

# Florida Defense Alliance

## Strategic Plan 2021-2025



August 31, 2020

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## **Background**

Florida's military installations and missions stretch from Pensacola to Jacksonville, through Florida's high-tech corridor to Miami and Key West. The installations and missions, long recognized as true national and state assets, contribute more than \$95 billion dollars annually to the Florida economy, as a result of salaries and services, defense industries, retirees, and federal programs. This makes defense the 3rd leading economic driver of the state's economy after tourism and agriculture. Additionally, defense-related spending accounts for more than 914,000 direct, indirect and induced jobs. The high-tech nature of the installations, missions and their defense industries has been a foundation for much of Florida's businesses involving aviation, aerospace, photonics, lasers, Cyber and modeling and simulation.

Florida's military installations and missions exist and are located to support the U.S. national security and defense efforts. Florida must support and enhance the military value of its installations and missions not only to the state and Floridians but also to the nation and all citizens. Since this strategic plan covers the next five state fiscal years (FY2021-2025), the Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) will ensure our current military installations and missions remain with a focus on maintaining and increasing the force structure by gaining new missions or future consolidations. The FDA will provide the Florida Executive and Legislative Branches the best advice on keeping the State of Florida out front with positive economic stimulus, as well as modern services to active duty military, military families, retired military, veterans, and the defense industrial base.

## **Florida's Strategic Focus**

**Governor's Vision:** Florida remains the most military and veteran friendly state in the country.

### **Governor's Goals (GG):**

- 1) Be the best on quality of services for our Service Members and Veterans,
- 2) Protect, preserve and promote our active duty, reserve and national guard military installations and missions for Florida's role in US national security,
- 3) Increase the defense industry including creating a ready workforce to fill jobs and build equipment for our installations and missions.

### **Governor's Priority Activities (GPA):**

- 1) Secure Space Command and Space Force Assets Assignment to Florida,
- 2) Extend legislative prohibition on O&G exploration or extraction in EGOMEX and enhance the Gulf Range,
- 3) Complete base-of-the-future rebuild to retain current and acquire new missions for Tyndall AFB.

## **FDA Statutory Authority & Purpose**

Per F.S. 288.980(1)(b), the Florida Defense Alliance (FDA), an organization within Enterprise Florida, Inc. (EFI), is designated as the organization to ensure that Florida, its resident military bases and missions, and its military host communities are in competitive positions as the United States continues its defense realignment, and base structure adjustments, as well as efforts with the defense industrial base. The defense alliance shall serve as an overall advisory body for defense-related activities of EFI. The FDA may receive funding from appropriations made for that purpose administered by the department.

## **FDA Vision**

The state of Florida provides the most innovative and comprehensive military, defense and national security support in the Nation.

## **FDA Mission**

The FDA identifies and coordinates the plans, engagement and public awareness necessary to provide statewide leadership and support to defense related people, installations and missions throughout Florida.

## **FDA Goals / Objectives / Activities**

The layout below reflects the following structure:

### **#. Goal**

## Objective

### Activity

### **1. Propose and champion appropriate state legislation and/or administrative action to support military installations, missions, service members and their families, veterans and industries.**

1.1 Coordinate local, regional and state level issues, actions and recommendations with other state agencies and organizations. (prioritized list of agencies to coordinate, but not all inclusive)

1.1.1 Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF)

1.1.2 Florida Department of Military Affairs

1.1.3 Department of Veterans Affairs

1.1.4 Space Florida

1.1.5 Governor's Base Commanders' Meetings

1.1.6 Florida Department of Economic Opportunity

1.1.7 CareerSource Florida

1.1.8 Veterans Florida

1.1.9 Florida Department of Education

- 1.1.10 Florida's State University System
- 1.1.11 Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- 1.1.12 Department of Business & Professional Regulation
- 1.2. Create/support military community caucus in legislature.
- 1.3. Advise EFI, the FDSTF, the state legislature and congressional staffers on unique opportunities to increase the military value of Florida's installations.
  - 1.3.1. Engage and maintain systemic outreach with the FDSTF, state legislature and staff, federal congressional and military leadership and staff
  - 1.3.2. Identify legislative priorities and initiatives for consideration by the Florida Legislature.
    - 1.3.2.1. Military-Friendly Guide Annual Review and Update
  - 1.3.3. Develop and provide to EFI an annual Florida Defense Alliance legislative agenda
  - 1.3.4. Conduct outreach and communicate for state and federal legislation, authorization and appropriations to positively impact Florida's installations (grants, encroachment protection, FDA work, studies, publications).
- 1.4 Inform and engage local, state, and federal governments on pertinent military issues.
  - 1.4.1. Monitor & integrate to prevent Encroachment & Protect Ranges
  - 1.4.2. Monitor & integrate into Transportation Planning
  - 1.4.3. Monitor & integrate into Education System
  - 1.4.4. Monitor Healthcare
  - 1.4.5. Monitor & integrate Family Support and License Portability
  - 1.4.6. Actively seek opportunities to support and recruit future military missions.
- 1.5. Identify and assess opportunities for state and local government to respond to installation, service member, family, veterans' needs.
  - 1.5.1. Ensure that active, reserve, retired and separated Service Members and family members receive continual improvement to quality of life.
  - 1.5.2. Coordinate integration into the military friendly guide committee/substance (steering committee results)
    - 1.5.2.1. Address gaps in support
    - 1.5.2.2. Recommend modernization of policies, programs, benefits
- 1.6. Support outreach to the Department of Defense and Department of Homeland Security to facilitate the understanding outside the state of the value of Florida's installations, missions and ranges to National security.
- 1.7. Support installation visits by state leaders and related partners to increase awareness and seek support for Florida's military support legislation.

- 1.8. Encourage local, regional and state agency liaisons' participation in the Florida Defense Alliance.

**2. Represent Florida's military communities with partners to preserve/enhance the value of Florida military installations and missions.**

- 2.1. Identify and build relationships with new partners.
- 2.2. Encourage military-community collaborative planning processes to enhance the value of military installations and missions.
  - 2.2.1. Support local, state and federal compatible growth management initiatives. (prioritized list of organizations for collaboration, but not all inclusive)
    - 2.2.1.1. 10 x Florida Regional Planning Councils
    - 2.2.1.2. 21 x Military Base Commanders
    - 2.2.1.3. 67 x County Planning Divisions
    - 2.2.1.4. 27 x Metropolitan Planning Organizations
    - 2.2.1.5. Regional Defense Alliances
    - 2.2.1.6. Florida Association of Counties
    - 2.2.1.7. Florida League of Cities
    - 2.2.1.8. National Defense Industrial Association
    - 2.2.1.9. Florida Defense Contractors' Association
    - 2.2.1.10. Critical Infrastructure companies/organizations (list out)
    - 2.2.1.11. Florida and local Chambers of Commerce
    - 2.2.1.12. Business & Professional organizations
    - 2.2.1.13. Oceana
    - 2.2.1.14. The Nature Conservancy
    - 2.2.1.15. Other non-profit organizations
  - 2.3. Participate and engage in defense focused regional, state and national events to gain insight into direction from regional, state and national leaders (prioritized list of events to engage in but not all inclusive)
    - 2.3.1. Association of Defense Communities
    - 2.3.2. National Conference of State Legislatures – Task Force on Military & Veterans Affairs
    - 2.3.3. Family Support Blue Star meetings
    - 2.3.4. Relay national information during quarterly meetings

**3. Increase public awareness of the military and defense economic value to Florida and the Nation.**

- 3.1. Promote and engage defense related industries.

- 3.1.1. Identify and assess new opportunities/missions/partners
- 3.1.2. Cultivate and expand partnerships among workforce, educational institutions, military research and development offices, and the defense industry at the local, regional and national levels.
- 3.1.3. Encourage Productive Public-Public, Public-Private (P4) Partnerships
- 3.2. Verify, share, integrate the economic impact of military and defense industries on individual communities, regions, and the entire state.
- 3.3. Develop and implement comprehensive Strategic Engagement Plan for the Florida Defense Alliance and its members.
  - 3.3.1. Connecting with and engaging our military families on- and off-base
  - 3.3.2. Video campaign
  - 3.3.3. Expand into Social media
  - 3.3.4. Publish and distribute the military installations map
  - 3.3.5. Market and share video, print content with widest audiences
- 3.4. With awareness, mobilize local, regional and state communities to support military installations, missions, service members, families, veterans and industries.

## Florida Defense Alliance: Vision, Goals & Objectives 2021-2025, slide 2 of 5

Vision

**Governor's Vision: Florida remains the most military and veteran friendly state in the country.**

FDA Vision: The state of Florida provides the most innovative and comprehensive military, defense and national security support in the Nation.

Mission

**FDA Mission :**

The Florida Defense Alliance identifies and coordinates the plans, engagement and public awareness necessary to provide statewide leadership and support to defense related people, installations, missions and industries throughout Florida.

Goals

**Governor's Goals (GG):**

1) Be the best on quality of services for our SMs and Veterans, 2) Protect, preserve and promote our active duty, reserve and national guard military installations and missions for Florida's role in US national security, 3) Increase the defense industry including creating a ready workforce to fill jobs and build equipment for our installations and missions.

**FDA Goals (\*\*connection to the Governor's Goals above\*\*):**

1. Propose & champion appropriate state legislation and/or administrative action to support military installations, missions, service members, families, veterans and industries. **\*\*GG 1, 2, 3**
2. Represent Florida's military communities with partners to preserve/enhance the value of Florida military installations and missions. **\*\*GG 1, 2, 3**
3. Increase public awareness of the military and defense economic value to Florida and the nation. **\*\*GG 2, 3**

Activities

**Governor's Priority Activities (GPA):**

1) Secure Space Command and Space Force Assets Assigned to Florida, 2) Extend legislative prohibition on oil and gas exploration or extraction in EGOMEX and enhance the Gulf Range, 3) Complete base-of-the-future rebuild to retain current and acquire new missions for Tyndall AFB

**FDA Objectives/Activities:**

- 1.1. Coordinate local, regional and state level issues, actions and recommendations with other state agencies and organizations.
- 1.2. Create/support military community caucus in legislature.
- 1.3. Advise EFI, the FDSTF, the state legislature and congressional staffers on unique opportunities to increase the military value of Florida's installations.
- 1.4. Inform and engage local, state, and federal governments on pertinent military issues.
- 1.5. Identify and assess opportunities for state and local government to respond to installation, service member and family needs.
- 1.6. Support outreach to the DoD and DHS to facilitate the understanding outside the state of the value of Florida's installations, missions and ranges to US National Security.
- 1.7. Support installation visits by state leaders and related partners to increase awareness and seek support for Florida's military support legislations.
- 1.8. Encourage local, regional and state agency liaisons' participation in the Florida Defense Alliance.
- 2.1. Identify and build relationships with new partners.
- 2.2. Encourage military-community collaborative planning processes to enhance the value of military installations and missions.
- 2.3. Participate and engage in defense focused regional, state and national events to gain insight into direction from regional, state and national leaders.
- 3.1. Promote and engage defense related industries.
- 3.2. Verify, share, integrate the economic impact of military and defense industries on individual communities, regions, and the entire state.
- 3.3. Develop and implement comprehensive Strategic Engagement Plans for the Florida Defense Alliance and its members.
- 3.4. With increased awareness, mobilize local, regional and state communities to support military installations, missions, service members, families, veterans and industries.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY AND REFERENCE INFORMATION**

### **FDA Organization and Resources**

**The Florida Defense Alliance is a consortium of representatives of defense-related organizations including federal, state, and local government as well as defense industry, economic development organization, and other interested parties who come together to protect, promote and enhance military value of Florida installations and missions. FDA will establish working groups, as required.**

Membership in the FDA may be open to any organization or individuals that fit the following criteria:

- A. Designated economic development representatives from the community(s) associated with a military base, installation or major defense contractor
- B. Chambers of Commerce and/or associated Military Affairs Committees serving the communities associated with a military base, installation or major defense contractor
- C. Regional Planning Councils or County Planning Divisions
- D. Florida military base or installation commanders and staff
- E. Members of the Florida legislature or their designated representative
- F. Florida state agency liaisons
- G. Members of the Florida congressional delegation or their designated representative
- H. Representatives of Florida military base or installation retention or re-use committees
- I. Other interested defense-related support organizations

Primary community representatives from counties which host major military installations, missions, service members and industry.

Bay	Monroe
Brevard	Okaloosa
Bradford	Orange
Clay	Pinellas
Duval	Polk
Escambia	Santa Rosa
Highlands	St. John's
Hillsborough	Walton
Miami-Dade	



Representatives of business and defense-related organizations, including but not limited to:

- Enterprise Florida Board of Directors
- Florida Aviation and Aerospace Alliance
- Florida Chamber of Commerce
- Florida Council of 100
- Florida Economic Development Council
- Florida Defense Contractors Association
- Florida Ports Council
- Space Florida
- CareerSource Florida

Florida defense installation commanders, representatives and community planning liaisons.

FDA Points of Contact for activities to include tracking issues or designating working groups:

**FDA Chairman**

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**FDA Vice Chairman**

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