



**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY  
FINAL OFFICIAL MINUTES  
Miami-Dade Military Affairs Board**

City of Doral City Hall  
8401 NW 53 Terrace  
Doral, FL 33122

August 6, 2014  
As Advertised

Harvey Ruvin, Clerk  
Board of County Commissioners

Christopher Agrippa, Director  
Clerk of the Board Division

Alan Eisenberg, Commission Reporter  
(305) 375-2510



**CLERK'S SUMMARY AND OFFICIAL MINUTES**  
**MILITARY AFFAIRS BOARD**  
**August 6, 2014**

The Military Affairs Board (MAB) convened in a meeting on August 6, 2014 at 6:06 p.m. at the City of Doral City Hall, 8401 NW 53 Terrace, Doral, FL 33122.

The following voting Board members were present: Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Chairman; Mr. Anthony Rionda for Mr. Alex Acosta; Dr. Anthony Atwood; Ms. Rosa Brito; Town of Miami Lakes Councilman Timothy Daubert; Mr. Kevin Humes; Mr. Charles Johnson; Mr. Eduardo Lombard; Mr. Joseph Martory and Retired Lt. Colonel Jorge Sibila.

The following voting Board member arrived late: Ms. Diana Gonzalez.

The following voting Board members were absent: Mr. Mario Alvarez; Mr. David Blake; Mr. Mark Blumstein; Mr. Thomas Davis; Mr. Manuel Gonzalez; Mr. Michael Sergei Kowalchik; Mr. Phil Lyons; and Mr. Keith Whitbeck.

The following non-voting Board members were present: Captain Benjamin Davis; Gunnery Sergeant Eddy Fonseca, Jr.; Colonel Greg Julian; City of Doral Vice Mayor Sandra Ruiz; Mr. Paul Russo; and Officer Victor Milian,

The following non-voting Board members were absent: Ms. Glorianne Amor; Major Brooke Cortez; Mr. Ed Haynes; Ms. Joanna Sandstrom; and Lt. Colonel Son Vo.

The following staff members were present: Gustavo Cruz, MAB Director; Assistant County Attorney Miguel Gonzalez; Antonio Crawford, Commission Auditor Office; and Deputy Clerk Alan Eisenberg.

❖ **Welcome**

Chairman Diaz called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. and welcomed MAB members and guests to tonight's (8/6) meeting. He noted he would be leaving early to attend a ceremony for a firefighter who recently passed away. Chairman Diaz congratulated Town of Miami Lakes Councilman Timothy Daubert for being reelected with no opposition. He expressed his appreciation to City of Doral Vice Mayor Sandra Ruiz for her hospitality and hosting tonight's MAB meeting.

❖ **Moment of Silence / Pledge of Allegiance**

Town of Miami Lakes Councilman Timothy Daubert led the MAB in a moment of prayer followed by Mr. Joe Martory in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## ❖ Board Member Roundtable

The following introductions and updates were made by MAB members:

Mr. Eduardo Lombard, representing District 11, noted the Young Marines of Miami-Dade County's 2014 National Encounter was a success. He said that additional training was on-hold until further notice.

Gunnery Sergeant Eddy Fonseca, Jr. representing the United States Navy & Marine Corps Reserves announced that he was selected as the Toys for Tots Coordinator of the Year.

Mr. Paul Russo, Miami Veteran's Affairs Healthcare System's Medical Center (VA) Director, pointed out efforts toward expanding access; that the 1,100 veterans on the waiting list was down to 351; that additional services would be available in the Homestead area; and that the VA served approximately 1,600 additional enrollees this year. He clarified that the VA did not prohibit service dogs in the hospital; however, noted that they had various rules and regulations pertaining to service dogs. Mr. Russo stated the VA recently hosted a Small Business Administration seminar on starting a small business and also hosted a job fair. He noted that the Men's Warehouse donated 400 suits to assist veterans' transition to the workforce. Mr. Russo mentioned that the Miami VA received the VA Nursing Academic award from the Office of Academic Affairs as well as being one of three institutions to receive \$8.2 million from Washington, D.C. over five years to build a nursing training and residency program at Florida International University.

Mr. Joseph Martory, representing District 6, noted the National Senior Care Administration would participate in the Veterans Outreach Event at the South Florida Military Museum and Veterans Memorial's (SFMMVM) on August 7, 2014.

Retired Lt. Colonel Jorge Sibila, representing District 5, indicated that he was extensively involved with the efforts to create the proposed Veteran's Court and noted he believed that the pending issues would be resolved.

Captain Benjamin Davis, representing the United States Coast Guard District 7, mentioned that this week was the 224<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Coast Guard. He reported that Admiral Paul F. Zukunft, Commandant of the Coast Guard, would be visiting Miami in early September. Captain Davis advised that the Coast Guard Cutter Raymond Evans would be commissioned in Key West on September 6, 2014.

Mr. Charles Johnson, representing the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, noted the U.S. Army Jazz Ambassadors would be performing at the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center on Saturday, September 20, 2014. He pointed out that additional concerts would be held on Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at Florida Memorial University and on Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at the Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre. Mr. Johnson mentioned that the Chamber would be participating in the University of Miami's Veteran's Day observance.

Town of Miami Lakes Councilman Timothy Daubert, representing District 13, noted that the Veteran's Memorial would be unveiled in front of the Town Hall in September and an upcoming Veteran's job fair would be held.

City of Doral Vice Mayor Sandra Ruiz, representing Congressman Joe Garcia, mentioned the Power Business event with an emphasis on supporting the military and veterans was recently held in cooperation with the Doral Chamber of Commerce. She asked that specific funding requests from the City of Doral be identified now in order to be included in next year's budget.

Colonel Greg Julian, Public Affairs Chief, United States Southern Command (SOUTHCOM), advised that the PANAMAX exercise would be held over the next eight days. He noted that SOUTHCOM was prepared to support ten to eighteen local Veterans' Day events.

Professor Anthony Atwood, representing District 9 and the South Florida Military Museum and Veterans Memorial (SFMMVM), noted the SFMMVM would host the Veterans Outreach Event on August 7, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. He proceeded to mention the participating agencies and services provided (See Exhibit). Dr. Atwood advised that this event was designed to provide access to needed public services and was not intended as a political event.

Ms. Rosa Brito, representing the Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Commerce, noted that the Chamber was part of the Community Air Force Installation Committee Partnership program. She said that this Homestead Air Reserve Base program was designed for the community to come together and figure out ways to reduce costs through partnerships. Ms. Brito advised that the Chamber wrote a letter to local congressional representatives requesting the release of United States Marine Corps Sergeant Andrew Tahmooressi and urged the MAB to do the same. She mentioned that awards would be presented to service members at tomorrow's (8/7) Military Affairs Committee (MAC) meeting.

Chairman Diaz explained that the Sergeant Tahmooressi situation was a very difficult federal issue and perhaps best left to the appropriate authorities. He said that local congressional partners were working with the State Department to obtain a fast release and that the MAB was doing everything within its power to assist.

Mr. Anthony Rionda for Mr. Alex Acosta, representing District 12, announced that all 5,000 incoming Florida International University (FIU) freshman students were required to read Army Sergeant Bryan Anderson's book entitled No Turning Back, one man's inspiring story of courage, determination, and hope, noting he was a triple amputee and would be delivering a lecture at both campuses in October, 2014.

Mr. Kevin Humes, representing District 1, noted that Commissioner Barbara Jordan requested more aggressive support for veterans in the Opa-locka and Miami Gardens areas. He pointed out that Mr. Wayne Rosen dedicated land for a veteran and senior citizen housing facility in the Homestead area. Mr. Humes indicated that the VQuadrant project was a foreign trade zone that would provide economic development and growth to the surrounding area as well as employment opportunities for veterans. He noted the opportunity to partner with the Florida

Agricultural & Mechanical University (FAMU) to focus on hydroponics, industrial technology, and smart farming issues and with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) on this project.

Officer Victor Milian, Miami-Dade Police Department Military Affairs Board liaison, noted he was actively engaged in the implementation of the Veteran's Court.

❖ **Old Business**

➤ **Jazz Ambassadors**

Mr. Gustavo Cruz said that the U.S. Army Jazz Ambassadors would present the following concerts:

Thursday, September 18, 2014, 6:00 p.m. at the Florida Memorial University Lou Rawls Center for the Performing Arts in Miami Gardens - Free admission.

Friday, September 19, 2014, 7:00 p.m. at the Actors' Playhouse, Miracle Theatre in Coral Gables in cooperation with the Playhouse and the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce - Free admission.

Saturday, September 20, 2014, 7:00 p.m. at the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center - Paid admission.

➤ **Veteran's Court**

Chairman Diaz commented that certain issues arose in a recent meeting with the Court System about the VA and that he did everything within his ability to assure everyone involved that Mr. Russo was committed to the Veteran's Court success. He noted that Mr. Jorge Sibila and Officer Milian participated in that meeting. Chairman Diaz suggested that Mr. Russo meet with the Board Liaisons who participated in this meeting to discuss the concerns identified, noting this would prevent any Sunshine Law issues, since these individuals were non-voting members serving in an advisory capacity to the MAB.

Mr. Gustavo Cruz pointed out the following concerns from judges participating in the recent meeting: the VA's commitment to address the needs of veterans; the difficulty in communicating with the VA; the lack of personnel continuity; and their ability to attend court appearances. He said that he spoke with Dr. Giovanna Delgado, Miami VA Veterans Treatment Court liaison and psychologist, noting he was informed that there was previously only one Court Coordinator to cover the entire area from West Palm Beach to Monroe County; however, was assured that she was now assigned exclusively to Miami-Dade County. Mr. Cruz advised that this information was delivered to the participating judges.

Mr. Cruz discussed the need for MAB members working on this project to visit the Veteran's Court in Buffalo, New York to learn about their mentorship program, noting this should happen shortly after mid-September.

Chairman Diaz asked Mr. Cruz to schedule a Sunshine Meeting to discuss the Veteran's Court; to include Mr. Russo, Officer Milian, Mr. Sibila and other interested parties in that meeting; and to provide specific details as to the issues that would be discussed. He pointed out that some very serious animosity existed about the VA by the Court Administration and that he did everything within his power to convince them to reconsider their negative opinion.

Officer Milian advised that Chief Judge Bertila Soto commented that she was not receiving the requested feedback in an appropriate timeframe and that there was no consistency in VA personnel reporting to the Court. He indicated that there might be some miscommunication that needed to be addressed.

Mr. Russo said this was the first he had heard of these concerns and pointed out that appropriate resources were available.

Chairman Diaz mentioned that the VA needed to be a major component of the Veteran's Court success and the negative impression needed to be resolved as quickly as possible. He pointed out that 59 cities already had Veteran's Courts; however, the one being proposed for this County was unique and would be one of our greatest accomplishments. Chairman Diaz advised that Chief Judge Soto was in full support of the Veteran's Court.

Chairman Diaz respectfully excused himself from the remainder of the meeting, noting Mr. Cruz would take over the chair.

❖ **New Business**

➤ **Quilt of Valor Ceremony**

Ms. Grace O'Donnell, represented the Quilt of Valor Foundation, a nationwide organization of volunteers making quilts for returning warriors in honor of their service to this Country. She proceeded to introduce other representatives from the Foundation who assisted in this effort.

Ms. O'Donnell noted requests for Quilts of Valor were received on behalf of MAB member, Mr. Eduardo Lombard and Miami-Dade Police Department Sergeant Daniel Hannah. She proceeded to acknowledge their service and present them each with a comforting and healing Quilt of Valor as an expression of gratitude and honor, in a welcome home ceremony amongst their peers, noting it was not a gift but an award.

City of Doral Vice Mayor Sandra Ruiz, presented letters of recognition to Mr. Lombard and Sergeant Hannah for their service to our Country from Congressman Joe Garcia and plaques from the City of Doral.

Mr. Gustavo Cruz presented Mr. Lombard and Sergeant Hannah with certificates of appreciation and recognition of service from Mayor Carlos Gimenez and the Board of County Commissioners.

Ms. O'Donnell pointed out that veterans could request a Quilt of Valor at [www.qovf.org](http://www.qovf.org) or anyone could request one on their behalf.

➤ **Parade assignments to the MAB**

Mr. Gustavo Cruz noted the Veteran's Day Parade would be held November 1, 2014. He asked military units represented on the MAB to provide him with the appropriate forms that needed to be completed in order to request their participation and assistance at the Parade.

➤ **Parade fund raising ideas**

Mr. Gustavo Cruz asked that the Chamber of Commerce's helped to identify cities and corporations that could be approached as potential Parade sponsors.

➤ **Tuskegee Airmen recognition at BCC**

Mr. Gustavo Cruz indicated that Commissioner Dennis Moss would be presenting a Proclamation recognizing the Tuskegee Airmen at an upcoming Board of County Commissioners ceremony. He noted that the date would be announced.

➤ **Travis Mills documentary**

Mr. Gustavo Cruz spoke of Staff Sergeant Travis Mills, a quadruple amputee and a documentary depicting his recovery process. He noted that Staff Sergeant Mills came into contact with veterans who were in much worse shape than he was while recovering from his injuries at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, which was his motivation to begin helping others, despite his condition. Mr. Cruz said that he contacted the Travis Mills Foundation to obtain the licensing rights to show the documentary on the County's Public Service channel.

Town of Miami Lakes Councilman Timothy Daubert commented that he previously met Staff Sergeant Mills and his family at an event hosted by Lt. Colonel Antonio Colmenares at the City of Miami, noting he was an amazing man.

➤ **Approval of Minutes**

The approval of the May 7, 2014 MAB meeting minutes was deferred to the next meeting due to the lack of quorum.

❖ **Next meeting date**

Mr. Gustavo Cruz announced that the next MAB meeting date was scheduled for September 3, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. the Fire Fighters Memorial Building.

❖ **Discussion items for the next agenda**

Mr. Gustavo Cruz asked that agenda items be provided to him at least one week in advance of the meeting date.

❖ **Guest Presentations**

Mr. Andy Abbate, Tenbrook Associates, representing the Steven Stiller Tunnel to Towers Foundation, noted that Steven was an off-duty New York City firefighter who laid down his life to save others on September 11, 2001 in the New World Trade Center tragedy. He said that the Foundation was created by Steven's family to recognize first responders and military personnel who fought in Iraq and Afghanistan. Mr. Abate indicated that the Foundation assisted catastrophically injured veterans who had triple or quadruple amputations. He spoke about the upcoming 5K Run & Walk on Saturday, September 13, 2014 at 7:30 a.m. at Huizenga Park in downtown Fort Lauderdale and asked representatives of the local military units to participate in the run and for promotional assistance. Mr. Abbate pointed out that advance registrants would receive a ticket to the Tunnel to Towers night at the Marlins Stadium on Wednesday, September, 3, 2014.

City of Doral Vice Mayor Sandra Ruiz offered to print and place promotional materials on bus benches within the City of Doral.

Mr. Tim Carroll advocated for the Morale Welfare and Recreation People of SOUTHCOM, noting his foundation and business donated candles for veterans' memorial services and gas cards to veterans in need. He stated that gas cards would be accepted, but not any cash donations.

Mr. Bill Carney spoke about the upcoming Task Force Courage 5k Ruck Run to be held Monday, November 10, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. at North Shore Park Beach. (See Exhibit) He explained that the awards would be named after each of the 34 Miami-Dade County residents who were killed in Iraq and Afghanistan. Mr. Carney said that efforts were underway to obtain sponsors for Active Duty, Reservists, National Guard, or other public safety registrants.

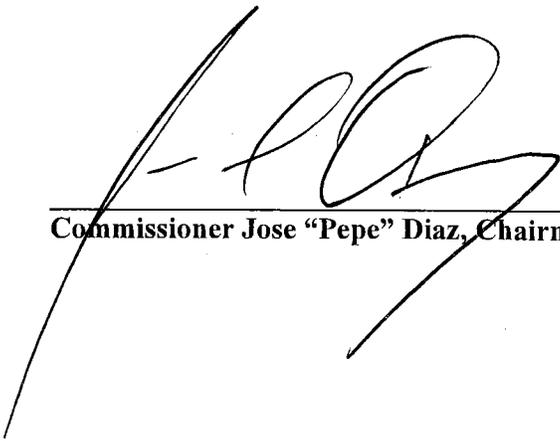
Ms. Jane Betancourt appeared to speak about the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for 2007 (ACT), signed into law by President George Bush on October 17, 2006, which excluded individuals eligible for health insurance under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHB) from coverage under the TRICARE Reserve Select Program (TRS). She noted that U.S. Reserve members who were eligible for FEHB lost their TRS coverage under this

legislation. Ms. Betancourt pointed out that a veteran who served their country should be able to decide what health insurance they preferred to use. She noted that TRS was a benefit afforded to military members and that the ACT took away a benefit that military members earned. Ms. Betancourt indicated that the ACT legislation forced individuals to sign up for FEHB which was more expensive and provided less coverage than TRS. In conclusion, military members should not be penalized for being a dual government employee, said Ms. Betancourt. (See Exhibit) Ms. Betancourt explained that she needed 100,000 signatures by August 23, 2014 in order to obtain a response from the White House to this issue.

Town of Miami Lakes Councilman Timothy Daubert clarified that Ms. Betancourt was a veteran who was both employed in a government job and a reservist at the same time and therefore not able to choose her insurance plan. He said the legislation was enacted at a period when the United States was not engaged in any war and that it should be changed because we were at war today.

❖ **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the Military Affairs Board meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.



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**Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Chairman**



**Miami-Dade Military Affairs Board**  
**August 6, 2014**

Prepared by: Alan Eisenberg

**EXHIBITS LIST**

<b>NO.</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>ITEM #</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
1	08/06/14		Meeting Agenda
2	08/06/14		Veterans Outreach Event Flier
3	08/06/14		List of Organizations Participating in the Veterans Outreach Event
4	08/06/14		Letter from U.S. Congressman Joe Garcia recognizing Mr. Eduardo Lombard and Sergeant Daniel Hannah
5	08/06/14		2013 Golden Veterans Parade Update
6	08/06/14		2013 Golden Veterans Parade Budget
7	08/06/14		5K Ruck Run Information Sheet
8	08/06/14		Petition submitted by Ms. Jane Betancourt re: John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for 2007
9	08/06/14		Sign-In Sheets
10			
11			
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MIAMI-DADE COUNTY  
OFFICE OF THE CHAIR  
MILITARY AFFAIRS ADVISORY BOARD  
MONTHLY MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, August 6th, 2014  
6:00 PM

CITY OF DORAL, CITY HALL  
8401 NW 53<sup>rd</sup> Terrance, Doral, FL 33122  
AGENDA

- ❖ **Welcome**
- ❖ **Moment of Silence / Pledge of Allegiance**
- ❖ **Board Member Roundtable**
- ❖ **Old Business**
  - **Veterans Court**
- ❖ **New Business**
  - **Quilt of Valor Ceremony**
  - **Parade assignments to the MAB**
  - **Parade fund raising ideas**
  - **Tuskegee Airmen recognition at BCC**
  - **Travis Mills documentary**

- Approval of minutes (July 2014)
- ❖ Next meeting date is scheduled for September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 at the Fire Fighters Memorial Building
- ❖ Discussion items for the next agenda
- ❖ Adjournment

## VETERANS OUTREACH EVENT

HOSTED BY SENATOR MARCO RUBIO,  
REPRESENTATIVE MICHAEL BILECA,  
REPRESENTATIVE FRANK ARTILES,  
REPRESENTATIVE JOSE FELIX DIAZ,  
REPRESENTATIVE JEANNETTE NUÑEZ, &  
REPRESENTATIVE CARLOS TRUJILLO

**WHO:** FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO ASSIST  
VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN MIAMI DADE COUNTY WITH  
CLAIMS, ACQUIRE DRIVER LICENSE ID, TRANSIT PASS,  
SOCIAL SECURITY AND MANY OTHER SERVICES.

**WHEN:** THURSDAY, AUGUST 7TH, 2014, 10:00 AM TO 2:00 PM

**WHERE:** MILITARY MUSEUM AND VETERANS MEMORIAL OF  
SOUTH FLORIDA

12450 SW 152 STREET, MIAMI, FLORIDA  
NEXT TO THE METRO ZOO

**WHY:** TO HELP VETERANS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS LEARN MORE  
ABOUT THEIR ELIGIBLE BENEFITS AND CONNECT WITH FEDERAL,  
STATE AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES.

**CONTACT:** JUDITH RUIZ, LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT AT 305-273-3235

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN & FAMILIES  
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY VETERANS AFFAIRS, MILITARY MUSEUM AND VETERANS MEMORIAL  
OF SOUTH FLORIDA, SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, WALGREENS OUTREACH  
UNITED STATES CITIZENS AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES, DADE TRANSIT SYSTEM,  
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES, SAFELINK, SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

In an effort to keep you abreast of the event, please find attached the agencies who will be participating in the event. Please let me know if you have any questions and I look forward to seeing you on Monday, July 21, 2014 at 2:00,pm. I am still looking for someone to procure the ice.

<b>The Arco Security Group (Free alarm with free service)</b>
<b>BB&amp;T Bank (Free Checking)</b>
<b>CABA (Free legal services)</b>
<b>Dade Transit System (free bus pass)</b>
<b>Employee Readiness and Career Assistance</b>
<b>Florida Department of Children and Families</b>
<b>Florida Department of Motor Vehicles (Free Id's and driver's License)</b>
<b>Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (Claims)</b>
<b>Florida International University Veterans Affairs</b>
<b>Military Museum &amp; Veterans Memorial of South Florida</b>
<b>Safelink (Free phones and free minutes)</b>
<b>Small Business Administration</b>
<b>Social Security Administration</b>
<b>United States Citizens and Immigration Services</b>
<b>U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development</b>
<b>UPS (300 jobs in the next few months to veteran's)</b>
<b>VA Hospital</b>
<b>Walgreens Outreach</b>
<b>Military Affairs Office of Community Advocacy</b>
<b>Veterans Link Up Housing</b>
<b>Miami Dade Police Department</b>
<b>State Attorney's Office (Record Spanging)</b>
<b>Miami Dade County Action Agency Veterans Outreach</b>
<b>Senator Marco Rubio</b>
<b>Representative Frank Artiles</b>
<b>Representative Michael Bileca</b>
<b>Representative Jose Felix Diaz</b>
<b>Representative Jeanette Nuñez</b>
<b>Representative Carlos Trujillo</b>

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FLORIDA CITY, FL 33034  
(305) 247-1234

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(305) 292-4486

# Congress of the United States House of Representatives

JOE GARCIA  
26TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

August 6, 2014

COMMITTEES:  
JUDICIARY  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
IMMIGRATION AND BORDER SECURITY  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
FISHERIES, WILDLIFE, OCEANS  
AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

The Honorable Sandra Ruiz  
8401 NW 53 Terrace 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor (Council Chambers)  
Doral, FL 33166

Dear Councilwoman Ruiz,

I write to recognize our country's veterans, and in particular Eduardo Lombard and Sergeant Daniel Hannah.

Our nation's service men and women risk their lives in defense of our country, and they deserve our respect and our thanks for their sacrifices. Both of these men have dedicated their lives to protecting our freedom, serving our military, and contributing to our community in South Florida.

Eduardo Lombard served in Vietnam as a combat engineer and later joined the Marine Corps Reserve. Mr. Lombard is now a member of the Miami-Dade County Military Affairs Board and has previously chaired the Citizen Advisory Committee at the Miami-Dade Police Department.

Sergeant Hannah served in the Marine Corps Reserve for sixteen years and deployed as part of both Operation Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom. In addition to two decades spent working in the Miami-Dade Police Department, Sergeant Hannah continues his commitment to public service by volunteering in organizations like the Parent Teacher Association and the PFC Bruce W. Carter Young Marines Unit.

Again, I commend both these men for their service and extend my thanks for the sacrifices they have made.

Sincerely,



Joe Garcia  
Member of Congress



MDC Military Affairs Board  
Golden Veterans Parade Update  
October 29, 2013

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- Overview: Parade will take place on November 8 from W Flagler and 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave going East into Bayfront Park. Parade will start promptly at noon (participants must be at staging area by 10AM) and Concert/Commemorative ceremony will start at 1:30PM until 5:30PM. The bands that will play will be the 13<sup>th</sup> Army Band, Willy Chirino and Grand Funk Railroad. There will be two flyovers, one over the parade, one over the ceremony venue.
  
- Sponsors: We were able to secure a title Sponsor as well as other sponsors. This is the list of cash monies committed from those sponsors:
  - Hershey's (Title Sponsor) - \$200,000
  - Baptist Hospital \$10,000
  - Downtown Development Authority \$10,000
  - Resort World Miami \$5,000
  - South Florida Ford \$5,000
  - Marlins \$5,000
  - Miami-Dade Defense Alliance \$3,000
  - American Airlines \$1,500
  - Dade Medical College \$1,000
  - Richard Weiss \$1,000
  - Check Cashing Store \$500
  - Others \$600

We also are receiving in-kind donations from most of the 34 municipalities, Miami-Dade County and other non-governmental entities. One of the largest categories of in-kind donations comes from media partners. The total value of in-kind media donations is approximately \$135,000 in media value.

**GOLDEN VETERANS PARADE**  
**Miami Dade County's Military Affairs Board**  
**Event Date: November 8, 2013**  
**GENERAL BUDGET**

CATEGORY	Details	Cost	OOP	NOTES
<b>PARADE</b>				
	Police - CoM	35000	0	
	Police - MD	17000	0	AH
	Police - Municipalities (Other)	70000	0	
	Fire	5500	0	TT
	Sanitation- Public Works	1900	0	TT
	Barricades	20200	10200	DDA covering \$10K
	Flyover	1000	1000	
	Ticker Tape/Confetti	4000	4000	
	Confetti Bazookas (4)	1000	1000	TT
	Decorative Banners	4000	2000	Diana's donation
	Signage	4000	2000	partial clearchannel
	Buses	1600	0	Vince Betancourt
	Convertibles (16)	1000	0	
	Staging Area - Catering	2500	2500	TT
	Staging Area - Buses	2000	0	
	Golf Carts	1200	1200	TT
	Registration Tent	100	100	Parks?
	Registration Staff	300	0	
	Parade Route Staff	3,500	0	Goodwill Ambassadors
	Sponsor Car branding	2500	0	Hershey's brand
	Parking - ISD	2400	0	ISD Waiving?
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>180700</b>	<b>24000</b>	
<b>CONCERT</b>				
	Bayfront	25,000	25,000	
	Talent - Willy Chirino	23000	23000	
	Talent - Ground Funk Railroad	36,000	39000	
	Trailers (3)	1500	1500	
	Sound	17000	17000	
	Video Wall	5500	5500	
	Generators (2)	1200	1200	maybe get our own
	Artist Liaison	4000	4000	MN - performance k
	Travel/transportation Talent	400	400	TT
	Hotel Talent (7 rooms/2 nights)	2100	0	GMCVB
	Food/Per Diem Talent	1500	1500	TT
	Sponsors Lounge Tables/Chairs	500	500	TT
	Sponsors Lounge Catering	8000	8000	Luis contact
	Concert Chairs (3000)	4500	4500	
	Tents	5000	5000	40 booths
	Concert Barricades/Fencing	3500	3500	Kiwanis/pay set up

	Port-a-Potties (5)	1300	1300	ISD price
	Insurance	1200	1200	Luis contact
	Bracelets/Badges	300	300	Yaritza Price
	Security	400	400	TT
	Parking	2500	0	MPA
	Signage	3000	0	ClearChannel
	Stage Decoration	500	500	
	Emcee	1500	0	ClearChannel
	Video Loop Production	500	500	Reflections Prod
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>149,900</b>	<b>143800</b>	
<b>PROMOTION</b>				
	Video Production Pre	8000	0	TT
	Video/Photo Coverage	5000	0	TT
	PSA production	12000	0	TT
	Artwork/Logo	10000	0	TT
	Flyers/Posters Printing	4200	4200	
	Media	135000	0	
	Social Media Coordination	1500	0	TT
	Printed Proclamations (2000)	1000	1000	TT
	Challenge Coins	5400	5400	Final
	T-Shirts	6000	6000	1500 units ISD price
	Goodie Bags (2000)	2500	0	TT
	Scholarship Checks Printing	300	300	TT
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>190,900</b>	<b>16900</b>	
<b>OTHER</b>				
	Scholarship Awards	6000	6000	confirmed
	Plaques/Awards	2000	2000	TT
	Thank you Cards	200	200	TT
	Sponsors Gifts	1000	1000	TT
	Post Event Thank-You gathering	5000	5000	TT
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14200</b>	<b>14200</b>	
	<b>TOTAL OF TOTALS</b>	<b>535,700</b>	<b>198,900</b>	



**Miami Beach Permit**

- Letter from the H.E.L.O. Foundation for fee waiver was submitted to the City of Miami Beach
- Permit application is complete, Insurance certificate from K&K Event Insurance Company has been issued

**Road Closures**

None are required

**Coordination**

1. **DOD, FAA, USCG &**
  - Requests sent to Silver Wings Parachute Demonstration Team and Golden Knights
  - Silver Wings replied affirmed availability
  - Golden Knights have not replied
  - HELO/Project Courage will complete *DoD Form 2535*
2. **13th ARMY Band can't perform; scheduled for Camp Blanding performance**
  - request sent to local area high schools
  - expecting reply by mid August
3. Safety Boat Request will be sent to MDPD Marine Patrol to be on station during the parachute demonstration jump as soon as parachute demo is set.
4. Request to Southern Command to secure/purchase, if possible
  - 500 turned in/surplus "ALICE" or "MOLLE" packs
  - 500 surplus T-shirts
  - 1,000 surplus chemlites (500 red, 500 green)
5. Proposal to Southern Command's MWR to sponsor 50 Active Duty is being processed
6. RAP Gummies (Rapid Action Protein) donate 500 packs of product and will sponsor 4 Active Duty runners.
7. Asking potential sponsors to sponsor Active Duty, Guard, Reserve, ROTC, JROTC and Public Safety entrants.

**Sponsors**

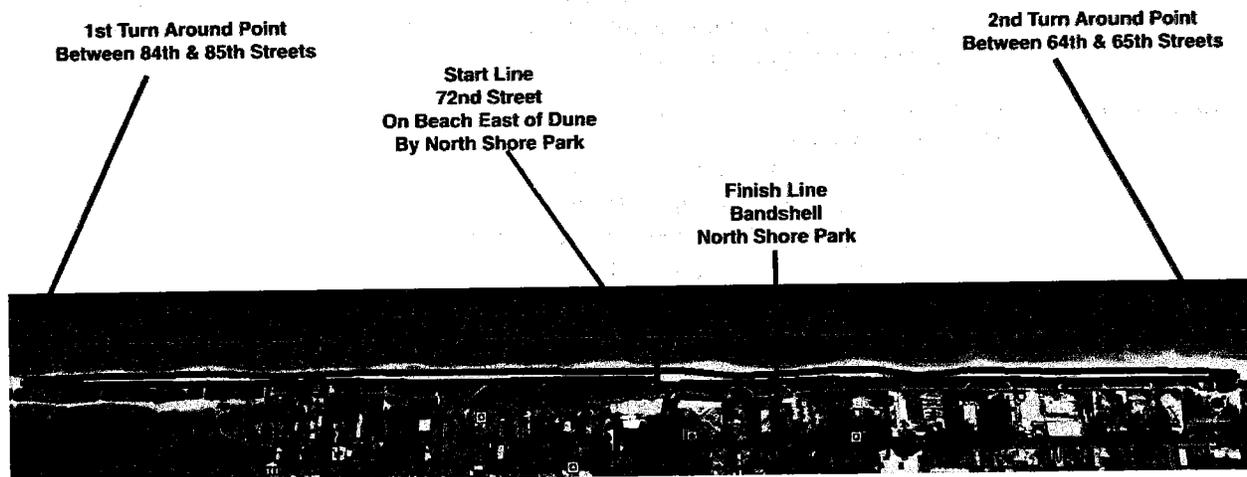
The following supporters/sponsors are on board or awaiting approval:

**On Board:**

- Rapid Action Protein Gummies - *RAP Gummies product and 4 entries*
- United Structural Associates - *prefabricated structures - product and cash*
- Medicaid Planning Solutions - *20 veteran entries*

**Pending:**

- Southcom MWR - *50 Active Duty Entries*



## **Petition**

<https://petitions.whitehouse.gov/petition/allow-all-members-military-have-freedom-choose-between-tricare-or-fehb-if-they-are-dual-public/4mM66TKf>

## **Public Law**

The John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for 2007 (P.L. 109-364), signed by President George W. Bush on October 17, 2006, excludes individuals eligible for health insurance under the FEHB Program from coverage under TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS). Therefore, **Selected Reserve members who are eligible for FEHB will lose their TRS coverage when this provision of the law takes effect not later than October 1, 2007.**

## **My Argument**

Let those who serve decide what health insurance they prefer to use. TRS is a benefit that is afforded to military members. The Act takes away a benefit that military members have earned. It also forces them to sign up for FEHB which is more expensive and has less coverage compared to TRS. Military members should not be penalized for being a dual government employee.

## Tricare

→ Member Only \$51.68    Member and Family \$204.29

<u>Type of Care</u>	<u>Network Provider</u>	<u>Non-Network Provider</u>
Ambulatory Care (Same Day Surgery)	\$25 per visit	\$25 per visit
Behavioral Health	Inpatient: \$20 per day (\$25 minimum)  Outpatient: 15% of the negotiated rate	Inpatient: \$20 per day (\$25 minimum)  Outpatient: 20% of the allowable charge
Home Health Care	\$0	\$0
Hospice Care	\$0	\$0
Inpatient Services, such as:	\$17.65 per day (\$25 minimum)	\$17.65 per day (\$25 minimum)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hospitalization</li> <li>• Skilled Nursing*</li> </ul>	
Maternity Care	Global fee for office visits & hospitalization for delivery planned in a hospital: \$17.65 per day (\$25 minimum)  Office visits for delivery planned in a birthing center: \$25 per visit  Office visits for delivery at home or another setting: 15% of the negotiated rate	Global fee for office visits & hospitalization for delivery planned in a hospital: \$17.65 per day (\$25 minimum)  Office visits for delivery planned in a birthing center: \$25 per visit  Office visits for delivery at home or another setting: 20% of the negotiated rate
Newborn Care	The lower of the number of hospital days minus 3 multiplied by \$250 or 25% of the negotiated rate, plus 20% for separately billed professional charges.	The lower of the number of hospital days minus 3 multiplied by DRG per diem copayment or 25% of billed charges, plus 25% for separately billed professional charges.
Outpatient Services (which include):	15% of the negotiated rate	20% of the allowable charge
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Ambulance Services</u></li> <li>• <u>DME</u></li> <li>• <u>Emergency Room Visits</u></li> </ul>	

**Type of Care**

**Network Provider**

**Non-Network Provider**

- Laboratory Services
- Preventive Services\*\*
- X-Rays

\*Skilled Nursing Care is only available in the U.S. and U.S. Territories.

\*\*The following Preventive Services are available free of charge: colorectal, breast, cervical and prostate cancer screenings; immunizations; and well-child visits for children under age 6.

## **Annual Outpatient Deductible**

You must meet the annual outpatient deductible each fiscal year before TRICARE begins to pay. The fiscal year starts on October 1.

- Sponsor Rank E4 and below: \$50 per individual, but no more than \$100 per family
- Sponsor Rank E5 and above: \$150 per individual, but no more than \$300 per family

Prescription drugs - \$5 no matter what it is.

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## Summary of benefits for the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan Basic Option – 2014

**Do not rely on this chart alone.** All benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure. On this page we summarize specific expenses we cover; for more detail, look inside.

If you want to enroll or change your enrollment in this Plan, be sure to put the correct enrollment code from the cover on your enrollment form.

Basic Option does not provide benefits when you use Non-preferred providers. For a list of the exceptions to this requirement, see page 21. There is no deductible for Basic Option.

Basic Option Benefits	You pay	Page
<b>Medical services provided by physicians:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diagnostic and treatment services provided in the office</li> </ul>	PPO: Nothing for preventive care; \$25 per office visit for primary care physicians and other health care professionals; \$35 per office visit for specialists Non-PPO: You pay all charges	37-38, 41-45
<b>Services provided by a hospital:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inpatient</li> </ul>	PPO: \$175 per day up to \$875 per admission Non-PPO: You pay all charges	78-80
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outpatient</li> </ul>	PPO: \$100 per day per facility Non-PPO: You pay all charges	81-84
<b>Emergency benefits:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accidental injury</li> </ul>	PPO: \$50 copayment for urgent care; \$125 copayment for emergency room care Non-PPO: \$125 copayment for emergency room care; you pay all charges for care in settings other than the emergency room Ambulance transport services: \$100 per day for ground ambulance; \$150 per day for air or sea ambulance	90-93
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Medical emergency</li> </ul>	Same as for accidental injury	90, 92-93
<b>Mental health and substance abuse treatment</b>	PPO: Regular cost-sharing, such as \$25 office visit copayment; \$175 per day up to \$875 per inpatient admission Non-PPO: You pay all charges	94-97
<b>Prescription drugs</b>	Retail Pharmacy Program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PPO: \$10 generic/\$45 preferred brand-name per prescription/50% coinsurance (\$55 minimum) for non-preferred brand-name drugs</li> <li>Non-PPO: You pay all charges</li> </ul> Specialty Drug Pharmacy Program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See inside for details</li> </ul>	98-111
<b>Dental care</b>	PPO: \$25 copayment per evaluation (exam, cleaning, and X-rays); most services limited to 2 per year; sealants for children up to age 16; \$25 copayment for dental services required due to accidental injury; regular benefits for covered oral and maxillofacial surgery Non-PPO: You pay all charges	67, 112-113, 117
<b>Special features:</b> Health Tools; Blue Health Assessment; MyBlue <sup>®</sup> Customer eService; Diabetes Management Incentive Program; National Doctor & Hospital Finder <sup>SM</sup> ; Healthy Families; <i>WalkingWorks</i> <sup>®</sup> Wellness Program; travel benefit/services overseas; Care Management Programs; and Flexible benefits option		118-120
<b>Protection against catastrophic costs</b> (your catastrophic protection out-of-pocket maximum)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Self Only: Nothing after \$5,500 (PPO) per contract per year</li> <li>Self and Family: Nothing after \$7,000 (PPO) per contract per year</li> </ul> Note: Some costs do not count toward this protection.	31-32

## 2014 Rate Information for the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan

**Non-Postal rates** apply to most non-Postal employees. If you are in a special enrollment category, refer to the *Guide to Federal Benefits* for that category or contact the agency that maintains your health benefits enrollment.

Postal rates apply to Postal Service employees. They are shown in special Guides published for APWU (including Material Distribution Center and Operating Services), NALC, NPMHU, and NRLCA Career Postal Employees (see RI 70-2A); Information Technology/Accounting Services employees (see RI 70-2IT); Nurses (see RI 70-2N); Postal Service Inspectors and Office of Inspector General (OIG) law enforcement employees and Postal Career Executive Service employees (see RI 70-2IN); and non-career employees (see RI 70-8PS).

**Postal Category 1 rates** apply to apply to career bargaining unit employees covered by the Postal Police contract.

**Postal Category 2 rates** apply to career non-bargaining unit, non-executive, non-law enforcement employees, and non-law enforcement Inspection Service and Forensics employees.

For further assistance, Postal Service employees should call:

Human Resources Shared Service Center  
1-877-477-3273, option 5  
TTY: 1-866-260-7507

Postal rates do not apply to non-career postal employees, postal retirees, or associate members of any postal employee organization who are not career postal employees. Refer to the applicable *Guide to Federal Benefits*.

Premiums for Tribal employees are shown under the monthly non-postal column. The amount shown under employee contribution is the maximum you will pay. Your Tribal employer may choose to contribute a higher portion of your premium. Please contact your Tribal Benefits Officer for exact rates.

Type of Enrollment	Enrollment Code	Non-Postal Premium				Postal Premium	
		Biweekly		Monthly		Biweekly	
		Gov't Share	Your Share	Gov't Share	Your Share	Category 1 Your Share	Category 2 Your Share
Standard Option Self Only	104	\$196.68	\$87.82	\$426.14	\$190.28	\$65.96	\$79.62
Standard Option Self and Family	105	\$437.62	\$204.98	\$948.18	\$444.12	\$156.36	\$186.75
Basic Option Self Only	111	\$182.90	\$60.96	\$396.27	\$132.09 ←	\$40.24	\$53.04
Basic Option Self and Family	112	\$428.27	\$142.75	\$927.91	\$309.30	\$94.22	\$124.20