



Florida Defense Support Task Force  
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FY 2021-2022 Progress Report and  
FY 2023-2024 Work Plan

February 1, 2023



**Florida Defense Support Task Force**  
**FY 2021-2022 Progress Report and**  
**FY 2023-2024 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 2021-2022 with a work plan that covers FY 2023-2024.

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. In view of the numerous major changes since 2018 in the international security environment, U.S. National Defense Strategy, the military bases in Florida and the units assigned to those bases, the Task Force is working on a major study to produce and entirely new strategic plan in 2023.

In state FY 2021-2022, 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 2021-2022 the Task Force awarded three grants totaling \$1,200,000.

The Task Force met 10 times during FY 2021-2022, both in-person and via Zoom. The Task Force conducted in-person meetings at Orange Park (July), Orlando (November), Tallahassee (January and May) and St. Augustine (March) with the remaining meetings being held via Zoom.

The Task Force published the 2022 Florida Military & Defense Economic Impact Summary in January 2022 based on the Economic Impact Analysis Study conducted by Matrix Inc. An electronic copy of the Summary can be downloaded from the Task Force web site at:

<https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/Florida-2022-EIS-Summary-Book-Final.pdf>. A copy is enclosed at Tab 5.

The Task Force published the 2022 Advantage Florida Military Benefits Guide in February 2022. 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. An electronic copy of the current version can be downloaded from the Task Force web site at: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/Advantage-Florida-Military-Benefits-Guide.pdf>. A copy is enclosed at Tab 6.

## **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

USAF – United States Air Force

## **FLORIDA DEFENSE SUPPORT TASK FORCE FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 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. Senator Tom Wright served as the Chairman of the Task Force during FY 2021-2022 and Mr. Tom Neubauer served as the Vice Chair.

During FY 2021-2022 the other Task Force members were Representative Thad Altman, RADM Stan Bozin, USN (retired), the Honorable Thomas Bowman, Brig. Gen. Chip Diehl, USAF (retired), Representative Wyman Duggan, 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). Two seats on the Task Force were vacant during the year.

Table 1 shows Task Force membership during FY 2021-2022. See Tab 2 for full details on the current Task Force membership and staff.

Table 1: Task Force Membership - FY 2021-2022

## Florida Defense Support Task Force Members

FY 2021-2022

- Sen. Tom Wright – Chair
- Mr. Tom Neubauer – Vice Chair
- Rep. Thad Altman
- 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

### **Funding**

For FY 2021-2022, 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 2021-2022 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 is based upon a study conducted when the focus of the U.S. military was the War on Terrorism rather than near-peer confrontation. As a result of this shift in focus, Florida's bases and associated units are experiencing numerous major force structure and infrastructure changes. The Task Force will conduct a study to assess the impacts of these changes and will create a new Strategic Plan in 2023 based on that study.

The existing 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 10 times during FY 2021-2022, both in-person and via Zoom. The Task Force conducted in-person meetings at Orange Park (July), Orlando (November), Tallahassee (January and May) and St. Augustine (March) with the remaining meetings being held via Zoom.

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 2021-2022. 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 2021-2022*

| <b>Date</b>               | <b>Location</b> | <b>Major Items of Business</b>   | <b>Base Visit</b>                                |
|---------------------------|-----------------|--|--|
| <b>July 15, 2021</b>      | Orange Park     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Floridan ANG Space Squadron and Space National Guard Update</li> <li>• Task Force FY 2021-2022 Budget</li> </ul>  | NAS Jacksonville                                 |
| <b>August 19, 2021</b>    | Zoom            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FY 2021 - 2022 Grant Application Presentations</li> <li>• Spousal Licensing Compacts</li> </ul>   |  |
| <b>September 16, 2021</b> | Zoom            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 96th Test Wing Update</li> <li>• 35th Fighter Wing Update</li> </ul>  |  |
| <b>October 21, 2021</b>   | Zoom            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FDOT Update</li> </ul>  |  |
| <b>November 18, 2021</b>  | Orlando         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2021 Military Base Protection Program Tier Rankings</li> <li>• Florida Defense Industry Update</li> <li>• Florida High Tech Corridor Update</li> <li>• Space Florida Update</li> <li>• 2022 Legislative Session Preview</li> </ul>  | NSA Orlando                                      |
| <b>January 20, 2022</b>   | Tallahassee     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RFP Vendor Selection Approval                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Florida Military Installation &amp; Resiliency Plan</li> <li>○ Florida Public Education Impacts on Military Families</li> </ul> </li> <li>• EDC of Florida's Space Coast Grant Presentation</li> <li>• 2021 Economic Impact Study Results Presentation</li> <li>• FDVA Update</li> <li>• Veterans Florida Update</li> <li>• Florida Veterans Foundation Update</li> <li>• 2022 Progress Report and Work Plan</li> <li>• 2022 Legislative Session Update</li> </ul> |  |
| <b>February 17, 2022</b>  | Zoom            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attorney General's Military and Veterans' Assistance Program</li> <li>• Florida Ethics &amp; Sunshine Law Review</li> <li>• 2022 Legislative Session Update</li> </ul>  |  |
| <b>March 17, 2022</b>     | St. Augustine   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Florida National Guard Update</li> <li>• 2022 Legislative Session Update</li> </ul>   | St. Francis Barracks – Florida National Guard HQ |
| <b>April 21, 2022</b>     | Zoom            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Military &amp; Defense Website</li> <li>• DEP State Lands Update</li> </ul>   |  |
| <b>May 19, 2022</b>       | Tallahassee     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FY 2021-2022 Grant Presentations and vote</li> </ul>  |  |

## **Activities/Achievements**

Task Force's activities and achievements for FY 2021-2022 include:

1. **Grants Awarded:** The Task Force awarded three grants totaling \$1,200,000 to improve the value of Florida's military installations. The Task Force awarded two of these totaling \$1,000,000 at the beginning of the fiscal year and one more for \$200,000 during the second half of the year.

Table 3 contains an overview of the grants awarded by the Task Force. See Tab 7 for more detail. <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/military-defense/funding-contracts-rfps/>

*Table 3: Task Force Grants - FY 2021-2022*

| <b>Grantee</b>   | <b>Amount</b> | <b>Purpose</b>   |
|--|---------------|--|
| City of Jacksonville                                     | \$500,000     | Protect military bases in Duval County from encroachment by acquiring easements or purchase land to prevent incompatible development |
| Clay County Development Authority                        | \$500,000     | Buffer Camp Blanding Joint Training Center from incompatible land development  |
| Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast | \$200,000     | Feasibility study for options to replace Cape Canaveral Space Force Station regional wastewater treatment facility                   |

## **2. Installation Encroachment Prevention:**

### **Completed Projects**

- a. **Camp Blanding:** The Clay County Development Authority used \$500,000 of funds awarded by the Task Force under Grant 21-100, matched with \$2,915,000 of federal funds, to buy the protecting 400 acres around Camp Blanding from incompatible development.
- b. **NAS Jacksonville:** The City of Jacksonville used \$500,000 of funds awarded by the Task Force under Grant 22-100, matched with \$2,648,000 million of federal funds and \$882,000 of City of Jacksonville funds to protect 60-acres adjacent to NAS Jacksonville's fence line from incompatible development.
- c. **Avon Park AFR:** The Polk County Commission used the final \$46,401 of funds awarded by the Task Force under Grant 19-101, to pay for the appraisal and closing costs to acquire a conservation easement on a 300-acre tract of Phillip Ruck's properties, matched by \$436,575 of federal funds. This easement will provide Avon Park Air Force Range encroachment protection, along with protecting natural resources.

Table 4 lists the awards and funds used for encroachment protection successes for FY 2021-2022.

*Table 4: Completed Task Force Encroachment Protection Successes - FY 2021-2022*

| Grant  | Recipient                         | Task Force Funds | Other Funds  | Impact  |
|--------|-----------------------------------|------------------|--------------|---|
| 21-100 | Clay County Development Authority | \$500,000        | \$2,915,000  | Bought the 1621 Venture II, LLC property protecting 400 acres adjacent to Camp Blanding from incompatible development   |
| 22-100 | City of Jacksonville              | \$500,000        | \$3,530,000  | Protected 60-acres adjacent to NAS Jacksonville's fence line from incompatible development  |
| 19-101 | Polk County                       | \$46,401.14      | \$436,574.50 | Polk County used the Task Force funds to pay for appraisal & closing costs (Federal government provided the purchase funds) to acquire a conservation easement on the Phillip Rucks Properties. This easement will provide Avon Park Air Force Range encroachment protection for a 300-acre tract of land buffering the base, along with protecting natural resources in the associated Sentinel Landscape. |

### **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 was completed in the first half of FY 2022-2023 and will be reported in next year's report.
- b. **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 2021 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. At present there are no funds available to buffer any bases under this program so the Task Force continues to advocate for funding the program to reduce the number of parcels in the Tier 1 list.
- c. **Florida Rock:** During Autumn 2021 Tampa area officials working with Florida Rock came to an agreement on an alternative use for the land which would result in a permanent, use of the parcel that is compatible with the

mission of MacDill AFB. Work on implementing this new use began in 2021 and is ongoing. The Task Force has worked for years to find a mutually beneficial use for this real estate and remains engaged in efforts to ensure this project continues to completion.

- d. **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 (GOMESA), beyond 2022. A 2020 Presidential Executive Order currently prohibits oil exploration in this area, but the moratorium could be lifted at any time. The Task Force continues to seek permanent protection for any sort of encroachment on 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. Task Force members and staff also intervened personally on this issue with congressional staffers and DOD leaders repeatedly during FY 2021-2022.
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 Whiting Field:** In August 2021, NAS Whiting Field received its first TH-73A helicopter to replace the legacy TH-57s used for helicopter training at the base. Additional helicopters arrived throughout FY 2021-2022 and Leonardo, the company that is building the helicopters, will continue deliveries through 2024.
    - b. **NS Mayport:** The U.S. Navy made a number of ship homeport changes as part of a larger plan to consolidate amphibious warfare ships in the Norfolk, VA area, and increase the number of destroyers and cruisers in Mayport. In July 2021, U.S.S. Winston S. Churchill shifted homeport to Mayport from NS Norfolk and U.S.S. Donald Cook shifted from Rota, Spain back to her former homeport of Mayport. In February 2022, U.S.S. Jason Dunham shifted homeport to NS Mayport from NS Norfolk. Each ship brings over 300 additional sailors and their families to the community. The last amphibious warfare vessel (U.S.S. Iwo Jima) left NS Mayport in December 2021 to move up to Virginia.

The Navy also made some changes to the aircraft based at Mayport. In October 2021, the Navy established Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM) 50 at NS Mayport. The squadron conducted began flying its first missions using the MH-60R Seahawk in April 2022. In December 2021, Mayport received its first MQ-4C Triton Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS).

Mayport will ultimately host four of these aircraft and around 400 personnel plus their families.

- c. **Eglin AFB**: In August 2021, the 33rd Fighter Wing at Eglin AFB reactivated the 60th Fighter Squadron which then began receiving F-35As later that year. The squadron plans and executes a training curriculum in support of USAF training requirements for the F-35A.
  - d. **MacDill AFB**: In December 2021 the USAF announced MacDill AFB is the preferred location to bed down 24 new KC-46 Pegasus tankers replacing the 24 KC-135 Stratotankers currently based there.
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 to ensure permanent protection for the Gulf Test & Training Range. The moratorium passed in the GOMESA Act expired on June 30, 2022, and at present the only protection for the Gulf Range is the Executive Order signed by President Trump in 2020. The Task Force continues to support legislation that would make this moratorium permanent.
  - b. The Task Force continued to work throughout the year with local, state, and federal officials to ensure that the rebuilding efforts for Tyndall AFB following Hurricane Michael remain on track. The Task Force remained engaged in monitoring the rebuilding of Tyndall AFB throughout FY 2021-2022. In coordination with the Executive Office of the Governor, the Task Force was able to negotiate an agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to continue construction of new F-35 infrastructure, which had the potential to be delayed or sidelined due to possible PFAS contamination. The engagement kept the USAF F-35 timeline on track.
  - c. The Task Force continued to push for new and expanded military missions in the state, including bringing the F-35 to Homestead ARB; replacing the KC-135 at MacDill AFB with the KC-46; obtaining additional ships for NS Mayport and NAS Pensacola and getting Space Training and Readiness Command (STARCOM) elements assigned to Florida.
  - 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 Department of the Air Force released an update to its Military Family Quality of Life Study results in the autumn of 2021 however that version of the study failed to address any of the outstanding issues from the original 2020 edition. The Task Force engaged throughout the year with the Department of the Air Force officials, the Florida Department of Education and the Association of Defense Communities to correct this. There has not yet been any substantial change in the Air Force's methodology and the Task Force. During FY22 the Task Force contracted with The Roosevelt Group to review the USAF education scoring criteria, provide feedback to the state on its validity, and provide recommendations to the Task Force for engagement with the USAF to make changes to the system.
- f. During the first half of FY 2021-2022 the Department of the Air Force began a Strategic Basing Process to select permanent locations for the headquarters of the newly established STARCOM and its subordinate field units (Deltas). Space Florida is the state lead agency for advocating to have the appropriate STARCOM elements based in Florida and the Task Force has been assisting Space Florida in these efforts. The Task Force has contributed to developing a strategy, writing and editing White Papers, and speaking with Department of the Air Force and Florida CODEL members and staff at every opportunity. The Task Force continues to work with Space Florida in their efforts to get these new space missions brought to Florida.
- g. 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 June 2022, the Task Force Sent a letter to the Polk County Commission prior to a meeting regarding a proposed development change that could adversely impact Avon Park AFR. The proposed decision would have permitted a greater density of residential units in low altitude navigation route entering and existing the range and would likely led to the Federal Aviation Administration and USAF restricting flight routes in that area reducing capacity for the range. The letter explained the risks to the community of allowing such development and the economic benefits to the community that come from the range and its mission.
- h. For the past few years, the Task Force has assisted a group representing many state, federal and NGO organizations with writing, editing and submitting a proposal to designate Northwest Florida and Northeast Florida as Sentinel Landscapes. In February 2022, Northwest Florida was designated as a Sentinel Landscape making Florida the first, and so far, only, state in the country with two Sentinel Landscapes (the other Florida

Sentinel Landscape is in Avon Park). The Task Force remains involved with both Sentinel Landscapes assisting them as needed and appropriate.

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_Force).
6. **Economic Impact:** In FY 2021-2022 the Task Force published the latest edition of the bi-annual military and defense economic impact study showing the economic impact of military and defense in Florida to be more than \$96.6 billion and accounting for more than 860,221 direct and indirect jobs. While data in that study illustrated that defense spending increased since data presented in the previous study presented in 2018, the number of total jobs supported by the defense sector decreased slightly as spending shifted to e-commerce.

Despite the economic disruptions caused by COVID-19, the state of Florida and its defense industry charged ahead during 2020, and the Florida defense industry remains one of the largest and most productive in the nation. Given the headwinds other major industries faced during 2020, defense has proven itself a stabilizing force for Florida communities who have the honor of supporting their local military installations, defense contractors, and the veterans and military retirees who call Florida home. The summary version of the Economic Impact Study is available on the Task Force web site at: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/Florida-2022-EIS-Summary-Book-Final.pdf> and at Tab 5.

7. **Military Friendly Programs:** The Task Force published and distributed the 2022 Advantage Florida Military Benefits Guide summarizing programs and benefits for active duty, National Guard and Reserve service members and families. An electronic, searchable version of the current version of the guide is available for download on the Task Force web site at <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/Advantage-Florida-Military-Benefits-Guide.pdf>. See Tab 6.

### **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 2022 Legislative Session:

#### **Educational Opportunities for Disabled Veterans (F.S. 295.011)**

Provides that disabled veterans receiving certain federal educational assistance benefits are eligible to receive waiver for tuition & fees at certain institutions; provides calculation for waiver amount; requires amount awarded by state to be contingent on application of specified federal benefits; requires institutions to submit annual report to Board of Governors & State Board of Education; requires boards to adopt regulations & rules.

**Professional Counselors Licensure Compact (F.S. 491.018)**

Creates Professional Counselors Licensure Compact; provides for recognition to practice licensed professional counseling in member states; provides for recognition of practice of professional counseling through telehealth in member states; provides for development of data system, reporting procedures, & exchange of specified information between member states; specifies licensees practicing in remote state under compact must adhere to laws & rules of remote state.

**Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (F.S. 1000.39)**

Requires the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives to each appoint one member to the State Council on Interstate Educational Opportunity for Military Children, rather than appoint one member jointly; extending the scheduled repeal of the compact and related provisions, etc.

**United States Space Force (Ch. 2022-183, Laws of Florida)**

Amended all references to the military services in numerous Florida statutes to add the United States Space Force as one of the “uniformed services” of the United States military. Explicitly extended all the protections and benefits Florida offers to military personnel and veterans to members and veterans of the United States Space Force.

**Military Occupational Licensure (F.S. 455.02)**

Requires the Department of Business and Professional Regulation to expedite professional license applications submitted by spouses of active duty members of the Armed Forces of the United States; requiring the department to issue certain licenses within a specified timeframe; requiring the Department of Health and certain boards to issue a professional license to spouses of active duty members of the Armed Forces of the United States if certain requirements are met, etc.

**Homestead Property Tax Exemptions for Classroom Teachers, Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, Emergency Medical Technicians, Paramedics, Child Welfare Professionals, and Servicemembers (F.S. 196.011, F.S. 196.077, F.S. 218.125)**

Amended the three cited statutes to specify information that must be supplied annually to property appraiser by specified professionals who qualify for specified exemption; provides conditions under which those specified professionals may receive additional homestead property tax exemption; specifies amount of homestead property tax exemption; provides requirements for applying for & receiving exemption; specifies actions property appraiser may take if taxpayer improperly claims exemption; provides penalties under certain conditions; requires Legislature to appropriate moneys to offset reductions in ad valorem tax revenues experienced by fiscally constrained counties due; specifies procedures for distributing such moneys.



### **Veteran Suicide Prevention Training Pilot Program (F.S. 292.115)**

Requires the Department of Veterans' Affairs to establish the pilot program; requiring pilot program participants to receive certain training; requiring the department to contract with an organization to develop the curriculum for such training; requiring the department to submit an annual report to the Legislature by a specified date, etc.

### **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 73 grants for more than \$17.43 million to strengthen military installations and prevent encroachment. The Task Force Grant Program augments other defense grants such as the Defense Infrastructure Grant and the Defense Reinvestment Grant managed by the Department of Economic Opportunity. Although these programs have been ongoing for decades, Spring 2022 marked the closest collaborated between the Task Force, EFI and DEO on all defense grant programs to better leverage the total funding available, therefore maximizing the impact of the individual grant programs. For progress of Task Force grants, see Tab 8.

For the FY 2021-2022 grant cycle, the Task Force received three applications and considered each of them based on merit and potential. The Task Force awarded two of these applicants \$500,000 each. During the year the Task Force received one Out-of-Cycle grant application requesting \$200,000 and considered it on the basis of merit and potential. The Task Force awarded this applicant a grant for that full amount bringing the grand total of grants awarded by the Task Force during FY 2021-2022 to \$1,200,000. The Task Force Grant program details are available for review at <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/military-defense/funding-contracts-rfps/>.

## TASK FORCE FY 2023-2024 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 2023-2024.

During FY 2023-2024, 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 2023-2024. 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 2023 or June 2024. When possible, meetings will be held in various locations around the state and may include base visits.

### **First Quarter FY 2023-2024**

July – September 2023

- **July 20:** The Task Force will conduct an in-person meeting in Fort Walton Beach with a visit to Eglin AFB.
- **August 17:** 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 2024-2025 Grant Application window to determine needs from the defense community.
- **September 21:** The Task Force will conduct an in-person meeting in Homestead with a visit to Homestead ARB.

### **Second Quarter FY 2023-2024**

October – December 2023

- **October 19:** The Task Force conducts a meeting via Zoom.
- **November 16:** The Task Force will conduct an in-person meeting in Tampa in conjunction with a Florida Defense Alliance meeting on November 15 and a Task Force visit to MacDill AFB.
  - 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 2023-2024**

January – March 2024

- **January 18:** The Task Force will conduct an in-person meeting in Tallahassee.
  - The Task Force will review and approve the Progress Report and Work Plan for submission to the Governor and Legislature.
  - Task Force will review and monitors progress on federal, state and local military and defense issues, and makes recommendations to the Governor and Legislature.
- **February 1:** The Task Force will submit the Progress Report and Work Plan to the Governor and Legislature.
- **February 15:** The Task Force will conduct a meeting via Zoom.
  - The Task Force will conduct required Public Records and Ethics training.
- **March 21:** The Task Force will conduct an in-person meeting in Panama City with a visit to Tyndall AFB.
  - The Task Force will check on progress rebuilding Tyndall AFB and the status of bedding down F-35s at the base.
  - The Task Force will review and monitor progress on federal, state and local military and defense issues, and review results from the just concluded Legislative Session.

### **Fourth Quarter FY 2023-2024**

April – June 2024

- **April 18:** The Task Force conducts a meeting via Zoom.
- **May 16:** The Task Force will conduct an in-person meeting in Tallahassee in conjunction with a Florida Defense Alliance meeting on May 15.
  - The Task Force will review and consider annual grant requests for financial resource support to enhance local efforts to protect military installations.
  - Task Force will review and monitor progress on federal, state, and local military and defense issues, and makes recommendations to the Governor and Legislature.
  - The Task Force will update the Florida Military Benefits Guide to include successful military-related legislation passed during the 2023 session.
  - 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**

## **Current Membership of the Task Force and Staff**

### *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
- Colonel Gregg Billman, U.S. Air Force, Retired
- S. Reeves Valentine, Vice President of Enterprise Sustainment Solutions, Lockheed Martin Training and Logistics Solutions

### *Senate President Appointees*

- Major General Richard Haddad, U.S. Air Force, Retired
- Mr. Tom Neubauer
- The Honorable Tom Bowman

### *House Speaker Appointees*

- Brigadier General Arthur F. Diehl, III, U.S. Air Force, Retired
- Kay Rasmussen, Associate Director, One Okaloosa Economic Development Council

The current total number of appointees to the Task Force is 10.

### *The support staff for the Florida Defense Support Task Force*

- Terry McCaffrey, Vice President, Military & Defense Programs, Enterprise Florida and Executive Director, Florida Defense Support Task Force
- Ray Collins, Special Advisor to the VP, Military & Defense Programs, Enterprise Florida
- Michelle Griggs, Executive Assistant & Grants Manager, Enterprise Florida



**TAB 3**  
**Task Force Annual**  
**Budget for**  
**FY 2021-2022**

**Florida Defense Support Task Force  
Annual Budget for FY 2021-2022  
(as of June 30, 2022)**

|   | <u>FY 2021/22</u>          |                            |                          |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Revenues</b>                                     |                            |                            |                          |
| <b>Program Revenues</b>                             |                            |                            |                          |
| Program Appropriation                               | 1,750,000.00               |                            |                          |
| <b>Total Program Revenues</b>                       | <b><u>1,750,000.00</u></b> |                            |                          |
| <b>Administrative Revenues</b>                      |                            |                            |                          |
| Administrative Appropriation                        | 250,000.00                 |                            |                          |
| <b>Total Administrative Revenues</b>                | <b><u>250,000.00</u></b>   |                            |                          |
| <hr/>   |                            |                            |                          |
|   | <u>Programmed</u>          | <u>Actual/Expended</u>     | <u>Obligated</u>         |
| <b>Expenses</b>                                     |                            |                            |                          |
| <b>Program Expenses</b>                             |                            |                            |                          |
| Economic Impact Study                               | 155,000.00                 | 155,000.00                 | 0.00                     |
| Military Friendly Guide                             | 5,000.00                   | 0.00                       | 5,000.00                 |
| Installation/Community Resiliency Plan              | 150,000.00                 | 135,000.00                 | 15,000.00                |
| Public Education Impacts on Military Families       | 117,000.00                 | 117,000.00                 | 0.00                     |
| Continuing Services Contract                        | 135,000.00                 | 0.00                       | 135,000.00               |
| Local Grant Program                                 | 1,200,000.00               | 1,200,000.00               | 0.00                     |
| <i>DTF 22-100 City of Jacksonville</i>              | 500,000.00                 | Closed-Paid in Full        |                          |
| <i>DTF 22-101 Clay County Development Authority</i> | 500,000.00                 | Closed-Paid in Full        |                          |
| <i>DTF 22-102 EDC of Florida's Space Coast</i>      | 200,000.00                 |                            |                          |
| <b>Total Program Expenses</b>                       | <b><u>1,762,000.00</u></b> | <b><u>1,607,000.00</u></b> | <b><u>155,000.00</u></b> |
| <b>Administrative Expenses</b>                      |                            |                            |                          |
| <sup>1</sup> Staff Salaries & Benefits              | 193,000.00                 | 196,771.25                 | (3,771.25)               |
| <sup>2</sup> Task Force Travel and Per Diem         | 45,000.00                  | 40,289.68                  | 4,710.32                 |
| <b>Total Administrative Expenses</b>                | <b><u>238,000.00</u></b>   | <b><u>237,060.93</u></b>   | <b><u>939.07</u></b>     |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>                               | <b><u>2,000,000.00</u></b> | <b><u>1,844,060.93</u></b> | <b><u>0.00</u></b>       |

**Footnotes:**

- 1 Line for two salaried staff. (Executive Director and Grants Manager)
- 2 Line includes venue expenses, A/V contractor, travel, per diem and other meeting costs for approximately six (6) board meetings.

# **TAB 4**

# **Current Strategic Plan**

<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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 hangars 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 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> 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.

#### **125<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Jacksonville International Airport –**

- Continue to support base facility improvements and taxiway upgrades to ensure 125<sup>th</sup> FW compliance to Air Force standards.
- Advocate for an “Active-Associate” unit at the 125<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing.
- Monitor F-35 (Joint Strike Fighter) transition for the 125<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> 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 159<sup>th</sup> Aviation Regiment.
  - Champion enhancement of Military Education (University to Community College to K-12) to include buildout 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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 (920<sup>th</sup> 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 45<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> 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 482<sup>nd</sup> 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**

**2022 Florida Military &  
Defense Economic  
Impact Study**

<https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/Florida-2022-EIS-Summary-Book-Final.pdf>



# Florida Military & Defense Economic Impact Summary

JANUARY 2022

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# STUDY OVERVIEW



For more than a decade, the Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) has monitored the economic impacts of defense spending flowing to Florida military installations, private-sector defense contractors, and the more than 1.5 million veterans and military retirees residing in Florida. To do so, the FDSTF conducts a bi-annual update to the economic impacts of the Florida defense industry. This booklet presents a summary of the updated estimates using 2020 spending data. To ensure consistency, the same econometric forecasting models and defense-related spending flows are used as in previous studies. The incredible story told by this data demonstrates the resiliency of Florida's support for defense industries that, despite economic challenges, still achieved real growth and demonstrated a "no excuses" approach to further elevating Florida's economic future.

During 2020, the state experienced a 12% nominal increase in direct defense spending – growing from \$44 billion in 2018 to \$49.3 billion in 2020. As the \$49.3 billion rippled through the economy, it supported nearly 860,200 jobs and generated over \$96.6 billion in value-added economic impacts, or 8.5% of the Florida economy. While defense spending increased over 2018, because household spending shifted from brick & mortar retail and entertainment establishments during the pandemic, the number of total jobs supported decreased slightly as spending shifted to e-commerce which does not generate the levels of employment that brick & mortar household spending typically does.

However, despite the economic disruptions caused by COVID-19, the state of Florida and its defense industry charged ahead during 2020, and the Florida defense industry remains one of the largest and most productive in the nation. Given the headwinds other major industries faced during 2020, defense has proven itself a stabilizing force for Florida communities who have the honor of supporting their local military installations, defense contractors, and the veterans and military retirees who call Florida home.

# FLORIDA MILITARY FACTS

**Total Statewide Economic Impact \$96.6 B**

**Percent of Florida Economy 8.5%**

**Statewide Direct and Indirect Jobs 860,221**

Buildings Owned by Military <sup>1</sup> 5,992

Total Acreage (all installations) <sup>1</sup> 522,734

Plant Replacement Value <sup>1</sup> \$32.5 billion

Military Personnel <sup>2</sup> 69,290

Civilian Personnel <sup>2</sup> 38,095

Military Reserve <sup>2</sup> 33,586

National Guard Full-time <sup>3</sup> 2,539

National Guard Traditional Guardsmen <sup>3</sup> 10,684

Total Veterans Living in Florida <sup>4</sup> 1,517,442

Total Military Retirees Living in Florida <sup>5</sup> 205,132

<sup>1</sup> Department of Defense, Base Structures Report – FY 2018 Baseline

<sup>2</sup> Defense Manpower Data Center – Military and Civilian Personnel By Service Agency by State/Country (September 2021)

<sup>3</sup> Adjutant General's Report FY 2020, Ready: Home & Abroad

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

<sup>5</sup> Department of Defense, Office of the Actuary

## Florida hosts a variety of missions critical to our Nation's defense.

### Florida is home to:

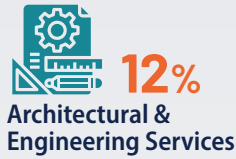
- Three of ten unified combatant command headquarters
- Hosts two (of only four) deep water naval ports with adjacent airfields.
- The military's only east coast space launch facility.
- The Marine Corps's only maritime prepositioning force facility
- One of only three Navy Fleet Readiness Centers.
- The Joint Gulf Range Complex
- Several critical research, development, training, and evaluation (RDT&E) centers

The DoD's strategy emphasizes rapidly deployable joint forces, joint training, access to space, special operations, precision strike, and research & development, all of which are found in Florida.

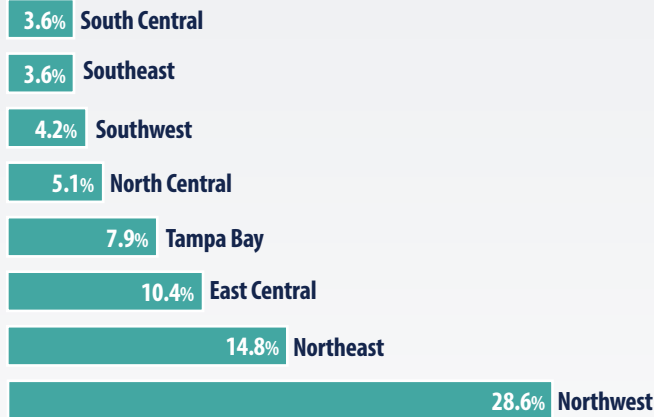
Air, land, and sea training areas and ranges associated with the Joint Gulf Range Complex host large, complex joint exercises that allow the services to train like they fight, thus bringing tremendous advantages to our military. Additionally, the Complex connects test and training ranges that extend from Key West to Northwest Florida and across the eastern Gulf of Mexico. It includes 180,000 square miles of DoD controlled airspace, as well as 724 sq. miles of adjacent land ranges, 3,200 sq. miles of airspace over adjacent land, 17 miles of shoreline access, interconnected radars and 2 launch areas for missiles. The training area contains multiple live-fire bombing ranges, including Pinycastle Range, Avon Park Air Force Range and the Eglin Bombing Range, that allow for simultaneous maritime, air, and land training exercises. Due to its tremendous capabilities and Florida's commitment to partnership, the Complex is an integral part of DoD's Training Resources Strategy.

# IMPACTS BY THE NUMBERS

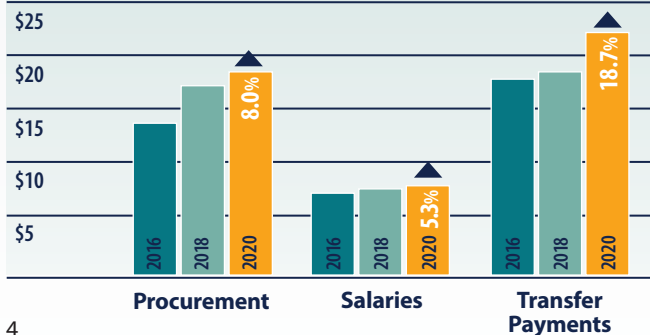
**4 Industries** make up **50%** of Defense-related contracts



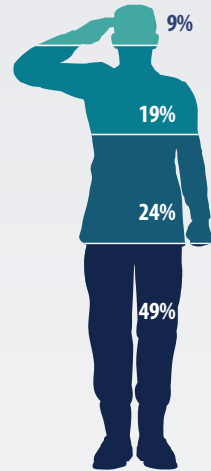
## Defense as a Percent of Total Economy for Each Region



## Difference in Direct Spending (\$billions)

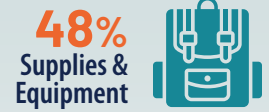


## Personnel by Type

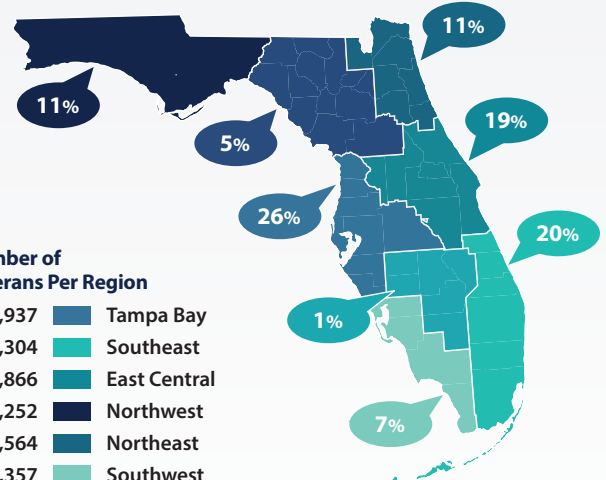


- National Guard
- Reserve
- Civilian
- Active Duty

## Contract Values by Type



## Veteran Distribution by Region

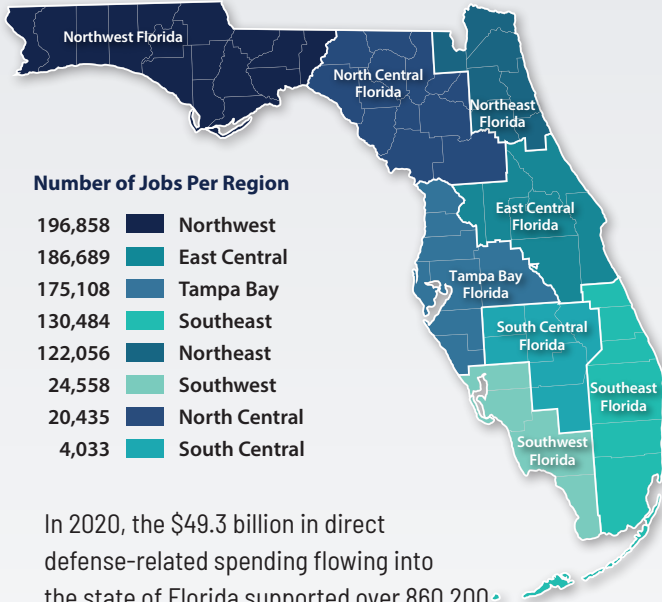


### Number of Veterans Per Region

- 391,937 Tampa Bay
- 296,304 Southeast
- 287,866 East Central
- 165,252 Northwest
- 164,564 Northeast
- 111,357 Southwest
- 80,753 North Central
- 19,408 South Central

# STATE OF FLORIDA

## Total Employment Impacts of Defense Activities



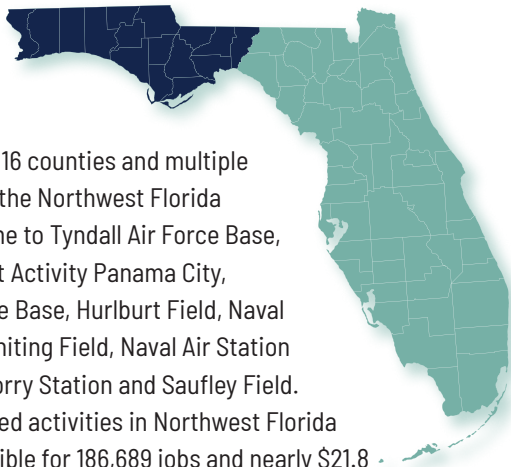
In 2020, the \$49.3 billion in direct defense-related spending flowing into the state of Florida supported over 860,200 jobs and generated \$96.6 billion in value-added economic impacts across the state. As the map above demonstrates, defense spending generated some level of job creation in each of the state's eight economic development regions. Northwest Florida continues to have the highest job impacts associated with the defense industry with nearly 197,000 total jobs (direct, indirect, and induced), but the East Central and Tampa Bay regions are close behind with 186,700 and 175,000, respectively. Even regions with very little military presence experience economic impacts as they are home to small defense contractors as well as veterans and military retirees who spend their veteran benefits and pensions on the local economy.

## Defense Economic Impact Estimates

| Total State Economic Impacts  |                       |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| State Economic Impact         | \$96.6 Billion        |
| Employment                    | 860,221 Jobs          |
| Percent of Economy            | 8.5%                  |
| Consumption                   | \$59.4 Billion        |
| Capital Investment            | \$19.5 Billion        |
| Direct Defense Spending       |                       |
| Procurement                   | \$18.9 Billion        |
| Salaries                      | \$8.0 Billion         |
| Pensions & Transfers          | \$22.4 Billion        |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b> | <b>\$49.3 Billion</b> |
| Impacts by Component          |                       |
| Federal Military              |                       |
| Economic Impact               | \$89.1 Billion        |
| Employment                    | 806,538 Jobs          |
| National Guard                |                       |
| Economic Impact               | \$4.7 Billion         |
| Employment                    | 33,845 Jobs           |
| Coast Guard                   |                       |
| Economic Impact               | \$2.8 Billion         |
| Employment                    | 19,838 Jobs           |



## NORTHWEST FLORIDA REGION



Consisting of 16 counties and multiple installations, the Northwest Florida Region is home to Tyndall Air Force Base, Naval Support Activity Panama City, Eglin Air Force Base, Hurlburt Field, Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Naval Air Station Pensacola, Corry Station and Saufley Field. Defense related activities in Northwest Florida were responsible for 186,689 jobs and nearly \$21.8 billion in gross regional product (GRP), accounting for 28.6% of the region's 2020 total gross product. The vast majority of these economic impacts were generated by direct federal military spending which produced 176,703 jobs and roughly \$20.3 billion of GRP, followed by the National Guard and Coast Guard who were responsible for 8,718 jobs and 1,268 jobs, respectively.

## Defense Economic Impact Estimates

| Total Regional Impact <i>(in Millions)</i>   |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Regional Economic Impact                     | \$21,794.0        |
| Percent of Economy                           | 28.6%             |
| Employment                                   | 186,689 Jobs      |
| Consumption                                  | \$12,017.6        |
| Capital Investment                           | \$3,813.1         |
| Direct Defense Spending <i>(in Millions)</i> |                   |
| Procurement                                  | \$3,370.3         |
| Salaries                                     | \$3,623.2         |
| Pensions & Transfers                         | \$3,154.2         |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b>                | <b>\$10,147.8</b> |
| Impacts by Component <i>(in Millions)</i>    |                   |
| <b>Federal Military</b>                      |                   |
| Economic Impact                              | \$20,278.5        |
| Employment                                   | 176,703 Jobs      |
| <b>National Guard</b>                        |                   |
| Economic Impact                              | \$1,329.1         |
| Employment                                   | 8,718 Jobs        |
| <b>Coast Guard</b>                           |                   |
| Economic Impact                              | \$186.5           |
| Employment                                   | 1,268 Jobs        |

Left: Marine F-35B arrives at Eglin, Photo by Samuel King Jr., 96th Test Wing Public Affairs



## Bay County



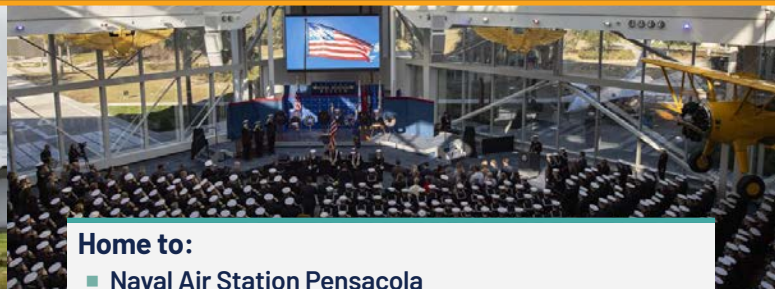
### Home to:

- Naval Support Activity Panama City
- Tyndall Air Force Base

Tyndall AFB Air Park recovery, Photo by Staff Sgt. Alexandre Montes, 325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Home to the Tyndall Air Force Base (325th Fighter Wing) and the Naval Support Activity (NSA) Panama City, Bay County supports our nation's defense in multiple capacities. The 325th Fighter Wing trains F-22 Raptor pilots, intelligence officers, and maintainers for assignment to combat Air Force Units, while the NSA Panama City provides defense and physical security of critical infrastructure; operational support to the Fleet, Fighter and Family and supported commands; research and development; testing and evaluation; and Navy diving. Following Hurricane Michael in 2018, construction has been underway to rebuild the Tyndall Air Force Base and shape it into the Air Force's first 21st Century "Installation of the Future".

## Escambia County



### Home to:

- Naval Air Station Pensacola
- Corry Station
- Saufley Field

NAS Pensacola Memorial, Photo by Chief Petty Officer David Holmes, Navy Public Affairs Support Element East, Detachment Southeast

Naval Air Station Pensacola, "The Cradle of Naval Aviation," is tasked with providing superior training support and a quality environment to its more than 90 tenant commands. Corry Station's primary mission is to operate and administer assigned schools that provide training to military and civilian personnel of the Department of Defense and international military students. Saufley Field is a multi-purpose facility hosting the Naval Education & Training Professional Development Center, a Federal Prison Camp, and other activities.

### Total County Impact *(in Millions)*

**County Economic Impact** **\$3,148.0**

Percent of Economy 34.6%

Employment 30,013 Jobs

Consumption \$1,661.9

Capital Investment \$547.6

### Direct Defense Spending *(in Millions)*

Procurement \$1,333.8

Salaries \$245.0

Pensions & Transfers \$403.9

**Total Defense Spending** **\$1,982.7**

NORTHWEST FLORIDA REGION

### Total County Impact *(in Millions)*

**County Economic Impact** **\$6,626.1**

Percent of Economy 34.8%

Employment 53,681 Jobs

Consumption \$2,972.4

Capital Investment \$974.4

### Direct Defense Spending *(in Millions)*

Procurement \$422.2

Salaries \$1,313.0

Pensions & Transfers \$740.5

**Total Defense Spending** **\$2,475.7**

NORTHWEST FLORIDA REGION

# Okaloosa County



## Home to:

- Eglin Air Force Base
- Hurlburt Field

160th SOAR Trains with Air Force Special Operations Command, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne)

Encompassing 724 square miles, Eglin Air Force Base is the largest military base in the U.S. and home to the 96th Test Wing and various other units. The 96th Test Wing executes developmental test and evaluation, enabling the warfighter to put weapons on target in all battlespace media while also providing support for all other Team Eglin missions as the host wing.

Hurlburt Field today, accommodates the 1st Special Operations Wing, and is home to Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) and a number of associate units. The mission at the base is centered around the training and execution of worldwide aviation special operations.

# Santa Rosa County



## Home to:

- Naval Air Station Whiting Field

TH-73A Thrasher Arrival at NAS Whiting Field, Photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Jason Isaacs, Chief of Naval Air Training

Naval Air Station (NAS) Whiting Field operates 56% of the Navy's outlying landing fields, and 17% of all U.S. Navy flight hours are flown out of NAS Whiting. The base's mission is to create the military's best-trained "Aviation Warfighter" and support all the armed forces relying on it. The installation hosts 21 tenant activities, including Training Air Wing FIVE, which produces more than 1,200 pilots a year. NAS Whiting Field is home to the largest air wing in the U.S. Navy and produces 100% of all Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard helicopter pilots.

## Total County Impact *(in Millions)*

|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>County Economic Impact</b> | <b>\$9,185.9</b> |
| Percent of Economy            | 63.3%            |
| Employment                    | 73,224 Jobs      |
| Consumption                   | \$4,007.1        |
| Capital Investment            | \$1,272.2        |

## Direct Defense Spending *(in Millions)*

|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Procurement                   | \$1,433.5        |
| Salaries                      | \$1,936.1        |
| Pensions & Transfers          | \$873.0          |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b> | <b>\$4,241.6</b> |

NORTHWEST FLORIDA REGION

## Total County Impact *(in Millions)*

|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>County Economic Impact</b> | <b>\$1,637.0</b> |
| Percent of Economy            | 30.4%            |
| Employment                    | 16,331 Jobs      |
| Consumption                   | \$1,902.9        |
| Capital Investment            | \$567.3          |

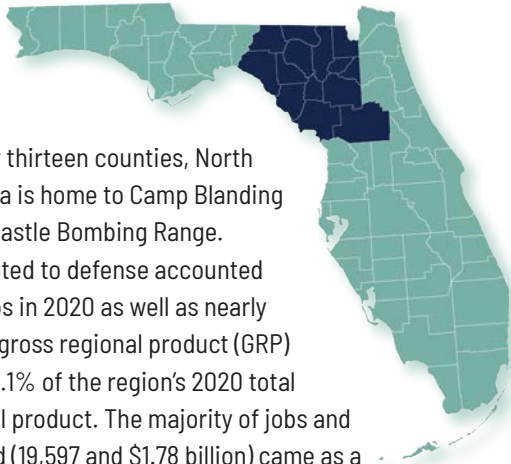
## Direct Defense Spending *(in Millions)*

|                               |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Procurement                   | \$86.5         |
| Salaries                      | \$57.1         |
| Pensions & Transfers          | \$574.7        |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b> | <b>\$718.2</b> |

NORTHWEST FLORIDA REGION



## NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGION



Comprised by thirteen counties, North Central Florida is home to Camp Blanding and the Pinecastle Bombing Range. Activities related to defense accounted for 20,435 jobs in 2020 as well as nearly \$1.9 billion in gross regional product (GRP) - making up 5.1% of the region's 2020 total gross regional product. The majority of jobs and GRP produced (19,597 and \$1.78 billion) came as a consequence of federal military spending. Spending by the National Guard and Coast Guard on the other hand, accounted for 656 jobs and 182 jobs in the region, respectively.

## Defense Economic Impact Estimates

| Total Regional Impact <i>(in Millions)</i>   |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Regional Economic Impact                     | \$1,867.0        |
| Percent of Economy                           | 5.1%             |
| Employment                                   | 20,435 Jobs      |
| Consumption                                  | \$1,895.4        |
| Capital Investment                           | \$598.9          |
| Direct Defense Spending <i>(in Millions)</i> |                  |
| Procurement                                  | \$174.8          |
| Salaries                                     | \$102.7          |
| Pensions & Transfers                         | \$1,303.4        |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b>                | <b>\$1,580.9</b> |
| Impacts by Component <i>(in Millions)</i>    |                  |
| <b>Federal Military</b>                      |                  |
| Economic Impact                              | \$1,778.4        |
| Employment                                   | 19,597 Jobs      |
| <b>National Guard</b>                        |                  |
| Economic Impact                              | \$69.8           |
| Employment                                   | 656 Jobs         |
| <b>Coast Guard</b>                           |                  |
| Economic Impact                              | \$18.8           |
| Employment                                   | 182 Jobs         |

Left: New York National Guard Artillerymen Fire New Guns At Camp Blanding, New York National Guard

# Bradford County



## Home to:

- Camp Blanding Joint Training Center

LCSRON 2 Reservists Conduct Weapons Qualifications,  
Navy Public Affairs Support Element East, Detachment Southeast

Camp Blanding Joint Training Center is the premier reservation and training site in North Florida for the Florida National Guard, and also hosts other Reserve, Army National Guard, Air National Guard, and some Active Component training for the U.S. Armed Forces. Located in adjacent Clay County, the base measures about 73,000 acres and is composed of forest, lakes, and grassland. Camp Blanding can accommodate more than 3,500 personnel and its several live fire ranges provide training grounds relevant to small arms weapons, mortars, artillery, attack helicopter gunnery and close air support aircraft.

## Total County Impact *(in Millions)*

|                               |               |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>County Economic Impact</b> | <b>\$51.1</b> |
| Percent of Economy            | 7.0%          |
| Employment                    | 674 Jobs      |
| Consumption                   | \$75.0        |
| Capital Investment            | \$26.9        |

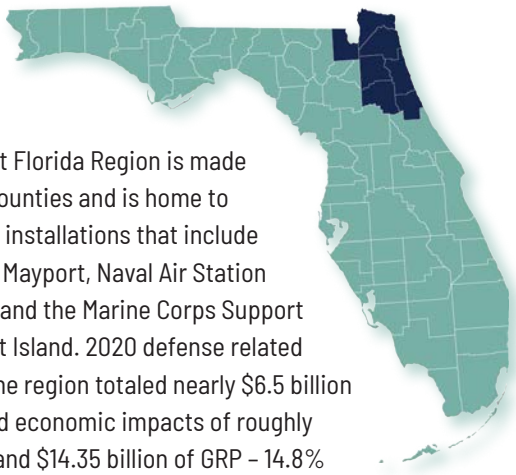
## Direct Defense Spending *(in Millions)*

|                               |               |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Procurement                   | \$15.9        |
| Salaries                      | \$1.8         |
| Pensions & Transfers          | \$46.4        |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b> | <b>\$64.2</b> |

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGION



## NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGION



The Northeast Florida Region is made up of seven counties and is home to several major installations that include Naval Station Mayport, Naval Air Station Jacksonville, and the Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island. 2020 defense related spending in the region totaled nearly \$6.5 billion and generated economic impacts of roughly 122,000 jobs and \$14.35 billion of GRP – 14.8% of the region’s total GRP. Spending by the federal military accounted for 112,282 jobs while the National Guard and Coast Guard accounted for 7,468 jobs and 2,306 jobs, respectively.

## Defense Economic Impact Estimates

| Total Regional Impact <i>(in Millions)</i>   |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Regional Economic Impact                     | \$14,350.1       |
| Percent of Economy                           | 14.8%            |
| Employment                                   | 122,056 Jobs     |
| Consumption                                  | \$8,413.6        |
| Capital Investment                           | \$2,618.1        |
| Direct Defense Spending <i>(in Millions)</i> |                  |
| Procurement                                  | \$1,916.0        |
| Salaries                                     | \$1,861.7        |
| Pensions & Transfers                         | \$2,704.3        |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b>                | <b>\$6,482.0</b> |
| Impacts by Component <i>(in Millions)</i>    |                  |
| <b>Federal Military</b>                      |                  |
| Economic Impact                              | \$12,969.6       |
| Employment                                   | 112,282 Jobs     |
| <b>National Guard</b>                        |                  |
| Economic Impact                              | \$1,016.3        |
| Employment                                   | 7,468 Jobs       |
| <b>Coast Guard</b>                           |                  |
| Economic Impact                              | \$364.2          |
| Employment                                   | 2,306 Jobs       |

Left: USS Carney (DDG 64) and Spanish navy Alvaro de Bazan-class frigate ESPS Alvaro de Bazan (F 101) transits the Atlantic Ocean, Photo by U.S. Navy

# Clay County



## Home to:

- Camp Blanding Joint Training Center

Florida National Guard Soldiers Helo-Casting, Photo by Sgt. Jacob Chereña, 107th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Camp Blanding Joint Training Center is the premier reservation and training site in North Florida for the Florida National Guard, and also hosts other Reserve, Army National Guard, Air National Guard, and some Active Component training for the U.S. Armed Forces. The base measures about 73,000 acres and is composed of forest, lakes, and grassland. Camp Blanding can accommodate more than 3,500 personnel and its several live fire ranges provide training grounds relevant to small arms weapons, mortars, artillery, attack helicopter gunnery and close air support aircraft.

# Duval County



## Home to:

- Naval Air Station Jacksonville
- Naval Station Mayport
- Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island
- Jacksonville Air National Guard

USS Vermont Prepares for Overseas Movement, Photo by Lt. j.g. Hunter Jones, Patrol Squadron (VP) 10

Naval Air Station Jacksonville is a multi-mission base, which hosts more than 100 tenant organizations and is the third largest naval installation in the U.S. Naval Station Mayport is host to more than 80 tenant commands including 16 ships, four helicopter squadrons and the Navy's Fourth Fleet. Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island plans, coordinates, and executes the logistic efforts necessary to support Maritime Prepositioning Ships squadrons. The 125th Fighter Wing provides air defense for the southeastern U.S. from Charleston, SC to the southern tip of Florida at the Jacksonville Air National Guard Base.

## Total County Impact *(in Millions)*

|                               |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>County Economic Impact</b> | <b>\$845.6</b> |
| Percent of Economy            | 13.5%          |
| Employment                    | 10,186 Jobs    |
| Consumption                   | \$1,174.7      |
| Capital Investment            | \$333.1        |

## Direct Defense Spending *(in Millions)*

|                               |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Procurement                   | \$31.1         |
| Salaries                      | \$243.4        |
| Pensions & Transfers          | \$586.4        |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b> | <b>\$860.9</b> |

NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGION

## Total County Impact *(in Millions)*

|                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>County Economic Impact</b> | <b>\$12,100.4</b> |
| Percent of Economy            | 16.6%             |
| Employment                    | 95,138 Jobs       |
| Consumption                   | \$5,014.1         |
| Capital Investment            | \$1,645.2         |

## Direct Defense Spending *(in Millions)*

|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Procurement                   | \$1,757.1        |
| Salaries                      | \$1,577.2        |
| Pensions & Transfers          | \$1,373.6        |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b> | <b>\$4,708.0</b> |

NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGION



## EAST CENTRAL FLORIDA REGION



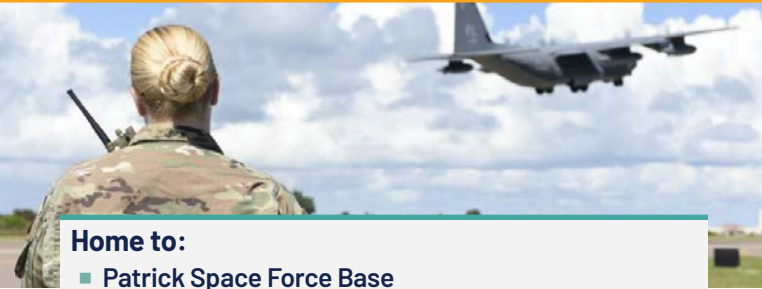
Covering seven counties, the East Central Florida Region is home to Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, Patrick Space Force Base, the Naval Ordnance Test Unit (NOTU), Leesburg Facility (Bugg Spring), and the Naval Support Activity Orlando: Multi-Service Modeling, Simulation, and Training Acquisition. As a consequence of defense activities, the region experienced roughly \$8.77 billion in procurement spending along with \$4.46 billion in transfers and \$633 million in salaries for a total of \$13.86 billion in direct spending. This defense spending was responsible for generating 196,858 jobs in the region as well as \$21.1 billion of GRP - 10.4% of the region total GRP. East Central Florida is unique in that procurement flows fuel the majority of economic impacts, driven by a large presence of industry clusters found to congregate around Brevard and Orange Counties.

## Defense Economic Impact Estimates

| Total Regional Impact <i>(in Millions)</i>   |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| <b>Regional Economic Impact</b>              | <b>\$21,100.1</b> |
| Percent of Economy                           | 10.4%             |
| Employment                                   | 196,858 Jobs      |
| Consumption                                  | \$12,810.8        |
| Capital Investment                           | \$4,432.2         |
| Direct Defense Spending <i>(in Millions)</i> |                   |
| Procurement                                  | \$8,768.7         |
| Salaries                                     | \$633.3           |
| Pensions & Transfers                         | \$4,460.5         |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b>                | <b>\$13,862.6</b> |
| Impacts by Component <i>(in Millions)</i>    |                   |
| <b>Federal Military</b>                      |                   |
| Economic Impact                              | \$20,394.5        |
| Employment                                   | 191,175 Jobs      |
| <b>National Guard</b>                        |                   |
| Economic Impact                              | \$492.8           |
| Employment                                   | 3,991 Jobs        |
| <b>Coast Guard</b>                           |                   |
| Economic Impact                              | \$212.8           |
| Employment                                   | 1,692 Jobs        |

Left: Space Launch Delta 45 Supports Successful Falcon 9 Starlink 4-1 Launch, Photo by Joshua Conti, Space Launch Delta 45

# Brevard County



## Home to:

- Patrick Space Force Base
- Cape Canaveral Space Force Station
- Naval Ordnance Test Unit

Patrick SFB airfield management team enables DOD mission,  
Photo by Airman 1st Class samuel becker, Space Launch Delta 45

Patrick Space Force Base is a major component of the U.S. Space Force Command. It provides combat capabilities through launch, range and expeditionary operations. The host organization is the 45th Space Delta. Cape Canaveral Space Force Station is controlled by the 45th Space Delta and is responsible for ensuring America's safe and assured access to space. It co-joins Kennedy Space Center and consists of 47 Launch complexes used to launch Atlas, Titan and Delta rockets as well as multiple commercial customers. The Naval Ordnance Test Unit (NOTU) serves the country by supporting and testing sea-based weapons systems in a safe environment.

## Total County Impact *(in Millions)*

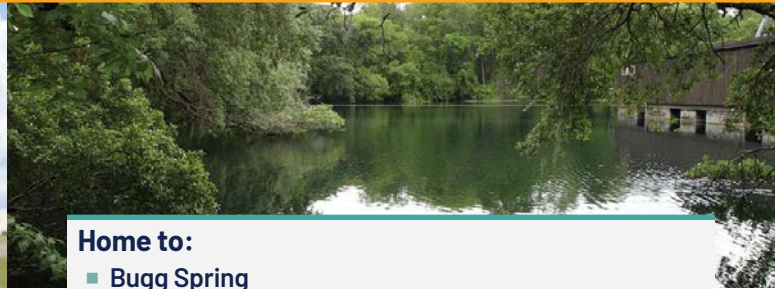
|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>County Economic Impact</b> | <b>\$6,753.4</b> |
| Percent of Economy            | 21.5%            |
| Employment                    | 57,247 Jobs      |
| Consumption                   | \$3,750.5        |
| Capital Investment            | \$1,264.4        |

## Direct Defense Spending *(in Millions)*

|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Procurement                   | \$3,091.4        |
| Salaries                      | \$270.5          |
| Pensions & Transfers          | \$1,191.1        |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b> | <b>\$4,553.0</b> |

EAST CENTRAL FLORIDA REGION

# Lake County



## Home to:

- Bugg Spring

Leesburg Facility at Bugg Spring

The Underwater Sound Reference Division (USRD) of the Naval Undersea Warfare Center (NUWC) Division Newport (Rhode Island) maintains the U.S. Naval Research Leesburg Facility, located at Bugg Spring. The open water facility is a prime location for the calibration of submarine and surface ship tactical towed arrays, and is among the quietest Navy open water facilities in the world with low ambient acoustic noise level that is roughly equivalent to that found in the depths of the most remote ocean areas.

## Total County Impact *(in Millions)*

|                               |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>County Economic Impact</b> | <b>\$697.7</b> |
| Percent of Economy            | 6.5%           |
| Employment                    | 8,855 Jobs     |
| Consumption                   | \$978.0        |
| Capital Investment            | \$295.3        |

## Direct Defense Spending *(in Millions)*

|                               |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Procurement                   | \$2.8          |
| Salaries                      | \$15.8         |
| Pensions & Transfers          | \$525.1        |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b> | <b>\$543.6</b> |

EAST CENTRAL FLORIDA REGION



# Orange County



## Home to:

- **Naval Support Activity Orlando: Multi-Service Modeling, Simulation and Training Acquisition**

Naval Support Activity Orlando morning colors, U.S. Navy

Naval Support Activity (NSA) Orlando is the home of the Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division (NAWCTSD) Orlando, the Navy's principal center for modeling, simulation, and training systems technologies. The center develops training systems for various military programs, including aircraft, surface ships, submarines, and other specialized requirements. Today, NSA Orlando supports all DoD activities in Central Florida, most of which support military training and simulation missions. The mission at NSA Orlando is to provide consistent, effective and efficient shore installation support services to all tenant DoD agencies enabling their mission accomplishment in a joint services environment.

## Total County Impact *(in Millions)*

**County Economic Impact** **\$10,132.5**

Percent of Economy 10.1%

Employment 91,358 Jobs

Consumption \$4,380.5

Capital Investment \$1,715.1

## Direct Defense Spending *(in Millions)*

Procurement \$5,521.4

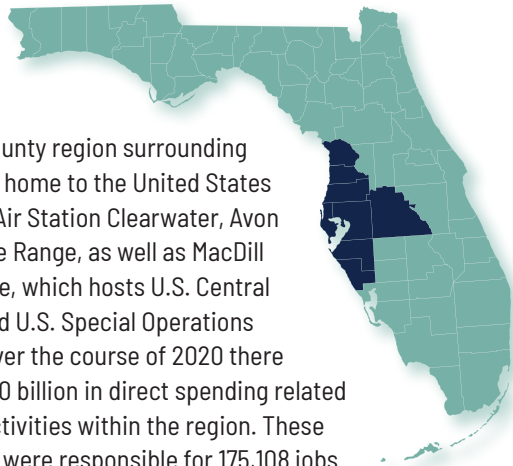
Salaries \$121.9

Pensions & Transfers \$1,131.8

**Total Defense Spending** **\$6,775.2**



## TAMPA BAY REGION



The seven-county region surrounding Tampa Bay is home to the United States Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater, Avon Park Air Force Range, as well as MacDill Air Force Base, which hosts U.S. Central Command and U.S. Special Operations Command. Over the course of 2020 there was nearly \$10 billion in direct spending related to defense activities within the region. These expenditures were responsible for 175,108 jobs and accounted for \$20.2 billion of GRP, 7.9% of the region's 2020 total GRP. The majority of defense spending in the Tampa Bay region came in the form of transfer payments to veterans and retirees. As expected, the bulk of the economic impacts in the region came as a result of federal dollars flowing through the military – roughly \$18.6 billion of the \$20.2 billion total GRP impact and 163,645 jobs out of the 175,108 total. The National Guard and Coast Guard on the other hand accounted for 6,414 jobs and 5,049 jobs, respectively.

## Defense Economic Impact Estimates

### Total Regional Impact *(in Millions)*

|                                 |                    |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Regional Economic Impact</b> | <b>\$20,200.79</b> |
| Percent of Economy              | 7.9%               |
| Employment                      | 175,108 Jobs       |
| Consumption                     | \$13,327.52        |
| Capital Investment              | \$4,404.87         |

### Direct Defense Spending *(in Millions)*

|                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Procurement                   | \$2,847.02        |
| Salaries                      | \$953.49          |
| Pensions & Transfers          | \$6,178.39        |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b> | <b>\$9,978.89</b> |

### Impacts by Component *(in Millions)*

#### Federal Military

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Economic Impact | \$18,619.87  |
| Employment      | 163,645 Jobs |

#### National Guard

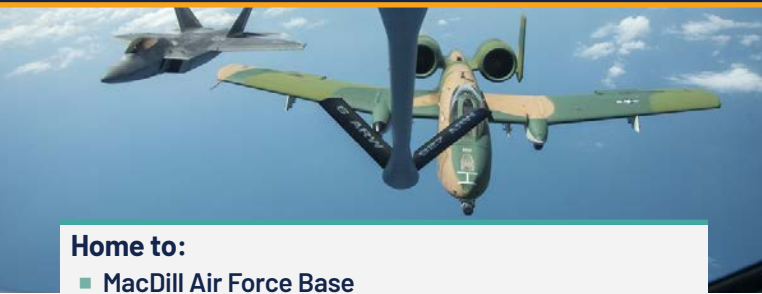
|                 |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| Economic Impact | \$894.93   |
| Employment      | 6,414 Jobs |

#### Coast Guard

|                 |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| Economic Impact | \$685.99   |
| Employment      | 5,049 Jobs |

Left: Tampa Bay AirFest 2016, Photo by Senior Airman Alex Echols, 325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

# Hillsborough County



## Home to:

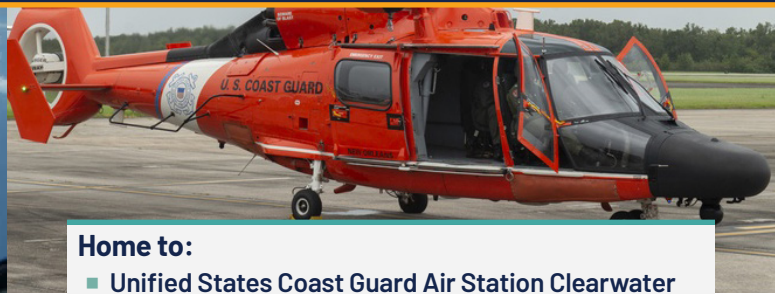
- MacDill Air Force Base
- U.S. Central Command
- U.S. Special Operations Command

91st ARS refuels F-22, A-10 for Florida air shows,  
Photo by Airman 1st Class David McLoney, 6th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs

MacDill Air Force Base's host command is the 6th Air Mobility Wing; the primary mission is airlift and aerial refueling. MacDill hosts U.S. Central Command and U.S. Special Operations Command.

U.S. Central Command is one of seven geographically defined unified commands in the DoD. It is responsible for U.S. Security interests in 20 nations in Northeast Africa as well as Southwest and Central Asia. U.S. Special Operations Command's primary mission is to disrupt, defeat and destroy terrorist networks that threaten U.S. citizens and interests worldwide.

# Pinellas County



## Home to:

- Unified States Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater

Coast Guard prepares for Hurricane Sally,  
Photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class John Michelli, U.S. Coast Guard District 8

Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater, based out of Clearwater International Airport, is the largest and busiest Air Station in the Coast Guard. The Area of Operations includes the local area, the Gulf of Mexico, the Caribbean basin, and the Bahamas. The station maintains deployed H-60 helicopters for anti-drug and migrant smuggling operation in the Bahamas and Turks and Caicos. The station also has C-130s deployed in support of Joint Interagency Task Force operations in the Caribbean. This is done while simultaneously patrolling and performing search and rescue operations in Search Zone Bravo, the area around Florida and The Gulf of Mexico.

## Total County Impact *(in Millions)*

|                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>County Economic Impact</b> | <b>\$11,196.4</b> |
| Percent of Economy            | 10.8%             |
| Employment                    | 87,320 Jobs       |
| Consumption                   | \$5,725.1         |
| Capital Investment            | \$1,931.8         |

## Direct Defense Spending *(in Millions)*

|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Procurement                   | \$1,720.9        |
| Salaries                      | \$702.0          |
| Pensions & Transfers          | \$2,183.3        |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b> | <b>\$4,606.2</b> |

TAMPA BAY REGION

## Total County Impact *(in Millions)*

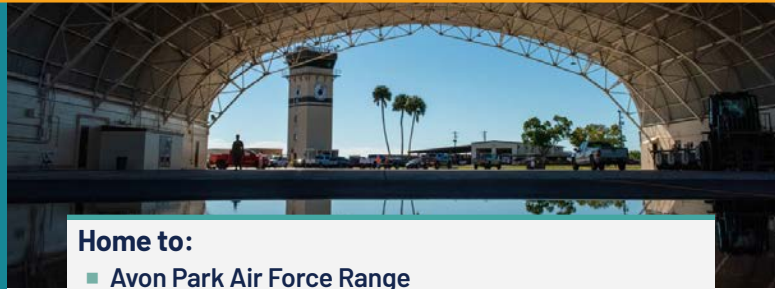
|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>County Economic Impact</b> | <b>\$4,558.6</b> |
| Percent of Economy            | 7.9%             |
| Employment                    | 40,212 Jobs      |
| Consumption                   | \$2,901.0        |
| Capital Investment            | \$1,010.4        |

## Direct Defense Spending *(in Millions)*

|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Procurement                   | \$952.7          |
| Salaries                      | \$125.9          |
| Pensions & Transfers          | \$1,303.5        |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b> | <b>\$2,382.2</b> |

TAMPA BAY REGION

# Polk County



## Home to:

- Avon Park Air Force Range

823 BDG practice airfield defense at Avon Park,  
Photo by Airman 1st Class Courtney Sebastianelli, 23rd Wing Public Affairs

Avon Park Air Force Range (APAFR) is a 106,000-acre military training facility located in Polk and Highlands Counties with 82,000 acres open to the public for recreation. APAFR is the largest live ordnance bombing and gunnery range east of the Mississippi River (400 square miles of restricted airspace, 1,000 square miles of military operating area), and serves as the primary training range for Homestead Air Reserve Base, and also is an important range for Patrick Space Force Base as well as MacDill, and Moody Air Force Bases. APAFR provides an important training facility for Active, Guard, and Reserve military units from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Marines, and Coast Guard, and for special operations and Homeland Security personnel.

## Total County Impact *(in Millions)*

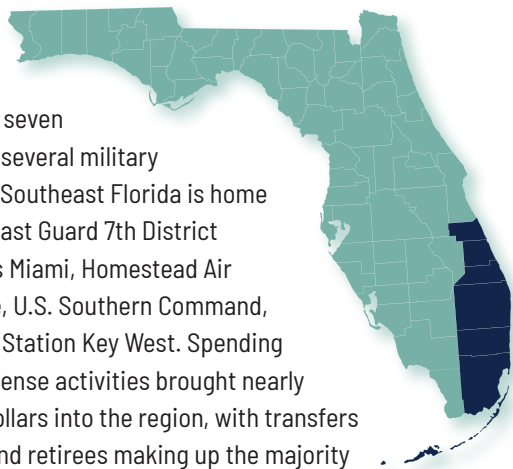
|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>County Economic Impact</b> | <b>\$1,372.6</b> |
| Percent of Economy            | 4.5%             |
| Employment                    | 13,343 Jobs      |
| Consumption                   | \$1,156.9        |
| Capital Investment            | \$377.7          |

## Direct Defense Spending *(in Millions)*

|                               |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Procurement                   | \$27.3         |
| Salaries                      | \$34.0         |
| Pensions & Transfers          | \$637.9        |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b> | <b>\$699.2</b> |



## SOUTHEAST FLORIDA REGION



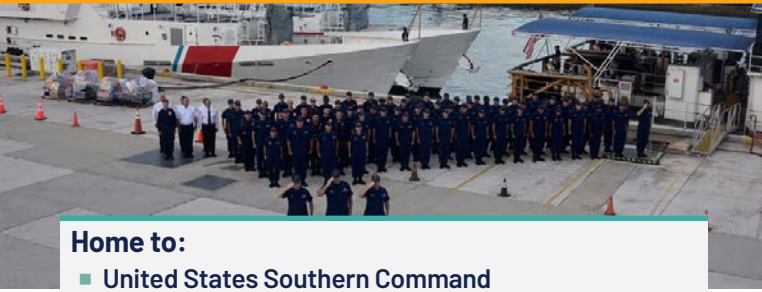
Consisting of seven counties and several military installations, Southeast Florida is home to the U.S. Coast Guard 7th District Headquarters Miami, Homestead Air Reserve Base, U.S. Southern Command, and Naval Air Station Key West. Spending related to defense activities brought nearly \$5.5 billion dollars into the region, with transfers to veterans and retirees making up the majority of that spending at roughly \$3.3 billion. These spending inputs, in turn, generated 130,484 jobs in the region and accounted for almost \$14.6 billion in GRP – 3.6% of the region’s 2020 total GRP. Unsurprisingly, the vast majority of the economic impacts observed in Southeast Florida were a consequence of spending by the federal military which was responsible for 115,702 jobs out of the 130,484 total and \$12.5 billion worth of the \$14.6 billion total GRP impact.

## Defense Economic Impact Estimates

| Total Regional Impact <i>(in Millions)</i>   |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Regional Economic Impact                     | \$14,598.1       |
| Percent of Economy                           | 3.6%             |
| Employment                                   | 130,484 Jobs     |
| Consumption                                  | \$8,626.3        |
| Capital Investment                           | \$2,927.5        |
| Direct Defense Spending <i>(in Millions)</i> |                  |
| Procurement                                  | \$1,478.7        |
| Salaries                                     | \$719.3          |
| Pensions & Transfers                         | \$3,290.1        |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b>                | <b>\$5,488.2</b> |
| Impacts by Component <i>(in Millions)</i>    |                  |
| <b>Federal Military</b>                      |                  |
| Economic Impact                              | \$12,494.8       |
| Employment                                   | 115,702 Jobs     |
| <b>National Guard</b>                        |                  |
| Economic Impact                              | \$771.9          |
| Employment                                   | 5,770 Jobs       |
| <b>Coast Guard</b>                           |                  |
| Economic Impact                              | \$1,331.4        |
| Employment                                   | 9,012 Jobs       |

Left: 106th Rescue Wing trains at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Photo by Staff Sgt. Christopher Muncy, 106th Rescue Wing/Public Affairs

# Miami-Dade County



## Home to:

- United States Southern Command
- Homestead Air Reserve Base
- 7th Coast Guard District HQ

Coast Guard load supplies to bring to Hurricane Dorian effected areas, Photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Jonathan Lally, U.S. Coast Guard District 7

United States Southern Command is responsible for providing contingency planning, operations, and security cooperation throughout Central and South America and the Caribbean. Homestead Air Reserve base and its tenant unit, the 482nd Fighter Wing of the Air Force Reserve, are responsible for the training and provision of Air Force Reservists to respond to wartime and peacetime taskings as directed by higher headquarters. The Coast Guard's 7th District HQ in Miami conducts the Coast Guard activities throughout a 1.7 million square mile area including Puerto Rico, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and 34 foreign nations and territories.

## Total County Impact *(in Millions)*

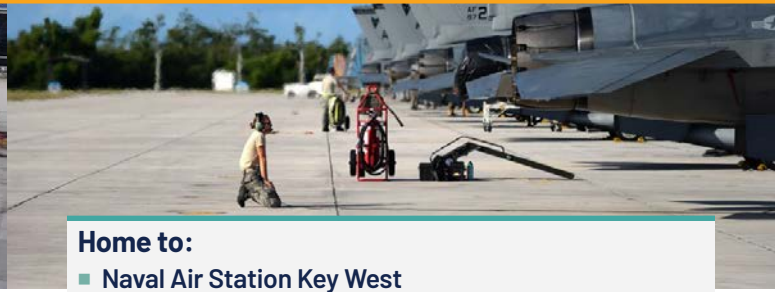
|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>County Economic Impact</b> | <b>\$6,785.6</b> |
| Percent of Economy            | 3.9%             |
| Employment                    | 57,138 Jobs      |
| Consumption                   | \$3,138.9        |
| Capital Investment            | \$1,136.3        |

## Direct Defense Spending *(in Millions)*

|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Procurement                   | \$731.3          |
| Salaries                      | \$373.2          |
| Pensions & Transfers          | \$852.3          |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b> | <b>\$1,956.9</b> |

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA REGION

# Monroe County



## Home to:

- Naval Air Station Key West

177th Fighter Wing trains in Key West, Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Andrew Moseley, 177th Fighter Wing - NJ Air National Guard

Naval Air Station Key West is the host facility for numerous tenant activities, including Joint Interagency Task Force South (JIATF), U.S. Coast Guard, and U.S. Army Special Forces Underwater Training School. Due to its perfect year-round flying weather and unparalleled aerial ranges, NAS Key West provides an extensive air-to-air training venue for transient tactical aviation squadrons with the aim of molding the best sailors, soldiers, airmen, marines and coast guardsmen in the world. The mission within JIATF South includes the operations for detection, monitoring and deterrence of drug smuggling.

## Total County Impact *(in Millions)*

|                               |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>County Economic Impact</b> | <b>\$885.0</b> |
| Percent of Economy            | 18.6%          |
| Employment                    | 5,966 Jobs     |
| Consumption                   | \$392.2        |
| Capital Investment            | \$120.9        |

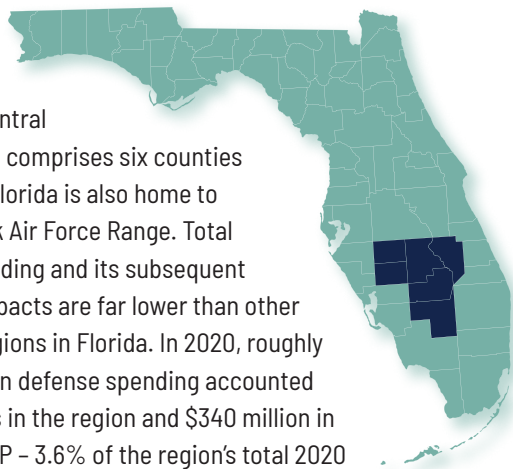
## Direct Defense Spending *(in Millions)*

|                               |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Procurement                   | \$73.2         |
| Salaries                      | \$111.7        |
| Pensions & Transfers          | \$94.0         |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b> | <b>\$278.9</b> |

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA REGION



## SOUTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGION



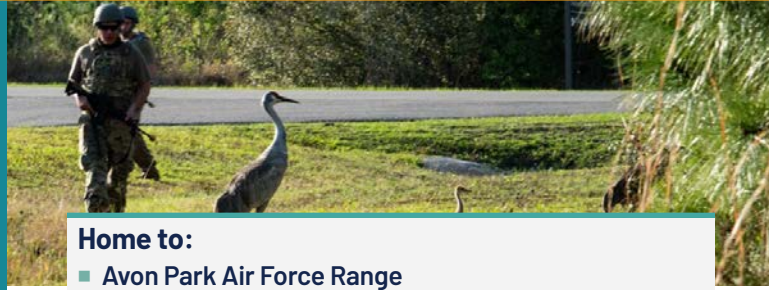
The South Central Region which comprises six counties in Southern Florida is also home to the Avon Park Air Force Range. Total defense spending and its subsequent economic impacts are far lower than other economic regions in Florida. In 2020, roughly \$350 million in defense spending accounted for 4,033 jobs in the region and \$340 million in additional GRP – 3.6% of the region’s total 2020 GRP. The majority of defense spending and its impacts observed in South Central Florida were fueled by federal military spending which created 3,922 of the 4,033 jobs and \$327 million of the total \$350 million of defense related GRP. The National Guard and Coast Guard were responsible for 111 jobs and \$12.83 million of GRP, combined, in 2020.

## Defense Economic Impact Estimates

| Total Regional Impact <i>(in Millions)</i>   |                |
|--|----------------|
| Regional Economic Impact                     | \$340.2        |
| Percent of Economy                           | 3.6%           |
| Employment                                   | 4,033 Jobs     |
| Consumption                                  | \$334.5        |
| Capital Investment                           | \$100.1        |
| Direct Defense Spending <i>(in Millions)</i> |                |
| Procurement                                  | \$105.0        |
| Salaries                                     | \$13.5         |
| Pensions & Transfers                         | \$230.6        |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b>                | <b>\$349.1</b> |
| Impacts by Component <i>(in Millions)</i>    |                |
| <b>Federal Military</b>                      |                |
| Economic Impact                              | \$327.3        |
| Employment                                   | 3,922 Jobs     |
| <b>National Guard</b>                        |                |
| Economic Impact                              | \$10.3         |
| Employment                                   | 84 Jobs        |
| <b>Coast Guard</b>                           |                |
| Economic Impact                              | \$2.5          |
| Employment                                   | 27 Jobs        |

Left: Mosaic Tiger 22-1: Avon Park Air Force Range, Photo by Airman 1st Class Courtney Sebastianelli, 23rd Wing Public Affairs

# Highlands County



## Home to:

- Avon Park Air Force Range

23d WG Airmen participate in Mosaic Tiger at Avon Park, Photo by Staff Sgt. Carly Kavish, 23rd Wing Public Affairs

Avon Park Air Force Range (APAFR) is a 106,000-acre military training facility located in Polk and Highlands Counties with 82,000 acres open to the public for recreation. APAFR is the largest live ordnance bombing and gunnery range east of the Mississippi River (400 square miles of restricted airspace, 1,000 square miles of military operating area), and serves as the primary training range for Homestead Air Reserve Base, and also is an important range for Patrick Space Force Base as well as MacDill, and Moody Air Force Bases. APAFR provides an important training facility for Active, Guard, and Reserve military units from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Marines, and Coast Guard, and for special operations and Homeland Security personnel.

## Total County Impact *(in Millions)*

|                               |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>County Economic Impact</b> | <b>\$130.3</b> |
| Percent of Economy            | 4.0%           |
| Employment                    | 1,487 Jobs     |
| Consumption                   | \$156.4        |
| Capital Investment            | \$45.9         |

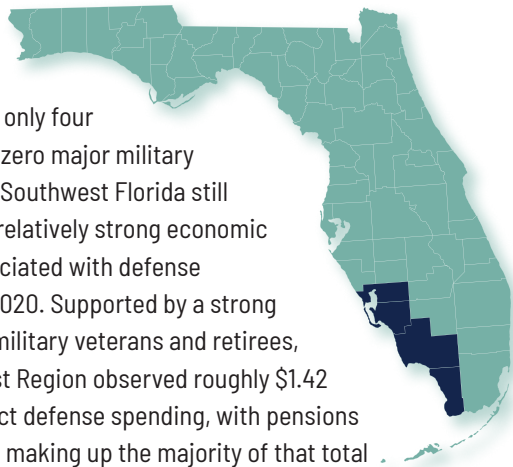
## Direct Defense Spending *(in Millions)*

|                               |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Procurement                   | \$2.0          |
| Salaries                      | \$6.8          |
| Pensions & Transfers          | \$126.2        |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b> | <b>\$135.0</b> |





## SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGION



Composed of only four counties and zero major military installations, Southwest Florida still experienced relatively strong economic impacts associated with defense spending in 2020. Supported by a strong presence of military veterans and retirees, the Southwest Region observed roughly \$1.42 billion of direct defense spending, with pensions and transfers making up the majority of that total at nearly \$1.05 billion. The region's close proximity to both the Southeast and Tampa Bay regions generated economic spill-over effects that also helped to sustain the region's respectable defense economy. 2020 defense spending in the region generated 24,558 jobs and accounted for over \$2.37 billion in GRP – 4.2% of the region's total GRP.

## Defense Economic Impact Estimates

### Total Regional Impact *(in Millions)*

|                                 |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Regional Economic Impact</b> | <b>\$2,373.8</b> |
| Percent of Economy              | 4.2%             |
| Employment                      | 24,558 Jobs      |
| Consumption                     | \$1,944.7        |
| Capital Investment              | \$617.5          |

### Direct Defense Spending *(in Millions)*

|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Procurement                   | \$229.4          |
| Salaries                      | \$140.9          |
| Pensions & Transfers          | \$1,045.3        |
| <b>Total Defense Spending</b> | <b>\$1,415.5</b> |

### Impacts by Component *(in Millions)*

#### Federal Military

|                 |             |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Economic Impact | \$2,262.4   |
| Employment      | 23,512 Jobs |

#### National Guard

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Economic Impact | \$80.3   |
| Employment      | 744 Jobs |

#### Coast Guard

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Economic Impact | \$31.2   |
| Employment      | 302 Jobs |

Left: 910th spearheads spray course in Florida,  
Photo by Senior Airman Noah Tancer, 910th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

**Working to Keep Florida  
the Best Place for the  
Department of Defense  
to do Business**

## The Florida Model

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE • LEGISLATURE

Defense Grant Programs

Florida Defense Alliance

Florida Defense Support  
Task Force

Governor's Meetings with  
Base Commanders

## Military Friendly Florida

### Advantages\*

- No State Income Tax
- Support for Military Spouses (Employment/Licensure)
- In-state College Tuition for Military Family Members
- Purple Star Schools
- Numerous Military Friendly Laws and Programs

### Base Encroachment Protections

- Legislative Protections
- Florida Forever
- Military Base Protection Program

### Partnerships

- Public-Public; Public-Private Partnerships (P4) to reduce Base Operational Costs
- Space Industry – Launch Capability
- Energy Resilience/Industry Sharing
- Modeling, Simulation, and Training with Academia and Business

### Gulf Range Complex/

### Avon Park Air Force Range

- National Assets for Test and Training the Entire Joint Force

### Grant Programs

- FY 2020 Defense Infrastructure Grants = \$1.5M
- FY 2020 Defense Reinvestment Grants = \$765K
- FY 2020 FDSTF Grants = \$ 1.45M

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

# PARTNERSHIPS

The Florida Legislature created the Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) in 1998 within Enterprise Florida as a non-profit partnership between the Governor, Florida State Officials, Federal Delegation, State Legislators, Base Commanders, community leaders, and business executives to increase military value, reduce base inefficiencies, and promote multi-service synergies for Florida's military bases. The FDA provides a superb venue for defense issue development and communication, and the sharing of best practices. For more about the FDA, visit [enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense](http://enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense).



The Florida Defense Support Task Force was established in 2011 by Florida Statute 288.987. The task force is comprised of the Governor or his designee, and four members each appointed by the Governor, the President of the Florida Senate, and the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives. Governor DeSantis notes that "Our state is blessed to have 20 active duty military installations and great training and testing ranges. Since my election, I have made it a priority to maintain Florida's reputation as the most military-friendly state in the Nation."

## FLORIDA DEFENSE SUPPORT TASK FORCE MISSION

- 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
- 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.

For more information about the Florida Defense Support Task Force, visit [enterpriseflorida.com/fdstf](http://enterpriseflorida.com/fdstf).

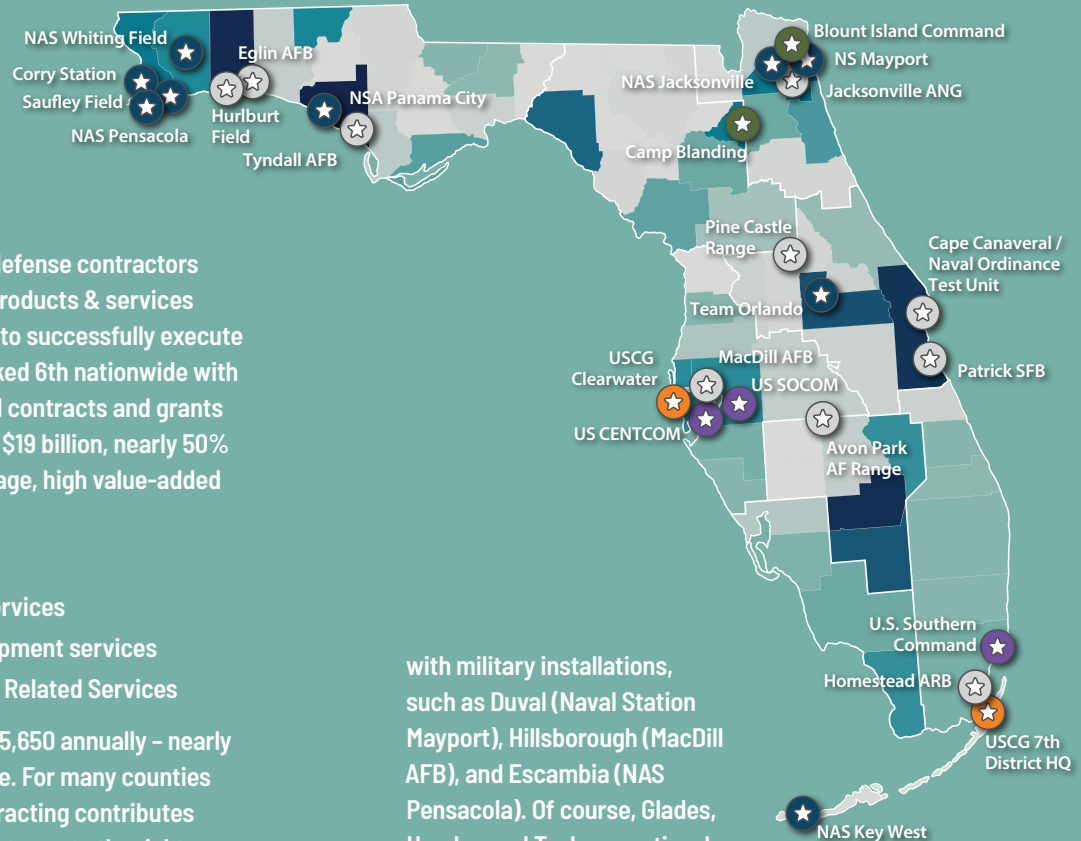
# FLORIDA'S FOCUS ON ENHANCING ITS DEFENSE CONTRACTING COMMUNITY

The State of Florida understands the critical role defense contractors play in the broader defense industry. While military installations and the service men and women stationed at each drive the Florida defense economy, it is defense contractors who play a vital role providing the products & services necessary for military installations to successfully execute their missions. In 2020, Florida ranked 6th nationwide with nearly \$19 billion in defense-related contracts and grants performed across the state. Of this \$19 billion, nearly 50% were performed in just four high-wage, high value-added industries:

- Aerospace
- Architectural & Engineering Services
- Scientific research and development services
- Computer Systems Design and Related Services

These industries pay on average \$95,650 annually – nearly 80% higher than the Florida average. For many counties throughout the state, defense contracting contributes significant economic value. The heat map to the right presents the level of dependency each county has on defense contracting – the darker the color, the greater the level of dependency. By dependency, we mean the amount of defense contracting performed in that county relative to the overall size of that county's total economy. From this map, it is clear that many counties across the state are reliant on defense contracting, several of which are in rural communities without an installation.

For those counties with a military installation, having a robust contracting community is mostly known; however, rural counties such as Glades, Hendry, and Taylor are often overlooked as being economically dependent on defense contracting activity. In 2020, all three counties had a higher dependency on defense contracting than some counties



with military installations, such as Duval (Naval Station Mayport), Hillsborough (MacDill AFB), and Escambia (NAS Pensacola). Of course, Glades, Hendry, and Taylor counties do not perform more contracts, but given the size of their overall economy, defense contracting constitutes a larger proportion of their overall economy than Duval, Hillsborough, and Escambia counties.

Recognizing the extraordinary value defense contracting plays in economies across the state, Enterprise Florida and the Florida Defense Support Task Force are working closely with the FloridaMakes network to support and grow Florida's defense contracting community. Throughout 2022, tools to help communities identify their defense contracting base and assist local contractors with partnering opportunities will be rolled out to defense communities statewide.

For more information, please visit: [www.floridamakes.com/featured-programs/connex-florida#](http://www.floridamakes.com/featured-programs/connex-florida#) and [www.FL-Cyber.com](http://www.FL-Cyber.com).



*This study was commissioned and sponsored by Enterprise Florida and the Florida Defense Support Task Force.*

*For information, please visit [www.enterpriseflorida.com/fdstf](http://www.enterpriseflorida.com/fdstf)*



in association with



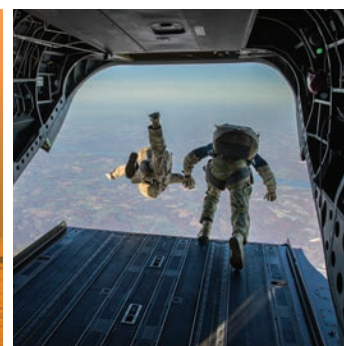
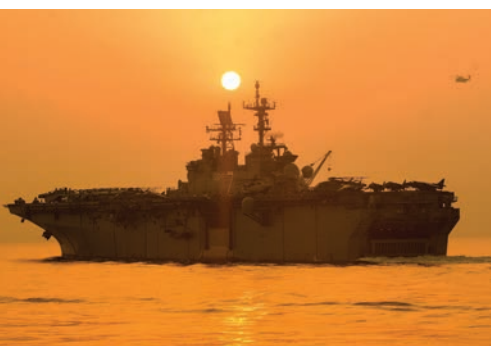
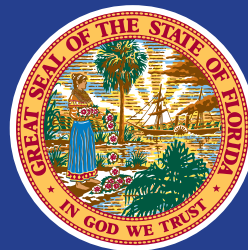
**TAB 6**

**2022 Advantage Florida  
Military Benefits Guide**

<https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/Florida-Military-Friendly-Guide.pdf>

# ADVANTAGE FLORIDA MILITARY BENEFITS GUIDE

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



2021-22 For the most up to date version, please visit: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/military-defense/>



# GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

# Welcome



Florida is the proud to be the most military and veteran friendly state in the nation. As a veteran, I will make sure our state continues to honor the countless sacrifices made by the military families and veterans who call our state home.

Over the past year we have continued to expand our commitment to our military in Florida. In June of 2021, I signed three bills that support active-duty military, veterans and their families by providing access to educational programs, workforce training and strengthening veteran preferences for state employment. In 2021 I also directed CareerSource Florida to use more than \$15 million to help connect military veterans and their spouses with workforce training and employment opportunities in our state. I look forward to doing even more in 2022.

In Florida, our reasoning is simple – we support our military because they support us. Not only do our service men and women make incredible sacrifices for our state, but we also know our military and defense industry supports more than 860,000 jobs in our state. According to the latest data, having a military friendly state has generated \$96.6 billion in economic impact in one year.

This Florida Benefits Guide is full of helpful information on the many laws, programs and benefits that the state of Florida has implemented to support and assist active-duty military members and their families. Enterprise Florida and organizations like the Florida Defense Support Task Force and Florida Defense Alliance are always working to expand Florida's military advantages that ensure servicemembers and their families feel welcomed and are successful during their time in Florida, and we hope, give you reason to come back.

Please share this guide with your fellow service members and families so that these services can reach as many eligible individuals as possible. We honor your service and appreciate the sacrifices you and your family have made to defend our freedom.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ron DeSantis'. The signature is fluid and stylized, with a large initial 'R' and 'D'.

Ron DeSantis  
Governor



## ACTING SECRETARY OF COMMERCE PRESIDENT & CEO ENTERPRISE FLORIDA, INC.



As a Floridian and proud supporter of our military, I welcome you and your family to our state. Florida appreciates your military service, and we are always committed to finding new ways to enhance the military quality of life in our Sunshine State. This edition of the Florida Military Benefits Guide boasts more resources than ever and reflects the hard work of the Governor and Florida Legislature.

Under Governor DeSantis' leadership, Enterprise Florida, the Florida Defense Alliance and the Florida Defense Support Task Force remain committed to working with Florida's state agencies to support our military men and women and their families and keep pace with their needs.

The armed forces are part of the fabric of our state with a thriving military community and rich future connection to all our services, most recently the U.S. Space Force. Among states, Florida boasts the 2nd highest number of military retirees in the U.S., the 3rd largest number of veterans, and the 5th largest number of Servicemembers and DOD civilians. Florida's military and defense industry contributes \$96.6 billion in economic impact and supports nearly 860,200 jobs.

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 look forward to demonstrating our appreciation and how important you are to our communities and state.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marc Adler'.

Marc Adler, Acting Secretary of Commerce; President & CEO  
Enterprise Florida, Inc.

## ATTORNEY GENERAL



As Attorney General, it is my honor to protect our brave service members who call the Sunshine State home. Within my own family, I have seen firsthand the level of service and sacrifice required from our soldiers and their families. It is so important, as a public servant, to support our military members and their loved ones at home and abroad.

My office's Military and Veterans Assistance Program utilizes a multi-agency approach to help educate service members, veterans and their families about military-related scams, how to spot fraud and where to report suspicious activity. 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 the Attorney General, and all Floridians, we thank you for your service. As you read about the services and protections available to you in our state, know that together we can build a Stronger, Safer Florida for your families and fellow service members.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ashley Moody". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ashley Moody | Attorney General

## CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER OF FLORIDA

As Florida's Chief Financial Officer and State Fire Marshal, I would like to thank you for your service and welcome you and your family to the Sunshine State. To ensure Florida remains one of the most military and veteran friendly states in the nation, I'm committed to providing resources to help secure a bright financial future for these heroes that call Florida home.

During my time as CFO, I have focused on providing information and tools to help military members build a strong financial foundation and protect against fraud and debt. The Financial Frontlines initiative provides information to help families fight against financial frauds and debt with the use of an in-depth Resource Guide. In addition, we also offer Serve Save Succeed, a financial literacy resource and online forum for current and former military service members and their families on finance-related topics. During the 2020 Legislative Session, I advocated for the passage of the Florida Veterans Protection Act, which Governor DeSantis signed into law. This Act helps protect veterans by adding the victimization of 10 or more veterans as an aggravated white-collar crime.

I have no doubt that Florida is the best place in the country to live, work and achieve the American dream. I'm excited to welcome you to our great state and I want you to know my door is always open. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you need anything at all. On behalf of my family and all Floridians, thank you for your service.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jimmy Patino". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chief Financial Officer of Florida

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DEO



As a Florida native and Secretary of the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), I would like to welcome you and your family to the great state of Florida. With over 1.5 million veterans and active duty military members residing in Florida, our military community plays a vital role to the overall success of Florida's economy. Under Governor DeSantis' leadership and in coordination with our partner CareerSource Florida, DEO has many programs available to help ensure financial and career success such as the Florida's Jobs for Veterans' State Grant, the Military Family Employment Advocacy Program, and the Get There Faster initiative. All of these programs prioritize active duty military, military veterans, and eligible spouses for many workforce services throughout the state and are designed to provide employment opportunities through career services.

Thank you for all that you and your family do to support our country. Florida is one of the nation's most military-friendly states and it is our honor to support those who put on the uniform to protect our great nation. We are the land of the free because of the brave, and we work to honor those who serve. Under Governor DeSantis' leadership, DEO will continue to prioritize the needs of Florida's military community and will work to help you succeed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dane Eagle'.

Dane Eagle, Executive Director | Department of Economic Opportunity



# 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*

*For the most updated version, please visit: [www.enterpriseflorida.com/military-defense/](http://www.enterpriseflorida.com/military-defense/)*

**Shaded items are new or changed for 2021-22.**

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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 motor vehicle leases by providing 30 days written notice to the lessor if either the servicemember is required to move outside the continental United States; or the servicemember receives orders for a period exceeding 60 days for duty outside the continental United States or for a temporary change of station. 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. Public Records/Department of Military Affairs

Provides 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; provides for retroactive application; provides for future legislative review & repeal of exemption; provides statement of public necessity. Goes into effect upon being signed into law. (F.S. 119.0712)

## 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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.  
[www.fldoe.org/teaching/certification/military/#MCFW](http://www.fldoe.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 (DACCS) 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](http://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 servicemembers 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](mailto: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



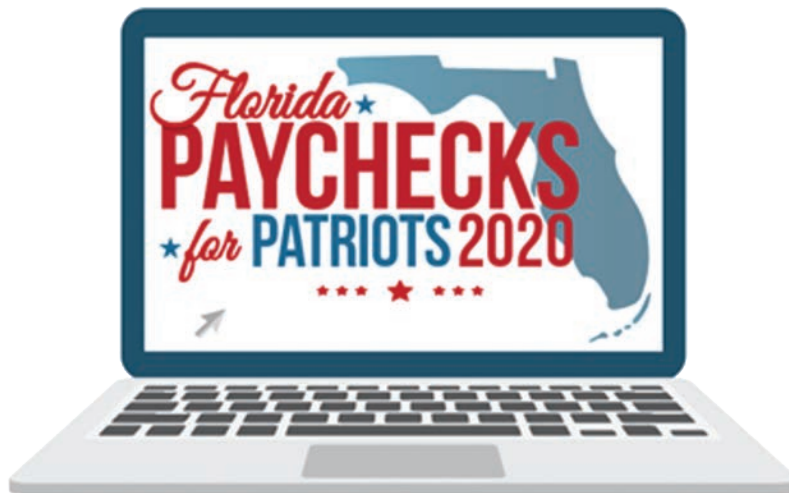
### 53. Unemployment Compensation for Spouses of Members of the Military

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 to 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)

## 59. Educational Opportunities Leading to Employment

Among other benefits, this change to Florida statute provides that a student who is serving as an active duty member of any branch of the United States Armed Services is not required to be assessed for readiness for college-level work in communication and computation and is not required to enroll in developmental education instruction in a Florida College System institution. (F.S. 445.06)

## 60. Veterans Employment and Training

This directs Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., to serve as the state's principal assistance organization under United States Department of Defense's SkillBridge program; prescribes duties of the corporation to facilitate administration of SkillBridge program. The DoD's SkillBridge program is an opportunity for Servicemembers to gain valuable civilian work experience through specific industry training, apprenticeships, or internships during the last 180 days of service. SkillBridge connects Servicemembers with industry partners in real-world job experience. (F.S. 295.21)

# EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS



### **61. 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)**

### **62. 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)**

### **63. 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)**

### **64. 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)**

### **65. 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)**

### **66. 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)**

## 67. 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***

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## 68. 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)**

## **69. 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))**;

## **70. 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)**

## 71. 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)

## 72. 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 FEFP. 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)

## 73. School Choice

The bill will provide more education opportunities for children from low-income families and students with unique abilities. The bill expands eligibility for low-income students, and prioritizes military, foster and adopted students. The bill 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. (F.S. 11.45)

## 74. Purple Star Campuses

The bill requires the DOE 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.) (F.S. 1003.051)



# FAMILY SUPPORT



## **75. 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.

## **76. 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)**

## **77. 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)**

## **78. 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)**

## **79. 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)**

## **80. 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)**

## **81. 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)**

## 82. 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](http://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](http://www.myfloridalegal.com).**

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



### 83. 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: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/military-defense/governors-gi-law/> and fill out a Legal Assistance Request Form and submit it through their appropriate Judge Advocate General or civilian military attorney's office.



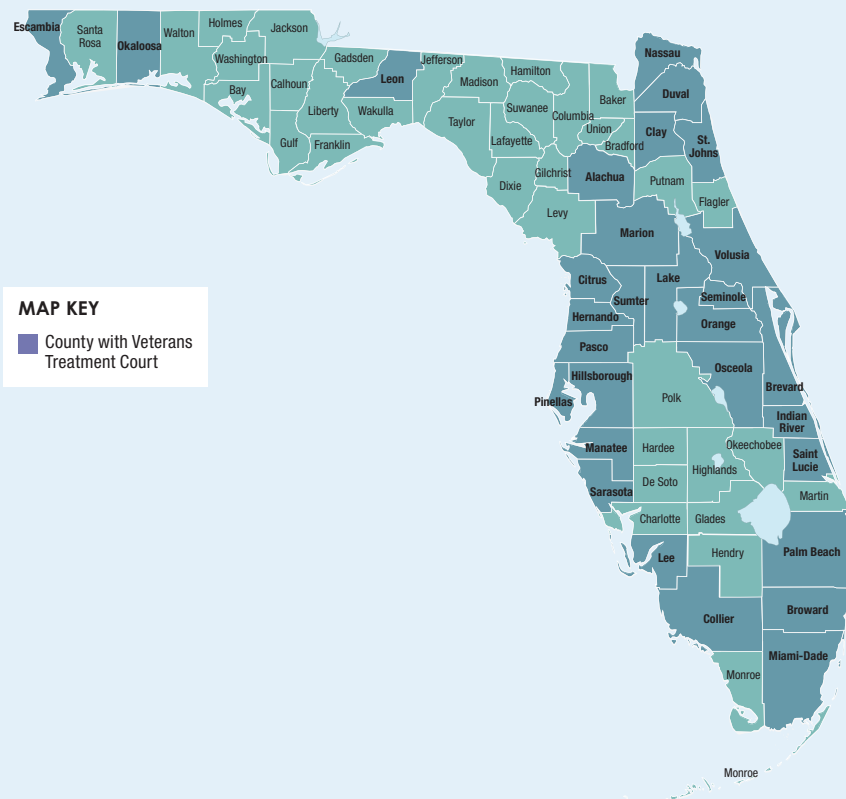
### 84. Deployed Parent Custody and Visitation

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)**

## 85. 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/urll/VETERANS\\_RESOURCE\\_GUIDE.pdf](http://www.flcourts.org/core/fileparse.php/266/urll/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.

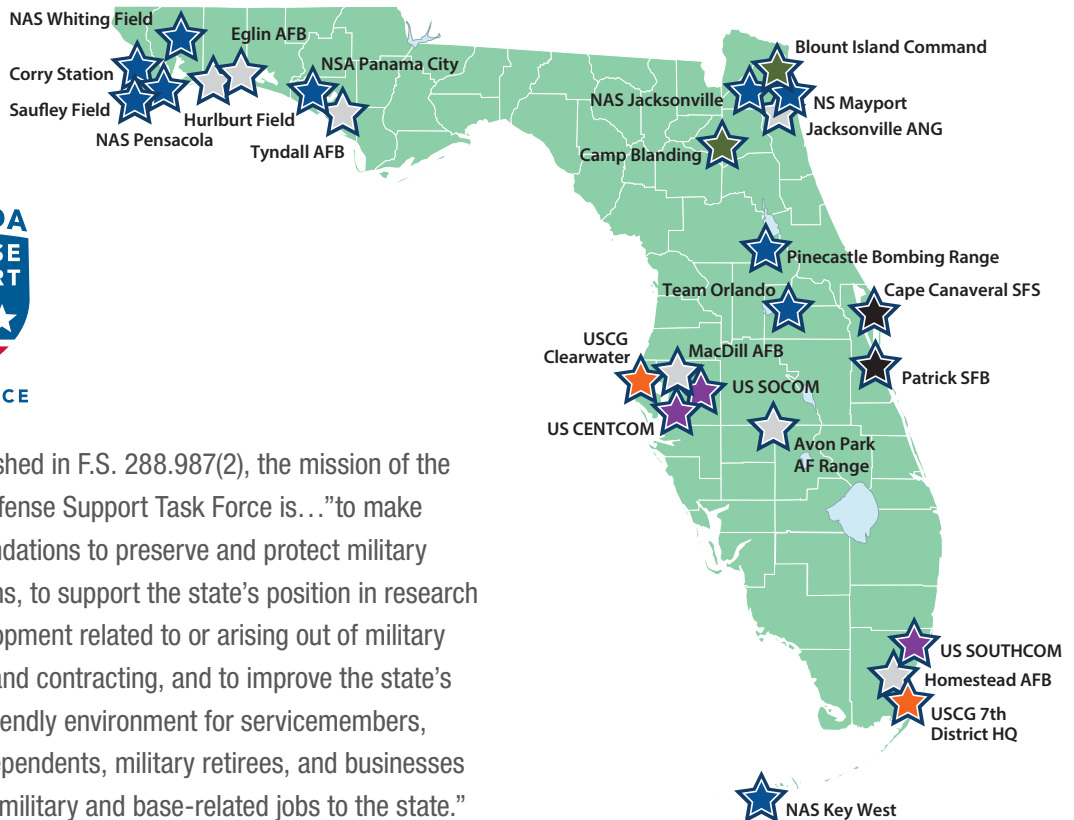
[enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense](http://enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense)

### 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 • [Sandra.Eggers@fldoe.org](mailto:Sandra.Eggers@fldoe.org) • visit: <http://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/virtual-edu/>



**FREE DOWNLOAD**

For the most up to date version, please visit: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/military-defense/>



**TAB 7**

**Announcement of  
FY 2021-2022 Grant  
Awards**



**For Immediate Release:** September 15, 2021

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

## **Governor Ron DeSantis Announces \$3.4 Million in Awards through Military Community Grant Programs**

*Investing in Florida's military bases and supporting economic diversification for  
defense-friendly communities*

**STARKE, Fla.** – Today, Governor Ron DeSantis announced that the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and Enterprise Florida have awarded \$3.4 million to communities throughout Florida through the Defense Infrastructure Grant Program, the Defense Reinvestment Grant Program, and the Florida Defense Support Task Force Grant Program. These grants will bolster military facilities, support economic diversification efforts for defense-dependent communities, and fund programs to improve military-community relations.

“In Florida, we pride ourselves on being a very military- and veteran-friendly state, and we are pleased to offer these additional resources to assist our bases and military communities” **said Governor Ron DeSantis.** “From

Northwest Florida to Northeast Florida, from Tampa to the Keys, a lot of active-duty military members are working here in Florida. Having that strong active-duty presence is not only something that we are proud of from a patriotic perspective, but it is good for our communities. Strong bases have a positive impact in their surrounding areas, so in Florida, we work in concert with the military to make sure we have the appropriate infrastructure in place to capitalize on their footprint for the benefit of our communities.”

“Military installation communities support not only military personnel and their families, but also many other Floridians through job creation and new opportunities,” **said Secretary Dane Eagle of the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.** “It is imperative that Florida continues to support military installations and their surrounding communities throughout the state.”

“With the announcement of these grant awards, Governor DeSantis further solidifies his commitment to providing support for Florida’s military installations,” **said Secretary of Commerce Jamal Sowell, President and CEO of Enterprise Florida.** “These vital investments will 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 funding.”

The Defense Infrastructure Grant Program supports local infrastructure projects deemed to have an impact on the military value of installations within the state. Infrastructure projects to be funded under this program include those related to encroachment, transportation, access to military installations, utilities, communications, housing, environment, and security.

A total of \$1.6 million in funding through the Defense Infrastructure Grant Program has been awarded to the following entities:

- **\$250,000 to the Bay County Board of County Commissioners** to provide needed repairs to the Tyndall Air Force Base and Mexico Beach water supply which were impacted by Hurricane Michael.
- **\$450,000 to the City of Jacksonville** to jointly acquire restrictive use easements of properties in the Military Influence Zone at Naval Air Station Jacksonville.
- **\$300,000 to the Clay County Development Authority** to provide maintenance for facilities at Camp Blanding Joint Training Center.
- **\$300,000 to Escambia County** to continue easement purchases around Naval Air Station Pensacola to ensure operational sustainability.
- **\$300,000 to the Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners** to continue easement purchases around Pensacola

Naval Air Station Whiting Field to provide critical buffer zones.

The Defense Reinvestment Grant Program provides support to community-based activities that protect existing military installations. These grants are awarded to applicants that represent a local government with a military installation that could be adversely affected by federal actions.

A total of \$800,000 in funding through the Defense Reinvestment Grant Program has been awarded to the following entities:

- **\$90,000 to the Bay Defense Alliance** to continue Hurricane Michael rebuilding efforts and assist Tyndall Air Force Base with community support and partnerships as the base implements new aircraft programs.
- **\$90,000 to the City of Jacksonville** to continue efforts to bring shipbuilding and maintenance plans to Naval Station Mayport and work towards the long-term goal of hosting a nuclear aircraft carrier in the Jacksonville region.
- **\$65,000 to the Clay County Economic Development Corporation** to develop a Strategic Sites Inventory Program, which would catalog shovel ready sites as part of the development along the First Coast Expressway project in Clay County. Funding would also be used to create an interactive GIS mapping and analysis application for these sites.
- **\$85,000 to the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast** to build upon existing programs that enhance community relationships and partnerships with the US Space Force, the 45<sup>th</sup> Space Wing, Patrick Air Force Base, and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. Funding will also be used to promote the STARBASE Academy, a 45<sup>th</sup> Space Wing and Brevard County Public Schools program created by a grant from the Department of Defense to raise interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).
- **\$90,000 to the Economic Development Council of Okaloosa County** to continue efforts and strategies to encourage economic diversification for the community surrounding Eglin Air Force Base by facilitating STEM cluster development opportunities for entrepreneurs, defense contractors, and non-defense STEM sectors.
- **\$90,000 to the Greater Pensacola Chamber of Commerce** to create higher skilled jobs for those in the military community as they transition to non-defense jobs and continue to support the communities of Naval Air Station Pensacola and Naval Air Station Whiting Field.
- **\$75,000 to the Miami Dade Beacon Council** to enhance economic development, identify opportunities for economic diversification, and build connectivity to grow the existing defense industry in Miami-Dade County.
- **\$85,000 to the Orlando Economic Partnership** to support Naval Support Activity Orlando, a nontraditional military base which is home to 14 federal government organizations with activities representing each of the four military branches.

- **\$60,000 to the Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners** to promote further development of Whiting Aviation Park, a 267-acre parcel located adjacent to Naval Air Station Whiting Field.
- **\$70,000 to the Tampa Bay Defense Alliance** to promote, protect, and develop initiatives in the Tampa Bay area to grow the defense simulation industry and create additional employment opportunities.

For more information on military community programs, please visit [FloridaJobs.org/Military-Community-Programs](https://FloridaJobs.org/Military-Community-Programs).

The Florida Defense Support Task Force Grant Program (FDSTF) supports 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.

A total of \$1 million in funding through the Florida Defense Support Task Force Grant Program has been awarded to the following entities:

- **\$500,000 to the City of Jacksonville** to support the ongoing effort to protect local bases and airfields from incompatible land use by negotiating Restrictive Use Easements with willing sellers of properties within the Military Influence Zone; utilize FDSTF funding to acquire \$1,500,000 in Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) funding for acquisitions; acquire surveys, appraisals, and related documents to facilitate closings; and purchase Restrictive Use Easements from willing sellers of properties within the Military Influence Zone of Duval County naval bases and/or installations.
- **\$500,000 to Clay County** to buffer Camp Blanding — which trains over 350,000 Florida National Guard troops, active-duty military members, and law enforcement units — from incompatible land development.

### About DEO

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity combines the state's economic, workforce and community development efforts, expediting economic development projects to fuel job creation in competitive communities and promote economic resiliency. For more information, including valuable resources for employers and job seekers, please visit [www.floridajobs.org](https://www.floridajobs.org).

### About Enterprise Florida

Enterprise Florida, Inc. (EFI) is a partnership between Florida's businesses and government leaders and is the principal economic development organization for the state. EFI facilitates job growth through recruitment and retention, and small business growth through international trade and exporting programs. Governor Ron DeSantis serves as chairman of the Enterprise Florida Board of Directors.

###

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**TAB 8**

**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, FY 21-22 and FY 22-23.

## Funding Request Summary – As of January 6, 2023, for Task Force Grant Activity

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Grant Closed
  3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Extension Requests
 New Content

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### 1. Florida Defense Support Task Force Grants FY 19-20

| Grant #<br>End Date<br>Award Amount | Grantee   | Status/Progress  |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| 20-105<br>06/30/2023<br>\$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.<br><br><b>January 2021 / FY 2020-2021 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report:</b> No activity to report for the quarter covering October 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.<br><br><b>April 2021 / FY 2020-2021 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report:</b> 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.<br><br><b>May 2021:</b> 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.<br><br><b>July 2021 / FY 2020-2021 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report:</b> No activity to report for the quarter covering April 1, 2021 through June 30, |



|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  | <p>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><b>October 2021 / FY 2021-2022 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report:</b> 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> <p><b>January 2022 / FY 2021-2022 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report:</b> No activity to report for the quarter covering October 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021. Effective June 8, 2021 the term of this agreement was amended as follows; shall remain in effect through June 29, 2022.</p> <p>The Department has signed a lease for the land at Homestead Air Reserve Base. During the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of FY 2022, the department will be contracting for the fencing around the leased land. The department shall have the grant amount spent within the next few months.</p> <p><b>April 2022 / FY 2021-2022 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report:</b> No activity to report for the quarter covering January 1, 2022 through March 31, 2022.</p> <p><b>May 2022:</b> The DMA requests grant DTF #20-105 be extended through 30 June 2023. At the present time, there is an ongoing Environmental Site Assessment of the Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB) parcels. Due to circumstances beyond the department's control, the department has not been able to execute any other service contracts on the property.</p> <p><b>June 17, 2022:</b> Contract amendment executed extending the contract to June 30, 2023.</p> <p><b>July 2022 / FY 2021-2022 4th Quarter Report:</b> No activity to report for the quarter covering April 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022.</p> <p><b>October 2022 / FY 2022-2023 1st Quarter Report:</b> No activity to report for the quarter covering July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022.</p> <p>The Department has signed a lease for the land at Homestead Air Reserve Base, however the department has not taken possession of the land as of this date. There is an Environmental Study in progress which has delayed the process.</p> <p>During the 2nd quarter of FY 2023, the department may be contracting for the fencing around the leased land. Once that occurs, the department shall have the grant amount spent within the next few months.</p> <p><b><u>January 2023 / FY 2022-2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report: Waiting on report.</u></b></p> |
|--|--|---|

## 2. Florida Defense Support Task Force Grants FY 21-22

| Grant #<br>End Date<br>Award Amount       | Grantee   | Status/Progress  |
|---|---|--|
| <p>22-102<br/>6/30/2023<br/>\$200,000</p> | <p>(FY 21-22) Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast – Feasibility Study for Cape Canaveral Space Force Station Regional Wastewater Treatment</p> | <p><b>January 2022:</b> Grant awarded.</p> <p><b>February 3, 2022:</b> Contract executed.</p> <p><b>July 2022 / FY 2021-2022 4th Quarter Report:</b> RFP advertised: Feasibility Study for Cape Canaveral Space Force Station (CCSFS). Regional Wastewater Treatment – Proposals due by July 1, 2022</p> <p><b>October 2022 / FY 2022-2023 1st Quarter Report:</b> RFP was prepared and published resulting in the contract award going to Black &amp; Veatch Corporation in the amount of \$200,000. The EDC and Black &amp; Veatch are currently reviewing the Agreement for services.</p> <p>The Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast is requesting an extension on contract DTF 22-102 until June 30, 2023.</p> <p>This project has completed the RFP process and they are in the process of reviewing draft agreements with Black &amp; Veatch. The anticipated study will take approximately 6 months. This extension will allow the EDC to be able to guarantee funding should the study time exceed the 6-month period.</p> <p><b>October 24, 2022:</b> Amendment executed to extend the contract to 6/30/2023.</p> <p><b>January 2023 / FY 2022-2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report: <u>Waiting on report.</u></b></p> |

## 3. Florida Defense Support Task Force Grants FY 22-23

| Grant #<br>End Date<br>Award Amount       | Grantee   | Status/Progress   |
|---|---|---|
| <p>23-301<br/>6/30/2023<br/>\$500,000</p> | <p>(FY 22-23) City of Jacksonville – Duval County Military Installations Compatible Land Use and Mission Protection Program</p> | <p><b>May 2022:</b> Grant awarded.</p> <p><b>August 2022:</b> Final City Council approval will be 8/24/2022, will be signed. They have about 8-10 offers in on properties around area Navy bases, so they are lined up to move forward as soon as the contract is executed. They have agreed with Timuquana to acquire 19 additional acres before the end of 2022.</p> <p><b>September 2022:</b> The legislation to appropriate the grant has just passed City Council. They will work with the General Counsel's</p> |

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
|  |   | <p>Office over the next week to have the contract executed by the Mayor's Office.</p> <p><b>October 2022:</b> Contract was signed by the Jacksonville Mayor's Office on 10/13/2022 and is currently with EFI contacting for execution.</p> <p><b>October 24, 2022:</b> Grant contract executed.</p> <p><b><u>January 2023 / FY 2022-2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report: No report due as contract was executed during this quarter.</u></b></p>   |
| <p><b>23-302</b><br/><b>6/30/2023</b><br/><b>\$161,810</b></p> | <p>(FY 22-23) Emerald Coast Regional Council – Intergovernmental Service Agreement (IGSA) Development</p>                   | <p><b>May 2022:</b> Grant awarded.</p> <p><b>June 17, 2022:</b> Grant contract executed.</p> <p><b>October 2022 / FY 2022-2023 1st Quarter Report:</b> They prepared a Request for Proposals seeking the services of a consultant to assist in the identification and preparation of partnership agreements. That RFP was advertised starting on August 12 and the deadline for receipt of proposals was September 9. The Emerald Coast Regional Council's Selection Committee, composed of board members, met on September 20 and approved two submittals for oral interviews on September 29. At the September 29th meeting the Committee ranked Matrix Design Group, Inc. as the highest scoring respondent to the RFP criteria and SONRI, Inc. as the second alternative. These recommendations were submitted to the full Emerald Coast Regional Council Board and were approved. The Board directed the CEO to begin contract negotiations.</p> <p>The procurement of consultant service, kickoff meeting, and communication plan were scheduled to be completed during this Reporting Quarter. The procurement of Consultant Services was delayed to coincide with the award and selection of the contractor who will perform the Northwest Florida Military Installation Resilience Review. The funds for that grant were made available in August. Although we are still in the contract negotiation process, the selected consultant has indicated in their submittal that they expect to be able to perform the work before the end date of the contract.</p> <p><b><u>January 2023 / FY 2022-2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report: Waiting on report.</u></b></p> |
| <p><b>23-303</b><br/><b>6/30/2023</b><br/><b>\$300,000</b></p> | <p>(FY 22-23) University of West Florida – Phase 1A – Concept Development of the Florida Advanced Training Range (FATR)</p> | <p><b>October 2022:</b> Grant awarded. Contract has been reviewed by EFI and is currently with UWF for review and execution.</p> <p><b><u>December 20, 2022: Grant contract executed.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>January 2023 / FY 2022-2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report: No report due as contract was executed during this quarter.</u></b></p>   |

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| <p>23-304<br/>6/30/2023<br/>\$56,000</p> | <p>(FY 22-23) Jacksonville<br/>Regional Chamber of<br/>Commerce – Jacksonville<br/>Federal Military<br/>Advocacy for Increase in<br/>LCS/DDG/FFG<br/>Shipbuilding at NS<br/>Mayport</p> | <p><b>October 2022:</b> Grant awarded.<br/><b><u>December 2, 2022: Grant contract executed.</u></b><br/><b><u>January 2023 / FY 2022-2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report: No report<br/>due as contract was executed during this quarter.</u></b></p> |
|--|---|--|

## Running Total of OPEN Grants

| <b>OPEN GRANTS</b>            |   |           |                      |                      |                     |                   |                   |                             |
|-------------------------------|---|-----------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Contract TYPE                 |   |           |                      |                      |                     |                   |                   |                             |
| #                             | Contractor                                | End Date  | Award Amount         | Paid to Date         | Funds Remaining     | Funds Forfeited   | Pending Payments  | Remaing funds after pending |
| <b>FY 19-20</b>               |   |           |                      |                      |                     |                   |                   |                             |
| DTF 20-105                    | Dept. of Military Affairs                 | 6/30/2023 | 129,000.00           | -                    | 129,000.00          |                   | -                 | 129,000.00                  |
| <b>Total</b>                  |   |           | <b>129,000.00</b>    | <b>-</b>             | <b>129,000.00</b>   | <b>-</b>          | <b>-</b>          | <b>129,000.00</b>           |
| <b>FY 21-22</b>               |   |           |                      |                      |                     |                   |                   |                             |
| DTF 22-102                    | EDC of Florida's Space Coast              | 6/30/2023 | 200,000.00           | -                    | 200,000.00          |                   | -                 | 200,000.00                  |
| <b>Total</b>                  |   |           | <b>200,000.00</b>    | <b>-</b>             | <b>200,000.00</b>   |                   | <b>-</b>          | <b>200,000.00</b>           |
| <b>FY 22-23</b>               |   |           |                      |                      |                     |                   |                   |                             |
| DTF 23-301                    | City of Jacksonville                      | 6/30/2023 | 500,000.00           | -                    | 500,000.00          |                   | -                 | 500,000.00                  |
| DTF 23-302                    | Emerald Coast Regional Council            | 6/30/2023 | 161,810.00           | -                    | 161,810.00          |                   | -                 | 161,810.00                  |
| DTF 23-303                    | University of West Florida                | 6/30/2023 | 300,000.00           | -                    | 300,000.00          |                   | -                 | 300,000.00                  |
| DTF 23-304                    | Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce | 6/30/2023 | 56,000.00            | -                    | 56,000.00           |                   | 14,000.00         | 42,000.00                   |
| <b>Total</b>                  |   |           | <b>1,017,810.00</b>  | <b>-</b>             | <b>1,017,810.00</b> |                   | <b>14,000.00</b>  | <b>1,003,810.00</b>         |
| <b>Grand Total Open</b>       |   |           | <b>1,346,810.00</b>  | <b>-</b>             | <b>1,346,810.00</b> |                   | <b>14,000.00</b>  | <b>1,332,810.00</b>         |
| <b>GRANT TOTAL ALL GRANTS</b> |   |           | <b>17,448,451.00</b> | <b>14,676,520.95</b> | <b>1,893,261.09</b> | <b>764,982.88</b> | <b>560,401.14</b> | <b>1,332,859.95</b>         |

# Contracts Update

## 1. Florida Defense Support Task Force Contracts FY 21-22

| <b>Contract #</b><br><b>End Date</b><br><b>Award Amount</b> | <b>Grantee</b>   | <b>Status/Progress</b>   |
|---|--|--|
| <b>CON 22-100</b><br><b>10/31/2022</b><br><b>\$117,000</b>  | (FY 21-22) The Roosevelt Group – Florida Public Education Impacts on Military Families | <p><b>January 2022:</b> Contract awarded.</p> <p><b>February 7, 2022:</b> Contract executed.</p> <p><b>April 2022:</b> Staff holds bi-weekly meetings with The Roosevelt Group for updates. Project is progressing.</p> <p><b>August 2022:</b> The Roosevelt Group looking to set up meetings with FL DOE. Kathy Ferguson plans to attend the September TF meeting in Key West to brief the project.</p> <p><b>September 2022:</b> Kathy Ferguson to brief the TF at the September 15, 2022 meeting in Key West.</p> <p><b>October 2022:</b> Final Project Report due October 31, 2022.</p> <p><b>November 2022:</b> This contract will be closed upon receipt of the Final Project Report. The Roosevelt Group is currently coordinating meetings in Washington, DC with our Florida Team and Air Force representatives to be held later this month.</p> <p><b><u>The Roosevelt Group submitted their final report and one-pager on Support of Military Families on November 29, 2022. Both items have been emailed to Task Force and FDA members and has been uploaded to the Task Force website. This contract is closed.</u></b></p> |
| <b>CON 22-202</b><br><b>4/30/2023</b><br><b>\$250,000</b>   | (FY 21-22) Continuing Services Contract  | <p><b>April 2022:</b> Proposals received from RFQ. Draft contract has been sent to EFI Contracting to be reviewed by Legal Counsel.</p> <p><b>May 10, 2022:</b> Contract executed.</p> <p><b>July 2022:</b> Task Work Order Proposals submitted to contracted Firms. Proposals due on 8/5/2022 for submission to the TF at the 8/18/2022 meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 22-01 FY 2023 NDAA Legislation Analysis &amp; Evaluation</li> <li>• 22-02 USAF Strategic Basing Process-US Space Force</li> <li>• 22-03 Affordable Housing Opportunities for Florida Military Installations</li> </ul> <p><b>September 2022:</b> Task Work Order agreements have been executed and projects are in beginning phase. Staff will update on progress at future TF meetings.</p> <p>Amendment #1 was executed on September 1, 2022 adding \$115,000 to the contract using FY 2022-2023 TF Funding, maxing the contract to its ceiling of \$250,000.</p> <p><b>October 2022:</b></p>   |

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 22-01 FY 2023 NDAA Legislation Analysis &amp; Evaluation – The Roosevelt Group’s deliverable due on 10/1/2022, review and analysis of House and Senate passed versions of the NDAA and related appropriations bills, has been delayed as the Senate has not yet passed their version of the NDAA.</li> <li>• 22-02 USAF Strategic Basing Process-US Space Force – The Principi Group submitted a draft of the Department of the Air Force Strategic Basing Process for the U.S. Space Force on September 26, 2022.</li> <li>• 22-03 Affordable Housing Opportunities for Florida Military Installations – Matrix Design Group is due to have their initial research completed by October 14, 2022. Will brief the TF on initial findings at the November TF meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>November 2022:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 22-01 FY 2023 NDAA Legislation Analysis &amp; Evaluation – The Roosevelt Group is working on how the current administration’s policies and National Defense Strategy affects Florida’s military missions.</li> <li>• 22-02 USAF Strategic Basing Process-US Space Force – This project has been completed and the TWO is closed.</li> <li>• 22-03 Affordable Housing Opportunities for Florida Military Installations – Matrix Design Group will brief their initial findings at today’s TF meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>December 2022/January 2023:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>22-01 FY 2023 NDAA Legislation Analysis &amp; Evaluation – The Roosevelt Group is working on their review and analysis of the final NDAA / Appropriations bills and their impacts on Florida’s military missions. They plan to submit an initial report in early January.</u></b></li> <li>• <b><u>22-03 Affordable Housing Opportunities for Florida Military Installations – Matrix Design Group submitted their draft report on December 2nd. The final report was due January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Staff is currently awaiting the final report. Matrix will brief the TF on their findings at the February TF meeting via Zoom.</u></b></li> <li>• <b><u>22-04 Florida CODEL Future Legislative Action Issue Priority Evaluation – The request for a Task Work Order Proposal (TWOP) was sent out to vendors on 11/28/22, proposals were received on 12/7/22 and the scoring summary sheet is included in your book under Tab 5 for discussion and vote.</u></b></li> </ul> |
|--|--|---|

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## Running Total of Closed Grants & Contracts

| <b>CLOSED GRANTS &amp; CONTRACTS</b> |  |          |                     |                     |           |                   |          |                 |
|--------------------------------------|--|----------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|-------------------|----------|-----------------|
| Contract TYPE                        |  |          |                     |                     | Funds     | Funds             | Pending  | Remaining funds |
| #                                    | Contractor                             | End Date | Award Amount        | Paid to Date        | Remaining | Forfeited         | Payments | after pending   |
| <b>FY 12-13</b>                      |  |          |                     |                     |           |                   |          |                 |
| 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            |          | -               |
| <b>Total</b>                         |  |          | <b>1,915,000.00</b> | <b>1,854,537.69</b> | -         | <b>60,462.31</b>  |          | -               |
| <b>FY 13-14</b>                      |  |          |                     |                     |           |                   |          |                 |
| 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 14-05                            | EDA of Bay County                      | 03/31/22 | 500,000.00          | 499,754.59          |           | 245.41            |          | -               |
| 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              |          | -               |
| <b>Total</b>                         |  |          | <b>2,224,000.00</b> | <b>2,200,105.06</b> | -         | <b>23,894.94</b>  |          | -               |
| <b>FY 14-15</b>                      |  |          |                     |                     |           |                   |          |                 |
| 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          | -         |                   |          | -               |
| <b>Total</b>                         |  |          | <b>2,655,654.00</b> | <b>2,537,982.19</b> | -         | <b>105,235.98</b> |          | -               |



| <b>FY 15-16</b> |   |           |                     |                     |                  |                   |                  |              |
|-----------------|---|-----------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------|
| 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            | -                | -            |
| <b>Total</b>    |   |           | <b>2,536,310.00</b> | <b>2,378,315.09</b> | -                | <b>157,994.66</b> | -                | -            |
| <b>FY 16-17</b> |   |           |                     |                     |                  |                   |                  |              |
| 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          | -                |                   | -                | -            |
| <b>Total</b>    |   |           | <b>765,000.00</b>   | <b>567,735.01</b>   | -                | <b>197,264.99</b> | -                | -            |
| <b>FY 17-18</b> |   |           |                     |                     |                  |                   |                  |              |
| 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          | -                |                   | -                | -            |
| <b>Total</b>    |   |           | <b>540,000.00</b>   | <b>438,750.00</b>   |                  |                   |                  |              |
| <b>FY 18-19</b> |   |           |                     |                     |                  |                   |                  |              |
| DTF 19-100      | Clay County Development Authority         | 04/30/19  | 500,000.00          | 500,000.00          |                  |                   | -                | -            |
| DTF 19-101      | Polk County                               | 06/30/22  | 500,000.00          | 453,548.91          | 46,451.09        |                   | 46,401.14        | 49.95        |
| 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          | -                |                   | -                | -            |
| <b>Total</b>    |   |           | <b>1,473,000.00</b> | <b>1,331,548.91</b> | <b>46,451.09</b> | <b>95,000.00</b>  | <b>46,401.14</b> | <b>49.95</b> |
| <b>FY 19-20</b> |   |           |                     |                     |                  |                   |                  |              |
| DTF 20-100      | Military Child Education Coalition        | 7/31/2022 | 100,000.00          | 100,000.00          | -                |                   | -                | -            |
| 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          | -                |                   | -                | -            |
| <b>Total</b>    |   |           | <b>1,318,400.00</b> | <b>1,193,400.00</b> | -                | <b>125,000.00</b> | -                | -            |

| <b>FY 20-21</b>            |   |            |                      |                      |                   |                   |                   |              |
|----------------------------|---|------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| DTF 21-100                 | Clay County Development Authority               | 5/31/2022  | 500,000.00           | 500,000.00           | -                 | -                 | -                 | -            |
| 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           | 110,000.00           |                   |                   |                   |              |
| DTF 21-103                 | Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners | 10/31/2021 | 70,000.00            | 70,000.00            | -                 | -                 | -                 | -            |
| DTF 21-104                 | South Florida Progress Foundation               | 6/30/2022  | 110,000.00           | 110,000.00           | -                 |                   | -                 | -            |
| DTF 21-105                 | Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council            | 4/30/2022  | 160,000.00           | 159,870.00           | -                 | 130.00            |                   | -            |
| DTF 21-106                 | Bay County Board of County Commissioners        | 1/31/2022  | 164,277.00           | 164,277.00           | -                 | -                 | -                 | -            |
| DTF 21-107                 | University of West Florida                      | 8/31/2022  | 60,000.00            | 60,000.00            | -                 | -                 | -                 | -            |
| <b>Total</b>               |   |            | <b>1,674,277.00</b>  | <b>1,174,147.00</b>  | <b>500,000.00</b> | <b>130.00</b>     | <b>500,000.00</b> | <b>-</b>     |
| <b>FY 21-22</b>            |   |            |                      |                      |                   |                   |                   |              |
| DTF 22-100                 | City of Jacksonville                            | 6/30/2022  | 500,000.00           | 500,000.00           |                   | -                 |                   | -            |
| DTF 22-101                 | Clay County Development Authority               | 1/31/2023  | 500,000.00           | 500,000.00           | -                 | -                 | -                 | -            |
| <b>Total</b>               |   |            | <b>1,000,000.00</b>  | <b>1,000,000.00</b>  | <b>-</b>          | <b>-</b>          | <b>-</b>          | <b>-</b>     |
| <b>Grand Total Closed</b>  |   |            | <b>16,101,641.00</b> | <b>14,676,520.95</b> | <b>546,451.09</b> | <b>764,982.88</b> | <b>546,401.14</b> | <b>49.95</b> |
| <i>*Contract Cancelled</i> |   |            |                      |                      |                   |                   |                   |              |