



Florida Defense Support Task Force
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FY 2020-2021 Progress Report and
FY 2022-2023 Work Plan

February 1, 2022



Florida Defense Support Task Force
FY 2020-2021 Progress Report and
FY 2022-2023 Work Plan

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Executive Summary

Pursuant to section 288.987, Florida Statutes, the Florida Defense Support Task Force is required to submit an annual progress report and work plan to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives each February 1. This report describes the Task Force's activities in FY 2020-2021 with a work plan that covers FY 2022-2023.

The Task Force was created in 2011 and held its first meeting in January 2012. The Task Force is comprised of 13 members: the Governor (or his designated representative); four members appointed by the Governor; four members appointed by the President of the Senate; and four members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Secretary of the Department of Economic Opportunity (or his designee) serves as the ex officio, nonvoting, Executive Director of the Task Force. The Task Force contracts with the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) for the expenditure of appropriated funds. Enterprise Florida, Inc. (EFI) provides administrative and logistical support for the Task Force.

The mission of the Task Force is to make recommendations to preserve and protect military installations to support the state's position in research and development related to or arising out of military missions and contracting, and to improve the state's military-friendly environment for service members, military dependents, military retirees, and businesses that bring military and base-related jobs to the state. The Task Force continues to engage with national, state, and local leaders to ensure Florida's continued strength and success with respect to its military communities and families.

The Task Force developed a strategic plan to guide its actions in protecting Florida's military installations in April 2012. The plan is updated regularly, most recently in November 2020. The Task Force will update the strategic plan again in 2022.

In state FY 2020-2021, the Task Force received an appropriation of \$2 million to protect, preserve, promote, and grow Florida military installations and missions. A copy of the annual budget is enclosed at Tab 3. During FY 2020-2021 the Task Force awarded nine grants totaling \$1,674,277.

The Task Force met 11 times during FY 2020-2021, both in-person and via Zoom. In-person meetings were held in Panama City (January) and Tallahassee (March and May).

The Task Force published the 2021 Florida Military Friendly Guide in February 2021. This guide contains a summary of the Florida laws that benefit active duty, National Guard and Reserve service members and their families. The guide is distributed throughout the state and to the Florida Congressional delegation.

Acronyms

The acronyms below are used throughout this report and are presented here for ease of reference.

AFB – Air Force Base

AFR – Air Force Range

ARB – Air Reserve Base

DEO – Florida Department of Economic Opportunity

DEP – Florida Department of Environmental Protection

DOD – U.S. Department of Defense

EFI – Enterprise Florida, Inc.

FY – State Fiscal Year

NAS – Naval Air Station

NSA – Naval Support Activity

NS – Naval Station

OLF – Outlying Landing Field

SFB – Space Force Base

SFS – Space Force Station

FLORIDA DEFENSE SUPPORT TASK FORCE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 Progress Report

Governing Florida Statutes

Section 288.987, Florida Statutes, created the Task Force. See Tab 1.

Membership and Appointments

Membership on the Task Force is outlined in section 288.987(3), Florida Statutes. The Task Force is comprised of 13 members: the Governor (or his designated representative); four members appointed by the Governor; four members appointed by the President of the Senate; and four members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Secretary of DEO (or his designee) serves as the ex officio, nonvoting, Executive Director of the Task Force. Task Force members who are members of the legislature may serve until the end of their elected terms and non-legislators may serve a four-year term.

The chair of the Task Force rotates between the Senate appointee and the House of Representatives appointee on July 1 each year. Representative Thad Altman served as the Chairman of the Task Force during FY 2020-2021 and Mr. Tom Neubauer served as the Vice Chair.

At the beginning of the year other Task Force members included RADM Stan Bozin USN (retired), Brig. Gen. Chip Diehl, USAF (retired), Lt. Col. William Dudley, USAF (retired), Maj. Gen. James Eifert, USAF, Adjutant General of Florida, Maj. Gen. Richard Haddad, USAF (retired), Col. Jim Heald, USAF (retired), CAPT Keith Hoskins, USN (retired), Representative Mel Ponder and Senator Tom Wright.

At the beginning of FY 2020-2021 Representative Holly Raschein continued to serve on the Task Force while awaiting reappointment or replacement. In November 2020 her term in the Florida House of Representatives came to an end and her service on the TASK FORCE ended when she left office.

In November 2020 the terms of Representatives Altman and Ponder expired. Representative Altman was reelected to the Florida House of Representatives and was also reappointed as both a member and the Chairman of the Task Force. The Speaker of the House appointed Representative Wyman Duggan to replace Representative Ponder. Also, in November 2020, Lt. Col. Dudley resigned from the TASK FORCE due to health reasons and the President of the Senate appointed the Honorable Thomas Bowman to replace him.

Table 1 shows Task Force membership during FY 2020-2021. See Tab 2 for full details on Task Force membership and staff.

Table 1: Task Force Membership - FY 2020-2021

Florida Defense Support Task Force Members	
Beginning of FY 2020-2021	End of FY 2020-2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rep. Thad Altman – Chair• Mr. Tom Neubauer – Vice Chair• RADM, USN (ret.) Stan Bozin• Brig. Gen., USAF (ret.) Chip Diehl• Lt. Col. William Dudley, USAF (retired)• Maj. Gen., USAF James O. Eifert, TAG – Governor's Representative• Maj. Gen., USAF (ret.) Richard "Beef" Haddad• Col., USAF (ret.) James Heald• CAPT, USN (ret.) Keith Hoskins• Rep. Mel Ponder• Rep. Holly Raschein• Sen. Tom Wright	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rep. Thad Altman – Chair• Mr. Tom Neubauer – Vice Chair• The Honorable Thomas G. Bowman• RADM, USN (ret.) Stan Bozin• Brig. Gen., USAF (ret.) Chip Diehl• Rep. Wyman Duggan• Maj. Gen., USAF James O. Eifert, TAG – Governor's Representative• Maj. Gen., USAF (ret.) Richard "Beef" Haddad• Col., USAF (ret.) James Heald• CAPT, USN (ret.) Keith Hoskins• Sen. Tom Wright

Funding

For FY 2020-2021, the Task Force received \$2 million to preserve and protect military installations to support the state's position in research and development related to or arising out of military missions and contracting, and to improve the state's military-friendly environment for service members, military dependents, military retirees, and businesses that bring military and base-related jobs to the state.

The Task Force contracts with DEO for expenditure of appropriated funds, which may be used by the task force for economic and product research and development, joint planning with host communities to accommodate military missions and prevent base encroachment, advocacy on the state's behalf with federal civilian and military officials, assistance to school districts in providing a smooth transition for large numbers of additional military-related students, job training and placement for military spouses in communities with high proportions of active duty military personnel, and promotion of the state to military and related contractors and employers.

The Task Force may annually spend up to \$250,000 of funds appropriated for Task Force staffing and administrative expenses. EFI provides administrative and logistical support for the Task Force. The FY 2020-2021 budget for the Task Force is set forth at Tab 3.

Task Force Strategic Plan

The Task Force actions are guided by its five-year Strategic Plan. This plan is a living document and evolves in response to unfolding events. This plan is updated regularly. The most recent version of the strategic plan (the FY 2020-2025 version) is posted on the Task Force website. The current version adjusts the Task Force goals to reflect the changing national defense budgets and its impact on Florida's military missions and installations. The Task Force will update this plan again in 2022. The Strategic Plan is set forth at Tab 4. It is also posted on the Task Force website at <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Strategic-Plan-2020-2025.pdf>.

Task Force Meetings

The Task Force met 11 times during FY 2020-2021, both in-person and via Zoom. In-person meetings were held in Panama City (January) and Tallahassee (March and May).

When the Task Force meets in-person in a community near a military base, the Task Force members generally tour the base to learn what Florida can do to help preserve and enhance that base. When the Task Force meets virtually, the Task Force tries to schedule one or more presentations from base commanders to provide updates on their bases.

Table 2 summarizes the focus of each Task Force meeting in FY 2020-2021. Full meeting materials for each meeting, including agenda, presentations and minutes are available on our website at <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/military-defense/florida-defense-support-task/>.

Table 2: Summary of Task Force Meetings - FY 2020-2021

Date	Location	Major Items of Business
July 16, 2020	Conference Call	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Impact of COVID-19 on state basesHQ U.S. Space Command Basing DecisionDEO UpdateDraper Centrifuge ProjectProposed 2021 Military-related legislationGulf Test Range ProtectionMilitary Base Video Series Project
August 20, 2020	Zoom	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Staff report on FY 2020-2021 TASK FORCE grant applicationsApproval of FY 2020-2021 TASK FORCE budget

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dept. of the Air Force Military Quality of Life Survey results • Gulf Test Range Protection • NW Florida Sentinel Landscape Update
October 2, 2020 <i>(Note: Postponed from September 17, 2020 due to Hurricane Sally)</i>	Zoom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hurricane Sally Impact on Panhandle bases • FY 2020-2021 TASK FORCE grant presentations and vote • Dept. of the Air Force Military Quality of Life Survey results follow up • Gulf Test Range Protection • Homestead ARB encroachment threat • Purple Star Schools Program
October 15, 2020	Zoom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow-up questions on Polk County Grant Request • NASA-Military mutual support • Education Update • HARB Encroachment Protection Letter of Support • National Security Innovation Network (NSIN)
November 19, 2020	Zoom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Florida National Guard Update • Florida Department of Transportation Update • Military Base Protection Program Tier Rankings
January 21, 2021	Panama City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSA Panama City Update • Tyndall AFB Update • Florida Programs to Mitigate Encroachment • 2021 Progress Report and Work Plan
February 18, 2021	Zoom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emerging Need Grant Requests • Florida Ethics & Sunshine Law Review • 2021 Legislative Session Preview • 2021 Progress Report and Work Plan
March 18, 2021	Tallahassee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FDVA Update • Veterans Florida Update • Space Florida Toolkit • 2021 Legislative Session Update
April 15, 2021	Zoom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TASK FORCE End of FY 2020-2021 Budget • 2021 Legislative Session Update • TASK FORCE FY 2021-2022 Meeting Schedule
May 7, 2021 <i>(Note: Supplemental, single-agenda item meeting)</i>	Zoom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FDA Range Task Force Proposed Project Presentation
May 20, 2021	Tallahassee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TASK FORCE End of FY 2020-2021 Budget

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY 2020-2021 Grant Presentations and vote • 2021 Legislative Session Update |
|--|--|--|

Activities/Achievements

Task Force's activities and achievements for FY 2020-2021 include:

1. **Grants Awarded:** The Task Force awarded nine grants totaling \$1,674,277 to improve the value of Florida's military installations. The Task Force awarded five of these totaling \$1,250,000 at the beginning of the fiscal year and four more totaling \$424,277 during the second half of the year.

Table 3 contains an overview of the grants awarded by the Task Force. See Tab 6 for more detail. <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/military-defense/funding-contracts-rfps/>

Table 3: Task Force Grants - FY 2020-2021

Grantee	Amount	Purpose
Clay County Development Authority	\$500,000	Buffer Camp Blanding Joint Training Center from incompatible land development
Polk County	\$500,000	Protect Avon Park Air Force Range from encroachment by acquiring a conservation easement to prevent incompatible land use
Orlando Economic Partnership	\$110,000	Support growth and expansion of the Modeling, Simulation, and Training (MS&T) Center
South Florida Progress Foundation	\$70,000	Complete a South Florida focused resilience assessment
Santa Rosa County Board of Directors	\$70,000	Develop and implement a Career Academy Outreach for Military Children
Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council	\$160,000	Fund educational programming, the Northeast Florida Military & Veteran Resources Guide, and a Micro Grant program to strengthen suicide prevention efforts in Northeast Florida
Bay County	\$164,277	Support the ongoing rebuilding of Tyndall Air Force Base
University of West Florida	\$60,000	Develop a comprehensive report capturing the capabilities, and opportunities of the full Florida range complex as well as a strategic marketing plan to publicize the results of that report
South Florida Progress Foundation	\$40,000	An addition to the earlier \$70,000 grant to South Florida Progress Foundation. Adding this \$40,000 to the earlier approved amount enabled South Florida Progress Foundation to obtain Federal Government funding at the rate of \$10 of Federal money for every \$1 of state money.

2. Installation Encroachment Prevention:

Completed Projects

- a. **OLF Whitehouse:** The City of Jacksonville used \$43,749.50 of funds awarded by the Task Force under Grant 20-103, matched with \$97,950 of federal funds (2.24 to 1 ROI), to acquire two encroachment protection easements near OLF Whitehouse. Jacksonville closed on these two easements during November and December 2020 and collectively they protect 11.06 acres around the training site from incompatible development.
- b. **NAS Jacksonville:** The two easement purchases around OLF Whitehouse used only a portion of the funds from Task Force Grant 20-103. In June 2020, the City of Jacksonville used the remaining \$278,750.50, matched with \$1,544,500 of federal funds (5.58 to 1 ROI), to acquire an encroachment protection easement on the Timuquana property next to NAS Jacksonville. That easement protects 35 acres next to the base from incompatible development.
- c. **Avon Park AFR:** The Polk County Commission used \$25,504.50 of funds awarded by the Task Force under Grant 19-101, matched with \$49,957.84 of federal funds and \$20,002.00 of County funds (2.74 to 1 ROI) to acquire an encroachment protection easement near Avon Park AFR. Polk County closed on that easement during April 2021 and this protects 187 acres of the FX Bar Ranch Property next to Avon Park AFR from incompatible development.

Table 4 lists the awards and funds used for encroachment protection successes for FY 2020-2021.

Table 4: Completed Task Force Encroachment Protection Successes - FY 2020-2021

Grant	Recipient	FDSTF Funds	Other Funds	Impact
20-103	City of Jacksonville	\$43,749.50	\$97,950	Protected 11.06 acres around OLF Whitehouse from incompatible development
20-103	City of Jacksonville	\$278,750.50	\$1,544,500	Protected 35 acres next to NAS Jacksonville from incompatible development
19-101	Polk County	\$25,504.50	\$69,959.84	Protected 187 acres next to Avon Park AFR from incompatible development

Ongoing Projects

- a. **Camp Blanding Joint Training Center**: The Task Force awarded \$500,000 to Clay County Development Authority to purchase land or an easement on land around Camp Blanding. The project is expected to be completed in 2022. The Task Force funds will be used to match federal funds provided under the U.S. Army's Compatible Use Buffer Program.
- b. **Avon Park AFR**: Task Force awarded \$500,000 to Polk County to match federal funds provided under the U.S. Department of Defense's Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program. Final terms and conditions plus appraisals are progressing and the project is expected to be completed during 2022.
- c. **Non-Conservation Land Program**: The Task Force continued work with DEO and DEP to acquire "Tier 1" non-conservation buffering lands adjacent to military installations. During the November 2020 meeting the Task Force discussed and rank-ordered the non-conservation lands submitted to DEO by military base commanders across Florida according to priority, then submitted this list to DEO for potential action under the Military Base Protection Program.
- d. **Florida Rock**: The Task Force remained engaged in efforts to acquire the northern 10 acres of the Florida Rock property. Task Force members and staff continued to work with state and local leaders to try to develop a solution to this issue that is mutually acceptable to the property owners and the base.
- e. **Gulf of Mexico Test & Training Range / Military Mission Line**: The Task Force continued to advocate for an extension of the moratorium on oil exploration and drilling east of the Military Mission Line by extending the moratorium, established in the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act, beyond 2022. Task Force advocacy and engagement on this issue was part of the effort by many groups and individuals that contributed to President Trump signing an Executive Order on September 8, 2020 that extended the drilling moratorium until June 30, 2032. The Task Force continues to seek permanent protection for the range and in pursuit of that goal produced and supplied Military and Defense informational publications, letters and briefs to Congressional delegation members on Florida defense issues relevant in Washington DC as well as to chairs and members of the Florida state legislative committees that deal with military and veterans' affairs. The Task Force also completed work on a video explaining the unique contributions of the range and posted it on YouTube at the following URL.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HJW-i9Kiw5w&list=PL4tzf6xwmUB2W6KI2Lrsw1Z7HntxJJPkP&index=9>

3. **New DOD Force Structure in Florida:** The branches of the armed services continue to shift and change the military missions at bases in Florida.

- a. **NAS Pensacola:** In July 2020 the U.S. Coast Guard reassigned the Cutter Diligence to NAS Pensacola and in March 2021 the Cutter Walnut was reassigned there raising the total complement of cutters based in Pensacola to five.
- b. **NAS Whiting Field:** Leonardo broke ground in August 2020 on a helicopter maintenance facility at Milton Aviation Park adjacent to NAS Whiting Field. This maintenance facility will reduce downtime for maintenance of the helicopters used for flight training at NAS Whiting Field and provide employment for 50 local workers.
- c. **NS Mayport:** In September 2020 the USS Delbert Black (DDG 119) was commissioned into the U.S. Navy and assigned to NS Mayport. USS Fort McHenry (LSD-43), USS Shamal (PC 13), USS Zephyr (PC 8) and USS Tornado (PC 14) were all decommissioned in 2021 to create space for new ships to be based at Mayport.
- d. **Florida ANG:** In August 2020 the U.S. Air Force announced the decision to transition the F-15 Eagles of the Florida Air National Guard to F-35 Lightning IIs. Also in August 2020, the U.S. Air Force expanded the Florida ANG's CV-22 Osprey Tiltrotor Detachment based at Hurlburt Field from a Detachment to a full Squadron and redesignated it the 249th Special Operations Squadron.
- e. **Tyndall AFB:** In March 2021 the U.S. Air Force published the Memorandum of Decision to station three squadrons of F-35 Lightning IIs at Tyndall AFB, with the first scheduled to arrive in 2023.
- f. **Eglin AFB:** The U.S. Air Force's first two F-15EX Eagle IIs were based at Eglin AFB in March and April 2021. In June 2021 the U.S. Air Force stood up the 350th Spectrum Warfare Wing at Eglin, the first such unit to be created in the Air Force.
- g. **MacDill AFB:** The U.S. Air Force announced MacDill AFB as one of two bases under consideration to receive 24 KC-46 Pegasus tankers. The final decision from the Air Force is expected in FY 2021-2022.
- h. **U.S. Space Force:** In December 2020, both Patrick Air Force Base and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station were reassigned to the U.S. Space Force and renamed Patrick Space Force Base and Cape Canaveral Space Force Station.

4. Military and Defense Engagement: The Task Force supports actions that continue to strengthen and support the resiliency of our vibrant Florida military communities. The Task Force engages with members of the Florida Legislature, Florida's Congressional delegation, and top DOD leaders to promote Florida and its communities.

- a. The Task Force engaged with national leaders to extend the drilling moratorium in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico permanent and protecting the Gulf Test & Training Range. This successful engagement resulted in an Executive Order extending the moratorium until June 30, 2032. The Task Force continues to support legislation that would make this moratorium permanent.
- b. Hurricane Michael had a devastating impact on north Florida. The Task Force has been working with local, state, and federal officials to ensure that the rebuilding efforts for Tyndall AFB remain on track.
- c. The Task Force continues to push for new and expanded military missions in the state, including upgrading equipment to bring F-35's to Tyndall AFB, the Florida ANG, and Homestead ARB; replacement tankers for the KC-135s at MacDill AFB; and obtaining additional ships for NS Mayport and NAS Pensacola.
- d. Throughout the year, the Task Force tracked and provided input on numerous pieces of federal legislation being developed for the annual National Defense Authorization Act and Federal Appropriations.
- e. The Task Force sponsored and initiated production of a coordinated public education campaign to emphasize the value of Florida bases and ranges plus their interconnected nature. A major component of this in FY 2020-2021 was the production of a series of videos showcasing the contributions of each of the military bases in Florida and a few topics of special note related to the military in Florida. Nearly all the videos are complete and available at the following URL.
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL4tzf6xwmUB2W6KI2Lrsw1Z7HntxJJPkP>
- f. The Department of the Air Force released its first Military Family Quality of Life Study results in August 2020. That study ranked Florida near the bottom of the list in both public education and license portability. The Task Force quickly engaged with the Department of the Air Force discovered that outdated information was used to assess Florida's spousal licensing reciprocity system. The Task Force achieved a great outcome, and the Department of the Air Force quickly changed their assessment of Florida on these criteria from near the bottom of all states to one of the best in the

country. The Task Force – with its partners the Florida Department of Education and the Association of Defense Communities – continues to engage the Department of the Air Force regarding the public education component of the study.

- g. In July 2020 the Task Force learned that the Draper Corporation wanted to build a replacement for a 70-year-old centrifuge in Massachusetts and relocate it to Florida's Space Coast. This centrifuge is a unique system that can accurately measure and test guidance and navigation systems for rockets used by commercial and military organizations. Draper approached the Task Force requesting a letter of support to the U.S. government backing their request for federal funding for this project. The Task Force drafted and submitted such a letter which could help to bring to Florida a facility that would provide a critical testing facility for the U.S. military, commercial firms large and small, and a research tool for our state's universities.
- h. During the first half of FY 2020-2021 the Department of the Air Force used their Strategic Basing Process to select a permanent location for the headquarters of the newly established U.S. Space Command (USPACECOM). The Task Force continues to work with these communities in their efforts to get these new space missions brought to Florida.
- i. The Task Force remained engaged in advocating for the rebuilding of Tyndall AFB throughout FY 2020-2021. In August 2020 the Task Force submitted a letter of support for the rebuilding of Tyndall AFB as part of the Environmental Impact Analysis of the rebuild and proposed stationing of F-35s at the base. This was one of numerous elements of effort by entities across Florida that contributed to the final U.S. Air Force decision in March 2021 to base three squadrons of F-35s at Tyndall once the rebuilding effort is complete.
- j. Throughout the year the Task Force engaged with numerous entities expressing the concern of the local communities regarding issues ranging from encroachment to ensuring adequate funding for Florida bases to the replacement of aging equipment used by units based in Florida. In October 2020, the Task Force intervened on behalf of Homestead ARB regarding a proposed zoning decision that could adversely impact Homestead ARB. The proposed decision would have permitted the construction of a residential units in Accident Potential Zone 1 adjacent to the base. The letter explained the risks to the community of allowing such construction and the economic benefits to the community that come from the base and its mission. Task Force members and staff also attended a virtual meeting of the City Council on November 4, 2020 during which the council debated this issue.

5. **Task Force Web Presence:** The Task Force continues to maintain a website to disseminate military and defense-related information and continues distribution of weekly updates to keep members current on events and activities impacting Florida's military installations available at [www.enterpriseflorida.com/Task Force](http://www.enterpriseflorida.com/Task%20Force).
6. **Military Friendly Programs:** The Task Force published and distributed the 2021 Florida Military Friendly Guide summarizing programs and benefits for active duty, National Guard and Reserve service members and families. An electronic, searchable version of the guide is available for download on the Task Force web site at <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/Florida-Military-Friendly-Guide.pdf>. See Tab 5.

State Legislative Issues

The following laws impacting the Task Force or Florida's military families and communities were signed into law by Governor Ron DeSantis, and became law after the 2021 Legislative Session:

School Choice (F.S. 1002.394)

This law provides more education opportunities for children from low-income families and students with unique abilities. The law expands eligibility for low-income students, and prioritizes military, foster, and adopted students. The law empowers military families to maximize their school choice options by exempting the dependents of United States Armed Forces members from any limitations of waitlists or maximum scholarship program enrollment.

Purple Star Campuses (F.S. 1003.051)

This law requires the Florida Department of Education to establish a Purple Star Campus Program; specifies program criteria for participating schools; authorizes schools to partner with school districts to meet criteria. The Purple Star program's purpose is to help schools respond to the educational and social-emotional challenges military-connected children face during their transition to a new school and keep them on track to be college, workforce, and life-ready.

Veterans Employment and Training (F.S. 295.22)

This law directs Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., to serve as the state's principal assistance organization under DOD's SkillBridge program; prescribes duties of corporation to facilitate administration of SkillBridge program. The DOD's SkillBridge program is an opportunity for Service members to gain valuable civilian work experience through specific industry training, apprenticeships, or internships during the last 180 days of service. SkillBridge connects Service members with industry partners in real-world job experiences.

Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience (F.S. 380.093)

This law establishes the Resilient Florida Grants Program within DEP. The law requires DEP to complete a comprehensive flood vulnerability and sea level rise data set and assessment; develop an annual statewide flooding and sea level rise resilience plan and submit the plan to the Governor/Legislature; and implement a scoring system for assessing projects for inclusion in the plan. A vulnerability assessment conducted pursuant to the bill must encompass the entire county or municipality, and include all critical assets, including military installations, as defined in the bill.

Executive branch agency-specific exemptions from inspection or copying of public records (F.S. 119.0712)

This law provides an exemption from public records requirements for information held by Department of Military Affairs stored in United States Department of Defense system of records, transmitted using United States Department of Defense network or communications device, or pertaining to United States Department of Defense; provides certain information may be disclosed only in accordance with federal & state laws.

Task Force Grant Program Funding and Application Process

The Task Force funds local initiatives that can be leveraged to promote, preserve, or enhance military missions and installations in Florida. Awards must support the mission of the Task Force and support the Task Force's goals as stated in the Task Force's Strategic Plan.

The applicant must submit an application along with a budget and plan of action. When scheduled, the applicant will present the project proposal to the full Task Force for review and consideration. Approval requires a majority vote of eligible Task Force members. State legislators are not eligible to vote on such matters.

Since the Task Force Grant Program began in 2012, the Task Force has awarded 70 grants worth over \$16.23 million to strengthen military installations and prevent encroachment. For progress of Task Force grants, see Tab 7.

For the FY 2020-2021 grant cycle, the Task Force received six applications and considered five of them based on merit and potential. The Task Force awarded these five applicants a total of \$1,250,000. During the year the Task Force received four Out-of-Cycle grant applications requesting a total of \$470,804.00 and considered each on the basis of merit and potential. The Task Force awarded these applicants grants totaling \$424,277 bringing the grand total of grants awarded by the Task Force during FY 2020-2021 to \$1,674,277.00. The Task Force Grant program details are available for review at <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/military-defense/funding-contracts-rfps/>.

TASK FORCE FY 2022-2023 Work Plan

Section 288.987, Florida Statutes, requires the Task Force to submit a work plan (along with the Annual Progress Report) to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives each February 1. This work plan covers FY 2022-2023.

During FY 2022-2023, the Task Force will work with the Florida Congressional delegation, state government, and local defense communities to advocate for and promote Florida, based on the Task Force Strategic Plan. Additionally, the Task Force will consider annual rounds of funding initiatives to assist in supporting and protecting military installations.

The Task Force plans to conduct six in-person meetings and four virtual meetings during FY 2022-2023. The meeting schedule will alternate between in-person and virtual format and are expected to occur on the third Thursday of every month. There will be no scheduled meetings in December 2022 or June 2023. When possible, meetings will be held in various locations around the state and may include base visits.

First Quarter FY 2022-2023

July – September 2022

- **July 21:** The Task Force will conduct an in-person meeting in Pensacola with a visit to NAS Pensacola.
- **August 18:** The Task Force will conduct a meeting via Zoom.
 - The Task Force will publish a new version of the Florida Military Benefits Guide and distributes it statewide.
 - The Task Force may open the FY 2023-2024 Grant Application window to determine needs from the defense community.
- **September 15:** The Task Force will conduct an in-person meeting in Key West with a visit to the U.S. Army Dive School.

Second Quarter FY 2022-2023

October – December 2022

- **October 20:** The Task Force conducts a meeting via Zoom.
- **November 17:** The Task Force will conduct an in-person meeting in Cocoa Beach in conjunction with a Florida Defense Alliance meeting on November 16 and a Task Force visit to Cape Canaveral SFS.
 - The Task Force will evaluate the Non-Conservation Land Encroachment threats submitted to DEO by the Florida military base commanders under the Military Base Protection Program (F.S. 288.980(2)(b) and 163.3175), rank them by tiers according to their urgency for action, and submits the tiered list to DEO for potential state action.

Third Quarter FY 2022-2023

January – March 2023

- **January 19:** The Task Force will conduct an in-person meeting in Avon Park with a visit to Avon Park AFR.
 - The Task Force will review and approve the Progress Report and Work Plan for submission to the Governor and Legislature.
 - The Task Force will coordinate with other state agencies on activities to prevent installation encroachment, improve transportation access, and enhance energy efficiency on military installations.
- **February 1:** The Task Force will submit the Progress Report and Work Plan to the Governor and Legislature.
- **February 16:** The Task Force will conduct a meeting via Zoom.
 - The Task Force will conduct required Public Records and Ethics training.
- **March 16:** The Task Force will conduct an in-person meeting in Tallahassee.
 - The Task Force will coordinate with other state agencies on activities to prevent installation encroachment, improve transportation access, and enhance energy efficiency on military installations.

Fourth Quarter FY 2022-2023

April – June 2023

- **April 20:** The Task Force conducts a meeting via Zoom.
- **May 18:** The Task Force will conduct an in-person meeting in Tallahassee in conjunction with a Florida Defense Alliance meeting on May 17.
 - The Task Force will review and consider annual grant requests for financial resource support to enhance local efforts to protect military installations.
 - The Task Force will review and monitor progress on federal, state and local military and defense issues, and make recommendations to the Governor and Legislature.
 - The Task Force will update the Florida Military Friendly Guide to include successful military-related legislation passed during the 2021 session.
 - The Task Force will review and update the Strategic Plan as required.
 - The Task Force will develop the budget for Third Quarter (New FY) implementation.

TAB 1

Governing Statutes

Governing Statutes – Florida Statute 288.987

288.987 Florida Defense Support Task Force.—

- (1) The Florida Defense Support Task Force is created.
- (2) The mission of the task force is to make recommendations to preserve and protect military installations to support the state's position in research and development related to or arising out of military missions and contracting, and to improve the state's military-friendly environment for service members, military dependents, military retirees, and businesses that bring military and base-related jobs to the state.
- (3) The task force shall be comprised of the Governor or his or her designee, and 12 members appointed as follows:
 - (a) Four members appointed by the Governor.
 - (b) Four members appointed by the President of the Senate.
 - (c) Four members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
 - (d) Appointed members must represent defense-related industries or communities that host military bases and installations. All appointments must be made by August 1, 2011. Members shall serve for a term of 4 years, with the first term ending July 1, 2015. However, if members of the Legislature are appointed to the task force, those members shall serve until the expiration of their legislative term and may be reappointed once. A vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term in the same manner as the initial appointment. All members of the council are eligible for reappointment. A member who serves in the Legislature may participate in all task force activities but may only vote on matters that are advisory.
- (4) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall each designate one of their appointees to serve as chair of the task force. The chair shall rotate each July 1. The appointee designated by the President of the Senate shall serve as initial chair. If the Governor, instead of his or her designee, participates in the activities of the task force, then the Governor shall serve as chair.
- (5) The executive director of the Department of Economic Opportunity, or his or her designee, shall serve as the ex officio, nonvoting executive director of the task force.
- (6) The task force shall submit an annual progress report and work plan to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives each February 1.
- (7) The department shall contract with the task force for expenditure of appropriated funds, which may be used by the task force for economic and product research and development, joint planning with host communities to accommodate military missions and prevent base encroachment, advocacy on the state's behalf with federal civilian and military officials, assistance to school districts in providing a smooth transition for large numbers of additional military-related students, job training and placement for military spouses in communities with high proportions of active duty military personnel, and promotion of the state to military and related contractors and employers. The task force may annually spend up to \$250,000 of funds appropriated to the department for the task force for staffing and administrative expenses of the task force, including travel and per diem costs incurred by task force members who are not otherwise eligible for state reimbursement.

History.—s. 38, ch. 2011-76; s. 47, ch. 2012-96; s. 7, ch. 2012-98; s. 11, ch. 2012-159; s. 9, ch. 2014-218.

1Note.—Section 35, ch. 2011-76, provides that:

- “(1) The executive director of the Department of Revenue is authorized, and all conditions are deemed met, to adopt emergency rules under ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54(4), Florida Statutes, for the purpose of implementing this act.
- “(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, such emergency rules shall remain in effect for 6 months after the date adopted and may be renewed during the pendency of procedures to adopt permanent rules addressing the subject of the emergency rules.”

Governing Statutes – Florida Statute 288.985

288.985 Exemptions from public records and public meetings requirements.—

- (1) The following records held by the Florida Defense Support Task Force are exempt from s.119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution:
 - (a) That portion of a record which relates to strengths and weaknesses of military installations or military missions in this state relative to the selection criteria for the realignment and closure of military bases and missions under any United States Department of Defense base realignment and closure process.
 - (b) That portion of a record which relates to strengths and weaknesses of military installations or military missions in other states or territories and the vulnerability of such installations or missions to base realignment or closure under the United States Department of Defense base realignment and closure process, and any agreements or proposals to relocate or realign military units and missions from other states or territories.
 - (c) That portion of a record which relates to the state's strategy to retain its military bases during any United States Department of Defense base realignment and closure process and any agreements or proposals to relocate or realign military units and missions.
- (2) (a) Meetings or portions of meetings of the Florida Defense Support Task Force, or a workgroup of the task force, at which records are presented or discussed that are exempt under subsection (1) are exempt from s. 286.011 and s. 24(b), Art. I of the State Constitution.
(b) Any records generated during those portions of meetings that are exempt under paragraph (a) are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

History.—s. 1, ch. 2009-156; s. 6, ch. 2012-98; s. 10, ch. 2012-159; s. 1, ch. 2014-185.

TAB 2

Members of the Task Force and Staff

Membership of the Task Force and Staff as of June 30, 2021

Governor Appointees

- Rear Admiral Stan Bozin, U.S. Navy, Retired
- Captain Keith Hoskins, U.S. Navy, Retired
- Major General James O. Eifert, U.S. Air Force, the Adjutant General of Florida, as his designated representative

Senate President Appointees

- Major General Richard Haddad, U.S. Air Force, Retired (*Maj. Gen. Haddad's first term on the FDSTF expired in April 2021 and he was reappointed to the FDSTF for a second term by President Simpson.*)
- Mr. Tom Neubauer
- Senator Tom Wright
- The Honorable Tom Bowman (*Lt. Col. William Dudley served on the FDSTF until forced to resign in October 2020 due to health reasons. President Simpson appointed Mr. Bowman to replace him in May 2021.*)

House Speaker Appointees

- Representative Thad Altman (*Rep. Altman's first term on FDSTF expired on November 3, 2020 when his term in the House of Representatives ended. He was reelected to the House and reappointed to the FDSTF by Speaker Sprowls.*)
- Brigadier General Arthur F. Diehl, III, U.S. Air Force, Retired
- Representative Wyman Duggan (*Rep. Mel Ponder served on the FDSTF until his term in the House ended on November 3, 2020. He did not run for reelection and Speaker Sprowls appointed Rep. Wyman Duggan to replace him.*)
- Colonel Jim Heald, U.S. Air Force, Retired

The total number of appointees to the Task Force on June 30, 2021 was 11.

The support staff for the Florida Defense Support Task Force

- Terry McCaffrey, Vice President, Military & Defense Programs, Enterprise Florida (*Beth Medina served as the Vice President, Military & Defense Programs, Enterprise Florida until March 2021. Terry McCaffrey replaced her in May 2021.*)
- Ray Collins, Executive Director, Florida Defense Support Task Force
- Michelle Griggs, Executive Assistant & Grants Manager, Enterprise Florida (*Marcy Sanders served as the FDSTF Grants Manager until December 2020 when she departed EFI for a new position. Michelle Griggs replaced her in this role at that time.*)
- Chad Corriveau, Communications and Research Specialist (*Chad Corriveau joined Enterprise Florida and took this newly created position in March 2021.*)

TAB 3

Task Force Annual

Budget for

FY 2020-2021

Florida Defense Support Task Force Annual Budget for FY 2020-2021
(as of: June 17, 2021)

	<u>FY 2020/2021</u>
Revenues	
Program Revenues	
Program Appropriation	1,750,000.00
Total Program Revenues	1,750,000.00
Administrative Revenues	
Administrative Appropriation	250,000.00
Total Administrative Revenues	250,000.00
	Encumbered
	Remaining
	Actual/Expended
Expenses	
Program Expenses	
Analyses and Studies	27,500.00
<i>DTF 20-247 Matrix Design Group</i>	27,500.00
1Task Force Board Meetings	15,000.00
<i>Military Friendly Guide</i>	9,500.00
<i>Out-of-Cycle Activities</i>	448,000.00
<i>DTF 21-105 NE Florida Fire Watch</i>	160,000.00
<i>DTF 21-106 Bay County BOCC</i>	164,277.00
<i>Gulf Range 3D Model Project</i>	34,950.00
<i>DTF 21-107 University of West Florida</i>	60,000.00
Local Grant Program	1,290,000.00
<i>DTF 21-100 Clay County Development Authority</i>	500,000.00
<i>DTF 21-101 Polk County Board of County Commissioners</i>	500,000.00
<i>DTF 21-102 Orlando Economic Partnership</i>	110,000.00
<i>DTF 21-103 Santa Rosa Board of County Commissioners</i>	70,000.00
<i>DTF 21-104 South Florida Progress Foundation</i>	110,000.00
Total Program Expenses	1,790,000.00
	193,913.18
	469,655.68
Administrative Expenses	
² Staff Salaries & Benefits	185,000.00
³ Task Force Travel and Per Diem	12,000.00
FDA Travel and Per Diem	0.00
Total Administrative Expenses	197,000.00
	68,503.72
	128,496.28
Total Expenses	1,987,000.00
	13,000.00
	598,151.96

Footnotes:

1

Line includes venue expenses, A/V contractor and other meeting costs as required for approximately eight meetings.

2 Line for two salaried staff. (Executive Director and Grants Manager)

3 Line includes travel and per diem for the approximately eight board meetings.

TAB 4

Current Strategic Plan

[https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-
content/uploads/FDSTF-Strategic-Plan-2020-2025.pdf](https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Strategic-Plan-2020-2025.pdf)



Florida

Defense Support Task Force

Strategic Plan

2020 – 2025

November 1, 2020

Enterprise Florida, Inc.
101 North Monroe St. Suite 1000
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 878-4578



Background

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

Florida's military installations exist for, and are located where they can best support, U.S. national security and defense efforts. Florida must support and enhance the military value of its installations not only for the state and Floridians but also for the nation and all citizens. The FDSTF must focus on the current national environment, strategies and objectives to provide the best recommendations on how the state can protect and improve the military value of these bases and improve quality of life for the personnel and their families who serve on them.

Florida's Strategic Focus

In March of 2019, Governor DeSantis shared his strategic focus for Florida's military and defense support organizations.

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

Governor's Goals (GG):

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

Governor's Priority Activities (GPA):

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

FDSTF Mission

As established in F.S. 288.987(2), the mission of the Florida Defense Support Task Force is..."to make recommendations to preserve and protect military installations, to support the state's position in research and development related to or arising out of military missions and contracting, and to improve the state's military-friendly environment for service members, military dependents, military retirees, and businesses that bring military and base-related jobs to the state."

FDSTF Vision

Florida is nationally acknowledged as the most military-friendly state, providing the most advantageous and positive environment for military installations, defense industries, personnel, families and veterans.

FDSTF Goals / Objectives / Activities

The layout below reflects the following structure:

#. Goal

#.# Objective

#.## Activity

These are linked to the Governor's Goals and the Task Force Mission as cited above.

1. Obtain results which are mutually beneficial to Florida and the defense community through successful advocacy efforts.

1.1 Promote Florida as best and most cost-effective solution for DoD.

1.1.1 Actively advocate with senior national level government officials for new missions and new technology.

1.1.2 Inform DoD leaders of Florida installations' capacity to absorb future growth.

1.2 Advocate for favorable resolution of military and defense issues.

1.2.1 Provide and maintain a plan for active and effective engagement and outreach for military and homeland defense missions and facilities located in Florida including the US Coast Guard.

1.2.2 Identify, prioritize and address current and potential base and range encroachment, compatible development, resiliency and mission sustainment issues including, airspace, environmental, energy, frequency spectrum, land and water use compatibility using Military Base Protection Program (MBPP) land acquisition, Rural and Family Lands Protection Program, Florida Forever DoD Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) and Sentinel Landscape, along with other state and federal mitigation resources.

1.2.2.1 Rank order MBPP land acquisition & easement requests

- 1.2.2.2 Use TF Grants to protect bases from encroachment and support DoD REPI Partnerships.
- 1.2.3 Support installations in solving other encroachment issues such as lighting, noise, and cyber or nontraditional and emerging encroachment challenges such as civil use of drones near military installations.
- 1.2.4 Protect and expand Florida military base operational buffer funding for DIG, FDSTF, FF, REPI, operational & conservation buffering grants.
- 1.2.5 Work to ensure FL avoids all negative mission impacts from oceanic and terrestrial oil/gas/renewable energy development.
- 1.2.6 Continue to advocate for full funding of the DoD's Gulf Range Enhancement program.
- 1.2.7 Complete implementation of the Compatible Use Plans (formerly known as "Joint Land Use Studies" – JLUS) at all Florida military installations that have conducted them.
- 1.2.8 Engage with state leadership to ensure National Guard facility maintenance and repair are properly funded

2. Proactively posture Florida to help DoD to find efficiencies and synergies.

- 2.1 Sensitize decision makers to the value of employing all Florida Ranges, including the National Center for Simulation, as one integrated complex to achieve optimal value for DoD by fully integrating both live and simulated test and training activities.
 - 2.1.1 Regularly contact key Defense RDT&E leaders and staff in person and via telecommunications
- 2.2 Champion and continue legacy of Florida's warmth, embrace and respect for military family quality of life; improve it how and when possible.
 - 2.2.1 Through state legislation and other state programs, address military family quality of life issues that significantly impact service member retention, such as:
 - 2.2.1.1 License reciprocity
 - 2.2.1.2 Job portability, Spousal employment
 - 2.2.1.3 Entrepreneurship
 - 2.2.1.4 Quality of Military Family Member education
 - 2.2.1.5 Housing
 - 2.2.1.6 Healthcare
 - 2.2.1.7 Transition

- 2.2.2 Advertise Florida benefits for military personnel, veterans and family members in Florida Military Friendly Guide.
 - 2.2.2.1 Investigate best media for reaching additional populations; format and communicate information as appropriate
 - 2.2.2.2 Create one, state-wide, joint web site that consolidates Florida military & veteran friendly initiatives in a single location
- 2.2.3 Publicize the Florida Military and Defense Economic Impact Study and the Florida Defense Factbook more widely emphasizing the economic stability provided by the defense sector.
 - 2.2.3.1 Mobilize local networks through FDA and EDCs to educate electorate and decision makers about economic benefits of military and defense to Florida.
 - 2.2.3.2 Engage media outlets to present story of Florida's military friendly environment and benefits to Florida of military and defense.
- 2.2.4 Assist the Governor's office and state agencies in supporting Florida's military installations, organizations and activities as identified through the base commanders meetings.
 - 2.2.4.1 Increase coordination with the service Installation Management Commands to identify base requirements to which state can respond.
- 2.2.5 Work with military installations to identify ways to help improve resiliency through off-base and joint-use critical infrastructure projects.
 - 2.2.5.1 With DEO, increase awareness of Defense Community Infrastructure Program, assist with proposal development, matching funds as appropriate and feasible.
- 2.3 Lower installations' costs of doing business through public-private partnerships.
 - 2.3.1 Assist in identifying for communities, opportunities for Community Partnerships with local bases
- 2.4 Enhance Florida Congressional Delegation (CODEL) efforts to coordinate defense and security initiatives.
 - 2.4.1 Monitor actions and potential actions within the DOD and in Congress that could affect Florida's military presence and take appropriate action to encourage maintenance and growth of the military presence in Florida.
 - 2.4.2 Encourage Florida CODEL members to participate in Defense-related caucuses

- 2.5 Synchronize common goals between local military Research & Development (R&D) efforts and adjacent academic institutions.
- 2.5.1 Link Central Florida's modeling and simulation community to Florida's 20 major military installations and defense businesses through the establishment and maintenance of Tech Bridges.
- 2.5.2 Promote Florida as a leading center in development and advancement of cyber education and industry. Link universities and military in cyber efforts.
- 2.5.3 Promote, protect, and grow the Manufacturing, Science & Technology (MS&T) partnerships with military, industry, and academia throughout Florida emphasizing innovation, high tech nature of the work, and high salary jobs.
- 2.5.4 Advocate for and support the efforts to grow the medical simulations domain as a Center of Medical Simulations in Florida. Assist Team Orlando members to strengthen collaboration with the Veteran Administration's medical simulation activities.
- 2.5.5 Expand the MS&T medical simulation benefits into Family wellness and Medical professional training.
- 2.5.6 Develop a plan to scale medical modeling & simulation from proof of concept efforts to mass training programs
- 2.5.7 Support expanded MS&T education at all levels of education from middle school through graduate school.
- 2.6 Increase existing missions and add compatible missions that fit with the capacity and infrastructure of the installation.
- 2.6.1 Support bases' efforts in dealing with environmental issues, resiliency and "Green" initiatives

3. Foster and strengthen mutually beneficial communication and relationships between state, installation and community

- 3.1 Inform Decision Makers & Public.
- 3.1.1 Coordinate a unified consistent message of TF members, executive and legislative branches of Florida government, congressional members and defense communities.
- 3.1.2 Share relevant information to communities both directly and through the Florida Defense Alliance.

- 3.1.3 Share relevant information with defense associated groups that impact Florida
- 3.1.4 Identify, document and publicize the military value of Florida installations in the Florida Defense Factbook using core DoD criteria and the results of previous data calls.
- 3.1.5 Continue to strengthen defense-related working relationships with all following state agencies:
 - 3.1.5.1 The Department of Veterans Affairs
 - 3.1.5.2 The Department of Economic Opportunity
 - 3.1.5.3 The Department of Environmental Protection
 - 3.1.5.4 The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Energy Office
 - 3.1.5.5 The Department of Military Affairs
 - 3.1.5.6 The Department of Business and Professional Regulation
 - 3.1.5.7 The Department of Education
 - 3.1.5.8 The Department of Transportation
 - 3.1.5.9 CareerSource Florida.

Florida Defense Support Task Force: Vision, Goals & Objectives 2020-2025, slide 1 of 5

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Vision

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

FDSTF Vision: Florida is nationally acknowledged as the most military-friendly state in the nation, providing the most advantageous and positive environment for military installations, defense industries, personnel, families and veterans.

Mission

FDSTF Mission (F.S. 288.987):

- To make recommendations to preserve and protect military installations and missions;
- To support the state's position in research and development related to or arising out of military missions and contracting;
- To improve the state's military friendly environment for service members, military dependents, military retirees and businesses that bring military and base-related jobs to the state.

Goals

Governor's Goals (GG):

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

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

- 1 Obtain results which are mutually beneficial to Florida and the defense community through successful advocacy efforts; **GG1, 2**
2 Proactively posture Florida to help DoD to find efficiencies and synergies; **GG2**
3 Foster and strengthen mutually beneficial communication and relationships between state, installation and community; **GG1,2,3**

Objective/Activities

Governor's Priority Activities (GPA):

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

FDSTF Objectives:

- 1.1 Promote Florida as best and most cost-effective solution for DoD;
- 1.2 Advocate for favorable resolution of military and defense issues;
- 2.1 Share value of Florida's interconnected Range Complex;
- 2.2 Champion Florida's legacy of providing QOL for military families;
- 2.3 Lower installations' costs through public-private partnerships;
- 2.4 Enhance FL CODEL efforts to coordinate defense and national security initiatives;
- 2.5 Synchronize common goals between military, R&D and academic institutions;
- 2.6 Increase compatible missions assigned to Florida installations;
- 3.1 Inform Decision Makers & Public

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SUPPLEMENTARY AND REFERENCE INFORMATION

FDSTF Composition

Per F.S. 288.987(3), The task force shall be comprised of the Governor or his or her designee, and 12 members appointed as follows:

- (a) Four members appointed by the Governor.
- (b) Four members appointed by the President of the Senate.
- (c) Four members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Appointed members must represent defense-related industries or communities that host military bases and installations. Members shall serve for a term of 4 years. If members of the Legislature are appointed to the task force, those members shall serve until the expiration of their legislative term and may be reappointed once.

Task Force Membership as of November 1, 2020 was:

Governor's Appointees:

Rear Admiral Stanley Bozin, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
Captain Keith Hoskins, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
Representative Holly Raschein
Major General James Eifert, U.S. Air Force, The Adjutant General of Florida (*Governor's personal representative*)

President of the Senate Appointees:

Senator Tom Wright
Mr. Tom Neubauer (*Vice Chairman*)
Major General Richard Haddad, U.S. Air Force (Ret.)

Speaker of the House Appointees:

Representative Thad Altman (*Chairman*)
Brigadier General Arthur "Chip" Diehl III, U.S. Air Force (Ret.)
Colonel Jim Heald, U.S. Air Force (Ret.)
Representative Mel Ponder

Annex A – Base Specific Objectives and Activities

This annex describes the objectives and activities of the Task Force that relate to a specific military base or group of related bases.

Naval Air Station Pensacola –

- Attract cyber domain commercial entities for community co-location.
- Advocate for unfunded construction addressing base access control, repairs to airfield hangers and NATTC dormitories.
- Establish a system to enhance air space management in Northwest Florida with guidance aimed at future growth in flight activity.
- Support the purchase of land and/or development rights of the parcels under the flight traffic pattern to prevent future encroachment issues.
- Continue initiatives with Navy to secure public access to National Cemetery, National Museum of Naval Aviation, Fort Barrancas and Pensacola Lighthouse.
- Support transportation changes that enhance access through entry control points.
- Consider development of a more structured and robust cooperative mechanism involving the hospital, the Veterans Administration facility, and the three local hospitals, with a focus on disaster response.
- Continue initiatives for shared functions (commercial, medical, recreation, etc.) with the communities and State through mechanisms such as enhanced-use leasing.
- Advocate for expansion of educational opportunities for military families, including a Charter School in proximity to the NAS.
- Advocate for infrastructure improvements to support Coast Guard Offshore Patrol Cutter (OPC) homeporting.
- Encourage establishing Public-Private Partnership Agreements for cross-fence line infrastructure and public services
- Search for Base – Community Co-development opportunities.
- Support Compatible Use Plan development.

Naval Air Station Whiting Field –

- Support an information campaign highlighting additional capacity / training opportunities in the vicinity of Whiting.
- Continue further efforts to buffer training airfields from encroachment.
- Support funding and complete the Whiting Field interior security fence.
- Mitigate risk of future airfield rain runoff environmental problems.

Corry Station –

- Raise awareness of Corry Station's infrastructure issues to Navy leadership.
- Advocate for unfunded construction addressing base access control and establishment of permanent Cyber Mission Force Training Building.
- Continue to advocate bringing additional mission / workload to the Center for Information Warfare Training.

Saufley Field –

- Advocate implementing Enhanced Use Lease (EUL) or other re-use agreements where the community can use portions of Saufley Field for commercial activities.

Hurlburt Field –

- Encourage a strategy to ensure the SOW has ample access to range facilities.
- Advocate for upgrades and recapitalization of aircraft at Hurlburt Field.
- Champion a strategy to sustain the Florida Air National Guard CV-22 mission to include unit equipped force structure.
- Support efforts to achieve final solution to access and Main Gate traffic challenges.
- Support proposed “West Gate” construction and off base auxiliary roads to reduce / eliminate traffic congestion.
- Develop strategy to overcome base limitations and foster additional operations and growth.
- Advocate for a manpower study of the 1st SOW.

Eglin Air Force Base –

- Maintain Air Force Weapon Research, Acquisition, Development, Test and Evaluation functions, synergies and capabilities.
- Support federal legislation to manage/control structures being built in the coastal waters to protect the Gulf Range Test and Training Complex.
- Strengthen support for DoD and USAF Community Partnership Programs and provide communities adequate support and funding to fully support partnerships.
- Raise public awareness of elements of the January 2014 USAF Report to Congressional Committees, 2025 Air Test and Training Range Enhancement Plan that support regional and state installations and test ranges.
- Advocate for transformation of the Eglin Test & Training Complex (ETTC) into the leading weapons system integration test range for future developmental weapons systems providing operationally realistic environments for full scale test and training, integrating 5th/6th Generation Aircraft and Air Armament to include Integrated Air Defense Systems (IADS) capabilities, hypersonic systems and new threat emitters.
- Identify possible state contributions to Eglin Range sustainment and growth to support 5th and 6th generation weapons and aircraft.
- Enable full utilization of the Eastern Gulf of Mexico (NW Florida down to Keys) for test and training mission profiles.
- Advocate for the establishment of a hypersonic weapons corridor.
- Advocate a replacement aircraft for Bombardier E-9A range telemetry support aircraft at Tyndall.
- Advocate for completing federal implementation of the Gulf Regional Airspace Strategic Initiative's (GRASI) Landscape Initiative.

- Advocate for eventual assignment of operational and developmental F-35 test aircraft and infrastructure at Eglin.
- Support the growth of the Florida Air National Guard (FANG) F-35 operations at Eglin AFB.
- Stay Engaged with AFMC as they develop their Air Armament Strategy.
- Support NexGen Eglin: a concept for transformation for installation renovations and redevelopment.
- Support the expansion of C4ISR and Cybersecurity test capability at Eglin. Capabilities needed include facilities supporting the Avionics Cyber Range, the National Cyber range, and an expanded advanced battle management test facility to meet national defense strategy.
- Re-accomplish Compatible Use Plan.
- Support road improvements to facilitate Highway 85 and Highway 98 ingress / egress.
- Study feasibility of light rail to support regional worker access from Pensacola, Milton, Crestview, Defuniak Springs and Eglin and Hurlburt.

Naval Support Activity Panama City –

- Support installation efforts to leverage core competencies, unique range assets and a culture in support of unmanned systems research, development and test of autonomous and unmanned systems.
- Protect Navy ranges used for research, development, test, evaluation and training in Florida's littoral waters.
- Assist Naval Surface Warfare Center, Panama City Division (NSWC-PCD) in exploring ways to increase utilization of the Gulf of Mexico test and training range digital instrumentation resulting from the Department of Defense GRE (Gulf Range Enhancement) plan.
- Support NSWC-PCD expansion of all expeditionary warfare capabilities in addition to MIW.
- Support NSWC-PCD in becoming a Tech Bridge to harness Navy Technological Innovation.
- Advocate for expanded turn basin and improved berthing capability suitable for larger vessels, including Littoral Combat Ships (LCS) and Coast Guard Offshore Patrol Cutters
- Support local activities to enable berthing capability of Littoral Combat Ships (LCS) at NSA Panama City.
- Maximize the benefit of the 8.44 acres acquired to enhance mission growth and contractor support for NSA-PC and its tenant commands.
- Emphasize future developments associated with long-term Navy strategic goals such as sustainable and renewable energy projects and leveraging NAVSEA competencies to support the National Security Strategy goal of retaining and expanding military overmatch through development of innovative capabilities.
- Advocate for the continued development of mission packages and ISEA activities at NSA Panama City.
- Advocate for continued SSDC work at NSA Panama City.
- Continued support for joint service Dive Training at NDSTC (Naval Dive and Salvage Training Center) and Saturation Diving at NEDU (Navy Experimental Dive Unit).

- Complete implementation of the Compatible Use Plan and adjacent land acquisition project to ensure merging commercial and military activities can each meet their objectives.

Tyndall Air Force Base –

- Support the commitment of the Air Force to complete the rebuild of Tyndall AFB as an efficient and resilient “Base of the Future” through support of the Industry Day contractor engagement process and development of a satisfactory workforce housing solution.
- Through engagement with CODEL and DoD leadership, Ensure that planned funding is secured and the National Environmental Policy Act (including EIS) process initiated September 17, 2019 is completed as required to achieve a record of decision (ROD) for each new mission, to include at least three squadrons of F-35s and bed down of RPA Base Y, including MCE (Mission Control Element) and LRE (Launch and Recovery Element) with 24 assigned aircraft.
- Promote engagement of all local government, municipalities and the county in developing a comprehensive alignment to ensure that the Base of the Future is supported by the community of the future, committed to the delivery of quality services.
- Provide direct support to the installation and to Bay County to ensure a Compatible Use Plan (CUP) is conducted as part of the rebuild effort.
- Provide direct support to the installation and to Bay County to ensure the successful scheduled completion of the Compatible Use Plan (CUP) launched August 13, 2019.
- Support the re-launch of Tyndall’s Community Partnership Program and leverage the engagement of program SME’s with grant support.
- Support efforts to secure adequate, affordable housing, access to medical care and day care in support of current and future missions.
- Support the efforts of Tyndall AFB and the community to provide future K-8 education facilities on the installation.
- Support the efforts of AFNORTH to secure federal legislation that would provide the commander with appropriate control over privately operated drones operating in Tyndall airspace.

Blount Island Marine Logistic Center –

- Ensure Pentagon leadership awareness of the value of Blount Island.

Florida National Guard –

- Advocate for a “National Guard” service component in the newly established U.S. Space Force.
- Advocate for Federal resources to support Florida National Guard Armory/Readiness Center/Facility renovation and construction in support of established Florida National Guard facility staging plans and priorities.
- Support efforts to coordinate training area relationships, throughout Florida, to provide localized training area opportunities.
- Advocate for growth of Cyber capabilities in both the Florida Army and Air National Guard.

- Advocate for additional force structure in support of established Florida Army and Air National Guard force management plans.
- Advocate for State resources to support Florida National Guard Armory/Readiness Center/Facility renovation and construction in support of established Florida National Guard facility staging plans and priorities.

125th Fighter Wing at Jacksonville International Airport –

- Continue to support base facility improvements and taxiway upgrades to ensure 125th FW compliance to Air Force standards.
- Advocate for an “Active-Associate” unit at the 125th Fighter Wing.
- Monitor F-35 (Joint Strike Fighter) transition for the 125th Fighter Wing, Florida Air National Guard and advocate for any necessary state-level actions.

Camp Blanding Joint Training Center –

- Promote Camp Blanding to be selected as a Mobilization Force Generation Installation (MFGI)
- Support an interagency training establishment as a center of gravity for disaster response.
- Pursue construction and expansion of ranges to meet DoD requirements and guidelines.
- Promote the value of the Joint Training Center to national level entities (NGB, DOD, DHS, USNORTHCOM, USSOUTHCOM, USSOCOM, and USCENTCOM).
- Identify adjacent eastern and northeastern land tracts for compatible military use.

Naval Station Mayport –

- Advocate for a 2nd Amphibious Readiness Group (ARG) (3 ships) to be stationed at NS Mayport and seek US Coast Guard ship basing at Mayport.
- Support stationing of additional Littoral Combat Ships (LCS) at NS Mayport.
- Increase the perception of strategic value of NS Mayport; monitor the number of ships homeported at Mayport and to ensure future stationing plans stay on track.
- Monitor the health and future of NS Mayport based Triton Airframes, Consolidated Maintenance Hub (CMH), HSM Squadrons, LCS Ships, LCS Support Facilities (LSF), and LCS Training Facilities (LTF), in order to encourage the Navy to stay the course in these important national defense programs.
- Re-accomplish Compatible Use Plan.

Naval Air Station Jacksonville –

- Monitor the health and future of NAS JAX based P-8A Poseidon squadrons, Triton UAS Command and Control Squadron (VUP-19), and HSM Squadrons in order to encourage the Navy to stay the course in these important national defense programs.

- Secure top Navy leadership support for NAS JAX and FRC's proposed MILCON Plan and PPV proposals by local community.
- Advocate for future depot level repair of new weapons platforms including F-35 and TRITON
- Continually work to ensure compatible land use near the base in accordance with the existing AICUZ and RAICUZ Studies, multiple local County and City Comprehensive Plans and the principles of the Compatible Use Plan process.

Pinecastle Range Complex (PRC) –

- Educate/inform all levels of government and the public on the importance of the Pinecastle Range Complex mission and importance supporting the National Defense Strategy by building a lethal joint force. Advocate for increased facilities funding in order to support capability for both current and future operations.
- Improve outreach efforts regarding the Range Complex role and unique capabilities. Ensure public, state, and federal leadership understand the symbiotic relationship between the PRC, Jax Offshore Operating Area (JAX OPAREA), and the Eastern Gulf of Mexico (EGOMEX) Range Complex, including connecting Special Use Airspace (SUA). In our current political and fiscal environment, the operational totality of these ranges can never be duplicated or replaced.
- Champion for infrastructure investment to enhance current electronic warfare training capability, increasing ability to support 5th/6th generation aircraft training.
- Continue to expand PRC's robust training opportunities, and mission capacity, for the Florida Army National Guard, USMC, USAF, USN, Federal and State law enforcement agencies.

MacDill Air Force Base –

- Preempt Encroachment potential and impact on operational sustainment; and to assure readiness to upgrade/expand infrastructure for increased Force Structure
- Permanently resolve Compatible Building – FL Rock issue
- Support the purchase of development rights of the remaining section of the parcel (Florida Rock) immediately adjacent to MacDill Air Force Base to prevent future encroachment issues.
- Champion readiness, capacity and capability of MacDill AFB to increase Air Refueling Mission force structure to include beddown of additional KC-135 tankers or new future tankers.
- Promote and support engagement campaign to raise senior DOD, Service and Joint leadership of MacDill's operational readiness and capacity in support of national security interests.
- Identify and promote potential for MacDill to absorb new missions and activities emphasizing activities in support of the Air Mobility mission and

- cooperatively with Combatant Commands, other services and reserve components.
- Advocate for infrastructure improvements in support of the Air Refueling Wing.
 - Monitor construction of facilities for beddown of helicopters from US Army Reserve 159th Aviation Regiment.
 - Champion enhancement of Military Education (University to Community College to K-12) to include buildup of MacDill Middle School (DOD PSMI Program).
 - Re-accomplish Compatible Use Plan.
 - Champion continued modernization/improvements to Deployed Unit Complex (DUC) supporting Operational/Transient Air Units deployed to train at Avon Park.
 - Advocate to reverse DHA “Right-Sizing/Active Duty Only” Proposal for 6th Medical Group
 - Support FL Chief Resiliency Officer plan to conduct Compatible Use Plan with Resiliency Addendum for Tampa Bay/MacDill AFB region
 - Promote potential of MacDill AFB and Tampa Bay area to support US Space Force evolution in Florida emphasizing University RDT&E; Industry support to OT&E and capacity for mission support priorities such as Cybersecurity; AI; Range Use and International partnerships
 - Champion continued improvements toward efficient, accessible, quality Healthcare across Tampa Bay (MacDill, VA Medical Centers & FDVA) for Military and Veteran populations
 - Champion State and Community support for military families across Education, Healthcare, Work Force, Transition and Entrepreneurship.

Bugg Spring –

- Continue to support Commander, Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE); Florida Department of Economic Development; NSA Orlando; Lake County; and City of Leesburg efforts to protect and buffer Bugg Spring’s Navy Acoustic Test Facility from incompatible commercial and residential development that could impact operational test missions at the Spring.
- The Naval Undersea Warfare Center (NUWC) Okahumpka open water facility at Bugg Spring is located in Western Lake County and administered by the United States Navy.
- Lake County and the City of Leesburg have established overlay districts designed to protect the mission and the long-term viability of this military facility through the management of underlying future land uses.
- Enforcement is dependent on continued coordination and vigilance with developers by Navy, County and City action officers and the Florida Department of Economic Development.

Team Orlando –

- Continue to assist Metro Orlando Defense Task Force (MODTF) to maintain Team Orlando as the epicenter of the world for modeling, simulation, and training (MS&T).
 - Support the MODTF to establish routine strategic updates within the park stakeholders.
 - Support the MODTF to update and implement a strategic communication and outreach plan.
 - Provide support for the MODTF to maintain updated economic report findings.
- Continue to link Central Florida's modeling and simulation community to Florida's 20 major military installations and defense business which have an \$94.9 billion annual impact on Florida's economy.
- Advocate informing senior Service and Joint leadership on Team Orlando's capabilities and solidifying support for modeling and simulation synergy
- Submit and attract unique proposal ideas to support the promotion, protection, and growth of the \$6B MS&T community.
- Fund a study to identify and showcase Team Orlando entity contributions to national security.
- Continue to promote, protect, and grow the MS&T military, industry, and academia partnership throughout the State of Florida emphasizing innovation, high tech nature of the work, and high salary jobs.
- Advocate and support efforts for innovative technology of MS&T for technology transfer to other areas of Central Florida such as; UCF Innovative districts of NEOCity, Downtown Orlando Creative Village, Lake Nona, and thriving Space Coast.
- Investigate opportunities for alignment of modelling, simulation, and training needs of Space Command with Team Orlando DoD MS&T initiatives.
- Continue and grow the Orlando simulation community's support of the Integrated Florida Range concept to leverage the modeling, simulations and training capabilities in central Florida.
- Support the Army Futures Command led "consortium" concept for service cross sharing.
- Advocate for and support the efforts to grow the medical simulations domain as a Center of Medical Simulations in Florida. Assist the Team Orlando members to strengthen collaboration with the new Veteran Administration's MEDSIM wing of the hospital in Lake Nona Florida.
- Expand the MS&T Med Sim benefits into Family wellness and Medical professional training.
- Advocate to publicize and support the efforts of the Team Orlando capabilities to support Cyber related training.

- Assist where appropriate the Army initiative to build a persistent cyber training environment in Partnership 5 building (project is underway and ongoing).
- Support emerging designation of NAWCTSD as a Tech Bridge location, emphasizing connection of emerging technologies, processes, and companies with defense needs or other secured spaces.
- Advocate for appropriate facilities (on or off installation) to support expected continued Team Orlando growth
- Strongly endorse Team Orlando training effectiveness methodologies to determine the RIGHT technology for the desired training.
- Strongly endorse expanded MS&T education at all levels of education from middle school through graduate school.

Patrick Air Force Base and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station –

- Continue to support the Indian River Bridge Replacement Program.
- Support efforts of Space Florida to have Florida chosen as the site of the headquarters of the new U.S. Space Command.
- Pursue programs to develop sites suitable for mission expansion.
- Support continued commercial space launch efforts.
- Advocate for accelerated funding of the equipment portion of the XY building.
- Advocate for aircraft recapitalization for Combat Search and Rescue unit based at Patrick AFB (920th Rescue Wing).
- Monitor efforts to build rail lines across the installation property to identify any mission impact threats early.
- Advocate for necessary repair/replacement/expansion of surface bridges needed to support ongoing and planned future space operations.
- Secure the main gates at Cape Canaveral AF Station.
- Advocate for Patrick AFB to become home for Battlefield Airmen Training.
- Re-accomplish Compatible Use Plan at Patrick and Cape Canaveral.
- Support the growth of the Florida Air National Guard in Space Operations.
- Advocate to reverse DHA “Right-Sizing/Active Duty Only” Proposal for 45th Medical Group
- Support the development of a state master plan for the complementary use of Cape Canaveral and Port Canaveral.
- Pursue solutions for traffic management at Patrick AFB.

Naval Ordnance Test Unit –

- Champion NOTU facility improvements and recapitalization efforts necessary to maintain NOTU's support role in maintaining a safe, secure and effective nuclear deterrent which is the number one priority of the Department of Defense.

- Advocate for accelerating/prioritizing the Engineering Test Facility MILCON budget planning timeline in order to support the Trident II D5LE2 development and testing, including pad launch testing requirements.
- Maintain the railhead at the Kennedy Space Center Shuttle Landing Facility to receive motor shipments in support of Trident II D5LE2 development and testing.
- Encourage the planning and development of infrastructure for mission expansion in the areas of system development and testing of hypersonics/Conventional Prompt Strike system.
- Support development of multi-user vertical launch capability at Kennedy Space Center to reduce encroachment pressures on NOTU's mission at Cape Canaveral AFS from growth of commercial vertical landing activity at CCAFS.
- Support commercial utilities investment in electrical infrastructure to provide upgraded electrical power redundancy required to support VIRGINIA and COLUMBIA class submarines at Cape Canaveral Navy Trident Wharf.
- Pursue a state master plan for development and complementary use of Cape Canaveral and Port Canaveral that fully integrates Navy and other federal entity port requirements to mitigate encroachment to national defense missions. This includes lost productivity caused by frequent on-base evacuations in support of vertical booster recovery ops.

Avon Park Range –

- Continue to pursue new or increased missions and expand use to additional range customers.
- Advocate for Smart Range infrastructure investment including adding electronic warfare training capability, increasing ability to support 5th/6th generation aircraft training, and enhancing ability to host deployed units with shower facilities and munitions storage.
- Encourage establishing a liaison with the US Navy to facilitate increased use.
- Enhance facilities to increase its use as a turnkey facility.
- Address limited manpower – advocate for new manpower study.
- Advocate for better funding.
- Continue efforts to mitigate encroachment and encourage easement purchases.
- Stay engaged with ongoing range plans that may impact APAFR.
- Expand training and range capacity for the Florida Army National Guard.

U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) –

- Articulate the need for the USSOUTHCOM mission and location. Advocate retaining USSOUTHCOM Headquarters in Miami, and should there be a

- USNORTHCOM/USSOUTHCOM consolidation, advocate having the HQs located in South Florida.
- Continue to work the FAA and private developers to support a solution to the housing limitation near the USSOUTHCOM garrison.
 - Support the development of a US Army-Garrison Master Plan that:
 - Expands its role as the ADCON support entity for all DOD and select DHS assets in South Florida
 - Creates an administrative and operational bond between USAG-Miami and Homestead ARB
 - Enhances its image and role in the South Florida community
 - Pursues options for base housing and consolidated logistics facilities
 - Pursue USSOUTHCOM becoming a “Center of Innovation” combining military technology agencies, private industry and academic research and study.
 - Pursue USSOUTHCOM/South Florida becoming a “Center of Excellence for Latin America & Caribbean Diplomacy.” Combine assets at DOD, DHS, DOS, USSOUTHCOM, South Florida Universities, Central/South American Universities, think tanks, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and private entities to create a valuable synergistic partnership focused on the security, stability, resiliency and growth of the Western Hemisphere.
 - Advocate to reverse DHA “Right-Sizing/Active Duty Only” Proposal impacting USSOUTHCOM/Army Garrison Miami Medical Clinic

Coast Guard Base Miami Beach –

- Support efforts to protect the base from possible encroachment risks from potential re-zoning to permit nearby development incompatible with the base mission.

Homestead Air Reserve Base –

- Actively pursue the inclusion of Homestead Air Reserve Base into Joint Staff, USSOUTHCOM, USNORTHCOM and USTRANSCOM contingency planning. Advocate for Homestead Air Reserve Base to be included among USNORTHCOM and USTRANSCOM key contingency bases reports.
- Advocate restoration of the hydrant system from the tank farm to the ramp; make the system useful and develop a means to keep the base “warm” for contingency operations.
- Support encroachment management at HARB, including efforts to limit expansion of Urban Development Boundary and Urban Expansion Areas near the installation including pursuit to purchase easements on unprotected parcels in Homestead Park of Commerce to limit future incompatible development (HARB is supportive of the FLNG acquiring the

- 70 acres as it will ensure compatible development with mission operations and will support encroachment management at HARB).
- Continue to advocate for F-35's to be based at HARB.
 - Improve two maintenance hangars that are degraded and near the end of their service life; ensure improvements support future F-35 requirements.
 - Review and update previous Homestead ARB CUP.
 - Encourage the development of a HARB Growth Master Plan that:
 - Identifies and pursues South Florida Department of Defense and Department of Homeland Security missions and entities that would benefit from being tenants.
 - Identifies and pursues equipment to enhance the 482nd Fighter Wing's lethality and to take advantage of HARB's strategic location (e.g., F-35 Fighters).
 - Supports USSOCOM in its pursuit to acquire Miami-Dade County land adjacent to SOCSOUTH headquarters. The land provides additional space and direct access to the runway in order to more effectively conduct special operations missions.
 - Assesses infrastructure and land-use enhancements to support current mission and identify requirements to support expanded mission(s).
 - Assesses the potential for a joint military-civilian use airfield.
 - Develops solutions for housing, base support requirements and the lack of a commissary.
 - Continue to fend off encroachment issues; support the purchase of land and or development rights of the parcels (Homestead Park of Commerce) under the flight traffic pattern adjacent to Homestead ARB to prevent future encroachment issues.

Naval Air Station Key West –

- Educate / inform all levels of government and the American public about the importance of the Key West mission.
- Improve the outreach effort regarding Naval Air Station Key West's important security role and unique capabilities.
- Support Navy offshore range development and increased cooperative operations for Navy Aviation assets across the Gulf Range Complex.
- Ensure the economic impact of NAS Key West is well known within the community.
- Raise visibility and encourage a solution to the enlisted housing problem and cost of living and affordable housing.
- Support the purchase of land and / or development rights of the parcels under the flight traffic pattern adjacent to Naval Air Station Key West to prevent future encroachment issues.

TAB 5

2021 Florida Military Friendly Guide

[https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-
content/uploads/Florida-Military-Friendly-Guide.pdf](https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/Florida-Military-Friendly-Guide.pdf)

FLORIDA'S 2021 MILITARY-FRIENDLY GUIDE

A Summary of Sunshine State Laws, Policies, Programs
and Benefits for Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve
Servicemembers, Veterans, Retirees and Families



FREE DOWNLOAD

From the EFI Military and Defense website: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense>



Welcome

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE



Dear Servicemember, Veteran and Military Family Member:

On behalf of all Floridians, thank you for your military service and welcome to our great state. As a veteran, I understand the challenges often faced by those who serve our country at home and abroad; I deeply appreciate your commitment to Florida, the United States and the defense of freedom. Last year, I released study results detailing the \$95 billion annual economic impact that Florida's military and defense sectors have on our state. This figure reflects the hard work and investment that our active duty forces and veterans bring to Florida's communities.

As Governor, I will continue to work hard to maintain Florida's reputation as the most military-friendly state in our nation, by implementing initiatives such as the Salute our Soldiers Military Loan Program that offers our military service personnel and veterans mortgage assistance options. Over the last year, I was pleased to announce Florida Defense Support Task Force Grant Program awards of \$1.44 million in Fiscal Year 2019-20 and \$1.24 million in Fiscal Year 2020-21 to local communities working to protect our military installations around the state. We have also worked with the Legislature to create laws that recognize the unique challenges facing military service members, veterans and their families.

The 2021 Florida Military-Friendly Guide provides information on the laws, programs and benefits Florida has implemented to support and assist military members, veterans and their families. This guide reflects the strong commitment our state has made to support our military and military families.

I hope you find this guide informative and will fully utilize the benefits outlined here. Thank you for your service to our nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron DeSantis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "R" at the beginning.

Ron DeSantis
Governor

ATTORNEY GENERAL



As Attorney General, it is my honor to protect our patriots who call the great State of Florida home. As the oldest of our family recently returned from a deployment, I've recognized the level of service and sacrifice required of military members and their families. As such, I take seriously our duty as public servants to support our military members and their families at home and abroad.

Our Military and Veterans Assistance Program (MVAP) utilizes a multi-agency approach to help educate military members and veterans about the types of scams that target your communities, what you can do to protect yourself, and how you can help protect others by reporting scams and deceptive business practices. By reporting these scams, you help my office build enforcement cases under the Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act, which imposes heightened penalties against a person or business that willfully victimizes a military member or their family.

On behalf of my family, the Office of Attorney General, and all Floridians, thank you for your service. It is a privilege to serve you. As you read about the services and protections available to you, know that together we can build a stronger, safer Florida for your families and fellow servicemembers.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ashley Moody".

Ashley Moody
Attorney General

SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

As a USMC veteran and Florida native, we welcome you and your family to our state and hope you can call it home with pride while you are here. We want you to know how much our state appreciates your military service. The military is part of the fabric of our state. Florida is fortunate to have such a thriving military community and rich future connection to all our services, most recently the US Space Force. We want to be sure each military member, family and veteran is aware of how much we value and honor their service. This is why we are and will remain committed to finding new ways to enhance the military quality of life in our Sunshine State.

Thank you to you and your family for your service and for joining us in Florida whether for an assignment or as your permanent home. We are so proud of you and look forward to showing you our appreciation and how important you are to our communities and state.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jamal Sowell".

Jamal Sowell
Florida Secretary of Commerce
President & CEO
Enterprise Florida, Inc.



STATE OF FLORIDA

A Summary of Sunshine State Laws, Policies, Programs and Benefits

For Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve Servicemembers, Veterans, Retirees and Families

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F.S. 250.01(19): '(19) "Servicemember" means any person serving as a member of the United States Armed Forces on active duty or state active duty and all members of the Florida National Guard and United States Reserve Forces.'

NOTE: Statutes, benefits and programs apply to all categories: active duty, National Guard and Reserve unless designated/restricted to only components shown in parentheses.

NG = National Guard R = Reserve

This guide can be downloaded at: enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense



Shaded items are new or changed for 2021.

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Executive Assistant, Military & Defense Programs

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PROTECTIONS



Protections: Enforceable by the Office of the State Attorney General & other Law Enforcement Agencies

(For items in this section, you may also refer to the Office of the State Attorney General's Military Consumer Protection Guide 2020 at: <http://www.myfloridalegal.com/MilCPGuide>)

1. Protection Against Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices

Provides military servicemembers and their family members the same heightened protections afforded to senior citizens and persons with disabilities against deceptive or unfair trade practices; penalizes a person who willfully victimizes a military servicemember or family member. ([F.S. 501.2077](#))

2. Protection Against Unfair Insurance Practices

Protects active military service and their covered dependents from unfair practices in certain rate increases in motor vehicle insurance. Provides protection from motor vehicle insurance premium increases or reinstatement fees for new policies. Active military personnel are to be considered maintaining continuous coverage for purposes of determining premium rates. ([F.S. 626.9541](#))

3. Protection Against Cancellation of Health Insurance

Any health insurance policy, certificate, or evidence of health coverage which provides coverage to a member of the Florida National Guard, or a member of any branch of the United States military reserves who is a resident of this state, called to active duty or state active duty, must continue all coverages that were in effect for the person, or the person's dependents covered by the same policy, at the premium in effect for all insured under the same contract, unless the employee or insured requests coverage changes that might alter the premium he or she was paying prior to such activation during the time he or she serves on active duty. Additionally, it must reinstate the coverage for any such person who elects not to continue it while on active duty or state active duty, at the person's request upon return from active duty or state active duty, without a waiting period or disqualification for any condition that existed at the time he or she was called to active duty or state active duty. Such reinstatement must be requested within 30 days after returning to work with the same employer or within 60 days if the policy is an individual policy. ([F.S. 250.341](#))

4. Protection for Termination of Rental Agreements

Servicemembers who terminate residential leases due to military duty will be protected under the following specific provisions:

- **No Retaliation.** No landlord may sue or otherwise attempt to retaliate against a tenant who terminated a lease because of military duties.
- **No Discrimination.** Landlords may not discriminate against military personnel. Discrimination on the basis of military status creates a cause of action against the landlord for civil damages.
- **Expansion of Criteria which allow a Servicemember to Terminate a Lease.**
Servicemembers may terminate their leases within the purview of the statute when the servicemember:
 - Moves permanently 35 or more miles from the rental premises;
 - Is prematurely or involuntarily discharged or released from Active Duty;
 - Is released from Active Duty when the leased premises is at least 35 miles from the home of record;
 - Is required or eligible to move into government quarters; and/or

- Moves temporarily for over 60 days to a location which is 35 or more miles from the rental premises.
- **The Liquidated Damages Clause is No Longer Available in the Case of Military Termination of Lease.** Removes provisions requiring the payment of liquidated damages to the landlord under certain circumstances upon termination of a rental agreement. ([F.S. 83.682](#))

5. Protection for Termination of Telecommunications Service

Servicemembers may now terminate their telecommunications (i.e. cell phone) service contracts by providing 30 days' notice to the service provider if any of the following occur: 1) The servicemember moves, either permanently or on temporary duty for over 60 days, outside the area which the service provider provides telecommunications service; 2) The servicemember is discharged or released from duty and either returns to an area not serviced by the telecommunications service provider or the servicemember's home of record is not serviced by the provider; and/or 3) The servicemember's orders require a move outside the continental United States. Upon such termination the servicemember is only liable for the amount due under the contract for the period up to the effective date (which is the end of the 30-day notice period). ([F.S. 364.195](#))

6. Protection for Termination of Retail Installment Contract for Leasing a Motor Vehicle by a Servicemember

Servicemembers may terminate retail installment contracts for leasing motor vehicles by providing at least 30 days written notice to the lessor if either the servicemember is required to move outside the continental United States; or the servicemember receives temporary change of station, temporary duty or active orders for a period exceeding 60 days, for duty outside the continental United States. The servicemember is then liable for only the amount due under the contract to the end of the 30-day notice period. The statute specifically states that the lessee is not liable for any other fee due to the early termination of the contract. Further, the protection may not be waived or modified by the contract between the servicemember and the lessor under any circumstances. ([F.S. 520.14](#))

7. Protection for Termination of Mobile Home and Vehicle Registration

Any servicemember, whose mobile home registration expired while he or she was serving on active duty or state active duty, shall not be charged with a violation of Florida Statute 320.07 if, at the time of the offense, the servicemember was serving on active duty or state active duty 35 miles or more from the mobile home. The servicemember must present to the department either a copy of the official military orders or a written verification signed by the servicemember's commanding officer to receive a waiver of charges. ([F.S. 320.07](#))

8. Protection for Cancellation of Motor Vehicle Insurance

An Insurer must refund 100 percent of the unearned premium if an insured servicemember cancels due to either a call to Active Duty or transfer to a location where the insurance is not required. There is language in the statute preserving claims originating prior to the effective date of cancellation. If the insurer cancels, the insurer must refund 100 percent of the unearned premium. Cancellation is without prejudice to any claim originating prior to the effective date of the cancellation. For purposes of this section, unearned premiums must be computed on a pro rata basis. ([F.S. 627.7283](#))

9. Relief for Payment of Initial Binder – Motor Vehicle Insurance

Servicemembers and dependents are not required to pay two month's premium on motor vehicle insurance normally required of citizens of Florida upon initial issuance of insurance. ([F.S. 627.7295](#))

10. Protection Against Insurance Rate Increases & Refusal of Policy Renewals for Persons in Military Service

Prohibits insurers from charging an increased premium for reinstating a motor vehicle insurance policy that was canceled or suspended by the insured solely for the reason that he or she was transferred out of this state while serving in the United States Armed Forces or on active duty in the National Guard or United States Armed Forces Reserve. It is also prohibits an insurer from charging an increased premium for a new motor vehicle insurance policy if the applicant for coverage or his or her covered dependents were previously insured with a different insurer and canceled that policy solely for the reason that he or she was transferred out of this state while serving in the United States Armed Forces or on active duty in the National Guard or United States Armed Forces Reserve. For purposes of determining premiums, an insurer shall consider such persons as having maintained continuous coverage. **(F.S. 626.9541)**

No insurer shall fail to renew a policy for reasons based entirely on the sex, occupation, marital status, residence, military service, or age of the insured, or on the principal place of garaging the insured vehicle in this state, or based on any combination of such factors. No insurer shall fail to renew a policy for reasons based on the race, color, creed, or national origin of the insured or for any reason which is arbitrary or capricious. **(F.S. 627.728)**



11. Protection for Termination to Purchase Real Property

Servicemembers may terminate agreements to purchase realty prior to closing if any of the following occur: 1) The servicemember has a permanent change of station which is 35 or more miles from the location of the property; 2) The servicemember is released from Active Duty and the property is more than 35 miles from the servicemember's home of record; 3) The servicemember receives orders requiring him or her to move into government quarters or does, in fact, move into government quarters; or 4) The servicemember receives orders in excess of 90 days which involve a temporary change of station which is 35 miles or more from the property. The seller, mortgagor and/or their agents must refund any funds provided by the servicemember. Further, no other fees may be assessed against the servicemember. These protections cannot be waived or modified. **(F.S. 689.27)**

12. Protection for Sale, Foreclosure or Seizure of Property for Nonpayment

Servicemembers are protected against sale, foreclosure, or seizure of property for nonpayment of any sum due under any obligation, or for breach of the terms of such obligation. These are not valid if made during the period of state active duty or active duty or within 30 days thereafter, unless upon an order previously granted by the court and a return made to and approved by the court. This protection applies only to obligations secured by a mortgage, trust deed, or other security in the nature of a mortgage upon real or personal property owned by a person in state active duty or active duty at the commencement of the period of state active service and still owed by her or him, which obligation originated prior to such person's period of state active service. **(F.S. 250.5205)**

13. Protection of Late Voting Registration

Provides for deployed servicemembers to be allowed late registration for voting. An individual or accompanying family member who has been discharged or separated from the uniformed services or the United States Merchant Marine, has returned from a military deployment or activation, or has separated from employment outside the territorial limits of the United States, after the book-closing date for an election pursuant to s. 97.055 and who is otherwise qualified may register to vote in such election until 5 p.m. on the Friday before that election. **(F.S. 97.055)**

14. Protection for Absentee Voting

Authorizes absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters to use the federal write-in absentee ballot in any state or local election; prohibiting the supervisor of elections from canvassing federal write-in absentee ballots from overseas voters in certain elections until 10 days after the date of the election. This bill eliminates the restriction that a Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) can only be used for state and local elections involving two or more candidates. This allows absent uniformed services and overseas voters to use a FWAB as a “back-up” ballot for all federal, state, and local elections. The law also delays the canvassing of a FWAB until 10 days after the presidential preference primary or general election. This will allow the voter’s official absentee ballot to be canvassed (in lieu of a FWAB) if it is received during that 10-day window. **(F.S. 101.6952)**

15. Protection of Identifying Information of Servicemembers

The law provides a public records exemption for military servicemembers and veterans, and their family members. Specifically, the bill creates a public records exemption for the identification and location information of current or former active duty servicemembers of the United States Armed Forces, their reserve components, or the National Guard who served after September 1, 2001 and their spouses and dependents. In order for the exemption to apply, the current or former servicemember must submit to the custodial agency a written request and a written statement that reasonable efforts had been made to protect the identification and location information from being accessible through other means available to the public. **(F.S. 119.071)**

16. Protection of Military Housing from Ad Valorem Taxation

Recognizes in statute that leaseholds and improvements constructed and used to provide housing pursuant to the federal Military Housing Privatization Initiative (Housing Initiative) on land owned by the federal government are exempt from ad valorem taxation. Florida law provides an exemption from ad valorem taxation for property owned by the United States. This exemption specifically applies to leasehold interests in property owned by the United States government when the lessee serves or performs a governmental,

municipal or public purpose or function. Federal law also recognizes the immunity of property of the United States from ad valorem taxation. ([F.S. 196.199](#))

17. Protection of Community Planning and Liaison Officers (CPLOs) and Representatives of Military Installations Serving on Local Planning or Zoning Boards

Provides for open exchange of information between local governments and military installations. To facilitate this exchange, a representative of a military installation shall be included as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the local government's land planning or zoning board and is not required to file a statement of financial interest solely due to his/her service on board. ([F.S. 163.3175](#))

18. Protection Against Predatory Lenders

This law authorizes the Office of Financial Regulation to deny a license or take disciplinary action against a person who violates the federal Military Lending Act (MLA). The MLA provided greater consumer protections for servicemembers and their family members in connection with a broad range of consumer credit transactions including consumer finance loans, payday loans, title loans, overdraft lines of credit, smaller dollar loans and credit card accounts. Effective Date: October 3, 2016. ([F.S. 516.07](#))

19. Protection to Expedite Processing of Rental Agreements

Provides that a landlord, a condominium association, a cooperative association or a home owner's association is required to process a rental application from a military servicemember within seven days of submission, and the landlord must provide to the servicemember a response in writing of the approval or denial of their application and, if denied, the reason for denial. Should the landlord not provide a timely denial of the rental application, the landlord must lease the rental unit to the servicemember if all other terms of the application and lease are met. Effective Date: October 1, 2016. ([F.S. 83.683](#))

20. Other General Protections

Unlawful Use of Uniforms, Medals or Insignia, the act adds a provision to an existing law on stolen valor that misusing a military uniform or decorations for the purposes of obtaining employment or seeking election to a paid public office is now a violation of law – Effective Oct. 1, 2020. ([F.S. 817.312](#))

The Florida Veterans Protection Act / White Collar Crime Victim Protection Act is an act relating to crimes against veterans; providing a short title; amending s. 775.0844, F.S.; providing an enhanced sentence for any person who commits aggravated white collar crimes against a certain number of veterans by obtaining or attempting to obtain a specified amount of money; providing criminal penalties; providing an effective date. ([F.S. 775.0844](#))

LICENSES, REGISTRATIONS, FEES & OTHER BENEFITS



21. Concealed Weapons or Firearms Licenses

Florida concealed weapon or firearm license applications submitted by active military members and veterans are now expedited. Current servicemembers and veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces can be issued concealed weapon or firearm licenses even if they are not 21 years of age, the usual minimum age eligibility requirement, provided that they are otherwise eligible for licensure. ([F.S. 790.062](#))

Current servicemembers and military veterans can meet the firearms training/competency requirement for the issuance of a concealed weapon or firearm license if they include proper documentation with their applications reflecting active-duty status or honorable discharge from military service. ([F.S. 790.06](#))

Additionally, servicemembers with concealed weapon or firearm licenses who are serving on military orders over 35 miles away from their residence are granted an extension of the normal expiration date of their licenses. In such circumstances, a servicemember's license will not expire, and late fees for renewals will be waived, for 180 days after the date upon which the servicemember returns from serving on military orders. ([F.S. 790.06](#))

22. Discounts at State Parks

The Florida Park Service offers the Annual Entrance Pass at a discount or free of charge to persons who present satisfactory written documentation which demonstrates their eligibility.

- 25 percent discount on annual entrance passes for active duty and honorably discharged veterans of the United States Armed Forces, National Guard or reserve units of the U.S. Armed Forces or National Guard.
- Free lifetime military entrance passes for honorably discharged United States veterans who have service-connected disabilities.
- Free lifetime military entrance passes for surviving spouses and parents of deceased members of the United States Armed Forces, National Guard or reserve units of the U.S. Armed Forces or National Guard who have fallen in combat. ([FS.258.0145](#))

For more information on discounts, go to: www.floridastateparks.org/sites/default/files/media/file/AnnualPassDiscounts.pdf

23. Discounts at County Parks

County parks or recreation departments shall provide partial or a full discount on park entrance fees to military members, veterans, and the spouse and parents of certain deceased military members, law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency medical technicians, and paramedics. ([F.S. 125.029](#))

24. Discounts at State Forests

The Florida Forest Service offers the Annual Entrance Pass at a discount or free of charge to persons who present satisfactory written documentation which demonstrates their eligibility.

- \$10.00 discount on Annual Entrance Passes for active duty and honorably discharged veterans of the United States Armed Forces, National Guard or reserve units of the U.S. Armed Forces or National Guard.
- Free Lifetime Military Entrance Passes for honorably discharged United States veterans who have service-connected disabilities. ([Reference: Florida Forest Service, Policy and Procedure Manual](#))

25. Specialty Motor Vehicle License Plates

Ex-Prisoner of War, Medal of Honor, Pearl Harbor Survivor, U.S. Paratrooper, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, Gold Star, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Combat Action Badge, Vietnam War Veteran, Korean War Veteran, Silver Star, Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, Air Force Cross, Operation Desert Shield Veteran, Operation Desert Storm Veteran, and Blue Angels (available in 2020). ([F.S. 320.08058](#))



26. Considered Florida Resident for Recreational Fishing and Hunting Licenses

Any member of the United States Armed Forces who is stationed in the state and their family members residing with them are considered Florida residents for the purposes of purchasing recreational fishing and hunting licenses. ([379.101 \(30\) \(b\)](#))

27. Military Gold Sportsman's License

Provides low cost sportsman license to active or retired members of the Armed Forces who are Florida residents. Any Florida resident who is an active or retired member of the United States Armed Forces, the United States Armed Forces Reserve, the Florida National Guard, the United States Coast Guard or the United States Coast Guard Reserve is eligible to purchase the Military Gold Sportsman's License upon submission of a current military identification card and military orders showing that you are stationed in Florida (active members) or a Florida Driver's License and a U.S. Armed Force ID card stating retired. The Military Gold Sportsman's License includes hunting, saltwater fishing and freshwater fishing licenses; and deer, wildlife management area, archery, muzzle-loading gun, crossbow, turkey and Florida waterfowl, snook and lobster permits. It does not include tarpon tags or the federal duck stamp. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC) offers the license to active duty and retired military that are stationed in Florida or claim Florida as their primary residence. The reduced-fee annual license (\$20) offers the same privileges as the traditional Gold Sportsman's License (\$100). Military Gold Sportsman's Licenses can only be purchased at a County Tax Collector's Office. ([F.S. 379.354](#))

Recreational hunting and fishing license exemption for any resident who is a member of the United States Armed Forces and not stationed in this state, when home on leave for 30 days or less. ([F.S. 379.353\(2\)\(c\)](#))



28. Operation Outdoor Freedom for Wounded Warriors

Operation Outdoor Freedom is an endeavor of the Florida Forest Service within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services that provides outdoor recreational opportunities to wounded veterans. Designated state and private forest and agricultural lands throughout Florida grant these veterans unique opportunities for recreation and rehabilitation. Participants must be a Florida resident and have a service-connected disability rating of 30 percent or greater, or be a Purple Heart recipient. For more information and to register

for events, please visit www.OperationOutdoorFreedom.com or visit us on Facebook.

(Reference: Florida Forest Service, Policy and Procedure Manual)

29. Use of Military ID in Public Lodging Establishments

Provides that a public lodging establishment classified as a hotel, motel, or bed and breakfast inn is required to waive any minimum age policy it may have that restricts accommodations to individuals based on age for individuals who are currently on active duty as a member of the United States Armed Forces, the National Guard, Reserve Forces, or Coast Guard and who present a valid military identification card. ([F.S. 509.095](#))

30. Military ID Valid for Proof When Obtaining Florida Driver's License

This law provides for the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) to accept a military personnel identification card as proof of a social security card number during the application process to acquire a driver license or identification card. The law further authorizes DHSMV to replace the veteran designation "V" with the word "Veteran" exhibited on the driver license or identification card of a veteran who qualifies and chooses to have such designation. The replacement of the "V" with the word "Veteran" will apply upon implementation of new designs for the driver license and identification card by DHSMV. ([F.S. 322.051](#))

31. Identification Card & Driver License Fees for Veterans

This change eliminated the \$1 or \$2 fee a veteran must pay to have the word "Veteran" displayed on an identification card or driver license issued by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV). The law also expands the forms of identification that a veteran may present to the DHSMV as proof of veteran status for the purpose of receiving the "Veteran" designation on an identification card or driver license. ([F.S. 322.135](#))

32. Motor Vehicle Driver's License Extensions

Servicemembers and family members residing with them are granted an automatic license extension without reexamination when the license expires while serving on active duty outside the state. Active duty members serving outside the state, and family members residing with them, have the option of continuous mail-in renewals for expired driver's licenses, or may apply for an automatic driver's license extension, which will automatically renew the driver's license every year while the member is active duty. ([F.S. 322.121](#))

33. Motorcycle License Endorsement

The State of Florida will reciprocate any military motorcycle rider course to have the motorcycle endorsement added to a Florida driver's license. The state also offers various classes and challenge courses at in-state military bases, including the prestigious Level Three Kevin Schwantz Rider Course, of which Florida has two of the eight trainers nationally certified to conduct this course.

(Reference: Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles)

34. Military Commercial Driver's License

The State of Florida offers a Certification of Waiver for military members issued a CDL by a branch of the US Armed Forces, to obtain a Florida CDL, while on active duty or within 120 days of separation of service. With the Certification of Waiver, military members may be exempt from passing the skills test required for a CDL.

(Reference: Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles)

35. Fishing and Hunting Events

Recreational fishing and hunting licenses are not required for permitted events, the primary purpose of which is the rehabilitation or enjoyment of disabled veterans certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or its predecessor, or by any branch of the United States Armed Forces to have a service-connected disability percentage rating of zero or higher or active duty or reserve duty servicemembers of any branch of the United States Armed Forces, the United States Coast Guard, military reserves, the Florida National Guard, or the United States Coast Guard Reserve. A permit issued for an event pursuant to this paragraph shall exempt disabled veterans and active duty or reserve duty servicemembers, the immediate family of such disabled veterans and servicemembers, and one additional person designated to assist a disabled veteran, from possessing a hunting, freshwater fishing, or saltwater fishing license or permit for the duration of the event. Event organizer must apply for and receive an event permit from FWC. ([F.S. 379.353 \(2\) \(q\)](#))

36. Exemption from Hunter Safety Skills Day

Those with military service can receive a Florida hunter safety card by completing one of the online courses, reading the current year's hunting regulations and following the procedures outlined in the Application For Hunter Safety Certification With Previous Firearms Training without having to attend a Hunter Safety Skills Day.

(Reference: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission)

37. Restricted Species (RS) Endorsement Exemptions — Disabled Military Veteran

Any Florida resident certified to have at least 10% service related disability by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or its predecessor, or by any branch of the United States Armed Forces, shall have the income requirement waived for a period of one year from the end of the current license year (June 30th). This endorsement shall only be issued on an individual Saltwater Products License. Documentation of the qualifying income is not required with the initial application for a restricted species (RS) endorsement. Documentation of the qualifying income will be required to renew the RS thereafter at the reduced \$2,500 amount.

(Reference: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission)

38. Restricted Species (RS) Endorsement Exemptions — Honorably Discharged Military Veteran

The income requirement for a restricted species endorsement shall be waived for a period of one year from the end of the current license year (June 30th) for any Florida resident military veteran who applies to the Commission within 48 months of an honorable discharge from any branch of the United States Armed Forces, the Reserves, the Florida National Guard or the Coast Guard. This exemption is allowed one time per military enlistment and only on an individual Saltwater Products License. ([F.S. 379.361](#))

39. Use Tax Exemption for Motor Vehicles Imported from a Foreign Country

Exempts an active servicemember, or spouse, from use tax on the registration or titling of a motor vehicle imported from a foreign country when the vehicle was purchased and used in a foreign country for six (6) months or longer before being imported into Florida and the vehicle is registered or titled in Florida for personal use by the active member or active member's spouse. ([F.S. 212.08\(7\)](#))

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE PORTABILITY



Florida Licensure Reciprocity— Florida is the nation's leader in providing licensure reciprocity for military spouses.

Health— Through their VALOR Program, the Florida Department of Health honors all valid and current medical licenses from other states and will issue the same license from Florida for no fee.

www.flhealthsource.gov/valor

Professions— The Department of Business and Professional Regulation honors all valid and current professional licenses from other states and will issue the same license for the corresponding profession from Florida.

www.myfloridalicense.com/DBPR/military-services/military-and-veteran-spouses

Education— The Florida Department of Education honors all valid and current standard or professional teaching certificates from other states and will issue a corresponding Florida certification.

wwwfldoe.org/teaching/certification/military/#MCFW

Law— The Florida Bar allows active duty military spouses who are members of the bar of other states to practice law in Florida when they accompany a military member stationed in Florida.

<https://www.floridabar.org/rules/rrtfb/military-spouse-rule-faq>

40. The “Don Hahnfeldt Veteran and Military Family Opportunity Act”

The Act eases professional licensing fees and requirements for certain military members, veterans, and their spouses, including:

- For the Department of Health (DOH) professional licensees, granting current DOH fee waivers for dentists, and providing an affirmative defense in certain unlicensed activity actions;
- For the Department of Business and Professional Regulation professional licensees, expanded license renewal fee waivers and revised licensure eligibility requirements; providing an exemption from certain penalties (**F.S. 455.02 and F.S. 456.024, F.S.**);
- For the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services professional licensees, expanding current initial licensing fee waivers and creating renewal fee waivers (**F.S. 472.015, 472.016, 493.6105, 493.6107, 493.6113, 501.015, 501.605, 501.607, 501.609, and 507.03**);
- For the Office of Financial Regulation mortgage loan originators and associated persons licensees, creating an initial licensing and renewal fee waivers and providing an exemption from an application fee; authorizing the licensing authority to recognize certain military issued credentials for purposes of licensure (**F.S. 494.00312 and 494.00313, 497.140, 497.141, 497.281, 497.368, 497.369, 497.370, 497.371, 497.373, 497.374, and 497.375, 497.393, 497.453, 497.466, 497.554, and 497.602**);
- For the Department of Financial Services professional licensees, relief from pre-licensure insurance coursework requirements, and expanding initial licensure fee waivers (**F.S. 517.12, 527.02 and 539.001**);
- For the Department of Education (DOE) licensees, creating certain initial fee waivers; granting a temporary certificate in education; establishing a pathway for veteran officers for certification as a school principal; waives certain fees and gives students who are children of an active duty member who is not stationed in this state, but whose home of record or state of legal residence is Florida, priority for attendance in the Florida Virtual School (**F.S. 446.041, 1012.59 and 1002.37**);
- Protects members of Florida National Guard or the United States Armed Forces Reserves seeking licensure or

qualification for a trade, occupation, or profession if they are ordered into state active duty or into active duty and his or her period of training, study, apprenticeship, or practical experience is interrupted or the start thereof is delayed, he or she is entitled to licensure or qualification under the laws covering his or her licensure or qualification at the time of entrance into active duty (**F.S. 250.483**);

- Designates March 25 of each year as “Medal of Honor Day,” and provides for a character development program that incorporates the values of the Congressional Medal of Honor (**F.S. 683.147and 1002.37**);
- And requires the Division of State Fire Marshal to waive certain expenses associated with attending the Florida State Fire College (**F.S. 633.444**).

41. Professional Licensure

Provides that professional licenses issued to any member of the Florida National Guard or the United States Armed Forces Reserves shall not expire while the member is serving on federal active duty and are exempted from all license renewal requirements for the duration of active duty and a period of six months after discharge. Also requires the Department of Business and Professional Regulation and its boards to adopt rules to exempt military spouses for license renewal provisions when absent from the state due to his/her spouse's military duty (**F.S. 455.02**). Additionally, authorizes a spouse of an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States to be issued a temporary license to practice a profession in Florida. The applicant's spouse must be on active duty and assigned to a duty station in Florida. The applicant must hold a valid license for the profession in another state, the District of Columbia, any United States territory or possession, or a foreign jurisdiction. The temporary license is valid for six months.

Requires the department to waive the initial licensing fee, the initial application fee, and the initial unlicensed activity fee for military veterans who apply for a license within 24 months of honorable discharge. (**F.S. 455.213**)

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) waives first-time licensing application fees for veterans, their spouses, or a business entity in which the veteran or spouse has a majority ownership stake. Other fees may apply. <https://www.fdacs.gov> or 800-435-7352

42. Occupational Opportunity Act

This law requires the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) to issue a fee-waived professional renewable license for boards and programs listed under Florida Statute 20.165 for members of the Armed Forces who served on active duty, spouses of members of the Armed Forces, and surviving spouses of members of the Armed Forces providing they have proof they hold a valid license for the profession issued by any other state. This law also permits the renewal of such licenses, provided the standard conditions of renewal under the applicable practice act are completed. The law also extends the period of time that active duty members with licenses remain in good standing after discharge from active duty from six months to two years and allows spouses and surviving spouses of active duty members to remain in good standing when they are absent from the state due to their spouse's Armed Forces duties.

This law applies to the following boards:

- Board of Architecture and Interior Design
- Board of Auctioneers
- Barbers' Board
- Building Code Administrators and Inspectors Board
- Construction Industry Licensing Board
- Board of Cosmetology
- Electrical Contractors' Licensing Board
- Board of Employee Leasing Companies
- Board of Landscape Architecture
- Board of Pilot Commissioners
- Board of Professional Geologists
- Board of Veterinary Medicine
- Home inspection services licensing program
- Mold-related services licensing program
- Florida Board of Professional Engineers
- Board of Accountancy
- Florida Real Estate Commission
- Florida Real Estate Appraisal Board

(**F.S. 455.213**)

43. Surveyors and Mappers

For members of Armed Forces in good standing with the board: Any member of the Armed Forces of the United States who is now or in the future on active duty and who, at the time of becoming such a member of the Armed Forces, was in good standing with the board and entitled to practice or engage in surveying and mapping in the state shall be kept in good standing by the board, without registering, paying dues or fees, or performing any other act on his or her part to be performed, as long as he or she is a member of the Armed Forces of the United States on active duty and for a period of 6 months after discharge from active duty, provided that he or she is not engaged in the practice of surveying or mapping in the private sector for profit.

For family members: The board shall adopt rules exempting the spouses of members of the Armed Forces of the United States from licensure renewal provisions, but only in cases of absence from the state because of their spouses' duties with the Armed Forces. ([F.S. 471.013](#))

Spouses of members of the Armed Forces of the United States are exempt from licensure renewal provisions, but only in cases of absence from the state because of their spouses' duties with the Armed Forces. Copies of the military orders requiring the change in duty station must be sent to the Board office in order to qualify for the exemption. Upon receipt of the military orders by the Board office confirming exemption eligibility, the spouse's license will be placed on inactive status with no fee required. Reactivation of the inactive license will not require payment of the fee set forth in Rule 5J-17.070, F.A.C. The license will remain in inactive status for up to two renewal cycles at which time the licensee must either renew this exemption, before expiration, by submitting a current set of orders establishing eligibility for the exemption or reactivate the license. The licensee may reactivate the license by submitting an application for change of status from inactive to active and will not be required to pay the fee set forth in Rule 5J-17.070, F.A.C., nor be required to comply with any rules setting conditions for reactivation of licensure, including continuing education requirements imposed by Section 455.271(10), F.S. If a license is not reactivated nor the exemption renewed by the expiration date, the license shall become delinquent. Reactivation of the delinquent license will not require payment of the fee set forth in Rule 5J-17.070, F.A.C. ([5J-17.007 F.A.C.](#))

44. Engineer Licensure/Exam

Allows applicants for professional engineering examinations who are delayed in taking the examination due to reserve or active duty service in the U.S. Armed Forces an additional two attempts to take the examination before the board may require additional college-level education or review courses. ([F.S. 471.013](#))



45. Practicing Law

Active duty military spouses who are members of the bar of other states may practice law in Florida when they accompany a military member stationed in Florida. Military spouse attorneys seeking admission under Chapter 21 “Military Spouse Authorization to Engage in the Practice of Law in Florida” must meet the eligibility requirements set forth in the rule (<https://www.floridabar.org/news-release/bar-announcements/its-now-easier-for-military-spouses-to-practice-law-in-florida>).

Eligibility requirements include the following:

- Lawyer must be married to a servicemember and be enrolled in the Department of Defense’s “Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System” (or identified and enrolled by the Department of Homeland Security for the Coast Guard when not operating as a service of the Navy);
- Be a law school graduate with a J.D. or LL.B. from a law school accredited by the American Bar Association and hold an active, valid law license in another U.S. jurisdiction;
- Be a member in good standing in every jurisdiction to which they are admitted;
- Not be subject to any discipline or pending disciplinary investigation in any other jurisdiction; reside in Florida or plan to reside in the state in the next six months;
- Not have failed the Florida bar exam within the past five years;
- Pass a character and fitness review by the Florida Board of Bar Examiners;
- Submit an application with a copy of the military member’s orders to a duty station within Florida and pay an application fee to the FBBE;
- And read the Rules of Discipline, the Rules of Professional Conduct, and agree to the Supreme Court’s jurisdiction for disciplinary purposes.

Once certified under the rule, the new Florida Bar member must complete the basic skills requirement in Rule 6-12 within six months of certification and complete 10 hours of continuing legal education, including two hours of ethics credits, each year in the program. The new Florida Bar member must also be employed by, or in a mentorship relationship with, a member of the Florida Bar who is eligible to practice law in Florida. The Military Affairs Committee will establish a mentor network for this purpose.

A license issued under this rule is subject to annual renewal and fees equal to those paid by active members of the Florida Bar. The duration of a Chapter 21 license will not exceed five years.

The certification to practice law under chapter 21 will terminate if:

- The servicemember is no longer an active duty member of the United States armed forces;
- The certified lawyer is no longer married to the servicemember;
- The servicemember receives a permanent transfer outside of Florida, except that the certified lawyer may continue to practice pursuant to this chapter if the servicemember has been assigned to an unaccompanied or remote assignment with no dependents authorized until the servicemember is assigned to a location with dependents authorized;
- The certified lawyer relocates outside of Florida for more than 6 continuous months;
- The certified lawyer requests that the certification be terminated;
- Five years have elapsed since the certified lawyer was certified; or
- The certified lawyer becomes a member of The Florida Bar by meeting all admission requirements to The Florida Bar

46. Health Professional Licensure

The Florida Department of Health is committed to serving members of the United States Armed Forces, veterans and their families. The Department is proud that over 1.5 million veterans call Florida home, and our continued goal is to make Florida the most veteran-friendly state in the nation. Military veterans and their

families face many challenges. One service the Department offers is the Florida Veterans Application for Licensure Online Response process (VALOR), which provides expedited licensing for honorably discharged veterans and their spouses seeking licensure in most health care professions. Veterans and spouses who apply through the VALOR process receive a waiver of most licensing fees. For information on the program go to www.flhealthsource.gov/valor#veterans.

Several programs and reciprocal licensure arrangements for healthcare professionals are covered under Florida law including:

- Florida provides that health professional licenses issued to any member of the Armed Forces of the United States be kept in good standing without registering, paying dues or fees, or performing any other act on his or her part so long as he or she is a member of the Armed Forces of the United States on active duty and for a period of six months after discharge. ([F.S. 456.024](#)) ([F.S. 401.271](#)) ([F.S. 468.309](#))
- A person who serves or has served as a health care practitioner in the U.S. Armed Forces is eligible for licensure in Florida. The applicable department will waive the application fee, licensure fee and unlicensed activity fee for these applicants. ([F.S. 459.00761](#))
- Florida exempts the spouse of member of the Armed Forces of the United States from licensure renewal provisions but only in cases of absence from the state because of their spouse's duties with the Armed Forces. ([F.S. 456.024](#)) ([F.S. 401.271](#)) ([F.S. 468.309](#))
- The Agency for Health Care Administration has special consideration for spouses of active duty military that allows them to enroll in Florida Medicaid as a provider. The Department of Health issues a temporary medical license with the status: Temporary Military Active – the licensed practitioner has a spouse serving in the Armed Forces of the United States and is authorized to practice his/her profession in the state of Florida for a period of 12 months. Florida also provides alternative eligibility criteria for military members, and their spouses, seeking licensure as a health care practitioner. Allows military health care practitioners who are practicing under a military platform, which is a training agreement with a non-military health care provider, to be issued a temporary certificate to practice in this state. Provides that a spouse of an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States who is on active duty to be issued a temporary license to practice in Florida. The applicant's spouse must be assigned to a duty station in Florida. The applicant must be otherwise entitled to full licensure under the appropriate practice act, and is eligible to take the respective licensure exam as required in Florida. The applicant must hold a valid license for the profession in another state, the District of Columbia, or a possession or territory of the United States. The temporary license is valid for 12 months after the date of issuance and is non-renewable. An applicant who is issued a temporary professional license to practice as a dentist pursuant to this section must practice under the indirect supervision, as defined in s. 466.003, of a dentist licensed pursuant to chapter 466. ([F.S. 456.024](#))
- Provides for transfer of nurse licensing for spouses of military members. An applicant for licensure by endorsement who is relocating to this state pursuant to his or her military-connected spouse's official military orders and who is licensed in another state that is a member of the Nurse Licensure Compact shall be issued a license by endorsement upon submission of the appropriate application and fees and completion of the criminal background check. ([F.S. 464.009](#))
- *The Rear Admiral LeRoy Collins, Jr., Temporary Certificate for Practice in Areas of Critical Need* provides that medical doctors may be issued a limited license to practice in Areas of Critical Need. For experienced military physicians who might not qualify for or are not interested in applying for a full Florida license to practice medicine, this law provides the opportunity to serve Florida patients in those areas where health care is most needed. The physician however must have served as a physician in the United States Armed Forces for at least 10 years and received an honorable discharge from military service. ([F.S. 458.315](#))

47. Criminal Justice Officer Certification

Provides for an exemption from completing a full Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission approved law enforcement, correctional, or correctional probation officer basic recruit training program if an applicant has served at least one year as a full-time sworn officer in another state or for the federal government. An applicant who is exempt from completing a Commission-approved basic recruit training program must demonstrate proficiency in the high-liability areas and pass the state officer certification examination (F.S. 943.131). For more information, please visit our website at Officer Requirements (Equivalency of Training) (<https://www.fdle.state.fl.us/CJSTC/Officer-Requirements/Equivalency-of-Training.aspx>).

48. Military Firefighters Training Requirements

The Florida Department of Financial Services has established OPERATION DISPATCH to allow our military veterans the opportunity to apply comparative experience-based training to fulfill certification requirements to continue protecting the safety and well-being of those in our communities. It is designed to attract military service members and veterans to Florida. OPERATION DISPATCH cuts out redundant training so military-trained firefighters take 40 hours of training specific to Florida standards. OPERATION DISPATCH allows these dedicated men and women to continue meaningful and long-lasting careers in the Florida fire service industry. Through partnerships forged with the Florida Departments of Veterans' and Military Affairs, OPERATION DISPATCH reduces the costs associated with the Florida-specific training and testing to military firefighters. The program also allows participants to take the certification exam in a more timely fashion than the regularly-scheduled quarterly administrations, which upon successful completion helps newly-certified firefighters enter Florida's workforce faster. For more information, visit <https://www.myfloridacfo.com/division/sfm/operationdispatch.htm> or email Michael.Driggers@MyFloridaCFO.com.

(Reference: Office of the Chief Financial Officer)

49. The Occupational Freedom and Opportunity Act

Among other provisions, this law amends F.S. 322.57 and requires the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to waive the CDL skills test for honorably discharged veterans whose Military Occupational Specialties were equivalent to a commercial vehicle driver and who have been discharged from the military within the past year. ([F.S. 322.57](#)) Ad Valorem Tax Discount for Spouses of Certain Deceased Veterans Who Had Permanent, Combat-Related Disabilities. Amends the State Constitution to authorize the surviving spouse of a deceased combat-related disabled veteran to carry over certain discounts on ad valorem taxes on homestead property until the surviving spouse remarries or sells or otherwise disposes of the property.

Transfer of Tax Exemption for Veterans: The act adds a provision to an existing law requiring that veterans who were honorably discharged with a service-connected total and permanent disability or their surviving spouses who are entitled to receive ad valorem exemptions on property taxes for one property, may receive a pro-rated reimbursement of taxes paid on any property they buy between January 1 and November 1 of any year.

TAX & FINANCIAL BENEFITS



50. Homestead Exemption on Property Taxes and Ad Valorem Tax Exemption

Authorizes veterans and servicemembers who are deployed in certain military operations to receive additional homestead exemptions as well as ad valorem tax exemptions. Provides that valid military orders transferring military servicemembers are sufficient to maintain permanent residence status of servicemember and spouse for purposes of such determination by property appraiser. This law has been updated in 2016 and expands the designated operations for which deployed servicemembers may qualify and allows the exemption for deployments in newly named operations beginning with deployments in calendar year 2014. It also provides refund procedures for servicemembers who were on qualifying deployments for more than 365 days during the 2014 and 2015 calendar years. In short, the law expands military operations that qualify certain servicemembers who receive a homestead exemption and were deployed during the previous calendar year, to receive additional ad valorem tax exemption on that homestead property.

A 2020 amendment to this law allows veterans or their surviving spouses who are entitled to receive ad valorem exemptions on property taxes for one property, to receive a pro-rated reimbursement of taxes paid on any property they buy between January 1 and November 1 of any year (thus permitting an uninterrupted use of this benefit when selling one homestead to purchase a different one). ([F.S. 196.173](#))

Ad Valorem Tax Discount for Spouses of Certain Deceased Veterans Who Had Permanent, Combat-Related Disabilities. Amends the State Constitution to authorize the surviving spouse of a deceased combat-related disabled veteran to carry over certain discounts on ad valorem taxes on homestead property until the surviving spouse remarries or sells or otherwise disposes of the property.

Transfer of Tax Exemption for Veterans: The act adds a provision to an existing law requiring that veterans who were honorably discharged with a service-connected total and permanent disability or their surviving spouses who are entitled to receive ad valorem exemptions on property taxes for one property, may receive a pro-rated reimbursement of taxes paid on any property they buy between January 1 and November 1 of any year.

51. Local Business Tax Relief

This law provides an exemption to the local business tax, authorized in ch. 205, F.S., for active duty military servicemembers' spouses who relocate to the county or municipality pursuant to a permanent change of station order. ([F.S. 205](#))

52. Salute Our Soldiers Military Loan Program

This program offers military service personnel and veterans who are purchasing a primary residence and meet income and purchase price limits, a 30-year, fixed-rate first mortgage loan at a low rate and with several down payment assistance options. (<https://www.floridahousing.org/programs/homebuyer-loan-program-wizards/salute-our-soldiers-military-loan-program>)



UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION & EMPLOYMENT PROTECTION/ASSISTANCE



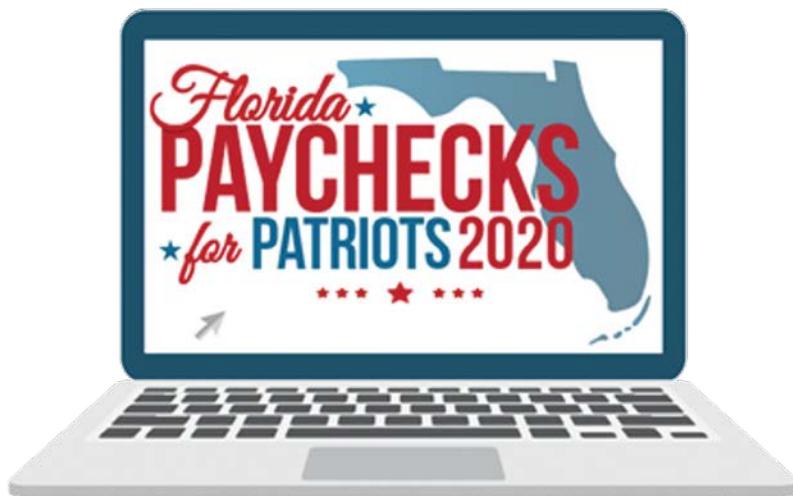
53. Unemployment Compensation for Spouses of Members of the Military

Provides that a person is not disqualified for unemployment compensation benefits who voluntarily leaves employment due to relocation as a result of his or her spouse's military orders. Allows the spouses of active duty military members who voluntarily resign from their jobs to keep the family intact as a result of the military member's change of station orders or deployment to become eligible for unemployment compensation benefits. (**F.S. 443.101**)

54. CareerSource Florida — Employment Advocacy & Assistance

Provides employment assistance to military spouse and dependents. CareerSource shall establish an employment advocacy and assistance program targeting military spouses and dependents. This program shall deliver employment assistance services through military family employment advocates collocated within selected one-stop career centers. Persons eligible for assistance through this program shall include spouses and dependents of active-duty military personnel, Florida National Guard members, and military reservists. Military family employment advocates are responsible for providing the following services and activities: (a) Coordination of employment assistance services through military base family support centers, Florida's one-stop career centers, and veteran support organizations. (b) Training to one-stop career center managers and staff on the unique employment needs and skills of military family members. (c) Promoting and marketing the benefits of employing military family members to prospective employers. (d) Assisting employment-seeking military family members through job counseling, job search and placement services, the dissemination of information on educational and training programs, and the availability of support services. (e) Other employment assistance services CareerSource deems necessary. (**F.S. 445.055**)

Newly launched in 2020, Paychecks for Patriots hiring fairs were hosted by local workforce development boards in conjunction with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, the Florida VA and the Florida National Guard, to connect veterans and military family members with hundreds of employers throughout the state. For more information and the scheduled events visit this website: <https://floridajobs.org/paychecks-for-patriots>.



55. National Guard Members Employment Protection (NG)

National Guard Servicemembers are protected and will not be penalized by employers and postsecondary institutions when ordered into state active duty. A private or public employer, or an employing or appointing authority of this state, its counties, school districts, municipalities, political subdivisions, career centers, community colleges, or universities, may not discharge, reprimand, or in any other way penalize such member because of his or her absence by reason of state active duty. Employers are prohibited from discharging reemployed servicemembers, for a period of one year, except for cause. ([F.S. 250.482](#))

56. Leave & Pay to State Employees for Military Service (NG, R)

All officials of the state, the several counties of the state, and the municipalities or political subdivisions of the state, including district school and community college officers, which officials are also servicemembers in the National Guard or a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States, shall be granted leave of absence from their respective offices and duties to perform active military service, the first 30 days of any such leave of absence to be with full pay. ([F.S. 115.09](#)) Additionally, after the first 30 days of full pay, public employers may supplement the military pay of its employees who are reservists in federal active duty in an amount necessary to bring their total salary, inclusive of their base military pay, to the level earned at the time they were called to active military duty. ([F.S. 115.14](#))

57. Additional Leave for State Employees on National Guard Duty (NG)

Increases the amount of annual leave of absence granted to officers and employees of the state, counties, municipalities, and political subdivisions of the state who are commissioned reserve officers or reserve enlisted personnel in the U.S. military or naval service or who are members of the National Guard from 17 days to 30 days. ([F.S. 115.07](#))

58. Temporary Employment or Appointment of Officers

This law provides an exemption from basic law enforcement recruit training for an applicant who has served in the special operations forces of the U.S. military for at least five years, provided there is no more than a 4-year break from the applicant's special operations forces experience at the time of application. The Florida Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission may require an exempt applicant to complete additional training as it deems appropriate, based on the applicant's prior training and experience. ([F.S. 943.10](#))

EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS



59. In-State Tuition Rates

Certain military and family members receive in state tuition rates for Florida colleges and universities. As of July 1, 2019, the determination of resident status for tuition purposes is established at the time of acceptance (rather than enrollment) for the active duty member, their spouses, dependent children, and active drilling members of the Florida National Guard. ([F.S. 1009.21](#))

60. Tuition Waivers

Requires state universities and community colleges to waive undergraduate tuition for a recipient of a Purple Heart or other combat decoration superior in precedence that fulfills specified criteria. ([F.S. 1009.26](#))

61. Postsecondary Fee Waivers

The law authorizes Florida Colleges and Schools' institutions to waive any portion of specified fees that are not covered under the DOD Military Tuition Assistance (MTA) program including:

- Student activity and service fees;
- Financial aid fees;
- Technology fees;
- Capital improvement fees; and
- Any other authorized in s. 1009.23, F.S.

Active duty servicemembers using the DOD MTA program will no longer incur out of pocket costs when they are enrolled in a FCS institution that elects to implement the fee waiver. ([F.S. 1009.23](#))

62. In-State Tuition Rates for Military Members Enrolled in Online Courses

The law creates an out-of-state fee waiver for an active duty member of the United States Armed Forces residing or stationed outside of the state at the time of enrollment at a state university, Florida College System institution, career center, or charter technical career center. This provision applies to online and distance education courses. ([F.S. 1009.26](#))

63. College Credit for Military Training & Education Courses

Members of the United States Armed Forces can earn college credit for college-level training and education acquired in the military. ([F.S. 1004.096](#))

Postsecondary Education for Certain Military Personnel: The act requires the Board of Governors and State Board of Education to adopt a uniform set of rules to award academic credit for college degrees and technical training certification based on servicemembers' and veterans' prior military training and experience. The newly enacted legislation helps veterans and members on active duty to achieve their degrees quicker and without having to take unnecessary course requirements. ([F.S. 1004.096](#))

64. Course Withdrawal for Military Service

Any student enrolled in a postsecondary course or courses at a career center, a Florida college System institution, or a state university shall be permitted the option of either completing the course or courses at a later date without penalty or withdrawing from the course or courses with a full refund of fees paid. If the student chooses to withdraw, the student's record shall reflect that the withdrawal is due to active military service. ([F.S. 1004.07](#))

65. National Guard Educational Dollars for Duty Program (NG)

The Educational Dollars for Duty (EDD) Program will be paid at 100 percent of the charged resident rate for Florida community colleges and public universities, and the average current state resident rate for private universities. EDD will pay for courses that matriculate toward a technical certificate, associates, baccalaureate, or master's degree and will pay for training in post-secondary institutions and technical centers to obtain industry certifications approved by the Department of Education. The Educational Dollars for Duty Program is for individuals who enter the Florida National Guard for the first time after June 30, 1997. Approval and payment of tuition is subject to annual appropriation. ([F.S. 250.10](#))



FAMILY MEMBERS

66. Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3)

Florida is a member of the original states that signed on to the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) in 2006. The Florida Statute which reflects this membership is titled: Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children. The annual dues assessment for the Interstate Compact shall be paid within existing resources by the Department of Education. It is the purpose of this compact to remove barriers to educational success imposed on children of military families because of frequent moves and deployment of their parents by:

- A. Facilitating the timely enrollment of children of military families and ensuring that they are not placed at a disadvantage due to difficulty in the transfer of education records from the previous school district or variations in entrance or age requirements.
- B. Facilitating the student placement process through which children of military families are not disadvantaged by variations in attendance requirements, scheduling, sequencing, grading, course content, or assessment.
- C. Facilitating the qualification and eligibility for enrollment, educational programs, and participation in extracurricular academic, athletic, and social activities.

- D. Facilitating the on-time graduation of children of military families.
- E. Providing for the adoption and enforcement of administrative rules implementing this compact.
- F. Providing for the uniform collection and sharing of information between and among member states, schools, and military families under this compact.
- G. Promoting coordination between this compact and other compacts affecting military children.
- H. Promoting flexibility and cooperation between the educational system, parents, and the student in order to achieve educational success for the student.

(F.S. 1000.36)

67. Accommodation in Schools for the Transitioning Children of Military Families

Florida public schools must accept military permanent change of station (PCS) orders that relocate a military family to any military installation within the state as proof of residency for all public school authorized programs at the school. This allows registration of a student once orders are received rather than after the servicemember arrives and secures housing. This law also provides priority placement in gifted, special needs and voucher programs for the children of military members. Additionally, provides for smooth transition for children of military families coming into Florida by improving timely transfer of records, establishing procedures to lessen the impact of moves, providing services for transferring students, and giving them first preference in special academic programs. The Department of Education shall assist in the transition by promoting practices which foster access to extracurricular programs, establishing procedures to lessen the adverse impact of moves from the end of the junior year as well as before and during the senior year, encouraging or continuing partnerships between the military base and the school system, providing services for transitioning students when applying to and finding funding for postsecondary study, and providing other assistance as identified by department, school, and military personnel. Finally, dependent children of active-duty military personnel who otherwise meet the eligibility criteria for special academic programs offered through public schools shall be given first preference for admission to such programs even if the program is being offered through a public school other than the school to which the student would generally be assigned and the school at which the program is being offered has reached its maximum enrollment. **(F.S. 1003.05)**

Florida offers more virtual options for their students than any other state. Florida students at all grade levels have both full-time (virtual school) and part-time (virtual course) options. The options include virtual schools and courses offered by Florida Virtual School (FLVS) and by all 67 school districts. All of Florida's virtual education options are designated by law as school choice options for Florida students. Specifically:

- Virtual instruction programs and Florida Virtual School are educational choice options **(F.S 1002.20(6));**
- Requires school boards to provide students with access to virtual instruction programs, including Florida Virtual School and other approved providers, and to award credit for successful completion of such courses **(F.S. 1001.42(23));**
- School districts may not limit student access to courses offered through Florida Virtual School **(F.S. 1002.37(3)(c));**
- Requires school districts to provide all enrolled public-school students within its boundaries the option of participating in part-time and full-time virtual instruction programs **(F.S. 1002.45(1)(b));**

68. Exit Exam Graduation Requirements for High School Seniors of Military Families

In order to facilitate the on-time graduation of children of military families, states and local education agencies shall accept exit or end-of-course exams required for graduation from the sending state, national norm-referenced tests, or alternative testing, in lieu testing requirements for graduation in the receiving state. **(F.S 1000.36, Article VII Section B)**

69. In-State College Tuition Rates for Military Family Members

This law amends the Congressman C.W. "Bill" Young Veteran Tuition Waiver Program to allow additional persons to be eligible for the out-of-state tuition fee waivers. This addition allows individuals, such as a spouse or child of a veteran or servicemember using GI Bill benefits, to qualify for in-state tuition rate currently afforded to honorably discharged veterans residing in Florida and enrolled in a state university, Florida College System institution, career center operated by a school district, or charter technical career center. The law requires a state university, Florida College System institution, career center operated by a school district, or charter technical career center to waive out-of-state fees for any person who is receiving educational assistance through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and who physically resides in Florida while enrolled in the institution. **(F.S. 1009.26)**

70. Preferential Treatment for Military Children

Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, a parent whose child is not subject to a current expulsion or suspension order may seek enrollment in and transport his or her child to any public school in the state, including a charter school, which has not reached capacity. The school district or charter school shall accept and report the student for purposes of funding through the FEEP. The school district or charter school may provide student transportation at their discretion. The bill requires the capacity determinations of each school district and charter school to be current and identified on their respective school website. In determining capacity, a district school board must incorporate specifications, plans, elements, and commitments contained in the district's educational facilities plan and required long-term work programs. Each charter school governing board must determine capacity based upon its charter contract. **Each school must provide preferential treatment in its controlled open enrollment process to dependent children of active duty military personnel who moved as a result of military orders.** **(F.S. 1002.31 (2) (c) 1)**

FAMILY SUPPORT



71. Support to Family Members Codified in Florida law

Florida extends Servicemembers' Civil Relief Act (SCRA) to include early termination of auto leases, cell phone agreements and other commonly leased or contracted items listed in this handbook. Florida Law incorporates, by reference, both the SCRA and the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA). The SCRA is a federal law which addresses many of the same issues as Florida Law. ([F.S. 250.82](#)) USERRA ([F.S. 115.15](#)) is the federal law which affords employment protections and rights to servicemembers.

72. Assistance for Dependents of Servicemembers on Active Duty

Provides that eligibility for the Family Readiness Program continues for a specified period following the termination of the servicemember's orders and his/her return home. ([F.S. 250.5206](#))

73. Assistance for National Guard and Reserve Servicemembers on Active Duty (NG, R)

Provides need-based financial assistance to eligible servicemembers of the Florida National Guard and United States Reserve Forces, including the Coast Guard Reserves, who are on active duty serving in the global war on terrorism and who are federally deployed or participating in state operations for homeland defense, and eligible families of such servicemembers. Program funds may be used in emergency situations to purchase critically needed services, including, but not limited to, reasonable living expenses, housing, vehicles, equipment or renovations necessary to meet disability needs, and health care. Additionally, provides that eligibility for the Family Readiness Program continues for a specified period following the termination of the servicemember's orders and his/her return home. ([F.S. 250.5206](#))

74. Soldier and Airman Assistance Program (NG)

Provides financial assistance and services to eligible servicemembers of the Florida National Guard and eligible members of their families. The program shall be administered by the Department of Military Affairs. The program provides assistance for housing, living expenses, vehicle repair and rental, and health care. ([F.S. 250.116](#))

75. Eligibility for Public Benefits (SNAP, TANF)

Active duty military personnel, veterans and their spouses/minor children with qualified non-citizen status do not need to wait the standard five years after entering the country before they can receive public benefits. These benefits include the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and Medicaid. Other program rules including low income still apply.)

(Source: Florida Department of Children and Families)

76. Drivers Licenses

A member of the U.S. Armed Forces on active duty in Florida shall not be required to obtain a Florida driver's license solely because he or she enters his or her children to be educated in the public schools of this state if he or she has a valid military driving permit or a valid driver's license issued by another state. ([F.S. 322.031](#))

77. Persons with Disabilities – Medicaid Home and Community-Based Waivers

Provides individuals who meet eligibility requirements under F.S. 393.065 (1) to receive home and community-based services in Florida if parent or legal guardian is an active duty military servicemember and if, at the time of the transfer to Florida, the individual was already receiving home and community-based services in another state. Additional information can be found at: <https://apd.myflorida.com> ([SB2502A - Implementing Bill 00000002](#))

78. Military and Veterans Assistance Program

The Military and Veterans Assistance Program (“MVAP”) is an initiative within the Florida Office of the Attorney General’s Consumer Protection Division that seeks to serve the unique needs of Florida’s military servicemembers, reservists, and veterans. The program was established to help educate servicemembers and veterans on the types of scams that target their communities and to address concerns of military servicemembers and veterans across the state. Members of the MVAP team work directly with military servicemembers and veterans who have been targeted, or their representatives, in an effort to resolve their consumer protection-related issues or facilitate contact with other legal assistance if needed and as appropriate.

The MVAP team focuses on the following areas of assistance for military servicemembers and veterans across the state:

Outreach and Education: We collaborate with military and veteran leadership statewide to provide education and information regarding emerging scams targeting servicemembers, reservists, and veterans, and the ways in which our program can assist this community.

Complaint Resolution: A dedicated team works to address individual complaints by facilitating contact between the complaining servicemember, reservist, or veteran and the related business. Military servicemembers, reservists, dependents, base representatives, veterans, veteran services representatives, and state or federal agencies can file a complaint at www.myfloridalegal.com/MVAP.

- **Enforcement:** The MVAP team will monitor trends in complaints received and pursue consumer protection enforcement actions where appropriate.
- **Outside Referral:** For matters not within our consumer protection enforcement jurisdiction, our team will connect eligible servicemembers, reservists, and veterans with legal aid offices or other agencies if needed and as appropriate.
- **Improved Communication:** The MVAP team will work to encourage open communication between local, state, and federal partners to help ensure complaints are being handled by the correct organization and new and relevant information is shared.

Additional Resources View the Attorney General Ashley Moody’s 2020 Military Consumer Protection Resource Guide at www.myfloridalegal.com.

Contact: Call 1-866-9-NO-SCAM (1-866-966-7226), e-mail MVAP@myfloridalegal.com or visit www.myfloridalegal.com/MVAP.



79. Governor DeSantis' GI LAW Initiative to Assist Florida's Military

The Governor's Initiative on Lawyers Assisting Warriors (GI LAW) draws from the talent of Florida's leading law firms to provide pro bono legal services for military members. This program allows our state's men and women in uniform to receive local council 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. Those interested in obtaining pro bono legal services should go to the website at:

www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/lawyers-assisting-warriors and fill out a Legal Assistance Request Form and submit it through their appropriate Judge Advocate General or civilian military attorney's office.



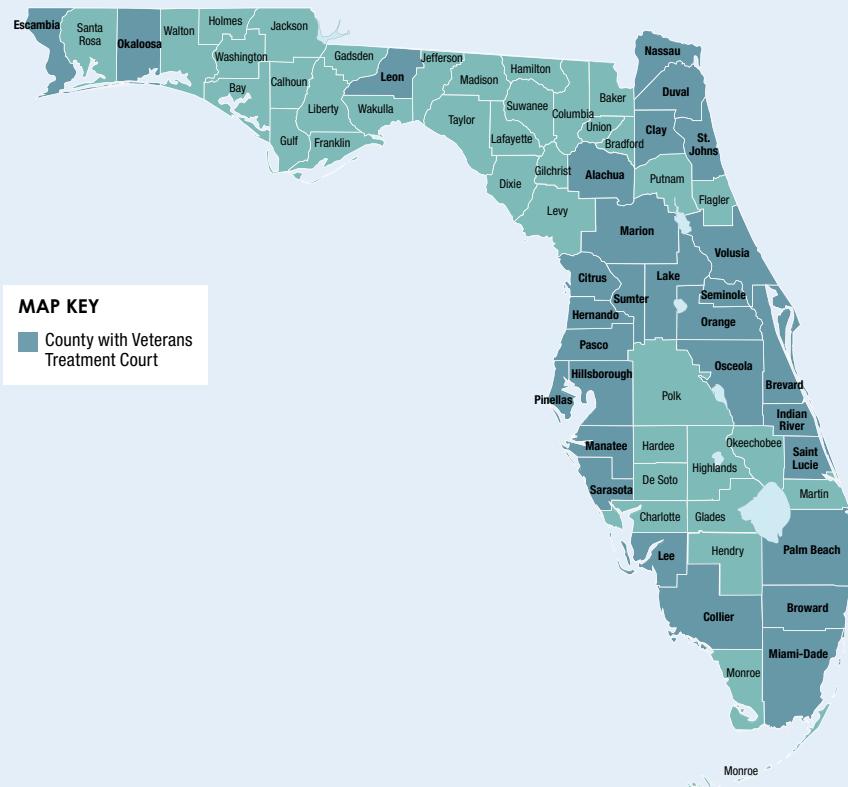
80. Deployed Parent Custody and Visitation

This law creates the "Uniform Deployed Parents Custody and Visitation Act" which complies with and mirrors federal law of the same name. This bill provides protections for deployed servicemembers in regard to custody of children. It requires parents to communicate about custody and visitation issues as soon as possible after a servicemember learns of deployment and establishes procedures for parents who agree to a custody arrangement during deployment to resolve these issues by an out-of-court agreement. Further, it allows a deployed parent to grant care-taking authority to a non-parent with whom the child has a close positive relationship of substantial duration and depth. In the absence of an agreement, the bill allows for expedited resolution of a custody arrangement in court with a temporary custody order. The bill prohibits the entry of a permanent custody order before or during deployment without the servicemember's consent. The bill provides for termination of the temporary custody arrangement following the servicemember's return from deployment. The bill also repeals the section of law that currently addresses temporary time-sharing modification and child support modification due to military service. A 2020 amendment to the law added the provision that the absence of a servicemember due to a deployment or anticipated deployment may not be considered as abandonment or used as a factor in making such a determination. ([F.S. 61.703-61.773](#))

81. Veterans Treatment Courts

The **T. Patt Maney Veterans' Treatment Act** authorizes a veterans court with the purpose of addressing the substance abuse and mental health needs of veterans – including active duty servicemembers – within the criminal justice system. Veterans court, modeled after drug court, serves justice-involved veterans with a military-related substance use and/or mental health disorder including traumatic brain injury (TBI) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Veterans court requires the participant to appear regularly before the court, attend mandatory treatment sessions, and submit to frequent testing for substance use. More information on Veterans courts can be found in the Veterans Resource Guide at www.flcourts.org/core/fileparse.php/266/urlt/VETERANS_RESOURCE_GUIDE.pdf (F.S. 394.47891)

As of June 2020, Florida has 31 veterans courts in operation.





VISION

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

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PURPOSE

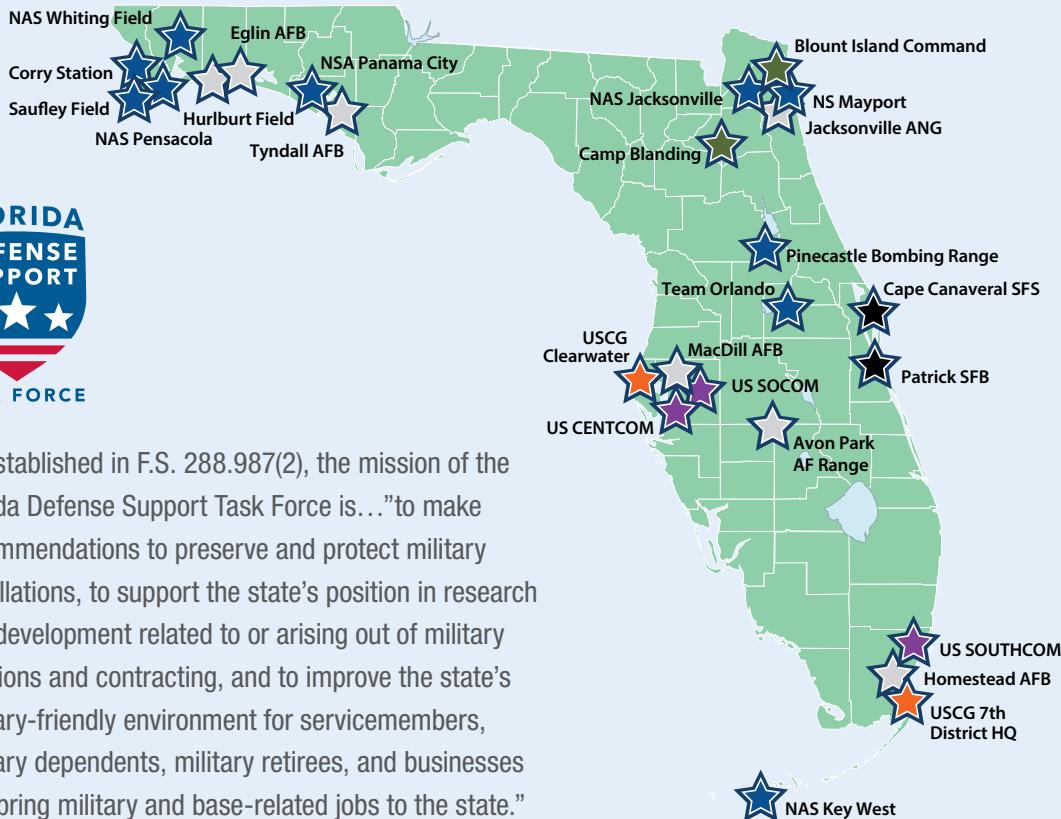
Per F.S. 288.980(1)(b), the Florida Defense Alliance (FDA), an organization within Enterprise Florida, Inc. (EFI), is designated as the organization to ensure that Florida, its resident military bases and missions, and its military host communities are in competitive positions as the United States continues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

FLORIDA DEFENSE ALLIANCE MISSION

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



As established in F.S. 288.987(2), the mission of the Florida Defense Support Task Force is..."to make recommendations to preserve and protect military installations, to support the state's position in research and development related to or arising out of military missions and contracting, and to improve the state's military-friendly environment for servicemembers, military dependents, military retirees, and businesses that bring military and base-related jobs to the state."





The Florida Housing Finance Corporation (Florida Housing) launched the Salute Our Soldiers Military Loan Program in 2020 to assist Florida's growing population of veteran and active-duty military personnel in obtaining permanent housing. The Salute Our Soldiers program offers a variety of down payment and

closing cost assistance (DPA), coupled with low interest rate first mortgage loans. Some of the DPA products offered are even forgivable after five years.

Florida Housing launched this veteran-focused initiative on March 2, with up to \$8 million in funds available to assist military members throughout the state. Veterans who have participated in this program have purchased a home with low-interest rates in just a few short weeks. To date, more than 250 individuals have utilized the Salute Our Soldiers program to obtain a permanent home, and it is expected that by the program's end, these funds will have assisted more than 1,000 military families.

Florida Housing's Salute Our Soldiers team is proud to offer an easy and positive home buying experience with quick mortgage assistance and various lending options for all veterans across Florida's 67 counties.

For more information on Florida Housing and the Salute Our Soldiers Military Loan Program, please visit:

<https://www.floridahousing.org/programs/homebuyer-loan-program-wizards/salute-our-soldiers-military-loan-program>

TRANSITIONING MILITARY FAMILIES ACCESS TO FL VIRTUAL SCHOOL

Florida offers more virtual options for their students than any other state. Florida students at all grade levels have both full-time (virtual school) and part-time (virtual course) options. The options include virtual schools and courses offered by Florida Virtual School (FLVS) and by all 67 school districts. All of Florida's virtual education options are designated by law as school choice options for Florida students. Specifically:

- Section 1002.20(6), Florida Statutes (F.S.), related to educational choice, lists virtual instruction programs and Florida Virtual School as educational choice options.
- Section 1001.42(23), F.S., related to virtual instruction, requires school boards to provide students with access to virtual instruction programs, including Florida Virtual School and other approved providers, and to award credit for successful completion of such courses.
- Section 1002.37(3)(c), F.S., states that school districts may not limit student access to courses offered through Florida Virtual School.
- Section 1002.45(1)(b), F.S., requires school districts to provide all enrolled public school students within its boundaries the option of participating in part-time and full-time virtual instruction programs.

Please note, however, students enrolled in the district are subject to district policies relating to student progression. While a district may not artificially limit a student's enrollment in FLVS courses if the student would be academically eligible to enroll in the same courses in a brick-and-mortar setting within the district, a district still has authority and responsibility to provide academic guidance to their students. This includes limiting enrollment in courses for which the student is not academically qualified, in the same manner it would limit a student from enrolling in brick-and-mortar courses for which the student was not academically qualified.

For further information related to FLVS as a school choice option, please contact Sandy Eggers at: 850-245-9536 • Sandy.Eggers@fldoe.org • visit: <http://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/virtual-edu/>



FREE DOWNLOAD

From the EFI Military and Defense website: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense>



TAB 6

**Announcement of FY
2020-2021 Grant
Awards**

FROM THE OFFICE OF
GOVERNOR
RON DESANTIS

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For Immediate Release: November 9, 2020

Governor's Press Office, (850) 717-9282, Media@eog.myflorida.com

Governor Ron DeSantis Announces Florida Defense Support Task Force Grant Awards

Tallahassee, Fla. – Today, Governor Ron DeSantis announced that \$1,250,000 has been awarded through the Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) Grant Program to five projects to protect military installations across the state. The award recipients include the Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners, Clay County Development Authority, Polk County Board of County Commissioners, Orlando Economic Partnership and the South Florida Progress Foundation.

"These grant awards demonstrate the state of Florida's commitment to our defense communities," **said Governor DeSantis**. "Florida continues to be the most military-friendly state in the country and supporting service members and their families is an honor and responsibility we hold high."

"These grants reflect the high level of engagement communities throughout Florida have with our military," **said Secretary of Commerce Jamal Sowell, president and CEO of Enterprise Florida**. "As a Marine Corps veteran, I take pride in knowing my home state continues to invest in those who serve us."

Grant funding will support community projects at Florida military installations that will provide support for military families, protect Florida's bases from future encroachment, enhance defense industry growth, and support community resiliency efforts. For more information on the individual grant award for projects throughout the state, see below:

Santa Rosa County: \$70,000 Defense Grant

\$70,000 was awarded to the Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners to develop and implement a Career Academy Outreach for Military Children. The program's objectives are to support the military family through information dissemination, ensure military children are not missing

opportunities in cutting-edge and relevant career and technical education, and to strengthen the partnership between military installations and Santa Rosa County School District. This project has implications to impact military families throughout North Florida.

“Santa Rosa County seeks out every opportunity to support the military mission at NAS Whiting Field as well as military installations in neighboring counties, which have a profound impact on our community. We are most appreciative of grant funding to allow us to enhance the quality of life for military families,” **said Commissioner Don W. Salter of the Santa Rosa Board of County Commissioners.**

Clay County: \$500,000 Defense Grant

\$500,000 was awarded to Clay County through the Florida Defense Support Task Force Grant Program to buffer Camp Blanding from incompatible land development. Camp Blanding trains over 350,000 Florida National Guard troops, active duty military members and law enforcement units.

“In accordance with our principal purpose of promoting sound economic development of Clay County, the Clay County Development Authority is pleased to receive this grant that will strengthen the strategic partnership with Camp Blanding Joint Training Center to improve the quality of life for our citizens by securing a buffer from incompatible land development and encroachment thus protecting the installation that comprises almost one-fifth of the county and is tied to its economic viability.” **said Josh Cockrell, Executive Director of the Clay County Development Authority.**

Polk County: \$500,000 Defense Grant

\$500,000 was awarded to Polk County Board of County Commissioners to protect Avon Park Air Force Range from encroachment through the acquisition of a conservation easement to prevent incompatible land use.

Former APAFR Commander Lt. Col. Daniel Edgar, 598th Range

Squadron said, “The importance of this grant and of partners like the Florida Defense Support Task Force and Enterprise Florida cannot be overstated. Without grant funding, without partnerships, we would not have been able to work with the County and willing landowners to protect and buffer the world-class military training that occurs at Avon Park AFR.”

Orange County: \$110,000 Defense Grant

\$110,000 was awarded to the Orlando Economic Partnership supporting the Modeling, Simulation, and Training (MS&T) Center’s growth and expansion in Florida emphasizing its national security value and contribution to Florida’s military installations. Additionally, this funding supports Orlando Economic Partnership’s efforts to expand MS&T education starting in middle

school through graduate school.

"This strong support from the Florida Defense Support Task Force recognizes the outstanding track record of Team Orlando, the National Center for Simulation and the powerful economic engine that is the Modeling and Simulation industry. We are pleased to partner with the National Center for Simulation on this important next step in the mission to preserve, protect and set the conditions to grow," **said Tim Giuliani, President & CEO, Orlando Economic Partnership.**

Miami-Dade County: \$70,000 Defense Grant

\$70,000 was awarded to South Florida Progress Foundation to complete a South Florida focused resilience assessment to posture quad-county installations and personnel for sustained mission accomplishment and protection of vital installations in the face of climate-driven and other resilience challenges.

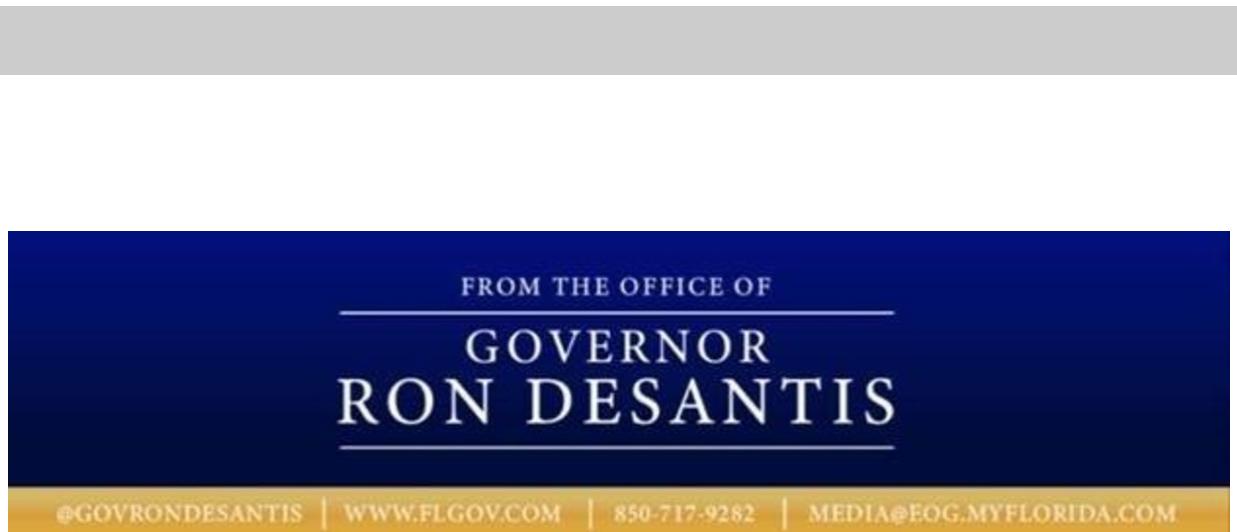
"We are proud to partner with the South Florida Progress Foundation to align with Governor Ron DeSantis on an issue of such tremendous importance to our State, Defense Department, Coast Guard commands, installations, and military personnel partners in South Florida. Leadership in enhancing resilience will ultimately provide benefits state-wide to our safety, security and economic prosperity. Florida's military and security complex is vital to our national security. The South Florida Defense Alliance's municipal and academic partners are already at the forefront of developing innovative solutions to some of the largest resilience challenges -- and their collaborative approach has become a model world-wide. We are especially excited by the opportunity to harness the renowned public, private and non-profit sector expertise in South Florida to support the Department of Defense locally as it looks to a more resilient future and serve as a model to replicate throughout the state," **said Richard Miller, Executive Director of the South Florida Defense Alliance.**

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The Florida Defense Support Task Force was created in 2011 with the mission to make recommendations to preserve and protect military installations, support the state's position in research and development related to military missions and contracting, and improve the state's military-friendly environment for service members, military families, veterans and businesses that bring military and defense-related jobs to the state.

The Florida Defense Support Task Force Grant Program is administered by **Enterprise Florida**, and grants are awarded annually, on a project priority basis. For more information on the Florida Defense Support Task Force, visit

www.eflorida.com/floridadefense



For Immediate Release: June 9, 2021

Contact: Governor's Press Office, (850) 717-9282, Media@eog.myflorida.com

Gov. DeSantis Announces Florida Defense Support Task Force Grant Awards

Tallahassee, Fla. —Today, Governor Ron DeSantis announced that \$324,277 has been awarded through the Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) Grant Program to two projects to strengthen veteran suicide prevention and to fund the Bay County Tyndall Air Force Base Rebuild and Community Partnership Support. The awards were given to the Northeast Florida Firewatch Council and the Bay County Board of County Commissioners. This grant award combined with the previous awards in 2020 result in a \$1,574,277 commitment by the FDSTF to Florida's defense communities. Florida's military and defense industry contributes more than \$95 billion in economic impact and the industry supports more than 914,000 jobs in Florida which is the second largest economic sector in the state.

"These Florida Defense Support Task Force grant awards will directly support those who serve our country and protect our freedom each and every day," said **Governor DeSantis**. "Combined with the previous round of awards, we have now invested more than \$1.5 million in Florida's military communities since 2020. I am proud to lead the most military-friendly state in the country

and I remain dedicated to supporting our service members and their families.”

“With the announcement of these grant awards, Governor DeSantis further solidifies his commitment to providing support for Florida’s military and its installations,” said **Secretary of Commerce Jamal Sowell, president and CEO of Enterprise Florida**. “These vital investments will prove to enhance the lives of those who serve and protect our freedom. I look forward to seeing the great accomplishments and breakthroughs that will result from this much-needed funding.”

Grant funding will support community projects at Florida military installations that will diversify local economies, provide support for local infrastructure projects, and strengthen Florida’s bases ahead of any potential Department of Defense realignment or closure actions. For more information on the individual grant award for projects throughout the state, see below:

Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council: \$160,000 Defense Grant

\$160,000 was awarded to the Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council to fund educational programming, the Northeast Florida Military & Veteran Resources Guide, and a Micro Grant program to strengthen of suicide prevention in Northeast Florida. This grant will improve the state's military friendly environment for service members, military dependents, and military retirees and deepen community support for Northeast Florida veterans.

“A generous grant from the Florida Defense Support Task Force will help The Fire Watch deliver its veteran suicide prevention mission, said **Nick Howland, Executive Director of the Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council**. “The grant will support Educational and Outreach programs focused on increasing awareness of veteran suicide, engaging the community and encouraging veterans to access the resources available to them in our region and Resource Coordination programs designed to identify and close weaknesses in those resources and services.”

Bay County: \$164,277 Defense Grant

\$164,277 was awarded to the Bay County Board of County Commissioners to support the ongoing rebuilding of Tyndall Air Force Base. It allows for continued support in helping facilitate the beddown of new F-35 and possible MQ-9 missions. It focuses on continuing community involvement, increasing communication with surrounding communities, identifying funding available for future grant opportunities, and providing briefings to develop strategies and best practices for new potential growth.

“This partnership with the FDSTF is yet another example of our strong focus on working with Tyndall leadership in rebuilding from the effects of Hurricane Michael, said **Robert Carroll, Chairman of the Bay County Board of County**

Commissioners. "We are committed to facilitating communication and developing mission growth and community partnership opportunities for long-term military and defense resiliency."

The Florida Defense Support Task Force was created in 2011 with the mission to make recommendations to preserve and protect military installations, support the state's position in research and development related to military missions and contracting, and improve the state's military-friendly environment for service members, military families, veterans, and businesses that bring military and defense-related jobs to the state.

The Florida Defense Support Task Force Grant Program is administered by Enterprise Florida and grants are awarded annually, on a project priority basis. For more information on the Florida Defense Support Task Force, visit www.eflorida.com/floridadefense

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TAB 7

**Summary of
Progress of Task
Force Grant Award
Contracts**

Florida Defense Support Task Force Grants & Contracts – Narrative Report

Created in 2011 under Florida Statute 288.987, the Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) mission is to make recommendations to preserve and protect military installations, to support the state's position in research and development related to or arising out of military missions and contracting, and to improve the state's military-friendly environment for service members, military dependents, military retirees, and businesses that bring military and base-related jobs to the state.

Initiated in 2013, the Florida Defense Support Task Force grant program provides grants to assist accomplishment of the mission of the Task Force. This narrative report provides quarterly updates on all open Task Force grants or contracts awarded in FY 12-13, FY 13-14, FY 14-15, FY 15-16, FY 16-17, FY 17-18, FY 18-19, FY 19-20, FY 20-21 and FY 21-22.

Funding Request Summary – As of January 6, 2022 for Task Force Grant Activity

 **Grant Closed**  **2nd Quarter Extension Requests** [**New Content**](#)

1. Florida Defense Support Task Force Grants FY 13-14

Grant #	Grantee	Status/Progress
End Date		
Award Amount		
14-05 3/31/2022 \$500,000	(FY 13-14) Economic Development Alliance of Bay County (BayEDA) – Bay Technology Initiative (Lambda Rail is a proprietary name)	Bay County has agreed to take ownership of the project upon complete and to maintain the completed project in the future. Jim Muller with Bay County has been in contact with staff regarding RESTORE funding and this initiative. The approved contract term was extended to January 31, 2021 since the TF will not meet in December to act on this project. Bay County is requested to extend the grant to December 31, 2021 to complete and execute final project plans. January 2021 / FY 2020-2021 2nd Quarter Report: They are suggesting utilizing Bay County's spare conduit to run fiber from NAS PC to the POP within Panama City and then to Ivy Road. From Ivy Road we will lease dark fiber to reach Mexico Beach. This would give Tyndall AFB connectivity the entire length of US 98 which can be a large benefit to the base. FDOT and Bay County have a project to replace the leased fiber before the lease expires. (See attached map). The amendment to extend DTF #14-05 to December 31, 2021 was executed and approved on January 29, 2021.

	<p>March 2021: As a way-forward for this grant, Bay County has instituted a plan for the deployment of a segment of fiberoptic telecommunications backbone. This project will provide high speed communication from Tyndall AFB to the Point of Presence in Panama City, connect the signalized intersections located on US 98 adjacent Tyndall AFB to the Bay County Traffic Management Center (TMC), connect Bay County to the Advanced Wastewater Treatment (AWT) facility and provide 911 redundancy for the base. The original intent was to install fiber optic cable from HWY 79 in Bruce, Florida to the entrance of NSA Panama City.</p> <p>April 2021 / FY 2020-2021 3rd Quarter Report: The Bay County request to extend the grant to December 31, 2021 was approved in order to complete and execute final project plans. Amendment 7 was signed by both parties on January 29, 2021.</p> <p>The Bay Technology Initiative has been designed and will go to the Board of County Commissioners for award on April 20th. Following the award, Bay County will need assistance with the Tyndall Air Force base with right of way permit issues.</p> <p>July 2021 / FY 2020-2021 4th Quarter Report: Bay Technology Initiative updates since the last quarterly report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5/4/21 contract awarded to PowerCommUSA LLC. • 6/11/21 FDOT permit approved for construction IVY Rd to North end of Dupont Bridge. • Materials identified and ordered. • In process with USAF to amend FDOT easement along US98 to include new fiber construction. • No invoices received to date. <p>October 2021 / FY 2021-2022 1st Quarter Report:</p> <p>Bay Technology Initiative updates since the last quarterly report: Project on track. No status updates this quarter.</p> <p>Previous Updates from QTR4 July 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5/4/21 contract awarded to PowerCommUSA LLC. • 6/11/21 FDOT permit approved for construction IVY Rd to North end of Dupont Bridge. • Materials identified and ordered. • In process with USAF to amend FDOT easement along US98 to include new fiber construction. • No invoices received to date. <p>November 2021: Bay County is requesting the DTF Grant #14-05 remain open until March 31,2022. Construction for this project has started and is anticipated to be complete in early March. A payment of \$138,318.57 was invoiced this month for completed work. Tyndall staff are working diligently to expedite the permit process for the work to be completed within the base. The FDSTF approved the extension request at the 11/18/2021 meeting.</p> <p><u>December 13, 2021: Amendment #8 executed to extend the contract to 3/31/2022.</u></p>
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2. Florida Defense Support Task Force Grants FY 18-19

Grant #	Grantee	Status/Progress
End Date	Award Amount	
19-101 6/30/2022 \$500,000	(FY 18-19) Polk County – Encroachment prevention and sustainability of the Avon Park Air Force Range	<p>Negotiated and acquired the 187 acres on the third phase of the FX Bar Ranch resulting in a 187-acre conservation easement over the property. Pursuing the Rucks property in the Avon Park Air Force Range MIPA area as the fourth phase of FX Bar Ranch is not moving forward at this time. Ordered title work for the Rucks property and proceeding with the appraisal process.</p> <p>Polk County began pursuing the Rucks property in the Avon Park Air Force Range MIPA area as the next conservation easement. Title work has been completed in anticipation of use in the appraisal. This resulted in \$453,598.86 expended from the \$500,000.00 grant. Plans are to use the remaining funds of \$46,451.09 for other pre-acquisition costs for the Rucks conservation easement. The site visit with landowner and appraiser is scheduled for January 21, 2021.</p> <p>This FDSTF Agreement is set to expire January 31, 2021. Polk County is requesting a one-year extension of the Agreement to cover the costs of finishing the appraisal, conducting the environmental site assessment and baseline report and utilizing the remaining funds toward the next conservation easement purchase.</p> <p>Gaye Sharpe from Polk County is requested a contract extension until January 31, 2022.</p> <p>January 2021 / FY 2020-2021 2nd Quarter Report: Negotiations on the easement document with the property owner have taken longer than anticipated. The appraisal on the next proposed conservation easement is underway but cannot be completed until all the details of the easement document are finalized. The appraisal site visit will occur January 21, 2021, but the appraisal report will not be completed until February 2021, then it must be reviewed by Polk County's Real Estate Section before accepting the appraisal as a final document.</p> <p>These easements assist with protecting the Range in continuing their flight trainings into the future.</p> <p>The TF approved the extension request of DTF #19-101 on January 29, 2021. The amendment to extend DTF #19-101 to January 31, 2022 is pending signature.</p> <p>March 2021: This extension was approved at the Polk County BOCC's February Meeting and is en route back to Enterprise Florida for countersignature. The amendment was countersigned by EFI on March 12, 2021.</p> <p>April 2021 / FY 2020-2021 3rd Quarter Report: Negotiated and acquired the 187 acres on the third phase of the FX Bar Ranch resulting in a 187-acre conservation easement over the property. Polk County began pursuing the Rucks property in the Avon Park Air Force Range MIPA area as the next conservation easement.</p>

	<p>Title work has been completed in anticipation of use in the appraisal. This resulted in \$453,598.86 being expended from the \$500,000.00 grant. Plans are to use the remaining funds of \$46,401.14 for other pre-acquisition costs for the Rucks conservation easement. The initial site visit with landowner and appraiser occurred in January 2021. Currently working with the landowner on the future property "rights" the owner wants to retain, such as cattle grazing, haying, etc.</p> <p>Negotiations on the easement document with the property owner has taken longer than anticipated. The appraisal on the proposed conservation easement is underway but cannot be completed until all the details of the easement document are finalized. The initial appraisal site visit occurred in January 2021, but the appraisal report will not be completed until draft deed easement language can be determined and then the appraisal report has to be reviewed by Polk County's Real Estate Section before accepting the appraisal as a final document.</p> <p>While the majority of the funds (\$453,598.86) were expended on the 187 FX Bar Ranch Phase III conservation easement and beginning the next conservation easement acquisition, Polk</p>
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	<p>County received a time extension of the Agreement for one year to allow for the remaining funds of \$46,401.14 to cover the costs of finishing the appraisal, conducting the environmental site assessment and baseline report and utilizing any remaining funds toward the next conservation easement purchase in the Avon Park Air Force Range MIPA. The next step is to modify the budget allocations to reflect the remaining funds in Activity 2 of the budget.</p> <p>September 2021: Polk County, with partners, are working on conservation easements within the within the Avon Park Air Force Range Military Influence Planning Area (MIPA). We have been successful to acquire 987 acres of conservation easements. Currently, we have an Agreement DTF 191-101 with the Florida Defense Support Task Force. The majority of the funds have already been expended on the FX Bar Ranch conservation easement. It was anticipated the remaining funds would be used towards additional easements in this area.</p> <p>Polk County began pursuing the Rucks' family property in the Avon Park Air Force Range MIPA area as the next conservation easement. The initial site visit with one of the landowners and appraiser occurred in January 2021. Negotiations on the easement document with the property owners has taken longer than anticipated. The parties on the deed may be changing in September 2021, as some of the family is discussing selling their interest to one of the family members.</p> <p>The appraisal on the proposed conservation easement is still underway; however, the report cannot be completed until all details of the easement document are finalized. September 2021 is the proposed target date when these details will be available. The County will know at that point if there are any changes that need to be considered and the appraisal can resume.</p> <p>Therefore, Polk County is requesting a 12-month extension to amend the grant agreement for additional time, with a revised expiration of January 31, 2023, in order, to perform due diligence and closing on the conservation easement with the anticipated shift in ownership.</p> <p>We greatly appreciate your consideration of this request and Florida Defense Support Task Force's ongoing invaluable support of Polk County's continued partnership with the Avon Park Air Force Range and landowners within the Military Influence Planning Areas.</p> <p>The TF voted to extend the contract to June 30, 2022.</p> <p>October 2021 / FY 2021-2022 1st Quarter Report: Negotiated and acquired the 187 acres on the third phase of the FX Bar Ranch resulting in a 187-acre conservation easement over the property. Polk County began pursuing the Rucks property in the Avon park Air Force range MIPA area as the next conservation easement. Title work has been completed in anticipation of use in the appraisal. This resulted in \$453,598.86 being expended from the \$500,000.00 grant. Plans are to use the remaining funds of \$46,401.14 for other pre-acquisition costs for the Rucks conservation easement. The initial site visit with landowner and</p>
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		<p>appraiser occurred in January 2021. The property changed ownership as one of the family members bought the entire property from the family trust on September 20, 2021. Working with the new landowner on the future property "rights" the owner wants to retain, such as cattle grazing, haying, etc.</p> <p>Negotiations on the easement document with the property owner has taken longer than anticipated. The appraisal on the proposed conservation easement is underway but cannot be completed until all the details of the easement document are finalized. The initial appraisal site visit occurred in January 2021, but the appraisal report will not be completed until draft deed easement language can be determined and then the appraisal report has to be reviewed by Polk County's Real Estate Section before accepting the appraisal as a final document.</p> <p>While the majority of the funds (\$453,598.86) were expended on the 187 FX Bar Ranch Phase III conservation easement and beginning the next conservation easement acquisition, Polk County is processing a time extension amendment to the Agreement to allow for the remaining funds of \$46,401.14 to cover the costs of finishing the appraisal, conducting baseline report and utilizing any remaining funds toward the next conservation easement purchase in the Avon Park Air Force Range MIPA.</p>
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3. Florida Defense Support Task Force Grants FY 19-20

Grant #	Grantee	Status/Progress
End Date	Award Amount	
20-100 07/31/2022 \$100,000	(FY 19-20) Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) – Transition Support for Florida's Military-Connected Children	<p>Task 1/Activity 1: Student Program trainings for 3 districts, 3* schools in each district - As a result of school closures and restrictions to travel and face-to-face activities due to COVID-19, no Student Program trainings were conducted during this reporting time period.</p> <p>Task 2/Activity 1: Task 2/Activity 1: Military Student Transition Consultant - Affiliate Program for Duval and Hillsborough Counties - Programs resumed in September. The Affiliates implementing the MCEC MSTA programs in Duval and Hillsborough County School Districts have been invited to weekly MSTC Programs check in calls where professionals serving military connected students share resources, ideas and problem solve with peers at various locations. We have had a professional development offering on transitioning with military children with exceptional needs. One MSTA has had the opportunity to help students transition out of her school. She has also been coordinating details to set up a lending library of educational resources for displaced military families on the installation.</p>

	<p>Hillsboro County returned to school online on August 18 (a one-week delay) for a full week and then on August 24th parents had the option to choose on site or e-learning. Initially, the school was about 60% in person the rest online but over the last several weeks they had so many parents changing their minds (some multiple times) they are now at about 33% online and the rest are on campus.</p> <p>Hillsboro has had a lot of new military kids start this year but are waiting on several coalition families to complete testing and quarantining to start school. They have families from Italy and Jordan waiting for clearance and several families transitioned out of the district over the summer that had orders held up because of COVID that eventually got released.</p> <p>The MSTA at Hillsboro looks forward to doing some PD for their teachers and the district is looking into creating a position to assist their Military liaison with enrollment and withdrawals. The MSTA is hoping to be considered for that.</p> <p>We have not been able to make contact with Duvall, after multiple attempts via email and phone messages. We will continue to work on making a connection.</p> <p>MCEC contract amendment has been executed as of 8/17/2020. The new term of the contract is July 31, 2021.</p> <p>January 2021 / FY 2020-2021 2nd Quarter Report: <u>Task 1/Activity 1: Student Program trainings for 3 districts, 3 schools in each district</u></p> <p>Hillsborough County Schools: Leadership in Hillsborough County Schools requested that remaining funds go towards sending students and faculty to the National Training Seminar (NTS) in Washington, DC. Since the start of the first quarter in 2021, MCEC made the decision to move NTS to a virtual platform. Student Programs next steps are to work with the Hillsborough leadership on plan to spend the remaining \$5968.71 funds.</p> <p>Hillsborough School's responding to the MCEC Semester Report Card</p> <p>Chiaramonte Elementary School: Active but paused due to COVID-19. Success shared by the sponsor: “We have lunch bunches for all of the grades that are rotating out each quarter. This gives everyone a chance to participate, who is willing and allowed to” Team Sponsor</p> <p>Okaloosa County Schools: School Liaison Officer, Elaine LaJeunesse, prefers training be delivered in-person instead of virtual and requested the date for the fall of 2021. MCEC has let her know that this grant has already been extended and asked that they schedule training before June 2021. Okaloosa School's responding to the MCEC Semester Report Card.</p> <p>Fort Walton Beach H.S.: Active but paused due to COVID-19 Success shared by the sponsor: Our President organized 3 Zoom orientations for the students who would be new to our school but</p>
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	<p>not a freshman (since all freshmen are new to the school). She went over grade-level specific things in each zoom, as well as general school information to help students get more acquainted. She also assigned a club member to each of these new students who were in their same lunch wave so that those students would have someone to eat lunch with when they got to school. During this Zoom, she also showed a video that she made of a tour around the school.</p> <p>Success by sponsor on how they assisted isolated students Club members who were 'assigned' to new students at the beginning of the year have been doing weekly check-ins to make sure the new students are feeling comfortable and don't have any questions. It has been a very strange year with little social interaction, so these new students have not gotten to experience all that our school has to offer. The S2S members are trying to make sure they feel a part of the family, even though they haven't gotten to do all of the fun things that typically come along with attending school at Fort Walton.</p> <p>Duval County Schools: MCEC made contacts with several schools in the county. Schools are looking for dates after the new year starts.</p> <p>Task 2/Activity 1: Military Student Transition Consultant – Affiliate Program for Duval and Hillsborough Counties</p> <p>Programs in Hillsborough and Duval Counties continue to support the needs of military-connected students in their locations. The Affiliates implementing the MCEC MSTA programs in Duval and Hillsborough County School Districts have been invited to weekly MSTC Programs check in calls where professionals serving military connected students share resources, ideas and problem solve with peers at various locations. The lending library of educational resources for displaced military families on the installation has been successfully established.</p> <p>While as of the time that this report was written, we had not received data from Duval, below is what has been reported by the Affiliate at Hillsborough County School District</p> <p>Transition Support Facilitating smooth school transitions (Into and Out of schools)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 - Number of new students supported as they transitioned into or out of the school <p>Transition Barriers helped to overcome for students/families</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transcripts/School Records • Enrollment/Registration • School Selection • Special Education <p>Notable personalized transition support provided.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assisted a family that recently moved/parents divorced come back to my site from another that was not as military friendly. <p>Resources: Installation Resource - School Resource - Community Resource</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 – resources connections <p><u>Task 1/Activity 1:</u> Student Program trainings for 3 districts, 3 schools in each district –</p> <p>No Activities have been scheduled to be completed during the Reporting Quarter that were not completed.</p> <p><u>Task 2/Activity 1:</u> Military Student Transition Consultant – Affiliate for Duval and Hillsborough Counties</p> <p>No Activities have been scheduled to be completed during the Reporting Quarter that were not completed.</p> <p>April 2021 / FY 2020-2021 3rd Quarter Report:</p> <p>Task 1/Activity 1: Student Program trainings for 3 districts, 3 schools in each district</p> <p>Hillsborough County Schools: Leadership in Hillsborough County Schools requested that remaining funds go towards sending students and faculty to the National Training Seminar (NTS) in Washington, DC. Since the start of the first quarter in 2021, MCEC made the decision to move NTS to a virtual platform. Hillsborough County Schools will spend their remaining \$5,968.71 to purchase resources from the MCEC Store for their district to improve the quality of education for their military student population.</p> <p>Okaloosa County Schools: Okaloosa County School Liaison Offer has scheduled an in-person training on May 20- 21, 2021 for 4 middle schools in the footprint of Eglin Air Force Base. The schools are Shoal River Middle School, Meigs Middle School, Okaloosa STEM Academy, and the fourth school has not been named as of today.</p> <p>Duval County Schools: Duval County funding will virtually train Fletcher High School and Clay High School on April 15, 2021.</p> <p><u>Task 2/Activity 1:</u> Military Student Transition Consultant – Affiliate Program for Duval and Hillsborough Counties</p> <p>As of December 31, 2020, all FDSTF funds set aside to support the Military Student Transition Affiliate programs in Hillsborough and Duval Counties were expended. However, MCEC has been able sustain one of our MCEC MSTA programs. Starting January 1, 2021 our MCEC MSTA program in Hillsborough County, FL began being funded by a partner organization, Lockheed Martin. The program has been successful in supporting the military-connected students and their families at Lanier Elementary in Hillsborough County.</p>
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	<p>Since January, the MSTA Affiliate has transitioned five new incoming military students three of whom are coalition families from Belgium and Italy. The Affiliate has also transitioned out nine families only one of which was coalition. She has provided installation and community resources to all of these families (i.e. activities for children on base and in the community), as well as some records translation and placement assistance for our coalition families. Each family receives a welcome packet from the Affiliate containing school information as well as information about the area. This quarter's students from other countries had some lessons in American culture when it came to Valentine's Day! It was a new experience for them, as it is only celebrated by those romantically involved in Italy and Belgium. They thoroughly enjoyed the holiday once they knew what to expect.</p> <p>The Affiliate has also attended two of the MacDill Council for Educational Excellence meetings to provide feedback to base leadership and to keep families informed of their actions.</p> <p>We truly appreciate the opportunity to bring the Military Student Transition Affiliate program to Florida schools. We are thankful that through other funding sources, we have been able to sustain one of these programs and we are continuing to reach out to state decision makers, as well as corporate funders, to reinstate support for this highly effective program that truly equips schools to support their military-connected students and be Purple Star Schools.</p> <p>Task 1/Activity 1: Student Program trainings for 3 districts, 3 schools in each district –</p> <p>No Activities have been scheduled to be completed during the Reporting Quarter that were not completed.</p> <p>Task 2/Activity 1: Military Student Transition Consultant – Affiliate for Duval and Hillsborough Counties</p> <p>No Activities have been scheduled to be completed during the Reporting Quarter that were not completed.</p> <p>July 2021: One-year contract extension requested and approved by the FDSTF. New end date is 7/31/2022.</p> <p>July 2021 / FY 2020-2021 4th Quarter Report: MCEC remains grateful for this wonderful partnership with the Florida Defense Support Task Force, and we look forward to completing these grant requirements well within the recently extended period of performance (POP; ref., Amendment #2 to our original FY 2019-2020 grant, extending the POP through July 31, 2022). Florida continues to be a nationwide leader in advocating, collaborating and educating for the benefit of military-connected children, and MCEC is proud to work with Enterprise Florida and the FDSTF to ensure every military-connected student within the grant footprint is afforded every opportunity to be college-, work- and life-ready.</p> <p>Task 1/Activity 1: Student Program trainings for 3 districts, 3 schools in each district</p> <p>Hillsborough County Schools: As noted in previous report, leadership in Hillsborough County Schools requested that</p>
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	<p>remaining funds go towards sending students and faculty to the National Training Seminar (NTS) in Washington, DC; however, since that request MCEC decided to move the 2021 NTS to a virtual platform, which MCEC recently successfully completed. Hillsborough County Schools' previously communicated intent was to spend their remaining \$5,968.71 to purchase resources from the MCEC Store for their district to improve the quality of education for their military student population; we will track this to completion and will let you know if this changes.</p> <p>Okaloosa County Schools: MCEC conducted Student 2 Student® (S2STM) training at three middle schools in the Eglin Air Force base service area on May 20-21, 2021: Shoal River Middle School, Meigs Middle School, and Okaloosa STEM Academy. We have additional training in the area scheduled for September 23-24, 2021; schools currently scheduled include Lewis School, Davidson Middle School and Rocky Bayou Christian School.</p> <p>Duval County Schools: No training conducted this quarter, and no training currently scheduled. MCEC has reached out to the military liaison/school choice counselor at Duval County public schools, with no response yet – we will continue to follow up and coordinate with our Duval County counterparts.</p> <p>Task 2/Activity 2: Military Student Transition Consultant – Affiliate Program</p> <p>As previously reported, as of December 31, 2020, all FDSTF funds set aside to support the Military Student Transition Affiliate (MSTA) programs in Hillsborough and Duval Counties were expended. However, MCEC has been able sustain one of our MCEC MSTA programs. Starting January 1, 2021 our MCEC MSTA program in Hillsborough County, FL began being funded by a partner organization, Lockheed Martin. The program has been successful in supporting the military-connected students and their families at Lanier Elementary in Hillsborough County.</p> <p>We truly appreciate the opportunity to bring the MSTA program to Florida schools. We are thankful that through other funding sources, we have been able to sustain one of these programs, and we are continuing to reach out to state decision makers, as well as corporate funders, to innovate and collaborate further for follow-on programs that equally or better equip schools to support their military-connected students and attain Purple Star School designation as best-practice examples of ensuring these students' success through their unique challenges and transitions.</p> <p>October 2021 / FY 2021-2022 1st Quarter Report: Task 1/Activity 1: Student Program trainings for 3 districts, 3 schools in each district:</p> <p>Okaloosa County Schools: MCEC conducted Student 2 Student® training at three schools in the Eglin Air Force base service area on September 23-24, 2021: Lewis School, Davidson Middle School and Rocky Bayou Christian School.</p> <p>Please note: we may subsequently request to redirect training/funding designated for Duval County to Okaloosa County, based on an increased demand and interest from a military student liaison counterpart at Eglin AFB for elementary school</p>
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		<p>training. MCEC has reached out to the military liaison/school choice counselor at Duval County public schools, with no response yet – we will continue to follow-up and coordinate with our Duval County counterparts, but in the interests of closing this grant, we may request redirection of final identified training events/funds to Okaloosa County.</p> <p>Task 1/Activity 2: Military Student Transition Consultant - Affiliate for Duval and Hillsborough Counties: No Activities</p> <p>Hillsborough County Schools: As noted in previous report, leadership in Hillsborough County Schools requested that remaining funds go towards sending students and faculty to the National Training Seminar (NTS) in Washington, DC; however, since that request MCEC decided to move the 2021 NTS to a virtual platform, which MCEC recently successfully completed. Hillsborough County Schools' previously communicated intent was to spend their remaining \$5,968.71 to purchase resources from the MCEC Store for their district to improve the quality of education for their military student population; we will track this to completion and will let you know if this changes.</p> <p>Duval County Schools: No training conducted this quarter, and no training currently scheduled. MCEC has reached out to the military liaison/school choice counselor at Duval County public schools, with no response yet – we will continue to follow-up and coordinate with our Duval County counterparts.</p> <p>Task 1/Activity 2: Military Student Transition Consultant - Affiliate for Duval and Hillsborough Counties: As previously reported, as of December 31, 2020, all FDSTF funds set aside to support the Military Student Transition Affiliate (MSTA) programs in Hillsborough and Duval Counties were expended. However, MCEC has been able sustain one of our MCEC MSTA programs. Starting January 1, 2021 our MCEC MSTA program in Hillsborough County, FL began being funded by a partner organization, Lockheed Martin.</p>
20-105 06/29/2022 \$129,000	(FY 19-20) Florida Department of Military Affairs – Encroachment Management at Homestead Air Reserve Base – Florida Army National Guard Security Fence.	FDMA continues to work issues related to the securing the property boundary. <p>January 2021 / FY 2020-2021 2nd Quarter Report: No activity to report for the quarter covering October 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.</p> <p>April 2021 / FY 2020-2021 3rd Quarter Report: No activity to report for the quarter covering January 1, 2021 through March 31, 2021. The Department of Military Affairs (DMA) is in negotiations with Miami-Dade County to acquire property adjacent to the Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB). It is estimated that property will be acquired by the DMA in 2021. Approximately 90 days from the date of acquisition, the security fence project shall begin. It is also estimated that the project will take approximately 60 days to complete.</p> <p>May 2021: The Department of Military Affairs has requested a one-year extension for this grant, continuing to 6/29/2022. This extension was approved at the May 20, 2021 TF meeting.</p>

		<p>July 2021 / FY 2020-2021 4th Quarter Report: No activity to report for the quarter covering April 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021. The Department of Military Affairs (DMA) is in negotiations with Miami-Dade County to acquire property adjacent to the Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB). It is estimated that property will be acquired by the DMA in early 2022.</p> <p>October 2021 / FY 2021-2022 1st Quarter Report: No activity to report for the quarter covering July 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021. Effective June 8, 2021 the term of this agreement was amended as follows; shall remain in effect through June 29, 2022</p>
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4. Florida Defense Support Task Force Grants FY 20-21

Grant #	Grantee	Status/Progress
End Date	Award Amount	
21-100 5/31/2022 \$500,000	(FY 20-21) Clay County Development Authority (CCDA) – Camp Blanding Joint Training Center (CBJTC) – Installation Encroachment Acquisition	<p>Contract Executed</p> <p>January 2021 / FY 2020-2021 2nd Quarter Report: Grant Agreement between CCDA and FDSTF was reviewed and executed. Numerous conversations between CCDA, Camp Blanding and North Florida Land Trust regarding progression of the project.</p> <p>April 2021 / FY 2020-2021 3rd Quarter Report: Calls and meetings between CCDA, Camp Blanding and North Florida Land Trust regarding progression of the project. Purchase negotiations were held with seller. Agreement was reached and appraisals were conducted.</p> <p>July 2021 / FY 2020-2021 4th Quarter Report: Calls and meetings between CCDA, Camp Blanding and North Florida Land Trust regarding progression of the project. Purchase negotiations failed with seller. An alternative parcel was identified and is being appraised. Upon receiving appraisals, negotiations with prospective seller failed. Due to this issue, they were forced to pursue alternative parcels.</p> <p>September 2021: The Clay County Development Authority (CCDA) would like to request an extension to the signed contract for grant DTF #21-100. Currently, the contract is set to terminate on October 31, 2021. The CCDA in coordination with Camp Blanding Joint Training Center is working diligently and as quickly as possible to fully execute the contract; however, due to factors beyond either party's control, the project is not expected to be fully completed until May 31, 2022. This request for an extension will not affect the budget for this project nor will it alter the scope of work.</p> <p>The TF voted to extend the contract to May 31, 2022.</p>

		<p>September 30, 2021: Extension amendment executed.</p> <p>October 2021 / FY 2021-2022 1st Quarter Report: Calls and meetings between CCDA, Camp Blanding and North Florida Land Trust regarding progression of the project. An alternative parcel was identified and appraised. Closing held and land acquired. An additional parcel has been identified, surveys and appraisals have been completed and the contract has been executed. Closing pending December 2021.</p> <p>A request to extend the grant deadline was submitted and approved.</p> <p>Though previous negotiations failed, we are on track to complete the grant by the newly approved deadline.</p>
21-101 6/30/2022 \$500,000	(FY 20-21) Polk County Board of County Commissioners – Encroachment Prevention and Sustainability of the Avon Park Air Force Range - Polk County	<p>January 19, 2021: Contract was approved by the Polk County BOCC.</p> <p>February 15, 2021: The contract was executed.</p> <p>April 2021 / FY 2020-2021 3rd Quarter Report: Polk County began pursuing the Rucks property in the Avon Park Air Force Range MIPA area as the next conservation easement. Title work has been completed in anticipation of use in the appraisal. The initial site visit with landowner and appraiser occurred in January 2021. Currently working with the landowner on the future property "rights" the owner wants to retain, such as cattle grazing, haying, etc.</p> <p>Negotiations on the easement document with the property owner has taken longer than anticipated. The appraisal on the proposed conservation easement is underway but cannot be completed until all the details of the easement document are finalized. The initial appraisal site visit occurred in January 2021, but the appraisal report will not be completed until draft deed easement language can be determined and then the appraisal report has to be reviewed by Polk County's Real Estate Section before accepting the appraisal as a final document.</p> <p>July 2021 / FY 2020-2021 4th Quarter Report: Polk County began pursuing the Rucks property in the Avon Park Air Force Range MIPA area as the next conservation easement. Title work has been completed in anticipation of use in the appraisal. The initial site visit with one of the landowners and appraiser occurred in January 2021. The title work will need to be updated as the parties on the deed may be changing in August 2021. Currently working with the landowner on the future property "rights" the owner wants to retain, such as cattle grazing, haying, etc. to be able to finalize the appraisal.</p> <p>Negotiations on the easement document with the property owner has taken longer than anticipated. The appraisal on the proposed conservation easement is underway but cannot be completed until all the details of the easement document are finalized and the property owners make a decision in August 2021 if there will be a change in ownership between the parties on the deed. The initial appraisal site visit occurred in January 2021, but the appraisal report will not be completed until draft deed easement language and ownership can be determined and then the appraisal report has</p>

	<p>to be reviewed by Polk County's Real Estate Section before accepting the appraisal as a final document.</p> <p>The initial appraisal site visit occurred in January 2021. The family owns many parcels within the project area. One of the family members is negotiating with the remaining family members to acquire 100% ownership of all the parcels. This closing on parcels with ownership change should occur in August 2021. Once that occurs the appraisal can be complete, and an offer extended.</p> <p>The DTF 21-101 was executed February 15, 2021 by EFI and expires October 31, 2021.</p> <p>A request will be forthcoming regarding amending the grant agreement for additional time, with a revised expiration of October 31, 2022 in order to perform due diligence and closing on the conservation easement with the anticipated shift in ownership.</p> <p>September 2021: Polk County, with partners, are working on conservation easements within the Avon Park Air Force Range Military Influence Planning Area (MIPA). We have been successful to acquire 987 acres of conservation easements. Currently, we have an Agreement DTF 191-101 with the Florida Defense Support Task Force. The majority of the funds have already been expended on the FX Bar Ranch conservation easement. It was anticipated the remaining funds would be used towards additional easements in this area.</p> <p>Polk County began pursuing the Rucks' family property in the Avon Park Air Force Range MIPA area as the next conservation easement. The initial site visit with one of the landowners and appraiser occurred in January 2021. Negotiations on the easement document with the property owners has taken longer than anticipated. The parties on the deed may be changing in September 2021, as some of the family is discussing selling their interest to one of the family members.</p> <p>The appraisal on the proposed conservation easement is still underway; however, the report cannot be completed until all details of the easement document are finalized. September 2021 is the proposed target date when these details will be available. The County will know at that point if there are any changes that need to be considered and the appraisal can resume.</p> <p>Therefore, Polk County is requesting a 12-month extension to amend the grant agreement for additional time, with a revised expiration of October 31, 2022, in order, to perform due diligence and closing on the conservation easement with the anticipated shift in ownership.</p> <p>We greatly appreciate your consideration of this request and Florida Defense Support Task Force's ongoing invaluable support of Polk County's continued partnership with the Avon Park Air Force Range and landowners within the Military Influence Planning Areas.</p> <p>The TF voted to extend the contract to June 30, 2022.</p> <p>October 2021 / FY 2021-2022 1st Quarter Report: Polk County began pursuing the Rucks property in the Avon Park Air Force</p>
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		<p>Range MIPA area as the next conservation easement. Title work has been completed in anticipation of use in the appraisal. The initial site visit with one of the landowners and appraiser occurred in January 2021. The title work needs to be updated as the parties on the deed changed September 20, 2021 as one of the family members purchased the property from the Trust. Met with the current landowner on September 30th on the future property "rights" the owner wants to retain, such as cattle grazing, haying, etc. to be able to finalize the appraisal.</p> <p>Negotiations on the easement document with the property owner has taken longer than anticipated. The appraisal on the proposed conservation easement is underway but cannot be completed until all the details of the easement document are finalized and the property owners made a decision September 20, 2021 to change in ownership between the parties on the deed. The initial appraisal site visit occurred in January 2021, but the appraisal report will not be completed until draft deed easement language and ownership can be determined and then the appraisal report has to be reviewed by Polk County's Real Estate Section before accepting the appraisal as a final document. Therefore, a request was granted by FDSTF Board for an amendment to extend the grant contract until June 30, 2021 in order to perform due diligence and closing on the easement with the anticipated shift in ownership.</p> <p>The initial appraisal site visit occurred in January 2021. The family owns many parcels within the project area. One of the family members has negotiated with the remaining family members to acquire 100% ownership of all the parcels. This closing on parcels with ownership change occurred September 20, 2021. Now the appraisal can be completed, and an offer extended. Therefore, FDSTF approved an amendment for time extension of the grant until June 30, 2021 and Polk County is processing the amendment for signature which should be completed before October 31, 2021.</p>
21-102 3/31/2022 \$110,000	(FY 20-21) Orlando Economic Partnership – Team Orlando Growth Enhancement	Contract Executed <p>January 2021 / FY 2020-2021 2nd Quarter Report: No activity as grant was executed just prior to end of 2nd quarter.</p> <p>April 2021 / FY 2020-2021 3rd Quarter Report: Initial work commenced on Activity #3 (Deliverable #4) - Refining and updating STEM education certification testing and preparation materials (invoice submitted).</p> <p>July 2021 / FY 2020-2021 4th Quarter Report: Work commenced on Activity #3 (Deliverable #4) - Refining and updating STEM education certification testing and preparation materials (invoice submitted).</p> <p>Work has commenced on Activities #1 & 2 and must be completed sequentially as the economic research will be the basis for the strategic planning. A specially designed economic analysis tool is being acquired as the MS&T industry does not have NAICS codes, which requires a more complicated data analysis.</p>

		<p>As a result of the late start with the grant award and the delays associated with COVI D- 19, we are requesting a completion date of December 31, 2021.</p> <p>August 2021: Contract Amendment to extend the contract date to 12/31/2021 executed on 8/31/2021.</p> <p>October 2021 / FY 2021-2022 1st Quarter Report: Work continues on Activity #3 (Deliverable #4) - Refining and updating STEM education certification testing and preparation materials (invoice submitted).</p> <p>Work has commenced on Activities #1 & 2 and must be completed sequentially as the economic research will be the basis for the strategic planning and both will be completed by December 31, 2021. A specially designed economic analysis tool was acquired as the MS&T industry does not have NAICS codes, which requires a more complicated data analysis.</p> <p>As a result of the late start with the grant award and the delays associated with COVID-19, we requested a completion date of December 31, 2021 as a part of the June 30 report. This request was voted on and approved at the August Task Force Meeting.</p> <p>All deliverables will be completed by December 31, 2021.</p> <p>November 2021: The Orlando Economic Partnership is formally requesting an extension of their FDSTF Grant #21-102 until March 31, 2022. Their team is in the process of synthesizing and analyzing the comprehensive economic analysis report in order to finalize the analysis and strategic plan. Gathering this data took longer than expected as there are no NAICS codes for modeling and simulation. This current quarter is very busy as our team is preparing for I/ITSEC. With the holidays coming up an extension will provide adequate time to finalize a quality deliverable and gather the necessary feedback from stakeholders in the community. The FDSTF approved the extension request at the 11/18/2021 meeting.</p> <p><u>December 15, 2021: Amendment #2 executed to extend the contract to 3/31/2022.</u></p>
21-104 6/30/2022 \$110,000	(FY 20-21) South Florida Progress Foundation – Quad County Military Installations & Personnel Resilience Study	<p>Contract Executed</p> <p>January 2021 / FY 2020-2021 2nd Quarter Report:</p> <p>Task 1: Develop detailed installation and personnel resilience assessment profile standards</p> <p>Activity 1.1: State & Local Agency Coord</p> <p>Various coordination meetings and calls conducted with the following organizations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Miami-Dade County Chief Resilience Officer *State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection (per FDSTF direction) *Miami-Dade Beacon Council *South Florida Regional Planning Council *Southern Command Headquarters *Homestead Air Reserve Base *DoD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (formerly OEA) *South Dade Economic Development Council and Chamber of

	<p>Commerce</p> <p>Activity 1.2: Research & develop consolidated assessment standard</p> <p>*Review of multiple NDAA language guidance provisions related to resilience</p> <p>*Review of Service resilience guidance documents</p> <p>*Begin development of common assessment standard</p> <p>April 2021 / FY 2020-2021 3rd Quarter Report: No activity executed in Jan-Mar quarter due to holding funds as state match for Military Installation Resilience (MIR) Grant from DoD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation and to align both grant activities. Anticipated MIR award in following quarter.</p> <p>May 2021: The TF awarded an additional \$40,000 to the South Florida Progress Foundation for a total grant award of \$110,000.</p> <p>July 2021 / FY 2020-2021 4th Quarter Report: As previously discussed, no activity executed in Apr-Jun quarter due to holding funds as state match for Military Installation Resilience (MIR) Grant from DoD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation and to align both grant activities. OLDCC has indicated anticipated award and start date of federal funds to be 09/01/2021. Will separately request from FDSTF extension of this grant to align with federal matching funds for the project as previously discussed with the Task Force.</p> <p>Funds will be executed as matching dollars in support of larger federal grant supporting same activity. Now that federal start date of 09/01/2021 has been identified, will request extension of grant to align accordingly.</p> <p>September 2021: As previously discussed and approved by the Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF), the state grant funds are being used as matching dollars for a larger military installation resilience grant from DoD-OLDCC that will go to the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC).</p> <p>Our South Florida Progress Foundation / Defense Alliance (SFPF/SFDA) team, working with the SFRPC, will execute the state grant as part of the larger federal effort to deliver a holistic regional military resilience study stretching from Broward, through Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties. We will be covering NAS Key West, Homestead Air Reserve Base, US Army Garrison Miami/SOUTHCOM HQ, the South Florida Ocean Measurement Facility and all the co-located commands, tenant commands, and co-located USCG commands.</p> <p>The application with OLDCC is fully completed, received favorable review and appears headed towards award very soon (will definitely happen in September before the end of the federal fiscal year). In discussion with OLDCC and SFRPC, we anticipate the SFRPC BoD approval of the contract will happen on 17 September. OLDCC is positioning to receive the signed approval the same day for immediate obligation.</p> <p>All great news bringing a combined total of over \$1M+ to South Florida.</p>
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		<p>We want to extend the deadline on the state funds to better align with the federal funds. As such we would like to request extension to 30 June 2022, the end of the current state fiscal year.</p> <p>The TF voted to extend the contract to June 30, 2022.</p> <p>September 30, 2021: Extension amendment executed.</p> <p>October 2021 / FY 2021-2022 1st Quarter Report: As previously discussed, no activity executed in Jul-Sep quarter due to holding funds as state match for Military Installation Resilience (MIR) Grant from DoD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation and to align both grant activities. The DoD MIR grant was awarded to the SFRPC at the end of September. We are working with SFRPC to begin joint execution. The Florida Defense Support Task Force also in September extended this award through June 2022 to align funds for execution in support of the DoD grant effort.</p> <p>Funds will be executed as matching dollars in support of larger federal grant supporting same activity through June 2022.</p>
21-105 2/28/2022 \$160,000	(FY 20-21) Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council – Educational Programming and Research Development	<p>March 26, 2021: Contract executed.</p> <p>July 2021 / FY 2020-2021 4th Quarter Report: Educational Events and Online Programming (Watch Stander).</p> <p>Created a portal upgrade to create a pop-up feature indicating course completion, ongoing Watch Stander responsibilities and a link to print the Watch Stander certificate. Project completed on time and within budget. Submitted invoice for \$5,500. Reimbursed by grant.</p> <p>Hosted a Watch Stander education and sign-up telethon event during June PTSD Awareness month on WJXT and aired training throughout the month. Estimated cost \$11,300 to be invoiced in July.</p> <p>September 2021: The Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council has asked for a shift in their funding award as they work with the FDVA to expand their Watch Stander Program, which was launched statewide on September 10th, National Veteran Suicide Prevention Day. \$30 thousand dollars was shifted from management and upkeep of the NE Florida Military & Veterans Resources Guide to the Watch Stander Program, reducing that task to \$20 thousand dollars. This task can be completed with the reduction in funds.</p> <p>October 2021 / FY 2021-2022 1st Quarter Report: Educational Events and Online Training: Expanded veteran suicide data collection by county, 2010 to 2019, from NE Florida to the entire State of Florida. Data is educational and on-line. Collected veteran suicide data by county, 2010 to 2019, and Watch Stander locations, collated into dashboard and made available for public education online at www.thefirewatch.org/the-data. Project is in progress but the data is now online, considerably increasing Watch Stander knowledge levels of the issue. Hosted June 1 Telethon on WJXT Channel 4 to educate Watch Standers on veteran suicide prevention. Crossed 1,000 Watch Standers on day of event. Also ran digital media outreach and executed marketing agreements with Jacksonville Sharks and Jumbo Shrimp to increase awareness</p>

		<p>of veteran suicide prevention and drive community participation in the Watch Stander program at 3 games each throughout summer 2021. Altogether 7 events with over 50,000 total attendees. As part of PTSD Awareness month, CFM created a TV-compliant version of our Watch Stander on-line training. Invoice 8360 (\$15,000) was specifically for purchase of June TV programming to train viewers as Watch Standers. Now > 1,200 Watch Standers.</p> <p>Military and Veteran Resources Guide Enhancement and Maintenance: Updated digital resource guide with additional functionality, to load faster, with easier upload interface. Also includes edits and maintenance.</p> <p>Events Calendar Enhancement and Maintenance: Launched new Veteran Events calendar for NE Florida for use by Watch Standers and general veteran community. Calendar is live and managed by vendor.</p> <p>Next quarter, veteran suicide prevention Micro Grant disbursements will be made for an amount estimated to be \$50,000, plus an additional \$10,000 for planned Veterans Day/Week of Valor educational events.</p>
<p>21-106 1/31/2022 \$164,277</p>	<p>(FY 20-21) Bay County Board of County Commissioners – Bay County Tyndall Rebuild/Community Partnership Support</p>	<p>March 30, 2021: Contract executed.</p> <p>July 2021 / FY 2020-2021 4th Quarter Report:</p> <p>Organized and met with SAF/MR and BDA representatives in Washington DC to discuss lab school and provide update on spousal employment and to understand status of Air Force's next release of Support of Military Families scorecard.</p> <p>Discussed possible alternatives to ensure long term viability of NSA Panama City to include options to upgrade the bulkhead, dredge and improve resiliency.</p> <p>Prepared draft legislative language for Bay Defense Alliance to share that would make permanent the moratorium on drilling east of the Military Mission Line.</p> <p>Met with Colonel Moseley, 325th FW/CC, Colonel Leighton, PMO Director and Glen McDonald, Gulf Coast State College to discuss Tyndall rebuild, update on schools, AF strategic basing for MQ-9, and issues of spousal employment.</p> <p>Met with Career Source Panama City to discuss military spousal employment and barriers to success. Explored opportunities for BDA and community to assist in this endeavor.</p> <p>Met with leadership team of Tyndall Program Office and received update on Tyndall Base of the Future and technologies that are under evaluation.</p> <p>Provided assistance on emerging PFAS issue on Tyndall AFB.</p> <p>October 2021 / FY 2021-2022 1st Quarter Report: Scheduled, prepared for and attended meetings with Gulf Coast State College and Bay Defense Alliance personnel with senior Air Force SAFI IE officials at Association of Defense Communities Conference 20-21 July 2021. Discussed status of rebuild of Tyndall AFB and housing development in Bay County.</p>

		<p>Scheduled, prepared for and attended meeting with Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force with Bay Defense Alliance personnel on 22 July 2021 to discuss current challenges airmen are facing with the rising cost of both rentals and homes and inability of Basic Allowance of Housing to keep up.</p> <p>Assisted Gulf Coast State College and Bay Defense Alliance on environmental contamination issue that threatens to significantly delay the beddown of the F35 at Tyndall. Educated on the PFAS issue and facilitated discussion with senior SAF/IE personnel and Florida Department of Environmental Protection.</p> <p>Provided insight on Air Force's current plan to reduce the numbers of A-10s in the inventory and how that could affect the beddown of the F35 at Tyndall.</p> <p>Identified and shared information regarding Air Force's release of RFP for leasing of 150 acre of land on Tyndall AFB.</p> <p>Provided advice and counsel on Air Force release of updated Support of Military Families scorecard.</p> <p>Continued tracking Air Force's plan to reduce the numbers of A-10s in the inventory and how that could affect the beddown of the F35 at Tyndall.</p> <p>Facilitated BOA attendance and briefing at upcoming Gulf Power Symposium.</p> <p>Closely tracked all House Armed Services Committee issues of concern to Bay Defense Alliance during full house markup of the NOAA. Reviewed and identified all Senate Armed Services Committee issues in the NOAA of concern to Bay Defense Alliance.</p> <p>Began planning preparations for community resilience discussion.</p>
21-107 5/31/2022 \$60,000	(FY 20-21) University of West Florida - Advancing Florida's Military Training, Test & Evaluation Ranges	<p>May 20, 2021: Grant awarded.</p> <p>June 30, 2021: Contract executed.</p> <p>October 2021 / FY 2021-2022 1st Quarter Report: The University of West Florida issued a Request for Qualifications due September 30 and is reviewing responses.</p>

5. Florida Defense Support Task Force Grants FY 21-22

22-100 6/30/2022 \$500,000	(FY 21-22) City of Jacksonville - Duval County Military Installations Compatible Land Use and Mission Protection Program	<p>August 19, 2021: Grant awarded.</p> <p>November 18, 2021: Contract executed.</p> <p>January 2022 / FY 2021-2022 2nd Quarter Report: Next acquisition pending DoD funding expected February 2022. This grant will fully utilize all funds prior to 6/30/2022. Expected closing on parcel adjacent to NAS Jacksonville is late April 2022.</p>
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22-XXX	(FY 21-22) Clay County Development Authority (CCDA) – Camp Blanding Joint Training Center (CBJTC) – Installation Encroachment Acquisition	October 2021: Awaiting contracting action per the Task Force.
0/0/2022		
\$500,000		

Running Total of OPEN Grants

OPEN GRANTS								
Contract TYPE #	Contractor	End Date	Award Amount	Paid to Date	Funds Remaining	Funds Forfeited	Pending Payments	Remaining funds after pending
FY 13-14								
DTF 14-05	EDA of Bay County	3/31/2022	500,000.00	85,650.00	244,831.43	-	-	244,831.43
Total			500,000.00	85,650.00	244,831.43	-	-	244,831.43
FY 18-19								
DTF 19-101	Polk County	6/30/2022	500,000.00	453,548.91	46,451.09	-	-	46,451.09
Total			500,000.00	453,548.91	46,451.09	-	-	46,451.09
FY 19-20								
DTF 20-100	Military Child Education Coalition	7/31/2022	100,000.00	89,565.49	10,434.51	-	-	10,434.51
DTF 20-105	Dept. of Military Affairs	6/29/2022	129,000.00	-	129,000.00	-	-	129,000.00
Total			229,000.00	89,565.49	139,434.51	-	-	139,434.51
FY 20-21								
DTF 21-100	Clay County Development Authority	5/31/2022	500,000.00	100,000.00	400,000.00	-	-	400,000.00
DTF 21-101	Polk County Board of County Commissioners	6/30/2022	500,000.00	-	500,000.00	-	-	500,000.00
DTF 21-102	Orlando Economic Partnership	3/31/2022	110,000.00	40,503.96	69,496.04	-	-	69,496.04
DTF 21-104	South Florida Progress Foundation	6/30/2022	110,000.00	3,568.86	106,431.14	-	-	106,431.14
DTF 21-105	Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council	2/28/2022	160,000.00	70,412.50	89,587.50	-	-	89,587.50
DTF 21-106	Bay County Board of County Commissioners	1/31/2022	164,277.00	68,448.75	54,759.00	-	-	54,759.00
DTF 21-107	University of West Florida	5/31/2022	60,000.00	-	60,000.00	-	-	60,000.00
Total			1,604,277.00	282,934.07	1,280,273.68	-	-	1,280,273.68
FY 21-22								
DTF 22-100	City of Jacksonville	6/30/2022	500,000.00	-	500,000.00	-	-	500,000.00
DTF 22-101	Clay County Development Authority	0/00/2022	500,000.00	-	500,000.00	-	-	500,000.00
Total			1,000,000.00	-	1,000,000.00	-	-	1,000,000.00
Grand Total Open								
GRANT TOTAL ALL GRANTS			16,230,641.00	12,430,768.92	2,710,990.71	764,607.47	-	2,710,990.71

Contracts Update

1. Florida Defense Support Task Force Contracts FY 19-20

Contract # End Date Award Amount	Grantee	Status/Progress
12/31/2021 \$165,000	<p>(FY 19-20) Kennetic Productions, Inc. – complete 35 final approved videos of different lengths, based on at least 15 separate video shoots and or compilations of existing video in 15 different counties</p>	<p>Kennetic continues to make contact with installations to schedule video shoots. The team has completed videos for Camp Blanding and Tyndall AFB. They are working to schedule other installations as they reopen. As videos are completed they are being uploaded to the Enterprise Florida YouTube page: https://www.youtube.com/c/EnterpriseFlorida/videos</p> <p>Kennetic Productions contract amendment executed. The new term of the contract is June 30, 2021.</p> <p>Kennetic has recently completed videos from NSA Orlando and USCG Clearwater. They are also working to finalize videos from Joint Gulf Range Complex video 1; Eglin AFB.; Tyndall AFB; NSA Panama City; Hurlburt Field and Professional License Reciprocity.</p> <p>They were working with Space Coast EDC to reschedule a shooting day with SMEs in their region with a target filming date and working with staff to schedule SMEs for the statewide video.</p> <p>March 2021: Kennetic has set up to film in Northwest Florida (NAS Whiting Field, NAS Pensacola and Corry Station) on March 23rd and 24th. They will be filming in South Florida (NAS Key West, US Coast Guard 7th District, USSOUTHCOM, Avon Park AFR, Homestead ARB) the week of April 9th.</p> <p>April 2021: Kennetic is currently working on the videos for the Panhandle. They filmed US Coast Guard Helicopter Training at Avon Park Air Force Range on April 20th. Ten (10) videos have been uploaded to the EFI You Tube Page and staff is working to get them placed on the new M&D website. https://www.youtube.com/c/EnterpriseFlorida/videos</p> <p>May 2021: Kennetic is working on finalizing the videos from NAS Pensacola, Corry Station, NAS Whiting Field, Patrick SFB and the Space Coast. They are still working with community contacts to gain filming access to MacDill, HARB, Key West and USSOUTHCOM. This contract is set to expire on June 30, 2021 and may need an extension, depending on when they can travel to film on the remaining installations.</p> <p>June 2021: There are a total of 18 videos in the showcase, all are completed. The first 10 are fully approved, and the last 8 are in the final round of approval.</p>

	<p>10 Fully Approved: NAS JAX, Camp Blanding, Gulf Range, Tyndall, Eglin, Hurlburt Field, Professional License Reciprocity, Panama City, USCG AIRSTA Clearwater, and Orlando.</p> <p>8 Final Rounds of Approval: Cape Canaveral, Space Coast, Corry Station, Pensacola, Whiting Field, Avon Park, Conservation, and Military future.</p> <p>2 more videos are expected to be completed and ready for the approval process by July 2nd, Education and Encroachment.</p> <p>What's left: Finish the Mayport video, Blount Island, MacDill, Key West, combatant commands, Education support for military children, encroachment, Florida as a destination for post-career, and an overall video about what makes Florida the best state in the country for our military. NAS Key West is expected to be filmed on July 22nd. The Kennetic team is going back to Mayport in early August to film Navy operations they did not get the chance to film last time. They are also planning on scripting the videos for MacDill and Blount Island.</p> <p>August 2021: There are a total of 22 videos in the showcase. 10 are completely finished. 8 are approved and are getting finishing touches and 4 are waiting to be approved.</p> <p>10 Finished: NAS JAX, Camp Blanding, Gulf Range, Tyndall, Eglin, Hurlburt Field, Professional License Reciprocity, Panama City, USCG AIRSTA Clearwater and Orlando.</p> <p>8 fully approved and getting finishing touches: Cape Canaveral, Space Coast, Corry Station, Pensacola, Whiting Field, Avon Park, Conservation and Military future.</p> <p>4 in the approval process: Blount Island, Education Support, Encroachment, MacDill</p> <p>What's left: Finish the Mayport video, Key West, combatant commands, Florida as a destination for post-career, and an overall video about what makes Florida the best state in the country for our military.</p> <p>September 2021: There are a total of 22 videos in the showcase: 18 are completely finished, 2 are approved and are receiving finishing touches and 2 are waiting to be approved by EFI.</p> <p>18 Finished: NAS JAX, Camp Blanding, Gulf Range, Tyndall, Eglin, Hurlburt Field, Professional License Reciprocity, Panama City, USCG AIRSTA Clearwater, Orlando, Cape Canaveral, Space Coast, Corry Station, Pensacola, Whiting Field, Avon Park, Conservation, and Military future.</p> <p>2 fully approved and receiving finishing touches: Blount Island and MacDill</p> <p>2 in the approval process: Education and Encroachment</p> <p>What's left: NS Mayport, NAS Key West, Homestead ARB, Joint Gulf Range Complex #2, Florida as a destination for post-career, Combatant Commands, and an overall video about what makes Florida the best state in the country for our military.</p>
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		<p>October 2021: There are a total of 22 videos in the showcase: 20 are completely finished, 2 are receiving additional work (Education and Encroachment),</p> <p>8 Videos left: NS Mayport, NAS Key West, Homestead ARB, Joint Gulf Range Complex v2, Florida as a destination for post-career, Combatant Commands and an overall video about what makes Florida the best state in the country for our military.</p> <p>The scripts for 4 videos (NS Mayport, NAS Key West, Homestead ARB, Joint Gulf Range Complex volume 2) are finished and the videos should be in the showcase in the next few weeks for review and approval.</p> <p>November 2021: There are a total of 22 videos in the showcase; 20 are completely finished; the Education and Encroachment videos are receiving finishing touches.</p> <p>9 Videos remain: Education, Encroachment, NS Mayport, NAS Key West, Homestead ARB, Joint Gulf Range Complex version 2, Florida as a destination for post-career, Combatant Commands and an overall video about what makes Florida the best state in the country for our military.</p> <p>Of the 9 remaining videos, 6 are anticipated to be completed by 11/10 and the remaining 3 are expected by 11/ 24.</p>
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2. Florida Defense Support Task Force Contracts FY 20-21

CON 20-248 11/30/2021 \$34,950	(FY 20-21) Geollect – 3D Interactive Statewide Range Model	<p>May 7, 2021: Project approved and vendor selected.</p> <p>June 18, 2021: Contract executed.</p> <p>September 2021: Geollect has requested a contract extension to November 30, 2021 as the Range Task Force is behind on sending them updates. They are planning to have it complete by the November FDA in-person meeting in Orlando.</p> <p>September 30, 2021: Extension amendment executed.</p> <p>November: Project to be completed by the end of this month.</p> <p>November 29, 2021: Project complete. Staff is currently working with EFI's IT Department to transfer the model to the M&D website.</p>
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3. Florida Defense Support Task Force Contracts FY 21-22

CON 21-263 1/31/2022 \$155,000	(FY 21-22) Matrix Design Group – 2021 Economic Impact Study	<p>July 15, 2021: Project moving forward with approval of FDSTF FY 2021-2022 Budget.</p> <p>July 20, 2021: Contract executed.</p> <p>October 2021: Matrix Design Group will have the full report and information needed for the EOG's Press Release completed by 12/1/2021. A draft Factbook will be ready by mid-December with the delivery of the final Factbook prior to the January 20, 2022 FDSTF meeting.</p> <p><u>January 2022: Matrix Design Group has completed the study and is in the process of printing the FactBook, to be delivered by January 31, 2022.</u></p>
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Point of Contact: Michelle Griggs, Manager, Contracts & Grants, Florida Defense Support Task Force
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Running Total of Closed Grants & Contracts

CLOSED GRANTS & CONTRACTS									
Contract TYPE	#	Contractor	End Date	Award Amount	Paid to Date	Funds Remaining	Funds Forfeited	Pending Payments	Remaing funds after pending
FY 12-13									
DTF 13-02	National Center for Simulation		06/30/15	350,000.00	349,999.85		0.15		-
DTF 13-03	Florida 8 a Alliance		04/17/14	100,000.00	99,699.44	-	300.56		-
DTF 13-05	Highlands County		03/31/15	500,000.00	500,000.00				-
DTF 13-06	Santa Rosa		04/30/14	160,000.00	129,400.00	-	30,600.00		-
DTF 13-07	Tampa Bay Defense Alliance		01/31/15	130,000.00	129,230.63	-	769.37		-
DTF 13-08	The Andrews Institute		06/23/14	225,000.00	225,000.00	-			-
DTF 13-10	City of Jacksonville		05/11/15	200,000.00	171,525.77	-	28,474.23		-
DTF 13-11	City of Jacksonville		12/11/14	250,000.00	249,682.00	-	318.00		-
Total				1,915,000.00	1,854,537.69	-	60,462.31	-	-
FY 13-14									
DTF 14-02	Clay County (air space control)		07/31/15	474,000.00	474,000.00	-			-
DTF 14-03	Clay County (mass notification system)		03/12/15	255,000.00	255,000.00	-			-
DTF 14-04	City of Niceville		01/23/15	25,000.00	25,000.00	-			-
DTF 14-06	National Center for Simulation		12/31/15	350,000.00	350,000.00	-			-
DTF 14-08	Tampa Bay Defense Alliance		05/31/15	225,000.00	223,642.05	-	1,357.95		-
DTF 14-09	Florida 8(a) Alliance		05/31/15	150,000.00	150,000.00	-			-
DTF 14-10	EDC of Okaloosa County		05/30/15	195,000.00	172,708.46	-	22,291.54		-
DTF 14-11	Florida's Great Northwest		04/24/15	50,000.00	49,999.96	-	0.04		-
Total				1,724,000.00	1,700,350.47	-	23,649.53	-	-
FY 14-15									
DTF 15-01	Clay County (Purchase land)		07/31/16	400,000.00	394,725.75	-	5,274.25	-	-
DTF 15-02	Tampa Bay Defense Alliance		05/31/16	150,000.00	149,886.61	-	113.39		-
DTF 15-03	University of West Florida		08/31/16	350,000.00	350,000.00	-			-
DTF 15-04	National Center for Simulation		06/30/17	240,000.00	240,000.00	-			-
DTF 15-05	EDC of Okaloosa County		01/23/16	285,000.00	285,000.00	-	-		-
DTF 15-06	Florida's Great Northwest		02/16/16	25,000.00	25,000.00	-			-
DTF 15-07	Santa Rosa County		02/16/16	20,654.00	20,653.75	-	0.25		-
DTF 15-08	Florida 8(a) Alliance		04/30/16	100,000.00	99,680.83	-	319.17		-
DTF 15-09	Career Source Gulf Coast		08/24/17	150,000.00	38,035.25	-	99,528.92		-
DTF 15-10	Bay County		06/30/16	200,000.00	200,000.00	-			-
DTF 15-11	City of Key West		06/30/18	100,000.00	100,000.00	-			-
DTF 15-12	Air Force Enlisted		03/15/16	135,000.00	135,000.00	-			-
DTF 15-14	Polk County		04/20/17	500,000.00	500,000.00	-			-
Total				2,655,654.00	2,537,982.19	-	105,235.98	-	-

FY 15-16							
DTF 16-01	Clay County Development Authority	08/13/16	400,000.00	390,200.00	-	9,800.00	-
DTF 16-02	Tampa Bay Defense Alliance	06/30/17	175,000.00	168,578.39	-	6,421.61	-
DTF 16-03	Santa Rosa County	08/13/16	41,310.00	41,310.00	-	-	-
DTF 16-04	Bay County (NSA PC)	03/31/17	120,000.00	111,814.00	-	8,186.00	-
CON 16-136	Highlands County	06/30/20	500,000.00	499,986.36	-	13.64	-
CON 16-137	City of Key West	06/29/18	150,000.00	150,000.00	-	-	-
CON 16-138	EDC Okaloosa County	06/29/17	250,000.00	237,646.95	-	12,353.05	-
CON 16-139	National Math + Science Initiative	11/30/17	175,000.00	54,603.64	-	120,396.36	-
CON 16-140	Doolittle Institute	06/29/17	100,000.00	100,000.00	-	-	-
CON 16-143	Military Child Education Coalition	05/31/18	225,000.00	225,000.00	-	-	-
CON 16-144	Clay County	06/29/17	400,000.00	399,175.75	-	824.00	-
Total			2,536,310.00	2,378,315.09	-	157,994.66	-
FY 16-17							
CON 16-154	Greater Pensacola Chamber of Commerce	06/30/19	250,000.00	52,735.01		197,264.99	-
CON 17-161	Clay County Development Authority	04/30/19	400,000.00	400,000.00	-	-	-
CON 17-162	South Florida Progress Foundation	06/30/18	115,000.00	115,000.00	-	-	-
Total			765,000.00	567,735.01	-	197,264.99	-
FY 17-18							
CON 17-176	Indyne, Inc.	07/31/18	235,000.00	235,000.00	-	-	-
CON 17-177	*Tampa Bay Defense Alliance	08/14/18	135,000.00	33,750.00	-	101,250.00	-
CON 17-178	Gulf Coast State College	04/12/18	30,000.00	30,000.00	-	-	-
CON 18-192	South Florida Progress Foundation	05/31/19	140,000.00	140,000.00	-	-	-
Total			540,000.00	438,750.00			
FY 18-19							
DTF 19-100	Clay County Development Authority	04/30/19	500,000.00	500,000.00		-	-
DTF 19-104	*Bay County Board of County Commissioners	06/30/19	95,000.00	-		95,000.00	-
DTF 19-103	Gulf Coast State College	06/30/19	144,000.00	144,000.00	-	-	-
DTF 19-102	Highlands County	03/17/20	90,000.00	90,000.00	-	-	-
DTF 19-105	Gulf Coast State College	03/27/20	144,000.00	144,000.00	-	-	-
Total			973,000.00	878,000.00	-	95,000.00	-
FY 19-20							
DTF 20-101	Clay County Development Authority	06/30/20	500,000.00	500,000.00	-	-	-
DTF 20-102	*EDC Space Coast	10/31/21	125,000.00	-	-	125,000.00	-
DTF 20-103	City of Jacksonville	6/29/2021	322,500.00	322,500.00	-	-	-
DTF 20-104	Bay County Board of County Commissioners	5/21/2021	270,900.00	270,900.00	-	-	-
Total			1,218,400.00	1,093,400.00	-	125,000.00	-
FY 20-21							
DTF 21-103	Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners	10/31/2021	70,000.00	70,000.00	-	-	-
Total			70,000.00	70,000.00		-	-
Grand Total							
Closed			12,397,364.00	11,519,070.45	-	764,607.47	-

*Contract Cancelled