



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

Fire Fighters Memorial Building Corp.  
8000 NW 21 Street  
Miami, FL 33122

January 7, 2015  
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**  
**January 7, 2015**

The Military Affairs Board (MAB) convened in a meeting on January 7, 2015 at 6:07 p.m. at the Fire Fighters Memorial Building, 8000 NW 21 Street, Doral, FL 33122.

The following voting Board members were present: Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Chairman; Mr. Mario Alvarez; Dr. Anthony Atwood; Mr. David Blake; Ms. Rosa Brito; Town of Miami Lakes Councilman Timothy Daubert; Ms. Diana Gonzalez; Mr. Kevin Humes; Mr. Charles Johnson; Mr. Sergei Michael Kowalchik; Mr. Eduardo Lombard; Retired Lt. Colonel Jorge Sibila; and Mr. Keith Whitbeck.

The following voting Board members were absent: Mr. Alex Acosta; Mr. Mark Blumstein; Mr. Thomas Davis; Mr. Manuel Gonzalez; Mr. Phil Lyons; and Mr. Joseph Martory.

The following non-voting Board members were present: Major Brooke Cortez and Colonel Elwin Rozyskie; Gunnery Sergeant Eddy Fonseca, Jr. and Gunnery Sergeant Jeremiah Scott; Ms. Leandra Padron; Captain Benjamin Davis; and Officer Victor Milian.

The following non-voting Board members were absent: Ms. Glorianne Amor; Mr. Ed Haynes; Colonel Greg Julian; Mr. Paul Russo; City of Doral Vice Mayor Sandra Ruiz; Ms. Joanna Sandstrom; Lt. Colonel Son Vo; and Ms. Debbie Zimmerman; .

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

❖ **Welcome**

Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. and welcomed MAB members and guests to tonight's (1/7) meeting. He wished everyone a Happy New Year and acknowledged the International Association of Fire Fighters Metro-Dade Fire Fighters Local 1403 Union for their generous hospitality in providing meeting space for the MAB meetings. Chairman Diaz noted the group was amenable to holding meetings at other locations throughout the County and was open to suggestions.

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

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

❖ **Comments or presentations from the public**

Chairman Diaz opened the floor to public comments on any item that did not appear on today's (1/7) meeting agenda, noting that anyone wishing to speak on an agenda item should do so at the time that item was presented.

Mr. Diego Carrion appeared before the MAB noting his restaurant, Military Burgers, was located at 10834 SW 104 Street, Miami, across the street from Miami Dade Community College, Kendall Campus. He pointed out that this was a small veteran owned business which held events in the community and donated ten percent of the proceeds to local foundations that supported veterans. He said he would forward emails with menus and information about future events to MAB members and asked for their support.

Mr. Kevin Humes acknowledged Mr. Carrion for supplying food to homeless veterans at the recent Veterans Stand Down.

❖ **Board Member Roundtable**

The following introductions and updates were made by MAB members:

Mr. Kevin Humes, representing District 1, indicated that strategic relationships were underway with American Legion Post 29 and the Veteran of Foreign Wars designed to become more proactive in supporting veterans.

Ms. Leah Padron, representing United States Senator Marco Rubio, noted her desire to support the MAB.

Mr. Charles Johnson, representing the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce as their Military Affairs Committee (MAC) Chairman. He noted that a Needs of Veterans symposium was scheduled at the Coral Gables Museum on March 10, 2015 beginning at 5:30 p.m. Mr. Johnson indicated that the annual Memorial Day ceremony would be held at Woodlawn Cemetery on May 25, 2015 at 11:00 a.m.

Gunnery Sergeant Jeremiah Scott, representing Fort Civil Affairs Group, Hialeah Air Force Reserve, noted he would be attending MAB meetings upon the retirement of Gunnery Sergeant Eddy Fonseca, Jr. He noted he served as the 2014 Toys for Tots Coordinator.

Gunnery Sergeant Eddy Fonseca, Jr. representing the United States Navy & Marine Corps Reserves announced that his retirement was later this month and that it would be his last MAB meeting.

Mr. Eduardo Lombard, representing District 11, noted that the PFC. Bruce W. Carter Young Marines did not hold drill on January 3, 2015 and that the upcoming drill schedule and activities for 2015 would be provided when available.

Mr. Keith Whitbeck, representing District 3, noted he was Vice President of the Air Force Association.

Professor Anthony Atwood, representing District 9 and the South Florida Military Museum and Veterans Memorial (SFMMVM), reported that the final phase of the SFMMVM's external (railings and ramp) and the interior (plumbing and electrical) restoration work was in progress; the new website address was: [www.SouthFloridaMilitaryMuseum.org](http://www.SouthFloridaMilitaryMuseum.org).

Mr. Mario Alvarez, representing Mayor Carlos Gimenez, pointed out that a successful Turkey Drive was held in November, 2014 with the United States Southern Command (SOUTHCOM), noting that the local reserve units should be targeted in the future.

Town of Miami Lakes Councilman Timothy Daubert, representing District 13.

Ms. Diana Gonzalez, representing Military Miami-Dade, a program of the Beacon Council. She indicated that State grant funding for the six-month period between January and June 2015 was received, noting that these funds were for local groups supporting the military. Ms. Gonzalez noted jointly sponsored events with the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce and the South Dade Chamber of Commerce was in progress. She said that statistics were being compiled to justify additional housing for military personnel with the assistance of Garrison Manager Donald "Andy" Bird and, Mr. Mike Norman, his assistant. Ms. Gonzalez mentioned that a tour of the area to highlight local resources, services and amenities that were available to support military personnel living in the area would also be conducted. She indicated that a regional summit on the economic impact of the military to the region, base realignment and closure was being coordinated with Mr. Jim Murley, Executive Director, South Florida Regional Planning Council.

Colonel Elwin Rozyskie, representing the United States Air Force Base (Homestead), noted that a briefing would be held tomorrow (1/08) with retired General Poluto (phonetic) and retired General Mark Jones about contingency planning for the base in relation to national disasters and Caribbean, Central and South American basin response. He said that General Jones would also be speaking at the South Dade Chamber of Commerce luncheon. Colonel Rozyskie noted the Golden Knights would return for the sixth year and anyone interesting in tandem jumping should contact Major Brooke Cortez. He commented that there was a F-16 flyover at the Miami Dolphin/Minnesota Viking football game. Colonel Rozyskie announced a Public-Public-Public-Private initiative which compared contractual services at the base with other municipalities in order to obtain lower costs.

Ms. Rosa Brito, representing the South Dade Chamber of Commerce, announced that she was continuing to work on joint initiatives with Ms. Diana Gonzalez. She noted a Chamber directory was being finalized and would include information about all local military installations.

Captain Benjamin Davis, representing the United States Coast Guard District 7 as their Commanding Officer, noted recent involvement in the Toys for Tots campaign; efforts with the Miami Heat at veteran's homes; and an upcoming program with Habitat for Humanity.

Officer Victor Milian, Miami-Dade Police Department Military Affairs Board liaison.

Mr. Sergei Kowalchik, representing District 7.

Mr. David Blake, representing District 2, indicated that Board of County Commission Chairman Jean Monestime would attend an upcoming MAB meeting.

Retired Lt. Colonel Jorge Sibila, representing District 5, reported that the MAB had accomplished its mission pertaining to the Veteran's Court and was now waiting for additional guidance.

Major Brooke Cortez, representing the United States Air Force Base (Homestead).

#### ❖ **Old Business**

##### ➤ **SOUTHCOM Garrison Presentation**

Mr. Donald "Andy" Bird, Garrison Manager, United States Army Garrison-Miami, provided a PowerPoint presentation overview of the Service Member for Life (SMFL) Program designed to help prepare service members nearing retirement or separation for civilian life.

Ms. Renee Tucker, Director, Human Resources, United States Army Garrison-Miami (USAG-Miami), described the composition and reach of the USAG-Miami and the United States Southern Command (SOUTHCOM). She noted that soldiers leaving military service were looking for a career with an organization that could offer stability and security.

Mr. Joe Pargon, described the successful re-branding of the Army Career Alumni Program into the current SMFL Program, noting it was established by a national memorandum of understanding between the Department of Labor, the Department of Defense, the Veterans Administration, the Department of Homeland Security and the Small Business Administration, under the Veterans Opportunity at Work Act. He noted eligibility to participate began two years prior to retirement and within twelve months if leaving the

service without retiring. Mr. Paragon said that service members and veterans spouses were also eligible to participate.

Mr. Bird noted that the job was now to begin connecting service members with the community and local businesses and creating alliances. He indicated that this program was number four on Lieutenant General David Halverson, Commander, U.S. Army Installation Management Command and Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management's list of his top six priorities. Mr. Bird said he would work to get Lieutenant General Kenneth Tovo, Military Deputy Commander, U.S. Southern Command to sign a command directive for the SMFL Program.

Chairman Diaz said the MAB would work with the entities to conduct a press conference and encourage the participation of local businesses. He asked Mr. Gustavo Cruz to oversee a committee consisting of Colonel Elwin Rozyskie, Ms. Rosa Brito, Ms. Diana Gonzalez, and Mr. Charles Johnson to coordinate this effort.

In response to Chairman Diaz' question, Mr. Bird indicated that Lieutenant General Halverson would be in Miami on Monday, February 23, 2014. Mr. Bird stated that creating an awareness of programs was necessary, noting that funding was not an issue.

Chairman Diaz said upcoming meetings and the press conference would be publically noticed pursuant to the Sunshine Act. He noted that local universities were already in the training business and should be considered for participation.

Mr. Kevin Humes said that the Regional Commanders for the American Legions and the Veteran of Foreign Wars had the populations and facilities and were waiting for guidance in order to play an active role in this process.

Chairman Diaz noted he wanted to ensure the involvement of corporate America.

Mr. Humes pointed out that Dr. Brown was connected with corporate America on a national level and had a data base of corporations who were ready to hire veterans.

Chairman Diaz responded that existing local companies could be identified through the Chamber of Commerce representatives and the Beacon Council as well as by other MAB members.

Ms. Gonzalez said that the Beacon Council was trying to reactivate its Joining Forces Program which had 15 companies in 2011 that hired veterans, noting this effort would now be tied into the SMFL Program.

SPECIAL NOTE: The PowerPoint presentation is available at the following website: <http://www2.southcom.mil/usag-miami/sites/local/GM/.pdf> and is also attached as an exhibit to these minutes.

➤ **Homeless Veteran Presentation**

Ms. Victoria Mallette, Executive Director, Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust (Trust), noted that she reported to Mr. Ronald Book, Chair, Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust Board and served in an advisory capacity to the Board of County Commissioners. She explained that the Trust was working to end homelessness in Miami-Dade County.

Ms. Mallette introduced Ms. Beth Wolfson who was her counterpart at the Miami Veterans Administration (VA), noting a combined goal to end veterans' homelessness by December 2015. She indicated that there were currently approximately 240 sheltered and unsheltered veterans in this County with less than 50 veterans considered street homeless. Ms. Mallette said that outreach teams were continually sent throughout the County to engage this homeless population and to get them off the streets.

Ms. Mallette indicated that the Trust was currently in its second 100 day action plan ending on January 31, 2015; that the goal was to house 95 veterans in this phase; that 57 veterans already obtained housing in this phase; and that 42 veterans obtained housing in the first phase. She noted that housing plans were being outlined for street homeless veterans and efforts to find homeless veterans were underway. Ms. Mallette explained that about 50 percent of veterans were suited for rapid rehousing after a few months of assistance; that 20 percent required housing as well as had serious trauma, criminal records, mental illness and require supportive services; and that the remainder required emergency housing. She said that the Trust contracted beds with the Chapman Partnership, the Salvation Army, Camillus House, and Miami Rescue Mission and that the VA through the Salvation Army.

Ms. Mallette said the MAB could assist to identify every street homeless veteran and to engage them. She noted the need to identify landlords willing to take a chance on veterans who served this country despite their mental illness, prior evictions, or criminal history. Ms. Mallette pointed out that funding was available to pay up to 75 percent of the veterans housing expenses. She expressed the desire to work together with the MAB on employability skills training and employment efforts. Ms. Mallette noted that a Homeless Awareness Day was held annually and invited MAB members to attend this event on November 5, 2015 at the Port of Miami.

Mr. Lombard inquired where he should refer a veteran in need of housing assistance.

Ms. Mallette responded to Mr. Lombard's inquiry that a call should be made to the Homeless Helpline at 305-375-CARE (2273) or Toll Free at 1-877-994-HELP (4357), noting that there was an additional prompts to the Veterans Hotline.

Ms. Wolfson explained that the Homeless Veterans Hotline could be reached by calling 1-877-4AID VET (877-424-3838). She pointed out that a walk-in clinic was available to connect homeless veterans with services between 8:00 a.m. and 12:00, Monday thru Friday, at 1492 West Flagler Street (Flagler Clinic). Ms. Wolfson indicated that about 45 percent of homeless veterans had mental illness problems; about 75 percent had substance abuse problems; that the average age was 50; that they were socially disenfranchised and separated from family; and that they had not worked for five to ten years. She said that most homeless veterans were out of the military for a considerable amount of time, noting they were not necessarily younger veterans because of additional transition assistance program support already provided to these veterans. Ms. Wolfson said that homelessness issues were not all about service related trauma, noting that many veterans in need did not serve in combat. She indicated that homeless veterans did not need to visit the VA to access services; that eligibility issues could be addressed at the Flagler clinic; and that a primary care medical team would be operating at that facility in the near future. Ms. Wolfson said outreach staff was available to go into the community to engage homeless veterans.

Mr. Mario Alvarez inquired about the outreach team and the wait time for service.

Ms. Wolfson responded that she had a team of three outreach workers and that these workers often partnered up with the City of Miami Green Shirts to find homeless veterans.

Ms. Malette said that resources were available to house every homeless veteran in Miami-Dade County, noting that homeless veterans received priority, even though a housing wait list existed. She indicated that the next goal was to end chronic homelessness in this County.

Chairman Diaz pointed out that the eastern segment of the County was covered; however, the south, west and northern portions still needed to be addressed. He said that every asset dealing with the military was represented at the MAB and available to render their support. Chairman Diaz indicated that the MAB could assist by reaching out to developers for beds. He said the Trust was the designated body to work with the VA and everyone else was an asset to bring to the table. Chairman Diaz noted he wanted to help achieve the goal of ending homelessness in this County and taking care of our veterans.

It was moved by Retired Lt. Colonel Jorge Sibila to support the efforts to end veterans' homelessness in Miami-Dade County by December 2015. This motion was seconded by Ms. Diana Gonzalez, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 13-0.

Following the vote, Mr. Kevin Humes inquired whether there were any specific guidelines for developers/landlords.

Ms. Malette noted that the County's public housing agency conducted a meet and greet with landlords and had a client list of 8,000 landlords. She said that the Trust participated in a presentation with the VA on the HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) Voucher Program which provided rental assistance for homeless veterans along with case management and clinical services.

Ms. Wolfson clarified that HUD-VASH was a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program, noting that interested landlords should register as a Section 8 landlord with the local housing authority. She said that the housing authority inspected potential properties and that the VA staff conducted the clinical services, noting that housing alone was not sufficient to solve homelessness issues.

Mr. Humes asked Ms. Wolfson to discuss the pension and attendant benefits available for veterans between the ages 65 and 85.

Ms. Wolfson noted that veterans eligible for non-service connected pension could receive an aid and attendant supplement. She said a veteran needed to be permanently and totally disabled from any occupation and must have served at least one day during a war-time period to be eligible for up to approximately \$1,300 per month.

Ms. Mallette pointed out that the Trust did not discriminate and provided assistance to veterans who were dishonorably discharged.

Chairman Diaz said the MAB wanted to be a part of ending homelessness and asked Mr. Mario Alvarez to be the MAB liaison on homelessness issues along with Mr. Gustavo Cruz. He noted he knew someone with 22,000 rental units and would assist in bringing the parties together.

Officer Victor Milian commented that law enforcement saw homeless veterans at their worst. He pointed out that the established telephone numbers were not answered in the middle of the night and recommended that a specific telephone number be established for law enforcement personnel use. He indicated that a great job has been accomplished within the City of Miami; that the rest of the County was forgotten; and that the biggest population of veterans was not in the City of Miami.

Chairman Diaz indicated that a telephone number needed to be set up that was continually monitored and/or direct access to service providers needed to be established through the Hotline.

Ms. Mallette responded that the Green Shirts worked for the City of Miami; however, they provided countywide services and the County paid a portion of their salaries.

Chairman Diaz said the MAB was here to help support current efforts. He noted a discussion about law enforcements response to homelessness issues at a recent Board of County Commissioners meeting.

❖ **New Business**

➤ **3 Kings Parade**

Chairman Diaz announced that the 3 Kings Parade was scheduled for Sunday, January 11, 2015.

Mr. Gustavo Cruz asked MAB members to complete the forms that were distributed which requested their desired shirt size in order to finalize a purchase order.

Chairman Diaz said that a Bluetooth portable speaker system was needed to assist guests desiring to speak at MAB meetings and other events.

It was moved by Town of Miami Lakes Councilman Timothy Daubert to provide funding to purchase a portable speaker system. This motion was seconded by Ms. Rosa Brito and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 12-0 (Ms. Diana Gonzalez was absent).

Mr. Cruz indicated that parade would begin at 12:00 noon at SW 8 Street and I-95 and participants should arrive no later than 10:00 a.m. for staging. He suggested parking in Little Havana to the west of I-95.

Chairman Diaz encouraged local military units to provide any available assets for the parade.

Mr. Sergei Michael Kowalchik noted that Mr. Fernando Labrada had a camouflaged Humvee that he would make available for the Parade.

Chairman Diaz commented that the people watching the Parade truly respected service members walking in this event. He stressed the importance of wearing uniforms, noting that this community was very big on the military. Chairman Diaz encouraged the participation of MAB members.

➤ **PhilanthroFest Presentation**

Ms. Estrellita Sibila appeared before the MAB to present the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual PhilanthroFest; a yearly event where over one hundred non-profit organizations came together to let the community know what they were about. She noted PhilanthroFest would be a community collaborative to showcase resources at one place and at one time, noting it would be held on April 11, 2015 at Museum Park in downtown Miami.

Ms. Sibila offered the MAB the opportunity to create a "heroes" section that would recognize the military, provide the community a better understanding the services offered by all military branches, and to recruit new service members. She said this was an opportunity to connect people, passion and philanthropy and ensure everyone in Miami knew where to obtain needed services. Ms. Sibila noted there would be a free carnival for children where they earned philanthro-cash that they could redeem for prizes or choose to donate the money to a specific organization. She said the goal was to start with philanthropy, to get the community involved in the different organizations, to help the organizations raise awareness for their cause and the work being done, and to help people connect with them.

Ms. Sibila inquired whether the MAB could assist in securing a United States Coast Guard Cutter from the Miami Beach Station docked in Biscayne Bay behind the location of the event as well as a flyover and/or paratroopers jumping out of a helicopter.

Ms. Sibila distributed PhilanthroFest information, noting additional details were available at [www.PhilanthroFest.com](http://www.PhilanthroFest.com).

❖ **Approval of November 2014 Minutes**

It was moved by Town of Miami Lakes Councilman Timothy Daubert that the Meeting Minutes for the November 5, 2014 Military Affairs Board be approved. This motion was seconded by Ms. Rosa Brito and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 12-0 (Ms. Diana Gonzalez was absent).

❖ **Next Meeting Date**

Chairman Diaz announced that the next meeting date was scheduled for February 4, 2015 at the U.S. Coast Guard Station Miami Beach.

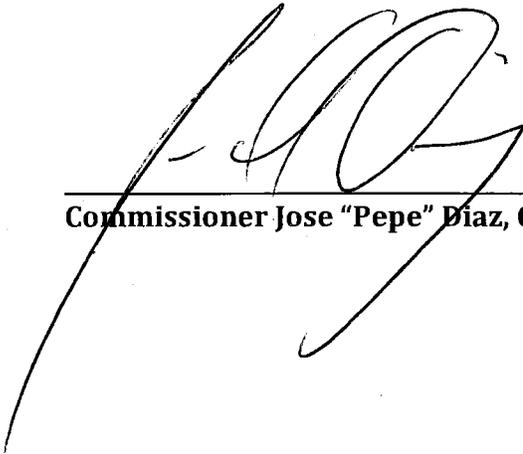
❖ **Other Discussion**

Retired United States Marines Corps Gunnery Sergeant Louis Slagle noted he participated in the Toys for Tots program in Broward County for the past nine years and was now also covering Monroe County. He said he signed up the Young Marines in Miami to be Monroe County coordinators. Gunnery Sergeant Flago indicated that he was battalion commander for the Young Marines with five units under his command, noting they were grateful to be invited to participate in parades and to serve as color guards. He said he was the State of Florida Marine Liaison for the Marine Corps League and a Board Member for their Injured Warrior Program.

Chairman Diaz acknowledged Gunnery Sergeant as an asset that was very important to this community and was always available to serve.

❖ **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the Military Affairs Board meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.



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



**Military Affairs Board**  
**January 7, 2015**

Prepared by: Alan Eisenberg

**EXHIBITS LIST**

<b>NO.</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>ITEM #</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
1	1/7/15		Meeting Agenda
2	1/7/15		South Florida Military Museum Happy New Year 2015 Card
3	1/7/15		U.S. Army Garrison-Miami Brochure
4	1/7/15		U.S. Army Garrison-Miami Transition Assistance Program PowerPoint
5	1/7/15		PhilanthroFest Program Information
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*MIAMI-DADE COUNTY  
OFFICE OF THE CHAIR  
MILITARY AFFAIRS ADVISORY BOARD  
MONTHLY MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
6:00 PM*

*FIREFIGHTER MEMORIAL BUILDING  
8000 NW 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Doral, FL 33122  
AGENDA*

- ❖ **Welcome**
- ❖ **Moment of Silence / Pledge of Allegiance**
- ❖ **Comments or presentations from the public**
- ❖ **Board Member Roundtable**
- ❖ **Old Business**
  - **SOUTHCOM Garrison Presentation (Andy Bird, SOUTHCOM)**
  - **Homeless Veteran presentation by Vicki Mallette**
- ❖ **New Business**
  - **3 Kings Parade (Comm Diaz)**
  - **Philanthrofest presentation (Estrellita Sibila)**
- ❖ **Approval of November 2014 minutes**

- ❖ **Next meeting date is scheduled for February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at Coast Guard Station Miami Beach**
  
- ❖ **Discussion items for the next agenda**
  
- ❖ **Adjournment**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR  
2015!**



This project is sponsored in part  
by the Department of State,  
Division of Cultural Affairs,  
the Florida Council of Arts and Culture,  
and the State of Florida  
(Section 286.25, Florida Statutes)

STATE OF FLORIDA  
Restoration of Historic Building  
For Military Museum and Memorial



Rick Scott  
Governor of Florida  
Carlos Lopez-Castena  
Lieutenant Governor



(Check out progress at new website: [www.SouthFloridaMilitaryMuseum.org](http://www.SouthFloridaMilitaryMuseum.org))

## WHAT BUSINESS DOES GARRISON-MIAMI DO?

U.S. Army Garrison-Miami uses Government Purchase Cards to buy supplies locally.

The Garrison also arranges for local contracts and blanket purchase agreements covering services and products with a small business emphasis. These support both the U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) mission and Garrison programs.

Examples include: printing of newsletters; tents, tables and generators in support of Commissary Bulk sales; jump houses, DJs, banners and performers for picnics and social events; hotels and dining areas for conferences and meetings; and custodial services.

All normal purchases and deliveries of supplies and military equipment by SOUTHCOM, tenant units from throughout the government and Special Operations Command-South go through the Logistics Readiness Center-Miami Central Receiving & Distribution Point (CRDP), which also performs basic supply support during deployment and emergencies as directed by the Command.

**Supply and Services:** (305)437-2700

**Family & MWR Events:** (305)437-2726

**Commercial Sponsorship:** (305)437-3149

## MISSION

United States Army Garrison-Miami provides quality installation support services, infrastructure and force protection to US Southern Command, supporting tenant units, their service members, families and civilians; to enable the Combatant Command to accomplish its mission.

## VISION

A highly trained and flexible workforce with the skills, resources and facilities to provide consistent and reliable customer service in support of those we serve!



**Donald "Andy" Bird**  
Garrison Manager

## CONTACT US:

**United States Army Garrison - Miami**

**Attention: Public Affairs Office**

**9301 NW 33rd Street**

**Doral, FL 33172**

**E-mail: [arthur.m.mcqueen.civ@mail.mil](mailto:arthur.m.mcqueen.civ@mail.mil)**

**(305) 437-2685**

**<http://www2.southcom.mil/usag-miami/sites/local/>**

# all about ... U.S. ARMY GARRISON- MIAMI

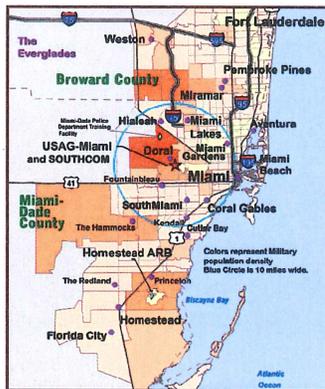


*Atlantic Region  
Installation Management Command*

AS OF 7 JAN 2015

## SERVICES TO THE TROOPS

- ❖ **School Liaison/Educational Services:** We partner with local universities, charter and public schools to help children and service members.
- ❖ **Passports and Visas/ID Cards:** Supporting the mission by securing country clearances/verifying status.
- ❖ **Housing and Transportation:** Arriving or Departing, the Garrison coordinates with the Logistics Readiness Center to help.
- ❖ **SERVICEMEMBER FOR LIFE PROGRAM: Helping prepare those nearing retirement or separation for civilian life.**
- ❖ **Child, Youth and School Services:** Quality programs support mission readiness and parent needs.
- ❖ **Visual Information:** Official photos, Graphics and design support to the SOUTHCOM staff.
- ❖ **Recreation Services:** Sports and Fitness, Special Events and Better Opportunity for Single Servicemembers
- ❖ **Leisure Travel Services:** Local attractions and events, often at a discount.
- ❖ **Army Community Service:** Relocation Readiness, Survivor Outreach Services, Sexual Assault Prevention, Financial Readiness, Exceptional Family Member Program, Family Advocacy, and Military Family Team Building, all designed to keep Soldiers, Civilians, Retirees, Survivors and Families healthy and resilient.
- ❖ *The Whole Garrison is committed to improving the quality of life of every service member, family member and civilian employee assigned or attached to the United States Southern Command.*



Where do military families live? All over.

## OUR HOME IN DORAL, FLORIDA



### Features of the Headquarters Complex and Garrison



*Front view of the U.S. Southern Command's headquarters facility, which is near other federal, state and county facilities in the area.*



*The Conference Center of the Americas is a state-of-the-art facility capable of hosting diverse events simultaneously, with nine conference rooms plus a main 230-seat auditorium.*



*Family and MWR works with corporate sponsors to host events benefitting the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen of SC, and their families.*



*The Fitness Center has two basketball and raquetball courts, saunas, exercise rooms, weight rooms, aerobic rooms, specialty classes, lockers and tournament support.*

## FACTS AND FIGURES

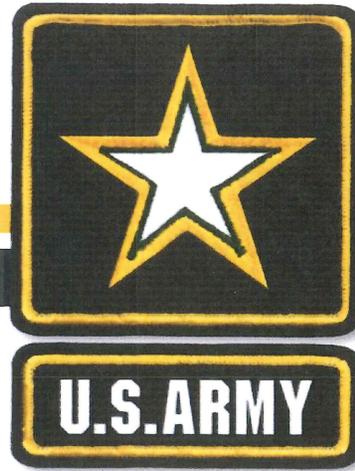
- ❖ **Ribbon cutting date:** Dec. 17, 2010
- ❖ **Cost:** \$402 million (construction start: 2008)
- ❖ **Workspace:** 630,425-square-foot, operational space for more than 2,800 people.
- ❖ **Force Protection:** Single compound enhances anti-terrorism and force protection capabilities.
- ❖ **Weather Protection:** Structure capable of enduring Category Five hurricane strength
- ❖ **Advanced communications:** State-of-the-art communications capabilities and collaboration tools support international and interagency coordination.
- ❖ A 45,000 square-foot **Conference Center of the Americas** hosts a myriad of engagement activities with partner nations and U.S. government agencies.
- ❖ **Support from state and local partners:** The project was completed in partnership with Florida, Miami Dade County and the City of Doral, on property leased from the State of Florida through Dec. 31, 2055. The County/City assisted with access roads, essential utilities and the timely completion of permits required for the project's completion.
- ❖ **Economic Impact:** A State of Florida commissioned study estimated that SOUTHCOM contributed to a DoD economic impact of approximately \$5 billion dollars in Miami-Dade County alone. (Source: Military Economic Impact in Florida Factbook 2014).
- ❖ **Miami** was selected as the home for SOUTHCOM from among 100 sites because of the City's linkages to the 31 countries and 10 territories in the Caribbean, Central and South America that make up the Command's area of responsibility.

## PART OF THE COMMUNITY

Volunteers contribute approximately 30,000 volunteer hours to community projects and events annually.

Our children attend local schools. SOUTHCOM military and civilian personnel buy and rent homes, shop at local businesses, and eat at local restaurants. Our color guard participation at sporting events and parades, and we receive many requests to give speeches at meetings and events sponsored by local organizations.

SOUTHCOM has teams in local soccer and softball leagues; and is has effective partnerships for facility use with M-D Fire Rescue and Police.



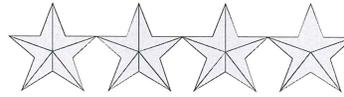
# U.S. Army Garrison – Miami Transition Assistance Program (TAP)

## Servicemember for Life

**ENDSTATE:** Servicemembers, Veterans and Families leave military service “**career ready**” and find an established network of enablers connecting them with the right employment, education and healthcare required to successfully reintegrate into civilian society



# Units We Support



## U.S. Southern Command



Marine Forces South



Special Operations Command South



Army Health Clinic  
MEDCOM



525<sup>th</sup> Signal  
Company



678<sup>th</sup> AQ  
Support Detachment  
410<sup>th</sup> CSB



Logistics Readiness  
Center Miami



Defense Intelligence  
Agency



# USAG Miami Area of Operations



## USAG Miami

New Owned + No Cost Lease

- \* Miami – 654K SF, 55-acres
- \*\* Homestead – 238K SF, 84-acres

Total 892K SF, 139-acres

- \* Does not include 20 KSF LRC Lease in Doral
- \*\* Does not include AFRC Space on Homestead ARB



Doral  
 USSOUTHCOM HQ  
 USAG-Miami

Homestead  
 USSOC SOUTH HQ

Central SubStn & Power Plant

Central AC Plant

AAFES Mini Mall

MILSTAR Facility

525 Signal Warehouse

Fitness Center

Child Development Center



HQ US Southern Command  
(incl MARFORSOUTH HQ)

Conference Center of the Americas

Contracting (ACC)

USAG-Miami Installation Services Center

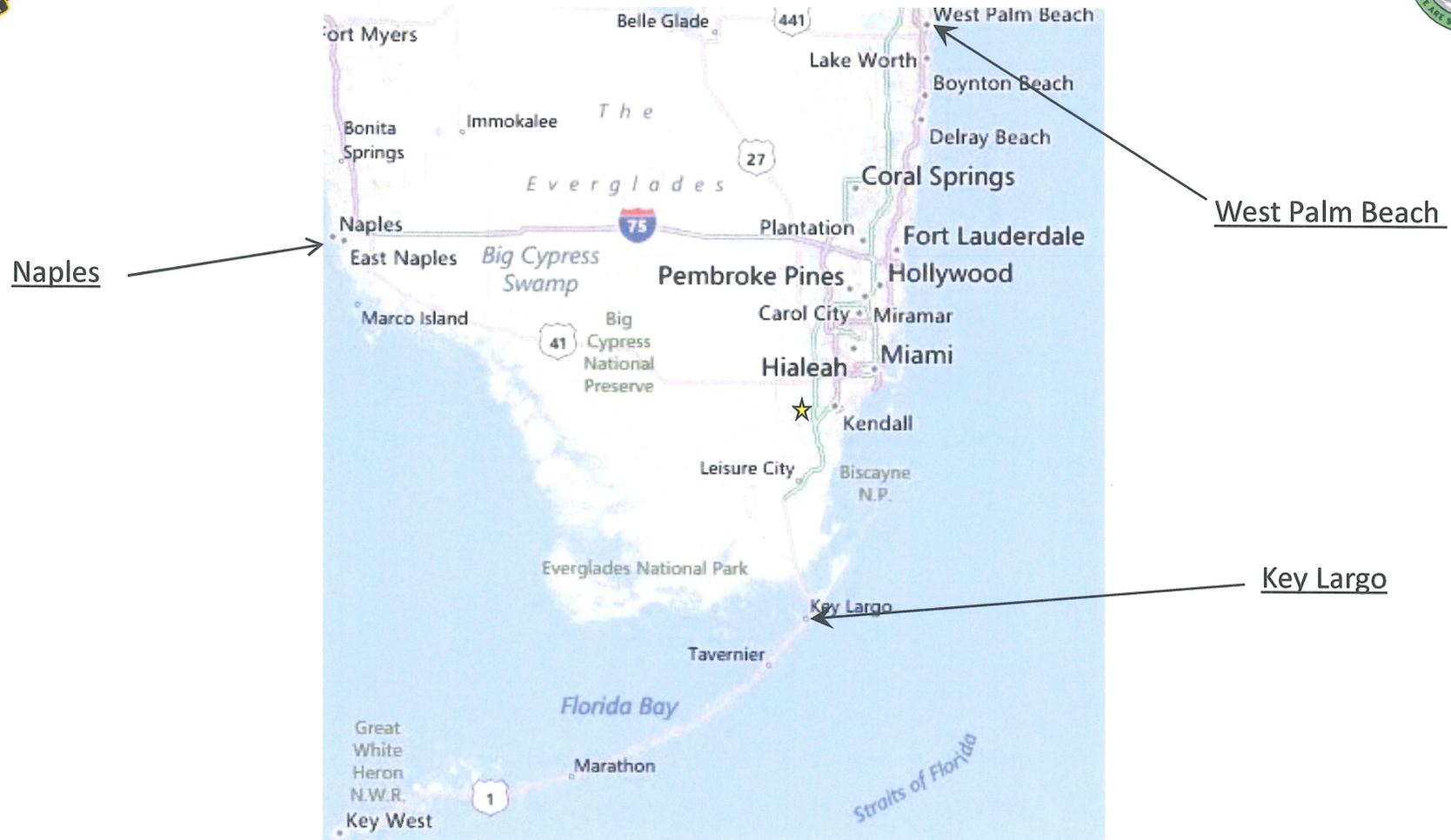
Clinic (MEDCOM)

Logistics Readiness Center (AMC),  
Off-site Lease

Installation opened 29 Oct 2010



# Our Customers



## Population Within 40mi

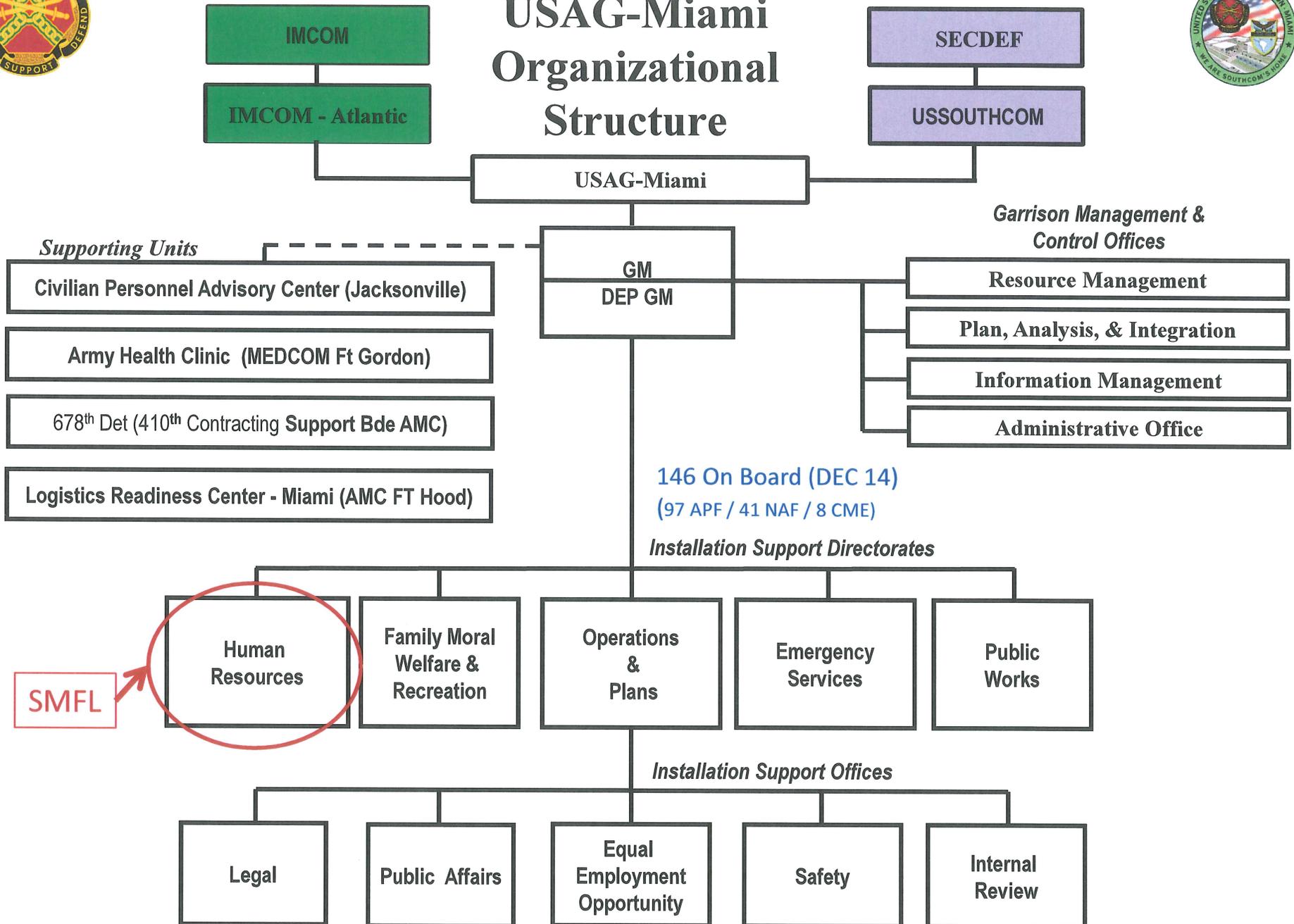
SOUTHCOM: 2185 + Family Members  
Other Active: 1952 + 9083 Family Members  
Reserve Components: 2178 + 3714 Family Members  
Retirees: 9082 + 20812 Family Members  
Total Population: 49078

## Miami-Dade & Broward County School Districts

2 of the Largest school districts in the nation  
381 Children in 145 schools in Miami-Dade  
497 Children in 113 schools in Broward



# USAG-Miami Organizational Structure

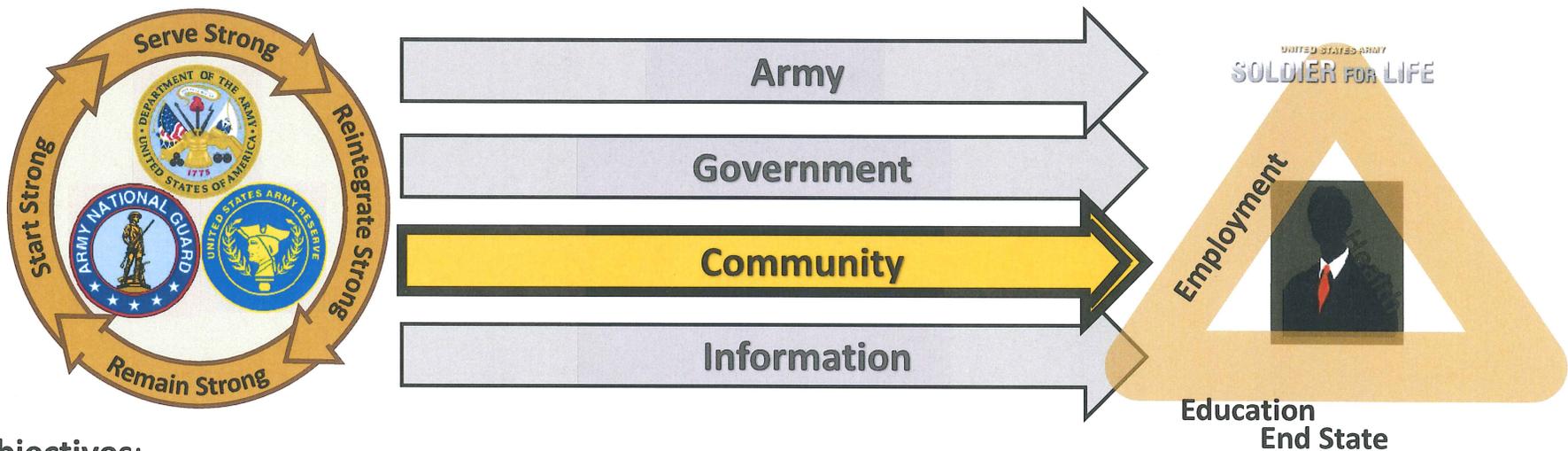




# Servicemember for Life Program Overview



**Mission:** Servicemember for Life connects Army, governmental, and community efforts to build relationships that facilitate successful reintegration of our Servicemembers, Retiree/Veterans, and their Families in order to keep them Army Strong and instill their values, ethos, and leadership within the communities.



## Objectives:

**Mindset:** Inculcate SMFL as “a way of life (habit)” across our Servicemember population.

**Access:** Be the Servicemember, Veteran and Family “trusted agent” w/ employment, education, and health.

**Relationships:** Foster community relationships that embrace, support, that connect and enable, Servicemembers, Veterans, and their Families to reintegrate successfully into civilian society.

**Trust:** Enable military, government, and community efforts to sustain the All-Volunteer Force.

**Help Reduce Army unemployment (UCX).** Over \$504 M in FY12



## Three Components of “Servicemember for Life”



- **Army is the proponent** for “**connecting**” Army/**DOD**, governmental, and community efforts to **build relationships** that facilitate successful reintegration of our Servicemembers, Retirees, and their Families in order to keep them **Army/DOD Strong** and instill their values, ethos and leadership within the community.
- **Transition Assistance Program (TAP)**, formally the Army Career and Alumni Program (ACAP), is the transition program for “**preparing**” Servicemembers through counseling, education and employment-related workshops/seminars to achieve **Veterans Opportunity to Work (VOW) mandated Career Readiness Standards (CRS)** and set the conditions for post-service transition to employment.
- **Servicemember Life Cycle (SLC)** is the career-spanning process each Servicemember proceeds through culminating with their successful transition to the private/public sector upon successful completion of their service to our nation.



# Army Ranks and Responsibility



*Other Branches of Service Differ in Appearance and Culture*

## Enlisted

## Responsibilities

## Officer



E1-E4

Junior Enlisted (Employees)



E4-E5

First Line Supervisors and Counselors



E6-E8

Personnel, Operations, and Logistics  
Department Heads and Mentors



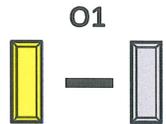
E8

Training, Operations, Logistics and Human Resources Managers  
Complex Problem Solvers



E9

Training Developers, Motivators, Program Managers,  
Operations and Human Resources Experts, Highly experienced in  
Large Organization Vision, Resourcing, and Budgets



O1



O3



O4



O5



O6



W1-5

Experts on the Fields of: Maintenance, Logistics, Felony Criminal Investigation, Human Resources and Intelligence



# Benefits of Recruiting Servicemembers



- Tax incentives ranging from \$2,400 to \$9,600 for Companies to hire veterans
- Servicemembers are loyal team members, driven and competitive
- Servicemembers bring real-world experience often learned in high-stress environments
- Servicemembers possess complex problem solving skills; the ability to operate independently; and absent of clear written policy
- Servicemembers are educated and highly trained in their fields. Many possess college, university, and trade school credentials as well as advanced degrees
- Servicemembers are often vetted with clearances and years of drug-free performance
- Servicemembers are highly trained in standards of professional conduct and ethical treatment of others, and adhere to established standards of performance
- Servicemembers are proficient in risk mitigation/reduction; faithful stewards of company resources; and keep detailed written reports and files

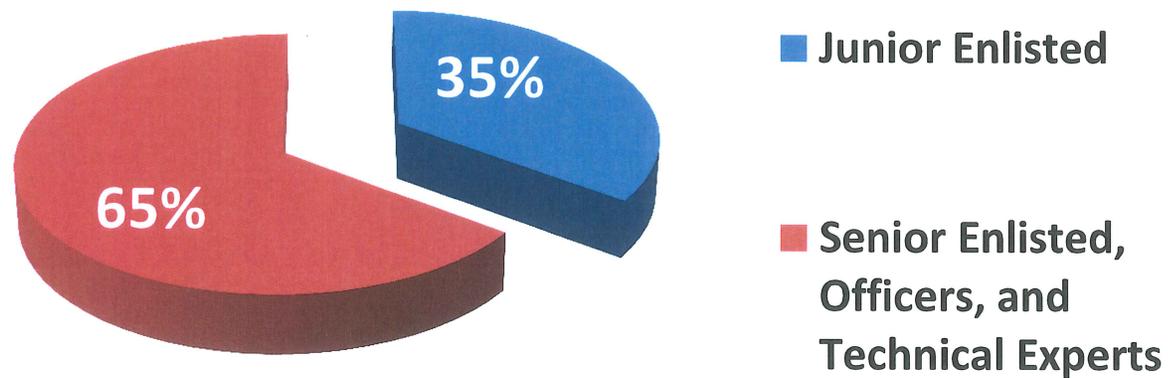


# U.S. Army Garrison – Miami Demographics



	FY13	FY14
Servicemembers Assisted by SMFL	360 / 30 month	420 / 35 month

## Transitioning Servicemembers





# What Transitioning Servicemembers Look For

- Transitioning Servicemembers want a Career – a profession - not just a job
- In return for their loyalty, Servicemembers expect loyalty from the top down too. They want to work hard; have their work acknowledged (awards); and be paid for how hard they work
- The ability to move up, laterally, and to change locations appeals to Servicemembers; they are looking for job security and stability, coupled with quality time with family and friends
- Servicemembers want a company to take action when fellow employees do not perform to established standards
- Servicemembers want what they do to matter. They want to be part of a team doing something they can all be proud of



# Benefits of Hiring your FIRST Veteran



- The FIRST Veteran You Hire is critical. Servicemembers are disciplined, motivated and hard-working. They are also a microcosm of society. As with all candidates, due diligence is a MUST and requires experience “reading between the lines”.
- **Recommendation:** NEW to veteran hiring, or a larger employer, consider your FIRST veteran be a successful, post-9/11, former Senior NCO (or HR Warrant) from the preponderant service in your area.
- Position them within your HR department and empower them in a role directly assisting with recruiting, vetting, hiring, and integration of veterans through the probationary period. Value to your company includes:
  - Skilled at detecting and investigating intangible indicators of undisclosed issues
  - Expert counselors, plan of action developers, and support service advocates
  - Proficient in discerning performance nuances in veteran documents (DD214, etc)
  - Service culture experts that assist in translating resume/interview
  - Professional mentor, sounding board, and advisor (rewards/reprimands)



# FOUNDATION OF ALL SERVICEMEMBER TRANSITION TRAINING



## 5-Day VOW Mandates Transition Assistance Program (TAP) Workshop

Time	Day 1	Day 2	Day3	Day 4	Day 5
0800-1200	<p>Reach Back Support Prior to Day 1 using ACAP Online Ft. Stewart, GA SMFL TAP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Department of Defense Pre-Separation Brief DD2648 (AC) or DD2648-1 (RC) using ACAP Online with an AKO Password/Login ID</li> <li>Within 24 months for retirees</li> <li>Within 12 month for ETS</li> <li>Pre-Separation Initial Counseling by calling ACAP Online at: 800-325-4715 (30 Minutes)</li> <li>Or by service members without an AKO Password/Login ID reaching back to their military service provider</li> </ul> <p><b>VA Benefits Briefing I</b></p> <p>(4 hrs VA)</p> <p>Includes DTAP</p>	<p>Transition Overview (Online via JKO or ACAP Virtual)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ITP Ongoing (Online using ACAP)</li> </ul> <p>MOS Crosswalk (Online via JKO or ACAP Virtual), (2 Hrs ACAP)</p> <p>Financial Planning Seminar (Online ACAP/JKO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12 month Finance planning</li> <li>Health Care Planning</li> <li>Health Insurance</li> <li>Tax planning &amp; Preparation</li> <li>Credit Rating</li> <li>Home Ownership</li> <li>Estate Planning</li> <li>Tools to build an integrated budget</li> </ul> <p>(5 hrs ACAP and ACS)</p>	<p>DOL Employment Workshop</p> <p>(4 hrs DOL)</p>	<p>DOL Employment Workshop</p> <p>(4 hrs DOL)</p>	<p>DOL Employment Workshop (4 hrs DOL)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Certificate of Completion provided by ERP Transition Program Coordinator</li> <li>Memorandum for Record Subjects: SMFL/TAP VOW Mandates completed during 5 days as listed, Vow Mandates required using ACAP Virtual, JKO as referenced</li> <li>SMFL POC for final Capstone DD2958</li> <li>Additional one-on-one support by ERPM on claims, workshops on Resume, Interview, and Federal Government Employment</li> </ul>
1200-1300	<b>Lunch</b>				
1300-1600	<p><b>VA Benefits II Briefing</b></p> <p>VA Applications / Registration</p> <p>VA Healthcare Registration</p> <p>(2 Hrs)</p>	<p>Financial Planning (Continued – ACAP and ACS) (As requested by service members transitioning, or as offered by the ACS Financial Readiness Program Manager)</p>	<p>DOL Employment Workshop</p> <p>(3 hrs DOL)</p>	<p>DOL Employment Workshop</p> <p>(3 hrs DOL)</p>	<p>DOL Employment Workshop</p> <p>(3 hrs DOL)</p>

Conducted: 3d Month/Quarterly (DEC-MAR-JUN-SEP)



# USAG-Miami VOW Process Coordination

**STANDARD: Achieve Career Readiness Standards (CRS) using a combination of Brick and Mortar, ACAP Online, and JKO for successful completion**

**365 Days PLUS = On Time**

**364 or LESS = LATE**

18 Months Out	17 Months Out	16-12 Months Out	11-09 Months Out	08 Months Out	07 Months Out	06 Months Out	05 Months Out	04 Months Out	03 Months Out	02 Months Out	30 days to Separation
<p><b><u>VOW Mandatory</u></b></p> <p>- <b>PRESEP Counseling</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• S:24 Months for retiree</li> <li>• S:12 Months Out for EAS</li> <li>• Available through ACAP OnLine</li> </ul> <p>On Line: <a href="http://www.acap.army.mil">www.acap.army.mil</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Initial Counseling (SMFL:TAP) (S: NLT 365 Days Out)</b></li> </ul>			<p><b><u>VOW Mandatory</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VA Benefits Briefing I and II (S:9 Months Out) <b>Brick and Mortar</b></li> <li>• DOL Employment Workshop (S:9 Months Out) <b>Brick and Mortar</b></li> <li>• Applications for VA Benefits: registration in e-Benefits and MyHealtheVet (S:9 Months Out) (B&amp;M, Miami VA, Online)</li> <li>• An integrated 12-month budget (S:9 Months Out) (Online JKO/ACAP)</li> <li>• GAP Analysis: Military Occupational Code (MOC) Crosswalk to Civilian Skills (S:9 Months Out) (ACAP Online/JKO)</li> <li>• Complete Individual Assessment Tool (Kuder/O*Net) (S: 9 Months Out)</li> <li>• Individual Transition Plan (ACAP OnLine) (S:9 Months Out)</li> <li>• Receive DoL Gold Card (S:9 Months Out) (Brick &amp; Mortar, continuous)</li> </ul>			<p><b><u>VOW Mandatory</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Document Requirements Eligibility for: cert/Lic/Apprentice (S:6 Months Out, ACAP OnLine)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>VOW Elective (JKO/ACAP Online)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Education /Technical/ Entrepreneur GPS (2 Days) At Education Services</b></li> <li>• <b>Job Search/support/workshops monthly, Career Source Centers</b></li> <li>• <b>Monthly, one-on-one, Career Source Centers, Community Partners/Resources</b></li> <li>• <b>Federal Resume System SMFL/TAP, ERP Workshops</b></li> </ul>			<p><b><u>VOW Mandatory</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documented Continued Military Service Opportunity via USAR/ARNG membership (J1), <b>SMFLTAP with ACAP XXI (S: NLT 90 Days Out)</b></li> <li>• Private Sector/Federal resume; Personal/Professional Reference List; Two (2) completed job applications OR a job acceptance letter OR Business Plan OR LoA to Univ/VOTECH (ACAP Counselor at SMFLTAP ACAP XXI) (S: NLT 90 Days Out)</li> <li>• Complete CAPSTONE Event (SMFL Counselor at SMFLTAP/with ACAP XXI), (S: NLT 90 Days Out)</li> <li>• <b>Make-up missing CRS (USAG-Miami quarterly, ACAP Online/JKO)</b></li> <li>• <b>Job Search/lab support (ERP/Career Source Centers)</b></li> </ul>		

This process is intended to provide units a 90 day windows to adjust their training/operational schedule with USAG-Miami SMFL/TAP Coordinator to ensure successful completion of CRS Requirements



# Three Points of Transition Failure

**Servicemember's Perspective:** I've earned this. I served my country and deserve the American dream. I can already do anything in any company I set my mind to. I'm disciplined, smart, and a leader. Companies want my skills, and my leadership; I have my pick of companies just waiting on me to transition out of the military and into their ranks.

**Corporate Perspective:** My company is special. We have jobs and these people want to work for us. But we only want the best. Our recruitment and selection process already weeds through all these people and finds the best. When we show up, they will line up, and compete to work for us.

**Command Perspective:** (1) You've still got time, and a job to do here. We can't afford to let you go do all this now; or (2) you're a substandard Servicemember, disruptive to my mission. I'm not going to reward you by helping you get a job – life, will teach you.

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**\*\* Problem:** Servicemembers and companies walk right past one another; each thinking the other will just naturally seek them out. The more senior the leader; the larger the corporation; and/or the less time to prepare due to command perspective....the greater the gap.

**\*\*\* Solution:** recognize transition takes time. Actively target and market to one another. Companies must remember Servicemembers have options and they must first choose you. Servicemembers need to remember they served in the military, not this company, so they must be willing to enter and work their way up again.



## Florida' Military Presence

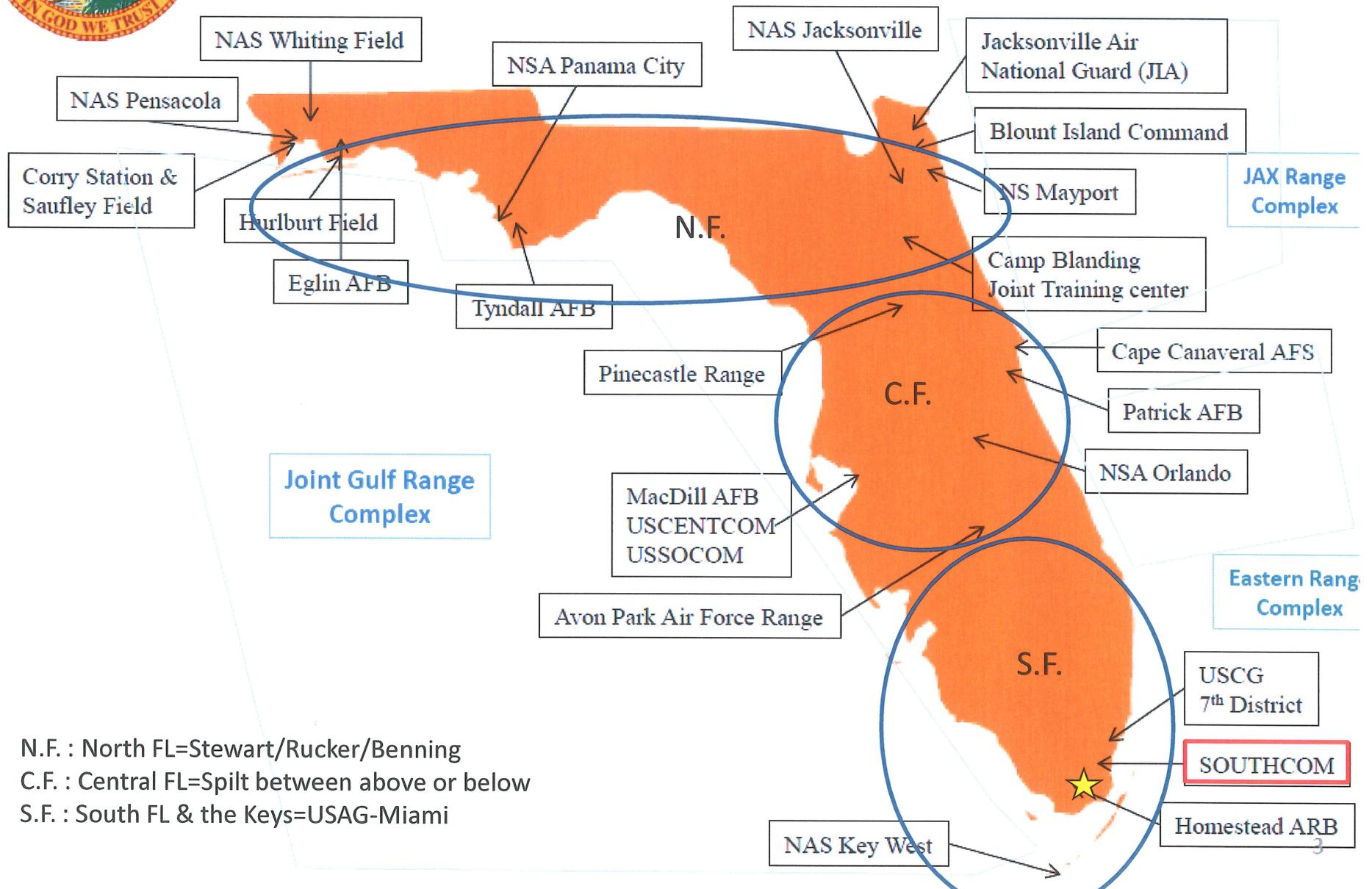
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### Overview:

- 20 major military installations.
- \$73.4 billion annual impact from military and defense business presence.
- 758,112 direct and indirect jobs.
- Defense is 3<sup>rd</sup> largest contributor to state economy.
- Military spent \$31.3 billion in FL in 2011.
- Optimum training environment; extensive ranges.



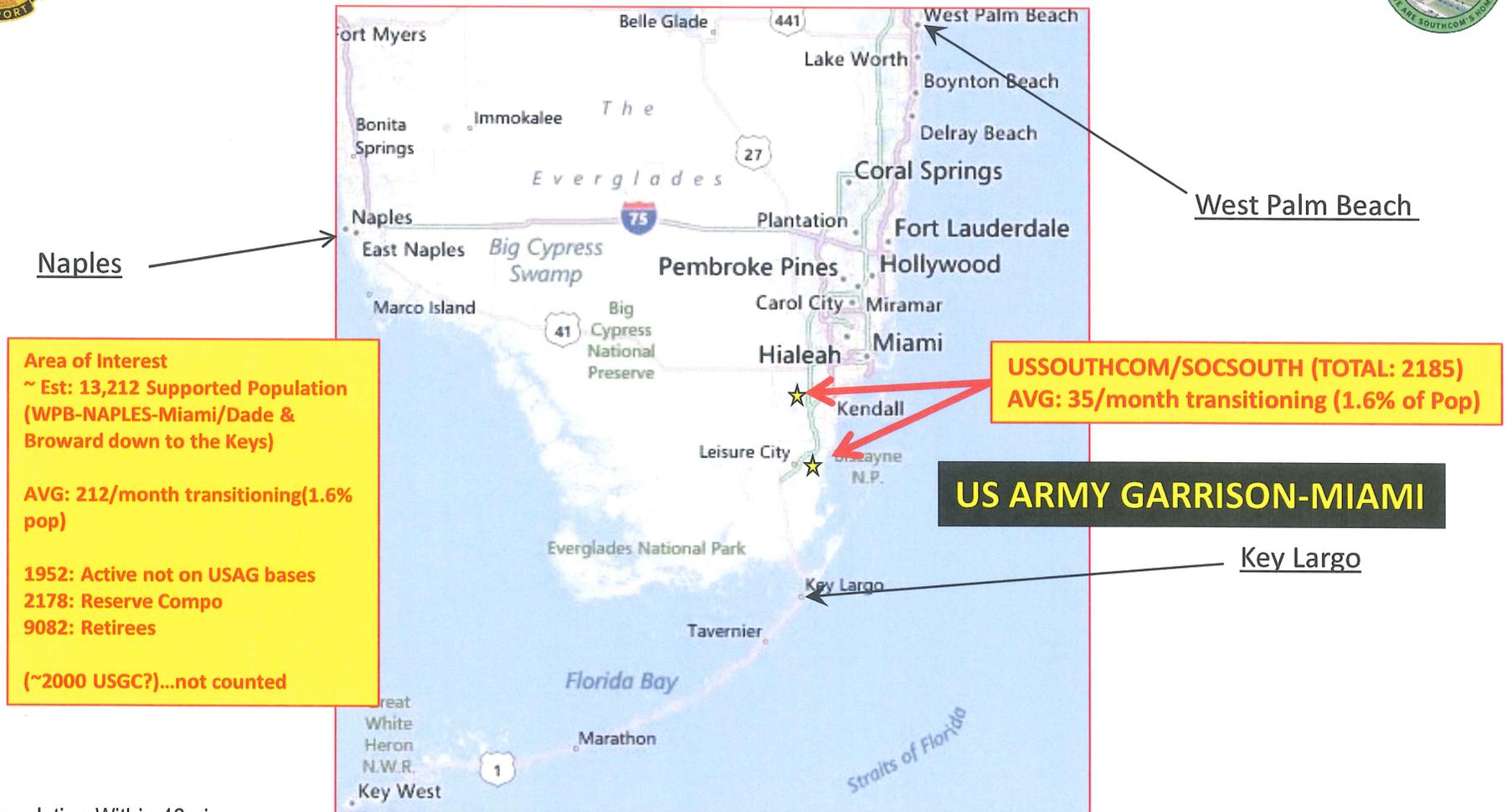
# Florida's Military Installations



N.F. : North FL=Stewart/Rucker/Benning  
 C.F. : Central FL=Spilt between above or below  
 S.F. : South FL & the Keys=USAG-Miami



# Our Focus as The Army's Only Base in Florida



### Population Within 40mi

- SOUTHCOM: 2185 + Family Members
- Other Active: 1952 + 9083 Family Members
- Reserve Components: 2178 + 3714 Family Members
- Retirees: 9082 + 20,812 Family Members
- Total Population: 49,078

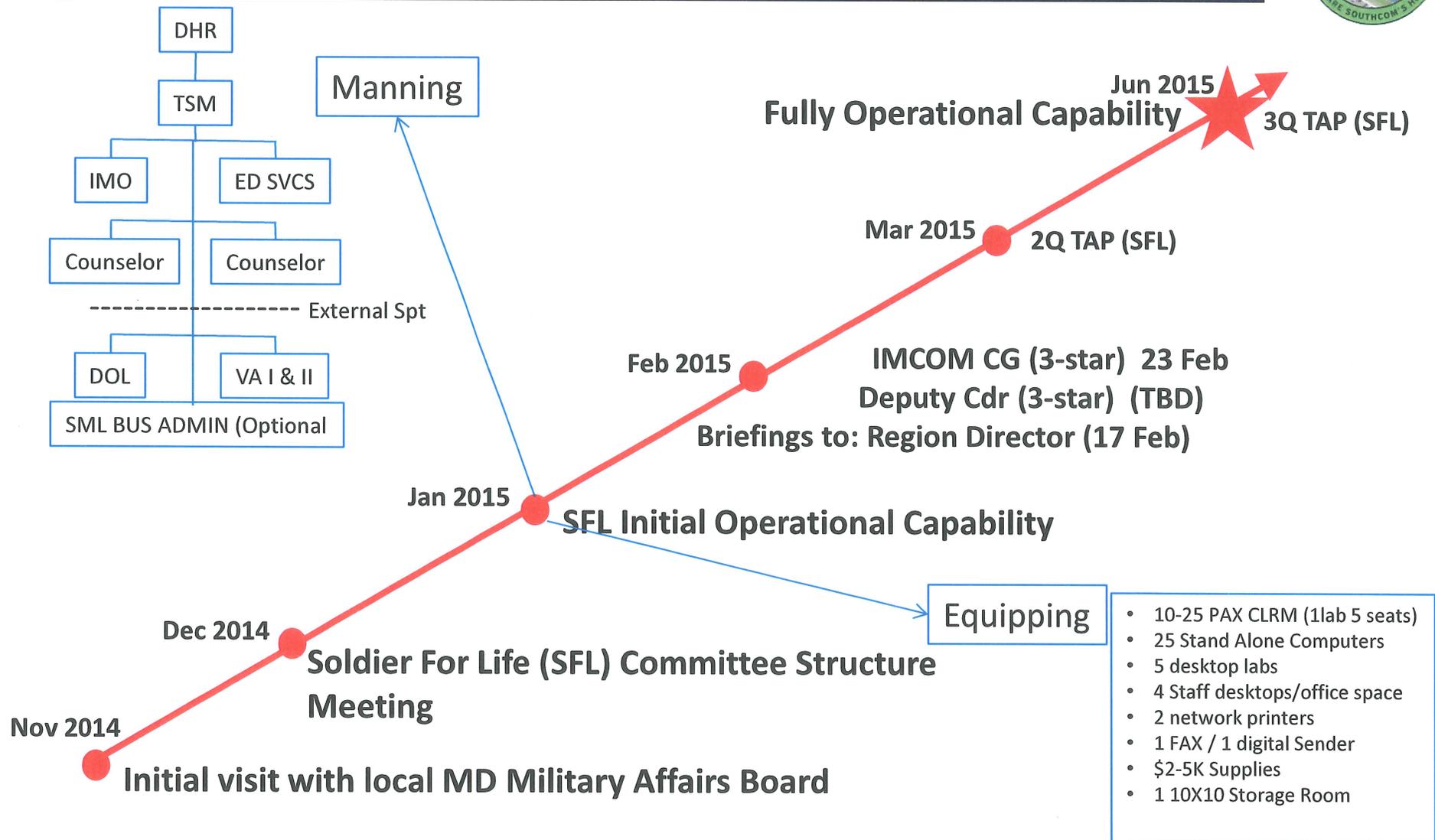
# IMCOM "WE SUPPORT THE ARMY'S WORLD" US ARMY GARRISONS



**SYNERGY**  
**"LEAVE NO VETERAN BEHIND"**  
**"WHO WANTS TO COME HOME TO SOUTH FLORIDA  
 CAREER READY FOR THE RIGHT JOB AT THE RIGHT TIME?"**

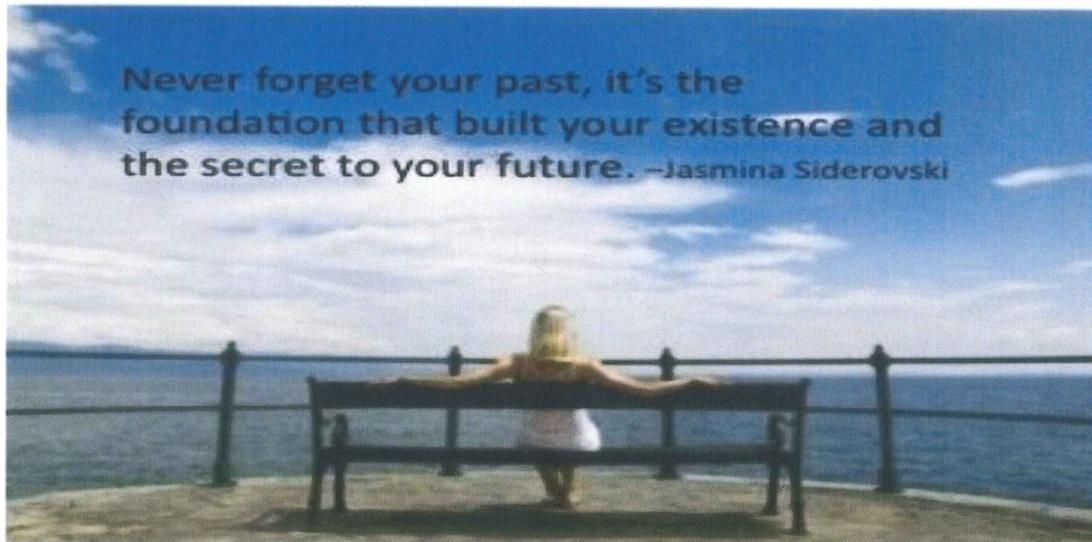


# Road to Servicemember For Life





There is no Fence Line BETWEEN USAG-MIAMI and the COMMUNITY  
We're ALL IN THIS TOGETHER  
COMMITTED TO SOUTH FLORIDA'S  
FUTURE



QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

## Hero City

# STEP RIGHT UP!

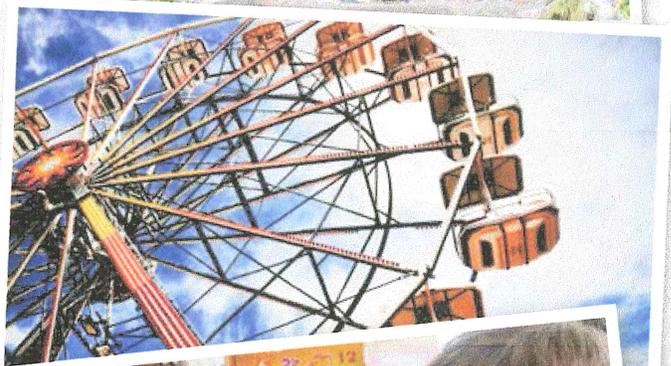
PhilanthroFest, the nation's largest community engagement festival, is back to connect people, passion & philanthropy at this year's carnival-themed show at Museum Park on Apr. 11, 2015.

With sweeping views of **Biscayne Bay** and **Miami's skyline**, the 30-acre **Museum Park**, nestled between **PAMM** and **American Airlines Arena**, will serve as the backdrop for **PhilanthroFest's 4th Annual Festival**. Since 2011, our award-winning show's **attendance has grown by 50% each year**. In 2015, we will bring together over **120 non-profits**, **dozens of artists** and **scores of sponsors & vendors** with **thousands of attendees** who want to share their time, talent & treasure while engaging with great causes and brands. Our strategic media partnerships in **print, online, TV, radio & social media** have yielded **10 million+ media impressions\*** and over **2 million social media mentions\***, amounting to approximately **\$1 million** worth of exposure since our inception.\*

**WE'D LOVE TO  
PARTNER WITH YOU!**

## HERO CITY

*An up-close & personal look at our community heroes and what they do — featuring educators, medics, first-responders, journalists & military personnel. This area includes firetrucks, ambulances, squad cars, K-9s, fingerprinting stations for kids, safety drills, mock newscasts and even a simulated crime scene investigation!*



\*Sources: Burelles Luce Media Monitoring Service, TweetReach Pro, Statigram Pro. Not all media impressions are available for all blogs. The number is higher in actuality. Value based on printed rates.





**Media Contact:**  
Susset Cabrera  
Peacock Public Relations  
Direct: 305-926-9340  
[info@thinkpeacock.com](mailto:info@thinkpeacock.com)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**The 4th Annual PhilanthroFest will showcase South Florida Non-Profit Organizations during their “Carnival of Dreams” Festival at Museum Park on Apr. 11, 2015**

*Family-friendly event will raise non-profit awareness while providing residents with community resources and community engagement opportunities.*

**MIAMI, FL (Jan. 5, 2015)** – PhilanthroFest, the nation’s largest community engagement festival, presents their carnival-inspired event to connect people, passion and philanthropy. PhilanthroFest will take place on **Sat., Apr. 11, 2015 @ Museum Park** (1075 Biscayne Blvd., Miami, FL 33132 — located between PAMM and American Airlines Arena) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. with the goal of connecting potential volunteers and donors to non-profit organizations while creating an environment that promotes civic engagement, deepens community connections and sparks the philanthropic spirit of South Florida.

This year’s event will bring together over 120 non-profits, dozens of artists and scores of sponsors and vendors with thousands of attendees looking to engage with great causes and brands. PhilanthroFest will transform 30 acres at Museum Park to recreate a carnival dreamland featuring games, rides, food, performances, live giveaways and special surprises throughout the day.

Executive Director & Co-Founder of PhilanthroFest, **Estrellita S. Sibila**, says: “This year’s PhilanthroFest will take the concept of giving to a new level with our carefully curated carnival theme. We’re excited to have the community come out to get involved in causes they are truly passionate about. It’s fun and instantly rewarding for the individual and the community.”

To accomplish this goal, PhilanthroFest 2015 will incorporate a series of attraction areas throughout Museum Park:

**BIG TOP**: Serving as the heart of the festival, this area includes mind-blowing magic, “Meet the Characters” (princesses and superheroes), curated programming, theatric performances, music acts and shows that will entertain all ages.

**COMMUNITY WALKS:** Non-profits will share their mission, offerings and engagement options in the following categorized areas: City & Environment, People & Education, Innovation & Entrepreneurship, Health & Wellness and Arts & Culture.

**LAND, SEA & AIR ROWS:** These dedicated areas will allow attendees to experience first-hand the finest in aviation, automotive, boating, cruising, pastimes and accommodations.

**FUNVILLE:** Bounce, soar, learn and unleash your creative spirit with fun interactive adventures for the entire family including a rare appearance by world-famous **Twiggy the Waterskiing Squirrel!**

**GIVING CIRCLE:** The PhilanthroCASH initiative will inspire the next generation of giving by allowing children to decide whether to use their carnival game winnings as a donation to their charity of choice at the festival, or trade them for food or prizes to share with their friends and family. At the end of the festival, participating non-profits will turn in their PhilanthroCASH coins and convert them to dollars that will benefit their respective missions.

**TASTE TOWN:** From special VIP tasting options to food trucks, carnival bites and plenty of sweet treats to go around, the tasty options will keep you energized around the festival all day long.

**SPECIAL AREAS:** Dispersed throughout the festival, special zones will be dedicated to unique experiences including Art Village, Hero City and Zen Zone, as well as relaxing Rest Stop areas.

*Full-day admission to PhilanthroFest is free and open to the public.*

To learn more about sponsorship & volunteer options or for event inquiries, email [Info@PhilanthroFest.com](mailto:Info@PhilanthroFest.com) or visit [www.PhilanthroFest.com](http://www.PhilanthroFest.com).

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### **About PhilanthroFest**

Established in 2011, PhilanthroFest LLC is a Fiscal Sponsorship Fund at the Miami Foundation that connects people, passion and philanthropy in South Florida. Aside from its' signature community festival, PhilanthroFest helps non-profits strengthen their communications strategies, donor loyalty and volunteer engagement by providing non-profit executives with educational resources at Digital Media Institutes. PhilanthroFest helps non-profits excel while connecting the community to their cause - both online and in real life.