

Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #100 on Thursday, January 20, 2022

The Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) held a publicly noticed meeting at the Four Points by Sheraton Tallahassee Downtown, at 9:00 AM EST – 11:47 AM EST. For Agenda: See Page 2

Task Force Members Present:

Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman
Rear Admiral Stan Bozin, USN, (Ret)
Brigadier General Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret)
Major General Richard Haddad, USAF, (Ret)
Senator Tom Wright, Chairman

Task Force Members Present via ZOOM:

The Honorable Thomas Bowman
Major General James Eifert, USAF, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida

Task Force Members Absent:

Representative Thad Altman
Representative Wyman Duggan
Colonel Jim Heald, USAF, (Ret)
Captain Keith Hoskins, USN, (Ret)

Speakers Present:

Brian Baluta, EDC of Florida's Space Coast (Zoom)
Matt Schwalb, Matrix Design Group
Kellie Jo Kilberg, Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Chair (Zoom)
Major General (R) James Hartsell, Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA)
Joe Marino, Veterans Florida
Lew Wilson, Florida Veterans Foundation

Others Present in Person:

Dennis Baker, Florida Veterans Foundation
Dr. Damon Friedman, SOFMissions.org
Steve Murray, Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA)

Others Present via ZOOM:

Rick Miller, South Florida Defense Alliance
Cory Strickland, Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)
Roger Williams, FLNG
The Florida Channel

Staff Present:

Terry McCaffrey, Vice President of Military & Defense Programs, Executive Director, FDSTF
Ray Collins, Special Advisor to the Vice President of Military & Defense Programs
Chad Corriveau, Communications and Research Assistant, EFI
Michelle Griggs, Executive Assistant/Grants & Contracts Manager, EFI



Florida Defense Support Task Force – Meeting #100
Four Points by Sheraton Tallahassee Downtown
316 W. Tennessee Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301
AGENDA for January 20, 2022

KEY:
(I) = Information
(D) = Discussion
(A) = Action

All Times are listed in Eastern Daylight Time (EST)

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 9:00 – 9:25 Welcome, Roll Call, Introductions..... | Chairman (I) |
| 9:25 – 10:00 Old Business..... | Chairman (A) / (I) |
| • Approval of Minutes | Chairman (A) |
| • FDSTF FY 2022-2023 Meeting Schedule | Terry McCaffrey (D) / (A) |
| • FDSTF FY20-21 Progress Report and FY22-23 Work Plan | Terry McCaffrey (D) / (A) |
| • TF Grants and Contracts Status | Michelle Griggs (I) |
| • RFP Vendor Selection Approval | Terry McCaffrey (D) / (A) |
| • EDC of Florida’s Space Coast Grant Presentation | Brian Baluta (I) / (D) / (A) |
| • Economic Impact Study Results Presentation | Matt Schwalb (I) |
| 10:00 – 11:45 New Business..... | Chairman (I) |
| • TF Member Reports | Kellie Jo Kilberg (I) |
| • Florida Defense Alliance Update | Katherine Anne Russo (I) |
| • Washington Office Update | Maj Gen (R) James Hartsell (I) |
| • FDVA Update | Joe Marino (I) |
| • Veterans Florida Update | Dennis Baker (I) |
| • Florida Veterans Foundation | Terry McCaffrey (I) |
| • Military & Defense Update | |
| 11:45 – 12:00 Public Comment..... | Chairman |

Reminder – Upcoming Meeting Dates:

February 17, 2022	Zoom	March 17, 2022	St. Augustine St. Francis Barracks
April 21, 2022	Zoom	May 19, 2022	Tallahassee (22-23 Grants) / FDA
June 2022	NO MEETING		

Chairman, Senator Tom Wright began the meeting at 9:00 AM EST.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome, Guest Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman, Senator Tom Wright welcomed attendees and guests, asked the in-person guests to introduce themselves and led the TF and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. He reminded the TF that the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

Approval of Minutes

A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** asked for corrections to the November 18, 2021 TF meeting minutes. Noting none, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 18, 2021 TF meeting. **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin** made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by **Mr. Tom Neubauer**, all were in favor and the minutes were approved.

FDSTF FY 2022-2023 Meeting Schedule

Staff presented a draft calendar and locations to the TF for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 for approval.

A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** asked for a motion to approve the FY 2022-2023 TF Meeting Schedule. **Major General Richard Haddad** made a motion to approve the schedule. The motion was seconded by **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin**, all were in favor and the schedule was approved.

FDSTF FY 2020-2021 Progress Report and FY 2022-2023 Work Plan

Staff presented the final draft of the Progress Report and Work Plan for approval.

A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** asked for a motion to approve the FY 2020-2021 Progress Report and FY 2022-2023 Work Plan. **The Honorable Thomas Bowman** made a motion to approve the Progress Report and Work Plan. The motion was seconded by **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin**, all were in favor and the Progress Report and Work Plan was approved.

Task Force Grants and Contracts Status

Michelle Griggs reported on several current TF contracts and grants.

All videos are complete. Staff is working with EFI's IT team to develop an interactive map for the website which will include each video.

The Geollect 3D model has been completed, as well. Staff is working to place the model on the Florida's Range Complex portion of the M&D site.

The Economic Impact Study has been completed and the Summary Books have been printed and delivered.

Grants: Second quarter grant reports have been requested and are slowly coming in. As they do, they'll be included in future reports. DTF #21-106, Bay County Board of County Commissioners grant in support of the Tyndall Air Force Base rebuild will be complete at the end of this month.

Major General James Eifert provided an update on DTF #20-105, Department of Military Affairs, noting that the fence project will likely begin sometime this spring and an extension will be likely.

Rear Admiral Stan Bozin asked on the progress of DTF #22-100, City of Jacksonville. Staff reported that those lands will most likely be purchased this spring and they are ready to release the funds once the City of Jacksonville submits their documentation for reimbursement.

RFPs: Staff received several proposals in response to the RFPs which were released in early December.

RFP Vendor Selection Approval

Terry McCaffrey provided a summary on the proposals that were received from the RFPs which were released in December 2021. He discussed the scoring process noting that Matrix Design Group, Inc. scored the highest for the Florida Military Installation & Community Resiliency Plan. The Roosevelt Group was the only proposal received for the Florida Public Education Impacts on Military Families RFP, but Staff discussed that it was a viable proposal and the cost was adequate for the work involved.

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** asked for a motion to approve the Matrix Design Group, Inc. proposal to conduct a Florida Military Installation & Community Resiliency Plan. **The Honorable Thomas Bowman** made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by **Major General Richard Haddad**, all were in favor and the proposal was approved.*

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** asked for a motion to approve The Roosevelt Group, LLC. proposal to study Florida Education Impacts on Military Families. **Mr. Tom Neubauer** made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin**, all were in favor and the proposal was approved.*

EDC of Florida's Space Coast Grant Presentation

Brian Baluta, Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast, provided a presentation in support of their \$200,000 grant request to conduct a study of the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station Wastewater Treatment.

CHALLENGE: 21st century multi-user spaceport served by 1950s-era wastewater collection system and 25-year-old treatment plant owned and operated by U.S. Space Force. New Florida advanced wastewater treatment (AWT) standards to protect Indian River Lagoon will require significant capital investment by federal, state and local stakeholders to comply.

OPPORTUNITY: \$200K for a feasibility study is key to unlocking substantial federal and state grants intended to address such challenges, including helping defense communities support military installations with resilient and sustainable infrastructure.

Rise of multi-user spaceport:

- Eastern Range Launch Manifest
- Record-setting pace in 2020 and 2021
- 62 total launches from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station (CCSFS) and Kennedy Space Center (KSC).
- Driven by convergence of defense, civil and commercial space
- Annual launch rate is projected to increase to nearly 100 by 2030.

Entering Unprecedented Era in Space Access

- SpaceX Starship
- Boeing Starliner
- Astra
- Blue Origin New Glenn
- SLS & Artemis
- ULA Vulcan Centaur
- Sierra Space Dream Chaser
- Relativity Space

Center of production: Kennedy Space Center is now home to fast-growing space manufacturing operations.

Opportunity to be more strategic: The surrounding area presents an optimal case for a regional planning approach favored by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Clear path forward

Feasibility Study to Catalyze:

- Basis of design for WWT project fundable by:
 - Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation Grants prioritizing infrastructure, resiliency, sustainability and mission growth (for ex. STARCOM).
 - Florida Department of Environmental Protection Grants (boosted by federal ARPA and BIF funds) prioritizing regional, resilient and innovative approach.
- Adoption by local champion who will own and operate rather than USSF.

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** asked for a motion to fund the study of the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station Wastewater Treatment grant application, submitted by the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast. **Major General Richard Haddad** made a motion to approve the grant. The motion was seconded by **the Honorable Thomas Bowman**, all were in favor and the grant was approved.*

Economic Impact Study Results Presentation

Matt Schwalb, Matrix Design Group, Inc., presented on the results from the Florida Defense Industry Economic Impact Analysis 2022 update.

Topics discussed were:

How the Defense Industry is Defined

- Economic Impact Analysis Economic Impact Analysis
 - Estimates how defense spending ripples through the Florida economy
 - Captures direct, indirect, and induced spending
 - Each economy is different, leading to varying impacts
 - Utilizes the industry standard REMI PI+ socio-economic model

- Spending Types
 - Installation Footprint
 - Procurement
 - Transfer Payments

Trends in Florida Defense Spending

Historical Defense-Related Spending: Total Direct Spending was \$49.3 billion in 2020 – up 12% from 2018 (\$44.0B)

How Florida Ranks in Defense-Related Contracting: Florida consistently ranks in the top 10 for defense contracts and grants

Defense Contracts Performed in Florida: Manufacturing and Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services industries drive the defense contracting economy

Historical Veterans Population and Benefits: Nationally, veteran population is down 14%, while Florida is only down 8%

Historical Military Retiree Population and Pensions: Florida outpaces the nation in retiree population growth – 11% vs 7%

State and Regional Impacts

Total Economic Impacts from Defense Spending, 2020

- Direct spending up 12% since 2018
- Total economic impacts increased 1.7% since 2018 to ≈ \$96.6 billion in 2020
- Total jobs supported declined by 6% since 2018 to ≈ 860,221 in 2020
- Household spending (induced impacts) did not generate levels of economic activity consistent with past
 - Result of COVID-19 changing household consumption patterns (Brick & Mortar vs E-commerce)
 - Contributed to ≈ 6% decrease in number of total jobs supported by defense-related spending
- Defense industry accounts for ≈ 8.5% of Florida's economy
- Florida defense economy acted as a stabilizing force
 - Outpaced total state growth during pandemic

Total Economic Impact by Year and Type		
Impact Type	Year	Impact
Total Direct Spending	2018	\$44.0
	2020	\$49.3
	% Change	12.2%
Economic Impact Gross State Product (Current USD)	2018	\$94.9
	2020	\$96.6
	% Change	1.7%
Total Jobs Supported	2018	914,787
	2020	860,221
	% Change	-6.0%

Source: REMI Pi+ Version 2.5.0 (build 5955)

Dollar values are current USD.

Regional Defense-related Impacts, 2020

Region	GRP (Billions USD)	Job Impact	Distribution
Northwest	\$21.8	186,689	22.5%
East Central	\$21.1	196,858	21.8%
Tampa Bay	\$20.2	175,108	20.9%
Southeast	\$14.6	130,484	15.1%
Northeast	\$14.4	122,056	14.9%
Southwest	\$2.4	24,558	2.5%
North Central	\$1.9	20,435	2.0%
South Central	\$0.3	4,033	0.3%

Source: REMI Pi+ Version 2.5.0 (build 5955)

Dollar values are current USD and totals may not sum due to rounding.

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

Task Force Member Reports

The Honorable Thomas Bowman reported that the AIR (Asset Infrastructure Review) Commission is on hold until spring and is of interest due to recent comments made regarding the impact on the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Major General James Eifert reported that the Florida National Guard (FLNG) currently has 1,643 servicemembers representing 14 organizations deployed globally supporting our nation's national Defense strategy. Members of the of the 53rd Infantry Brigade Combat team are in Ukraine.

Last week he was in Tallahassee briefing Legislative organizations on their FY 2022-2023 Legislative Budget Request as well as another initiative to court and revise the statutes for the creation and establishment of a Florida State Guard.

The FY 2021-2022 budget authorized \$50 million in construction funds for two (2) armories in Zephyrhills and Immokalee. This helps to offset the over 1.5 million square foot shortage in armory and Readiness Center space for current FLNG soldiers.

The Governor's Legislative Budget Request for the FLNG is as follows:

FY 2022-2023 budget request includes:

- \$27 million to build an armory at Homestead Air Reserve Base
- \$25.5 million of funding for an armory at Malabar
- \$25.5 million to build an armory in Gainesville
- \$9.5 million for an addition to the current armory in Miramar

It also includes:

- \$8.9 million for FLNG facilities' repair maintenance
- \$2.2 billion to build a new headquarters facility for the Florida National Guard Counter Drug Program on Camp Blanding
- \$2 million increase for the Florida National Guard Tuition Assistance Program, known as Educational Dollars for Duty, which provides 100% tuition assistance for their Guardsmen and is an extremely important recruiting and retention tool for their organization.

The final budget request is for the Florida State Guard which is an effort to create what was authorized in statute back in 1941, a Florida State Defense Force. The purpose of the Defense Force was if the entire Florida National Force was deployed, like in World War II, the Defense Force would be able to protect the shores from invasions. The purpose of the Florida State Guard is to have additional resources to be able to pull up volunteers to assist with disaster response and for missions such as liaisons to county EOCs, management of shelters, hurricane response, hand out food and water and all the mundane tasks that our guardsmen get tasked. They are not required to have the expertise and experience the guardsmen portray and would allow the guardsmen to not be called up as extensively and help to maintain recruiting and retention numbers.

The Florida State Guard has an initial budget request of \$5 million to establish nine (9) full-time equivalents to start onboarding and establishing the additional setup of this Guard which would be geographically located throughout the state and be able to have volunteers to call up on state active duty in the case of an emergency and support the FLNG.

Finally, he recently spoke with the Chief of Space Operations for the National Guard as they've been in pursuit of expansion of their Space Mission from an Offensive Space Control Squadron, currently located at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station and are now competing for a Defensive Space Control Squadron. He's received indication that they're very competitive for that increased manpower to the Florida Air National Guard, hopefully eventually the Space National Guard, and continue to work that initiative to Legislative Delegations to create the Space National Guard so that current guardsmen in the Space Mission are not orphaned from their parent service, the United States Space Force.

Rear Admiral Stan Bozin reported that in December, NAS Jacksonville, in coordination with the City of Jacksonville, closed on 3.91 acres of property near Outlying Landing Field Whitehouse to preserve and buffer that area.

NAS Jacksonville will be hosting COMPTUEX (Composite Training Unit Exercise) for one of our Carrier Strike Groups through the end of January. This is a rehearsal each US Navy Carrier Strike Group performs before departing for deployment. COMPTUEX brings ships together to project force as a battle group. COMPTUEX is an intermediate-level battle group exercise designed to forge together the battle group and its components into a fully functional fighting team.

NAS Jacksonville is in the final stages of amending and renewing the Multi-Year Agreement (Encroachment Protection Partnership Agreement) with the City of Jacksonville to purchase restrictive easements and the North Florida Land Trust (NFLT) is a third partner in this agreement.

NAS Jacksonville is in the process of hosting, coordinating and planning for an October 2022 Air Show. They have not had an Air Show since 2018.

The last Amphib (USS Iwo Jima) left NS Mayport on the 10th of December. NS Mayport received the first MQ-4 TRITON which arrived on December 16th. They anticipate operations starting sometime in 2022, moved up from 2024. The first operational support mission should begin this month.

Florida's naval bases will participate in Solid Curtain/Citadel Shield exercises from January 31st to February 4th. These are annual anti-terrorism/force protection exercises conducted on all Navy installations in the continental United States.

Brigadier General Chip Diehl thanked the TF for their assistance in obtaining the KC-46 mission at MacDill AFB. Other issues of importance in the Tampa/MacDill area: the Florida Rock issue is being dealt with; the resiliency study in Tampa funded by the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC) is underway; the Tinker School is anticipating \$300 million from the DoD Public School Program to build a middle school; Army Reserve Medevac Helicopters are arriving this week at MacDill AFB thanks to a \$50 million MILCON project to support that bed down; the US Air Force is having a year-long celebration of their 75th Anniversary and will update on any events happening at MacDill AFB.

Other upcoming events are:

- MacDill AFB will host a US Coast Guard commissioning at the end of February at the Port of Tampa
- The Air Fest at MacDill AFB will take place March 26th and March 27th
- Central Command and Special Operations Command will have changes of command at the end of March

Mr. Tom Neubauer reported that both NSA Panama City and Tyndall AFB have gone to Health Protection Condition Charlie. Most of the non-essential workers are working remotely.

The contract for the 27,000 square-foot fighter wing building was recently approved. Many of the new buildings will be built to withstand up to 170 mile per hour winds, particularly on the operational side of the base. This is just one of the first of 3 million square-feet of construction and 40 MILCON projects that will take place at Tyndall AFB over the next four years.

During the rebuild Tyndall AFB will track between 3,000 and 3,500 workers traveling into and out of the base daily. The PMO will use the Defense System Visitor Enrollment System, a new system that was brought out by DoD to track the 3,000 to 3,500 people traveling through the gates each day. During this year many of the contracts will be accepted and let, and visitors will peak, most likely, in 2023.

Affordable housing has become a significant problem across the entire military and communities all around Florida are experiencing a problem with housing for military members. The Base Allowance for Housing (BAH) rates were released on January 1st and the housing allowance is about 5.1% which is inadequate in most places. The Air Force stood up a committee to address this issue and will survey each community to come up with ways to resolve some of the housing problems.

Major General Richard Haddad reported that at AFSOC, on December 4, 2021 for the first time, two special tactics Airmen assigned to the 24th Special Operations Wing competed together in a major competition for Team USA bobsledding November 28th through 29th in Park City, Utah. Major Chris Walsh, a special tactics officer, and Staff Sergeant Matt Beach, a combat controller, competed together at the International Bobsled and Skeleton Federation North American Cup for a chance to represent Team USA at the 2022 Winter Olympics.

An aircrew with the 492nd Special Operations Training Group Detachment 2, Hurlburt Field, Florida, conducted the palletized munitions platform's first live-fire test from an MC-130J Combat Talon II for the Rapid Dragon program, December 16, 2021, over the Gulf of Mexico.

Air Force Special Operations Command's year of innovative projects started with the creation of mission sustainment teams and leapt to the conceptualization of an amphibious capable MC-130J concept. These pathfinding efforts pave the way for a ready and relevant force of future warfighters.

On January 7, 2022, an anonymous social media post regarding alleged special treatment of a minority female candidate in her effort to become part of the Air Force's elite Special Tactics forces has prompted a reaction from Lieutenant General Jim Slife, Commander of the Hurlburt Field-headquartered Air Force Special Operations Command, under which Special Tactics units operate. In a statement issued Thursday, Slife called the post "bullying and harassment" of the candidate with assertions that are "... either factually incorrect or missing important context which would completely change the perception. Additionally, in a memorandum to Special Tactics airmen, Slife called for Secretary of the Air Force Frank Kendall III to direct the service's inspector general "to conduct an independent review of the allegations contained in the email," according to a copy of the memorandum linked to an Air Force Times article on the social media post.

SOCOM: On November 22, 2021, following the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan at the end of August, the only semblance of government remaining there is the Taliban. But the Taliban are not partners in defeating terrorism there, the commander of U.S. Special Operations Command said. "I don't see them as a partner - I'll just be frank," Army Gen. Richard D. Clarke, commander of U.S. Special Operations Command, said at the annual Halifax International Security Forum event in Nova Scotia, Canada. "I think we have an interest from the U.S. perspective that the ISIS threat that is in Afghanistan is disrupted, that it can't roost so that it could actually affect one of our nations. But I wouldn't, as we look at the Taliban, I don't think they're an entity, today, that should be ... a counterterrorism partner."

According to General Clark, USSOCOM CC, "All of us understand diversity and inclusion are operational imperatives," the plan opens. "This Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan provides a roadmap for sustained and direct action toward increasing the diversity of our formation and ensuring all our environments, from the team room to the executive conference room, are inclusive." A push to promote more women and people of color into leadership, as well as rank-and-file, positions held overwhelmingly by white, male troops, decades after racial and gender integration, is part of a long game.

Colonel Jim Heald reported from Eglin AFB:

- Congressman Matt Gaetz has a new Military Affairs Coordinator, Juan Valdez; a medically retired US Marine who is working from Wash DC but spends time in District 1.
- The 33rd Fighter Wing has reactivated the 60th Fighter Squadron as they receive more F-35s.
- The Military Mission Line moratorium needs to be made permanent legislatively. Plus, it needs to address all forms of encroachment and not just the oil/gas industry. We are concerned about Wind Turbine encroachment impacting the Eastern Gulf Test and Training Range (EGTTR). Currently the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management has proposed leasing in the Western and Central Gulf Planning Areas. We are also concerned about potential Aquaculture projects encroachment and impacts on the EGTTR. We are currently monitoring H.R. 6258: Advancing the Quality and Understanding of American Aquaculture Act sponsored by Rep Stephen Palazzo (R-MS-4) and co-sponsored by: Rep Ed Case, (D-HI-1). On 14 December 2021: Introduced in House and Referred to Committees on Natural Resources, Agriculture and Transportation. The following day (15 December 2021) it was referred to the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation for Action by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. It is important to reinforce DoD position regarding safety of non-participating personnel and infrastructure in the areas of hazardous military operations if these projects go into or near the EGTTR areas.
- The long-term viability of the Okaloosa County airports has been assured: Eglin AFB and the citizens of Okaloosa County now have an enhanced use lease until 2063 and a joint-use agreement until 2061. The airports are debt-free, ridership has increased 150%, and the airports contribute a \$2B economic impact on local economy helping both the military and the local community.

- A Child Development Center (CDC) to support the northern part of the Eglin Community is still a top priority (especially for the 7th SFG(A)). The previously discussed WellPlex on the south end of Crestview is still in work but has been delayed to 2023. This is a family readiness issue.
- The Tri-County Partnership Initiative (TCPI) held a virtual workshop for the Eglin-Hurlburt-Community on January 12. SAF/IE hosted a series of three virtual military-community leadership virtual brainstorming sessions. Military and community champions were identified on priority topics. The SAF/IE facilitation team will reach out to each champion for next steps. We expect a report from SAF/IE soon. This is part of SAF/IEs reboot of the Air Force Community Partnership Program.
- Hurlburt leadership wants to suggest that the Base Commanders' Meeting with the Governor and his staff happen on a more consistent and frequent basis so that the Commanders could get their concerns directly to the Governor. As one example, they would like to emphasize the need for improving traffic flow on Highway 98. A current project for Highway 98 adds additional Lanes and can be found in the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) project 220196-3-52-01, "SR30 (US 98) from Santa Rosa County line to East of Cody Avenue – Add Lanes & Reconstruct". Currently under design with a 30% submittal just received by Hurlburt from FDOT for review. Status of funding for construction is not in FDOT future year program. This specific section by Hurlburt is part of the bigger project: <https://nwflroads.com/projects/220196-2>.
- The Air Force Enlisted Village, located outside of Eglin's west gate, has purchased 80 acres adjacent to its main campus for \$5M to develop the Victory Village which will support all services and wounded warriors. A capital campaign is underway for the first phase of construction. They are currently working with the County on zoning.
- We are still monitoring the rumored reduction in FY23 Air Force Test and Evaluation funding and investment. The DoD Test Resource Management Center (TRMC) had previously indicated that if funding is not restored in the President's Budget Request, TRMC would be forced to de-certify the AF budget.

Chairman, Senator Tom Wright reported that Gary Puckett and the Union Gap performed in his district on Veterans Day for about 300 veterans and raised \$75,000 for 13 local veterans' organizations.

Also, a family has donated a beautiful library built in 1926 to his community. The lease is \$20/year for the next 30 years, located in Daytona Beach and will be the War Museum for all their veterans to support and remind people of what so many have given so we can enjoy our freedom.

Florida Defense Alliance Update

Kellie Jo Kilberg, FDA Chair, discussed that the ADC has opened applications for the next selection of Great American Defense Communities. The state of Florida has four (4) Great American Defense Communities: Okaloosa/Walton, Pensacola, Tampa Bay and Bay County. She anticipates one or two communities will submit applications.

Last year our Legislators passed the Purple Star School Program, but the program has not yet been rolled out as it is still with the Department of Education (DOE) in Rules. She asked **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** for assistance with the DOE as schools and districts are waiting to start the program.

The second contract regarding the 3D Range model, the communications piece advancing Florida's military training testing evaluation ranges is moving forward as UWF has selected The Roosevelt Group for this project. Kathleen Ferguson will be reaching out to TF members for informal individual conversations as they develop their plan, so please be sure to take her call.

ADC is looking to co-host a regional meeting in Florida possibly this fall and the FDA sees this as a great opportunity to inform, educate and engage many more Florida organizations on the importance of this foundational base in Florida, particularly for the economic impact that it has. This will be a great opportunity to

bring more regional councils together with city councils or county commissioners to look at the foundational pieces that our installations bring to Florida. This will be a great opportunity to share information with more people as ADC can bring in top-notch speakers. Also, knowing that Florida's military and defense is 8.5% of the state's economy, military bases keep the economy stable.

Finally, the FDA is still tracking one or two compacts for spousal employment. They were hoping to get more through legislation this Session but will attempt to get more through during the next cycle.

FDVA Update

Major General James Hartsell (Ret), Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA), provided a department update on the FDVA. FDVA is a 1,500-member constitutionally chartered State Veterans' Affairs department with a \$160 million annual budget responsible for serving the nation's third largest veteran population. Operating as the premier point of entry for Florida's 1.5 million veterans, FDVA operates a network of seven state veterans' homes and provides outreach to connect veterans with their earned services, benefits and support. Two additional state veterans' homes will open in the second half of 2021. At the end of World War II, the State of Florida recognized the need to provide services to returning service members and created a division within state government to connect veterans with their earned benefits. To better serve veterans and their families, Florida voters in 1988 overwhelmingly approved a Constitutional Amendment to create a Cabinet Agency to "Honor Those Who Served U.S." Today, the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs is the premier point of entry for Florida veterans to access earned services, benefits and support.

Mission & Vision:

- Mission: To advocate with purpose and passion for Florida Veterans and link them to superior services, benefits and support.
- Vision: FDVA is premier point of entry for Florida Veterans to access earned services, benefits & support.
- Florida is projected to have 2nd highest Veteran population by 2032.

Women Veterans:

- Demographics: Sunshine State has 2nd largest population of Women Veterans in nation - more than 164,000.
- Challenge: Many women veterans don't know they're eligible for full range of earned benefits & services.
- Town Hall Meetings: FDVA held four meetings in 2021 to gauge understanding of issues; report to FDVA due March 2022

Vietnam Veterans:

- Demographics: Approximately out of every three Veterans in Florida is a Vietnam-era Veteran - more than 484,000; projected tops in nation in 2025.
- Challenge: Reluctant to seek help. VA recognizes service may have exposed Veterans to Agent Orange & other herbicides.
- Town Hall Meetings: Scheduled following legislative session; report to FDVA due summer 2022

Veterans' Claims Examiners from the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs are connecting veterans and their families with earned services, benefits and support. To contact a FDVA Veterans' Claims Examiner, call (727) 319-7440 and they'll return your call within 24 hours. All services are free to the veteran. You may also contact them via e-mail at VSO@fdva.state.fl.us. Many FDVA Veterans' Claims Examiners have returned to serving veterans at VA Medical Centers and VA Outpatient Clinics via appointments. For a list of phone numbers, visit the Florida Veterans' Benefits Guide at <https://floridavets.org/resources/va-benefits-guide/>. Video Teleconferencing now available for Florida Veterans: FDVA has launched a new "virtual" video conference option, providing Veterans with the flexibility and convenience of meeting with a claims examiner from a personal computer or mobile device. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (727) 319-7408.

The Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs operates six skilled nursing facilities and one assisted living facility. All facilities are licensed by Florida's Agency for Health Care Administration and inspected annually by AHCA and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The homes are supervised round the clock by registered and licensed nurses. Basic admission requirements for all state veterans' homes include an honorable discharge, Florida residency, and certification of need of assisted living or skilled nursing care as determined by a VA physician. The map also shows our primary offices in Tallahassee, Bay Pines and our administrative headquarters in Largo.

Governor Ron DeSantis lent his signature to the Florida Veteran Suicide Prevention Month Proclamation in September 2019, highlighting the state's involvement with the "Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans and their Families," a national call to action asking state, military and civilian interagency teams to embark on a process of collaborating, planning and implementing suicide prevention best practices and policies for service members, veterans and their families statewide. We've been working hard on this initiative during the past two years.

The Florida Veterans Support Line, 1-844-MyFLVet (693-5838), continues to provide confidential emotional support and connection to community resources 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The line, supported by FDVA and its suicide prevention partners, is available to all veterans in Florida.

2021 Florida Legislative Session Major veteran-related bills:

- HB 231 - FDVA establishes Florida Veterans' Care Coordination Program to provide and expand behavioral health care referral and care coordination services for veterans and families.
- Partners with 14 Florida 2-1-1 Network participants to provide services
- HB 7023 – Veterans Treatment Courts legislation creates uniform standards and procedures for Florida's current and future VTCs.

2022 Florida Legislative Session:

Governor DeSantis' Freedom First Budget Strongly Supports Florida's Veteran Community

- Funding for completion/staffing of additional state veterans' nursing homes in Port St. Lucie and Orlando
- Capital improvements/replacement of equipment & furniture for state's operational veterans' homes
- Additional \$\$\$ for contract services to cover agency staffing, housekeeping, therapy, medical & pharmacy services; upgraded information technology to track facility medical equipment & resident medical needs
- Provides \$350,000 for continuation of veteran suicide prevention outreach program - "Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans and their Families"
- Continues funding for Veterans Florida, the non-profit created by the State of Florida to help military veterans transition to civilian life and promote Florida's status as the nation's most veteran-friendly state.

2022 Florida Legislative Session Veteran-related bills

- Recognizing Veteran Suicide - HB 63 (Willhite) & SB 302 (Burgess) - Urges Congress to recognize epidemic of suicide among veterans & fully fund suicide prevention efforts by the VA
- Educator Certification Pathways for Veterans - HB 573 (Snyder) & SB 896 (Burgess) - Expands eligibility to seek educator certification to specified servicemembers; authorizes DOE to issue temporary certificate to specified servicemembers & specifies duration of temporary certificate for specified servicemembers.
- State Park Fee Discounts - HB 115 (Casello) & SB 232 (Harrell) - Active-duty members and veterans who are Florida residents will receive a lifetime family annual pass at no cost.
- Military Medics and Corpsmen of Florida Program - HB 131 (Woodson) & SB 466 (Torres) - Requires FDVA & DOH to establish & administer Military Medics and Corpsmen of Florida program; authorizes

medically trained veterans participating in program to perform certain medical activities under specified supervision.

- Alcohol Purchases by Veterans' Service Organizations - HB 755 (Overdorf) & SB 1082 (Gruters) - Revises limitations on purchases of alcoholic beverages by vendors from vendors to exclude purchases by certain veterans' service organizations
- United States Space Force - HB 465 (Sirois) & SB 438 (Burgess) - Revising the definition of the term "uniformed services" to include the United States Space Force.

Governor DeSantis is committed to ensuring our service-members have the support of the state's legal community and its best legal minds. To achieve this goal, the Governor's Initiative on Lawyers Assisting Warriors (GI LAW) is drawing from the talent of Florida's leading law firms to provide pro bono services for military members. Through this initiative, our state's men and women in uniform will receive local counsel in a variety of civil matters, including actions in local courts. Participating attorneys will dedicate time and expertise to ensure a prompt and fair resolution of legal matters. This program is a collaboration between the Governor, the Department of Military Affairs, the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs and Enterprise Florida, Inc. Update: 166 active-duty service members have taken advantage of the program as of December 2021.

Veterans Florida Update

Joe Marino, Veterans Florida, provided a presentation on Veterans Florida's missions and programs.

Topics of discussion:

Purpose: Veterans Florida is a non-profit corporation created by the State of Florida in 2014 to help veterans fully transition to civilian life in the Sunshine State and to promote Florida, the most veteran-friendly state in the country, as the best place to reside upon leaving the military.

Board of Directors

VETS Program - Veterans Employment and Training Services, Section 295.22, Florida Statutes Statute:

- Promote the state to veterans
- Veterans seeking employment
- Employers seeking veterans
- Workforce grant for employers
- Veteran entrepreneur initiative
- Florida's principal DOD SkillBridge assistance organization

Services:

- Marketing with VISIT Florida
- Career Services
- Workforce Recruiting
- Workforce Training Grant
- Entrepreneurship Program
- Florida SkillBridge Initiative

Marketing:

- US Servicemembers 12 months prior to, and veterans within 24 months after, separating or retiring from the military
- 200,000 separate each year across the country

- Geographically located at major and minor military installations in Florida and around the country, predominantly in the Southeast US, Texas, California, and East Coast US
- Branding and Messaging: social media

Career Services:

Transition Services

- Inform about Florida industries and opportunities
- Activity checkpoints as retirement or separation approaches

Career Services

- Skills and career preference assessments
- Resume assistance
- Interview preparation

Job Placement

- Coach veterans through start date at new job

Available to transitioning service members, veterans, Guard/Reserve, and spouses

Entrepreneurship:

- Workshops & Networking
- Topical and specific lessons for a group lasting a few hours
- Build their local business and mentorship network

Facilitated Cohorts

- In depth courses over several weeks
- 10-12 veteran businesses in Idea/Startup or Growth
- Pathway for moving business to next stage
- Mentoring provided

CoWorking & Incubators

- Reserved memberships for veterans to take advantage of office and meeting space, local resources, and mentoring

Available to transitioning service members, veterans, and Guard/Reserve - spouses may join

SkillBridge:

Program:

- Servicemembers with less than 180 days until separation or retirement
- Gain workforce training at an employer or industry partner under an apprenticeship or internship in lieu of their military duties
- Retain their full DoD pay and benefits.
- Commander approval

Industries:

- Aerospace, logistics, law enforcement, agriculture, etc.

Available to transitioning service members

Agriculture:

IFAS Internship

- 6 months paid fellowship at a University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Research Center
- Learn skills in various Florida agricultural areas from farming to ranching

Job Placement

- Place into full time work in agriculture industry

Available to transitioning service members, veterans, and Guard/Reserve. Veterans and Guard/Reserve access program through our USDA funded AgVets three-year grant. Transitioning servicemembers access program through our DoD SkillBridge certification.

FY 2021-22 Priorities: Legislative Budget Request

- Operations - \$400,000 (increase of ~ \$55,000)
- VETS Program - \$2 million (increase of \$700,000)

Florida Veterans Foundation Update

Lew Wilson, Florida Veterans Foundation (FVF), provided a briefing and overview of their Foundation. They were established by the Florida Legislature in 2008 as a direct support organization of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs (FDVA), a 501(C)(3) Nonprofit foundation. FVF is registered with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Resources.

Topics of discussion were:

Board of Directors, District Directors and Members at Large

Serving ALL Florida Veterans:

- Represents Nearly 1.5 million Veterans PLUS their Survivors & Families
- All Branches of Service and All Service Eras: World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Cold War, Global War on Terror
- 28,000 Florida Veterans Monthly
- Florida Veteran's Council
- 375 Florida Veterans Service Organizations (VSO's)
- 67 Counties - 135 CVSO's
- Provides Education & Relief Resources to Florida Veterans
- Partnerships (DAV, Project Vet Relief, NAVF, BALS, CCTB)

Programs:

- Suicide Prevention & Opioid Addiction
- Aging Veterans & Survivor Benefits
- Emergency Assistance
- Locating Veterans
- Fraud & Financial Literacy
- Homeless Veterans
- Veterans Transportation
- PTSD & Mental Health
- Veterans Treatment Courts

Aging Veterans Benefits:

- Pension Plus Aid & Attendance (A&A)

- 20,000 Veterans X \$50,000 (Average Benefit) = \$1,000,000,000 In Benefits At NO COST TO THE VETERAN!

Resources:

- www.HelpFLVets.org
- VA Survivors & Burial Benefits Kit
- Florida Veterans Benefits Guide

Military & Defense Update

Terry McCaffrey updated the TF items on which the Staff is currently working.

There are over 100 military and veteran related bills set to be presented to the Legislature this Session. A full list can be found in Tab 11 of your books.

Thank you to the Legislators on the TF and their support across the State of Florida through legislative actions.

Staff is working on an interactive map for the website to incorporate a multitude of information as well as the completed videos and the updated economic impact study numbers.

ADC is hosting their 2022 Defense Communities National Summit in Washington, DC on March 7th through 9th, which Staff will attend. Staff is also in discussion with ADC on a Regional Summit in Florida sometime this September.

Terry will be attending the Air Force Association's Air Warfare Symposium in Orlando on March 2nd through 4th. He'll be joining EFI's Business Development Team to sell Florida to military defense industries.

Thank you to:

- Our Veteran partners for attending today's meeting and providing wonderful updates to the TF
- Lee Cardice for the great job providing A/V to the meeting
- His M&D team for all they do everyday
- The TF members, especially original members for the last 10 years, **Mr. Tom Neubauer** and **Brigadier General Chip Diehl**, thank you for all you have done and will do for the State of Florida

Cake will be served after the meeting to celebrate 100 TF meetings.

IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

No Public Comments were made during this meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:47 AM EST

Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #101 on Thursday, February 17, 2022

The Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) held a publicly noticed meeting via Zoom at 9:00 AM EST – 10:47 AM EST. For Agenda: See Page 2.

Task Force Members Present:

Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman
Brigadier General Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret.)
Major General James Eifert, USAF, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida
Major General Richard Haddad, USAF (Ret.)
Colonel Jim Heald, USAF, (Ret.)
Captain Keith Hoskins, USN, (Ret.)

Task Force Members Absent:

Senator Tom Wright, Chairman
Representative Thad Altman
The Honorable Thomas Bowman
Rear Admiral Stan Bozin, USN, (Ret.)
Representative Wyman Duggan

Speakers Present:

Kellie Jo Kilberg, Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Chairwoman
Ty Martin, Office of Florida's Attorney General
Christina McCullough, Office of Florida's Attorney General

Others Present:

Lee Cardice, Cardice A/V
Harrison Conyers, City of Jacksonville
Sarah Hayenga, Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB)
Rick Miller, FDA Board/South Florida Defense Alliance
Dave Murzin, 850 Consulting, LLC
Kathleen Nestor, FDA Family Support Working Group Chair
Kay Rasmussen, One Okaloosa EDC
Matt Schellhorn, NS Mayport
Cory Strickland, Department of Economic Opportunity
Brooke Trawick-Gilbert, Bay Defense Alliance
Juan Valdez, Office of Congressman Matt Gaetz
Teri Wanamaker, NAS Jacksonville
Kent Wimmer, Defenders of Wildlife
The Florida Channel

Staff Present:

Terry McCaffrey, Vice President of Military & Defense Programs, Executive Director, FDSTF
Ray Collins, Special Advisor to the Vice President of Military & Defense Programs
Chad Corriveau, Communications & Research Specialist, EFI
Michelle Griggs, Manager, Contracts & Grants, EFI



Florida Defense Support Task Force – Meeting #101
Zoom
AGENDA for February 17, 2022

**Please contact the
 Military & Defense Team for
 Zoom Webinar information.**

KEY:
 (I) = Information
 (D) = Discussion
 (A) = Action

All Times are listed in Eastern Daylight Time (EST)

- 9:00 – 9:05 Welcome, Roll Call, Introductions..... Chairman **(I)**
- 9:05 – 9:15 Old Business..... Chairman **(A) / (I)**
 - Approval of Minutes Chairman **(A)**
 - TF Grants and Contracts Status Michelle Griggs **(I)**
 - TF Budget Update Terry McCaffrey **(I)**
- 9:15 – 11:00 New Business..... Chairman **(I)**
 - TF Member Reports Kellie Jo Kilberg **(I)**
 - Florida Defense Alliance Update Ty Martin **(I) / (D)**
 - Attorney General’s Military and Veterans’ Assistance Program Ray Collins **(I)**
 - Florida Ethics & Sunshine Law Review Terry McCaffrey **(I)**
 - Military & Defense Update
- 11:00 – 11:15 Public Comment..... Chairman

Reminder – Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Mar 17, 2022	St. Augustine St. Francis Barracks	Apr 21, 2022	Zoom
May 19, 2022	Tallahassee (22-23 Grants) / FDA	Jun 2022	NO MEETING
Jul 21, 2022	Pensacola NAS Pensacola	Aug 18, 2022	Zoom
Sep 15-16, 2022	Key West Army Dive School/Truman Annex	Oct 20, 2022	Zoom
Nov 17, 2022	Cocoa Beach Cape Canaveral SFS / FDA	Dec 2022	NO MEETING
Jan 19, 2023	Avon Park Avon Park AFR	Feb 16, 2023	Zoom
Mar 16, 2023	Tallahassee (Session)	Apr 20, 2023	Zoom
May 18, 2023	Tallahassee (Session / 23-24 Grants) / FDA	Jun 2023	NO MEETING

Terry McCaffrey, Vice President of Military & Defense Programs, Executive Director of the Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF), *began the meeting at 9:00 AM EDT.*

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome, Roll Call & Introductions

Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer welcomed attendees and guests and reminded attendees that the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

Approval of the Minutes

*A quorum being present, **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked for any corrections to the January 20, 2022 minutes. Noting none, a motion was made by **Major General Richard Haddad** to approve the minutes, seconded by **Colonel Jim Heald**. All were in favor and the January 20, 2022 meeting minutes were approved.*

Task Force Grants & Contracts Status

Michelle Griggs provided a brief update on some current TF grants.

Contracts: Contract 21-263, Matrix Design Group for the Economic Impact Study is closed as the final payment has been processed. Both contracts for the Matrix Design Group Resiliency Study and The Roosevelt Group Education deep dive are complete and were fully executed as of February 8th.

Grants: All grantees have submitted their second quarter grant reports at this time and are included in your report.

Grant #20-100, Military Child Education Coalition has requested their final payment and has submitted their final report. This grant will be closed upon submission of their final deliverable reports.

After the printing of the grants report, Clay County has submitted their final report and requested the balance of their grant award for DTF #21-100. This contract is now closed. Clay County's contract for this year's \$500,000 grant award was executed on 2/10/2022.

Grant #21-105, the Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council has requested an extension to April 30, 2022. They currently have a balance of \$11,892.50. They expect to send an invoice requesting their remaining reimbursement within the next two weeks. Also, effective February 15 and under mutual agreement of all 5 of the founding counties for the Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council, fiscal agent responsibilities for The Fire Watch will shift from the City of Jacksonville to St. Johns County. This will allow payments to vendors to be made much more quickly in the future.

At this point staff has received three applications for the FY 2022-2023 grant program:

- City of Jacksonville for \$500,000
- Clay County Development Authority for \$500,000
- Military Child Education Coalition for \$250,000

On February 1st, staff re-opened the grant submission window for Fiscal Year 2022-2023. New applications are due by February 28th. At the March TF meeting Staff will submit all applications for a decision on invitations to present at the May meeting.

Continuing Services Contract & Budget: Staff has recently started working again on the Continuing Services Contract. **Terry McCaffrey** will discuss further as well as the updated Budget.

*A quorum being present, **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked for a motion to extend DTF #21-105 the Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council grant contract to April 30, 2022. A motion was made by **Brigadier General Chip Diehl**, seconded by **Captain Keith Hoskins**. All were in favor and the extension was approved.*

Budget Update

Terry McCaffrey discussed that after several layers of review, Staff has received approval to move forward with the Continuing Services Contract. Staff will continue working on this contract with intended execution prior to the end of this fiscal year.

Currently the TF has about \$135,000 remaining unprogrammed in the budget, of which he suggests \$100,000 be applied to the Continuing Services Contract. Staff will release an RFQ in the next few days.

Staff has been working with EFI on upgrades to the M&D website with EFI funding most of the cost. Staff would like to add an information layer to the design which would cost an additional \$3,750, funded by the TF, if the TF approves. This project should be completed in the next few weeks.

The TF members had no objections to spending \$3,750 in TF administrative funds on the website project.

Staff will continue to publish the Economic Impact Study Summary Books and include the information on the website.

Brigadier General Chip Diehl added that the books are convenient to hand out as he finds people like to keep them on their desks for easy reference.

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

Task Force Member Reports

Brigadier General Chip Diehl discussed that both CENTCOM and SOCOM will have changes of command coming up this spring. Wes Brooks, the State of Florida's new Chief Resiliency Officer, visited MacDill AFB recently having a tour of the base and meeting with base leadership. He believes Dr. Brooks will be visiting most of the bases in the State. Air Force Chief of Staff, General CQ Brown, will visit Tampa next month to drop the puck at a Tampa Bay Lightning game.

Major General James Eifert provided the following remarks as a Florida National Guard Update.

MOBILIZATION/DEPLOYMENT UPDATE: The Florida National Guard currently has 1,611 (1,355 Army & 256 Air) Servicemembers representing 13 Organizations deployed globally supporting our nation's National Defense Strategy. Additionally, our mobilization pipeline continues to grow, with 6 Organizations consisting of approximately 75 Servicemembers scheduled for deployment throughout the remainder of this calendar year.

Joint Military Training Group – Ukraine (JMTG-U). In November, the 53rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team composed of 165 Soldiers (160 Florida Guard Personnel) made up of three elements: headquarters staff; mentor and advisor teams and unit support personnel. The 53rd's mission is training, equipping, developing a training center, and doctrinal assistance to the Ukrainian armed forces. As you've probably seen in the news, the 53rd IBCT has been directed to suspend their mission in Ukraine and have relocated to Germany where they are awaiting guidance for their follow-on mission.

Congressional Delegation Engagements. February 1-3, I conducted legislative engagements in Washington, DC with 13 members of Congress focusing on growing the Florida National Guard, establishing the Space National Guard, and leveraging Military Construction funding to build additional readiness centers and support facilities in FL to support our growth. He is also meeting with Congressman Dunn this afternoon at Camp Blanding on the same topics.

He discussed, in depth, the many issues the FLNG is dealing with due to COVID-19 and vaccinations.

Colonel Jim Heald reported the following from Eglin AFB and Okaloosa County:

- The DSI 2022 Federal Legislative Point Paper is being finalized for dissemination. Top priorities include:
 - Permanent sustainment of the MML

- In partnership with OCEANA, DSI leadership met virtually with Senators Rubio's and Scott's staffs to advocate for the EGTRR and MML
 - EGTRR-MAX – Eastern Gulf Test and Training Range Maximization includes multiple parts needed to
 - GRE Plan – continuing request to fund the Gulf Range Enhancement
 - Spectrum Warfare/Electronic Combat Range Assets – funding started in FY20 and needs to continue – had great briefing from Col Young the commander of the new 350 Spectrum Warfare Wing
 - Range Support Aircraft (RSA) replacement – hoping for Gulfstream 550s (also called C-37) to replace the aging E-9 Widgets at Tyndall AFB. Navy is buying and has already done the engineering to make the C-37s into range support aircraft. USAF is buying 10 C-37s to replace EC-130s in the Compass Call mission. The C-37 would be a great improvement over the aging E-9s since they would not be one of a kind and would provide better public safety (range clearing) and better telemetry relay.
 - Eastern Gulf Aquaculture Buffering – another example of encroachment that could be accommodated with the proper coordination requirements in their permits
 - Childcare Development Center – highest priority for 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne)
 - NexGen Eglin Language – would allow using O&M funds to repair/replace aging infrastructure
 - WTIC MILCON – Waiting on final passage of Appropriations to see if \$40M in Planning and Design funds were included
- DSI leadership met with The Roosevelt Group to discuss the Eglin Test and Training Complex and EGTRR capabilities, capacities and needs
 - One Okaloosa EDC has engaged Kennetic Productions to compose a targeted Team Eglin and EGGTR informational video. Some B Roll interview footage from last year was utilized and the product is nearing completion. The goal is to achieve expanded outreach focused on the EGTRR buffering and sustainment needs. Funds came from last year's DRG grant and the videos from the FDA/FDSTF video project
 - Previously reported that the community and military participated in a virtual meeting in January. The next step following the SAF/IE facilitated P4 brainstorming sessions on January 12, is for an out brief with BGen Cain and Col Schermerhorn. After their review and guidance, execution will engage for new and refreshed work groups.
 - The Gulf Coast's leading one-day technology, engineering, and manufacturing expo, the TeCMEN Industry Day is scheduled for 26Apr22. Col Meeks, Commander AFRL Munitions Directorate will be the Keynote speaker.
 - General Arnie Bunch, the Commander of Air Force Materiel Command, will be at Eglin the end of February. Planning is underway to have a community luncheon with him.
 - We are still monitoring the rumored reduction in FY23 Air Force Test and Evaluation funding and investment. The DoD Test Resource Management Center (TRMC) had previously indicated that if funding is not restored in the President's Budget Request, TRMC would be forced to de-certify the AF budget.

Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer briefed that at NSA Panama City the next generation landing craft, Ship to Shore Connector (SSC), Landing Craft, Air Cushion (LCAC), successfully completed well deck interoperability testing with USS Carter Hall and demonstrated the craft are another step closer to fleet integration. The test event, a collaboration between, PEO Ships, USS Carter Hall, Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City Division and other stakeholders, was the culmination of months of preparation. The testing also has historical significance, as Panama City is the location of the Navy's Air Cushion Vehicle Center of Excellence with the first-ever well deck operations occurring off Panama City in 1985 between legacy LCAC 01 and USS Whidbey Island.

Bay County is working with their local Economic Development Alliance and all of its partners to analyze the workforce problem, to find the current and future needs of the local industries to develop a means of recruiting workforce into the area, as well as deal with the workforce housing issue. Every six months their community reports to the Air Force, Navy and Coast Guard information on the housing pipeline to see what what's coming up over the next three-to-five years, the recovery of hospitals and schools from Hurricane Michael as well as quality-of-life factors. Workforce is becoming an issue they're trying to solve as it affects many other communities across the state.

The current Continuing Resolution (CR) expires tomorrow. There's a follow-on CR that will go through March 12th with optimism it includes a framework started for the 2023 bill. A critical issue is that all new programs will most likely see a two-year delay if this second CR doesn't result in a budget very quickly. There are 56 MILCON projects under the CR that cannot be funded because they're attached to new missions, which cannot be funded. They're concerned about the Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E) at Eglin AFB it's critical that RDT&E has fallen far behind, particularly with 12 new missiles and hypersonic weapons that are on the board ready to be tested that cannot be without this new funding. He encourages everyone to lean heavily on their CODEL to make sure that the next two weeks are the end of the CR season for Congress.

Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Update

Kellie Jo Kilberg, FDA Chairwoman, reported on items of discussion from Tuesday's FDA meeting.

Matrix Design Group presented on the most recent Economic Impact Study. Having our members armed with information is very helpful as our communities go out and talk to their elected officials their community leaders on the importance of the military missions and the installations in their communities. Matrix also demonstrated their Defense Contractors Engagement Program website which is another great tool for local communities, particularly economic development organizations.

The Family Support Working Group discussed the Purple Star School Program, which is still in the rulemaking stage and hoping to be voted on in March. The Interstate Military Child Compact legislation renewal is moving through committees at this moment as well as the Licensed Professional Counselors compact and the Psychological Interjurisdictional compact. These compacts are the only ones making it through this Session. They will continue to work on the others next year.

The Mission Sustainment Working Group is moving forward with the engagement and information plan for the Florida Range Complex.

Avon Park Air Force Range is facing another encroachment issue as the county is proposing an area for permanent residence mobile homes. County staff has recommended denial of this proposal but the FDA will be keeping close watch on this situation.

As they start making plans for the May FDA meeting and beginning plans for the ADC regional meeting in September it's important to reach out to elected officials, county staffs and get them more engaged to understand what encroachment is, what it means and the important role that they play.

Attorney General's Military & Veterans Assistance Program

Ty Martin and Christina McCullough, Office of the Florida Attorney General, presented their Military and Veterans Assistance Program (MVAP).

Florida's Consumer Protection Statute: To protect the consuming public and legitimate business enterprises from those who engage in unfair methods of competition, or unconscionable, deceptive, or unfair acts or practices in the conduct of any trade or commerce. Florida Statutes § 501.202(2) (2021).

Topics of discussion were:

- Why Florida Needs the MVAP
- Outreach and Education
- How to File an MVAP Complaint
- Lifecycle of a Complaint
- Types of Complaints
- Limited Jurisdiction
- MVAP Partnerships
- Enforcement
- Enhanced Penalties for Military Victims

- Significant Recent Resolutions
- How You Can Collaborate
- Military Consumer Protection Resource Guide
- Contact Information

The full presentation can be found here: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Presentations-2022.pdf>

Florida Ethics & Sunshine Law Review

Ray Collins presented the annual review of Florida's Sunshine, Public Records and Ethics Laws.

Topics of discussion were:

- Florida Statute 288.987, Florida Defense Support Task Force
- Florida Defense Support Task Force statutory requirements
- Task Force assignments to EFI
- Public Records:
 - Definition, Examples and Exemptions
 - Exemptions Specific to FDSTF
 - Who can Request?
 - How Long to Keep
 - Tips
- Sunshine Law
 - Requirements
 - Definition & Rules
 - Exemptions
- Ethics & Transparency
 - Definition & Rules
 - Voting Rules & Conflicts
- Ethics & Transparency Specific to FDSTF Members

The full presentation can be found here: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Presentations-2022.pdf>

Military & Defense Update

Terry McCaffrey discussed that Staff is working on the following:

Staff has had kickoff meetings with both Matrix Design Group for the Resiliency contract and The Roosevelt Group for the Education contract and both of those projects are moving forward.

The next TF meeting is on March 17th in St. Augustine. We plan to tour the historic Florida National Guard Headquarters building, as well stay in the historic part of the oldest city in the country. Please let Michelle know if you plan on attending the March meeting.

Upcoming events in which Staff will be participating:

- AFA Air Warfare Symposium, Orlando's Rosen Shingle Creek, March 2-4
- ADC Annual National Summit, Washington, DC, March 7-9
- 80th Doolittle Raider Goblet Turning, Fort Walton Beach, April 15-18
- Veterans Florida Expo, Orlando, June 17-18, will provide more information soon
- ADC Regional Summit – Florida is developing a regional program targeting September 2022 in Fort Walton Beach with a Resilience Funding Program theme

As of February 14th there are 66 bills that support military members:

- SB 2500 – Defense funding:
 - FDSTF \$2 million
 - DIG \$1.6 million
 - DRG \$800,000

SB 430 / HB 153 – Interstate Compact on Education Opportunity of Military Children, extends repeal of this important compact. Is through committee and on the floor for approval.

SB 1370 / HB 0953 - Psychological Interjurisdictional Compact is waiting to go into committee on the Senate; moving in the House (has passed two committees).

SB 358 / HB 590 - Licensed Professional Counselors Compact has passed one committee in the Senate: next to Approvals. Passed two committees in the House and is moving to final Approval.

SB 438 / HB 465 – US Space Force, includes space in definition of uniformed services. Is on its second reading on both the Senate and House floor.

EFI is funding a company-wide website upgrade, including the M&D site. A map will be added to incorporate information such as economic impact data and the defense videos created last year.

Northwest Florida has just been notified that they have been designated a new Sentinel Landscape. This was a huge team effort led by **Kent Wimmer** of the Defenders of Wildlife. **Ray Collins** will have more from Kent in the public comments.

IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

Kent Wimmer, Defenders of Wildlife: I am thrilled to announce that on February 15, 2022, The Sentinel Landscapes Partnership, comprised of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Department of Defense and Department of Interior, announced three new areas are designated as sentinel landscapes: the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape, the Camp Bullis Sentinel Landscape in Texas Sentinel Landscape and the Southern Indiana Sentinel Landscape.

The Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape Partnership, representing over four dozen federal, state, and regional agencies as well as non-governmental organizations in the region including the FDSTF, is working to ensure natural and working lands thrive alongside the region's military installations and ranges. The NWFLS designation will help our partners collaborate and attract federal, state and private funding to keep working lands working to protect military missions of six major military installations and to conserve habitat for sensitive wildlife species. As the nonprofit coordinator for the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape, Defenders of Wildlife will be working with our agency and organizational partners, including the FDSTF and the FDA and its members, to identify and implement collaborative projects to achieve our mutual objectives.

The Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape is one of the largest in the country and the second designated landscape in Florida, joining central Florida's Avon Park Air Force Range. Reinforcing Florida's strategic importance to our national defense and its strong support for the military, Florida is the first state to host multiple sentinel landscapes. To ensure effective coordination between these two sentinel landscapes and their diverse partners, 25 parties representing federal and state agencies and non-governmental organizations signed a Florida Sentinel Landscapes Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on January 21, 2022. This MOU establishes a statewide framework to strengthen collaboration and streamline activities that connect private landowners around military installations with voluntary government and private assistance programs. Unfortunately, the proposed Northeast Florida Sentinel Landscape was not selected this cycle, but we will continue to engage with and support our partners in Northeast Florida as they consider pursuing designation again.

This milestone would not have been possible without the personal and organizational contributions and commitments of the Partnership. I would like to thank Ray Collins and the members of the Florida Defense

Support Task Force and the Florida Defense Alliance for your strong support, especially over the past year as we successfully achieved designation as a sentinel landscape and executed the Sentinel Landscapes in Florida Memorandum of Understanding.

Thank you again for your partnership and support as we work together to protect base missions, working lands and wildlife habitat in Northwest Florida and across Florida.

Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer reminded the TF that the next meeting will be in-person, Thursday, March 17, 2022 at the Hilton St. Augustine Historic Bayfront in St. Augustine, Florida.

*A quorum being present, **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked for a motion to adjourn FDSTF Meeting #101. A motion was made by **Major General Richard Haddad**, seconded by **Colonel Jim Heald**, all were in favor and the meeting is adjourned.*

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 AM EDT.

This meeting was recorded by The Florida Channel and can be found here:

<https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/2-17-22-florida-defense-support-task-force/>

Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #102 on Thursday, March 17, 2022

The Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) held a publicly noticed meeting at the Hilton St. Augustine Historic Bayfront, at 9:00 AM EDT – 10:29 AM EDT. For Agenda: See Page 3.

Task Force Members Present:

Senator Tom Wright, Chairman
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman
Rear Admiral Stan Bozin, USN, (Ret)
Brigadier General Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret)
Major General Richard Haddad, USAF, (Ret)
Colonel Jim Heald, USAF, (Ret)

Task Force Members Present via ZOOM:

Representative Thad Altman
The Honorable Thomas Bowman
Captain Keith Hoskins, USN, (Ret)

Task Force Members Absent:

Major General James Eifert, USAF, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida
Representative Wyman Duggan

Speakers Present:

Rick Miller, Vice Chair, Florida Defense Alliance (FDA)
Brigadier General Michael Valle, Assistant Adjutant General, Florida National Guard (FLNG)

Others Present in Person:

Harrison Conyers, City of Jacksonville
Dave Dahl, Navy Region Southeast
LTC Jason Hunt, FLNG
Matt Schellhorn, NS Mayport/NAS Jacksonville

Others Present via ZOOM:

Josh Gabel, Office of Senator Marco Rubio
Debi Graham, Greater Pensacola Chamber
Sarah Hayenga, Homestead Air Reserve Base
Kellie Jo Kilberg, Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Chair
Ty Martin, Florida Attorney General's Office
Dave Murzin, 850 Consulting Group, LLC
Kay Rasmussen, One Okaloosa EDC
Cory Strickland, Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)
Kristi Turner, Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)

Chris Weller, Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)
Roger Williams, FLNG
Kent Wimmer, Defenders of Wildlife

Staff Present:

Terry McCaffrey, Vice President of Military & Defense Programs, Executive Director, FDSTF
Ray Collins, Special Advisor to the Vice President of Military & Defense Programs
Chad Corriveau, Communications and Research Assistant, EFI (Zoom)
Michelle Griggs, Executive Assistant/Grants & Contracts Manager, EFI



Florida Defense Support Task Force – Meeting #102
Hilton St. Augustine Historic Bayfront
32 Avenida Menendez, St. Augustine, FL 32084
AGENDA for March 17, 2022

KEY:
(I) = Information
(D) = Discussion
(A) = Action

All Times are listed in Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

- 9:00 – 9:05 Welcome, Roll Call, Introductions..... Chairman **(I)**
- Local Defense Community Welcome Maj. Gen James Eifert **(I)**
- 9:05 – 9:15 Old Business.....Chairman **(A) / (I)**
- Approval of Minutes Chairman **(A)**
 - TF Grants and Contracts Status Michelle Griggs **(I)**
- 9:15 – 11:00 New Business..... Chairman **(I)**
- TF Member Reports Kellie Jo Kilberg **(I)**
 - Florida Defense Alliance Update Maj. Gen. James Eifert **(I)**
 - Florida National Guard Terry McCaffrey **(I)**
 - Military & Defense Update
- 11:00 – 11:15 Public Comment..... Chairman

Reminder – Upcoming Meeting Dates:

		Apr 21, 2022	Zoom
May 19, 2022	Tallahassee (22-23 Grants) / FDA	Jun 2022	NO MEETING
Jul 21, 2022	Pensacola NAS Pensacola	Aug 18, 2022	Zoom
Sep 15-16, 2022	Key West Army Dive School/Truman Annex	Oct 20, 2022	Zoom
Nov 17, 2022	Cocoa Beach Cape Canaveral SFS / FDA	Dec 2022	NO MEETING
Jan 19, 2023	Avon Park Avon Park AFR	Feb 16, 2023	Zoom
Mar 16, 2023	Tallahassee (Session)	Apr 20, 2023	Zoom
May 18, 2023	Tallahassee (Session / 23-24 Grants) / FDA	Jun 2023	NO MEETING

Chairman, Senator Tom Wright began the meeting at 9:00 AM EDT.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome, Guest Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman, Senator Tom Wright welcomed attendees and guests and led the TF and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. He thanked Major General James Eifert for the tour of the FLNG St. Francis Barracks and reminded the TF that the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

Brigadier General Michael Valle welcomed the TF and guests to St. Augustine.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

Approval of Minutes

A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** asked for corrections to the February 17, 2022 TF meeting minutes. Noting none, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 17, 2022 TF meeting. **Colonel Jim Heald** made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by **Major General Richard Haddad**, all were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Task Force Grants and Contracts Status

Michelle Griggs reported on several current TF contracts and grants.

Contracts: The RFQ for the Continuing Services Contract was posted on March 1st. Proposals are due by April 8th. Both the Matrix Design Group and The Roosevelt Group projects are moving forward.

Grants:

Grant #14-05, Bay County Economic Development Alliance has notified us that their project is ahead of schedule and will be complete by the end of March.

Grant #21-102, Orlando Economic Partnership, informed us that the project will be completed by March 31. They are awaiting the final invoices, but the reports have been finalized and approved.

At this point staff has received seven applications for the FY 2022-2023 grant program. Staff will be vetting these applications so the TF can announce their selections for presentations at the April meeting.

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

Task Force Member Reports

Representative Thad Altman reported that this week engineers will conduct the final test of the Space Launch System (SLS) rocket, Orion spacecraft, and Exploration Ground Systems before the Artemis I launch at Launch Pad 39B at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

Also, the 45th Space Wing at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station plans to resume polar launches, which have not happened since the 1950s/1960s. The 45th Space Wing is encouraging the public to watch out for the polar inclination because of its different flight path in the clear zone. The polar launch trajectories differ greatly from a typical flight pattern from the eastern range with rockets flying south, closer to overland, just off the peninsula of Florida. It's an inclination that places satellites into an orbit that loops around the Earth's poles, which are required for satellites to see the whole planet and requires a southern launch trajectory.

The Honorable Thomas Bowman reported that he is currently in Washington, DC for a series of meetings, one of which is going to pertain to the AIR Commission (Asset & Infrastructure Review Commission). The names of the Chairman plus seven other members have been publicly identified and have been forwarded to the Senate for review and confirmation. The Honorable Patrick Murphy, former Acting Secretary of the Army, has been identified as the Chairman and his hearing is scheduled for April 5th. After that hearing the Senate

leadership will schedule the vote and confirmation of the chairman and other members. The Commission will stand up after the Chairman is confirmed and sworn in.

He believes the AIR Commission will be important as they'll be looking at the total footprint of facilities and healthcare within the VA.

Rear Admiral Stan Bozin reported that the North Florida Land Trust and representatives from NAS Jacksonville met to talk about future compatible land purchases for Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Naval Station Mayport and Pinecastle Range. More information to come as that moves forward.

At the end of April \$3,530,400 will be executed for the next 60 acres at Timuquana CC of which \$882,600 will be City Grant funds.

The destroyer USS Mason (DDG-87) is moving its home port from Norfolk to NS Mayport.

Last month naval installations completed Solid Curtain/Citadel Shield. The two exercises, each with a distinct focus, occur sequentially and stress different areas of the Navy's anti-terrorism program to enhance the readiness of Navy security forces to respond to real-world threats.

NAS is in the process of hosting, coordinating and planning for the October 2022 Air Show. We have not had an Air Show since 2018.

FL SB 562, and HB 559 which expedites license applications of military spouses who hold an out-of-state certification, passed both chambers (House and Senate) this week. Proponents hope to curb the unemployment rate among military spouses by providing temporary work licenses to military spouses who hold an out-of-state professional license. It would also, among other provisions, waive Florida's license application fees.

Brigadier General Chip Diehl reported that MacDill AFB will have an Air Show on March 26th and 27th featuring the Blue Angels and a KC-46.

USCENTCOM and USSOCOM will both have changes of command this spring.

Tinker Middle School at MacDill AFB is awaiting federal funding for improvements. The funding passed for the PSMI Program (Public Schools on Military Installations) for schools on DoD bases nationwide in the new federal budget was set at \$516 million, nearly double the previously proposed amount.

Major General Richard Haddad reported that recent comments by Lieutenant General Jim Slife, AFSOC Commander: "We are entering a new operating environment, and I think what we're seeing in Eastern Europe right now is a great case study. Having our lives defined by the next rotation to Afghanistan or Syria or whatever - while we will still be involved in that work, that's not the defining thing for the future. How do we pivot around the human capital for this future operating environment? The three lines of effort in AFSOC's strategic plan were about developing our human capital, organizing our human capital and equipping our human capital with concepts and technology. Among the potential next AFSOC commanders, I think we all have a fairly common understanding that we've got to change and this is what the future looks like. I expect that there will be course changes; I would be a little surprised if there was significant course change.

AFSOC hosted its Leadership, Equity, Advocacy and Development (LEAD) Symposium featuring six keynote speakers, including U.S. Air Force Lieutenant General Jim Slife, commander of AFSOC, and U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force JoAnne S. Bass on February 23rd and 24th. The virtual symposium aimed to provide an opportunity for Air Commandos to participate in a virtual professional development event and hear from subject matter experts as well as from the Air Force's most senior leaders.

2022 SOFIC will be held on May 16-19th in Tampa, Florida. This year, through live and virtual sessions, the conference will focus on "Campaigning with Partners for Integrated Deterrence." Visit [SOFIC.org](https://sofic.org) for more information or to register for the event.

10 Special Forces Group - Airborne Green Berets participated in Arctic Circle during Arctic Edge 22 for extreme weather training on February 28th through today. This regularly planned and recurring exercise gives SOF the opportunity to test their tactics and equipment throughout Alaska's intense terrain.

SOCOM Commander General Richard Clarke sat on a virtual panel discussion at the Irregular Warfare Initiative Conference that was held on March 15th, discussing the role of Irregular Warfare today and into the future.

Avon Park Air Force Range (APAFR): As was previously mentioned at the last FDA/FDSTF meeting, the owners of the Resort at Canopy Oaks RV Park are seeking Polk County approval to expand their operation to include mobile homes. It currently is limited to RVs only. On March 2nd, Range staff and Moody AFB legal personnel attended the Polk County Planning Commission meeting to express concerns. Polk County classifies mobile homes as a type of permanent residence so from a range perspective, this increase in development intensity is incompatible with the APAFR mission. Fortunately, the Planning Commission voted unanimously to deny the request, however the proposal must still go before the Board of County Commissioners for a vote in May.

Also on March 2nd, at the invite of Brigadier General Chip Diehl, APAFR staff was honored to have **Ms. Kathleen Ferguson**, former Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment and Energy, and current member of the Roosevelt Group, as well as the FDSTF's own **Terry McCaffrey**, visit the Deployed Unit Complex (DUC) at MacDill AFB to get a feel for the training opportunities the DUC provides.

The Central Florida Regional Planning Council, in partnership with APAFR, hosted a Compatible Use Plan (CUP) Kickoff meeting at the Range on March 8th. The CUP will update APAFR's aging Joint Land Use Study (JLUS). The meeting was well attended by elected officials and planning staff from the local community. The CUP process will continue for about a year and is scheduled for completion by Feb 2023.

Regarding Range Operations, March has been a very busy month for APAFR. At the beginning of the month, APAFR hosted another Agile Combat Employment (ACE) exercise for Moody AFB A-10s and MC-130s while at the same time, hosting a USSOCOM Technical Experimentation Event.

APAFR is currently near the end of hosting a three-week long, Close Air Support (CAS) Exercise for the 3rd Air Support Operations Group (ASOG), Ft. Hood, Texas. 3rd ASOG JTACS have been working with aircraft from throughout Florida and Georgia including A-10s, F-16s, AC-130s, and U-28s.

Looking forward, APAFR is scheduled to host additional ACE and CAS exercises as well as the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment weapons training deployment.

Colonel Jim Heald reported from Eglin AFB:

Eglin AFB has gone to Health Protection Condition Alpha; masks are not required except in healthcare facilities. 250 people can now meet at Air Force-sponsored gatherings.

March 15th Eglin AFB received the Hospital of the Year for 2021 award along with three individual awards:

- USAF Biomedical Specialist of the Year - Field Grade Category: Lieutenant Colonel William J. Chalmers III
- USAF Diet Therapy Airman of the Year - Senior Airman Maylen J. Dumanas
- USAF Physician of the Year - Field Grade Category - Major Roselyn Jan W. Fuentes

The Defense Support Initiatives and Tri-County Community Partnership Initiative have been working on ten (10) Federal Legislative inputs. The most important is to permanently extend the Military Mission Line moratorium to protect the Eastern Gulf Test and Training Range. They have requests in for range upgrades, housing allowances, roads and transportation and childcare development centers.

The Tri-County Community Partnership Initiative continues to work on infrastructure issues, recently meeting virtually with SAF/IE and are scheduled to meet in person with Nathan Sparks and leaders from both Eglin AFB

and Hurlburt Field on March 29th. April 27th they are scheduled to meet with Brigadier General Scott Caine from Eglin AFB and Colonel Jocelyn Schermerhorn commander at Hurlburt Field for the Community Partnership Program.

The Gulf Coast's leading one-day technology, engineering, and manufacturing expo, the TeCMEN Industry Day is scheduled for April 26th. Colonel Meeks, Commander AFRL Munitions Directorate will be the Keynote speaker.

Mr. Tom Neubauer reported that the recent wildfires in Bay and Gulf Counties have displaced about 500 families. He thanked the Florida National Guard for their quick response in quickly containing the fires.

Tyndall AFB's annual banquet was scheduled the day the fires started. The banquet was cancelled and the meals set to be served were donated to the shelters housing the displaced families.

Surveys have been sent to all Air Force installations to address the many housing issues. Once returned, recommendations will be made by a Task Force on what can be done to improve the housing issue across the Air Force.

Tyndall AFB is still on track for having the first four F 35s delivered fall 2023. Lieutenant General Eric Frick, the program Executive Officer for F-35 JPO, recently said the F-35 is critical to joint simulation environment testing, which is to happen before the aircraft's initial production and operational testing evaluation phase can be closed and is now expected to take place in early spring and summer of 2023.

Chairman, Senator Tom Wright reported that this legislative session was very law enforcement and military friendly. Funds were appropriated to build two (2) more nursing homes for veterans and build a new 4,500-bed hospital for retired veterans; the Skillbridge Program was funded through Veterans Florida as well as a program for servicemembers returning from overseas to gain employment as truck drivers; there is a request signed by every member of the House of Representatives and the Senate to the Federal Government to allow Florida to increase the FLNG numbers by 10,000 positions; Major General James Hartsell was formally appointed as the Director of the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA).

He has been offered to continue as the Military, Veterans, Space and Domestic Security committee chair for the next four (4) years.

He will likely be going back into Special Session to assist with homeowners' insurance rising rates issue in Florida.

Florida Defense Alliance Update

Rick Miller, FDA Vice Chair, congratulated the Space Coast as being designated by ADC a Great American Defense Community.

Earlier this month about ten (10) FDA members from across Florida attended the ADC National Summit in Washington, DC. Much discussion was around the topic of resilience, many good lessons were brought back which tie into work ongoing in South Florida and Tampa around resilience. This information will feed into the planned ADC regional event in Florida in late September with a heavy resilience focus, particularly to help communities understand how to tie the work in civilian communities around resilience with the military installations, then circle back to obtain federal dollars in other available programs like BRIC.

Family Support Working Group: The Purple Star School Program made it through last year's session. The implementation instructions have been working their way through Department of Education (DOE). March 2nd DOE opened the public comment period per the Administrative Procedures Act and Rulemaking, a 21-day period which will close in six days. DOE will take a few weeks to absorb any public comments, make appropriate adjustments and then finalize and promulgate the implementation instructions and guidance. FDA is cautiously optimistic that will happen in April. The updated language pushed the submission deadline for the

first annual round of applications from August to September, which gives schools around the state an extra month and a half to work on their packages. The FDA May meeting will be encouraging members to work with school liaison officers around the state assisting with the applications to maximize the number of Purple Star Schools in this first round this year.

Mission Sustainment Working Group: Many good initiatives are developing from the TF grant that was awarded last year. The Roosevelt Group has been working on several robust engagements over the last month pulling together the final information and they are on track to be complete this summer to deliver a very high-quality product highlighting the comprehensive totality of Florida's ranges to benefit DoD and others by bringing more range activity to Florida.

Kellie Jo Kilberg, FDA Chair, added that April is Military Child Appreciation month. Be looking for programs around the state in support of that program.

Florida National Guard

Brigadier General Michael Valle provided the following remarks, on behalf of **Major General James Eifert**, as a Florida National Guard Update.

MOBILIZATION/DEPLOYMENT UPDATE

The Florida National Guard currently has 1,635 (1,384 Army & 251 Air) Servicemembers representing 16 Organizations deployed globally supporting our nation's National Defense Strategy. Additionally, our mobilization pipeline continues to grow, with 5 Organizations consisting of approximately 178 Servicemembers scheduled for deployment throughout the remainder of this calendar year.

PANHANDLE FIRE SUPPORT

In less than 24 hours and no notice, the Florida National Guard provided aircraft capability that made immediate and significant impact to the Chipola Fire Complex fires in the Florida Panhandle. The Chipola Fire Complex consisted of two separate fires, the Adkins Avenue fire, and the Bertha Road fire. Collectively, the fires burned over 34,000 acres. The Florida National Guard provided 29 personnel, that consisted of both air crews and support personnel for the six helicopters provided. The helicopters consisted of 3 UH-60 Blackhawks, 3 CH-47 Chinooks and 9 Bambi Buckets to drop the water. The Task Force positioned in Bay County from 5 March 2022 to 12 March 2022 and conducted multiple missions throughout their time in the county. The crews flew over 66 hours and dropped 175 buckets of water equaling to over 171,120 thousand gallons of water. while supporting the Bertha Road and Adkins Avenue fires. The county supervisors and incident commander expressed that the Florida National Guard capabilities became "a game changer," in getting the fire contained, saving both lives and property from the fires.

HURRICANE SEASON PREPARATION

The Florida National Guard is preparing for the upcoming Hurricane Season. This week, planners from our Joint Directorate of Operations and Military Support (J3, JDOMS) are attending the All Hazards Conference in New Orleans to coordinate Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) agreements prior to the start of the season. Our team will also participate in the Governor's Hurricane Conference in West Palm Beach, 8-10 May. It will follow up with a hurricane response rehearsal during June's annual state-wide hurricane exercise.

SPACE NATIONAL GUARD UPDATE

Since the 2020 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) established the United States Space Force (USSF), we have failed in our efforts to establish a Space National Guard. Before NDAA 2022 conferencing began, the White House published a Statement of Administration Policy that "strongly opposes the creation of a Space National Guard" and direction to "develop alternative Space Force concepts that are efficient, effective and appropriate for space missions," which effectively stalled all efforts to maintain working House language in the 2022 NDAA to fully establish a Space National Guard. The United States Air Force, United States Space Force and National Guard Bureau support establishing a Space National Guard (SNG), comprising the existing units in the seven states and one territory that could be established within the current budget and facilities. National Guard Bureau estimates it will cost \$248,000 to transfer from the Air National Guard to a Space National Guard, with no interruption to US Space Force missions. Recently, OMB has tasked the United States Space Force

(USSF) to provide a plan, no later than July 1, 2022, to assume all National Guard space missions by FY 2025. We anticipate a transfer of tasks will incur hundreds of millions of dollars, require new MILCON for facilities and take at least seven years to completely rebuild the capabilities existing today in our National Guard space units. The transfer of space missions from the National Guard to the US Space Force is not only fiscally irresponsible but will also result in a significant interruption in critical space operations, some that the National Guard only performs. We are strongly encouraging our Congressional Delegation to consider reintroducing language in the 2023 NDAA to establish a Space National Guard and direct the CBO to submit a new cost estimate to establish a Space National Guard.

The morning of August of 2020 the FLNG stood up the 249th Special Operations Squadron and have 37 Florida Air Guardsman supporting that mission. That same afternoon the AFSOC Vice Commander informed that the CV-22s were moving to Kirtland AFB in 2023. By next summer the FLNG will not be involved in that mission.

Brigadier General Valle suggested that within the next month, the TF write letters in support of a Space National Guard to Florida's House Armed Services Committee (HASC) and Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) members.

Military & Defense Update

Terry McCaffrey updated the TF items on which the Staff is currently working.

The next meeting is on April 21st via Zoom.

He attended the AFA Air Warfare Symposium in Orlando on March 2nd through 4th; mingled with several aerospace companies and discussed opportunities in Florida.

He and **Ray Collins** attended the ADC National Summit in Washington, DC on March 7th through 9th; they met with the Air Force SAF/IE, Ms. Carol Ann Beda, and discussed issues such as ranges, childcare, Space Force basing and affordable housing; also met with James Balocki, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Energy and Installations and discussed NAS Pensacola repairs and enclave, ranges, quality of life matrix and housing. They also discussed the Air Force scorecard with several other states who also had issues with the scoring and results.

The ADC Regional Summit will be in September 2022 in the Panhandle focusing on resilience funding programs.

The Education and Resiliency contracts are moving along. Staff has bi-weekly meetings with Matrix Design Group and The Roosevelt Group to receive updates on those projects. Matrix Design Group will also be reaching out to FDA members to coordinate with your installations and communities on resiliency projects so they can start paying attention compiling the project list.

The Continuing Services Contract RFQ has been released. He has spoken to several firms who plan on submitting proposals, which are due by April 8th.

The State Budget Report as of March 10th lists on line 2296 the TF is funded at \$2 million; line 2307 DIGs are funded at \$1.6 million; line 2301 DRGs are funded at \$800,000.

As of March 14th, there are 66 bills that support military members:

- SB430/HB153 – Interstate Compact on Education Opportunity of Military Children; extends repeal of this important compact, enrolled
- SB862/HB559 – Occupational Licensure of Military Spouses, enrolled
- SB1370/HB0953 – Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact; passed the House but then sent to the Senate and died
- SB358/HB1521 – Professional Counselors Licensure Compact; enrolled
- SB1940/HB7053 – Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience; enrolled

- SB862/HB505 – Florida National Guard Strength; enrolled
- SB438/HB465 – US Space Force; includes space in definition of uniformed services; enrolled

EFI has funded the M&D website redesign which will include upgraded functionality and interactive maps. The new site will launch mid-April.

A new version of the Military Benefits Guide is on the website. Since it took a while to get this version approved, Staff will not print but wait until July to print the next updated version in early July, which should be approved much more quickly.

IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

Kent Wimmer, Defenders of Wildlife, reported that on February 15, 2022, the United States Departments of Defense, Agriculture and Interior announced designation of the Northwest Florida as one of three new Sentinel Landscapes along with Southern Indiana and Camp Bullis in Texas. Florida is now the only state with two Sentinel Landscapes. On March 2, 2022, he presented the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape as part of Department of Defense Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program's webinar showcasing the new Sentinel Landscapes. On Tuesday March 22, the Steering Committee for the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape will meet virtually to celebrate and discuss next steps. He will continue to coordinate the partnership for this Sentinel Landscape.

Unfortunately Northeast Florida was not selected as a Sentinel Landscape in this round. This past January, twenty-five (25) Federal, state and NGO partners executed the Sentinel Landscapes in Florida Memorandum of Understanding to promote coordination between the Avon Park Air Force Range and Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape and the proposed Northeast Florida Sentinel Landscape, and to encourage these signatories to support Sentinel Landscapes in Florida. For more information, please visit sentinellandscapes.org which has pages devoted to each Sentinel Landscape. The Northwest Florida page has factsheets, presentations, web applications and the Sentinel Landscapes in Florida MOU.

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** asked for a motion to adjourn FDSTF Meeting #102. **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin** made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by **Mr. Tom Neubauer**, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 10:29 AM EDT.*

The meeting adjourned at 10:29 AM EDT

Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #103 on Thursday, April 21, 2022

The Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) held a publicly noticed meeting via Zoom at 9:00 AM EDT – 10:31 AM EDT. For Agenda: See Page 3.

Task Force Members Present:

Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman
The Honorable Thomas Bowman
Rear Admiral Stan Bozin, USN, (Ret.)
Brigadier General Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret.)
Major General Richard Haddad, USAF (Ret.)
Colonel Jim Heald, USAF, (Ret.)

Task Force Members Absent:

Senator Tom Wright, Chairman
Representative Thad Altman
Representative Wyman Duggan
Major General James Eifert, USAF, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida
Captain Keith Hoskins, USN, (Ret.)

Speakers Present:

Lieutenant Colonel Jason Hunt, Florida National Guard (FLNG)
Kellie Jo Kilberg, Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Chairwoman
Robbie Parrish, Division of State Lands, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)

Others Present:

Katie Allan, Bay Defense Alliance
Lee Cardice, Cardice A/V
Ada Clark, Emerald Coast Regional Council
Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Harrison Conyers, City of Jacksonville
Dave Dahl, Navy Region Southeast
Tim Farrell, Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC)
Mike Ferro, Office of Florida's Lieutenant Governor
Debi Graham, Greater Pensacola Chamber
Sarah Hayenga, Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB)
Paul Hirsch, EDC of Florida's Space Coast
Ty Martin, Office of Florida's Attorney General
Rick Miller, FDA Board/South Florida Defense Alliance
Austin Mount, Emerald Coast Regional Council
Dave Murzin, 850 Consulting, LLC
Kathleen Nestor, FDA Family Support Working Group Chair
Kay Rasmussen, One Okaloosa EDC
Matt Schellhorn, NS Mayport
Brooke Trawick-Gilbert, Bay Defense Alliance
Kent Wimmer, Coordinator for the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape
The Florida Channel

Staff Present:

Terry McCaffrey, Vice President of Military & Defense Programs, Executive Director, FDSTF

Ray Collins, Special Advisor to the Vice President of Military & Defense Programs

Chad Corriveau, Communications & Research Specialist, EFI

Michelle Griggs, Manager, Contracts & Grants, EFI



Florida Defense Support Task Force – Meeting #103
Zoom
AGENDA for April 21, 2022

**Please contact the
 Military & Defense Team for
 Zoom Webinar information.**

KEY:
 (I) = Information
 (D) = Discussion
 (A) = Action

All Times are listed in Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

- 9:00 – 9:05 Welcome, Roll Call, Introductions..... Chairman **(I)**
- 9:05 – 9:15 Old Business..... Chairman **(A) / (I)**
 - Approval of Minutes Chairman **(A)**
 - TF Grants and Contracts Status Michelle Griggs **(I)**
 - FY 22-23 Grant Process Overview Ray Collins **(I) / (D)**
 - FY 22-23 TF Budget & Grants Slate Terry McCaffrey **(I)**
- 9:15 – 10:45 New Business..... Chairman **(I)**
 - TF Member Reports Kellie Jo Kilberg **(I)**
 - Florida Defense Alliance Update Chad Corriveau **(I)**
 - New Military & Defense Website Presentation Robbie Parrish **(I)**
 - DEP State Lands Presentation Terry McCaffrey **(I)**
 - Military & Defense Update
- 10:45 – 11:00 Public Comment..... Chairman

Reminder – Upcoming Meeting Dates:

May 19, 2022	Tallahassee (22-23 Grants) / FDA	Jun 2022	NO MEETING
Jul 21, 2022	Pensacola NAS Pensacola	Aug 18, 2022	Zoom
Sep 15-16, 2022	Key West Army Dive School/Truman Annex	Oct 20, 2022	Zoom
Nov 17, 2022	Cocoa Beach Cape Canaveral SFS / FDA	Dec 2022	NO MEETING
Jan 19, 2023	Avon Park Avon Park AFR	Feb 16, 2023	Zoom
Mar 16, 2023	Tallahassee (Session)	Apr 20, 2023	Zoom
May 18, 2023	Tallahassee (Session / 23-24 Grants) / FDA	Jun 2023	NO MEETING

Terry McCaffrey, Vice President of Military & Defense Programs, Executive Director of the Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF), *began the meeting at 9:00 AM EDT.*

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome, Roll Call & Introductions

Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer welcomed attendees and guests and reminded attendees that the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

Approval of the Minutes

*A quorum being present, **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked for any corrections to the March 17, 2022 minutes. Noting none, a motion was made by **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin** to approve the minutes, seconded by **Colonel Jim Heald**. All were in favor and the March 17, 2022 meeting minutes were approved.*

Task Force Grants & Contracts Status

Michelle Griggs provided a brief update on some current TF grants.

Contracts: Both contracts for the Matrix Design Group Resiliency Study and The Roosevelt Group Education deep dive continue progressing. Staff continues to have bi-weekly meetings with each firm for updates on their projects.

Grants: All grantees were notified to submit FY 21-22 third quarter reports which were due on April 11th, after the printing of this report. Most have already been submitted and will be included in next month's report.

Grant #21-105, the Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council's final payment has been requested and the Defense Grant Final Report Form has been received. This grant is now closed. They are forfeiting \$130 back to the Task Force.

Grant #21-107, University of West Florida is requesting an extension to August 31, 2022. The Roosevelt Group has requested an extension for their report and engagement plan as they want to brief the findings and gather additional feedback at the May FDA meeting before submitting the final written product. They feel it will present a valuable opportunity to ensure the end-product is representative of all stakeholders while also providing full value to all audiences.

*A quorum being present, **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked for a motion to extend DTF #21-107 the University of West Florida grant contract to August 31, 2022. A motion was made by **Brigadier General Chip Diehl**, seconded by **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin**. All were in favor and the extension was approved.*

Continuing Services Contract: Staff has received proposals from three (3) firms – The Principi Group, The Roosevelt Group and Matrix Design Group - for inclusion in the Contract. The contract has been approved by the EOG and DEO and is currently with EFI's Legal Counsel for review. We are hoping to have it executed by May 1, 2022.

FY 22-23 Grant Process Overview

Ray Collins provided an overview of the FDSTF grants program.

Annual Program Flow:

- August - Application window opens for following Fiscal Year funding
 - Staff reviews applications and develops recommendations
- September TF Meeting - TF reviews potential projects (no decision)

- Staff uses review to estimate grant funding levels and develop budget request for following Fiscal Year
- TF discusses submitted applications to inform LBR process
- March TF Meeting - TF decides which applicants to invite to provide in-person project presentations
- May TF Meeting - TF approves budget for the next FY
 - TF hears presentations on selected proposals and votes on grant awards for winning projects
- June/July - Governor announces winning grant recipients
- July - Execute contracts announced in June using current Fiscal Year

TF Staff accepts Out-of-Cycle Applications throughout year for emergency and emerging needs

May Meeting Process:

- Five proposals selected for consideration
- Total funding requested: \$1,911,810
- Maximum recommended to award: \$1,420,000
- Budget for grants = 74.3% of requested grant total
- Hear presentations (15 min)
- Ask questions (5 min)
- Review scoring, selection, and establish award during “Closed Session”
- Reconvene “Open Session” to vote on awards

FY 22-23 TF Budget & Grants’ Slate

Terry McCaffrey provided a draft of the TF Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget, noting approximately \$1,420,000 is available for next year’s grant program.

He discussed items from this year’s budget:

- Grants Program at \$1.2 million
- Military Friendly Guide at \$5,000 (which was not spent as this year’s version is digital only; the next Guide will be published in July 2022)
- Economic Impact Study at \$155,000
- Installation & Community Resilience Plan at \$150,000
- Public Education Impact on Military Families Study at \$117,000.

An updated FY 2021-2022 third quarter budget will be presented at the May TF meeting.

The TF has been appropriated \$2 million for FY 2022-2023.

He reminded the TF and guests that applications for Defense Infrastructure Grants (DIG) and Defense Reinvestment Grants (DRG) are due to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) tomorrow, Friday, April 22, 2022.

The limits for the grants are \$500,000 for DIG and \$100,000 for DRG.

The slate of grant presentations for the May TF meeting:

- City of Jacksonville - \$750,000
- Clay County Development Authority - \$500,000
- Military Child Education Coalition - \$250,000
- Emerald Coast Planning Council - \$161,810
- HSU Educational Foundation - \$250,000
- **Total \$1,911,810.00**

A quorum being present, Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer asked for a motion to accept the proposed slate of grant presentations to be heard at the May TF meeting. A motion was made by Major General Richard Haddad, seconded by Rear Admiral Stan Bozin. All were in favor and the grants' slate was approved.

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

Task Force Member Reports

Lieutenant Colonel Jason Hunt provided an update for **Major General James Eifert** from the Florida National Guard (FLNG).

MOBILIZATION/DEPLOYMENT UPDATE: The Florida National Guard currently has 1,387 (1,384 Army & 3 Air) Servicemembers representing 15 Organizations deployed globally supporting our nation's National Defense Strategy. Additionally, our mobilization pipeline continues to grow, with 5 Organizations consisting of approximately 178 Servicemembers scheduled for deployment throughout the remainder of this calendar year.

Establishment of the Space National Guard: **Major General Eifert** is traveling to Washington, DC next week to discuss this very topic with Florida's Congressional Delegation. Currently, the Administration and DoD are not in favor of establishing a second component of the Space Force; instead, DoD is proposing to establish a "full-time and a part time" service options within the Space Force, all under first Component. However, Representative Waltz will be re-introducing language for the 2023 NDAA to establish a Space National Guard. And last year, the Senate was not in support; however, this year, Senator Feinstein with Senator Rubio as the co-sponsor are introducing the same language on the Senate side. Hopefully we have good news to provide at the May Task Force Meeting.

The Honorable Thomas Bowman discussed that all nominees have been identified to serve on the AIR Commission (Asset & Infrastructure Review Commission). The tentative plan is that all nominees will have a hearing in May 2022 then will go to the floor if approved. At that point the AIR Commission will begin immediate consideration and moving forward.

Major General Richard Haddad provided the following updates from AFSOC and USSOCOM.

AFSOC: US Air Force Chief of Staff (CSAF) General CQ Brown visited Hurlburt Field and AFSOC on April 4, 2022. The visit familiarized Brown with AFSOCs Force Generation Model to include Mission Sustainment Teams, Aviation Special Operations Task Units and Special Operations Task Units

The 919th Special Operations Wing, the only Reserve organization in AFSOC, celebrated its 50th anniversary on April 1st – 3rd. **Major General Haddad** was honored to be the keynote speaker at the dinner on April 2nd.

USSOCOM: Their Change of Command has not yet been announced, however sometime in June is the proposed timeframe.

The Special Operations Industry Conference is scheduled for May 16th – 19th and will be held both virtually and in person. A retired GO conference, which **Major General Haddad** plans to attend, will be held on May 16th with the theme of Fourth Age of SOF- Rediscovering the Value of Special Ops in a New Era.

Rear Admiral Stan Bozin discussed the possibility of a feasibility study at NAS Pensacola focusing on public access to the base to visit the museum, cemetery and lighthouse, which are all open to the public. Another issue is at NAS Key West low-cost housing for civilians, as the housing currently available is either sub-standard or very expensive.

Both NS Mayport and NAS Jacksonville are participating in a fleet forces hurricane exercise from April 18th – 29th. This is an opportunity review heavy weather sortie and fly away instructions' guidelines, exercise the Emergency Operations Centers and muster reporting guidelines.

The USS STARK Memorial Service will be held at NS Mayport on the 17th of May, which is the 35th anniversary of the incident. 37 sailors were lost during that incident. NS Mayport Change of Command will be on the 8th of July as Captain "Stunner" Canfield will be relieved by Captain "Ghost" Binder.

CPLO met with the City of Jacksonville's Resiliency Officer to discuss DCIP/BRIC/IGSA opportunities.

CO/XO/CPLO from NAS met with the Jacksonville Airport Authority to discuss DCIP and IGSA opportunities. DCIP bottom line - OSD grants to enhance military value and installation mission resilience via off-base community infrastructure projects. We view resilience as the effort to ensure the continual operation and rapid recovery of military installations, regardless of the threat posed, part of DOD's "Mission Assurance" construct. The primary focus is on Cecil Airport's runway which had some issues since the introduction of the P-8 airframe. Approximately, 50% of all flight operations at Cecil involve Navy, USAF, USMC, FANG and USCG operations.

On May 18th, the NAS Jacksonville / City of Jacksonville Team will be closing on a 60-acre parcel adjacent to fenceline of NAS Jacksonville. This is the 3rd phase of a 5-phase restrictive use easement purchase effort to completely buffer NAS to the north of the fenceline.

Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer briefed that the Air Force plans to retire 33 of the older block 20 F-22 aircraft. These jets, which are currently assigned to the F-22 schoolhouse with Tyndall Tail, if approved by Congress the training unit will be reassembled with 20 F-22 combat coded aircraft and eventually moved to Langley Air Force Base. The Air Force will end up with about 153 F-22s, all of them will be combat coded in operation.

The Eastern Shipbuilding Group located in Panama City was awarded the Offshore Patrol Cutter contract with the Coast Guard recently receiving its fourth ship. They anticipate receiving an answer on the rebid process in May on the contract that was re-competed.

WestRock paper company in Panama City recently announced company closure by June 6th, losing 450 jobs. The silver lining is that Eastern Shipbuilding Group and Tyndall AFB will benefit by employing many of those workers and skilled laborers.

Colonel Jim Heald reported the following from Eglin AFB and Okaloosa County:

- Echoing what Admiral Bozin said about Navy installations, Eglin AFB and Hurlburt Field are also having major issues with housing.
- Monday, April 18th was the 80th anniversary of the Doolittle Raiders Tokyo flight and the final Goblet Ceremony was held to honor the passing of the last Doolittle Raider, Colonel Richard Cole.
- Discussions and planning is ongoing for new Childcare Development Centers (CDC) with potential to have a CDC in Crestview to service the areas north of Eglin AFB and another CDC in Navarre to service areas west of Eglin AFB in addition to the CDCs that are on the Eglin AFB and Hurlburt Field main bases. These new facilities would have openings set aside for military children.
- Yesterday, a letter written by Representative Matt Gaetz (dated April 7, 2022) discussing hypersonics issues was received. This letter was addressed to the Secretary of Defense as it appears there is a discrepancy between what the Secretary of Defense said in public forum versus what was provided to CODEL members in a classified briefing. The letter requested clarification and declassification of previous remarks.
- The Gulf Coast's leading one-day technology, engineering, and manufacturing expo, the TeCMEN Industry Day is scheduled for April 26, 2022, which will feature a full day focused on technology engineering and manufacturing.

Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Update

Kellie Jo Kilberg, FDA Chairwoman, reported on some items on which the FDA is working:

- The Purple Star School Program should be implemented in schools beginning this fall.
- Many schools in Florida are not accepting military PCS orders and allowing students to enroll
- Spousal compacts for the next Legislative Session
- DIG and DRG grant applications are due to DEO tomorrow, April 22, 2022
- The possibility of a state agency audit of those programs that affect our active military and their families on the installations

New Military & Defense Website Presentation

Chad Corriveau gave a presentation on the new map feature which includes base locations, embedded videos, base websites, information from the 2020 Economic Impact Study and the 3D range model, all in one location.

The model can currently be found here: <https://enfloridastag.wpengine.com/florida-military-map/#/>
But will live on the Military & Defense Programs website in the next week or so, after some last-minute bugs are corrected: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/military-defense/>

DEP State Lands Presentation

Robbie Parrish, Division of State Lands FDEP, presented an update on Florida Forever acquisitions. Florida Forever, in its 20-year history is a successful and respected program with established processes and procedures for the identification, evaluation and acquisition of conservation lands. Lands purchased through Florida Forever are now enjoyed as state parks, state forests, state wildlife management areas, or as local park and conservation areas.

Florida Forever Acquisitions FY 2020-2021 include 78 purchase transactions = 46,248 acres/\$105,961,674. There was more production in FY 2020-2021 than any of the previous twelve years.

2021-2022 Florida Forever Recent BOT Approved Acquisitions:

- 15,677 acres / \$35,914,293
 - Florida Keys Ecosystem – Fee – 3 acres
 - SMALL River Rise Preserve State Park – Fee – 160 acres
 - Fisheating Creek Ecosystem – CE – 6,864 acres
 - Red Hills Conservation Area – CE – 4,132 acres
 - Pumpkin Hill Creek – Fee – 241 acres
 - Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem – CE – 354 acres
 - Wolfe Creek Forest – Fee – 3,610 acres
 - Wakulla Springs Protection Zone – Fee – 313 acres

Florida Forever Active Project Areas:

Apalachicola River	Fakahatchee Strand
Ayavalla Plantation	Fisheating Creek Ecosystem
Bluefield to Cow Creek	Florida Keys Ecosystem
Blue Head Ranch	Green Swamp
Charlotte Harbor Estuary	Horse Creek Ranch
Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods	Kissimmee St. Johns River Connector
Coastal Headwaters Longleaf Forest	Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem
Coupon Bight/Key Deer	Longleaf Pine Ecosystem
Escribano Point	Osceola Pine Savannas
Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway	Panther Glades

Pine Island Slough Ecosystem
 Pinhook Swamp
 Rainbow River Corridor
 Red Hills Conservation Area
 St. Joe Timberland
 Strategic Managed Area Lands List (SMALL)

Telogia Creek
 Tiger Island/Little Tiger Island
 Triple Diamond
 Wakulla Springs Protection Zone
 Wekiva-Ocala Greenway
 Wolfe Creek Forest

Florida Forever Annual Funding Review

FISCAL YEAR	APPROPRIATION	ACRES ACQUIRED	EXPENDITURES	ENDING BALANCE
2015 - 2016	\$17,400,000	1,867	\$4,608,111	\$91,330,541
2016 - 2017	\$15,156,206	26,798	\$27,893,125	\$78,593,622
2017 - 2018	\$0	9,335	\$25,110,972	\$53,482,650
2018 - 2019	\$77,000,000	22,775	\$19,135,745	\$111,346,905
2019 - 2020	\$33,000,000	27,253	\$61,626,547	\$82,720,358
2020 - 2021	\$67,000,000	46,248	\$105,961,674	\$43,758,685
2021 - 2022 <small>(July 1 - February 28)</small>	\$100,000,000	16,709	\$40,807,175	\$102,951,510
IN PROGRESS	ANTICIPATED EXPENDITURES		ANTICIPATED BALANCE	
Closing	\$39,463,685		\$63,487,825	
Cabinet Agenda	TBD		\$63,487,825	
Negotiations	\$12,236,460		\$51,251,365	
Valuation	\$13,370,500		\$37,880,865	
Due Diligence	\$134,960,000		(\$97,079,135)	
Triage Review	\$159,500,000		(\$256,579,135)	

The entire presentation can be found at:
<https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Presentations-2022.pdf>

Military & Defense Update

Terry McCaffrey provided the TF updates from the Military & Defense Team:

The next TF meeting is in Tallahassee on May 19th. If you plan on attending, please RSVP at your earliest convenience. Maximum participation is needed at this meeting as we will be hearing five (5) grant presentations for FY 2022-2023 funding which starts in July. The FDA meeting will be on the day prior, Wednesday, May 18th.

Looking to this year’s hurricane season, the forecast for this year is higher than average. The current and most recent forecast is 17 to 21 named storms, 7 to 9 hurricanes, with 3 to 5 of them being major storms.

The M&D Team traveled to Niceville and Fort Walton Beach on Monday to attend the 80th Anniversary Doolittle Raider Celebration and Final Goblet Ceremony. They also visited the Air Armament Museum before watching the Flyover at the beach.

Reminder: DIG and DRG applications are due tomorrow, Friday, April 22, 2022 to DEO.

Staff is working on a letter from the TF to both the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) and the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) in support of the Space Guard.

The Department of the Air Force selected 6 candidate locations for the US Space Force Training and Readiness Command, otherwise known as STARCOM. Selections included all of the US Space Force Bases which are candidate locations, including Patrick Space Force Base. Also, Delta 10, which is Doctrine & War Gaming, will be going to Patrick Space Force Base as the sole candidate location. Patrick Space Force Base should also be competitive for Delta 13. The strategic basing process will begin once curriculum is established for this Delta.

The ADC Florida Defense Forum will be held on September 22nd and 23rd in Fort Walton Beach. The theme will be resilience funding programs.

IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

Kent Wimmer, Coordinator for the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape, reports the partners for the NWFSL have established several goals, objectives, actions and measurable results to gauge their success. To put them on the pathway to success they are forming work groups that will help them collaboratively achieve their regional resiliency and sustainability goals. Their workgroups are Climate Resiliency, Private Lands Stewardship and Natural Systems. They welcome Task Force members and others that may be willing to contribute to join a workgroup.

The next monthly partner coordination call is Tuesday, April 26 at 3:00 P.M. Eastern. At this meeting they will discuss their work groups and how they can most effectively structure them to coordinate to achieve objectives. They will also share the reporting expectations of the Sentinel Landscapes Federal Coordinating Committee. They anticipate hosting their first work group meetings in May. It is their intent that their work groups would share their collaborative efforts during our monthly NWSFL coordination calls. their monthly virtual partnership meetings are scheduled for the fourth Tuesday of each month at 3:00 P.M. Eastern.

If you didn't receive the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape Updates newsletter yesterday, and would like to be added to their partners' distribution list and or join a work group, please contact Kent Wimmer. He has shared a pdf of the newsletter with Mr. Collins and it is available on the FDSTF website: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Presentations-2022.pdf>

Thank you for your partnership and support.

Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer reminded the TF that the next meeting will be in-person, Thursday, May 19, 2022 at the Four Points by Sheraton Tallahassee Downtown in Tallahassee, Florida. The FDA meeting will be on the Wednesday prior.

*A quorum being present, **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked for a motion to adjourn FDSTF Meeting #103. A motion was made by **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin**, seconded by **Colonel Jim Heald**, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.*

The meeting was adjourned at 10:31 AM EDT.

This meeting was recorded by The Florida Channel and can be found here: <https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/4-21-22-florida-defense-support-task-force/>

Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #104 on Thursday, May 19, 2022

The Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) held a publicly noticed meeting at the Four Points by Sheraton Tallahassee Downtown, at 9:00 AM EDT – 11:57 AM EDT and at 1:30 PM EDT – 1:31 PM EDT. For Agenda: See Page 3.

Task Force Members Present:

Senator Tom Wright, Chairman
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman
Secretary Dane Eagle, Department of Economic Opportunity
The Honorable Thomas Bowman
Rear Admiral Stan Bozin, USN, (Ret)
Brigadier General Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret)
Major General Richard Haddad, USAF, (Ret)
Colonel Jim Heald, USAF, (Ret)

Task Force Members Present via ZOOM:

Captain Keith Hoskins, USN, (Ret)

Task Force Members Absent:

Representative Thad Altman
Major General James Eifert, USAF, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida
Representative Wyman Duggan

Speakers Present:

Kellie Jo Kilberg, Chair, Florida Defense Alliance (FDA)
Paul Catlett, FLNG (Zoom)
Eric Christianson, Emerald Coast Regional Council (Zoom)
Ada Clark, Emerald Coast Regional Council (Zoom)
Harrison Conyers, City of Jacksonville
Josh Cockrell, Clay County Development Authority
Tim Farrell, Military Child Education Coalition
Austin Mount, Emerald Coast Regional Council
Amanda Negron, HSU Educational Foundation (Zoom)

Others Present in Person:

Dave Dahl, Navy Region Southeast
Jeff Fanto, National Energy USA
Robert Katz, World Innovation Network
Rick Miller, Vice Chair, Florida Defense Alliance (FDA)
Dave Murzin, 850 Consulting, LLC
Kathleen Nestor, FDA Family Support Working Group Chair
Andy Stack, Building Healthy Military Communities
Cory Strickland, Department of Economic Opportunity
Julie Wade, the Office of The Honorable Thomas Bowman
Chris Weller, Department of Economic Opportunity
Kent Wimmer, Defenders of Wildlife / Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape Coordinator
Jason Zaborske, FloridaMakes

Others Present via ZOOM:

Ron Demes, NAS Key West

LTC Jason Hunt, FLNG

Ty Martin, Florida Attorney General's Office

Staff Present:

Terry McCaffrey, Vice President of Military & Defense Programs, Executive Director, FDSTF

Ray Collins, Special Advisor to the Vice President of Military & Defense Programs

Chad Corriveau, Communications and Research Assistant, EFI (Zoom)

Michelle Griggs, Executive Assistant/Grants & Contracts Manager, EFI



Florida Defense Support Task Force – Meeting #104
Four Points by Sheraton Tallahassee Downtown
316 West Tennessee Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301
AGENDA for May 19, 2022

KEY:

- (I) = Information**
- (D) = Discussion**
- (A) = Action**

All Times are listed in Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

9:00 – 9:05	Welcome, Roll Call, Introductions.....	Chairman (I)
9:05 – 9:15	DEO Remarks	Secretary Dane Eagle (I)
9:15 – 9:25	Old Business.....	Chairman (A) / (I)
	• Approval of Minutes	Chairman (A)
	• TF Grants and Contracts Status	Michelle Griggs (I)
9:25 – 11:20	New Business.....	Chairman (I)
	• TF Member Reports	
	• Florida Defense Alliance Update	Kellie Jo Kilberg (I)
	• Military & Defense Update	Terry McCaffrey (I)
	• FY 2022-2023 Grant Presentations	
	▪ City of Jacksonville	Harrison Conyers (I) / (D) / (A)
	▪ Clay County Development Authority	Josh Cockrell (I) / (D) / (A)
	▪ Military Child Education Coalition	Tim Farrell (I) / (D) / (A)
	▪ Emerald Coast Regional Council	Austin Mount (I) / (D) / (A)
	▪ HSU Educational Foundation	Amanda Negrón (I) / (D) / (A)
11:20 – 11:30	Public Comment.....	Chairman
11:45 – 1:15	Closed Session.....	Chairman
1:30 – 1:45	Public Meeting Reconvenes for Grants vote.....	Chairman

Reminder – Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Jul 21, 2022	Pensacola NAS Pensacola	Aug 18, 2022	Zoom
Sep 15-16, 2022	Key West Army Dive School/Truman Annex	Oct 20, 2022	Zoom
Nov 17, 2022	Cocoa Beach Cape Canaveral SFS / FDA	Dec 2022	NO MEETING
Jan 19, 2023	Avon Park Avon Park AFR	Feb 16, 2023	Zoom
Mar 16, 2023	Tallahassee (<i>Session</i>)	Apr 20, 2023	Zoom
May 18, 2023	Tallahassee (<i>23-24 Grants</i>) / FDA	Jun 2023	NO MEETING

Chairman, Senator Tom Wright began the meeting at 9:00 AM EDT.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome, Guest Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman, Senator Tom Wright welcomed attendees and guests and led the TF and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. He reminded the TF that the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law and introduced Department of Economic Opportunity **Secretary Dane Eagle**.

Secretary Dane Eagle thanked the TF for their service to keep the State of Florida the most military and veteran friendly state in the nation. He thanked **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** for his leadership as the FDSTF Chair for the past year and presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

Approval of Minutes

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** asked for corrections to the April 21, 2022 TF meeting minutes. Noting none, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 21, 2022 TF meeting. **The Honorable Thomas Bowman** made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by **Mr. Tom Neubauer**, all were in favor and the minutes were approved.*

Task Force Grants and Contracts Status

Michelle Griggs reported on several current TF contracts and grants.

Contracts: Both contracts for the Matrix Design Group Resiliency Study and The Roosevelt Group Education deep dive are progressing. Staff continues to have monthly meetings with each firm for updates on each project. The Continuing Services Contract has been executed as of May 10th.

Grants: Grant #14-05, Bay Economic Development Alliance's final payment has been requested and the Defense Grant Final Report Form has been received. They are forfeiting \$245.41 back to the Task Force.

Several grant contracts are set to close at the end of June and are all on track to do so:

- Grants #19-101 and #21-101, Polk County
- Grant #21-104, South Florida Progress Foundation
- Grant #22-100, City of Jacksonville

Grant #20-105, Department of Military Affairs, is requesting an extension to June 30, 2023. At the present time, there is an ongoing Environmental Site Assessment of the Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB) parcels. Due to circumstances beyond the department's control, the department has not been able to execute any other service contracts on the property.

Submitted for more clarity on the Department of Military Affairs grant:

- The initial environmental assessment produced results that indicate the need for a more detailed, more time consuming second environmental assessment due to possible soil contamination.
- DMA is currently in the middle of the contracting process for the more extensive environmental assessment.
- DMA won't be able to provide a better estimate of how long this project will take until after they receive the results of the second environmental assessment, and that is why you're asking for a one-year extension on the grant.
- DMA can't begin any work on the fence until after the second environmental assessment is complete and the construction plan can be adjusted to account for whatever contamination that environmental assessment finds.

A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** asked for a motion to extend DTF #20-105 the Department of Military Affairs grant contract to June 30, 2023. A motion was made by **Major General Richard Haddad**, seconded by **Colonel Jim Heald**. All were in favor and the extension was approved.

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

Task Force Member Reports

Captain Keith Hoskins reported that currently NAS Pensacola is partnering with various entities across the state looking at opportunities to build an enclave or thoroughfare through NAS Pensacola to provide access to the public sites on base such as the National Naval Aviation Museum and Barrancas National Cemetery.

NAS Pensacola continues working on repairs due to Hurricane Sally. They have currently set up a Resident Officer in charge of construction to manage the massive repair effort. There are currently two MILCONS planned: a student fitness facility and 115 kv substation, partnering with Florida Power and Light.

The county has been working to utilize a \$200,000 DIG for west gate traffic signal improvement. They're also looking at an opportunity to build a message board to provide visitors to NAS Pensacola information on the status of the gate and the public attractions on base.

From NAS Whiting Field, the Commander of Navy Region Southeast is working to advance opportunities for an Intergovernmental Support Agreement throughout the region. The goal is to couple existing community military relationships to create opportunities.

NAS Whiting Field is working with the City of Milton as they finalize plans to execute a \$3 million DCIP to upgrade their wastewater facility.

Rear Admiral Stan Bozin reported that on May 18th NAS Jacksonville and City of Jacksonville closed on Phase 3 of the Timuquana property, 60-acres adjacent to NAS Jacksonville's fence line. This was using FDSTF funding. The purchase price was \$3.530 million; COJ Contribution was \$882,000; DOD Contribution was \$2.648 million.

NAS Jacksonville is hosting the Jacksonville Leadership Academy which is a group sponsored by the Northeast Florida Regional Council. The Northeast Florida Regional Leadership Academy (RLA) is a program of the Northeast Florida Regional Council (NEFRC) that nurtures and cultivates a commitment to Regionalism. The Academy educates Regional Leaders and invests in the future of our communities through a mission to make Northeast Florida a better place to live and work.

With the continued focus on grants available to support both the Community and our installations' missions. The Jacksonville Airport Authority is submitting a Defense Community Infrastructure Program grant focused on Cecil Airport's runway. This grant proposal is supported by NAS Jacksonville leadership. This planned project will serve to enhance and support NAS Jacksonville's mission, address operational challenges in runway infrastructure demands and sustain military operational requirements.

Naval Station Mayport's Change of Command is July 8th and Naval Air Station Jacksonville's Change of Command is August 19th.

City of Jacksonville and North Florida Land Trust/Navy Encroachment Protection Agreement was renewed and executed on May 2nd. This is a critical tool for encroachment protection and buffering our installations in the Northeast of Florida.

On May 17th, Naval Station Mayport held a service for the USS Stark survivors. This marked the 35th anniversary of the incident in the Persian Gulf when 37 Sailors were lost.

The Honorable Thomas Bowman reported that yesterday, there was action at the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee at the federal level as Chairman John Tester and Ranking Member Jerry Moran agreed to move forward and support legislation on toxic exposure. This agreement is significant as it will set the platform for

legislation to be passed later this year for funding over the next ten years. This significantly affects active-duty, guard, reserve and veterans/veteran communities. Twenty-three separate respiratory and cancers will be covered.

The VA is also looking at the AIR (Asset and Infrastructure Review) Commission report on veteran healthcare facilities in Florida. He assesses that Florida did well in this report and that the TF among others will have a voice at upcoming AIR Commission field hearings.

Brigadier General Chip Diehl reported that the 6th Air Refueling Wing at MacDill AFB will have a change of command on July 29th as Colonel Ben Jonsson leaves to become the Vice Superintendent at the US Air Force Academy. He will be relieved by Colonel Adam Bingham.

He applauded the FDA for its focus on mission assurance, working issues such as resiliency, encroachment, transportation, healthcare, cyber and affordable housing.

Major General Richard Haddad reported that the annual Special Operations Forces and Industry Conference (SOFIC) is in Tampa this week and over 300 international officers from other nations are participating. He had the pleasure of sitting in on the Retired General Officer - Flag Officer Conference on May 16th. The theme of that conference was the Fourth Age of SOF focusing on three inflection points: (1) World War I, World War II, Vietnam; (2) Desert I / Operation Eagle Claw in Iran; (3) September 11th attack. The fourth one is yet to be defined. The conference was very technology oriented with programs on hyper-enabled operations and robotic process automation.

Changes of command this summer, SOCOM Commander Army General Richard D. Clark will be retiring and will be relieved by Army Lieutenant General Brian Fenton. At Air Force Special Operations Command, Lieutenant General Jim Slife will be moving on to be the Air Force A3 and will be relieved by Lieutenant General Tony D. Bauernfeind.

We received a bit of a setback regarding The Resort at Canopy Oaks RV Park that is encroaching on low altitude restricted airspace to the north of the range. The Polk County Planning Commission recommend denial of the landowner's application to add mobile homes however the Board of County Commissioners voted 3-2 to transmit the application to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. The final approval hearing is scheduled for July 5, 2022. The County Commissioners did indicate that they wanted to see enhanced conditions put on the development to address compatibility and minimize additional encroachment. APAFR staff is working with Moody AFB legal to establish those conditions.

On a more positive note, APAFR had the opportunity to host a site visit for members of the White House Council on Environmental Quality in support of the America the Beautiful initiative. Chair Brenda Mallory and members of her staff visited the range and the Avon Park AFR Sentinel Landscape to observe and discuss conservation partnerships. Also attending was Ms. Kristin Thomasgard from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Energy, Installations, & Environment) and the head of the DoD REPI and Sentinel Landscapes programs. The visit included private landowners as well as partners from NRCS, USFWS, TNC, Conservation Florida, Archbold Biological Station, and The Florida Wildlife Corridor. Discussion topics included that Florida was the only state in the nation with two formally designated Sentinel Landscapes and a third in the region around Camp Blanding in Northeast Florida, that is frankly equally deserving.

Regarding range operations, APAFR recently hosted an Agile Combat Employment (ACE) exercise for Moody AFB A-10s and MC-130s. In April, APAFR hosted another ACE Large Force Exercise centered on Air National Guard units. The 146th Air Wing from the Channel Islands, Air National Guard Air Station, California was the lead wing and deployed C-17s in conjunction with C-130s from the Puerto Rico ANG and F-16s from the Alabama ANG. This exercise is a great example of training opportunities that Avon Park AFR provides.

Rear Admiral Stan Bozin and **Major General Richard Haddad** suggested the TF send letters to the Polk County Board of County Commissioners in support of rejecting the proposal to allow permanent resident trailers at the Resort at Canopy Oaks RV Park.

Colonel Jim Heald reported from Eglin AFB:

The Air Force Research Lab's (AFRL) munitions directorate with the assistance of the 96th Test Wing has successfully tested a new ship killer capability in the Gulf of Mexico.

The 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) has included a memorial ceremony on June 19th, during their Red Empire Week, where they'll recognize their fallen. Each of the Special Forces groups are assigned a specific geographic area to work in and the 7th is assigned Central and South America as their primary areas but are now also deployed in Eastern Europe as the fighting has intensified in that region.

The change of command at Eglin AFB will be on June 30th as Brigadier General Scott Cain will be relieved by Brigadier General Jeffrey Geraghty. This ceremony will be officiated by Major General Evan Dertien, Air Force Test Center Commander at Edwards AFB, California.

Congressman Matt Gaetz will be visiting the Air Force Research Lab's Munitions Directorate on May 26th to discuss the Weapons Technology Integration Center and will hopefully bring good news on MILCON funds passed in the omnibus and NDAA in fiscal year 2022.

Reminder that the legislation to protect the leasing and drilling in the eastern Gulf of Mexico sunsets on June 30, 2022. Once that happens the only protection are the Executive Orders signed by Presidents Trump and Biden, which can be changed very easily.

Mr. Tom Neubauer reported that on May 10th, the Corps of Engineers awarded Tyndall AFB a \$532 million contract for flight line construction for the F-35. The first jets are scheduled to arrive in September 2023. The contract includes hangars, a maintenance complex, group headquarters, aircraft parking apron, aircraft support equipment, flight simulator, everything necessary for primary zone one. The total investment of that project is \$604 million. This contract is the largest single construction project the Air Force has of record dating back to 2008. As of May 11th, 17 contracts have been executed for building the Base of the Future.

About 100 members of the Site Activation Task Force (SATAF) are in town and recently joined their Military Affairs Committee for a meet and greet. SATAF coordinates the operations and support side of the base to make sure that all of the infrastructure is in place when the jets arrive.

Checkered Flag, one of the larger exercises conducted by the Air Force, has been ongoing at Tyndall AFB for the past two weeks. It's a large force aerial exercise focused on readiness and interoperability through incorporation of fourth and fifth generation aircraft. The 53rd Weapons Evaluation Group hosts WSEP, the Weapons Systems Evaluation Program for a two-week evaluation exercise. During the week they felt the presence of 66 aircraft in the area, including Navy F/A-18 Super Hornets and E-2s from NAS Oceana, F-16s from Shaw AFB, tankers from Tinker AFB, F-22s from Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, F-15s from Barnes ANGB in Massachusetts and Portland ANGB in Oregon, plus E-7s from the Royal Australian Air Force.

In 1999 the community and NSA Panama City identified 18 acres adjacent to the base which would improve base buffering and security. They received a Defense Infrastructure Grant in 2001 to acquire half of that property and the other half became available in 2008. On March 29, 2022 the Cabinet approved the transfer of the property from the State of Florida to the Navy. Acquiring this land will help the Navy not only for expanding existing missions but improving security at the NSA Panama City.

Upcoming changes of command: the 601st Air Operations Center at Tyndall AFB, responsible for defending North American skies, will have a change of command as Colonel Gregory Krane will relinquish command to Colonel Clayton Schaefer one June 1st. The 325th Fighter Wing will be changing command on the June 24th as Colonel Gregory Mosely will be relieved by Colonel George R. Watkins.

Lieutenant Colonel Jason Hunt provided a brief on the Florida National Guard for **Major General James Eifert**.

MOBILIZATION/DEPLOYMENT UPDATE: The Florida National Guard currently has 1,388 (1,384 Army & 4 Air) Servicemembers representing 16 Organizations deployed globally supporting our nation's National Defense

Strategy. Additionally, our mobilization pipeline continues to grow, with 5 Organizations consisting of approximately 178 Servicemembers scheduled for deployment throughout the remainder of this calendar year.

FAA POLICY REQUIRING FAIR MARKET VALUE. In 2018, the FAA published a policy requiring all federally supported airports charge fair market value rates to non-aeronautical entities for land lease agreements. The FLNG has approximately 6-8 armory or readiness centers on lease agreements with airports throughout the state. We are still doing the analysis on how many are federally supported airports. Currently, our Bartow armory lease, previous terms were \$1 for 25 years, needs to be renewed and the Fair Market Value has been assessed at \$16k per month. The reversion clause in these lease agreements reverts ownership of all construction we have established on the land over the period of the lease to the airport. Because of this new FAA policy, we could lose facilities. Our immediate next step is to ask the community of Bartow to support a request for an exception to policy to the FAA. Our longer-term strategy is to advocate the FAA to amend their policy to exempt, not only aeronautical military units, but all National Guard units due to our inherent role and history of domestic support and operations in the state and communities.

Chairman, Senator Tom Wright reported that as a Board Member of the Halifax Urban Ministries in Volusia County, they have secured a \$1 million grant from the Veterans Administration to purchase a church to remodel and house 60 homeless veterans, who will move in in the fall.

Volusia County is building a brand-new VA clinic, which will be one of the five largest in the United States. It will provide the same services as a hospital.

Saturday he will be at Lake Baldwin Veterans Nursing Home, the ninth in Florida, for a ribbon cutting. This center is able to open as he worked with Senator Danny Burgess during the last Legislative Session to secure \$41 million from last year's budget to provide to the FDVA to pay to their centers' employees a higher wage in order to keep all beds filled.

His Alternative Treatment Bill allows 60 military members, each suffering from PTSD, 40 dives in a hyperbaric chamber to become completely cured. He will eventually turn the program over to the VA for further funding.

Florida Defense Alliance Update

Kellie Jo Kilberg, FDA Chair, provided an update of the FDA meeting the day prior. Members heard presentations from:

Sentinel Landscapes and the America the Beautiful Grant program which focuses on resiliency and conservation

Florida Procurement Technical Assistance program housed in the Small Business Development Centers

Connex Florida, an online capabilities database and connection platform built by and for Florida manufacturers that helps you connect with manufacturers, find resources and adapt to changing market demands

Matrix Design Group provided an update on their resiliency project and requested that our military communities share their potential projects, also discussing the possible grant opportunities, both state and federal, available to fund these projects

The Department of Economic Opportunity provided an update on their Defense Infrastructure and Defense Reinvestment Grants process.

The Roosevelt Group presented a Washington, DC update

The Mission Sustainment Working Group focused on a draft copy of a report on, "The value of Florida Ranges to existing and future military missions," provided by The Roosevelt Group. Recommendations and an executive summary were reviewed for edits and input. They also discussed subjects to support mission sustainment and future mission growth efforts and compiled a list of items for consideration.

The Family Support Working Group discussed:

- The I Serve 2 Program which aims to raise awareness among the medical community of the unique needs and potential physical and psychological issues affecting children who have a member of the family serving or who has served in the military.
- 2022/23 Legislation on Compacts and developing a briefing presentation for legislators and begin the process of educating them on the necessity of compacts.
- Purple Star Schools of Distinction, spreading the word that the application is available.
- The housing shortage affecting communities throughout the state.
- IEP Processing Times, discussed innovative solutions to help families learn what is included in an IEP packet and how “hand carrying” a packet can expedite review.
- Heroes to Education, a pilot program launched in FL and CA to train and place veterans into open positions in school districts.

Members had an in-depth discussion on the importance of spousal compacts as many did not pass through the legislature this session. They discussed the compacts considered the gold standard such as Physical Therapy, of which Florida does not belong. As the next Legislative Session approaches, they'll be looking working with Legislators to help them understand the importance of compacts.

Rear Admiral Stan Bozin suggested a presentation at a future TF meeting on the Gold Standard of Spousal Compacts. **Kellie Jo Kilberg** stated that she will bring **Eric Sherman**, DoD Liaison for Military Community & Family Policy, to present that topic at the July TF meeting in Pensacola.

Chairman, Senator Tom Wright reminded the TF that Florida already belongs to the Interstate Compact and when military members move mid-school year there is a liaison at every school in the State of Florida that will blend the children into the school, whether it be in academics or extra-curricular activities. Military spouses also can use their license as soon as they move to Florida but having a compact makes it easier for them to transition and begin work.

FY 2022 – 2023 Grant Presentations

Five (5) presentations heard by the TF for potential funding for FY 2022-2023 were:

- The City of Jacksonville, \$750,000 – Harrison Conyers provided a presentation on Encroachment Protection/Compatible Land Use for NS Mayport, NAS Jacksonville And Outlying Field Whitehouse.
- Clay County Development Authority, \$500,000 – Josh Cockrell provided a presentation on Camp Blanding Joint Training Center (CBJTC) - Installation Encroachment Acquisition
- Military Child Education Coalition, \$250,000 – Tim Farrell provided a presentation on Preparing Florida's Major Military Base Community Schools for Best-in-Class Purple Star School Designation
- Emerald Coast Regional Council, \$161,810 – Austin Mount provided a presentation on Intergovernmental Service Agreement (IGSA) Development
- HSU Educational Foundation, \$250,000 – Amanda Negron provided a presentation on a Proposal for Non-public CTE Certification Pilot Program for Military Students

Presentation slides can be viewed at:

<https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Presentations-2022.pdf>

Military & Defense Update

Terry McCaffrey updated the TF items on which the Staff is currently working.

Thank you to Chairman, **Senator Tom Wright** for his leadership during his Chairmanship. At this time the Speaker of the House has not yet appointed a new Chair so until that time, **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** has agreed to remain the TF Chair.

Strategic planning with Space Florida for the next military basing decisions continue. The Air Force announced that the STARCOM basing decision is underway. Florida will gain Delta 10 and can compete for the HQ and Delta 13. Staff is working with Space Florida to support efforts to gain both STARCOM HQ and Delta 13 (education). The Task Force submitted a letter to members of the HASC and SASC supporting the creation of a Space National Guard. The letter preceded and was in line with a bill co-sponsored by Senator Marco Rubio and Senator Diane Feinstein (D-CA) called the Space National Guard Establishment Act that would place Air National Guard members conducting U.S. Space Force mission under the Space Force command structure.

Upcoming Events:

- Florida Advisory Council on Military Education Workshop Meeting is on June 6 in Tallahassee
- Veterans Florida Expo is June 17-18 in Orlando
- Enterprise Florida Board meeting is June 28-30 in Miami
- Farnborough International Air Show is July 15-24 in Farnborough, England
- FDSTF Meeting #107 is in Key West is on September 14-16
- ADC Regional Summit, the Florida Defense Forum, will be in Fort Walton Beach on September 22-23

EFI's new Military and Defense website is up and running and still working on a few minor changes.

Staff is working on the 2022 Military Benefits Guide which we hope to print in July and distribute in August of this year.

IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

Jeff Fanto and **Kent Wimmer** commented in support of the Emerald Coast Regional Council's grant.

Robert Katz commented on his appreciation for **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** and the members of the TF; awareness of the China Competes Act now moving through Congress which can help Florida become the innovation capital of the country/world.

The meeting adjourned at 11:57 AM EDT

The meeting reconvened at 1:30 PM EDT

V. Agenda Item VI: Public Meeting Reconvenes for Grants Vote

*A quorum being present, **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked for a motion to approve grant funding for the following for FY 2022-2023:*

- *City of Jacksonville, \$500,000*
- *Emerald Coast Regional Council, \$161,810*
- **Total \$661,810**

*A motion was made by **The Honorable Mr. Thomas Bowman**, seconded by **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin**, all were in favor and the motion passed.*

The meeting adjourned at 1:31 PM EDT

This meeting can be viewed on The Florida Channel:

<https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/5-19-22-florida-defense-support-task-force/>

Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #105 on Thursday, July 21, 2022

The Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) held a publicly noticed meeting at the Hampton Inn Pensacola Airport, 9:00 AM CDT – 11:16 AM CDT. For Agenda: See Page 3.

Task Force Members Present:

Brigadier General Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret), Chairman
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman
Representative Thad Altman
Colonel Jim Heald, USAF, (Ret)

Task Force Members Present via ZOOM:

Rear Admiral Stan Bozin, USN, (Ret)
Representative Wyman Duggan

Task Force Members Absent:

The Honorable Thomas Bowman
Major General Richard Haddad, USAF, (Ret)
Major General James Eifert, USAF, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida
Captain Keith Hoskins, USN, (Ret)
Senator Tom Wright

Speakers Present:

Senator Doug Broxson
Representative Alex Andrade
Mayor Grover Robinson, IV, City of Pensacola
Chris Middleton, West Florida Defense Alliance
Jim Hagy, Corry Station
Jim Aldritch, Cyber Florida (Zoom)
Ernie Farrarresso, Cyber Florida (Zoom)
Roger Williams, FLNG

Others Present in Person:

Austin Bury, Office of Congressman Matt Gaetz
Roy Dedmon
Debi Graham, Greater Pensacola Chamber
MG James Hartsell, FDVA
Dave Murzin, 850 Consulting, LLC
Kay Rasmussen, One Okaloosa EDC
Trevor Schaettle, Florida House
Cory Strickland, Department of Economic Opportunity
Kent Wimmer, Defenders of Wildlife / Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape Coordinator

Others Present via ZOOM:

Katie Allan, Bay Defense Alliance
Cindy Brown, Florida Senate
Dave Dahl, Navy Region Southeast
Ron Demes, NAS Key West

Mike Ferro, EOG
Brooke Gilbert-Trawick, Bay Defense Alliance
Denise Imbler, Florida Regional Councils Association
Tim Proctor, Florida Senate
Dale Ketcham, Space Florida
Chris Weller, Department of Economic Opportunity
Jason Zaborske, FloridaMakes
The Florida Channel

Staff Present:

Terry McCaffrey, Vice President of Military & Defense Programs, Executive Director, FDSTF
Ray Collins, Special Advisor to the Vice President of Military & Defense Programs
Michelle Griggs, Executive Assistant/Grants & Contracts Manager, EFI



Florida Defense Support Task Force – Meeting #105
Hampton Inn Pensacola Airport
2187 Airport Boulevard, Pensacola, FL 32504
AGENDA for July 21, 2022

Please contact the Military & Defense Team for Zoom Webinar information.

KEY:
(I) = Information
(D) = Discussion
(A) = Action

All Times are listed in CENTRAL Daylight Time CDT

8:00 – 8:45 CLOSED SESSION

- | | | |
|---------------|--|---|
| 9:00 – 9:30 | Welcome, Roll Call, Introductions..... | Chairman (I)
Mayor Grover Robinson, IV (I)
Mr. Jim Hagy, CWIT (I) |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Defense Community Welcome • Information Warfare Training Command Corry Station Briefing | |
| 9:30 – 9:40 | Old Business..... | Chairman (A) / (D) / (I)
Chairman (A)
Michelle Griggs (I)
Terry McCaffrey (D) / (A) |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of Minutes • TF Grants and Contracts Status • FDSTF FY 2022-2023 Budget | |
| 9:40 – 11:30 | New Business..... | Chairman (I)

Kellie Jo Kilberg (I)
Terry McCaffrey (I) (A)
J. Aldrich/Dr. R. Sanders (I)
Terry McCaffrey (I) |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TF Member Reports • FDA Update • Continuing Services Contract • USF Global and National Security Institute/Cyber Florida • Military and Defense Update | |
| 11:30 – 11:45 | Public Comment..... | Chairman |

Reminder – Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Sep 15-16, 2022	Key West Army Dive School/Truman Annex	Aug 18, 2022	Zoom
Nov 17, 2022	Cocoa Beach Cape Canaveral SFS / FDA	Oct 20, 2022	Zoom
Jan 19, 2023	Avon Park Avon Park AFR	Dec 2022	NO MEETING
Mar 16, 2023	Tallahassee (<i>Session</i>)	Feb 16, 2023	Zoom
May 18, 2023	Tallahassee (<i>23-24 Grants</i>) / FDA	Apr 20, 2023	Zoom
		Jun 2023	NO MEETING

Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl began the meeting at 9:00 AM CDT.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome, Roll Call, Introductions

Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl welcomed attendees and guests, said he was honored to be the TF Chair for the next year and thanked **Debi Graham** from the Greater Pensacola Chamber for her efforts in planning their visit to Pensacola. He also thanked Navy Federal Credit Union for hosting the TF's dinner the night prior. He then introduced **Senator Doug Broxson**, former TF Chair, who in turn introduced **Representative Alex Andrade**, also in attendance. **Senator Broxson** said he is looking forward to collaborating with **Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl** and the TF on protecting the military presence in Pensacola. **Representative Andrade** welcomed the TF and guests and thanked them for coming to Pensacola. He introduced **MG James "Hammer" Hartsell**, the Executive Director of the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs, who stated that he is honored to support the Governor and Cabinet in making Florida the most veteran sought-after state in the nation. He led the TF and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and reminded the TF that the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

Local Defense Community Welcome

Mayor Grover Robinson, IV, welcomed the TF to Pensacola, home to thousands of veterans, noting that their motto is Florida's First in Future. Pensacola and Northwest Florida are cognizant of their place in Florida's future as their military installations are on the cutting edge of current defense issues.

Chris Middleton, former Chair of the West Florida Defense Alliance, welcomed the TF to Pensacola and noted that Pensacola is one of the few communities named a great American Defense Community by the Association of Defense Communities, and that threshold is measured by community relationship with its bases and the base relationship with the community.

He highlighted many of the missions ongoing in Northwest Florida:

- SpaceX chose the waters off Pensacola to land their manned Dragon capsules as they return from their missions in space
- Corry Station is the primary site for cyber security in the nation
- Pensacola is home to some of the best water space, air space, undersea space and cyber space, along with the best training and testing aerospace in the county
- NAS Whiting Field hosts ten (10) runway sites throughout a multi-county region which generates aviation training and is supported by civilian and active-duty forces and all their families in Santa Rosa County
- The Navy Seals Coronado, home to the basic underwater demolition school or BUD/S, BUD/S cybersecurity is located in Northwest Florida
- NAS Pensacola is known for aviation, but better known for its aviation technical training:
 - 22,400 kids train every year
 - They report 60 days after they put on a uniform at boot camp
 - On any given day 7,000 kids are in school today preparing to service aircraft on aircraft carriers, amphibious ships and deployed locations across multiple services
 - NAS Pensacola Bomb School and Rescue Swimmer School
 - Flight training for the Navy and Air Force
 - The Air Force graduated its 3,000th combat systems officer this month, with production across the Air Force with group level command and multiple squadrons underneath
 - The Foreign Partner Assistance Command serves 162 nations

Mayor Grover Robinson, IV, added that NAS Pensacola is home to the Blue Angels.

Information Warfare Training Command Corry Station Briefing

Jim Hagy, Corry Station, presented on the Center for Information Warfare Training (CIWT), headquartered in Pensacola, Florida.

Mission: Deliver trained information warfare professionals to Navy and joint services, enabling optimal performance of information warfare across the full spectrum of military operations.

Vision: The Navy's principal cutting-edge training organization that rapidly meets Fleet requirements by developing Information Warfare professionals ready and prepared to fight and win across the full spectrum of military operations.

Their values are to focus every decision, every effort, every dollar on ensuring excellence in the cadre they deliver to the Fleet; foster innovative and leverage all available processes, procedures, systems, technology and resources to create and maintain the most effective training solutions; partner with stakeholders and customers, actively soliciting feedback and building positive communications for constant improvement; and achieve and maintain the highest standards of excellence.

Approximately 26,000 students come through their doors each year:

- 17 locations in the continental United States plus Hawaii and Japan
- 3,700 students daily
- 1,160 workforce: 793 military, 261 civilian, 106 contractors
- More than 200 courses: interactive, blended learning solutions, instructor-led
- Approximately \$85 million budget
- \$160 million in equipment
- Over 440,00 square feet of training space

They have established relationships with Naval Education and Training Command (NETC), resource sponsors including the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Information Warfare, requirements sponsors such as Naval Information Forces (NAVIFOR) and other national agencies and customers and stakeholders.

Who they develop:

Enlisted:

- Cryptologic Technician Interpretive (CTI)
- Cryptologic Technician Maintenance (CTM)
- Cryptologic Technician Networks (CTN)
- Cryptologic Technician Collection (CTR)
- Cryptologic Technician Technical (CTT)
- Intelligence Specialist (IS)
- Information Systems Technician (IT)
- Information Systems Technician Submarines (ITS)
- Electronics Technician (ET)
- Electronics Technician (ET) (Submarines)

Officers:

- Oceanographer (180X, 680X, 780X)
- Cryptologic Warfare (181X, 681X, 781X)
- Information Professionals (182X, 682X, 782X)
- Intelligence (183X, 683X, 783X)
- Cyber Engineer (184X, 784X)
- Foreign Area (171X)

Accreditation and Recognition:

American Council on Education (ACE)

- All CIWT courses that met ACE guidelines have been evaluated for college credit recommendations
- Site/virtual visits for course reviews annually
- ACE reviews all CIWT ratings at a minimum every 10 years
- Transferable college credits

Council on Occupational Education (COE)

- Quality Assurance Annual Reviews
- Self-studies which encompass 10 Educational Standards
- 45 years of accreditation as of November 2020
- Longest accredited Naval institution
- Training on par with other accredited, highly retarded civilian institutions

Language, Regional Expertise and Culture (LREC)

- Meets Office of the Secretary of Defense mandates for LREC training and foreign language testing
- Enables Navy missions across the Spectrum of Conflict from Peacetime Engagement to Combat
- Provides decision makers and operations planner insight to LREC capabilities resident in the force and develop those capabilities where needed

Foreign Language Training

- Instructor-led, traditional and virtual
- Self-paced

Cultural Orientation Training

- Web-based training materials and working aids
- On Navy e-learning
- On Navy Global Deployer Application for mobile devices

Defense Foreign Language Testing Program

- Defense Language Aptitude Batteries
- Defense Language Proficiency Tests
- Oral Proficiency Interviews

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl announced that TF Member, **Colonel Jim Heald**, will term off of the TF in August and this is his last in-person meeting. He presented him a Certificate of Appreciation for his service to the TF and the State of Florida.

Approval of Minutes

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl** asked for corrections to the May 19, 2022 TF meeting minutes. Noting none, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes. **Colonel Jim Heald** made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by **Mr. Tom Neubauer**, all were in favor and the minutes were approved.*

Task Force Grants and Contracts Status

Michelle Griggs reported on several current TF contracts and grants.

Contracts: Both contracts for the Matrix Design Group Resiliency Study and The Roosevelt Group Education deep dive are progressing. Staff continues to have monthly meetings with each firm for updates on each project. **Terry McCaffrey** will provide more information on the Continuing Services Contract, but their team held a kick-off meeting in early June with all three firms to discuss the TF's expectations from this contract.

Grants: June 30th was the close of the fourth quarter for FY 21-22. Grantees have been notified to submit their 4th quarter reports, which were due on July 11th. Most have been received, others will be included in next month's grants report.

Several grant contracts have closed as of June 30th. Payments will be made, and contracts closed upon receipt of final reports and invoices. Those grants are:

- #19-101 and #21-101, Polk County
- #21-104, South Florida Progress Foundation

#22-100, City of Jacksonville contract has been paid and is closed.

#20-105, Department of Military Affairs, extension amendment was executed on June 17th.

#21-107, University of West Florida's contract deliverables were submitted and approved. They are working on their final report and invoicing for payment.

Fiscal Year 22-23 Grants:

- #23-301, City of Jacksonville, contract has been approved by EFI leadership and is now with the City of Jacksonville waiting on approval and signature.
- #23-302, Emerald Coast Regional Council's contract was executed on June 17th.

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

Task Force Member Reports

Rear Admiral Stan Bozin reported that United States Army Corp of Engineers, Engineering with Nature Initiative with support from the University of Georgia, Institute for Resilient Infrastructure Systems (IRIS) submitted a grant proposal to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to further study the issues and make recommend solutions for A1A from Wonderwood to the ferry landing. This will provide FDOT with possible solutions for A1A.

NS Mayport had a Change of Command was held Friday, July 8th as Captain Brian Binder replaced Captain Jason Canfield. RDML McCall (former CO of Mayport) was the officiating officer. NAS Jacksonville COC will be 19 August as Captain Marc Cantu will be relieving Captain Jeff Hill.

The USS Minneapolis-St. Paul arrived at NS Mayport this morning (11 July). The newest LCS-21 (Littoral Combat Ship) was commissioned in May of 2022 in the port of Duluth.

Representative Thad Altman reported that many exciting things are happening on the Space Coast with the increased number of launches and the growth of the commercial space industry. Brigadier General Stephen Purdy, the Commander of the U.S. Space Force, has been briefing the community on his vision for the future under his leadership.

Last year the Space Coast set a record of 31 launches and this year they are close to 67 launches. They are working toward a future launch rate of around 300 missions a year. These launches are made possible by the incredible number of commercial partners with which the U.S. Space Force is working. They are working on modernization of the range and new technologies are allowing an increase of launches. The automated safety systems are implementing new processes for scheduling launches and considering legislative proposals that could allow the U.S. Space Force to operate its launch ranges like airports.

SpaceX has brought back to the Space Coast polar orbit launches, which could also launch from the panhandle (possibly Cape San Blas).

He is looking forward to the FDA and TF meetings on the Space Coast in November.

Representative Wyman Duggan reported that last week there was a proposed amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that would de-commission all eight (8) of the littoral combat ships at NS Mayport and that amendment failed by a very narrow margin and the final NDAA final passage includes funding for five of the ships to continue at NS Mayport.

Colonel Jim Heald reported from Eglin AFB:

The 96th Test Wing had a Change of Command on June 30th as Brigadier General Jeff Geraghty took command from Brigadier General Scott Cain.

The 350th Spectrum Warfare Wing welcomed its new commander during a change of command ceremony on July 28. Colonel William Young passed the guidon to the wing's new leader, Colonel Joshua Koslov. The wing also bid farewell to Young, who retired from the Air Force the same day.

June 30, 2022 has come and gone and the only protections on the federal waters right now are the Executive Orders by Presidents Trump and Biden, which can be changed very easily. This is an enormous threat to Florida's ranges and the protection of the Military Mission Line must be kept in the forefront.

Lack of childcare centers is also at the forefront of critical issues as more centers are needed throughout the state, but especially in Northwest Florida. The community has placed a request to Florida's Congressional Delegation: both Representatives and Senators, asking for joint reports based on facts. Representative Debbie Wasserman Schultz has included an amendment in the NDAA from the House side requesting joint reports from US Army and US Air Force but added language which is detrimental to the range.

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) has noticed a request for public comment for wind turbines in the central and western planning areas Gulf of Mexico. Special attention is also needed for public comment notice for the Atlantic Test Range and other ranges along the eastern coast.

The DSI is anxiously awaiting to see if BOEM is going to issue a request for public comment on aquaculture. The Air Force and DoD are cooperating agencies on this issue, but there are three spots south of Tampa with the potential for aquaculture which could impact the Eastern Gulf Test and Training Range operations. The TF is urged to continue monitoring this potential issue.

July 20, 2022: FACT SHEET: President Biden's Executive Actions on Climate to Address Extreme Heat and Boost Offshore Wind

Expand Offshore Wind Opportunities and Jobs: The Department of the Interior is proposing the first Wind Energy Areas in the Gulf of Mexico, a historic step toward expanding offshore wind opportunities to another region of the United States. These areas cover 700,000 acres and have the potential to power over three million homes. *President Biden is also directing the Secretary of the Interior to advance wind energy development in the waters off the mid- and southern Atlantic Coast and Florida's Gulf Coast* — alleviating uncertainty cast by the prior Administration. These actions follow the President's launch of a new Federal-State Offshore Wind Implementation Partnership that brought together Governors to deliver more clean, affordable energy and new jobs.

Mr. Tom Neubauer reported that on June 10th a change of command took place at NSA Panama City's Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center as Commander Troy Lawson relieved Commander Eric Frandrup.

Earlier this week the Bay County Education Alliance, NSA Panama City and Tyndall AFB were honored in Washington, DC with the Pete Taylor Partnership of Excellence Award the Annual Military Child Education Coalition global summit. This award recognizes successful partnerships and projects that benefit military-connected children.

The Coast Guard and Eastern Shipbuilding Group authenticated the keel for the third offshore patrol cutter (OPC), Ingham, in Panama City, Florida, July 15. USCGC INGHAM will be homeported in Kodiak, Alaska with sponsor Senator Lisa Murkowski's signature welded on the keel. Eastern Shipbuilding Group will schedule the launch and christening of their first cutter this year.

Following Hurricane Michael in 2018 the Coast Guard initiated and re-compete for the next 11 ships which was awarded to Austal USA out of Mobile, Alabama. Eastern filed a protest with the U.S. government accountability so expect to see more on this issue in the media in the future.

July 8th the Offshore Patrol Cutter Program Executive Officer change of command took place, and the new XO is Captain Jeffrey Payne.

July 29th the Coast Guard Station Manager Master Chief Petty Officer Mark Cannon will be relieved by Master Chief Petty Officer Justin Irwin.

The new Commander of the 325th Fighter Wing at Tyndall AFB is Colonel George Watkins, the commander who stood up the first F-35 squadron to reach IOC took command from retiring Colonel Greg Mosely.

Colonel Travis Leighton, Director of Tyndall's Project Management Office will be retiring at the end of July with a new Director to be named soon.

Roger Williams provided a brief on the Florida National Guard for **Major General James Eifert**.

MOBILIZATION/DEPLOYMENT UPDATE: The Florida National Guard currently has 1,256 Servicemembers representing 12 Organizations deployed globally supporting our nation's National Defense Strategy. Additionally, they have 8 Organizations consisting of approximately 231 Servicemembers scheduled for deployment throughout the remainder of this year.

On June 15th, Governor DeSantis announced the reestablishment of the Florida State Guard and introduced the organization's Director, Lieutenant Colonel Retired Chris Graham. The 400-member organization is aligned for command, control and support under the direction of **Major General James Eifert** and will serve to augment the Florida National Guard in supporting domestic operation responsibilities throughout the state.

This week is the National Guard Association of Florida Conference in Orlando, Florida. The conference will include several national, state and local leaders both military and civilian, who will be presenting and providing military and soldier development opportunities.

Lieutenant Colonel Jason Hunt has been transferred to Camp Blanding Joint Training Center and assumed command of the facility on July 16th. He will be promoted to Colonel in the next few months.

Lieutenant Colonel Blake Heidelberg will be working with the TF in the future in support of **Major General Eifert**.

Brigadier General Chip Diehl reported that the outgoing commander of U.S. Central Command, U.S. Marine Corps General Kenneth F. McKenzie Jr., relinquished command to U.S. Army General Michael "Erik" Kurilla. General Kurilla previously commanded the XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg, N.C. and served as the CENTCOM chief of staff from August 2018 to September 2019. USSOCOM change of command will likely take place later this summer. U.S. Air Force Colonel Benjamin Jonsson, 6th Air Refueling Wing (ARW) commander will be leaving MacDill AFB on July 29th.

He discussed the Defense Health Agency as it affects clinics at MacDill AFB, Patrick Space Force Base and USSOCOM. Those clinics will treat only active duty servicemembers. Spouses and dependents must seek healthcare elsewhere. The TF should work with Florida's CODEL to resolve this issue.

He discussed the housing issue in Tampa as rental properties in the south Tampa area are at 97% full, making it difficult for anyone to find rental housing in the Tampa area.

Continuing Services Contract

Terry McCaffrey discussed the Continuing Services Contract (CSC), explaining that its purpose is to expedite work assignments for the TF. Task Work Orders (TWO) under this contract vehicle should be proposed and awarded within one TF meeting cycle. The firms on contract are The Principi Group, The Roosevelt Group and Matrix Design Group.

Contractor Matrix of Capabilities used to request bids for Task Work Orders:

Contractor Name	DoD Access / Basing	Resiliency / Energy / Sustainability	Strategic Planning / SWOT Analysis	BRAC / Defense community support	Coaching / Consulting	Support of Military Families	Defense Industry	DoD / Other Agency Funding
The Principi Group	X		X	X	X		X	X
The Roosevelt Group	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Matrix Design Group		X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Process:

1. Proposal generation: Proposals for possible Task Work Orders (TWO) can be brought forward by any source to Task Force members. Staff will gather potential topics that will be presented during normal Task Force meetings. Other sources may be proposed by Task Force member reports or brought from the FDA Chair during the FDA Report.
2. Proposal discussion: Potential proposals for task orders will be discussed during a normal meeting agenda topic. This discussion will provide staff enough information to produce a call for proposals from contracted consultants.
3. Task Work Order Proposals (TWOPs): Within one week of the Task Force meeting where a topic is approved, staff will send all consultants who can support the task a TWOP.
4. TWOP Responses: Staff will expect proposals that includes how the consultant will fulfil the proposal, provide cost, and provide timeline for the requested deliverable within one week.
5. Staff Review: Upon receipt of the proposals, staff will review and develop a recommendation to present to the Task Force at the next meeting.
6. Approval: The Task Force will review recommendations and vote on whether to proceed with issuing a TWO.
7. Task Work Order Issuing: Upon approval by the Task Force, staff will issue and manage a TWO to complete the approved scope of work.

Task Work Order Proposals (detailed explanation): The Task Force shall request a Selected Consultant's services on an as-needed basis. There is no guarantee that any or all of the services described will be assigned. The Task Force, at its option, may elect to have any of the services set forth herein performed by other consultants. A Task Work Order (TWO) will be issued for each project scheduled.

When services are required, the Task Force shall provide a Task Work Order Proposal to the Consultant with a draft outline scope of services for each assigned task. The Consultant shall then prepare a detailed TWOP which shall include the final scope of services, tasks descriptions, schedule, staffing requirements, description of deliverables, cost (including man-hour estimate), and the method and schedule of compensation. Consultant will be compensated for the cost to develop these proposals on a cost reimbursable not to exceed basis.

Once the TWOP is approved by the Task Force, the Consultant will be issued the TWO.

The Task Force often requires quick response times on conceptual/preliminary estimates, feasibility assessments, research, and sketches. The Task Force expects the Consultant to act as an “extension of staff” by quickly responding and sharing draft updates often (sometimes daily).

Currently, the CSC funding is \$135,000. Once the FY 22-23 TF budget is approved, we will draw down an additional \$115,000 to cap the funding of the contract at \$250,000.

The TF would like to move forward with TWOPs from the CSC contracted firms on the following three (3) subjects:

1. The Florida Defense Support Task Force would like analysis and evaluation of FY23 NDAA legislation (to include mark ups from the HASC and SASC) focusing on programmatic direction and legislative language affecting Florida’s military installations, servicemembers and families.
2. The Florida Defense Support Task Force is pursuing coaching and insight into the USAF Strategic Basing process as it relates to STARCOM, Delta 10 and Delta 13.
3. The Florida Defense Support Task Force would like the selected firm to provide “out of the box” but achievable options or solutions to address affordable housing opportunities for Florida military installations.

USF Global and National Security Institute/Cyber Florida

Ernie Ferraresso and Jim Aldritch, Cyber Florida, briefed that Cyber Florida was established in 2014 by the State of Florida to address the growing need for cyber workforce as well as increased cyber resiliency across the state. They are housed at the University of South Florida but work across the state, primarily through the twelve state universities. They work with the Florida Department of Education and through that with Florida’s college system to expand their role in supporting the college system as they develop educational and training programs to increase workforce.

Cyber Florida is working to improve cyber security resilience across the State of Florida. Of the state’s twelve universities, nine of them are certified by the NSA and Department of Homeland Security as Centers of Academic Excellence. That includes the University of West Florida in Pensacola as well as the University of South Florida, and some others across the state.

On the workforce side, they have programs from kindergarten through graduate school. Their intention is to reach students at every level of their education in order to improve their individual cyber awareness. They also have, through their K-12 program, expanded and provided curriculum materials and teacher training and education based on Florida’s educational standards for cyber security operation at the high school level, to provide those materials to teachers to expand existing pathways and to grow more at the high school level, which will then feed into both the college and the university systems. The Florida Department of Education has recently given them the opportunity to administer the Florida’s Cyber and IQ Pathways grant, which is a \$20 million effort. They are preparing to fund 36 individual projects to spread that \$20 million across the state.

They are working on making a dent in the 36,000 plus available cyber security related jobs in Florida. They do a lot with training and education with small-to-mid-sized businesses, as well as Florida’s public sector and offer limited cybersecurity workshops to raise awareness and provide individual assistance to small-to-mid-sized entities, as well as cities and counties that typically would not have the resources needed to become more cyber resilient.

Another initiative is their Cyber Works Initiative, and that is in partnership with the National Centers for Academic Excellence National Cyber Workforce Development Program which is funded by a grant from the National Centers of Academic Excellence. It provides free training to military veterans transitioning out of the military as well as first responders looking to make a career transition into cyber security. This program is moving into its third year with support at the national level, but also has tremendous support from Veterans

Florida, as far as outreach to veterans and support from the state's military bases and their Transition Assistance Offices.

During this past Legislative Session they received significant increases in funding in several areas. In addition to the \$20 million grant, they received a separate grant to conduct and administer training available to all Florida public sector employees on basic and advanced cyber security.

They have received funding to stand up a cyber range that directly supports Florida's public sector. They are working with the University of Central Florida to help with planning. This funding is a direct result of UCF's affiliation with the Department of Defense's persistent cyber training environment.

They have been tasked by the state to conduct a Cyber Security Risk Assessment of Florida's critical infrastructure. They are working with the state Cyber Security Task Force, Florida's Legislature, the Florida Digital Service, the Florida Department of Emergency Management and Florida Department of Law Enforcement to help provide recommendations so Legislators can make policy to make Florida's critical infrastructure more cyber ready and resilient.

General Frank McKenzie joined Cyber Florida earlier this month Executive Director and is also the Director for USF's New Global and National Security Institute. He hopes to attend and brief the TF at a meeting later this year.

They are committed to making Florida's public and private sector, and its citizens in general, more cyber secure and training talent to provide to the Department of Defense.

Military & Defense Update

Terry McCaffrey updated the TF items on which the Staff is currently working.

Strategic Planning with Space Florida, FDA and TF for the next military basing decision(s) continues. USAF announced that the Space Training and Readiness Command (known as STARCOM) basing decision will begin soon. Florida will gain Delta 10 (Space Doctrine and Tactics) and can compete for the STARCOM HQ and Delta 13 (Education). He met with Space Force, Space Florida, and local Space Coast EDC members in late June and discussed the way ahead as well as what the Task Force and FDA can do to help – no real concrete ideas at this time

The next meeting is Aug 18th on ZOOM.

- Planning for **September in Key West – meeting will be Sep 15th**, plans in the works for multiple tours and engagements on the 14th and the 15th for those who can attend – please do what you can to make it to this meeting
- FY 22-23 budget approval
- Grant application cycle for FY23-24 opens on 1 August.
 - Need to push applications
 - Opportunity to pull forward out-of-cycle this year based on funding available

Gulf Range: Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Releases new Leasing Program Guidelines. On July 1, 2022, the Department of the Interior (DOI) announced the availability of the Proposed Program for the 2023-2028 National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing, as well as the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (Draft PEIS) for the 2023-2028 Program for public comments. It is available on their website.

According to the plan for the Gulf of Mexico, only area 1(The central and western Gulf) is open for leasing options. The plan states that for area 2 that encompasses the eastern Gulf, "Most of this planning area is unavailable for leasing consideration through June 30, 2022, pursuant to GOMESA's moratorium, extended by Presidential withdrawal to June 30, 2032." Obviously, an executive order can be removed at any time, thus we need to continue to work toward a more permanent solution to the moratorium on the range for national security reasons. We need to encourage our FDA members to push this when they engage with the CODEL.

Contracts:

- Quality of Life Scorecard – Education. This contract is reviewing the USAF QOL Education scorecard and has found inconsistency in how the service scores education programs across the country. The current model is a comparison rather than standards-based approach that inappropriately places Florida in the bottom of the nation's education programs. The final report will be used to influence DoD in changing the way it scores Education related to Quality of Life and future basing decisions. We are working with Ms. Kathy Ferguson to attend our meeting in Key West to brief the Task Force on the findings and way ahead.
- Resiliency: This contract is reviewing projects that enhance mission assurance across the state in defense dependent communities. These projects may be linked to federal programs and provide communities a way to enhance their ability to secure large federal grants to correct the issues and enhance resiliency in their communities that protect the installation and the missions of the bases as well as their community.

Florida Regional Summit (in coordination with ADC): Fort Walton Beach – **Sept 22-23** – In coordination with the Association of Defense Communities (ADC), the Florida Defense Alliance is developing a regional program to take place Sept 22-23 in Fort Walton Beach. The theme will be resilience issues at Florida Installations and defense communities that can target funding from several major federal programs. Our keynote speaker will be the Honorable Edwin H. Oshiba, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Air Force/Energy, Installations and Environment (SAF/IE). Registration for the event is open now and anyone interested in attending or becoming a sponsor of the program should pick up a flyer at the registration desk or contact Ray for more information. Great sponsors would be defense companies or companies that are involved in mission assurance and resiliency such as communications, transportation, supply chain, energy, emergency management, or environmental focused firms.

2022 Military Benefits Guide: Staff is working the draft and plans to have it approved and ready to print as soon as possible.

IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

Kent Wimmer provided an update on the Sentinel Landscapes. June 29 the DEP added 3,600 acres to Blackwater River State Forest which buffers NAS Whiting Field. This acquisition was completed through funding from the Florida Forever program, the Forest Legacy Program and the Knobloch Family Foundation. The acquisition is the latest in a program to protect the flight paths out of NAS Whiting Field and the state has acquired over 9,800 acres which are going to be managed a part of the Blackwater River State Forest.

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's America the Beautiful Challenge Program will have three (3) applications submitted from Northwest Florida.

1. The Florida National Scenic Trail Yellow River Bridge to close a 21-mile gap in the Florida National Scenic Trail, a 1,500-mile hiking trail from Pensacola to Big Cypress. This trail bridge spans the Yellow River between Eglin AFB and Northwest Florida water management land. Eglin AFB supports the proposal as there is currently 67 miles of the national scenic trail that extends through Eglin AFB in two segments.
2. FAMU/FSU Resilient Infrastructure and Disaster Response Center. In partnership with local, state and federal agencies they are submitting a proposal to build a 20-mile-long trail from Chattahoochee to Bristol along the eastern bluffs of the upper Apalachicola River.
3. The Amphibian and Reptile Conservancy in partnership with a Gulf Coast coastal ecosystem partnership has submitted a proposal to restore habitat for the endangered Reticulated Flatwood salamander on Escobar Point. The salamander is an endangered species.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service is submitting a Joint Chiefs US Forest Service NRCS proposal to fund forest debris removal and plant longleaf pines in Bay and Calhoun counties to help serve small landowners who weren't able to take advantage of the Hurricane Michael Forestry act.

BOEMs five-year plan is currently open for public comment through October 6th. If the TF would like to make a public comment they are accepting those through different venues as well as in written format.

Roy Dedmon notified the TF his ideas on projects on the Florida Rock land near MacDill AFB including saltwater distillation, sewer plants and housing. He would like to work with the TF to save the world and be happy.

Major General James Hartsell added that the incoming USSOCOM Commander will be Lieutenant General Bryan Fenton and will be confirmed about the end of August.

The meeting adjourned at 11:16 AM EDT

This meeting can be viewed on The Florida Channel:

<https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/7-21-22-florida-defense-support-task-force/>

Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #106 on Thursday, August 18, 2022

The Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) held a publicly noticed meeting via Zoom at 9:00 AM EDT – 11:06 AM EDT. For Agenda: See Page 3.

Task Force Members Present:

Brigadier General Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret.). Chairman
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman
Representative Thad Altman
Colonel Gregg Billman, USAF, (Ret.)
The Honorable Thomas Bowman
Rear Admiral Stan Bozin, USN, (Ret.)
Major General James Eifert, USAF, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida
Major General Richard Haddad, USAF (Ret.)
Colonel Jim Heald, USAF, (Ret.)
Captain Keith Hoskins, USN, (Ret.)
Mr. Reeves Valentine, Lockheed Martin

Task Force Members Absent:

Senator Tom Wright
Representative Wyman Duggan

Speakers Present:

Kellie Jo Kilberg, Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Chairwoman
Eric Sherman, Department of Defense, Southeast Regional Liaison
Roger Williams, Florida National Guard (FLNG)

Others Present:

Susan Adams, Department of Defense, Southeast Region
Katie Allan, Bay Defense Alliance
Lee Cardice, Cardice A/V
Matt Chesnut, Space Florida
Harrison Conyers, City of Jacksonville
Laura DiBella, Deputy Secretary of Commerce, EFI
Josh Gabel, Office of Congressman Marco Rubio
Debi Graham, Greater Pensacola Chamber
Sarah Hayenga, Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB)
LTC Blake Heidelberg, FLNG
Dale Ketcham, Space Florida
Ray Moller, Department of Defense, Southeast Region
Dave Murzin, 850 Consulting, LLC
Kathleen Nestor, FDA Family Support Working Group Chair
Janet Pippin Orwig, Department of Defense, Southeast Region
Kay Rasmussen, One Okaloosa EDC
Matt Schellhorn, NS Mayport
Cory Strickland, DEO
Brooke Trawick-Gilbert, Bay Defense Alliance

Jason Zaborske, FloridaMakes
The Florida Channel

Staff Present:

Terry McCaffrey, Vice President of Military & Defense Programs, Executive Director, FDSTF
Ray Collins, Special Advisor to the Vice President of Military & Defense Programs
Michelle Griggs, Manager, Contracts & Grants, EFI



Florida Defense Support Task Force – Meeting #106
Zoom
AGENDA for August 18, 2022

***Please contact the
 Military & Defense Team for
 Zoom Webinar information.***

KEY:
*(I) = Information
 (D) = Discussion
 (A) = Action*

All Times are listed in Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

- 9:00 – 9:05 Welcome, Roll Call, Introductions..... Chairman **(I)**
- 9:05 – 9:15 Old Business..... Chairman **(A) / (I)**
 - Approval of Minutes Chairman **(A)**
 - TF Grants and Contracts Status Michelle Griggs **(I)**
 - FY 22-23 TF Budget Terry McCaffrey **(I) / (A)**
 - CSC – Task Work Order Proposal Review / Task Work Order Approval Terry McCaffrey **(D) / (A)**
- 9:15 – 10:45 New Business..... Chairman **(I)**
 - TF Member Reports Kellie Jo Kilberg **(I)**
 - Florida Defense Alliance Update Eric Sherman **(I) / (D)**
 - Licensing Compacts Terry McCaffrey **(D)**
 - New CSC Topic Proposals Terry McCaffrey **(I) / (D)**
 - Draft FY 23-24 Military Legislative Focus Areas
 - FDSTF FY 2023-2024 Proposed Meeting Schedule Terry McCaffrey **(I) / (A)**
 - Military & Defense Update Terry McCaffrey **(I)**
- 10:45 – 11:00 Public Comment..... Chairman

Reminder – Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Sep 15-16, 2022	Key West Army Dive School/Truman Annex	Aug 18, 2022	Zoom
Nov 17, 2022	Cocoa Beach Cape Canaveral SFS / FDA	Oct 20, 2022	Zoom
Jan 19, 2023	Avon Park Avon Park AFR	Dec 2022	NO MEETING
Mar 16, 2023	Tallahassee (<i>Session</i>)	Feb 16, 2023	Zoom
May 18, 2023	Tallahassee (<i>Session / 23-24 Grants</i>) / FDA	Apr 20, 2023	Zoom
		Jun 2023	NO MEETING

Terry McCaffrey, Vice President of Military & Defense Programs, Executive Director of the Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF), *began the meeting at 9:00 AM EDT.*

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome, Roll Call & Introductions

Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl welcomed attendees and guests. He welcomed new TF members **Mr. Reeves Valentine** and **Colonel Gregg Billman** and bid farewell to **Colonel Jim Heald**, who terms off of the TF after today's meeting. He also welcomed **Laura DiBella**, Enterprise Florida, Inc.'s new Deputy Secretary of Commerce. Finally, he reminded attendees that the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

Approval of the Minutes

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl** asked for any corrections to the July 21, 2022 minutes. Noting none, a motion was made by **The Honorable Thomas Bowman** to approve the minutes, seconded by **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin**. All were in favor and the July 21, 2022 meeting minutes were approved.*

Task Force Grants & Contracts Status

Michelle Griggs provided a brief update on current TF grants.

Contracts: The Matrix Design Group Resiliency Study has provided Military Community Survey Results and Resilience Assessment deliverables as outlined in their contract. The project is moving forward as planned.

The Roosevelt Group Education deep dive is progressing as The Roosevelt Group has been working to set up meetings with FL Department of Education. Also, Kathy Ferguson plans to attend the September TF meeting in Key West to brief the project.

Grants: All grantees have submitted their FY 21-22 fourth quarter reports at this time. She is waiting on four grantees to submit their closing paperwork to process for payment.

The FY 23-24 grant window opened on the TF website on 8/1 and will remain open until 8/31. Staff will brief the TF on the applications received at the September meeting.

Continuing Services Contract: Staff sent the three firms on contract Task Work Order Proposals as directed by the TF at the July meeting. Proposals were due and received on August 5, 2022. Terry will brief the TF on those proposals later in the meeting.

FY 22-23 Task Force Budget

Terry McCaffrey provided a brief overview of the FDSTF budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 noting a change was made to the line item for the Military Benefits Guide based on a quote recently received by Staff.

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl** asked for a motion to approve the FY 2022-2023 FDSTF Budget. A motion was made by **Colonel Jim Heald** to approve the budget, seconded by **Captain Keith Hoskins**. All were in favor and the FY 2022-2023 FDSTF Budget was approved.*

A copy of the approved budget can be found on the TF website:

<https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Approved-Budget.pdf>

Continuing Services Contract – Task Work Order Proposal Review / Task Work Order Approval

Terry McCaffrey discussed the requests for Task Work Order Proposals (TWOPs) requested by the TF at the July meeting. The following requests for TWOPs were sent to the applicable three (3) firms on contract:

#22-01 – FY 2023 NDAA Legislation Analysis and Evaluation: The Florida Defense Support Task Force would like analysis and evaluation of FY23 NDAA legislation (to include mark ups from the HASC and SASC) focusing on programmatic direction and legislative language affecting Florida's military installations, servicemembers and families.

- Analysis and evaluation of FY23 NDAA legislation (to include mark ups from the HASC and SASC) focusing on programmatic direction and legislative language affecting Florida's military installations, servicemembers and families.
- Must include interest in force structure, quality of life, resiliency, healthcare, and education.
- Focus is toward overarching appreciation for where NDAA resets our military today; the sense and leaning of Congress; and foretells the re-positioning of the upcoming release of the Biden Administration National Security Strategy, as it relates to Florida.

#22-02 – USAF Strategic Basing Process – U.S. Space Force: The Florida Defense Support Task Force is pursuing coaching and insight into the USAF Strategic Basing process as it relates to STARCOM, Delta 10 and Delta 13. Florida believes we are the best and most cost-effective location for the US Space Force but does not have enough information on the methods or timeline for the Strategic Basing decision process moving forward.

- Discern the current status of the USAF Strategic Basing Process with respect to STARCOM and its subordinate commands Delta 10 (Space Doctrine and Tactics) and Delta 13 (Education) and provide Florida with coaching/ insight to best position the state.
- The goal is to proactively stay ahead of or in sync with evolving decision processes ensuring Florida competitiveness.

#22-03 – Affordable Housing Opportunities for Florida's Military Installations: The Florida Defense Support Task Force would like the selected firm to provide "out of the box" but achievable options or solutions to address affordable housing opportunities for Florida military installations. We understand that affordable and acceptable housing options have become a major issue for most Florida installations due to several factors including high rates of migration for active-duty service members as well as Veterans to the state of Florida. The current economic environment is driving up housing prices and limiting availability of housing as many installations share highly desirable locations across the state. Locality pay and BAH rate adjustments take considerable time to assess and secure. Resulting policies (such as rumored - unaccompanied status until housing is secured) are draconian on families and unit readiness.

- Given the current state of limited affordable and acceptable housing near many of Florida's installations (including but not limited to NAS Pensacola, Eglin, Tyndall, MacDill, SOUTH COM, NAS Key West), evaluate current and propose future viable options to mitigate the issue.
- We are not looking for a shortfall assessment, that is well known. We are looking for creative options that state, county, or municipalities may be able to take in support of our servicemembers and their families. The Task Force is looking for coaching and engagement support to ensure Florida is moving ahead to address these evolving housing issues.

TWOPs were received and scored by four (4) EFI Staff and those recommendations are shown on the summary sheet.

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl** asked for a motion to accept the TWOP #22-01 submitted by The Roosevelt Group for \$30,000. A motion was made by **Mr. Tom Neubauer**, seconded by **Mr. Reeves Valentine**. All were in favor and TWOP #22-01 was approved.*

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl** asked for a motion to accept the TWOP #22-02 submitted by The Principi Group for \$8,250. A motion was made by **Colonel Jim Heald**, seconded by **Colonel Gregg Billman**. All were in favor and TWOP #22-02 was approved.*

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl** asked for a motion to accept the TWOP #22-03 submitted by Matrix Design Group for \$73,935. A motion was made by **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin**, seconded by **Colonel Jim Heald**. All were in favor and TWOP #22-03 was approved.*

The total balance remaining on the Continuing Services contract for future projects is \$137,815.

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

FDSTF FY 2023-2024 Proposed Meeting Schedule

Terry McCaffrey briefed on the Staff's slated locations for the FY 2023-2024 TF meeting calendar. Visits include:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>	<u>Base Visit / Other Notes</u>
July 20, 2023	Fort Walton Beach	Eglin AFB
September 21, 2023	Homestead	Homestead ARB FDA November 15, 2023
November 16, 2023	Tampa	MacDill AFB
January 18, 2024	Tallahassee	Session
March 21, 2024	Panama City	Tyndall AFB FDA May 15, 2024
May 16, 2024	Tallahassee	Grants

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl** asked for a motion to approve the FY 2023-2024 meeting schedule. A motion was made by **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin** to approve the schedule, seconded by **Captain Keith Hoskins**. All were in favor and the FY 2023-2024 meeting schedule as approved.*

Task Force Member Reports

Representative Thad Altman discussed that the Artemis 1 has gone back to the launch pad pin preparation for its August 29th blastoff. This is the first time since 1972 that NASA has a human-rated spacecraft is ready to go beyond Earth orbit. The Space Coast is expecting close to a million spectators for this historic event.

Rear Admiral Stan Bozin reported that the U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command/U.S. 4th Fleet is hosting the Combined Force Maritime Component Command (CFMCC) Staff participating in exercise PANAMAX 2022, in NS Mayport, August 1st through 12th. Exercise PANAMAX 2022 is a U.S. Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM) sponsored exercise that provides important training opportunities for nations to work together and build upon the capability to plan and conduct complex multinational operations. The exercise scenario involves security and stability operations to ensure free flow of commerce through the Panama Canal. U.S. forces participating in this year's exercise include staff elements from USSOUTHCOM, U.S. Army South, U.S. Marine Forces South, Special Operations Command South, 12th Air Force (Air Forces Southern), and U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command/U.S. 4th Fleet, along with participants from twenty-three partner nations.

As of August 15, 2022, naval installations have been directed to set HPCON C after close coordination with their supporting Public Health Officer and based on an assessment of local community transmission rates, utilization and capacity of local civilian hospitals and healthcare, and the medical capability of the local MTF. JAX, Mayport, Orlando and Panama City are in HPCON C, masks on when in indoor public areas (passageways, etc.), or within 6 feet others in meeting or office.

The USS Mason will be arriving NS Mayport for homeport change on August 22nd.
Current port loading: 12 DDGs; 8 LCS and 1 USCG Cutter

2026 port loading: 12 DDGs; 10 LCS; 3 USCG Cutters; 1 Saudi Arabian LCS variant

2030 FFG arrivals: FFGs anticipated arrival for a total of 8 FFGs (proposed at 2 per year). The new FFGs will be built by Fincantieri; For each FFG arrival one LCS ship will depart Mayport

The City of Jacksonville/Navy Team anticipates easement closings on 4 properties in the next 90 days. Nineteen of those acres will be at Timuquana. These closings will spend 50% of their last grant award (\$250K), allowing compliance with FDSTF rules and request another grant in the next round.

There will be an upcoming Change of Command at NAS Jacksonville on August 19th as Captain Marcos Cantu will relieve Captain Jeffrey Hill. RDML McCall, Commander Navy Region Southeast, will be the officiating officer.

Major General Richard Haddad provided the following updates from AFSOC, USSOCOM and Avon Park Air Force Range.

USSOCOM: On August 3rd, Command Sergeant Major Shane Shorter became the new Senior Enlisted Leader replacing Command Chief Master Sergeant Greg Smith.

The Warrior Games begin tomorrow and last until August 28th. They are being held at the Sports Complex at Walt Disney World Resort showcasing the resilience of the wounded, ill and injured.

A Change of Command will take place on August 30th as General Richard D. Clark will relinquish command and General Bryan P. Fenton will assume command.

AFSOC: Colonel Allison Black assumed command of the 1 Special Operations Wing on July 21st. AFSOC Change of Command has yet to be announced.

AVON Park Air Force Range: Bart Allen with the Peterson & Myers Law Firm sent a letter to the Polk County Comprehensive Planning Administrator Chanda Bennett withdrawing his client's application to add mobile homes to the allowed unit types at Canopy Oaks RV Park.

Colonel Jim Heald reported the following from Eglin AFB and Okaloosa County:

Earlier this month, Eglin AFB 7th Special Forces Group Staff Sergeant George Taber was killed while sheltering during a weather-induced training hold at Fort Benning, Georgia. This tragic accident shows that the special forces have dangerous jobs both when deployed and when in training.

Okaloosa County Schools recently received an A+ rating from the State of Florida. In contrast, the Air Force's education scorecard for schools at Hurlburt Field, Eglin AFB and Duke have changed from red to yellow (not green) due to finding an error in the calculations with 2021 data and once The Roosevelt Group completes their education study, hopefully they will produce a plan to move all Florida school districts to green.

Lack of childcare development centers (CDC) across Florida, but especially in Northwest Florida, is an ongoing major issue. The Northwest Florida communities are tracking NDAA amendments from Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz and Congressman Marco Rubio for assistance on the critical childcare issue. There is concern that the amendments may direct putting a CDC in a location that would adversely impact the mission of air armament development at Eglin AFB. This should be monitored closely.

Today the Military Mission Line is protected only by a climate-based Executive Order from President Biden signed in January 2021 which does not provide much protection. The FDSTF should continue to be concerned that there will be encroachment into the Gulf of Mexico and the Eastern Gulf Testing and Training Range.

Mr. Reeves Valentine mentioned the proposal of installing wind turbines in the Gulf.

Colonel Jim Heald replied that he is concerned about wind turbine and aquaculture encroachment and are keeping close watch on those issues.

Roger Williams provided an update for **Major General James Eifert** from the Florida National Guard (FLNG).

MOBILIZATION/DEPLOYMENT UPDATE: The Florida National Guard currently has 532 Servicemembers representing 8 Organizations deployed globally supporting our nation's National Defense Strategy. Additionally, they have approximately 231 Servicemembers representing aid organizations in the pipeline through the remainder of this calendar year.

There will be a Welcome Home Ceremony for the 53rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team who are returning to the St. Pete/Clearwater International Airport on August 25th at 3 PM. They are returning from a deployment that initially began training Ukrainian soldiers in Ukraine then transition to Germany once issues started in Ukrainian area. Training of those servicemembers continued until they were able to go back to their country and support their country's defense.

There will be a deployment ceremony for the 114th Space Control Squadron on September 23rd at Patrick Space Force Base beginning at 2 PM.

The FLNG can provide more details if anyone is interested in attending either of these events.

Colonel Gregg Billman discussed that on August 2nd through 4th, NAS Key West and the surrounding associated facilities hosted an Installation Infrastructure to Support Sustainability and Resilience of the installations event, touring facilities and looking at how the natural infrastructure can be better used to make those facilities more sustainable.

On August 4th, the Coast Guard's birthday, the City of Key West was designated as the 30th Coast Guard City in the United States (the second in Florida).

Mr. Reeves Valentine reported that West Point graduate and Army Ranger candidate 2nd Lieutenant Evan Fitzgibbon, 23, died when a tree fell during his mountain rotation in Georgia. Lieutenant Fitzgibbon was from Central Florida and his hometown of Windermere recently held a street parade to welcome him home and support his family.

NSA Orlando continues to coordinate with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity regarding the Military Base Protection Program and is vigorously working to fight against encroachment in the encroachment buffering prioritization. They're also coordinating with the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council regarding both resiliency and compatible use planning efforts for both Lake and Orange counties to ensure that the NSA Orlando mission, as well as the Naval Undersea Warfare Center and Okahumpka, are protected.

NSA Orlando is working with the Central Florida Research Park, where they are located, on their Entry Control Point's land acquisition. This Entry Control Point sits on six acres that NSA Orlando does not own. The Central Florida Research Park has gifted this land to NSA Orlando, and it will take the naval real estate department about 18 months to gain ownership of this parcel of land.

From an industry perspective, he is hoping for a timely passing the FY 2023 Defense Appropriations Bill. Also, the defense industry is excited for the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 which seeks to bolster the US semiconductor supply chain and promote research and development of advanced technologies in the United States. He hopes that EFI and other entities within Florida are trying to attract the microprocessing industry because that would be another great manufacturing and high-tech industry to have within the state.

Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer briefed that the Colonel George Watkins is the new Wing Commander of the 325th Fighter Wing at Tyndall AFB. Colonel Douglas Kabel is the new Vice Commander. Army Colonel Patrick Combs, representing the Army Corps of Engineers, is the new officer in charge of the Tyndall rebuild team. The new Project Management Office Director is Colonel Robert Barlow who has his hands full with some

of the largest contracts the Air Force has ever executed currently underway. Chief Master Sergeant Wayne Sharp is the new Command Chief.

He was recently briefed by a representative from a foreign investment review committee on foreign investment in the U.S. and the call focused on how defense communities in our state should monitor those types of investments within their respective communities. They're asking Florida's defense communities to start focusing on any foreign investment and report it back to his organization for risk assessment. He will send the briefing slides to the Staff to send out to TF members for review.

Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl discussed that Colonel Adam Bingham is the new Commander of the 6th Refueling Wing at MacDill AFB.

He discussed two of the major issues in the Tampa/MacDill community. The first one is affordable housing, an issue facing all military communities. MacDill AFB has created a task force led by the Wing's Vice Commander to focus on this issue and he looks forward to sharing their findings. The second issue is spouse reciprocity and the economic impact military spouses bring to communities.

He also discussed other issues such as the Military Mission Line and clinic issue at both MacDill AFB and Patrick Space Force Base.

Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Update

Kellie Jo Kilberg, FDA Chairwoman, reported on items on which the FDA is working for their upcoming Zoom meeting on August 31st and in-person meeting in Cocoa Beach on November 16th.

The Mission Sustainment Working Group continues to look at encroachment and resiliency challenges.

The Family Support Working Group has been very active regarding the Purple Star School Program and will check in with the Florida Department of Education towards the end of the semester on they are with applications and designations. They are also working on affordable and attainable housing challenges, childcare, spousal employment, and licensure compacts. Both Tampa and the Space Coast have economic empowerment zones which train and educate spouses on opportunities and advocate for spouses by partnering with organizations to reduce barriers to employment. Those two those two communities have actually gone through the process to be recognized as an economic empowerment zone for military spouses and the FSWG will be looking at how to expand that throughout the rest of the state.

Congratulations to the Space Coast who earlier this month received their designation as a Great American Defense Community.

Licensing Compacts Briefing

Eric Sherman, Southeast Regional Liaison for the Defense-State Liaison Office (DSLO), presented on the support of Emergency Medical Services Profession, Occupational Therapy Profession, Psychology Profession, and Audiology Speech Language Pathology Profession Licensure Compacts to facilitate Military Spouse Professional License Portability.

The DSLO was established in 2004 to improve communication between the DoD and state policymakers for the purpose of addressing the highest priority Personnel and Readiness Key Issues that intersect with state-level policy. Their mission is to research potential issues and bring these to the attention of state policymakers to help them understand and resolve them. They also team up with government agencies and stakeholders, like the Florida Defense Alliance, who help advance communications and cultivate the DoD Key Issues in their states.

DSLO started working with professional associations to help them obtain state approval for interstate professional licensure compacts because these compacts can create reciprocity for military spouses and improve interstate practice within their respective professions. These compacts aid practitioners by supporting

their mobility, which in turn can increase public access to services, but they also preserve the regulatory authority of states to protect public health and safety.

Frequent moves combined with cumbersome licensing and certification requirements limit career options for military spouses causing many to give up careers altogether or live separately from their service member spouses. Removing these barriers, creating reciprocity in licensing requirements, and facilitating placement opportunities can speed the assimilation of the family into its new location, improve a military family's financial stability, maintain a family's well-being, and create a desirable new employee pool for the state. Spouse Employment continues to remain one of the DoD's top military family issues with over a third of working military spouses requiring a state license.

Florida has some of the best universal licensure policy in the country, so why would the state be interested in Interstate Compacts? To answer this question, we have to look at the policy history. The DSLO originally focused on improving licensure portability using state specific laws to reduce the burdens associated with the occupational relicensing of military spouses as they transferred into a new state. At that time, Florida, one of the first states to coordinate with their office, passed HB 713 to introduce the temporary license concept. This policy revolutionized licensure portability in that it impacted multiple professions with one policy change. The legislature continued working to improve policy with the passage of HB 1319 in 2011. This bill expedited the processing of application within 30 days. Florida then passed HB 29 in 2018 which exempted spouses from the application process if they have an active license from another state. This policy revolutionized licensure portability again and became known as universal licensure policy. Finally, SB 562 passed in the last session, ensured the military spouse license applications were processed in about a week, which gave new meaning to expediting the process. All of these bills became Best Practice policies for spouse licensure portability, which I and my fellow regional liaisons are currently delivering to states around the country to help them resolve their own policy concerns.

As they continued to study licensure portability, they learned the best possible licensure opportunity for military spouses comes through states committing to two lines of effort. One line of effort impacts current military spouse licensure transfers, and the other creates long-term follow-on opportunities for reciprocity. Together, they provide near term accommodations for military spouses and a long-term opportunity for reciprocity.

Policy changes in each state's licensing laws provide near term relief for military spouses, but still require them to relicense. These policy changes also require licensing boards to maintain special processes for military spouses and additional communication resources to make these processes readily available to military spouses. They see this condition in universal licensure laws.

Occupational licensure compacts provide full reciprocity, but take multiple state actions to become effective; however, when states commit to approving compacts, they provide true licensure reciprocity as each compact allows the spouse to practice their profession in different states without reapplying for a license.

Here's how these two approaches work together for military spouses: until multiple compacts are approved by multiple states, the individual state laws provide a more streamlined licensing opportunity. Once compacts are established in multiple states, military spouses have the benefit of full reciprocity. Additionally, since compacts impact all practitioners, state licensing boards have the opportunity to begin streamlining their processes and boards can start reducing the need to have special processes for licensing military spouses.

Both initiatives are important. Occupational licensing laws can reduce the number of unqualified individuals offering their services in that profession and increase overall public safety and welfare. However, because licensing laws are established independently by each state government, their criteria for evaluating competency often differs from state to state.

Interstate compacts offer an opportunity to standardize qualifications for interstate transfer, which alleviates confusion for military spouses transferring between member states, and also allows licensing boards to simplify their process for assuring the qualifications of visiting professionals. Compacts can offer license reciprocity for military spouses and increase the availability of critical professionals in short supply. This last point is particularly concerning in Florida where the recently passed HB 899 established new requirements for

school based mental health care when professional services are already unavailable in many parts of the state.

In closing, he reiterated his appreciation of the invitation to discuss licensure portability. Thanks to the committee for your time and focus on the issues that matter most to our military families. Although some states such as Florida extend an extra effort to help the spouses with employment opportunities, a military family's next move to another state can create a new set of problems, since procedures are inconsistent from state to state. This situation is addressed through interstate Compacts. Florida is currently one of the nation's leaders in developing military spouse licensure portability practices, so, on behalf of Florida's military families, they asked for the TF's continued support.

New Continuing Services Contract Topic Proposals

Rear Admiral Stan Bozin suggested a Task Work Order Proposal to evaluate Mayport Naval Station base loading if the LCS are retired. We would like to determine future laydown, port loading and timeline for basing the next generation Frigate at Mayport. Staff will work on that TWOP and report back to the TF at the September meeting.

Draft FY 2023-2024 Military Legislative Focus Area

Terry McCaffrey briefed on proposed TF Legislative Initiatives for 2023: Military initiatives – no fiscal impacts – could be grouped under one (1) bill:

- Military Members Could Be Denied Relief from Rental Contracts
- Addition of Easements Surviving Tax Deed Sales
- Military Compatible Use Requirements Met When State Funds are Used
- Corrects List of Installation for Military Base Protection Plan Eligibility
- Reintroduce Rep. Altman's (HB 1357 – 2021) & Sen. Wright's (SB 1796 – 2021) MBPP Eminent Domain Bill from 2021
- Change the Task Force to something more permanent (i.e., Florida Defense Council)
- Licensing Compacts

Bills with fiscal impacts – may be filed as separate Bills:

- Non-Conservation Land Base Buffer Funding

Major General James Eifert entered the meeting and discussed the homecoming of several deployed units in the upcoming weeks; the deployment of several units before the end of 2022; special forces units deploying to Africa; the standing up of the Florida State Guard to assist the FLNG during emergencies; and the FLNG is currently assisting the Florida Department of Corrections as they work on staffing issues in that agency.

Military & Defense Update

Terry McCaffrey provided the TF updates from the Military & Defense Team:

The next TF meeting is in Key West. The meeting will be September 15th, but there are plans for multiple tours and engagements on September 14th and 15th for those who can attend in person.

The grant application cycle for FY 23-24 is open until August 31st. Please inform your communities of this grant funding opportunity.

The Florida Public Education Impacts on Military Families contract with The Roosevelt Group is reviewing the USAF QOL Education scorecard and has found inconsistency in how the service scores education programs across the country. The current model is a comparison rather than standards-based approach that inappropriately places Florida in the bottom of the nation's education programs. The final report will be used to influence DoD in changing the way it scores Education related to Quality of Life and future basing decisions. Staff is working with Ms. Kathy Ferguson to attend our meeting in Key West to brief the Task Force on the findings and way ahead.

The Florida Military Installation & Community Resiliency Plan contract is reviewing projects which enhance mission assurance across the state in defense-dependent communities. These projects may be linked to federal programs and provide communities a way to enhance their ability to secure large federal grants to correct the issues and enhance resiliency in their communities that protect the installation and the missions of the bases as well as their community.

The upcoming Regional Florida Defense Forum, in coordination with ADC and the Florida Defense Alliance, is coming up quickly. The Forum will be held in Fort Walton Beach on September 22nd and 23rd. The theme will be resilience issues at Florida Installations and defense communities that can target funding from several major federal programs. The keynote speaker will be the Honorable Edwin H. Oshiba, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Air Force/Energy, Installations and Environment (SAF/IE). Registration for the event is open now and anyone interested in attending or becoming a sponsor of the program should pick up a flyer at the registration desk or contact **Ray Collins** for more information. Great sponsors would be defense companies or companies that are involved in mission assurance and resiliency such as communications, transportation, supply chain, energy, emergency management, or environmental focused firms.

Staff is working the draft of the 2022 Military Benefits Guide and plan to have it approved and ready to print as soon as possible.

IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

Ray Collins read comments submitted by **Kent Wimmer**, Coordinator for the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape, who added a bit more to the earlier discussion about protecting the Gulf of Mexico Test and Training Range. BOEM is providing the opportunity to make oral public comments on their proposed program during a September 12 webinar and the link to register for that is: https://kearnswest.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_1FXGr4cBQhuVfHKtb04_8Q. They will also host four Virtual Town Halls between August 23 – 31 and the public can respond to the BOEM proposals there also. That link is at: <https://www.boem.gov/newsroom/notes-stakeholders/public-comment-period-begins-2023-2028-national-oil-gas-proposed>. Finally, BOEM is offering the public the ability to simply submit written comments on this plan at the following website: <https://www.boem.gov/oil-gas-energy/national-program/national-ocs-oil-and-gas-leasing-program-2023-2028>.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 AM EDT.

This meeting was recorded by The Florida Channel and can be found here: <https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/8-18-22-florida-defense-support-task-force/>

Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #107 on Thursday, September 15, 2022

The Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) held a publicly noticed meeting at the Doubletree Grand Key – Key West at 9:00 AM EDT – 11:27 AM EDT.

For Agenda: See Page 3.

Task Force Members Present:

Brigadier General Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret), Chairman
Representative Thad Altman
Rear Admiral Stan Bozin, USN, (Ret)
Major General Richard Haddad, USAF, (Ret)
Mr. Reeves Valentine, Lockheed Martin

Task Force Members Present via ZOOM:

Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman
Ms. Kay Rasmussen, One Okaloosa EDC

Task Force Members Absent:

The Honorable Thomas Bowman
Major General James Eifert, USAF, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida
Representative Wyman Duggan
Captain Keith Hoskins, USN, (Ret)
Senator Tom Wright

Speakers Present:

Rick Miller, Vice Chair, Florida Defense Alliance (FDA)
Captain Beth Regoli, NAS Key West
Colonel Jennifer Reynolds, U.S. Southern Command
Larry Ventura, Homestead Air Reserve Base (Zoom)

Others Present in Person:

Billy Ballou, NAS Key West
Ed Barham, NAS Key West
Danette Baso Silvers, NAS Key West
Cathy Crane, Monroe County Veterans Affairs
Ron Demes, City of Key West
Bruce Guerday, Key West MAC
Beverly Howley, Navy League Key West
Dr. Denny Howley, Navy League Key West
Edward Kertis, Key West MAC
Pat Lefere, Monroe County School District
Steve Russ, Key West MAC
Jim Scholl, Monroe County / Key West MAC
Brandon Schwartz, Army Dive School
Ashley Sneed, NSA Orlando

Others Present via ZOOM:

Katie Allan, Bay Defense Alliance
Dana Bauer, HARB
Dave Dahl, Navy Region Southeast
Laura DiBella, EFI
Carlos Fanjul, Office of Congressman Carlos Gimenez
Lieutenant Colonel Blake Heidelberg, FLNG
Kellie Jo Kilberg, Chair, Florida Defense Alliance (FDA)
Chris Middleton, West Florida Defense Alliance
Dave Murzin, 850 Consulting, LLC
Tim Proctor, Florida Senate
Matt Schellhorn, NS Mayport
Brooke Trawick-Gilbert, Bay Defense Alliance
Chris Weller, Department of Economic Opportunity
The Florida Channel

Staff Present:

Terry McCaffrey, Vice President of Military & Defense Programs, Executive Director, FDSTF
Ray Collins, Special Advisor to the Vice President of Military & Defense Programs
Michelle Griggs, Executive Assistant/Grants & Contracts Manager, EFI
John Rich, Manager, Legislative Affairs & Special Events, EFI



Florida Defense Support Task Force – Meeting #107
Doubletree Grand Key – Key West
3990 S. Roosevelt Boulevard, Key West, FL 33040
AGENDA for September 15, 2022

KEY:
(I) = Information
(D) = Discussion
(A) = Action

All Times are listed in Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

- 9:00 – 9:15 Welcome, Roll Call, Introductions..... Chairman **(I)**
 Local Community Welcome..... Cara Higgins **(I)**
- 9:15 – 9:30 Old Business..... Chairman **(A) / (I)**
 - Approval of Minutes Chairman **(A)**
 - TF Grants, Contracts and TWO Status Michelle Griggs/Terry McCaffrey **(I)**
- 9:30 – 11:00 New Business..... Chairman **(I)**
 - TF Member Reports Kellie Jo Kilberg **(I) / (D)**
 - Florida Defense Alliance Update CAPT E. Regoli/L. Ventura **(I) / (D)**
 - Encroachment on S. Florida installations COL J. Reynolds/CAPT E. Regoli **(I) / (D)**
 - South Florida military family pain points Kathy Ferguson **(I)**
 - Department of the Air Force Education Rating Process Terry McCaffrey **(D)**
 - New CSC Topic Proposals Michelle Griggs **(I) / (D)**
 - FY 2023-2024 Grant Applications Terry McCaffrey **(I)**
 - Military & Defense Update
- 11:00 – 11:15 Public Comment..... Chairman
- 11:15 – 12:30 Closed Session..... Chairman

Reminder – Upcoming Meeting Dates:

		Oct 20, 2022	Zoom
Nov 17, 2022	Cocoa Beach Cape Canaveral SFS / FDA	Dec 2022	NO MEETING
Jan 19, 2023	Avon Park Avon Park AFR	Feb 16, 2023	Zoom
Mar 16, 2023	Tallahassee <i>(Session)</i>	Apr 20, 2023	Zoom
May 18, 2023	Tallahassee <i>(23-24 Grants) / FDA</i>	Jun 2023	NO MEETING

Terry McCaffrey began the meeting at 9:00 AM EDT by roll call of TF Members.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome, Roll Call, Introductions

Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl welcomed attendees and guests and thanked the Key West Military Community for the tour of the Army Dive School and dinner at the Ernest Hemingway Home and Museum. He welcomed Ms. Kay Rasmussen as the newest member of the TF, led the TF and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and reminded the TF that the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

Local Community Welcome

Ron Demes welcomed the TF and briefly discussed the purpose of the Key West Military Affairs Committee to strengthen the relationship between the military and the civilians through education and engagement with the community and noted that Key West was recently recognized as a Coast Guard City. He discussed some of the quality-of-life issues affecting servicemembers in Key West and highlighted some of the area projects on which were funded by the TF. He thanked Captain Beth Regoli of NAS Key West and Major Brandon Schwartz, Commander of the Army Dive School, for their briefings to the TF on the installations and introduced some meeting attendees from the Key West Community.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

Approval of Minutes

A quorum being present, **Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl** asked for corrections to the August 18, 2022 TF meeting minutes. Noting none, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes. **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin** made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by **Major General Richard Haddad**, all were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Task Force Grants and Contracts Status

Michelle Griggs reported on several current TF contracts and grants.

Contracts: The Matrix Design Group Resiliency Study: Charlie Kuhl will provide a briefing on their findings thus far at the Florida Defense Forum on September 22nd and 23rd. The Roosevelt Group Education deep dive is progressing as later in today's meeting you'll hear an update from Kathy Ferguson of The Roosevelt Group.

Grants:

- DTF Grant #21-107, the University of West Florida, and Grant #21-104, South Florida Progress Foundation, both submitted their final reports and invoicing, payments have been submitted and these grants are now closed.
- Final documentation from Polk County on their two (2) closed grants was submitted just yesterday and will be processed immediately.
- The FY 23-24 grant window closed on August 31st with five (5) applications submitted.
- Also received were five (5) out of cycle grant application requests which will be discussed further later in today's meeting.

Continuing Services Contract:

- The Amendment to the contract adding \$115,000 to max it to \$250,000 was executed on September 1st.
- All Task Work Order Agreements have been executed for the projects:
 - Fiscal Year 2023 NDAA Legislation Analysis and Evaluation by The Roosevelt Group

- US Air Force Strategic Basing Process on the US Space Force by The Principi Group. This project ends on October 10th and they will present their findings at the October 20th TF meeting.
- Affordable Housing Opportunities for Florida's Military Installations by Matrix Design Group

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

Task Force Member Reports

Representative Thad Altman briefed that Lieutenant General B. Chance Saltzman is currently before the Armed Services Committee in the process of being confirmed as the Commander of the U.S. Space Force. During the hearing Lieutenant General Saltzman reinforced his commitment to Florida and the importance of the Space Coast.

He discussed a briefing Brigadier General Stephen Purdy provided to the local community which talks about the range of the future and preparation for three-to-four hundred launches per year and the ability to meet those demands here in Florida. He highlighted some issues which need addressing to meet the need for the nation's space security: diversity of sites (potentially in Homestead and Jacksonville) which assists with issues such as weather, scheduling and retrieval; Florida's ability to handle large numbers of launches is due to the ability of modernization such as autonomous destruct mechanisms and modernization of the range, which increases safety and launch encroachment.

Encroachment at Kennedy Space Center (KSC) is a serious issue as cruise ships and other vessels appear in the launch clear zone causes launches to be aborted at the last second. It's a serious problem, not only in the Atlantic but in the Gulf of Mexico during retrieval the SpaceX capsule.

He discussed workforce/STEM talent and the need to educate more highly technically trained graduates from Florida's university system.

He suggested a report from Space Florida or the Space Force on these issues.

Rear Admiral Stan Bozin reported that NAS Jacksonville and the City of Jacksonville Team are scheduled to close on September 16 on the Sturms' property easement near OLF Whitehouse. They also anticipate closing on another 19-acre easement of Timuquana adjacent to NAS Jacksonville by the end of September.

NAS Jacksonville is anticipating hosting their Air Show October 22nd and 23rd.

As of September 8th, the CDC has designated the Duval County COVID-19 Community Level as Medium. Therefore, in accordance with the Consolidated DoD COVID-19 FHP Guidance, both NAS Jacksonville and NS Mayport changed the HPCON to BRAVO effective immediately on September 8, 2022. Commensurate with the Community Level, masks will now be optional as well. Both installations will continue to monitor our community rates and make changes accordingly. There have been no impacts to mission or operations.

Roger Williams provided remarks, on behalf of **Major General James Eifert**, as a Florida National Guard Update.

MOBILIZATION/DEPLOYMENT UPDATE: The Florida National Guard currently has 568 (567 Army and 1 Air) Servicemembers representing 9 Organizations deployed globally supporting the nation's National Defense Strategy. Additionally, their mobilization pipeline continues to grow, with 5 Organizations consisting of approximately 196 Servicemembers scheduled for deployment throughout this calendar year.

FLORIDA NATIONAL GUARD SUPPORT TO DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS: The Governor of Florida, through Executive Order 22-213, dated 9 September 2022, directed The Adjutant General of Florida to activate a Task Force of 300 Soldiers and Airmen for a period of 9 months, that will augment Florida Department of Corrections staff, at selective institutions throughout the state, that are currently facing staffing challenges. The

Florida Guardsmen will assume responsibilities at directed facilities that will not require close contact with or direct supervision of inmates, allowing certified correctional officers to focus on direct contact inmate responsibilities. The Florida National Guard is currently working on establishing the Task Force that will undergo Florida Department of Corrections training before assuming its mission.

Major General Richard Haddad reported that U.S. Army General Bryan P. Fenton assumed command of the U.S. Special Operations Command from outgoing Commander General Richard D. Clarke during a change of command ceremony which took place on August 30th at the Tampa Convention Center. General Fenton previously served as the Commander of Joint Special Operations Command in Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

General James Slife had an interview with the AFA, on September 7th discussing centralization. The Air Force has had a difficult time explaining Force Generation to Congress in the joint world. The Navy has 11 Carrier Strike Groups; the Army has 73 Brigade Combat Teams; and the Marines have three Marine Expeditionary Forces. The Air force Presentation is much more difficult, so AFSOC has recently come up with a process which will innovate the way Air Commandos train and execute joint special operation missions in this century's complex and competitive battle space. They are referred to as Mission Support Teams (MSTs) which provide force support, civil engineering, communications, logistics, security forces, medical airfield management and contracting capabilities. MSTs are designed to train 58 air commandos from 22 different AFSCs, seamlessly blending their operations and becoming proficient in several competencies in order to receive, prepare and redeploy aircraft expeditiously.

Avon Park Air Force Range (APAFR) has a new Commander as Lieutenant Colonel Michael Ryan assumed command on the August 1st.

Terry McCaffrey explained that the Canopy Oaks RV Park had considered allowing more permanent mobile homes to reside on the property, which was opposed by the Air Force, and the APAFR. The FDSTF sent the County Commissioners a letter of opposition which was instrumental in the leading the County Commissioners to disapprove the request.

Mr. Tom Neubauer reported that a groundbreaking ceremony for the single largest military construction contract on record in the Air Force database was held at Tyndall AFB on September 13, 2022, as Tyndall began construction on flight line facilities to directly support the F-35A Lightning II aircraft and personnel that will call the base home beginning in September 2023.

Currently ongoing over the past few weeks at Tyndall AFB, F-18 Hornet pilots from all branches are live training for a Weapon Systems Evaluation Program.

On August 31st, Deborah Loomis, the Senior Advisor to the Secretary of the Navy for Climate Change, visited NSA Panama City to participate in the initial Engineering with Nature site visit. NSA Panama City was one of three Navy installations in the Southeast chosen to participate in the Army Corps of Engineers' Engineering with Nature Program. An Engineer of Nature is the alignment of natural resources and engineering processes to make infrastructure more resilient and nature based.

Ms. Kay Rasmussen reported that lack of childcare is an encroachment issue currently threatening Eglin AFB which was exacerbated by the growth of the 7 Special Forces Group and the pandemic. The 7 Special Forces Group is asking for a childcare development center (CDC) on their cantonment site located within the Eglin Test and Training Range utilized by the 96th Test Wing for test and development. Having a childcare development center located in the middle of an active bombing range is unacceptable. Eglin AFB is looking for solutions to this problem as they are renovating one of their two CDCs on Eglin Main and they also have approved MILCON for a third CDC on the main base. They've also increased their pay skills to help with workforce, attraction and retention.

Earlier this year at an Association of Defense Communities Conference, connection was made with Higher Ground Education. They target having Montessori CDCs in military communities, learned of Eglin's challenge, and visited this past summer. They are on board and moving quickly to help provide childcare. They have purchased two pieces of property to build twin facilities on the boundary of Eglin Range, one to the north in the City of Crestview in Okaloosa County, and then one to the west in Navarre in Santa Rosa County. They have

their own financing and developer, and the two facilities will collectively provide accommodation for approximately 350 students and are planning to be open in 12 months.

They are also looking to acquire an existing property in the City of Crestview to open up a temporary CDC while building two permanent facilities. They are fantastic partners, committed to serving military families, targeting military communities. They understand the needs and the roles of military families including the challenges of frequent moving and they have programs embedded into their education platform.

They are teaming with Child Care Aware of America to provide military spouse training and employment and when the military member moves that spouse can take that training and certification with them. She will be happy to provide contact information to Staff if anyone would like to connect.

Major General Richard Haddad asked if the children of the 7 Special Forces Group families attend CDCs at Eglin AFB and Hurlburt Field?

Ms. Kay Rasmussen replied that most of the families are not utilizing the available CDCs because of the commute challenge. Many of the 7 Special Forces Group commute from Crestview which poses a transportation challenge as there is one highway connecting the north county to the south county. Eglin main is located in the south county and can take more than an hour to commute due to the traffic congestion. Most Special Forces families place their children in civilian CDCs and lack of childcare centers is an issue in the civilian community, as well. The spouses of the 7 Special Forces Group are put into a position where they cannot work, they cannot pursue their careers, they cannot pursue their education. Spouses are having to stay home in order to take care of their children which causes a lot of stress to the families.

Major General Richard Haddad replied that the reason he asked the question is he wanted explained to the group the fact that traffic has become unbearable in that part of the world, and most of the people that are in the 7 Special Forces Group live in Crestview and for them to go to the CDC they drive all the way down Highway 85 to Eglin AFB and the traffic is absolutely horrendous both ways.

Mr. Reeves Valentine discussed that the next I/ITSEC event is coming up in Orlando on November 28th through December 2nd. The Interservice/Industry Training, Simulation and Education Conference (I/ITSEC) is the world's largest modeling, simulation and training event.

He discussed the I-4 Corridor going east to the central Florida region continuing to Tampa which represents over \$11.5 billion of economic contribution from the DoD to the State of Florida.

From NSA Orlando: the Central Florida Research Park has applied for a Florida Defense Support Task Force grant for funding for roadway widening and engineering to improve traffic flow around NSA Orlando, the Research Park and UCF.

From an industry perspective, the Chips and Science Act was passed and at the last meeting he provided some anecdotes about the importance of microprocessors from a Lockheed Martin perspective. The example he gave was the Javelin which has 250,000 microprocessors per unit, the CH-53K Marine Corps heavy lift helicopter has over 2,500. Those are just two examples of military equipment which require a lot of the microprocessors.

He's hoping to attract semiconductor and microprocessing manufacturing to the state of Florida and noted that he discovered that Osceola County has won a grant from the Chips and Science Act for \$51 million from the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration. The Central Florida Coalition was one of twenty-one grant recipients out of more than five hundred applicants. This grant will bring many jobs and will create an important supply chain infrastructure and will be important to the military industrial complex.

Brigadier General Chip Diehl reported that lack of childcare and affordable housing are also issues at MacDill AFB as well as all of the installations around the state and he asked that the TF continue focusing on and highlighting those issues as they fall under the scope of the TF mission.

This weekend's Tampa Bay Buccaneers game will honor the Air Force's 75th birthday and will have a flyby from Eglin AFB's F-35s.

Florida Defense Alliance Update

Kellie Jo Kilberg, FDA Chair, noted that the FDA will have a presentation on the childcare issue at their November meeting and they are also looking into licensure and certification for childcare providers and best practices around the country.

Rick Miller, FDA Vice Chair, discussed that the FDA is focused on the previously mentioned, recurring issues of lack of affordable housing and childcare, ranges and resiliency.

The most recent FDA meeting was held on August 31st via Zoom and was attended by over 70 representatives from across the state. The meeting began with a housing panel and the roundtable sessions were a mix of both the challenges that are being experienced in different parts of the state as well as some potential best practices or other recommended approaches on how to address them.

The Family Support Working Group discussed the licensing laws and compacts that will be coming forward in next year's Legislative Session as a number of those will be coming forward.

The Mission Sustainment Working Group highlighted the most recent Florida comprehensive range report from The Roosevelt Group. They walked through the strategic imperative of the rising peer competitor challenge with China and how DoD has positioned the lead of force planning; how Florida's comprehensive range complex, from the sea floor to outer space and everything in between, can be brought to bear in that, particularly with some of the changes in F-35 basing and force posture in the Southeast United States that's coming in the next few years. They walked through the different online tools, encouraging all of their FDA teams, when they do their fly-ins to Washington, DC or their meetings and delegation visits with different Federal or DoD representatives, to help them understand Florida's range complex.

Shifting gears to resilience he provided an update from across the State as they are blanketing the state with Military Installation Resilience Reviews (MIRRs). Projects are ongoing in southeast Florida and in Tampa at MacDill AFB. Both are in conjunction with the local regional planning councils. The Emerald Coast Regional Council was recently awarded a TF grant. They will be covering six (6) installations spanning from Tyndall AFB in the east all the way over to Pensacola in the West. The East Central Planning Council is working on a similar project for the Space Coast and Team Orlando area to cover those under a resilience review. The last one under initial discussion is in northeast Florida as the Northeast Planning Council will be looking at the Jacksonville area installations. He encourages everybody to plug into their local Regional Planning Council as they provide an invaluable service.

He's missing an event in Miami today as The Miami Children's Trust is partnering to expand a DoD My Child Care In Your Neighborhood program. They work to help bridge the gap in childcare coverage using licensed and accredited facilities where on base resources aren't sufficient. That program is officially launching today in Miami.

Kellie Jo Kilberg added that the FDA's biggest strength is bringing partners together. They are constantly looking for best practices to bring to the State and share with others. The FDA does its best to reach out to partners to leverage federal, state, regional and local dollars to meet the needs for our military families and installations in the communities.

Encroachment on South Florida Installations

Captain Beth Regoli, Commander, NAS Key West, provided a presentation on encroachment issues at NAS Key West. The presentation slides can be found here: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Presentations-2022.pdf>

Larry Ventura, Homestead Air Reserve Base, provided a presentation on encroachment issues at Homestead Air Reserve Base. The presentation slides can be found here:

<https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Presentations-2022.pdf>

Ms. Kay Rasmussen noted that NAS Key West Captain Beth Regoli referenced the Eastern Gulf Test and Training Range and provided a map with which we are all very familiar. Captain Regoli referenced the Gulf Range as their moneymaker, and she wants to keep on everybody's priority list that the protection for the Eastern Gulf Test and Training Range that protected against oil drilling and related activities sunsetted this past summer and that moneymaker impacts many installations in the State of Florida. She suggested working to get Congressional codified protection again, while there is an executive order in place, which can be rescinded at any given time. It is critical to our military missions for the State of Florida and our national security.

South Florida Military Family Pain Points

Captain Beth Regoli, Commander, NAS Key West, provided a presentation on housing and family issues at NAS Key West. The presentation slides can be found here:

<https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Presentations-2022.pdf>

Colonel Jennifer Reynolds, U.S. Southern Command, discussed servicemembers' (SM) issues living in South Florida. High cost of living has always existed for service members assigned SOUTHCOM, but with gaps between BAH and the current market, they are the most challenging they've been since SOUTHCOM relocated to Miami in 1997. In some cases, SM are seeking additional ways to earn money or are declining to join the vital mission that SOUTHCOM serves due to an inability to cover basic need costs.

CHALLENGES COMPOUNDING FINANCIAL STRAIN

- Lag in Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) rate change. Need for higher rates is now.
 - BAH Data, collected March through July 2022, is projecting average increases of 30% (25-36%) to 2023 rates that take effect January 2023. Good news (potentially) for next year, but SM now are experiencing a 30% shortfall in BAH.
 - Rapid increase in home values and rent over the last 18 months, BAH rates are significantly behind.

EXAMPLE: BAH for an E6 (SSG – Staff Sergeant 10-15 years in service) family is supposed to procure a 3-bedroom townhome. The current market rates result in a \$900/month deficit in terms of BAH -v- current market costs for a 3-bedroom townhome. To make up for that deficit, the SM (with family) is spending almost 45% of their total income on housing alone. (Add fuel, electric/gas, groceries, tolls, insurance etc.)

There are several instances of families living paycheck to paycheck. Some are taking a second job to make up for deficits.

- UP FRONT COSTS - 3x Months (or more) rent in advance for a security deposit is required by most landlords. This creates additional financial hardship, especially challenging for junior to mid-grade families. Those families are used to more traditional assignments that offer privatized or government housing. The previous example (given for an E6 family) would have to save more than 2 months base pay + allowances prior to arrival IOT secure housing.
- Army Emergency Relief (AER) - From Oct-Jul (9 months of data), AER (which is largely funded by SM donations) has given almost \$170,000. An unprecedented 15 grants were given to assist with first and last month rent demands.
Top 3 causes of assistance requests – High cost of moving, high rent, lack of savings (chipped away by increased cost of living/inflation effects)
Top 3 needs – Housing, PCS, Home Repair
 - Pay raises are appreciated and welcome but have historically been below inflation levels, current inflation has base pay falling even further behind.
- PREDATORY PRACTICES – landlords are increasing rent by 20-30%, which forces a move by SM who must pay out of pocket as the move is not during an official Permanent Change of Station (PCS).

- **TYRANNY OF DISTANCE** – In order to find more affordable housing, SMs search for housing 20-35 miles or more out from where they work, adds additional costs for tolls, fuel, additional vehicles (no ability to share within a family), auto insurance, homeowners' insurance rates (one of the most expensive auto insurance markets in the country), more expensive groceries and high electric/gas bills all add to financial strain/stress. Time (due to traffic) is an additional stressor.
 - The distance isolates them from the few installation support services we can provide (fitness facilities, childcare, health care, etc.). The absence of a Commissary nearby is an additional benefit missed by families used to more traditional assignments.
- **TALENT MANAGEMENT** – There are occasions that Service Members (and Civilians) don't want to come to SOUTHCOM and S. Florida because of the financial hardships it imposes. Other families are making the decision to become geographically separated from their family IOT save money.

PRIVATIZED MILITARY HOUSING

- The Army is working on a privatized military housing project on federal land adjacent to the SOUTHCOM HQ site in Doral, we expect to break ground in Spring 2023 and see the first housing available in Summer 2025.
- Mostly 2-, 3- and 4-bedroom units aimed towards housing junior-mid grade military families, and junior single service members who face the biggest challenges in finding affordable housing in the complex and expensive S. Florida market.
- SOUTHCOM is the beneficiary of great collaboration and cooperation from community and municipal partners in this effort, it would not have been possible without their support.

Department of the Air Force Education Rating Process

Kathleen Ferguson, The Roosevelt Group, provided a review of the State of Florida education results.

Topics of discussion included:

- A February 2018 letter by Service Secretaries has driven significant interest and action across the state
- Florida takes the issue of education of military children very seriously reflected by performance
- The State of Florida consistently ranks high in education
- The Air Force analysis has Florida trending near the bottom for all 9 Air Force installations...why the disconnect?
- The learning rate was derived from Stanford Education Data Archive (SEDA) 30% of overall AF score
- Stanford Education Data Archive (SEDA) Results
 - Florida is below average in learning rates but above average in both average test scores and trend in test scores
- General Methodological Concerns
 - SEDA was designed for research purposes and not business decisions, for which the AF is currently using it
- Concerns on how this information will be used in Strategic Basing Process
- OSD tracks Purple Star Schools Program - Florida passed! Different measures cause confusion
- What are families looking for when moving to a new duty station?
- Recent Congressional interest

New Continuing Services Contract Topic Proposals

No new topic proposals were suggested at this meeting.

FY 2023-2024 Grant Applications

Terry McCaffrey presented the slate of grant applications received during the August 2022 window for FY 2023-2024 funding:

City of Jacksonville	Duval County Military Installations Compatible Land Use and Mission Protection Program	7/1/2023 - 6/30/2024	\$500,000.00
Clay County Development Authority	Camp Blanding Joint Training Center (CBJTC) - Installation Encroachment Acquisition	7/1/2023 - 6/30/2024	\$500,000.00
Emerald Coast Regional Council	Community Partnership Agreements Phase II	7/1/2023 – 6/30/2024	\$182,600.00
University of West Florida	Phase 1B-Fielding of Prototype system and Proof of Concept for Beta Test of the Florida Advanced Training Range (FATR)	1 July 2023 - 30 June 2024	\$460,000.00
Tampa Bay Defense Alliance	Incubator Project for Purple Star School of Distinction Preparedness in Tampa Bay Area Schools	7/1/2023 - 6/30/2024	\$220,000.00
		Total	\$1,862,600.00

Staff also received five out-of-cycle grants in hopes to receive funding this year (FY 2022-2023):

125th Fighter Wing - Florida National Guard	Pace Road - Alternate Entry Gate	1/1/2023 - 9/30/2023 (out-of-cycle)	\$500,000.00
Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce	Jacksonville Federal Military Advocacy for Increase in LCS/DDG/FFG Shipbuilding at NS Mayport	11/1/2022 - 6/30/2023 (out-of-cycle)	\$56,000.00
University of West Florida	Phase 1A-Concept Development of the Florida Advanced Training Range (FATR)	1 Nov 2022 - 30 June 2023 (out-of-cycle)	\$310,000.00
Orange County Research and Development Authority	Roadway Widening Design and Engineering	10/1/2022 - 7/1/2023 (out-of-cycle)	\$300,000.00
Military Child Education Coalition	Preparing Florida's Major Military Base Community Schools for Best-in-Class Purple Star School of Distinction Designation	July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024 (if not selected for '22-'23 remaining funds)	\$125,000.00
		Total	\$1,291,000.00

Military & Defense Update

Terry McCaffrey updated the TF items on which the Staff is currently working.

The next TF meeting is October 20th via Zoom. The November meeting will be in Cocoa Beach, with FDA meeting the day prior, and planned tours are of Cape Canaveral and Patrick Space Force Bases.

The Florida Defense Forum will be next week in Fort Walton Beach hosted by the Association of Defense Communities.

Staff is looking to wrap up a contract with Matrix Design Group on resiliency projects around the State of Florida. Matrix will brief that project at the Florida Defense Forum and discussions with the communities on how to gain access to federal funding for those projects.

Staff is working to obtain printing bids for the 2022 Military Benefits Guide which we hope to print by the end of September and distribute in October of this year.

IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

Brandon Schwartz, Army Dive School: In addition to the Maritime Encroachment issue, he'd like to underscore other problems, which may be more difficult to solve.

Balfour Beatty is not honoring their contracts and military and DoD Civilians are suffering financially and mentally because of their less than honorable activities. Although a paradise, Key West lacks resources common to all other military installations, particularly, childcare. This root cause affects many facets of military members' lives. The first, is that it forces military spouses to stay home and place their professional and developmental aspirations on hold. This problem is not temporal and should be resolved to ensure that the military doesn't bleed talent.

Key West military members need a COLA-like pay adjustment to survive a cost of living on par with Honolulu, which has been exacerbated by inflation.

Edward Kertis, Key West Military Affairs Committee, commented on the need for military housing in Key West to include state-built housing for federal employees and state law and short-term rentals.

The meeting adjourned at 11:27 AM EDT

This meeting can be viewed on The Florida Channel:

<https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/9-15-22-florida-defense-support-task-force/>

Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #108 on Thursday, October 20, 2022

The Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) held a publicly noticed meeting via Zoom at 9:00 AM EDT – 10:52 AM EDT, reconvening at 12:15 PM EDT and finally adjourning at 12:17 PM EDT. For Agenda: See Page 3.

Task Force Members Present:

Brigadier General Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret.). Chairman
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman
Colonel Gregg Billman, USAF, (Ret.)
Rear Admiral Stan Bozin, USN, (Ret.)
Representative Wyman Duggan
Major General James Eifert, USAF, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida
Major General Richard Haddad, USAF (Ret.)
Captain Keith Hoskins, USN, (Ret.)
Ms. Kay Rasmussen, One Okaloosa EDC
Mr. Reeves Valentine, Lockheed Martin

Task Force Members Absent:

Representative Thad Altman
The Honorable Thomas Bowman
Senator Tom Wright

Speakers Present:

Kellie Jo Kilberg, Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Chairwoman
Dr. Matthew Schwartz, University of West Florida (UWF)
Rick Miller, South Florida Defense Alliance
Major General Rob Polumbo, Two Blue Aces Consulting
Harrison Conyers, City of Jacksonville

Others Present:

Katie Allan, Bay Defense Alliance
Dana Bauer, HARB
Lee Cardice, Cardice A/V
Dave Dahl, Navy Region Southeast
Mike Ferro, EOG
Christina Gardner, NAS Key West
Debi Graham, Greater Pensacola Chamber
LTC Blake Heidelberg, FLNG
Jeremy Jetton, UWF
Greg Kiley, The Principi Group
David Lowe, UWF
Chris Middleton, West Florida Defense Alliance
Steve Murray, FDVA
Jim Philpitt, Tampa Bay Defense Alliance
Sheila Poland, EDC of Florida's Space Coast
Secretary Anthony Principi, The Principi Group

Lieutenant General Glenn Spears, The Principi Group
Brooke Trawick-Gilbert, Bay Defense Alliance
Kim Van Whye, The Principi Group
Chris Weller, DEO
Roger Williams, FLNG
Kent Wimmer, Defenders of Wildlife, NWFL Sentinel Landscape Coordinator
The Florida Channel

Staff Present:

Terry McCaffrey, Vice President of Military & Defense Programs, Executive Director, FDSTF
Ray Collins, Special Advisor to the Vice President of Military & Defense Programs
Michelle Griggs, Manager, Contracts & Grants, EFI



Florida Defense Support Task Force – Meeting #108
Zoom
AGENDA for October 20, 2022

***Please contact the
 Military & Defense Team for
 Zoom Webinar information.***

KEY:
(I) = Information
(D) = Discussion
(A) = Action

All Times are listed in Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

- 9:00 – 9:05 Welcome, Roll Call, Introductions..... Chairman **(I)**
- 9:05 – 9:15 Old Business..... Chairman **(A) / (I)**
 - Approval of Minutes Chairman **(A)**
 - TF Grants and Contracts Status Michelle Griggs **(I)**
- 9:15 – 11:00 New Business..... Chairman **(I)**
 - TF Member Reports
 - Florida Defense Alliance Update Kellie Jo Kilberg **(I)**
 - FY 2022-2023 Out of Cycle Grant Presentations
 - Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce Harrison Conyers **(I) / (D) / (A)**
 - University of West Florida Dr. M. Schwartz/R. Miller/R. Pumbo **(I)/(D)/(A)**
 - Military Base Protection Program Ray Collins **(I) / (D) / (A)**
 - Military & Defense Update Terry McCaffrey **(I)**
- 11:00 – 11:15 Public Comment..... Chairman
- 11:30 – 12:15 Closed Session..... Chairman
- 12:15 – 12:30 Public Meeting Reconvenes for Grants vote..... Chairman

Reminder – Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Nov 17, 2022	Cocoa Beach Cape Canaveral SFS / FDA	Dec 2022	NO MEETING
Jan 19, 2023	Avon Park Avon Park AFR	Feb 16, 2023	Zoom
Mar 16, 2023	Tallahassee (<i>Session</i>)	Apr 20, 2023	Zoom
May 18, 2023	Tallahassee (<i>23-24 Grants</i>) / FDA	Jun 2023	NO MEETING
Mar 16, 2023	Tallahassee (<i>Session</i>)	Apr 20, 2023	Zoom
May 18, 2023	Tallahassee (<i>Session / 23-24 Grants</i>) / FDA	Jun 2023	NO MEETING

Terry McCaffrey, Vice President of Military & Defense Programs, Executive Director of the Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF), *began the meeting at 9:00 AM EDT.*

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome, Roll Call & Introductions

Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl welcomed attendees and guests and asked **Terry McCaffrey** to call the roll. He informed that October 13, 2022 was the U.S. Navy's 247th birthday and the U.S. Marines will celebrate their 247th birthday on November 10, 2022. He asked for any public comment be emailed to Ray Collins at rcollins@enterpriseflorida.com to be read into the minutes and reminded attendees that the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

Approval of the Minutes

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl** asked for any corrections to the September 15, 2022 minutes. Noting none, a motion was made by **Ms. Kay Rasmussen** to approve the minutes, seconded by **Major General Richard Haddad**. All were in favor and the September 15, 2022 meeting minutes were approved.*

Task Force Grants & Contracts Status

Michelle Griggs provided a brief update on current TF grants.

Contracts: The Matrix Design Group Resiliency Study and the Roosevelt Group Education deep dive: both projects' final reports are due on October 31st.

Grants:

Grantees have submitted their first quarter reports which are included in the grants' report.

DTF #22-101 Clay County Development Authority: the purchase of buffer land of approximately 400 acres adjacent to Camp Blanding Joint Training Center was completed on September 30, 2022. Their Final Report has been received and payment was processed on 10/6/2022. This grant is closed pending final payment.

DTF #23-301, the City of Jacksonville's contract has been signed by the Mayor's office and is currently with EFI contracting for execution.

Approval is required by the TF for Grant #22-102, the EDC of Florida's Space Coast, as they are requesting an extension to June 30, 2023. They have completed the RFP process and are in the process of reviewing draft agreements with their selected vendor. The anticipated study should take approximately 6 months and this extension will allow the EDC to be able to guarantee funding if the study time exceeds the 6-month period.

Continuing Services Contract:

TWO 22-01, The Roosevelt Group has not yet submitted their review and analysis of House and Senate passed versions of the NDAA and related appropriations bills as the Senate has not yet passed their version of the NDAA.

TWO 22-02, The Principi Group has submitted their draft report on the Department of the Air Force Strategic Basing Process for the U.S. Space Force.

TWO 22-03, Matrix Design Group completed their initial research on this project completed on October 14, 2022. They will be presenting this information at the November TF meeting in Cocoa Beach.

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl** asked for a motion to extend contract DTF #22-102, EDC of Florida's Space Coast to June 30, 2023. A motion was made by **Captain Keith Hoskins** to*

extend the contract, seconded by Rear Admiral Stan Bozin. All were in favor and contract DTF #22-102, EDC of Florida's Space Coast, is extended to June 30, 2023.

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

Task Force Member Reports

Mr. Reeves Valentine reported that last month Hurricane Ian passed through the I-4 corridor and his thoughts are with those who continue to be impacted by the storm. He's encouraged by the aerospace and defense companies, including Boeing, Raytheon, Northrup Grumman and Lockheed Martin who have donated millions of dollars towards disaster relief funds, helping to expand shelters, remove debris, provide food and personal items and enable other critical supplies and resources to those affected by the massive storm.

Conflict in Ukraine impacts Eastern Europe and beyond but also ancillary impacts Army budget planners as the duration of the war is currently unknown. Much material is being sent to Ukraine on their behalf. Many have seen the various Javelin and Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System (GMLRS) programs which are very effective in pushing back Russian forces and enabling Ukrainian success but those come out of the Army stock who have an unknown replenishment plan, and when inflation and budgetary concerns are combined with the unknowns it becomes a planning challenge for both industry and the Pentagon. Lockheed Martin had its earnings call this week and their CEO mentioned \$65 million invested ahead of any kind of contract and for these programs, so industry continues to lean forward which is good for both the nation and our allies, but it does create a challenge for Army budget planners determining their needs for fiscal year 2024.

Industry is hopeful that the Appropriations Bill, with the Continuing Resolution expiring in mid-December, avoids any impacts to companies and suppliers in the State of Florida.

Texas is eyeing more space business, so the things that this TF does continue to be important to protect Florida's Space Force business and ensure continued growth in the space industry.

NSA Orlando looks forward to the TF's Military Base Protection Program rankings. They also continue to coordinate with their local and regional partners regarding preliminary resiliency study efforts. They're looking for options to capitalize on defense infrastructure grant dollars to improve roadway standoffs on the installation and improve traffic flow.

Ms. Kay Rasmussen reported that the Inflation Reduction Act signed by President Biden last summer rescinds the Presidential Executive Order signed in 2020 which protects the Eastern Gulf Test and Training Range from energy, exploration and development. The Inflation Reduction Act is approximately 300 pages long and on page 196, section five there is a very small offshore wind statement that specifically rescinds the Executive Order and opens the Eastern Gulf to energy, exploration and development.

BOEM continually says they are not interested in the Eastern Gulf for wind turbine development however, there's no protection and if the Eastern Gulf Military Range is opened up to energy, exploration and development, it will take place. The Defense Support Initiatives Committee in Northwest Florida has initiated a local campaign and has sent letters to targeted individuals in Washington, DC to include the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Air Force, Speaker Pelosi, HASC, SASC and others identified, and are asking local, regional individuals, communities, organizations, civic units to do the same.

Currently, there is a House bill and Senate bill companion moving through and a letter dated October 17, 2022 was written and signed by 16 Congressional members asking for range support to be enacted. This is a hot topic that on which we all should be looking at as a priority to protect the military range in the Eastern Gulf.

Last week the Secretary of the Army made an incorrect statement at the Association of the US Army (AUSA) meeting saying that it has been determined that a Childcare Development Center (CDC) will be built directly on Camp Bull Simons in the middle of the Eglin AFB bombing range. The Secretary of the Air Force and OSD have not agreed to this, but the comment has been picked up by the media and is spreading very quickly.

Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer briefed via text that the recently published Military Benefits Guides have gotten a lot of positive attention. Mrs. Sharine Brown, the wife of the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, said they're an excellent example of state support, and she is promoting them to other states as a best practice to follow. And the wives of the Chiefs of Staff of the U.S. Space Force and the National Guard Bureau are happy with the attention given to the Space Force and the National Guard Bureau in the guide.

Captain Keith Hoskins reported that NAS Pensacola celebrated the Navy Bowl last week with guest speaker Secretary of the Navy Carlos del Toro. Secretary del Toro had an opportunity to tour NAS Pensacola as they are still trying to restore buildings damaged by Hurricane Sally a few years ago.

The first class of Naval aviator students at NAS Whiting Field to fly the TH-73A have started their training. The next generation of HT-8 pilots is the first squadron to conduct training in this new aircraft. Much groundwork was done by the Navy and Marine Corps on the flight training course work enabling the instructor pilots to take on the new class.

Major General Richard Haddad briefed that this past weekend Air Force Special Operations Command Airmen were recognized for their dedication and hard work by the Air Commando Association during their annual convention held in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. The ACA also recognized Air Commando legends with their annual Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

The 492nd Special Operations Group commander, Colonel Chris Lang, officiated a ceremony reassigning the 6th Special Operations Squadron at Duke Field, Florida, on October 6, 2022. The ceremony furling the squadron's flag honored a long history paving the way for a new mission with the 27th Special Operations Group at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico, as Air Force Special Operations Command transitions to the force needed for the future.

This month, Air Force Special Operations Command, is transitioning the way Air Force Special Operations Forces present to the joint force. Following September 11, 2001, AFSOC's force presentation focused heavily on providing crisis response capabilities and countering violent extremist organizations (C-VEO), through the Joint Special Operations Air Component, deployment model.

This model, while historically successful in conducting crisis response and countering violent extremist organizations during more enduring operations, does not provide the necessary attributes required to succeed in the new operational environment.

AFSOC's focus on C-VEO and crisis response has evolved to also include campaigning in the gray zone, employing SOF-peculiar capabilities, and developing and advancing relations with their international partners and allies.

Enter the Special Operations Task Group, or SOTG.

According to Major General Davidson, AFSOC Deputy Commander, "This change in how we present forces is transformative and drastically enhances AFSOC's ability to present options to compete with and deter our adversaries below the threshold of armed conflict and add more strategic options for our nation's leaders,".

While participating in a training exercise in Norway, a CV-22B Osprey experienced an inflight emergency, requiring the pilots to land immediately. After six weeks of being grounded on the island of Senja, the 352nd Special Operations Wing's Osprey was recovered via crane barge, September 27, 2022. The aircraft is now at a Norwegian military base where 752nd Special Operations Aircraft Maintenance Squadron maintainers will perform repairs to get the aircraft flying once again.

Representative Wyman Duggan briefed that every two years NAS Jacksonville hosts its air show, which will be this weekend featuring the world's premier flight demonstration squadron, the Blue Angels, returning to their birthplace. The weather should be beautiful and he expects a great show.

Rear Admiral Stan Bozin reported that he's thankful that Key West did not sustain major damage due to Hurricane Ian and he's looking forward to this weekend's Air Show with the Blue Angels at NAS Jacksonville.

They are waiting on National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant for A1A EWN study as they saw how vulnerable A1A was during Hurricane Ian when they lost 1 lane of the state road near our back gate at NS Mayport.

NS Mayport and NAS Jacksonville have both downgraded to HPCON Alpha as of October 13th, no restrictions.

Critical encroachment buffering efforts continue at NAS Jacksonville and OLF Whitehouse. The Navy and City of Jacksonville Team closed on 2 parcels totaling 20.55 acres for \$1.15 million. This was NAVFAC SE and NAS Jacksonville's first closing for FY 2023, just 4 days into the fiscal year. The city paid 25% of the total funding for easements contributing over \$287K. This is the sixth easement closed in a year doubling their goal of 3 closings per year.

Colonel Gregg Billman discussed that the Key West folks enjoyed the events surrounding last month's TF meeting and are looking forward to hosting them again soon. Hurricane Ian passed by the Keys which caused whitecaps to appear on the runway at Boca Chica, but there was no structural damage to the area.

Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl discussed the successful evacuation of MacDill AFB in anticipation of Hurricane Ian which worked out well. His heart, thoughts and prayers go out to everybody impacted by the hurricane.

He thanked the Staff for printing and sending out the new Military Benefits Guide as it's important to have copies to place on the desks of key leaders.

He wishes a Happy Veterans Day to everyone and salutes those who have served and are currently serving our country today.

Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Update

Kellie Jo Kilberg, FDA Chairwoman, reported that she and the working group chairs are currently working on their agendas for the November meeting on the Space Coast. Discussion will include increasing the licensure compacts in Florida.

They found a hiccup regarding pharmacy and licensure reciprocity on which Kathleen Nestor, Family Support Working Group Chair, has been working and trying to figure out the disconnect between the law and its implementation. At the November meeting they are working to have Secretary Melanie Griffin of the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation participate to discuss how to ensure the employees on the front line understand what the law means for military spouses. They're going to discuss how to make it easier to implement what is already on the books and expansion of the compacts as they move forward.

They'll also be looking at range protection and all the other issues in the Mission Sustainment Working Group.

FY 2022-2023 Out of Cycle Grant Presentations

Dr. Matthew Schwartz, Rick Miller and Rob Polumbo presented a grant application from the University of West Florida on Phase 1A, Conceptual Development of the Florida Advanced Training Range (FATR).

Harrison Conyers presented a grant application from the Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce on Jacksonville Federal Military Advocacy for Increase in LCS / DDG / FFG Shipbuilding at NS Mayport.

Presentations can be found here:

<https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Presentations-2022.pdf>

Military Base Protection Program

Ray Collins presented on the 2022 tiered slate of the Military Base Protection Program Non-Conservation Lands.

The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Presentations-2022.pdf>

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl** asked for a motion to approve the suggested slate of 2022 tiered MBPP lands as presented by Ray Collins. A motion was made by **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin** to approve the tiers, seconded by **Mr. Reeves Valentine**. All were in favor and 2022 slate of tiered MBPP lands was approved.*

Military & Defense Update

Terry McCaffrey provided the TF updates from the Military & Defense Team:

1. The next meeting is on November 17th on the Space Coast with planned tours of Cape Canaveral Space Force Station. If you have not yet told Michelle if you are attending or not, please do so ASAP so she can get all the logistics completed. Remember, we do not meet in December. The January meeting is planned for January 19, 2023 and is in-person at Avon Park Air Force Range, so please make sure your calendar is open to attend.
2. \$137,815 is available on the Continuing Services Contract.
3. In coordination with the Association of Defense Communities (ADC), the Florida Defense Alliance conducted a regional program that took place September 22-23 in Fort Walton Beach. The theme was focused on resilience issues at Florida Installations and defense communities that can target funding from several major federal programs. The keynote speaker was the Honorable Edwin H. Oshiba, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Air Force/Energy, Installations and Environment (SAF/IE). More than 130 individuals attended and overall, the conference was praised by both ADC staff and attendees. We hope that community reps will apply to fix the issues they have around the installations.
4. **Terry McCaffrey** and **Ray Collins** will be attending the ADC Installation Innovation Forum in Phoenix Arizona from 31 October – 2 November. Several FDA members are also planning to attend. **Terry** will be on two panels – Day 2 - "Looking Beyond the DOD Definition of Resilience", and Day 3 - "New Strategies to Make Your Community More Military-Friendly". **Terry** and **Ray** will also try to meet with USAF and Navy leaders who normally attend to ask questions about basing and installation issues in Florida.
5. **Terry** and **Ray** are looking at a possible trip to Washington, DC, set up by **Kathy Ferguson** of the Roosevelt Group, to engage the USAF, DoD and others on the Department of the Air Force Education Score Card. Please let him know if any TF members are interested in supporting the engagement. **Kathy** is compiling a list of target offices / principals to consider.
6. Publication of the 2022 Military Benefits Guide is complete, and copies have been shipped to all installations. The new version is also active on our website for anyone who wants to access the guide.

<https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/Advantage-Florida-Military-Benefits-Guide.pdf>

IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

Ray Collins read comments submitted by **Kent Wimmer**, Coordinator for the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape.

Key F22 accomplishments for the NWFSL were:

- Partners Provided \$18.2 million conserving 8,478 acres
- Partners enrolled 24,410 acres of private land in conservation programs
- There are two ongoing coastal resilience projects, and more than a dozen are proposed
- Partners are seeking \$6.6 million in five proposals for Hurricane Michael forest debris clean up and replanting under Tyndall AFB operations areas, endangered species habitat restoration adjacent to Eglin AFB, and trail development.

The Santa Rosa County Commission approved funding to acquire three tracts totaling 545 acres to create a county preserve in East Navarre. Santa Rosa County is providing \$1.8 million to match nearly \$1.3 million awarded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund Recovery Land Acquisition Fund with key support from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Eglin Air Force Base and the East River will benefit by being buffered from encroaching development.

The Trust for Public Land is working with the U.S. Navy, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and the Florida Forest Service to acquire another approximately 3,800 acres in multiple tracts to expand Blackwater River State Forest and buffer NAS Whiting Field. The Trust for Public Land anticipates approval by the Florida Acquisition and Restoration Council and then Governor and Cabinet in March 2023 with closings in 2023. To date, through multi-year agreements the U.S. Navy, Santa Rosa County and State of Florida have spent nearly \$40 million to protect over 13,000 acres from incompatible development to prevent encroachment and ensure operational sustainability of NAS Whiting Field and its assets. NAS Whiting Field has nearly \$2 million in escrow for future installation buffering.

The public submitted over 800,000 comments to the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management opposing new oil leases in the next five years. The Biden administration plan currently calls for up to 11 new lease sales in the Gulf of Mexico and Alaska. Although these lease sales would be held from 2023 to 2028, it often takes more than 10 years to set up a functioning oil operation. This public comment period provided an opportunity for the partners of the NWFSL to express their support for maintaining the current moratorium on exploration and drilling in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico Testing and Training Range to protect the U. S. Air Force's and Navy's testing and training missions.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:52 AM EDT.

The meeting was reconvened at 12:15 PM EDT.

V. Agenda Item V: Public Meeting Reconvenes for Grants Vote

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl** asked for a motion to approve out of cycle grant funding for the following for FY 2022-2023:*

- *University of West Florida, \$300,000*
- *Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce, \$56,000*
- *Total \$356,000*

*A motion was made by **Ms. Kay Rasmussen**, seconded by **Mr. Tom Neubauer**, all were in favor and the grants were approved.*

The meeting adjourned at 12:17 PM EDT

This meeting was recorded by The Florida Channel and can be found here:

<https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/10-20-22-florida-defense-support-task-force-part-1/>
<https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/10-20-22-florida-defense-support-task-force-part-2/>

Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #109 on Thursday, November 17, 2022

The Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) held a publicly noticed meeting at the Courtyard by Marriott Cocoa Beach at 9:00 AM EST – 11:37 AM EST.

For Agenda: See Page 3.

Task Force Members Present:

Brigadier General Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret), Chairman
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman
Colonel Gregg Billman, USAF, (Ret.)
Major General Richard Haddad, USAF, (Ret)
Ms. Kay Rasmussen, One Okaloosa EDC

Task Force Members Present via ZOOM:

Rear Admiral Stan Bozin, USN, (Ret)
Captain Keith Hoskins, USN, (Ret)

Task Force Members Absent:

The Honorable Thomas Bowman
Major General James Eifert, USAF, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida
Mr. Reeves Valentine, Lockheed Martin

Speakers Present:

Christian Caron, Matrix Design Group
Kirk Hall, Chair of the Board, EDC of Florida's Space Coast
LTC Blake Heidelberg, FLNG
Dale Ketcham, Space Florida
Kellie Jo Kilberg, Chair, Florida Defense Alliance (FDA)
Charlie Perham, Matrix Design Group
Colonel Mark Shoemaker, 45th Space Launch Delta

Others Present in Person:

Representative Thad Altman
Grace Bochenek, UCF
Peter Caspari, Florida Employee Support of the Guard & Reserve
Rebecca Caspari, Florida Employee Support of the Guard & Reserve
George Cheros, National Center for Simulation
Matt Chesnut, Space Florida
Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Sam Green, NOTU
Major General James "Hammer" Hartsell, FDVA
Jack Hession, Madison Government Affairs
Robert Katz, World Innovation Network
M. Rob Lawrence, Florida Employee Support of the Guard & Reserve
Trudy McCarthy, EDC of Florida's Space Coast
Rick Miller, Vice Chair, Florida Defense Alliance (FDA)
Kathleen Nestor, Family Support Working Group Chair, FDA
Jim Philpitt, Tampa Bay Defense Alliance

Others Present via ZOOM:

Representative Wyman Duggan
Jessica Aiello, HARB
Harrison Conyers, City of Jacksonville
Dave Dahl, Navy Region Southeast
Ron Demes, City of Key West
Kathleen Ferguson, The Roosevelt Group
Lieutenant Colonel Blake Heidelberg, FLNG
Dave Murzin, 850 Consulting, LLC
Matt Schellhorn, NS Mayport
Jim Scholl, Monroe County / Key West MAC
Karen Taporco,
Brooke Trawick-Gilbert, Bay Defense Alliance
Chris Weller, Department of Economic Opportunity
Roger Williams, FLNG
The Florida Channel

Staff Present:

Terry McCaffrey, Vice President of Military & Defense Programs, Executive Director, FDSTF
Ray Collins, Special Advisor to the Vice President of Military & Defense Programs
Michelle Griggs, Executive Assistant/Grants & Contracts Manager, EFI



Florida Defense Support Task Force – Meeting #109
Courtyard by Marriott Cocoa Beach
3435 N. Atlantic Avenue, Cocoa Beach, FL 32931
AGENDA for November 17, 2022

KEY:
(I) = Information
(D) = Discussion
(A) = Action

All Times are listed in Eastern Standard Time (EST)

- 9:00 – 9:15 Welcome, Roll Call, Introductions..... Chairman **(I)**
 Local Community Welcome..... Kirk Hall **(I)**
- 9:15 – 9:30 Old Business..... Chairman **(A) / (I)**
 - Approval of Minutes Chairman **(A)**
 - TF Grants, Contracts and TWO Status Michelle Griggs/Terry McCaffrey **(I)**
- 9:30 – 11:30 New Business..... Chairman **(I)**
 - TF Member Reports Kellie Jo Kilberg **(I) / (D)**
 - Florida Defense Alliance Update Charlie Perham **(I) / (D)**
 - Matrix Housing Options Study Col. Mark Shoemaker **(I)**
 - 45th Space Launch Delta Dale Ketchum **(I)**
 - Space Florida Terry McCaffrey **(D)**
 - New CSC Topic Proposals Terry McCaffrey **(I)**
 - Military & Defense Update
- 11:30 – 11:45 Public Comment..... Chairman
- 12:00 – 1:30 Closed Session..... Chairman

Reminder – Upcoming Meeting Dates:

		Dec 2022	NO MEETING
Jan 19, 2023	Avon Park Avon Park AFR	Feb 16, 2023	Zoom
Mar 16, 2023	Tallahassee <i>(Session)</i>	Apr 20, 2023	Zoom
May 18, 2023	Tallahassee <i>(23-24 Grants) / FDA</i>	Jun 2023	NO MEETING

Brigadier General Chip Diehl began the meeting at 9:00 AM EST.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome, Roll Call, Introductions

Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl welcomed new members **Ms. Kay Rasmussen** and **Colonel Gregg Billman** to their first in person TF meeting, as well as attendees and guests including those watching on The Florida Channel and the FDA members who attended yesterday's meeting. He asked **Terry McCaffrey** to take attendance of Task Force (TF) members and led the TF in the Pledge of Allegiance. He thanked **Trudy McCarthy** and the Economic Development Council of Florida's Space Coast for organizing last night's wonderful dinner at the Sands Space History Center noting how incredible it was to watch the Artemis 1 launch in person early Wednesday morning.

He asked for anyone who'd like to make a public comment to please email them to **Ray Collins** at rcollins@enterpriseflorida.com to be read at the end of the meeting.

He reminded the TF that the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law. He thanked **Representative Thad Altman** for his contributions to the TF during his terms of service and presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Local Community Welcome

Kirk Hall welcomed the TF and provided a short brief on the Space Coast community, noting that the Space Coast is home to Space Launch Delta 45 at Patrick Space Force Base, Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, the Naval Ordnance Test Unit (NOTU) and host to more than 74 mission partners and tenant units.

Their residents and businesses are dedicated to supporting active-duty, veterans and military families and considers the men and women of the armed forces as most valuable assets.

As Chair of the EDC, he has the unique opportunity to see firsthand the impact from their efforts to preserve, protect and enhance the military community and improve the lives of service members, veterans and their families. Success has been found by the EDC in the programs they are able to implement and maintain through the support of the Florida Defense Alliance, the Florida Defense Support Task Force and the State of Florida defense grant programs. Examples include Hiring Our Heroes Military Spouse Economic Empowerment Zone (MSEEZ), "Space Coast Salutes our Military" a celebration of the region's military members, veterans, and their families and The Space Coast Military-Friendly Guide.

The Space Coast is known as a top community in the United States with an exceptional commitment to improving the lives of service members, veterans and their families, and it is for this reason they were named as one of only five communities across the nation as a 2022 Great American Defense Community awarded by the Association of Defense Communities.

The Space Coast 2022 ADC Great American Defense Community video was played.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CyLukJjtpLw>

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

Approval of Minutes

A quorum being present, **Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl** asked for corrections to the October 20, 2022 TF meeting minutes. Noting none, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes. **Major General Richard Haddad** made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by **Ms. Kay Rasmussen**, all were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Task Force Grants and Contracts Status

Michelle Griggs reported on several current TF contracts and grants.

Contracts:

- Florida Military Installation & Community Resiliency Plan: The Final Project Report has been received and placed on the TF website. This contract will be closed upon receipt of final payment invoice.
- The Florida Public Education Impacts on Military Families contract will be closed upon receipt of the Final Project Report from The Roosevelt Group, who is currently coordinating meetings in Washington, DC with our Florida Team and Air Force representatives to be held at the first of the year.

Grants:

- DTF Grant #21-102, the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast's contract amendment was executed on October 24th, extending the contract to June 30, 2023.
- DTF 23-301, the City of Jacksonville's contract was executed on October 24th.
- DTF 23-303, University of West Florida's contract has been reviewed by EFI and is currently with UWF for review and execution.
- Staff is still waiting on administrative materials from the Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce's to complete their contract.

Continuing Services Contract:

- 22-01 FY 2023 NDAA Legislation Analysis & Evaluation – The Roosevelt Group is working on how the current administration's policies and National Defense Strategy affects Florida's military missions.
- 22-02 USAF Strategic Basing Process-US Space Force – This project has been completed and the TWO is closed.
- 22-03 Affordable Housing Opportunities for Florida Military Installations – Matrix Design Group will brief their initial findings at today's TF meeting.

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

Task Force Member Reports

Captain Keith Hoskins discussed the ongoing repairs from Hurricane Sally. NAS Pensacola has received two MILCONS for a new student fitness facility and a major electrical substation that will provide redundancy to the main base power. Also in early planning stages are a consolidated hangar and student dormitory.

NAS Pensacola held a very successful air show last weekend showcasing the homecoming of the Blue Angels. It's estimated over 210,000 visitors attended the event.

The Military Installation Resiliency Review is underway with match support from TF funding. Also ongoing is a compatible use study planned for completion in early 2023.

They are currently working on permitting for the NAS Pensacola Living Shoreline project which has received \$24 million in federal funding including \$6.4 million in DoD DCIP funding. This project is slated to begin in spring 2023.

NAS Whiting Field continues to execute over \$200 million in MILCON special project funding to support the new TH-73 airframe. They currently have twenty-six TH-73 aircraft on board and are expected to see an increase in delivery of these new advanced helicopters over the next few years.

NAS Whiting Field held a groundbreaking ceremony last week with respect to a new air traffic control tower in the north field. This project is estimated to be completed in the fall of 2023.

Teams from NAS Whiting Field and NAS Pensacola participated in the recent ADC Conference in Phoenix, Arizona. They brought back many positive ideas to Northwest Florida and heard many great briefings that will enable regional resiliency initiatives within their communities.

Rear Admiral Stan Bozin reported that Hurricane NICOLE caused more significant beach erosion of the dunes at Naval Station Mayport and seawall at Naval Air Station Jacksonville than was caused by Hurricanes Ian or Irma. There was no ship sortie and no immediate mission impact. Both airfields are back to full mission capable.

NS Mayport had usual low area flooding at the Pass & Tag and 4th Fleet Building but no immediate mission impact. Hurricane Nicole was the second highest flooding behind Hurricane Irma according to Mayport METOC. Wharfs are being inspected for shore power capability.

NEXCOM reported that all NEXs, commissaries, and NGIS units in the area are now full mission capable, although some minor damage occurred to facilities in Orlando and Mayport.

The Navy Blue Angel Air Show took place as scheduled last week at NAS Pensacola.

Senators Rick Scott and Marco Rubio have reignited efforts to open NAS Pensacola, penning a letter to United States Navy Secretary Carlos Del Toro. The issue is that Pensacola's National Naval Aviation Museum has operated under restricted access to the public for nearly three years since a terrorist attack at NAS Pensacola in December 2019. Since the attack, access to base, as well as to the two museums, Fort Barrancas and Blue Angels practices, has been restricted to only Department of Defense cardholders and veterans who possess a Veterans Health Identification Card.

Ms. Kay Rasmussen briefed that recently Governor DeSantis announced that 114 schools in Florida have been designated as Purple Star campuses in recognition of their support for the children of military families. Okaloosa County had thirty-five schools (90% of their district) receive this designation, the highest number of all individual schools in a district. This is a huge accomplishment for all the communities, the districts and the schools that received this designation and their recognition of supporting the military child.

The Tri-County Community Partnership Initiative (TCPI) continues to work with Higher Ground Education who is building two childcare facilities in Crestview and Navarre. These two facilities will accommodate roughly 300 children. Workforce remains an issue, but Higher Ground Education also provides workforce training targeting military spouses and providing certification that spouses can then take with when they move to another location.

The TCPI has a relationship with Building Leaders Institute for Early Learning, a non-profit organization based in South Florida, who provides leadership training for individuals who want careers in the childcare industry. They recently provided two workshops in Okaloosa County targeting military spouses and providing specific training and small business education focused on the childcare arena.

Another issue the TCPI is focused on is Highway 98 congestion and the negative impact on Hurlburt Field. Currently there is a promising initiative underway making progress for an access road that would run parallel with Highway 98.

The Section 5 Clean Energy section of the Inflation Reduction Act removed the protection of the Eastern Gulf Test and Training Range and opens it up for energy development and exploration. This is a huge threat to our national security and our military installations and missions in the State of Florida. The Defense Support Initiatives Committee in Northwest Florida has written multiple letters to key individuals to express their support and stress, the importance of continuing a moratorium to protect the Eastern Gulf Military Range. They have started a campaign reaching out to other individuals, organizations and government officials for resolutions with letters of support to enact a permanent moratorium. There are currently two bills, a House and Senate companion bill, moving through which are focused on preserving the readiness of Florida's military range. This is critical to the State of Florida and national security, and she hopes that many more will jump on board and see this protection be enacted into law.

Mr. Tom Neubauer reported that currently ongoing at Tyndall AFB is the Checkered Flag Exercise which is one of the DoD's largest air-to-air exercises and is designed to integrate 4th- and 5th-generation airframes to enhance mobility and employment capabilities of aviators and maintainers. Among the US Air Force participants are fifth-generation fighter airframes, including F-35A Lightning II and F-22 Raptor; as well as fourth-generation fighter aircraft F-15C Eagles and F-16 Fighting Falcons. The US Navy's F/A-18 Super Hornets along with other tanker aircraft and joint command and control aircraft will also be a part of the exercise.

The unit exercise was done over the 250-square mile range which makes you realize just how important the Gulf Range is to the Department of Defense. There are many initiatives in parallel to try to save the Military Mission Line.

He's looking forward to the TF's visit to Tyndall Air Force Base in March 2024 at which time they'll have jets on the ground as the first four aircraft will arrive in September 2023 with one or two a month following over the next few years. A new \$31 million childcare center is under construction which will accommodate about 300 of Tyndall's children. This building is designed to withstand 160 mile-an-hour winds, as will every building currently under construction.

He recently attended an event in Colorado Springs, bringing copies of the new Military Benefits Guide which was very well received by all of the spouses in attendance. The Air Force has a Five and Thrive Program which covers issues such as childcare, education, healthcare, housing and spousal employment, all of which are addressed in the Guide.

Major General Richard Haddad briefed from AFSOC, Air Force Special Operations Command received its 31st and final AC-130J Ghost Rider, completing the command's transition from the legacy AC-130W, AC-130U and AC-130H fleets. Following a commemoration ceremony at the Lockheed Martin Gunship Modification Facility in Crestview on November 2nd, the final AC-130J was delivered to the 27th Special Operations Wing at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico.

The President has nominated to the Senate the following general officers for appointment to the grade of lieutenant general with assignment as indicated:

LT GEN JAMES C. SLIFE

FROM: Commander, Air Force Special Operations Command, Hurlburt Field, Florida

TO: Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations, Headquarters United States Air Force, Pentagon, Washington, DC

From SOCOM, learning lessons from the Ukraine Russia conflict. One lesson being that the military relationships the US has been cultivating over the past several years are paying off for us and our allies. For years, Ukrainian troops have been trained at the Yavoriv Combat Training Center (CTC) near Lviv. The most recent US soldiers providing the training were part of Task Force Gator. With a name like Task Force Gator, you should not be surprised to find out it was comprised of the Florida Army National Guard's 53rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team.

Avon Park Air Force Range has continued to experience a high ops tempo. In addition to hosting training activities for their regular users such as units out of Homestead, MacDill, Patrick, and Moody, they recently hosted HMHT-302, a CH-53 helicopter training squadron out of Marine Corps Air Station Little River, North Carolina, as well as the Special Operations Terminal Attack Controller Course (SOTACC).

Regarding Mission Sustainment, they continue to face encroachment challenges from the Resort at Canopy Oaks RV Park development. Earlier this year, there had been some positive developments with the landowner withdrawing their application to add mobile homes. Following that, Polk County initiated their own amendment to their comprehensive plan which would have prohibited any additional permanent structures on Canopy Oaks for overnight stays. Unfortunately, the landowner objected to Polk County's amendment and is threatening to sue the county if the amendment is passed. APAFR staff will reach out to Task Force personnel with additional details and to seek an updated FDSTF letter of support.

On a much more positive note, just yesterday APAFR was notified that it was awarded \$5.2M in FY2023 REPI funding for compatible land use and installation resiliency projects within the Range's Military Influence Planning Areas and Sentinel Landscape.

LTC Blake Heidelberg provided remarks, on behalf of **Major General James Eifert**, as a Florida National Guard Update.

MOBILIZATION/DEPLOYMENT UPDATE: The Florida National Guard currently has 237 Servicemembers deployed globally supporting the nation's National Defense Strategy. Additionally, the pipeline continues to grow and over the next year they'll have six additional organizations and 290 service members join that continued mobilization effort.

FLORIDA NATIONAL GUARD SUPPORT FOR HURRICANE NICOLE: Recently the Florida National Guard mobilized over five hundred soldiers and airmen supporting the State's citizens in response to Hurricane Nicole. Efforts included search and rescue, high water vehicles, installation of tiger dams and command and control. They supported ten counties on that, and there was some major devastation along the east coast, and they continue to work the State Logistics Readiness Center supporting those counties. They'll close that out the middle to end of the month.

Major General James Eifert couldn't join today as he's at the Indo-Pacific Command coordinating expansion of the State partnership programs across the Pacific, which is a key to the strategic initiatives for the state.

Colonel Gregg Billman briefed that the Key West community continues to deal with funding issues for the Sigsbee Charter School, which was recently designated a Purple Star campus.

Key West had only minor damage and flooding from hurricanes Ian and Nicole.

He recently attended the startup meeting of DDG 123 USS Lenah H. Sutcliffe Higbee commissioning ceremony which will be held on Saturday, May 13, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. EST at the Port of Key West in Key West Florida. The Lenah Higbee is the first and only military nurse to have a ship named after her.

At the end of November he'll meet with the Commander of the Army Special Forces Underwater Operations School to get input on their encroachment issues. He'll provide information on that meeting in January.

Representative Thad Altman thanked everyone for their kind remarks noting that one of the highlights of his legislative career has been being a part of the TF. He emphasized the excitement on the Space Coast for future launches. Elon Musk recently announced that the operational center for the new starship he's developing in Texas will be launched from the Space Coast. That rocket is twice as powerful as the Saturn V and the launch cadence that he's predicting is mind-boggling, with multiple launches per week.

The Space Force announced that the highly secretive and confidential X-37B Orbital Test Vehicle (OTV) spent 908 days in space, mysteriously appearing and landing recently waking residents with a sonic boom.

Sierra Space delivered a model of its Dream Chaser spaceplane to the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex for the new Gateway exhibit. This model will "fly" over visitors, appearing as if it were in space.

He urged Enterprise Florida and its partners to continue to support the Space Force and work to bring its many assets, programs and operations to Florida.

He noted that his priority in his final years in the Legislature will be focused on encroachment to include land, maritime and airspace encroachment.

Brigadier General Chip Diehl thanked the many distinguished leaders attending today's meeting and their continued support of the TF. He thanked the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC) for their support of the TF and for their program for public schools on military installations as the next school slated to be built in the next NDAA appropriations bill is a middle school on MacDill AFB.

As we continue to focus on encroachment, because of the state's vulnerability to hurricanes, resiliency is also a priority as Florida continues to be proactive on that issue.

Florida Defense Alliance Update

Kellie Jo Kilberg, FDA Chair, reported on events from their meeting the day prior. She thanked TF members **Brigadier General Chip Diehl, Chairman**, and **Major General Richard Haddad** for attending the FDA meeting. The FDA had a full agenda yesterday. They began the meeting with an update about the Tyndall Air Force Base rebuild with best practices to become the base of the future, highlighting building codes and alignment of missions to locations on the base. Next was the update from Space Florida as **Dale Ketcham** shared about the increase in commercial space activities and the future goals regarding Space Force missions. They received the Washington DC update from **Kathleen Ferguson**.

The Family Support Working Group (FSWG) included a panel discussion on the Military Spouse Economic Empowerment Zone, a US Chamber's Foundation Hiring Our Heroes program. Two of the twenty-two nationwide locations are within Florida with one in Tampa and one on the Space Coast. This program is volunteer led and assists military spouses with networking, referrals and connections to business in the community. During their afternoon meeting, **Eric Sherman** provided an update on compacts with the addition of the Teachers' Compact and the Exemption for Childcare licenses if the spouse has been certified by DOD to provide childcare. **Secretary Melanie Griffin** from the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation attended the meeting to learn how her department can assist with implementation of current laws. They discussed how to improve communications when there is confusion regarding implementation. In addition, **Secretary Griffin** will assist the FSWG to connect to other department Secretaries who have oversight of other compacts. There was a presentation highlighting the challenges of Childcare Licensure. They will be adding the Teachers' Compact and Childcare Exemption to their legislative request. The other three are EMS, Psypact, and Audiology, speech, language Compacts. Finally, they had discussions on several challenges being worked for military children enrolled in the Florida Virtual School program and an update on the Heroes to Education program.

The Mission Sustainment Working Group (MSWG) held a panel on Advancing the Florida Range Complex. Panelists included **Major General Rob Polumbo, USAF, (Ret.)**, **Major General Garry Dean, USNG, (Ret.)** and **Admiral Mark Fitzgerald, USN, (Ret.)**. It was an engaging conversation on the importance of the Florida Range Complex and the need to develop a capstone event which will showcase the alignment with national defense. The event will network and enhance military value of our Florida Range Complex and how this will improve military readiness to meet the goals of the National Defense Strategy. The Florida Range Complex / Eastern Gulf Range is the only place for true Pacific deterrence training. Florida can and should lead the way to Advance Live Virtual Constructive training at scale as well testing capabilities for next generation warfare. With Resiliency being a top priority, they currently have three OLDCC (Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation) Military Installation Resiliency Review grants. Communities are partnering with their Regional Planning Councils to coordinate and implement the grants. They are working to add grants for the Central, East Central and Northeast Florida Regional Councils to the South Florida, Tampa and Emerald Coast Regional Planning Councils. They will be holding a Zoom meeting in December with key stakeholders to share best practices and connect stakeholders together for alignment on this key program. Next, they are asking communities to meet with mission executives for input on sustainment needs. Further, looking at updates for encroachment legislation through the missions' lens to include water, underwater and space ranges. The MSWG will continue to engage state universities and state college systems to connect needed talent for the military and defense contractors as well as working the length of time issue to gain security clearances for students looking for employment. This group continues to stay focused on ranges, resiliency and resources for Florida's military and defense communities.

Matrix Design Group Housing Options Study

Charlie Perham and Christian Caron, Matrix Design Group, provided a presentation on Affordable Housing Solutions for Florida's Military Installations. The presentation slides can be found here:

<https://www.enterprise-florida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Presentations-2022.pdf>

45th Space Launch Delta

Colonel Mark Shoemaker provided an overview presentation on the 45th Space Launch Delta at Patrick Space Force Base. The presentation slides can be found here:

<https://www.enterprise-florida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Presentations-2022.pdf>

Space Florida

Dale Ketcham provided an update on Space Florida and the STARCOM basing process. The presentation slides can be found here: <https://www.enterprise-florida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Presentations-2022.pdf>

New Continuing Services Contract Topic Proposals

No new topic proposals were suggested at this meeting.

Military & Defense Update

Terry McCaffrey updated the TF items on which the Staff is currently working.

Please remember, the TF does not meet in December. The next TF meeting is planned for January 19, 2023 and is in-person at Avon Park Air Force Range. Please plan to attend.

The Florida Regional Defense Forum held in coordination with ADC and the Florida Defense Alliance last September in Fort Walton Beach was well attended by many of Florida's military communities. The theme was focused on resilience issues at Florida Installations and defense communities who can target funding from several major federal programs. Their keynote speaker was the **Honorable Edwin H. Oshiba, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Air Force/Energy, Installations and Environment (SAF/IE)**. The forum was attended by over 130 individuals and overall, the conference was praised by both ADC staff and attendees. He hopes that community representatives will apply to fix the issues they have around the installations.

He and **Ray Collins** attended the ADC Installation Innovation Forum in Phoenix, Arizona from October 31st to November 2nd. He sat on two panels: Day 2 "Looking Beyond the DOD Definition of Resilience" and Day 3 "New Strategies to Make Your Community More Military-Friendly". He met with USAF leaders and discussed 3 main items:

- The Education Score card:
- STARCOM / Delta 13 basing decisions
- Gulf Range protections

He is looking at a possible trip to Washington, DC set up by **Kathy Ferguson** of The Roosevelt Group to engage the USAF, DoD and others on the USAF Education Score Card. Please let him know if you are interested in supporting that engagement. Kathy is putting together a list of target offices / principals to consider.

Publication of the 2022-2023 Military Benefits Guide is complete, and copies have been shipped to all installations and communities. The new version is also active on our website for anyone who wants digital access the guide.

<https://www.enterprise-florida.com/wp-content/uploads/Advantage-Florida-Military-Benefits-Guide.pdf>

IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

Robert Katz, World Innovation Network commented that on behalf of all members of the public, citizens and residents of the Space Coast and Florida he thanked **Representative Thad Altman** for his dedicated and diligent service to those serving as an FDSTF member and his continued service as the Executive Director of the Astronauts Memorial Foundation.

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Brigadier General Chip Diehl** asked for a motion to adjourn FDSTF Meeting #109. A motion was made by **Mr. Tom Neubauer**, seconded by **Major General Richard Haddad**, all are in favor and the meeting is adjourned.*

The meeting adjourned at 11:37 AM EST

This meeting can be viewed on The Florida Channel:

<https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/11-17-22-florida-defense-support-task-force/>