf Test and Training Range (EGTTR) and the Gulf Range Enhancement Plan (GRE). They are currently circulating a request for consideration to submit a letter to Florida's Senators in Washington, DC. The letter can be viewed [HERE](#). They have also created a Point Paper and Summary Brochure, addressing their top priorities, which can be viewed [HERE](#). The Tri-County Partnership Initiative (TCPI) has recently stood up two new workgroups: Workforce Housing, addressing the quality, affordable

housing challenges of military personnel, and Installation Resiliency, addressing how they can improve the resiliency of the installations in the face of a challenge. Last year a Child Care Facility Task Force was stood which identified the challenges and possible solutions a of the growing childcare issue. Kay will be representing the TCPI Child Care Facility Task Force on the Conquering the Child Care Challenge panel at the National Association of Defense Communities forum in San Antonio, Texas on February 10th through February 12th. **Kent Wimmer**, Defenders of Wildlife, informed that he will be attending a meeting in Atlanta in early March where REPI staff will be discussing the process for accepting Sentinel Landscape applications in 2020. **Chris Moore**, Bay Defense Alliance, discussed the appropriation in the NDAA which includes \$2.4 billion for the rebuild of Tyndall AFB, nearing them to their goal of \$4.2 billion needed for the complete rebuild. Tyndall AFB recently held its first public scoping session for the F-35 and the MQ-9 Reaper beddown during which the community came out and they received over 100 positive comments. They expect a preliminary record of decision to be made before the end of 2020. The NDAA also included \$110 million for building repair at NAS Panama City as 80% of their buildings were damaged by Hurricane Michael. A yearly Spouse and Family Forum was held recently where it was announced that part of strategic basing decisions and retention issue will include spousal employment and license reciprocity and the Air Force has recognized the Florida Legislature as leading the way on these issues. CareerSource at Gulf Coast State College has been hard at work providing awareness and promotion for military spousal employment. At a recent event with over 35 military spouses in attendance, Verizon announced their job portability program which is ideally suited and targeted toward mobile military spouses.

Northeast Florida:

Harrison Conyers, City of Jacksonville, discussed the launching of a five-county effort in Northeast Florida called FIREWATCH to impact veterans' suicide. The short-term goal is to sign up 10,000 watch standers for peer-to-peer counseling and early intervention for those at-risk, as well as reducing veterans' suicide by 10% this year. The Northeast Florida Washington, DC Fly-In will be on June 2nd and 3rd and will focus on level loading for the ship repair industry and the new round of F-35 availability for the National Guard, advocating for the 125th Fighter Wing in Jacksonville. They are in the process of meeting with willing sellers for a large parcel of non-conservation land near NAS Jacksonville. The overall purchase will be \$17 million for the development rights to this property. Infrastructure improvement on base has focused on the Fleet Readiness Center and the Littoral Combat Ships. \$40 million has been spent on hangar repairs at NAS Jacksonville and they are nearing the completion of the logistics support facility for the Littoral Combat Ships and a parking facility for the sailors and technicians employed there.

East Central Florida:

Trudy McCarthy, Economic Development Commission of the Space Coast, discussed that the Space Coast's Washington, DD trip is planned for the last week of April. They recently attended the grand opening of the new STARBASE Academy at Patrick AFB which was supported by a grant from the FDSTF.

West Central Florida:

Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Central Florida Regional Planning Council, discussed that there will be a hearing next Tuesday, February 4th before the Polk County Board of County Commissioners regarding the Triple Canopy Ranch property on which is proposed a 1,000-unit RV park. They are hoping they BOCC understands the compatibility issues and will not approve this development which sits less than two miles off the range.

South Florida:

Rick Miller, **South Florida Defense Alliance**, discussed that progress is being made in the fight for the incompatible development adjacent to the Coast Guard base on Miami Beach as the Miami Beach Mayor and the City Manager plan to visit the area to see the issue first-hand. Also, the developer might be looking for some other options.

Last week they were instrumental in helping USSOUTHCOM organize an Industry Day at which developers are trying to solve the housing issue at USSOUTHCOM, SOCSOUTH and other military commands in the area. The good news is that they may have a P3-type of solution which has a good chance to come to fruition. More to follow.

The leadership at USSOUTHCOM mentioned some issues and concerns regarding the cost of living in Key West at JIATF South, which impacts the Army and Coast Guard. Rick will contact Beth and Ray later to discuss and obtain input on this issue.

7) Agenda Item VII: Closing Comments

Chair, Kellie Jo Kilberg thanked everyone for the great information and discussion on the call. She is looking forward to seeing everyone at the ADC Forum in early February. The Mission Sustainment Working Group will hold its conference call on March 25th at 10 AM. The Family Support Working Group Conference Call will also be held in March, day and time to be announced soon.

The conference call was adjourned at 11:27 AM EST.

Minutes for the Florida Defense Alliance Teleconference on Wednesday, May 20, 2020

The Florida Defense Alliance held a teleconference from 09:30 AM – 12:35 PM EDT.

Present at the Meeting:

First Name	Last Name	Organization
Chad	Allison	Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Keith	Ball	Society of American Military Engineers
Pamela	Berkowsky	South Florida Defense Alliance
Jim	Breitenfeld	Okaloosa County Defense Support Initiative
Cindy	Brown	Senate Military Affairs Committee
Jennifer	Codo-Salisbury	CFRPC/FDA Exec Board
Harrison	Conyers	City of Jacksonville
Dave	Dahl	Navy Region Southeast
Ryan	Fierst	Department of Economic Opportunity
Neal	Finkelstein	National Center for Simulation
Sheila	Fitzgerald	Santa Rosa County
Pete	Gandy	Santa Rosa County
Brooke	Gilbert	Bay Defense Alliance
Debi	Graham	Greater Pensacola Chamber
Michelle	Griggs	Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Don	Heaton	Pinecastle Range Complex
Paul	Hirsch	Madison Government Affairs
Tim	Jones	Cybrix Group/TBDA/FDA Vice Chair
Wayne	Justice	Canaveral Port Authority
Dale	Ketcham	Space Florida
Jim	Kuzma	Space Florida
Kellie Jo	Kilberg	FDA Chair
Buck	MacLaughlin	Avon Park Air Force Range
Mike	Macedonia	University of Central Florida
Elizabeth	May	Society of American Military Engineers
Beth	Medina	Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Chris	Middleton	University of West Florida
Liz	Miller	Department of Economic Opportunity
Rick	Miller	South Florida Defense Alliance

- US Coast Guard Base Miami Beach

1115 – 1125 What is Resiliency? How do we define the term?..... Beth Medina

1125 – 1140 M&D Staff Updates..... Beth Medina

1140 – 1150 Grants Update..... Liz Miller

1150 – 1155 National Security Innovation Network Programs.....Dr. Michael Macedonia

1155 – 1225 Around the State/Top challengesBy Region

- Northwest: Escambia, Santa Rosa, Walton, Okaloosa and Bay
- Northeast: Duval and Clay
- East Central Florida: Brevard and Orange
- West Central Florida: Highlands, Polk, Tampa, and Pinellas
- South Florida: Miami-Dade and Monroe

1225 – 1230 Closing Comments & Adjournment.....Chair

A quorum being present, Michelle Griggs began the call on May 20, 2020 at 9:30 AM EDT.

1) Agenda Item I: Roll Call

Michelle Griggs took roll of members on the call by region.

2) Agenda Item II: Opening Remarks

Chair, Kellie Jo Kilberg began the call by welcoming members and thanking them for being a part of FDA, especially as we navigate through this health crisis to find the new normal.

3) Agenda Item III: Space Florida Update/USSPACECOM Headquarters Basing Criteria

Dale Ketcham and Jim Kuzma, Space Florida, updated on the Air Force’s basing action criteria for communities interested in USSPACECOM headquarters. Minimum eligibility requirements in order to nominate and to be considered for further evaluation include:

- Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) - Be within one of the 150 largest Metropolitan Statistical Areas in the United States, based on census bureau 2019 population estimates. This ensures that eligible locations can support the expected increase in staff and their families.
- Proximity to a Military Base - Be within 25 miles or less of a military base to ensure eligible locations can support service members and their families with key support services like military housing, health care, childcare, commissary, and personnel and logistics support.
- Livability Index - Have a Livability Index score of 50 points out of 100 or higher as determined by the American Association of Retired Persons Public Policy Institute. This criterion ensures that eligible locations can provide a quality of life that enables U.S. Space Command to competitively attract and retain a skilled workforce. Quality of life factors measured by the index include housing affordability, great neighborhoods, safe and convenient transportation, clean air and water, quality health services, civic/social involvement, and inclusive opportunities.

The evaluation criteria and relative ability of eligible locations to support the United States Space Command mission. Evaluations will be scored on a weighted 100-point scale.

- Mission Related (40 points) –Assessment of the available qualified workforce, proximity to mutually supporting space entities, and ability of the eligible locations to provide emergency and incident response requirements and enable mobility.
- Infrastructure Capacity (30 points) –Infrastructure requirements to include facility and parking space, communications bandwidth and redundancy, special access communications, anti-terrorism, force protection (AT/FP) and security requirements, energy resilience, and the nearest active duty installation's base operating support to service members to include medical care, childcare, military housing, and transportation.
- Community Support (15 points) –Support to military families as measured by the quality of schools, professional licensure portability, cost of living, housing affordability, and access to military/veteran support programs
- Costs to the Department of the Air Force (15 points) – One-time infrastructure and transportations costs, area construction cost factor, basic housing allowance rate, and area locality pay.

The letter from John Henderson, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force to the nation's Governors regarding USSPACECOM headquarters basing criteria can be found [HERE](#).

The submission letter template to the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force can be found [HERE](#). The Air Force will then make their first round of selections from those communities which meet all the above criteria.

4) Agenda Item IV: Cyber Panel

Tim Jones introduced the participants of the panel:

Neal M. Finkelstein, Ph.D., National Center for Simulation

Dale Ketcham, Space Florida

Chris Middleton, University of West Florida

Ryan Fierst, Department of Economic Opportunity

Dr. Neal Finkelstein, National Center for Simulation (NCS), presented on modeling simulation and training as it pertains to cyber to include cost effect on the defense industry, their collaborations and partnerships within the state, their mission as it pertains to saving time, money and lives and NCS's industry resources with a membership of over 260 companies, growing daily.

Dale Ketcham, Space Florida, presented on Cyber Security Capability in the National Security Space Domain. Their short-term goal includes capturing the headquarters of the US Space Command; long-term is to capture more National Security Space Cyber Programs, missions and units. Strengths are depth and breadth of capability; a weakness is the diversity of applications spread across the state.

Key points for US Space Force establishment are:

- Fundamentally transform their approach to space from a combat support function to a warfighting domain.
- Establish the U.S. Space Force as a separate military service inside the Department of the U.S. Air Force.
- Maximize warfighting capacity and advocacy for space while minimizing bureaucracy.
- Outpace future threats by reenergizing the Defense Department's space development culture to rapidly build, deploy, operate and innovate at a low cost.
- Bring a full-time operational focus to defend our vital national interests in space.

Chris Middleton, University of West Florida (UWF), presented on UWF's partnership with the Tampa Bay Defense Alliance to address the security clearance timeline and how they are working to have students begin the process while they are still in school. He discussed an overview for technology employers including the problem of workplace shortfalls for the contracting pipeline and the opportunities and methods on which to improve; undergraduate, multidisciplinary cybersecurity programs at the graduate and certificate levels at UWF and their strategic alignment; the process of obtaining security clearance starting during the third year of study and continuing through the fourth year and job search; and a proposed cyber pilot program timeline.

Ryan Fierst, Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), provided an update on the DEO Cybersecurity Training and Awareness Program. DEO has received a grant by the DoD to create a cybersecurity training and assistance program for Florida Defense Contractors. Over the next year DEO will promote awareness of and aid Florida's Defense Industrial Base (DIB) in implementing the current DFARS and NIST 800-171 Standards for cybersecurity requirements, as well as general business continuity, risk management and resilience principles; and allow members of the Florida DIB to understand and prepare for the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) requirements currently being developed by the DoD for implementation by all contractors doing business with the DoD beginning this year (and fully implemented within 5 years).

DEO will work with strategic local partners to engage the defense supplier community. National, state and local resources in cybersecurity training and technical assistance will also be encouraged to participate, following initial vetting and evaluation. Virtual or webinar capabilities will be available to allow them to conduct these sessions online as necessary during the present COVID-19 situation.

The grant will allow them to provide funding and assistance for Florida Defense Contractors to comply with the current DFARS and NIST 800-171 Standards for cybersecurity. They will also provide additional resources for companies within the FL defense supply chain to assist them in developing best practices and planning for business continuity and resiliency.

All presentations can be viewed on the Florida Defense Alliance website [HERE](#).

5) **Agenda Item V: Resiliency & Encroachment Panel**

Rick Miller, South Florida Defense Alliance, introduced the participants of the panel:

Dave Dahl, Navy Region Southeast

Randy Roy, NAS Whiting Field

Captain Harry Mautte, US Coast Guard Base Miami Beach

Matt Schellhorn, NAS Jacksonville, and

Don Heaton, Pinycastle Range Complex

Dave Dahl, Navy Region Southeast, presented on Bugg Spring, is a naturally occurring, first magnitude, isothermal, isosaline, iso-acoustic, 160-foot deep, freshwater spring located 35 miles northwest of Orlando at Okahumpka, Florida. Its mission is underwater acoustic sensor calibration. Bugg Spring is threatened by low frequency ground or air vibrations from incompatible development near the spring, The Villages expansion to the from the north, peat mining and groundwater depletion.

Acoustic measurements performed in Bugg Spring serve critical functions in the research, development and in-service support of Navy SONAR systems. This is the only location that calibrates towed SONAR arrays. Research and development will bring next generation of advanced SONAR systems to the fleet. Dense vegetation surrounding the spring and its somewhat isolated location contribute to the low noise levels and integrity of the spring.

Randy Roy, NAS Whiting Field, discussed their \$6 million Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP) wastewater project proposal. This grant opportunity would address an aging and "near capacity"

wastewater treatment facility that dates to the 1960s. The city's proposed project has completed several long-lead items to include match funding, design, permitting/planning and required grant program criteria elements that make it feasible, reasonable and allocable. The project is "shovel-ready" and if approved, will help enhance the installation's planned mission growth and resiliency to sustain personnel, pilot training and required infrastructure. The city of Milton's contributions toward the effort is approximately 80%, well above the required 50% match as directed in the NDAA and OEA grant application requirements. The completed facility will eliminate 100% of treated water discharge into the Blackwater River Forest

Captain Harry Mautte, United States Coast Guard, presented on encroachment challenges due to their location in Miami including proposed rezoning and residential condominium tower development on Terminal Island near Base Miami Beach; downtown Miami development near Coast Guard Seventh District; and county acquisition attempts near the Coast Guard Communications facility.

Matt Schellhorn, NAS Jacksonville and **Dan Heaton, Pinycastle Range Complex**, presented on the partnership between Navy Region Southeast and the landowners around the Pinycastle Range Complex and how they leverage state funds with federal funds to accomplish their encroachment program. They discussed the Range's history, the location in the state and the encroachment issues surrounding, the weapons systems deployed at the Range and at Lake George Water Range, Fleet exercises which took place at the Range in 2019 and sustainment encroachment control actions.

All presentations can be viewed on the Florida Defense Alliance website [HERE](#).

6) Agenda Item VI: What is Resiliency? How do we define the term?

Beth Medina discussed military resiliency as defined in the FY 2019 NDAA as the capability of a military installation to avoid, prepare for, minimize the effect of, adapt to, and recover from extreme weather events, or from anticipated or unanticipated changes in environmental conditions, that do, or have the potential to, adversely affect the military installation or essential transportation, logistical or other necessary resources outside of the military installation that are necessary in order to maintain, improve or rapidly reestablish installation mission assurance and mission-essential functions.

Additional terms are needed for individual resiliency and defense industry and supply chain resiliency. It's important to define these terms in the FDA Strategic Plan and distinguish which is used in military and defense conversations in order to present to the Legislature for additional funding for the communities who are in need.

7) Agenda Item VII: M&D Staff Updates

Beth Medina updated on items on which the M&D Staff is working such as the FDSTF meeting on Thursday, May 21, 2020; the updating and modernizing of all staff communications; the video marketing campaign next moving to community sponsors to coordinate visits to the installations with Kennetic Video Productions. Also discussed was the Florida budget for FY2020-2021, which has not yet been signed. The Florida cabinet will meet again on May 28th and more activity is expected in June.

8) Agenda Item IIX: Grants Update

Liz Miller, Department of Economic Opportunity, provided an update on the Defense Reinvestment Grants (DRG) and Defense Infrastructure Grants (DIG) programs. The total need for DIG grants is \$4.4 million with an allocation of \$2 million.

9) Agenda Item IX: National Security Innovation Network Programs

Dr. Mike Macedonia, University of Central Florida, presented information on the National Security Innovation Network Program – Hacking for Defense (H4D). This is a semester long course at top tier research universities. In this program, DOD leaders can collaborate with talented students' teams to develop innovative solutions.

10) Agenda Item X: Around the State/Top New Normal Challenges

Northwest Florida:

Debi Graham, Greater Pensacola Chamber, discussed keeping lines of communication open with weekly MAC calls regarding changes and restrictions, to also include the hospital at NAS Pensacola and other local hospitals to plan for overflow, should it be necessary. They have arranged several baby showers for expectant military moms in about 40 military families who were due to deliver in April, May and June and supplied the base with about 2,400 masks. **Randy Roy**, NAS Whiting Field, discussed communication challenges as the military is not using Zoom; NAS Whiting Field has \$100 million in construction scheduled over the next year to include the new helicopter program and the aviation park; the biggest challenges are for their skipper in regards to CDC compliance and safely allowing folks to enter and leave the base. **Kay Rasmussen**, Okaloosa County EDC and the DSI Committee, discussed that the Tri-County Partnership Initiative (TCPI) in Okaloosa County held a town hall meeting earlier this month in connection with community and military leaders to share information in regard to COVID-19; they were able to connect with local partners, volunteer groups, churches and the USO to provide masks to Eglin AFB; the housing shortage which will have a larger impact once PCS orders are reinstated and military families begin moving into the area; they are very active in the DoD Skillbridge Apprenticeship Program as their CareerSource Okaloosa Walton has been very active in placing transitioning military personnel into a new skill and will give the local businesses needed workforce; childcare development centers are still a hot topic as many are closed, others have many safety concerns and they are looking to possibly build a new childcare development center to assist with this issue; they are working with the local hotels and condos on the short-term lodging issue with transitioning military and TDY, trying to hold a certain number of rooms for the military instead of vacationers when they start returning to their area; the Military Mission Line continues to be a top priority for the Tri-County Defense Support Initiatives Committee as they have initiated a letter campaign to send to Senators who are influencers and decision-makers in regards to supporting the extension of the Military Mission Line as this urgent need continues to move forward; the DSI Committee's continued partnership with Oceana and the creation and release of a new point paper regarding protecting the Eastern Gulf from drilling, which can be found [HERE](#). **Brooke Gilbert**, Bay Defense Alliance, updated on the Tyndall AFB rebuild which is on track and a draft EIS is expected by the end of May or early June; the Tyndall rebuild accommodation village development is now a step closer and is needed to accommodate the large workforce for the rebuild; the 322nd facilities have been approved for demolition by the wing facilities board and is the first of five phases to include 90 facilities that has been awarded; the Kennedy Partnership Committee and Tyndall have approved four projects in support of medical care, law enforcement and services at Tyndall AFB; there will be a Tyndall Industry Day on enhanced use lease opportunities on Friday, June 12, 2020 at 8:30 AM hosted via WebEx. **Tom Tolbert**, Eglin AFB, updated that the Sentinel Landscapes application period has been delayed until 2021 due to COVID-19; they have received all of the letters of support from participating installations' leadership partners, as requested by the FDSTF and will reach out to the FDA for support and endorsement when the time comes. **Kent Wimmer**, Defenders of Wildlife, added that they will be ready with partners once Sentinel Landscapes begins accepting applications but there is no date set at this time; some good news as the US Fish and Wildlife Services awarded a small grant to the Defenders of Wildlife that supports the work he's doing coordinating the Sentinel Landscape efforts.

Northeast Florida:

Harrison Conyers, City of Jacksonville, discussed that many of their local installations' contractors and civilians are working from home/off base and all operations are normal; this past Monday they closed on the first 100-acres right next to NAS Jacksonville; they have been working on this acquisition for many years and was the Commanding Officer's number one encroachment target for base buffering; their Washington, DC Fly-In scheduled for early June has been cancelled; they are in the process of working a compatible land use acquisition at Outlying Field Whitehouse which has been generating much interest from the local landowners; last week they held a limited participation memorial service for the USS Stark incident; the military spouse appreciation event has been postponed until later this summer as it has been a popular event for the past four years; military spouses are treated to delicious food and drink, great music and suits and dresses have been donated to them by SteinMart; Captain Greg Matyas has taken

over command of the Coast Guard HITRON squadron which operates out of old Cecil Field; this year the City of Jacksonville will be hosting a virtual Memorial Day observance which will be available to view on their YouTube channel on Memorial Day at 8 AM, will also be shown on all of their social media platforms.

East Central Florida:

Paul Hirsch, Economic Development Commission of the Space Coast, discussed that the United Launch Authority (ULA) recently had a successful first launch of the US Space Force; next week SpaceX will launch American astronauts into space from American soil for the first time in over a decade; Vice President Pence will be in attendance; 2020 has seen 12 successful launches; Democrats are looking to reduce the size of the NDAA; the Senate has approved the nominations of Kenneth Braithwaite as the Secretary of the Navy and General Charles Brown as the Air Force Chief of Staff.

Central Florida:

Chad Allison, Central Florida Regional Planning Council, discussed the Sentinel Landscape documentary which was released in April; it can be viewed [HERE](#); their partnership recognition event planned for May was canceled however The Nature Conservancy released a press release praising all of their partners' efforts; they are currently pursuing three separate easements for a total of 2,700 acres in MIPA 3, two have REPI funding; they met recently with Kaylee Tuck, candidate for Florida House District 55, to educate her on Avon Park Air Force Range (APAFR) and efforts taken to minimize encroachment and are trying to set up a meeting with US Representative Greg Steube as he is a member of the Sportsman's Caucus to emphasize the importance of funding for those types of land protection efforts; state funding used for compatibility around the Avon Park Air Force Range is \$10 million and leveraged at \$16 million from DoD and Air Force; **Buck MacLaughlin** was very helpful in obtaining this funding as he prepared letters in support of the Florida Forest Service and the Rural and Family Lands Protection Program, which was not funded at all in last year's budget; they continue to pursue as much funding from all available sources. **Jennifer Codo-Salisbury**, Central Florida Regional Planning Council, added that the CFRPC is currently working on a compatible use grant application to OEA to assist with encroachment issues at the APAFR. **Buck MacLaughlin**, Avon Park Air Force Range, discussed the encroachment setback they've been dealing with at APAFR in regards to the proposed 1,000-unit RV park on the Triple Canopy Ranch property next to the Range; he discussed the great support received by DEO, the FDA & FDSTF letters of recommendation but the local leaders disregarded those recommendations and approved the project; he asked if it was possible for the State to step in to help in these sorts of situations when the local government just doesn't seem to get it. **Tim Jones**, Tampa Bay Defense Alliance (TBDA), discussed their challenges as 1) the Defense Health Agency's new active-duty only proposal for the medical facilities affecting roughly 60,000 people at MacDill AFB, Patrick AFM and SOUTHCOM, 2) Florida Rock and 3) bringing in more tankers and other missions to MacDill AFB; TBDA has had some recent meetings with a developer who purchased a piece of land just outside the gate at MacDill; the developer has agreed to work with the base to ensure their buildings on that land are compatible with base operations; face to face meetings are happening again and he feels that the new normal will soon be back to the old, regular normal.

South Florida:

Rick Miller, South Florida Defense Alliance (SFDA), discussed that thanks to the support of FDA, Homestead ARB (HARB) is in the running for the F-35 basing and is probably a strong second place candidate; there will be a new Wing Commander at HARB this summer with a delay due to the stoppage of PCS orders; the SFDA will connect with the new commander to update them on all HARB and community related issues; SFDA has kept in contact with the bases in South Florida throughout the COVID crisis as missions shifted and many people were working from home but they are now in the process of bringing those back on base; events have been cancelled however SOUTHCOM, in conjunction with FIU, has moved their large Hemispheric Conference online this week and there are still some interesting sessions available if anyone would like to attend; SFDA's Emerge event was also postponed; SFDA worked with Space Florida on web event yesterday which was attended by over 200 people who were online for over 3 hours, had several breakout sessions; they were hoping to launch their National Security Innovation Network Programs and collaborations with both FIU and FAU at the Emerge

event in March, but are hoping to roll that out in November at the rescheduled Emerge event; there are a few candidates for the Florida Legislature this year who are aware of defense related issues and would be good connections, if elected; it might be a good idea for the FDA to create an impact statement for the Governor imploring him to continue funding as we work on the important issues such as the Space Command and the defense of the Gulf Range.

11) Agenda Item XI: Closing Comments

Jim Breitenfeld, FDA Board, in response to the F-22 and F-35 that went down last week and fortunately both pilots ejected and are alive, sent his thoughts and prayers to our military servicemembers, especially at home during quiet times.

Jim Philpitt, Tampa Bay Defense Alliance, briefed that Florida is at risk of losing a 10-aircraft, 400 personnel Naval reserve P3 squadron with 135 full-time, active duty servicemembers because the Navy has not gotten P8 for the two reserve P3 squadrons; he's sent some information to Tim Jones to share with the FDA but wanted to make sure they were aware, especially **Harrison Conyers** and the City of Jacksonville.

Chair, Kellie Jo Kilberg thanked all of the panelists for participating in this meeting; thank you to **Tim Jones** and **Rick Miller** for coordinating the panelists; thank you to **Michelle Griggs** for setting up and running the meeting; thank you to **Beth Medina** for all of her support; thank you to **Liz Miller** and DEO for their partnership; she is grateful to all of the FDA members who continue to support and inform and inspire to stay connected and to the good work is important in your community and for the military.

The next conference call will be on Wednesday, June 17, 2020 and will focus on Family Support.

This meeting was broadcast by The Florida Channel. The recording can be found [HERE](#).

The conference call was adjourned at 12:35 AM EDT.

Minutes for the Florida Defense Alliance Teleconference on Tuesday, September 29, 2020

The Florida Defense Alliance held a teleconference from 09:00 AM – 11:48 AM EDT.

Present at the Meeting:

First Name	Last Name	Organization
Marc	Adler	Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Katie	Allen	Bay Defense Alliance
Rep. Thad	Altman	FDSTF
Chad	Allison	Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Jack	Ballantyne	Military Child Education Coalition
Tim	Bowers	Tyndall AFB
Jim	Breitenfeld	Okaloosa County Defense Support Initiative
Cindy	Brown	Senate Military Affairs Committee
Diana	Caldwell	Senate Military Affairs Committee
George	Cheros	National Center for Simulation
Dan	Ciuro	Space Coast Defense Alliance
Josh	Cockrell	Clay County Development Authority
Jennifer	Codo-Salisbury	CFRPC/FDA Exec Board
Ray	Collins	Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Eli	Converse	Office of Senator Tom Wright
Harrison	Conyers	City of Jacksonville
Dave	Dahl	Navy Region Southeast
Neal	Finkelstein	National Center for Simulation
Brooke	Gilbert	Bay Defense Alliance
Bruce	Grant	FDA Retired
Michelle	Griggs	Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Paul	Hirsch	Madison Government Affairs
John	Holdnak	Bay Defense Alliance
Tim	Jones	Cybrix Group/TBDA/FDA Vice Chair
Steve	Kaufman	SLK Public Relations/Jax Chamber MIC
Kellie Jo	Kilberg	FDA Chair
Elaine	LaJuenesse	Eglin AFB
Wendy	Layton	Blue Star Families
Elizabeth	May	Society of American Military Engineers

Trudy	McCarthy	Economic Development Commission of the Space Coast
Beth	Medina	Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Liz	Miller	Department of Economic Opportunity
Rick	Miller	South Florida Defense Alliance
Dave	Murzin	Escambia County, FL
Tom	Neubauer	FDSTF/Bay Defense Alliance
Chuck	Nygaard	Crowley Maritime
Patty	Piazza	Military Spouse/Family Employment NE Florida
Kay	Rasmussen	Okaloosa County EDC/DSI Committee
Jennifer	Renner	House of Representatives Veteran & Military Affairs Subcommittee
Tony	Rodriguez	MacDill AFB
Marcy	Sanders	Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Eric	Sherman	DoD
Chris	Smith	96 th Test Wing Eglin AFB
Jennifer	Sugarman	Cocoa Beach Chamber of Commerce
Michele	Taylor	Navy Region Southeast
Tom	Tolbert	Eglin AFB
Teri	Wanamaker	NAS Jacksonville Child & Youth Programs
Roger	Williams	Florida National Guard
Kent	Wimmer	Defenders of Wildlife

Agenda: See below

ZOOM / Teleconference Meeting Agenda

Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/8502986640?pwd=NjROd1JxMnJsa05RS0xyZlhzQjUrQT09>

Meeting ID: 850 298 6640 Passcode: Sept@29

Wednesday, September 29, 2020 0900 – 1230 EDT / 0800 – 1130 CDT

0900 – 0905 Roll Call..... Michelle Griggs

0905 – 0910 Opening Remarks..... Chair

0910 – 1030 Family Support Topics / Panel..... Tim Jones

- **Wendy Layton**, Blue Star Families, Chapter Director
- **Teri Wanamaker**, School Liaison Officer, NAS Jacksonville
- **Jennifer Sugarman**, Cocoa Beach Chamber of Commerce
- **RDML Victor Hall (Ret.)**, West Florida Defense Alliance

- 1030 – 1100 Mission Sustainment: Gulf Range Protection..... Richard Miller**
 - **Gulf Range Update, Beth Medina / Katherine Anne Russo**
 - Issue and Current Status
 - Gulf Range Action Plan – 8 points
 - POTUS Executive Order, Sep 8
 - Timeline forward

- 1100 – 1130 FDA Strategic Plan Presentation..... Kellie Jo / Beth Medina**
 - Present new plan, rationale and approach

- 1130 – 1155 New 6-month Business Plan Model..... Kellie Jo / Rick Miller**
 - Segue from the Strategic Plan discussion into how we execute under likely social distancing for the next several months
 - Outline the regional engagement sessions Sep-Oct
 - Outline topical/functional sessions plan for next ~6 months
 - Focus for Nov session
 - Focus for potential Feb session as legislature goes in session

- 1155 – 1225 Around the State/Top challengesBy Region**
 - **Northwest:** Escambia, Santa Rosa, Walton, Okaloosa and Bay
 - **Northeast:** Duval and Clay
 - **East Central Florida:** Brevard and Orange
 - **West Central Florida:** Highlands, Polk, Tampa and Pinellas
 - **South Florida:** Miami-Dade and Monroe

- 1225 – 1230 Closing Comments & Adjournment.....Chair**

*A quorum being present, **Michelle Griggs** began the call on September 29, 2020 at 9:00 AM EDT.*

- 1) Agenda Item I: Roll Call**
Michelle Griggs took roll of members on the call.

- 2) Agenda Item II: Opening Remarks**
Chair, Kellie Jo Kilberg began the call by welcoming members and thanking them for being a part of FDA.

- 3) Agenda Item III: Family Support Topics/Panel**
Tim Jones introduced the participants of the panel:
 - ❖ **Jack Ballantyne**, Military Child Education Coalition
 - ❖ **Wendy Layton**, Blue Star Families
 - ❖ **Jennifer Sugarman**, Cocoa Beach Chamber of Commerce
 - ❖ **Teri Wanamaker**, NAS Jacksonville

Jack Ballantyne, Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC), presented on the Purple Star School Designation Program which is state recognition of campuses that support military-connected students in active, guard and reserve families, to include the US Coast Guard. The Purple Star School movement is a grassroots effort to support the many military-connected children who transition into new schools whenever their active-duty parent receives a relocation order.

Wendy Layton, Blue Star Families, presented on the Blue Star Families organization which was founded in 2009 by military spouses to empower military families to thrive by connecting them with their civilian neighbors, both people and organizations, to create strong communities of support. She discussed several important topics, such as:

- The organization's many locations
- Programs and resources
- Top issues and stressors for active-duty military, national guard and reserve families
- Military spouse underemployment
- Financial stress and childcare affordability
- Relocation and children's education issues
- Issues when transitioning out of the military
- Mental health issues

Jennifer Sugarman, Cocoa Beach Chamber of Commerce, discussed the Chamber's Military Affairs Council (MAC). For more than 50 years, the Cocoa Beach Regional Chamber of Commerce has been a valuable avenue of service and support to the military stationed in their Space Coast Community. The very first efforts to support the military from the Chamber were organized and worked through a Military Committee. In 1991, the current Military Affairs Council, known as "MAC," was formed and continues today to provide Chamber support for Military members and their families. The MAC is an all-volunteer group of Chamber Partners from the local area, both civilian and military, working together to enhance the quality of life in their community, especially for the enlisted members of the services assigned to the Space Coast.

More information can be found on their website: <https://cocoabeachchamber.com/group/military-affairs-council-mac/>

Teri Wanamaker, NAS Jacksonville, followed up on virtual learning, which was discussed at the May 2019 FDA meeting in Tallahassee. Military children can enroll in Florida Virtual School and, if the family is transferred, can continue in virtual school with no delay in the child's education.

The Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission's (MIC3) annual meeting will be held later this week. School Liaison Officers (SLO) from around the state will meet to discuss the issues and challenges military children face due to frequent relocations. This Compact only applies to public schools and DoD schools. The following families/children are covered: active-duty members including the National Guard Reserve on active-duty orders, members of veterans who are medically discharged or retired for one year and members who die on active duty for a period of one year after death.

Governor DeSantis has signed new language to Senate Bill 620, now Senate Bill 662 that now applies to the entire state instead of only the county in which the installation was located. A letter was sent to all state school superintendents notifying them of this new process. The bill provides greater flexibility to military families by specifying that a student whose parent is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation within the state, rather than within a school district, while on active duty is considered a resident of the school district for purposes of enrollment.

Congressman Rutherford challenged the Pace Center for Girls to create a program that addressed the needs of military-affiliated girls ages 11-18, to help them realize a brighter future for them, their families and their community. Their integrated approach combines life skills education and counseling to

empower their students. Pace Center for Girls has 20 brick and mortar schools in Florida as well as a virtual support program within the schools. During the pandemic Pace changed to a completely virtual program which has a 95% attendance rate. Pace has also created a new, virtual life coaching and mentoring program for military-affiliated girls ages 11-18. FDA is looking to have representatives from the Pace Center for Girls speak at a future meeting.

All presentations can be viewed on the Florida Defense Alliance website:

<https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDA-Presentations-2020.pdf>

4) **Agenda Item IV: Mission Sustainment: Gulf Range Protection**

Rick Miller briefly discussed the President's Executive Order (EO) signed a few weeks ago, extending the moratorium on drilling in the Gulf Range until 2032. He introduced **Beth Medina**, who provided an update on the Gulf Range Protection Plan discussing the importance of President Trump's EO as well as the reflection in legislation or a new administration. The state's Gulf Range Action Plan as our backdrop hinges on the legislative action point as the most critical. While the House passed a permanent ban in September 2019, the Senate had issues bringing language into a vehicle that would make it through to a vote even in the most recent NDAA. There doesn't seem to be anything legislatively that can happen until after November and so the 8-point plan activities will focus less on the legislative action component, and more on keeping the public awareness and engagement with our CODEL regarding the criticality of extending the moratorium will be the focus for the next weeks.

Other points on the 8-point plan the Team continues to work:

1. Increasing the communication between the Governor and the Administration (EOG DC Office)
2. Identify key offices with which to coordinate
3. Increasing the visibility of support from the Department of Defense
4. Building out the Enterprise Florida public awareness and engagement strategy
5. Coordinating Enterprise Florida efforts with the Department of Environmental Protection, Visit Florida and Space Florida
6. Solicit defense industry partner recommendations

She discussed the Gulf Range Protection Plan web page. This page can be found here:

<https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/floridas-gulf-range-protection-plan/>

The video showing President Trump discussing the signing of the EO was played. The video can also be found on the above web page.

Jim Breitenfeld suggested that now is the time to talk to Congressional Candidates to obtain verbal/written/video commitments on their support to turn the moratorium into legislation. He also suggested a continued working relationship with Oceana as they are lobbying Congress in Washington, DC.

5) **Agenda Item V: FDA Strategic Plan Presentation**

Beth Medina briefed on the updated and approved Florida Defense Alliance Strategic Plan 2021-2025 discussing the background and Florida's Strategic Focus to include the Governor's vision, the Governor's Goals and the Governor's Priority Activities. The next step being the establishment of Action plans for each objective.

Kellie Jo Kilberg discussed the FDA Statutory Authority and Purpose, the FDA Vision and Mission and the three (3) FDA Goals along with the many Objectives and Activities which accompany those goals.

The entire Florida Defense Alliance Strategic Plan 2021 – 2025 can be found here:

<https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDA-Strategic-Plan-2021-2025.pdf>

6) Agenda Item VI: New 6-month Business Plan Model

Rick Miller discussed a 6-month plan which includes Florida Defense Support Task Force Meetings, FDA General Session Meetings and both Mission Sustainment and Family Support Working Group Meetings, as shown below:

	FDSTF	FDA	Mission Sustainment	Family Support
October 2020	15 th – Thursday	--	22 nd - Thursday	29 th - Thursday
November 2020	19 th – Thursday (Orlando)	18 th – Wednesday (Orlando)	5 th – Thursday/18 th (Gulf Range)	18 th
December 2020	--	--	3 rd - Thursday	--
January 2021	21 st – Thursday (Panama City)	--	14 th - Thursday	28 th - Thursday
February 2021	18 th – Thursday	TBD	TBD	TBD
March 2021	18 th – Thursday (Tallahassee)	17 th - Wednesday	17 th - Wednesday	17 th - Wednesday

Red – Virtual Session

Green – In-person Session (tentative)

Please reach out to **Rick Miller, Teri Wanamaker, Tim Jones or Kellie Jo Kilberg** with any Mission Sustainment or Family Support issues.

February 2021 will be in-person, to walk the halls in Tallahassee during a Committee week.

The FDA Board will initiate phone calls around the State to listen and gain feedback on the issues in each area within the communities, regions and installations. The goal is that during the November FDA meeting they have detailed feedback to identify the commonalities, overlaps and trends and can itemize those details for everyone to see where cross-connections and harmony can be better facilitated across the state.

7) Agenda Item VII: Around the State/Top New Normal Challenges

Northwest Florida:

Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, discussed that General Mark Kelly is the new commander of the Air Force’s Air Combat Command and is currently visiting Tyndall AFB to look over the rebuild; Tyndall AFB’s rebuild is on pace as the EIS process was completed in August and a decision should be released by January 2021; renderings of buildings are very attractive while also being resilient and efficient; Lieutenant General Kirk Pierce has taken over command of 1st Air Force/AFNORTH at Tyndall AFB; Dr. Peter Adair is the new Technical Director of the Naval Surface Warfare Center at NSA Panama City; last month AFWERX held an event called FUSION which received about 1,500 submissions for high-tech, high-resiliency base of the future projects, from all across the country and only 6 or 7 of those projects were actually selected. **Kent Wimmer**, Defenders of Wildlife, added that they will be ready with partners once Sentinel Landscapes begins accepting pre-proposals which they believe will be at the beginning of 2021, but there is no date set at this time; they are currently lining up letters of support and commitment with their partners and will continue working with the FDA, FDSTF, DEO and all of their partners to bring this to the finish line. **Elaine LaJuenesse**, Eglin AFB, thanked the Florida Department

of Education, Governor DeSantis, Secretary Corcoran and many others for their efforts to support military families starting from October 2018 and Hurricane Michael to COVID and the re-opening of schools; Brigadier General Cain has been very engaged with the Okaloosa County school district, working diligently with them, the Eglin Public Health and Legal Office to confirm that the re-opening of schools was safe and successful and seeing to the mental health needs of their students and military families; communications to parents from their websites has been very successful as they continue to monitor the COVID cases while focusing on academics.

Northeast Florida:

Harrison Conyers, City of Jacksonville, briefed that at NS Mayport, the Littoral Combat Ship USS St. Louis has come in which takes their ship count to 23; the Guided Missile Destroyer USS Delbert Black was commissioned and is due there soon; Mayport has been doing some shoreline restoration due to recent hurricanes and fixed wing operations is currently closed, but rotary is still in operation. NAS Jacksonville is currently leasing four separate facilities totaling about 136,000 square feet, at what used to be NS Cecil Field. They have recently received a 10-year, fixed term commitment from the Navy to build a new hangar, solely for the use of NAS Jacksonville, increasing their square footage to 288,000 square feet of hangar space; they are looking to have this facility built and move in by 2023-2024; the F-35A has finally come to fruition as the 125 Air Wing will welcome them in 2024; they have three (3) compatible land use closings coming up in the next few weeks around Outlying Field Whitehouse which will total over 1,700 acres protected; they continue to look toward the beginning of 2021 for a large, 5-year, phased acquisition adjacent to NAS Jacksonville; they are planning on an actual, traditional Veterans Day parade in Jacksonville on Veterans Day on November 11th.

East Central Florida:

Trudy McCarthy, Economic Development Commission of the Space Coast, discussed that they have been busy working on the US Space Command Headquarters project, submitting RFPs and briefing their community leader for the next step in the process; they are excited about the opportunity to host any other missions associated with the US Space Command and are working with their local elected officials on other potential projects; they are re-engaging their Space Coast Defense Alliance to partner with the Military Affairs Council, which **Jennifer Sugarman** highlighted earlier in the meeting. **Paul Hirsch**, Economic Development Commission of the Space Coast, briefed that their community is fully engaged in the race for the US Space Command Headquarters as they are one of the eight communities chosen to compete; they are awaiting word from the Air Force on the next steps; thank you to Jim Kuzma and Dale Ketcham from Space Florida, who have done a great job, been very helpful and will be very valuable as they come to compete against other states.

West Central Florida:

Neal Finkelstein, **National Center for Simulation**, updated on the Central Florida Tech Grove. The Team Orlando Tech Grove became official on September 17, 2020 when the first Collaborative Project Order was issued toward the Partnership Intermediary Agreement between the Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division and the University of Central Florida Research Foundation. The Tech Grove will open new avenues for collaboration between a wide range of businesses, entrepreneurs, innovators, academia and Team Orlando's military modeling and simulation commands. He participates in a call each Tuesday morning with representatives from the University of Florida in Gainesville, the University of South Florida in Tampa, the University of Central Florida in Orlando and the Space Coast to discuss partnerships and upcoming events. If anyone from the FDA has anything they'd like announced on this call, please feel free to contact Dr. Finkelstein. Each two months he meets with a large group of defense organization leaders to discuss the on goings around Central Florida. If anyone has anything they'd like him to share, please contact Dr. Finkelstein. **Chad Allison**, Central Florida Regional Planning Council (CFRPC), updated that the Avon Park Air Force Range Compatible Use Plan is underway as earlier this month the CFRPC authorized their Executive Director to execute the contract with the DoD Office of Economic Adjustment. This effort is expected to complement the Sentinel Landscape partnership with the goal of limiting encroachment and securing support from the local government. Last week the Governor and Cabinet met and approved the state's latest easement acquisition as part of the Avon Park

Air Force Range Sentinel Landscape. This represents approximately 750 acres in Highlands County and 650 acres in Okeechobee County as part of the Florida Forest Service's Rural and Family Lands Protection Program in partnership with the range's REPI program. When closed the range's REPI program will consist of almost 12,000 acres as part of its conservation efforts. The Okeechobee easement is the first REPI project in MIPA 2, which demonstrates the past several years of success and progress throughout MIPA 1 allowing to move to the next step. **Tim Jones**, Tampa Bay Defense Alliance (TBDA), discussed that the TBDA is working to schedule a face-to-face meeting with the new base commander and his staff to ensure he's got a good understanding and feel for the FDA and how they can help with his priorities; TBDA has established a Family Support Working Group led by Donna Huneycutt; TBDA has created and released a survey for their local area with about 35-40 being returned at this time; 70% own their own residence, 20% rent and 10% live on base; 93% of respondents are involved in their communities in organizations such as the PTO, VFW, Women in Defense, etc.; the biggest concerns are:

1. Quality of dependent childcare education
2. Spousal underemployment
3. Job stress/changing family requirements due to military requirement changes
4. Affordable housing

Certified teachers coming into Florida feel they are grossly underpaid; they will continue to monitor the survey results and share when they are complete; if any other regions are interested in doing a similar survey, please contact Tim Jones and will be happy to share; congratulations to the Tampa Bay Lightning for winning the Stanley Cup!

South Florida:

Rick Miller, South Florida Defense Alliance (SFDA), updated on some personnel turnovers as Colonel Dave Castaneda is the new 482nd Wing Commander at Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB); he comes in with great experience in Washington, DC along with important experience with the F-16 and F-35; Admiral Keith Davids, the former commander at JIATF South in Key West, is the new commander at SOCSOUTH; Rear Admiral Yvette Davids is the new Chief of Staff at SOUTHCOM; HARB has entered into a conceptual agreement from the Air Force approving dual use opportunity to place a mixed base operator FBO on the base; the issues to be resolved are the specifics of location on the base and they are in discussion with the county, base and other stakeholders to ensure they can accommodate the expanded operations plans; the TAG has discussed expanding the FLNG footprint at HARB making sure that the National Guard mission is accommodated in South Florida; they are finally on a county commission agenda for next week's meeting to officially vote and authorize the Miami-Dade Mayor to enter into formal agreement with the Air Force on a land agreement to make a decision over the actual square footage and decide where the FBO goes at HARB; in May, Captain Harry Mautte from Coast Guard Miami Beach briefed on a mixed use, 400-foot residential tower slated to be built next to the Coast Guard base and although not totally resolved, due to the pressure placed on city officials and the developers by letters of support sent by the FDA and FDSTF, they're now hearing the developers have backed off and are looking at building a more modest development that would fit within the existing light industrial footprint and much less of an encroachment threat for the base; this past summer they have partnered with the South Dade Chamber's MAC and created a Task Force to help with the high rent in South Florida; they have made substantial progress as they have gotten all five incorporated municipalities in South Dade to pass a resolution of support and endorsement with many thanks to Mayor Tim Meerbott of Cutler Bay, who's leadership helped make this happen; the goal is to have the landlords create more military-friendly terms for their properties and waive the three months of rent paid up front, only having them pay first and last month's rent, and to make housing more affordable in South Florida for all of the military services.

Liz Miller, Department of Economic Opportunity, updated that she is still awaiting the approval by the Governor's Office on the FY 2020-2021 DIG and DRG Grant awards; she will announce those awards once they are approved; they held their two-day, virtual Cybersecurity event earlier this month and was very well attended by over 900 people; over the next 10 months staff will be traveling to different regions in person or hold some smaller, virtual engagements with the small-medium sized defense businesses to update them on who within their supply chain will need to be aware of the upcoming DoD changes to the

CMMC; the aerospace and defense portal's process is moving along as contact to build the platform has been awarded and they're hoping to get that up and running within the next several months.

Jim Breitenfeld, FDA Board, thanked everyone for the work they do at the local level.

Beth Medina announced that they have just signed the MOU between the FDA, the Florida State University System (FL SUS) and the National Security Innovation Network (NSIN). This innovative statewide effort supports the development of a talent pipeline for our military and defense industry, which is one of the priority activities from the Governor's guidance last May that the FDA chose to undertake in the newly approved FDA Strategic Plan 2021-2025.

8) Agenda Item VIII: Closing Comments

Chair, Kellie Jo Kilberg thanked everyone for participating in this meeting; thank you to **Tim Jones** and **Rick Miller** for coordinating the panelists; she is grateful to all of the FDA members who continue to support, inform and inspire to stay connected and to do the good work important in communities and for the military.

The next Zoom/conference calls will be:

- **Mission Sustainment Panel, Thursday, October 22, 2020 from 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM EDT**
- **Family Support Panel, Thursday, October 29, 2020 from 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM EDT**

This meeting was broadcast by The Florida Channel. The recording can be found here: <https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/9-29-20-florida-defense-alliance/>

The conference call was adjourned at 11:48 AM EDT.



**Family Support Working Group Conference Call
Thursday, October 29, 2020
9:00 AM EDT to 10:25 AM EDT**

Meeting Summary

Attendees:

Chair, Teri Wanamaker, NAS Jacksonville – Child & Youth Programs
Lacey Allen, Hurlburt Field
Jack Ballantyne, Military Child Education Coalition
Maria Barkmeier, Florida Military Family Special Needs Network
Tim Bowers, Tyndall AFB
Bob Buehn, Military Interstate Children Compact Commissioner
Diana Caldwell, Florida Senate
Ray Collins, Enterprise Florida
Harrison Conyers, City of Jacksonville
Lee Diggs, Florida National Guard (FLNG)
Jason Gaitanis, Florida Department of Education
Barbara Gerdes, Duval County Public Schools, Assistant Principal
Michelle Griggs, Enterprise Florida
Annamaria Haley, Command Spouse Leadership Course
Bonita Hampton, Florida Department of Education
Damera Hopkins, Florida State University Schools
Donna Huneycutt, WWC Global/Tampa Bay Defense Alliance
Jorge Iturralde, Florida National Guard (FLNG)
Dawn Kaunike, Southeast Regional School Liaison Officer, U.S. Navy
Jacque Kelley, Duval County Public Schools, Executive Director
Kellie Jo Kilberg, FDA Chair
Elaine LaJuenesse, Eglin AFB
Beth Medina, Enterprise Florida
Liz Miller, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
Jazmine Mizell
Dave Murzin, Milton, Florida
Sharwonda Peek, Duval County Public Schools Assistant Superintendent
Patty Piazza, Military Spouse/ Family Employment Advocate for NE FL
David Pinter, Duval County Public Schools, Director of Choice Recruitment
Angelia Rivers, Florida Department of Education
Andre Samuel, Enterprise Florida
Eric Sherman, DoD SE Regional State Liaison
Liz Sherr, Steven A. Cohen Clinic at Centerstone Director
Sharon Strickland, NS Mayport
Michele Taylor, Navy Region Southeast
Felicia Trumpler, Florida Department of Education
Monika Woods, Navy Marine Corps Relief Society Director
Clarence Zarnes, St. Cloud, Florida
The Florida Channel

Kellie Jo Kilberg, Florida Defense Alliance (FDA Chair), welcomed everyone to the meeting

- Is very happy to have Teri Wanamaker on board as the Family Support Working Group (FWSG) Chair
- Gave a quick overview of the FDA:
 - Initiative of Enterprise Florida, Inc.

- In state statute
- Created in 1998
- Two working groups: Mission Sustainment and Family Support
- FDA works military family, active military service members, veterans, defense community, defense contractor issues
- Positions Florida to be the most innovative when addressing opportunities and challenges that face our military communities and families
- All FDA members and Board are volunteers
- **Beth Medina** is the Vice President of Military and Defense Programs at Enterprise Florida, Inc. and the Executive Director of the FDA; go-to person when connecting with state and federal agencies

Purple Star School Initiative Round Table Discussion led by Chair, Teri Wanamaker

- DoD definition: A Purple Star School Program (PSSP) is a state-sponsored recognition designed to emphasize the importance of assisting military children with school transition and developing programs that recognize the value of military service and civic responsibility.
 - 10 states currently have Purple Star School Programs in place
- Recent Air Force study on education in which Florida schools didn't fare well, look a little deeper
- Public Education Impacts of Military Families published by the Department of the Air Force: *Military families report that the decision to continue military service is influenced by public education opportunities for their children. To address this issue the Secretaries of the Army, Navy, Air Force have informed the National Governor's Association that eliminating or mitigating barriers will improve quality of life for our military families and ease the stress of transferring duty stations with consideration for long-term career implications. We realize improving schools will take time. Over the long-term, however, leaders who want to make a difference for the military and their missions will make the most impact if we focus on what matters.*
 - Written to the National Governor's Association February 2018
- In partnership with policy and industry experts and key stakeholders, the Department of the Air Force developed an analytic framework using quantitative criteria to assess public education. This methodology assesses the school districts' support of the unique needs of military children within military housing allowance areas surrounding an installation.
- Are there ways to address the negatives of the Air Force Survey (https://www.af.mil/Portals/1/documents/6/Active_Duty_Results.pdf) with elements of the PSSP?
 - **Lacey Allen:** initial phase of strategic basing is data-driven based on 9 categories, not connected to the PSSPs:
 - student-to-teacher ratios
 - pre-kindergarten student-to-counselor ratios (does not include military family life counselors)
 - student-to-mental health support ratios
 - student-to-nurse ratios
 - suspension rate
 - chronic absentee rate
 - student annual average learning rate
 - graduation rate
 - Although they don't directly correlate to the PSSP, she was shocked by Air Force's strategic basing results
 - Programs which might not have been included are dual enrollment, the advance placement courses available and transition programs
 - Good news is that when phase 2 of the strategic basing survey is done on an installation, the School Liaisons will be contacted and the PSSP will be an important factor

- School Liaisons will be asked questions such as:
 - Does the state or local education authority use a military friendly recognition such as the PSSP?
 - What is the year-round culture and climate with respect to supporting military families?
 - Are there transition programs that have fully impacted military impacted schools
 - What are the Air Force professional development school-based programming and grant opportunities?
 - Moving forward to phase 2 strategic basing, the PSSP will play a role in that data versus the initial data in phase 1
 - Experts said military family life counselors were not included in the student-to-counselor ratio as was based mostly on the FTEs
- As a parent of a military connected student, what aspect of the PSS program would you see as most valuable and why?
- **Annamaria Haley:** from her kids' personal experience, was the welcome they received from the schools
 - Schools did a great job of celebrating the military during certain times of the year, but students didn't receive a welcome as they transitioned into the school
 - Other students who did receive a formal welcome expressed that was a key factor and made their transition much easier
 - She would encourage more schools to routinely have a formal welcome for military students as it would have a positive impact on students' lives and would make transitions much easier
 - The PSSP would have that transition support in place
- How can the PSS program have a positive impact on the mental health of our military families?
- **Dr. Harlin-Clifton is the Executive Director of Anchored 4 Life**, a peer led transition and resiliency program has been implemented in over 200 schools and child youth centers worldwide. *Anchored 4 Life is brought into schools based on the school having military-connected youth. It provides life skills and addresses the challenges that military children face. The PSS Initiative, which encourages a peer-to-peer transition, would help minimize stress for mil connected families. The PSS Initiative reduces stressors and barriers for military-connected families while providing a healthy environment for families to thrive. Research suggests that is important for students to connect to their new schools within the first 10 days of transitioning in order to enhance their academic, social and emotional well-being. The positive impact of having a PSSP in place makes quicker connections, families feel they're being heard and understood. Military-connected families throughout the nation know that a PSSP provides support for their children. PSSPs offer consistency for families. The consistency is knowing that PSSs throughout the nation provide similar programs and support. When a family is moving or in another deployment cycle, the PSSP has resources and supports available. When a military-connected family is supported through their PSS they can focus on their job, keep our country safe and know their children are being taken care of at a military-friendly school. Having confidence that their children are being supported by a staff with an understanding of military life, alleviates stressors and helps military service members remain mission ready.*
 - **Liz Sherr:** everything said above rings true as military families and students only want to be understood as they transition into new schools
 - Assists with preventing kids from acting out, regressing in their studies or becoming withdrawn
 - Knowing that there's support staff, especially with children with behavioral issues, helps relieve stressors within the family as it affects the entire family, even on deployment

- Transitions from state to state can be particularly concerning for families with a special needs student. How can we use the PSSP as a vehicle for special needs navigation information?
 - **Dr. Maria Barkmeier:** referred to the Military Child Education Coalition's (MCEC) Military Kids Now 2020 Survey which includes data that 24% of families have a special needs child living in their home and 80% of those families have a child with an IEP or 504 plan.
 - Half of those families agree they are receiving good programs for their children, but the other half are struggling with transition issues
 - Families are experiencing delays in receiving special education services when the IEPs are transferred
 - IEPs are not standard state-to-state, every state has different eligibility issues, decision making processes and forms
 - When families arrive in a new state they are supposed to receive comparable educational services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, doesn't always happen
 - With challenges, delays in receiving services, differences in eligibility, unnecessary evaluations and re-evaluations of students, different IEP forms and different understanding of the law, families have many issues when moving with children with special needs
 - They will sometimes seek assistance from military advocacy personnel such as Exceptional Family Member Programs (EFMP), school liaisons, Military Family Life Counselors (MFLC) or will hire advocates/lawyers when issues become adversarial and they're unable to receive a service because of a decline in resources which differ from state to state.
 - This can cause families to decide to remain in place instead of moving and the servicemember becomes a geographical bachelor, causing stress and financial burden and can impact military readiness because of the family's unhappiness.
 - Sometimes servicemember will decide it's better to leave the service
 - Families are seeking help and have found that when they have a friendly face, someone who is a military liaison within the system to help the family find the right help with communication and settling in, not necessarily a special education expert (would be nice), these things are a great help and would be a great addition to the PSSP
 - buddy program
 - student-to-student ambassador program
 - Anything that has to do with increasing communication, not only between the parent and school staff, but helping the school staff to understand through staff development opportunities, how military families with special needs children transition into the schools and the services they need would be a very good addition to the PSSP and for Florida's schools.
 - Does the PSSP include a smooth transfer from IEPs/504s for Special need students and/or entry into gifted programs?
 - The PSSP is more about smooth transitions in general and some states have information on their websites that would pertain especially for special needs students, including a point of contact and resources that are included in the PSSP models.
 - She has not seen a requirement for a special education point of contact in the schools, only a military liaison in the schools
 - We can make the Florida model better by adding information regarding special education, all of the components of the PSSP that helps military kids transition are beneficial for special needs families and we can make it better by adding the other communication aspects: website , point of contact for special education, additional staff development
 - **Kellie Jo Kilberg:** stressed that we are creating Florida's model of the PSSP, which gives us the opportunity to add details/programs to find what works best for Florida; we want to make sure we're bringing everyone together and getting everyone's ideas consolidated as we create this Florida model of the PSSP.
 - What works in your area?
 - Are you doing something NOW not included in a model, but that we should be considering using in our model?

- Jack Ballantyne: MCEC has posted our 2020 Education Survey Results at <https://www.militarychild.org/mcecsurvey> which identifies academic, social and emotional challenges by students, parents, and educational professional segments.
- How can this model be best applied to schools with large military communities and small military communities equitably?
 - **Sharwonda Peek:** Duval County is doing some phenomenal things; look at the expectations of PSSP or districts and some of the best practices, very proud to be doing some of those things; they have a military liaison who is the first point of contact via communication and has time to ensure a smooth transition into the school; the only piece they need is to create a design for staff development and peer programs; Duval county is so large they would be looking at a PSSP district designation to ensure that all the great programs would be happening are happening in all of our schools.
 - Barbara Gerdes is a school specialist working with these special programs in Duval County to keep children engaged in their core classes while also focusing on programs to heighten the engagement shared with parents as they're making school choices.
 - The point made over again by different states is that this should be happening in all our schools, not just a welcome wagon for our military children but for all students new to a school.
 - Great idea looking at not only a school but a district designation, how would that look different than school designation?
- Would this be an excessive burden to school districts or school campuses seeking to gain PSS designation?
 - **Sharwonda Peek:** It's going to be a lot of work, but if the work should be done to create best practices then we're ready to do the work.
 - What does it look like?
 - A scoring rubric?
 - They printed out the Air Force survey and of the 154 responses they questioned who answered this survey and what were those survey questions?
 - As we begin to talk about what it looks like throughout the state, what are we rating ourselves against?
 - Think about some sort of scoring rubric to hold ourselves accountable to the expectations.
 - **Beth Medina:** the Air Force assessment is online on the Air Force website (www.af.mil, look down right side, click on "support to families" where you'll find the set of reports)
 - We have seen the nationwide statistics that went into the evaluating of the schools and looked at the individual statistics
 - The strategic basing office at the Air Force needed to use something that was nationally applicable, so they picked elements of data, conducted surveys and consolidated information that they had at hand
 - The strategic basing office is interested in finding better criteria, if there are criteria that can be applied nationally, so this is being looked at by the Department of Education (DOE)
 - The strategic basing office acknowledged that Florida's data sets were ill-timed
 - We can look at the foundation of that assessment which can be good criteria to use should the Air Force continue to use some of those elements across the United States; We can offer better criteria from the state of Florida as the DoD and the Air Force recognize the PSSP which could also become criteria in these assessments
 - The Air Force is looking at better options; this is a good starting point and there is still room to negotiate with them on making their criteria better or putting some of that criteria in the PSSP that can evolve into what they use in the future.
 - **Jack Ballantyne:** DoD does recognize value of PSSP. The Defense State Liaison Office has it as one of its FY21 Top 10 priorities to get the remaining 40 states to implement.
 - **Bob Buehn:** the PSSP is a priority for DoD and is important to help address those issues

- **Eric Sherman:** with regards to the Air Force report, it came out of his office, based on tracking the state's progress on key issues;
 - They and the Air Force understand the state's concerns in the initial evaluation and the Air Force is working much closer with his office to ensure their evaluation and rubric coincide with their tracking systems
 - The Air Force are working on automatically linking their system with DoD's, so updates are more frequent and consistent
 - **Jack Ballantyne:** If you haven't looked over our MCEC Purple Star School website, check out the FAQs at <https://www.militarychild.org/purplestarschools>
- Should we decide PSS program is best delivered legislatively, how do we define the military community in a way that is most inclusive?
- **Monika Woods:** prepared a list of different categories of how people can be affiliated with the military:
 - Active duty servicemember
 - Retirees from every branch of service
 - Retirees' dependents
 - Widows of military servicemembers
 - Reservists that are activated
 - Reservists waiting to be activated
 - 20/20/20 spouses: spouses that have been married for 20 years, lived the military lifestyle for 20 years
 - Define how someone would be considered military or affiliated with the military.
 - Do they have a military id card?
 - ID card on active duty, retiree or dependent
 - ID card for the VA for veterans
 - The group would need to decide which avenue for verification and who they define as a military member
 - Would that also cover reservists or National Guard?
 - Yes, those members should also have a military id card
 - Student teachers at UNF spent one day doing hands-on activities letting them experience what it's like to be a military child; different role playing;
 - Watching those teachers gave them the feeling of what it feels like for military kids when they must pick up and move
 - The teachers got to hear from military parents and families and their experiences; it's great that those student teachers had that experience before they started working and is something that could be included in a professional development day in the schools; very beneficial
- What professional development opportunities do you suggest for schools and how can they best be delivered? Should the state generate a staff development library or should staff development be campus/district generated? Could school liaisons take this on?
- **Bob Buehn:** added that UNF also works with student teachers to brief them on the interstate compact
 - The interstate compact has many resources at the national level and the best way to get this information out is via the SLOs
 - Might want to work with the Superintendents at the district level where the understanding of the schools is better, SLOs or some of the people I this group
 - UNF has a course called Military One-on-One for staff and faculty to train how to work with veteran students
 - **Sharwonda Peek:** What would the curriculum for professional development look like? Until there is understanding of what each school needs to know, we don't know what type of training they'll need.
 - Would this training be facilitated at a military installation or in the school district?
 - Would it be included in the rubric?

- Would training be provided for school officials and for parents? The Parent Communication Engagement Office in Duval County has opportunities for parents to learn.
 - What funding is available for project initiatives and what resources can be tapped into? There are multiple opportunities in Duval County, looking at best practices and with some tweaking, that district can be a PSS district; multiple schools in their district can meet the needs of the PSSP;
 - **Bob Buehn:** If this program goes through legislation, the key would be to have professional development standards included
 - Professional development would not occur on installations but would partner with local active duty servicemembers and SLOs to assist
 - A better vehicle would be an office of professional development, with a book of standards
 - Met with a group from Ohio about PSSP
 - Purple Star School designation is like the Good Housekeeping seal of approval
 - This working group will try to set those broad standards
 - Most districts have a professional development arm, that would be a great place to begin
 - **Jack Ballantyne:** MCEC offers a portfolio of PD courses targeted for ed professionals. See more at <https://www.militarychild.org/professional-development>
 - **Sharwonda Peek:** when you get the designation as PS School or PS District, when is re-evaluation? Her department is constantly reviewing programs; if we meet criteria in 2021, what does the PSSP look like in 2030?
 - **Bob Buehn:** can't be just a one time; program must be constantly re-evaluated
 - **Jack Ballantyne:** Most states are allowing the PSS award to last 2-years then campus must re-certify. In canvassing the 10 states, most common is a board reviews and approves applications.
 - Some districts renew every two; some every three years
- How can military school liaisons support both high density and rural districts?
- **Sharon Strickland:** wants every school to be able to receive this designation whether they have one military child or over 200 military kids
 - Wants to be able to give that same professional development to every school across the state
 - Every school should have the ability to earn this designation
 - UNF Military One-on-One program: many student teachers train under this program
 - Military as a second language; acronyms
 - Psychological, social, emotional issues during a parent's deployment/re-integration
 - Role of the school liaison
 - EMFP program for exceptional student education
 - Move from group to group, not taking belongings, move from comfort zone, relate that to a military family
 - Brief on the Military Interstate Compact
 - School liaison/experts can take pieces and make videos to become part of a library, at the state library level; everyone sees the same this and can partake in the same professional development
 - Virginia's example states that the designated person at the school must go through a series of trainings
- How do we best manage the application and selection process of PSS designees? Advisory Board? Rubric? Portfolio submission?
- **Annamaria Haley:** a rubric is a good idea; a concrete list of what needs to be accomplished
 - Can be tied to a portfolio, benefit would be to encourage the highest level of success and see what people can creatively come up with, especially if there was a way to share that success between schools; if one school does something well, can share and inspire to do something similar

- Inspire the best result with a rubric tied to a portfolio submission and an advisory panel for the decision-making process
 - **Kellie Jo Kilberg:** between working with our team and DOE, we need to continue sharing input with this group
 - Continue looking at the information make sure we're addressing all the needs/answering all the questions:
 - Prof development?
 - Cost?
 - What does the legislation look like?
 - The more we bring to the table with needs/concerns/questions the better developed the product
 - A lot will go into PSSP, but Florida will make it the best program possible, but with enough flexibility to make changes as we go
 - Continue being innovative as we move forward
- What roles have military school liaisons taken-on in other states?
- **Michele Taylor:** after speaking with school liaisons at schools with PSSPs or similar programs not too much more out of their scope other than being the voice of the families and what they're looking for
 - Communication/input from families on what they're looking for, smooth transition, welcome committee, academic wellness
 - Role of the SLO has been to provide research data, bring in families to help be on committees to discuss that information
 - Be the person that has a non-biased opinion of those who are impacted and working with all the stakeholders to make it happen
- Moving forward, this group will look at all the information shared today and start to develop the components of the Purple Star Program
 - Continue to work with Bob Buehn, Beth Medina and Eric Sherman as this program is developed
 - Filter back through the group for edits/revisions
 - How can we ready this program for legislation?
 - Recommend that as pulling together something that makes the presentient and recommendations very strong is to look at the two options administratively or legislatively
 - Powerful to show in our proposal the strengths and weaknesses
 - Take lessons learned and information to craft the two options with our recommendation being what is decided (legislation?)
 - Laying out the options helps shows all the work done, conclusions are well thought out; context laid out to make it easy
 - Great support and sponsorship, should be an easy project for those who can see all the facts/options
 - Benefit of looking at other states' programs; use their best practices
 - Standards are important and need to be understandable and where mil family knows what it means to be a Purple Star School
 - Headed toward legislation, not sure what we'll find at the end of that road
 - Also keep in mind that as military families move states, it's nice to have some consistencies and expectations in the programs so don't diverge too far from the other programs
 - Any changes make sure they're for the betterment of the program
 - From the start helpful to identify a lead agency or group to assist (DOE?) can focus ideas in one area/group and get feedback
 - Get advice from the folks from Ohio
 - **Jack Ballantyne:** MCEC and Columbia Univ's Center for Public Research and Leadership has an ongoing research project to assess the efficacy of the PSSDP across those states that have already implemented. We hope to have a public release of the report by the end of the year.
 - **Donna Huneycutt:** firm has modeled for the GS system; illustrated to the government and the military the importance of the retention issue of military spouse employment

- Licensure mutuality, Military Spouse JD network successfully working with state bars to grant reciprocity in other states;
- Encourages and applauds all the efforts in this group to continue to promote licensure reciprocity

Federal Impact Aid (FIA) Update from Duval County Public Schools

- David Pinter: happy to hear the excitement of the group for the PSSP, toward military children and families
- Much passion in Duval County for the PSSP and for the FIA
- FIA is the federal government paying their taxes to local school districts that are highly impacted because of federal property
- Federal properties are not taxable and that's how local school districts earn their local contribution for the Florida Educational Finance Program (FEFP)
- Comes from the Milledge rates off property taxes
- Survey of active duty and federally connected students
- Federally connected students are not just active duty, but civilians who work or live on federal property
- The Commander of the Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE), the local bases, DoD are applauded for their support of this program
- Went to USDOE and asked to do source check documentation or direct certification for all their active duty or federally connected students
- Had many discussions but finally signed off
- The question has been about PII, the total tabulation of students by category
- The district has a database that was supplied by the parents, vetted through USDOE and the DoD, the data is encrypted
- At this point the superintendent met with local members and the CNRSE and signed off on an agreement
- National legislation has received assistance from Congressman Rutherford's office, Senator Scott's and Senator Rubio's offices; all confirmed that this was an agreement that was signed by USDOE and embraced by DoD, now the DoD staffers in Rubio's office are working with the DoD staffers at DoD to finalize
- School districts have been short-funded for a long time and that money is applicable to military and federally connected children; surveys are going to be tough to send out and get back due to COVID-19, so districts will suffer
- With direct certification, districts would receive close to 100% of the actual funding
- Very excited where this is, very close to finalizing which will greatly impact their district
- USDOE said this will turn into a national model, impacting every military base, every federally connected school district in all 50 states
- The FSWG will support in any way
- Anyone who can help move this forward would be great
- PSSP and training of schools and teachers; Military One on One at UNF, great starting point for not only students at UNF but the framework is perfect for our schools to use that to train teachers and staff; have federally connected students in every school

Conclusions/Public Comment

- Very excited, great conversation, grateful to the FDA for looking at this program, seen PSSP in other states excited to bring to Florida

- MCEC is working hard to get the other 40 states to implement the PSSP; excited about the energy of the group
- Reach out to Jack Ballantyne at MCEC for any assistance
- We will compile ideas and move forward

This meeting recording is archived on The Florida Channel and can be found here:

<https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/10-29-20-florida-defense-alliance-family-support-working-group/>



**Mission Sustainment Working Group Conference Call
Thursday, November 5, 2020; 9:00 AM EST to 10:21 AM EST**

Meeting Summary

Attendees:

Rick Miller, Chair/South Florida Defense Alliance
Chad Allison, Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Rod Braun, The Nature Conservancy
Jim Breitenfeld, The Principi Group
Diana Caldwell, The Florida Senate
Ray Collins, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Eli Converse, Office of Senator Tom Wright
Harrison Conyers, City of Jacksonville
Ron Demes, NAS Key West
Dave Dahl, Navy Region Southeast
Jonathan Feldman, AFCEC
Neal Finkelstein, National Center for Simulation
Debi Graham, Greater Pensacola Chamber
Bruce Grant, Retired
Michelle Griggs, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Sarah Hayenga, Homestead Air Reserve Base
Tim Jones, Cybrix Group/Tampa Bay Defense Alliance
Steve Kaufman, Jax Chamber Military Issues Committee
Kellie Jo Kilberg, Kilberg & Associates
Beth Medina, Enterprise Florida, Inc
Eric Miller, The Florida House of Representatives
Dave Murrzin, Northwest Florida
Gary Pheabus, Office of Representative Michelle Salzman
Robert Ramirez
Kay Rasmussen, Okaloosa County EDC
Marcy Sanders, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
John Skaggs, NSA Panama City
Chris Smith, 96th Test Wing Eglin AFB
Karen Taporco, NAS Key West
Teri Wanamaker, NAS Jacksonville/FSWG Chair
Kent Wimmer, Defenders of Wildlife
Clarence Zarnes, Central Florida
The Florida Channel

Resilience Introduction & Overview – Rick Miller, Chair

- Thanked everyone for attending the meeting
- Will be having more frequent, shorter working group meetings to continue engagement
- Brief discussion of the meeting agenda
- Many different types of resilience – means many things to many people
- Today we'll be talking about it directly related to installations and facilities (DOD Definition)
- Resiliency has continued to strengthen over the last several years
- At the most recent ADC event, former Assistant Secretary Conger commented that moving forward, if the DoD does not consider resilience when making decisions related to installation and base readiness funding, BRAC-like decisions, would be professional malpractice
- Resilience should be at the top of considerations when making these decisions
- Largely focused on DoD, the draft NDAA this year looks at Coast Guard vulnerabilities, included in military services
- In a previous NDAA, a few years ago, Congress asked the DoD for a list, by service, of the top 10 resilience-challenged installations
- Congress/OSD asked each of the services, independently, to compile a list with a blend of both resiliency and mission-related impacts in their analysis
 - OSD Army Report: 2. SOUTHCOM/USAG-M, FL; same list as the Army
 - OSD Navy Report: 1. NAS Key West, FL; same list as the Navy
 - OSD Air Force Report: 5. Eglin AFB, FL and 6. Patrick AFB, FL
 - U.S. Air Force list: 2. Eglin AFB, FL; 3. Hurlburt Field, FL; 4. Patrick AFB, FL; 7. Homestead ARB, FL; 8. MacDill AFB, FL; 9. Tyndall AFB, FL
 - USMC list: Support Facility Blount Island, FL
 - 25% of the bases on these lists are in Florida
 - The Un-BRAC BRAC List
- If the Coast Guard compiles a report, it is likely to show several signature Florida Coast Guard facilities on their top 10 list
- There is a target on Florida when it comes to resiliency; this is a perception we need to be sensitive to and work towards improving if we want to protect and sustain, as well as attract and grow, our footprint and missions
- **Kellie Jo Kilberg:** please listen to what is being said as we discuss talking with Legislators and local business and community leaders since we're finding out that many have no clue; need to be better at communicating, educating in change of terms that are now important
- Resiliency will be a key factor in creating "BRAC-like" decisions when it comes to mission realignment and decisions about base sustainment
- Resiliency challenges can come from any number of different issues
- Today we'll focus on sea level rise as a particularly predominant threat in Florida
 - Challenged facilities in Florida: NAS Key West, Eglin AFB, Patrick AFB, Hurlburt Field, MacDill AFB, Tyndall AFB, Support Facility Blount Island
 - All located on a coastline
 - Base boundaries are the beach
- Sea level rise is a new encroachment
- The South Florida Defense Alliance encompasses four counties in SE Florida:
 - Palm Beach
 - Broward
 - Miami-Dade
 - Monroe

- The Quad County Regional Climate Compact was created years ago in SE Florida and focuses on the same quad-county alignment
- The South Florida Defense Alliance is in the process of formalizing their work and relationships with them, ensuring that the military footprint and military mission and sustainment are firmly embedded within the civilian-officials and the larger-resilience community.
- This is a great model for other defense-concentrated regions in Florida, specifically in the Panhandle

Guest Speaker Presentation: Regional Resiliency Approaches & Opportunities for Military-Community Engagement – Rod Braun

- Rod Braun from The Nature Conservancy presented on Florida Climate Collaboratives and Nature Bases Solutions
- Their mission is to protect the lands and waters on which all life depends
- The Nature Conservancy is:
 - The largest conservation nonprofit in the world
 - At work across the U.S. and 79 countries
 - Home to more than 600 scientists
 - Powered by our partners, 1,350 trustees, and over one million members
 - Have been working in Florida since 1961
 - Have over 100,000 supporters
 - Have Protected more than 1.3 million acres
 - Manage roughly 55,000 acres across Florida
- Their climate goals are to:
 - Limit global warming to below 2 degrees Celsius
 - Strengthen resilience to climate change impacts
- Florida Climate & Resilience Collaboratives; six regional collaboratives:
 - SE FL Regional Climate Compact
 - Tampa Bay Regional Resiliency Coalition
 - East Central FL Regional Resilience Collaborative
 - Public/Private Regional Resiliency (P2R2) Committee
 - Capital Area Sustainability Compact
 - SW FL Regional Resiliency Compact
 - 17.7 million people (82%)
- Southeast FL Regional Climate Change Compact:
 - Regional collaboration allows local government to address climate impacts and solutions at scales beyond its boundaries
 - Voluntary response to shared challenges, needs and opportunities
 - Climate Compact fully ratified January 2010
 - Includes 4 counties and 109 cities; 6.3 million residents; roughly 30% of the state's population and a third of the state's economic activity
 - <https://southeastfloridaclimatecompact.org/>
- Compact Objectives and Commitments; Leadership Committee and Outcomes
- Unified Sea Level Rise Projection Southeast Florida: 2019 Update
- The Business Case for Resilience in Southeast Florida
- The Nature Conservancy is working in Florida to increase coastal resilience and climate adaptation by restoring natural infrastructure and implementing nature-based demonstration projects.

- Natural infrastructure like salt marshes, oyster reefs, coral reefs and beach dunes protect and provide numerous co-benefits for coastal communities
- Summary: Nature-based solutions as part of a layered approach
 - Reduce exposure of coastal infrastructure • Preserve existing coastal ecosystems
 - Optimize restoration/enhancement
 - Utilize nature-based solutions combined with grey infrastructure for a hybrid solution
 - Tackle root cause of climate change, not just the symptoms

This presentation can be found at:

<https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDA-Presentations-2020.pdf>

Rick Miller: This is a great opportunity for our defense alliance communities to get engaged with these groups, if they're not already, to build relationships that can bring tremendous value as we move into the world of resilience and how we can protect our installations.

Rick Miller: We are all very familiar with the different types of funding and programs like Sentinel Landscapes, REPI and others where we go after monies to protect against encroachment and protect lands; think of this in a similar approach; the P3 opportunities are larger than in traditional encroachment protections and the ability/necessity to work together with local, state and federal to create a package together is the only way we'll come up with enough to achieve solutions.

Round Table Discussion with Q&A

Jim Breitenfeld: Who owns the compact? Many people from NW Florida are on this call who will likely contact you prior to their next regional meeting.

Rod Braun: In this case, the four counties have signed an MOU to work together and each county owns a piece, contributes a small share of dollars and the hire someone to convene; differs in each part of the state.

Kellie Jo Kilberg: Asked Beth Medina if DEP has decided how they will be distributing the \$6 million in funds?

Beth Medina: Rick Miller has closed the loop on that discussion involving the new State Resilience Officer (CRO)

Rick Miller: They received a small grant and are looking at a regional resiliency study on their installations linking with the climate compact summit, linking with TNC and the county/city municipal CROs as part of the connect to link with the Governor's State CRO. The position originally was in the Executive Office of the Governor but eventually moved to DEP and as part of the state budget process last year they placed about \$6 million in funding for coastal resiliency-focused efforts. They are working with the Miami-Dade County CRO to coordinate the mutual overlap opportunities. Most of those funds' timelines for funding has already passed but looking to see where we might be able to connect our work with their existing efforts and leverage the dollars in a different way.

Kellie Jo Kilberg: If here's a line item for resiliency in the DEP budget, we need to understand how to assign some of those funds towards military installations resilience projects. We need to do a better job in connecting with the other groups around the state to create a partnership.

Marcy Sanders: Link to the Florida Resilient Coastlines Program is <https://floridadep.gov/rcp/florida-resilient-coastlines-program>. They have already awarded the grants for FY 2021, but this offers us a great opportunity to look at the projects they've previously funded to know what they might award for next year. \$5.5 million was awarded this year but the original line item was for \$10 million. At this point she has not found who cut that funding but if the Legislature was willing to place \$10 million into the program, they are serious about it and we need to keep an eye on it moving forward.

Rick Miller: Due to the budget delay this year they've asked that their grant start on November 1st allowing them to stretch into next fiscal year and influence the grant awards for 2022.

Update/Review Post-Election Engagement Strategy – Rick Miller, Chair

- Post-election there will be changes at all levels of government
- As the FDA has been making calls to the regions, driving home the point that this is a great opportunity for engagement for local military issues/touching base in your community/district/region to discuss statewide priorities and issues
- Local and state-level offices change in mid-November while federal-level officials take office in early January
- We encourage phone calls, emails and letter writing campaigns as they are very effective, to reach out to newly elected or recently re-elected council members, mayors, commissioners, state representatives, senators or federal delegates and place information in front of them to raise their awareness
- Many are unaware of issues
- They're working with the incoming folks in the state legislature to build a stronger military caucus in Tallahassee to leverage and with greater engagement on these issues
- Have asked the Staff to put together a packet with information on key messages throughout the state to provide and share with FDA members to share with your local community
- **Beth Medina:** Staff is working to create a state-level packet
- The Florida Defense Factbook/Economic Impact Study are ready as well as some other fliers
- Currently staff is working on updating the 2020 Florida Military Friendly Guide; working with the EFI Communications team on that and afterward will ask them to create a slick, one-pager from that publication to include in this packet
- Packet will include a cover letter outlining the Governor's/FDSTF's/FDA's priorities
- Staff will not have the full packet available immediately
- It would be helpful to give us an idea of when you need materials and how much and we will start putting a packet together to get to you
- If you have specific items, please let us know as we're still developing this packet
- **Kellie Jo Kilberg:** Included in this packet should also have information on the Purple Star School Program (PSSP) and other military family issues such as spousal employment, licensure, education
- **Beth Medina:** yes, but a deeper dive is needed on the education aspects; have materials but not confident these materials are ready to be shared
- We received an extensive update to the education section in the Military Friendly Guide
- Important to make sure we don't under-represent how military supportive our schools are
- We will share more on the PSSP, there isn't a consensus yet but that can be included and shared as its own item
- We can prepare our packet and share that program as an up and coming item
- **Kellie Jo Kilberg:** we need to make sure staff has all the pieces to create this packet
- We may not have everything at beginning, but need to have it complete by Session in March or in February when we walk the halls to talk with elected state and local officials to understand the importance of these issues
- **Rick Miller:** Once the right set of materials is formalized for the PSSP, we might want to create a dedicated outreach engagement campaign targeting school superintendents, school board members, etc.; something to focus on early 2021
- **Jim Breitenfeld:** We have not done a good job of having advocates in the legislature; has been an issue for many years; need to identify who those advocates are right now

- **Rick Miller:** agrees; valid point; they are working hard to try and build those relationships, particularly with the incoming legislators, to establish that relationship from the start
- Facilitate and foster relationships with key staff members; can be just as important as working with officials/legislators as they are the ones working on issues that get carried forward by their bosses/elected officials
- **Kellie Jo Kilberg:** please let us know about any negative/false comments made by community members so we can address and correct

Update/Review of Gulf Range Protection Way-Forward

- **Rick Miller:** If the current trends holds in congress we will end up with a Republican controlled Senate and a Democratic controlled House
- Both parties will hold their previous chambers; smaller majorities; a tighter, more divided Congress
- Last year there was support on the House for the Gulf Range, but couldn't get through the Senate; will have the same or stronger challenges in this coming Congress for the next 2 years
- Looking for some good ideas at how to continue to move forward to get legislative action for Gulf Range protection
- EO, if not changed, is good for 10 years until the summer of 2032, but legislation is needed for a more permanent fix
- Found good alignment between defense interest and the environmental community on this issue and is open to the idea of if we should consider introducing defense mechanisms through commerce, energy, natural resources or other committees in the Senate, where there is a better chance of getting considered
- Senator McSally, who led the water focus subcommittee, lost re-election as well as Senator Gardner on the commerce committee
- Should we try to work beyond the state on this and get key legislators from other committees to move this forward
- **Kay Rasmussen:** agrees; we need to go beyond our Florida representatives and beyond the defense committees to target the other Senators in the committees who support environment; the Tri-County Partnership Initiative and surrounding communities throughout NW Florida have been targeting and sending letters to the environmental and energy committees, chair people, majority leaders; need to continue to go down that road
- What is the status of the Gulf Range videos? This is a great tool to use for advocacy of the Gulf Range.
- **Beth Medina:** has already viewed the first version, needs a little more work, needs to be viewed by those who participated for feedback
- There will be a set of Gulf Range videos, the first one is umbrella video; another video will discuss the interconnected nature of our installations and ranges and is a key component for protecting the Gulf
- Kennetic Productions will be sending it out today or tomorrow to those involved to review and give opportunities to provide input into what key points we want to highlight; will not take much time to complete after they receive feedback, estimate as early as 2-3 weeks for final draft for review; then could be ready to post/share/use
- **Rick Miller:** comes down to strategy; trying to get feedback as one approach is to try and push with the defense committees and work collaboratively with the energy, fisheries and environmental committees to end up with 2 different bills/pieces of language and hoping one comes together; sometimes can work or can be seen as mutually destructive

- Parallel track or pick one approach? If that approach is through a non-defense type mechanism, the lead agency or group is advocating, and we are behind the scenes doing everything through them
- Developing that collaborative relationship with another organization and giving them the defense-related ammunition to fight this in a different focused way
- Which is the best approach with the new Congress and the highest likelihood of success?
- **Jim Breitenfeld:** very soon FDA leadership should have a conversation with Oceana; they are way ahead of us and have piggy-backed on them in the past; they have much more legislative experience
- **Kay Rasmussen:** agrees with Jim as we should reach out to Oceana; have been a wonderful partner; have some very good and strong legislative ties
- **Kellie Jo Kilberg:** thank you to everyone who participated in the City Council call last evening in support of HARB
- **Beth Medina:** Rick, can we please have copies of the OSD reports as we can provide those on the website, as well

Slides for this meeting can be found here:

<https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDA-Presentations-2020.pdf>

The meeting recording is archived on The Florida Channel website and can be found here:

<https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/11-5-20-florida-defense-alliance-mission-sustainment-working-group/>

Minutes for the Florida Defense Alliance Teleconference on Wednesday, November 18, 2020

The Florida Defense Alliance held a teleconference from 09:00 AM – 10:53 AM EST.

Present at the Meeting:

First Name	Last Name	Organization
Katie	Allen	Bay Defense Alliance
Rep. Thad	Altman	Florida Defense Support Task Force
Chad	Allison	Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Maria	Barkmeier	FL Military Family Special Needs Network
Bob	Bienvenue	Military Officers Association of America, Florida Chapter
Bob	Buehn	FL MIC3 Commissioner
Diana	Caldwell	Senate Military Affairs Committee
Jennifer	Codo-Salisbury	CFRPC/FDA Exec Board
Ray	Collins	Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Eli	Converse	Office of Senator Tom Wright
Harrison	Conyers	City of Jacksonville
Dave	Dahl	Navy Region Southeast
Lee	Diggs	Florida National Guard
Casey	Evans	Business Development, Orlando Economic Partnership
Annette	Farmer	Military Child Education Coalition
Pete	Gandy	Santa Rosa County
Brooke	Gilbert	Bay Defense Alliance
Debi	Graham	Greater Pensacola Chamber
Bruce	Grant	FDA Retired
Michelle	Griggs	Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Annamaria	Haley	Command Spouse Leadership Course
Troy	Hamilton	
Sarah	Hayenga	Homestead Air Reserve Base
Jim	Heald	Florida Defense Support Task Force
Paul	Hirsch	Madison Government Affairs
LTC Jorge	Iturralde	Florida National Guard
Kellie Jo	Kilberg	FDA Chair
Carrie	Kyzer	AECOM
Buck	MacLaughlin	Avon Park Air Force Range

Elizabeth	May	Society of American Military Engineers
Cheryl	McGrew	Principal at Gilbert W McNeal Elementary School
Beth	Medina	Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Chris	Middleton	NW Florida Defense Alliance
Eric	Miller	Florida House of Representatives
Liz	Miller	Department of Economic Opportunity
Rick	Miller	South Florida Defense Alliance
Lavender	Morrison	Humana Military
Dave	Murzin	Escambia County, FL
Tom	Neubauer	FDSTF/Bay Defense Alliance
Chuck	Nygaard	Crowley Maritime
Gary	Pheabus	Office of Representative Michelle Salzman
Sheila	Poland	EDC of Florida's Space Coast
Kay	Rasmussen	Okaloosa County EDC/DSI Committee
Jennifer	Renner	House of Representatives Veteran & Military Affairs Subcommittee
Rob	Salonen	Government Affairs & Strategic Partnerships
Rep. Michelle	Salzman	Florida House of Representatives
Marcy	Sanders	Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Matt	Schellhorn	Navy Region Southeast
John	Skaggs	Tyndall AFB
Chris	Smith	96 th Test Wing Eglin AFB
Sharon	Strickland	NS Mayport
Tom	Tolbert	Eglin AFB
Teri	Wanamaker	NAS Jacksonville Child & Youth Programs
Kent	Wimmer	Defenders of Wildlife
Monika	Woods	Navy Marine Corps Relief Society
Senator Tom	Wright	Florida Defense Support Task Force
Clarence	Zarnes	Central Florida

Agenda: See below

ZOOM / Teleconference Meeting Agenda

Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/95375768515?pwd=TmFRWFQ4Q1BkdGI1R3ZaNjdxMGhhdz09>

Meeting ID: 953 7576 8515

Passcode: 741226

Wednesday, November 18, 2020 0900 – 1130 EST / 0800 – 1030 CST

0900 – 0905 Welcome & Topic Overview..... Kellie Jo Kilberg, Chair

0905 – 0950 Family Support Working Group Discussion Teri Wanamaker

- Purple Star School Program Update

0950 – 1020 Around the State/Top challengesBy Region

- **Northwest:** Escambia, Santa Rosa, Walton, Okaloosa and Bay
- **Northeast:** Duval and Clay
- **East Central Florida:** Brevard and Orange
- **West Central Florida:** Highlands, Polk, Tampa and Pinellas
- **South Florida:** Miami-Dade and Monroe

1020 – 1120 Mission Sustainment Working Group Discussion Rick Miller

- **Beth Medina:** Facilitate methodology for FDA Strategic Plan implementation/action plans (based on Objective 2.2)

1120 – 1130 Closing Comments & Adjournment.....Kellie Jo Kilberg, Chair

A quorum being present, Michelle Griggs began the call on November 18, 2020 at 9:00 AM EST.

1) Agenda Item I: Welcome & Topic Overview

Beth Medina welcomed everyone to the meeting and briefly discussed the meeting's agenda.

2) Agenda Item II: Family Support Working Group Discussion

Teri Wanamaker, Family Support Working Group Chair, presented on the five pillars of the Purple Star Schools of Distinction (PSSD) program. The PSSD is awarded to schools that prove a significant commitment to our active duty military, National Guard and Reserves, Coast Guard, Veterans, retirees, and military-connected families and students. The Florida PSSD will receive an award proclamation signed by the Governor and a Flag to be flown for the duration of the award. They recommend a 2-year cycle. A school could potentially apply every odd year or every even year to continue the distinction. The school will also have access to a PSSD icon to be used on correspondence.

Schools that complete an application and provide a portfolio of examples of each pillar that supports military and their families by the February deadline will be considered for the distinction. Selected schools are awarded the Florida Purple Star Schools of Distinction in April to coincide with Month of the Military Child Festivities.

Pillar #1 – Military Point-of-Contact

The school will designate a staff member to serve as a Military Point of Contact or MPOC. The MPOC will serve as the primary contact for military families and military connected students. The MPOC will complete additional professional development (TBD by FL DoE). The MPOC works with school administration, military program partners and the FL DoE to conduct yearly school wide professional development that informs staff of the unique needs of military-connected students and the supports

available. The MPOC will identify and inform teachers of military connected students in their classrooms. The MPOC will oversee the applications process with guidance from school administration.

Pillar #2 – Maintain a Dedicated Webpage

The school will maintain a dedicated military friendly webpage with at a minimum:

- Special Needs Navigation to include ESE contact at the school and district level
 - Procedural Safeguards and parental rights for students with disabilities
 - Procedural Safeguards and parental rights for students identified gifted
 - Information for moving with an IEP or 504
 - Links to DoD Education Directory and Florida Bureau of Exceptional Education
- Transition Information
 - Preparing military connected families to move to the school community and information preparing military families to leave the school community. This section should inform parents how best to prepare students for a move and include the contact information for the nearest Military School Liaison if available.
- Advanced Open Enrollment and Senate Bill 662
 - This section should explain how Florida Law can benefit military connected students
 - Link to MIC3.net and FL DoE.
- Resources for Military Connected Families and Students to include:
 - MPOC contact information
 - Nearby base information
 - Before and after school care information
 - School hours and calendars
 - A link to Florida DoE Military Family Resources Page
- MIC3 and the State of Florida Department of Education

Pillar #3 – Staff Development

The school will host an annual staff development from a selected list of military issues, topics and materials maintained by the FL DoE.

Pillar #4 – Peer-to-Peer Transition Program

The school maintains a student led transition program to include a student transition team advisor. This program should provide peer support for newly enrolled and withdrawing students to include those that are military connected.

Pillar #5 – Extracurricular Star

The school must complete at one optional activity. This is the pillar of fun! The school hosts an annual military recognition event, for example: Month of the Military Child in April, Military Family Appreciation Month in November, Veterans day, Memorial Day

Conduct a yearly support project: The School participates in a support project connecting the school with the military community, for example, adopt a school, letter and/or care packages for troops, USO drives Yellow Ribbon Events. The school acknowledges families with a deployed service member with a Yellow Ribbon Event or ceremony.

School Welcome Video or Photo Slide show: The school posts a video tour or slideshow of pictures to highlight certain aspects of the school facility on its website to help new students transitioning to the area.

Faculty Book Study: The faculty participates in a book club with a focus or common theme of military life, issues, and strategies, for example Teacher's Guide for Supporting Students from Military Families

Representative Michelle Salzman added that she would be happy to support and share FDA's information via social media, so please send her anything with which she can help. She is looking forward to partnering with the FDA to support her military community (District 1).

Beth Medina discussed that the FDA will be supporting the Florida DoE as they move forward with this program legislatively or as an administered program in schools throughout the state.

Senator Tom Wright is happy to help move this program forward through the Senate, his office is standing by ready to support. Senate President Simpson will nominate him to be the Chairman of the Military and Veterans Affairs and Space Committee for this upcoming Session and he is happy to assist with the implementation of this program.

3) Agenda Item III: Around the State Top Challenges

Northwest Florida:

Pete Gandy, Santa Rosa County, reported that Commissioner Don Salter's last day on the Board of County Commissioners was Monday. Commissioner Salter was defeated for a sixth term on August 18th but plans to remain involved with our MAC and the Veterans Foundation in retirement. Tomorrow, he is meeting with Commissioner Salter's replacement on the Board of County Commissioners, James Calkins, and Randy Roy at NAS Whiting Field to brief him. Work continues the 100,000 square foot hangar for the Leonardo Helicopters in the Whiting Aviation Park. Occupancy is expected in 2022. NAS Whiting Field has been nominated for Installation Excellence for Navy Region Southeast and is in the running for the CNIC award. The base has received the world-wide CNIC award four times in recent years. The investigation continues into the T-6B crash in Alabama and they don't expect investigation results for about six to nine months. **Kay Rasmussen, Okaloosa County EDC/Tri-County Community Partnership Initiative Committee**, discussed the need for quality, available childcare; a developer is looking to develop a well plex in Crestview which would include sports, medical, physical therapy and childcare facilities to accommodate up to 500 children, 300 spots would be reserved for military children; the EDC is sending out a survey across the county, including to military personnel, to determine childcare needs and relay to KinderCare so they can move forward and build the facility. An F-22, F-35 Environmental Impact Statement and formal training unit process is underway to move the F-22s from Eglin AFB to Langley AFB in Virginia, which would leave available space at Eglin AFB for a new F-35 squadron. **Tom Neubauer**, Bay Defense Alliance, briefed that Tyndall AFB is expecting a decision to be sent to the Air Force and signed by early January to release the emergency supplemental funds for about 40 MILCON projects and 120 facilities to begin construction; the largest issue for Tyndall is to ensure that 3,000 to 3,500 contractors have a place to live as the rebuild continues over the next four to five years. Tyndall AFB has received robotic dogs as part of their new technology; these dogs were built by Ghost Robotics for surveillance, reconnaissance and to secure the perimeter of the base. As Tyndall AFB continues to rebuild, so far \$1.5 billion has been obligated for projects that aren't related to the mission and to the MILCON that follows the new mission/F-35 beddown; the rest will be released in January 2021 as activity continues. **Kent Wimmer**, Defenders of Wildlife, briefed that the DoD Agriculture and Interior are again accepting Sentinel Landscape proposals for the first time in three years; they've shared draft guidance and should share formal guidance after the new year; pre-proposals will be accepted in February 2021, full proposals in April 2021 and two or three Sentinel Landscapes designated in July/August 2021; they are working with partners in Northwest Florida in securing commitments to support the Sentinel Landscapes, to submit letters of support to be submitted with the full proposals; they are also working with partners at the Avon Park Sentinel Landscape, which is already designated, to develop an MOU to better coordinated their efforts along with the state and federal agency partners.

Northeast Florida:

Harrison Conyers, City of Jacksonville, briefed that they continue operations in support of the military and military families in Jacksonville during the pandemic; this Friday they will host an in-person job fair for military families and veterans seeking employment; on December 11th, they will host a virtual Vetpreneur Summit to help with the success of veterans who want to start their own business; in January 2021 they will host the Homeless Veterans Stand Down in support of homeless veterans in Jacksonville, this is a very successful program which has placed 90% of these veterans in homes and jobs. The USS Zephyr recently returned to NS Mayport from her last deployment and will be decommissioned in 2021; this is the last of the PCs stationed at NS Mayport; this makes way for additional littoral combat ships; they have met with advocates and Congressman about bringing the FFG(X) fast frigate to Jacksonville; \$110 million invested at NS Mayport, tied to littoral combat ships' systems to include two trainers and a 1,335-car parking garage. The Fleet Readiness Center SE at NAS Jacksonville for years has leased four hangars at Cecil Field; leases are ready to expire; the hangar space at NAS Jacksonville is old, the machinery is new; some operations were moved to Cecil Field as they tried to inspire the Navy to lease a new hangar, but the general services administration only issues one-year leases, which doesn't incentivize to build a new hangar; due to in-person advocacy in Washington, DC, the Navy agreed to 10, one-year, renewable leases which will increase space from about 136,000 square feet to 288, 000 square feet. Regarding encroachment protection, they will close a deal next week on a parcel near Outlying Field Whitehouse. **Matt Schellhorn**, NS Mayport, added that the leases at Cecil Field have not yet been approved, still going through processes. **Chuck Nygaard**, Crowley Maritime, briefed that every naval station is getting impressive capability with the new LCS simulators.

East Central Florida:

Paul Hirsch, Economic Development Commission of the Space Coast, briefed on the change of command at Patrick AFB as Brigadier General Doug Schiess will be going to Peterson AFB in Colorado Springs, Colorado and replacing him will be Brigadier General Stephen Purdy. SpaceX recently launched four astronauts to the International Space Station; the first time the private sector has been the launch vehicle. The coronavirus is back in Washington, DC, a many senators and house representatives are in quarantine; they have until December 11th to finish appropriations bills. With the possible change of administrations, some are questioning if the Space Force will continue or will be discontinued.

West Central Florida:

Buck MacLaughlin, Avon Park Air Force Range, updated that they've recently completed resurfacing their runway and taxiways which increases their capabilities; they are underway on a second project to remove some old hangar foundations and expand the amount of ramp space available for visiting units; this will increase capabilities and comes at a good time as their deployment schedule for spring 2021 is packed full from February to April. **Chad Allison**, Central Florida Regional Planning Council (CFRPC), updated that in addition to Kent Wimmer's update, the Sentinel Landscape efforts and ongoing coordination is moving forward; they continue to reach out and engage landowners, line up projects and seek available funding; the CFRPC received a grant from OEA to conduct a compatible use plan, an update to the 2010 joint land use study, will be an increased and renewed focus on civilian compatibility surrounding the range; they continue to work with newly elected officials to identify regulatory and non-regulatory approaches to keeping things compatible; they are assembling a working group to tackle the on-the-ground aspects and will be sending out letters to request nominations for policy committee with the newly elected officials which will result in a renewed focus through February 2022.

South Florida:

Rick Miller, South Florida Defense Alliance (SFDA), updated on the land zoning issue at HARB; he thanked the TF members for their support and assistance; they lost the second vote but it's not a lost cause as they have continued engagements with city council members and the city attorney; they are hoping the REPI package will resolve the one-off landowner issue, if doesn't they are working with the city to resurrect the dormant TDR program to get better protections in place. The SFDA received a DIG grant this year to work on and complete over the next few years a housing opportunity for USSOUTHCOM

headquarters and associated commands in and around that area. USSOUTHCOM is busy with Joint Task Force Bravo in Central America providing HADR relief and support to the people of Honduras; look at defense sites with USSOUTHCOM information to see the good work they're doing there. Their area saw some significant turnovers in the last election at the federal, state and local levels; Miami-Dade county has an entire new slate of commissioners and mayor; the SFDA is working to bring them up to speed on defense-related issues in their region; this is a great opportunity for all regional groups to take advantage and reach out to both newly-elected and recently re-elected representatives to brief them on the importance of defense to Florida. Some in his area have great connections with the transition team in Washington, DC and those who will move into roles in the defense department; focus on the importance of the resiliency topic for installations, sustainment, support readiness and keeping Florida's missions and bases; resiliency is taking on a much more significant profile in the new administration; this is the new form of encroachment something FDA needs to be sensitive to and focused on.

Chair, Kellie Jo Kilberg added that there are several programs used as match for military encroachment programs: Florida Forever, Rural and Family Lands, Military Base Protection; with resiliency receiving funding, all of those are key as we look at other partners and how we leverage state, federal and non-profit funds; it's important that those programs are funded so there are match dollars for REPI, The Nature Conservancy and for other programs that need state funds to match.

Other input:

Liz Miller, Department of Economic Opportunity, thanked everyone for their patience and flexibility; she's sent out scopes of work or contract agreements to those who have been awarded; she's looking forward to getting those quickly moved through audit and legal; her top priority to get these issued and executed in a timely manner; they will revert back to a July 1st start date; continue all of the activities in the communities please update your reporting systems so when they are fully executed there will be no issues sending in reports.

4) Agenda Item IV: Mission Sustainment Working Group Discussion

Rick Miller and Beth Medina discussed the FDA strategic plan implementation and action plan and will introduce a technical tool to share workspace, thanks to **Rick Miller**.

The FDA strategic plan has been submitted to EFI, shared with EOG, has been reviewed and approved and is ready to implement; the next step is to take a deeper dive and tabulate the work that we're doing and what it takes for the FDA to accomplish their goals each year: support the FDSTF, provide advice to EFI, the legislature and the Governor; today's effort is the start of one element in the strategic plan; today we will be sharing a methodology used to describe these activities and to lay out the specific actions to be taken as they relate to achieving goals.

Last week we sent out a worksheet for goal #2; thank you to those who completed the worksheet as those responses were tabulated and today we'll show the process of how the work is consolidated, look at the big picture of all of our work and draw out some best practices, some niche strengths; ensure we are we doing the things to help us protect our installations and enhance the missions coming to Florida; ensuring we have the connections/relationships to show that the value of our installations is understood.

The Storm Board was shown on the screen as a work in progress and a good way to capture all of the regions' activities; an online collaboration tool worked on by Beth and Rick; color coded by geographic region; activities listed on the left, a month-by-month fiscal year of engagement is laid out; information sent is reflected on this worksheet; activities can be updated and shifted into the map as we move forward; by shape gives a visual cue, octagonal shape are all items completed in the past July – October time frame; trapezoidal are activities and actions that are in progress, not yet completed; squares are plans for future months; rectangular index card is used when there's not enough room to fit all of the notes in a box on the master display, can consolidate additional information inside that rectangle; this will show a stronger activity map and a great way to identify gaps; color coding gives a good regional view in a snapshot; map shows great focus in some regions and where more work is needed in others; can

connect and link different activities and build different layers; ultimately we want to be able to link everything in the strategic plan from an activity level to the actual objectives and accomplishments that come from those.

Activities can be linked/connected which is important to show these actions and how they relate to each other and also as a tool to teach others who come behind you; a record of how we work; a reminder for us to touch base next year with who might have input that we need for an upcoming meeting; more utility as we move forward to be use to support our shared visioning of the work, where we're going and how we're working together to get things done.

As this process is streamlined, we will schedule sessions with folks over the next few months to finish this board across the top three goals and the main objectives in the strategic plan; trying to target the end of January to have this completed; will have a very strong FDA roadmap as the legislature goes into session, we will have a well-documented overall strategic plan program; we will be contacting and getting input from everyone.

As activities are populated, many details can be placed into each of the activities; we can highlight the three critical issues that come out of meetings and help with the next step; will help highlight items that are easy to evaluate and assess as measures; we want to be able to show our return on investment and measures of success, share our activities and advise the TF, EFI; these things will help us to hone in on very credible paths, methodologies as we're adding details to our activities; help jumpstart conversations with a shared visualization of work; help us learn how to better capture this as you look at the work you do; help us make sure we're capturing it correctly and highlighting key points.

Data can be exported to Word, PowerPoint, Excel for reports and presentations; lacking in our ability to connect activities with outcomes and show holistically; map will be a codification of what's been accomplished/ a living record of our activities; map reflects this fiscal year forward to the next five years; can review changes each year, make minor modifications; updating webpages to show achievements; pulled from these activities information that can shared at a moment's notice from the dashboard that shows the FDA and their partnership with the TF, working with EFI, DEO, and Florida Forever under DEP, the work being done to protect our military and defense communities.

Staff can download the board into a file that can be printed/shared as a print version to be seen in a larger scale to help communities better see the format and capability of the worksheet; keep up with what's being explained; can be tailored via request; similar to blueprints, sharing to see the plans to execute, comments, items placed correctly, anything missing; not the plan that is important it's the planning process that's important; need to be engaged together on these process elements makes the plan stronger.

Would like to have material put together in a draft format by the end of January; will have a few working sessions in the upcoming weeks; please comment on the timeline, activities as we understand that our FDA members are the best return on investment; \$0 = SO MUCH WORK AND ACCOMPLISHMENT! Please send in your worksheets! Will start working on goal #3 in December; early January work on goal #1.

5) Agenda Item V: Closing Comments & Adjournment

Chair, Kellie Jo Kilberg thanked everyone for sending information to **Rick Miller** and **Beth Medina** for this board and for attending today's meeting; we need to do a better job of telling our story, capturing information and getting out to the communities; we need to work together across agency/community lines, sharing our story and developing partnerships; congratulations to the team at NAS Whiting Field for being nominated for Installation Excellence for Navy Region Southeast and in the running for the Commander Naval Installation Command award, which they have won four times; thank you to **Representative Thad Altman**, **Senator Tom Wright** and **Representative Michelle Salzman** for attending our meeting and thank you for all you do.

The next Zoom/conference calls will be:

- **Family Support Panel, Thursday, January 14, 2021, 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM EST**
- **Mission Sustainment Panel, Thursday, January 28, 2021, 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM EST**

This meeting was broadcast by The Florida Channel. The recording can be found here:

<https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/11-18-20-florida-defense-alliance/>

The conference call was adjourned at 10:53 AM EST.