



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

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

October 2, 2013
As Advertised

Harvey Ruvin, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners

Christopher Agrippa, Division Chief
Clerk of the Board Division

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CLERK'S SUMMARY OF MEETING AND OFFICIAL MINUTES
MILITARY AFFAIRS ADVISORY BOARD
October 2, 2013

The Military Affairs Advisory Board (MAB) convened in a meeting on October 2, 2013 at 6:19 p.m. at the Fire Fighters Memorial Building Corp., 8000 NW 21 Street, Miami, FL 33122.

The following voting Board members were present: Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Chairman; Anthony Atwood; Larry Rubino for David Conley; Town of Miami Lakes Councilman Timothy Daubert; Thomas Davis; Eduardo Lombard; Joseph Martory; and Jorge Sibila.

The following voting Board member arrived late: Manuel Gonzalez.

The following voting Board members were absent: Mario Alvarez; David Blake; Mark Blumstein; Diana Gonzalez; Kevin Humes; Charles Johnson; Christopher Miller; Don Slesnick II; and Keith Whitbeck.

The following non-voting Board members were present: Gunnery Sergeant (GY SGT) Eddy Fonseca, Jr.; City of Doral Vice Mayor Sandra Ruiz; and Lt. Colonel Michael Stacks.

The following non-voting Board members were absent: Ms. Glorianne Amor for United States (U.S.) Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart; Major Brooke Cortez; Ed Haynes for "U.S. Congresswoman Frederica Wilson"; Colonel Morris Hatcher; Captain Mark Jackson; Paul Russo; and Joanna Sandstrom.

The following staff members were present: Gustavo Cruz, MAB Director; Assistant County Attorney Miguel Gonzalez; Gloria Garces, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz' Office; and Deputy Clerk Alan Eisenberg.

The following guests were present: Dr. Hector Mirable, Emilio Palma, Retired U.S. Army; Robert Muella (phonetic), Vietnam Veteran, U.S. Army; Louis Lalama, President, Vietnam Veterans of America Miami Chapter 620; Sergeant Nancy Fernandez, City of Doral Police Department; Ray Sartin, Mission Continues; Armando Santilices, Cuban American Veterans Association; Sergeant Keith Hendrick, Miami-Dade Police Department; Officer Victor Milian, Miami-Dade Police Department; Mr. Jonathan Borgert, Immediate Past Chair, Homestead-Florida City Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee; Thomas Hastings, Homestead Air Force Base Contractor; Staff Sergeant Jon Sastre, Florida International University Army ROTC.

- **Welcome**

Chairman Diaz welcomed Board members to tonight's (10/2) Military Affairs Board (MAB) meeting.

- **Moment of Silence / Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Eduardo Lombard led the Military Affairs Board (MAB) in a moment of prayer; followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Joseph Martory.

- **Board Member Roundtable**

Gunnery Sergeant (GY SGT) Eddy Fonseca, Jr. noted that he was the Toys for Tots program coordinator and that this year's toy collection drive would be October 4, 2013 through December 20, 2013. He invited MAB members to attend the program kickoff at Dave and Busters at the Dolphin Mall on Friday, October 18th and distributed program information.

Mr. Timothy Daubert announced the Town of Miami Lakes Veterans Day Parade would be held on Sunday, November 10, 2013 at 8:00 a.m.

Mr. Eduardo Lombard noted the Valentine's Day dance, sponsored by the Vietnam Veterans of America and the American Legion would be held on Saturday, February 8, 2014. He noted information about the Wounded Warrior Shootout Competition could be found at www.poaat.org. Mr. Lombard commented that an article recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War appeared in the Veterans of Foreign Wars magazine and presented it to the MAB for future use.

Mr. Anthony Atwood commented that a flag raising ceremony would be held following the Veteran's Day Parade, noting that the South Florida Commander of the Daughters of the American Revolution nominated the project for recognition and historic preservation by the National Daughters of the American Revolution.

Mr. Tom Davis introduced Mr. Jonathan Borgert, Immediate Past Chair, Homestead-Florida City Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee. He noted that Ms. Diana Gonzalez invited Mr. Borgert to participate on the MAB.

Mr. Borgert proceeded to invite MAB members to attend the upcoming meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) on October 16, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. at the Homestead Hampton Inn and distributed information on this event. He noted the FDSTF was an advocate to promote, preserve, protect and expand military installations across Florida.

Chairman Diaz commented that the MAB's Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Committee was a major focus of the Board, noting that this Committee would become more active upon the conclusion of the Veteran's Day Parade.

- **Old Business**

- **Veteran's Day Parade Update**

Chairman Diaz expressed his appreciation to Ms. Gloria Garces and Mr. Gustavo Cruz for their diligent efforts on the Veteran's Day Parade while he was home recuperating from surgery. He also acknowledged MAB members for their tremendous efforts. Chairman Diaz said that a lot of people were watching the progress and could not believe that so much was accomplished in such a short time period.

- ❖ **Review of Parade Line Up**

Mr. Gustavo Cruz provided an overview of the Parade Line Up, noting it would be led by the Florida Highway Patrol, followed by the United States Southern Command Joint Color Guard, motor units from various police departments throughout Miami-Dade County, the American Legion Riders, the MAB, the 13th Army Band, a military asset, the Disabled Veterans of America Chapter 620, another military asset, the Florida International University/University of Miami Reserve Officer Training Corp (ROTC), the Veteran of Foreign Wars Post 4127, another military asset, a high school band with the Junior ROTC program, the American Legion Post 346, a military asset, a high school band with another Junior ROTC program, two military assets, and concluding with the City of Miami's Mounted Patrol.

Mr. Louis Lalama commented that Parade invitations were sent to 28 Vietnam Veterans of America Chapters throughout Florida asking their members to march as individuals in one combined veterans group. He said he also solicited Parade participation at the Veterans Administration (VA) Hospital, noting that everyone he came into contact with was excited about the event.

Chairman Diaz pointed out that there was only one month and three days until the Parade and that it was everyone's mission to notify veterans about the event. He said the Parade was the first of its kind in the nation inasmuch as it was going to be the size of a Miami Heat or an Orange Bowl Parade.

Mr. Lalama said he was busy encouraging veterans to walk in the parade, rather than to just watch it.

Chairman Diaz noted that handicapped veterans or those with special needs would be accommodated and that special requests needed to be submitted no later than one and a half weeks prior to the Parade.

Mr. Timothy Daubert pointed out that veterans in wheelchairs would be appropriately accommodated.

Ms. Sandra Ruiz noted the City of Doral passed a resolution committing police support.

Mr. Joseph Martory indicated that Mr. Robert Muella could promote the Parade statewide through the American Legion Posts and the Veteran of Foreign Wars (VFW) Chapters in his position as a VFW officer.

Chairman Diaz stated that promoting the Parade was everyone's responsibility.

Mr. Daubert suggested that each County Commissioner sent out Parade information in their email newsletters and also placed the information on their websites.

❖ **Veterans Organizations**

Chairman Diaz commented stressed the importance that the veterans' organizations confirmed the number of people that would be participating in order to sufficiently plan and provide them with the proper resources and to facilitate the staging area.

Mr. Thomas Davis suggested that the drop dead date for participation be set one week prior to the Parade.

Chairman Diaz noted that staff requested October 25, 2013, as the date, which would be two weeks prior; however, no one would be turned away.

Mr. Davis noted he did not hear any Bay of Pigs Chapters mentioned in the Parade lineup and wanted to make sure they were also included.

Chairman Diaz responded that the Vietnam Veteran and Bay of Pigs organizations were not mentioned in the lineup because their placement had not yet been determined.

❖ **Sponsorship**

Chairman Diaz provided a draft Parade flier that was produced by Miami-Dade County. He noted that Hershey's and American Airlines were Parade sponsors.

Ms. Gloria Garces added that Baptist Health System, Clear Channel, Comcast, the Florida Marlins, the Miami Heat and the Miami Dolphins were also sponsors.

Chairman Diaz pointed out that Clear Channel was providing banners along the Parade route, the stage backdrop, radio promotion and highway billboard signage. He said the professional sports teams were providing access to their ticket holder and other fan database's and access to their social media networks. Chairman Diaz noted that the Miami Dolphins and Florida Marlins Cheerleaders would participate in the Parade and that the Miami Heat was considering including program recognizing veterans at the start of their November 7th game.

Ms. Garces commented that the Miami Dolphins was making arrangements with ESPN to televise portions of the Parade during their football game scheduled for Veteran's Day.

She also commented that the Dolphins would recognize veterans during their half-time program the following week.

Ms. Garces continued to note that the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Downtown Development Authority, the City of Doral as well as all local cities and municipalities were also Parade sponsors. She said donations were made by four individuals who chose not to be publically recognized; noting that additional contributions from individual donors would be most appreciated. Ms. Garces also acknowledged the financial contributions received from the Chamber South and the Military Alliance. She commented that additional sponsorship opportunities with Macy's and Ford were in process. Ms. Garces said contracts with seven food vendor groups were signed and additional vendor space remained.

In response to Mr. Martory's question regarding hotel reservations and parking arrangements, Chairman Diaz responded that Mr. William Talbert, President and Chief Executive Officer, Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau was working on these arrangements.

❖ **Musical Talent**

Chairman Diaz explained that the Beach Boys did not charge for their performance; however, they required a \$500,000 contract rider. He said Jimmy Buffett charged up to \$1 million to perform. Chairman Diaz noted that the goal was to support our veterans and not to make others rich. He said that efforts would continue to secure the best possible musical entertainment, representing the Vietnam War era, at a reasonable cost.

❖ **Military Assets**

Chairman Diaz mentioned that the federal sequester should not be used as an excuse for the lack of participation and military assets.

Mr. Manuel Diaz talked about the Parade's significance inasmuch as it had never been previously done, noting that the level of participation that currently existed should be sufficient.

Chairman Diaz indicated that veterans were his heroes and he would not accept anything but the best for them.

❖ **Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDPS) Participation**

Chairman Diaz pointed out that the MDPS would provide four school bands for the Parade.

Mr. Gustavo Cruz commented that the American High School and North Miami Beach Junior ROTC groups would be Parade Participants. He noted a MDPS student poster

contest was being held and the finalists' art works would be displayed in the Stephen P. Clark Government Center.

❖ **Event Promotion**

Chairman Diaz mentioned that the general managers from all local stations agreed to either air the public service announcements created by the County or they would produce their own announcements. Chairman Diaz noted that social media sources would also be used to promote the Parade. He pointed out that Hershey's was the Parade's title sponsor as displayed in the poster logo; that the poster would be available in digital format early next week; and that the poster's printing would be completed later in the week.

Ms. Garces urged Board members to follow, post comments, promote and like the Parade on Twitter at #ff@goldenvetparade and on Facebook at "goldenveteransparade".

❖ **Production Costs**

Chairman Diaz commented that 34 cities came together to support the Parade. He estimated the Parade expenses would be between \$250,000 and \$350,000 and would go as high as \$500,000 after including in-kind promotional services.

Mr. Cruz noted the U.S. Coast Guard offered a Blackhawk fly over and the placement of a Cutter in the channel behind the stage.

Chairman Diaz asked Mr. Thomas Diaz to contact Wings Over Miami to secure their participation and Mr. Manuel Gonzalez to obtain Federal Aviation Administration airspace coordination.

Ms. Garces noted that military assets could be displayed on Biscayne Boulevard since one lane would be blocked off from vehicle traffic.

• **New Business**

❖ **Coca-Cola Veteran Initiative**

Mr. Cruz explained that the Miami-Dade Parks and Recreation Department received grant funding from the Coca-Cola Company for a fitness boot camp program. He asked MAB members to recommend veterans to be hired for the staff positions in this program.

• **Approval of Minutes (September 4, 2013)**

The minutes from the September 4, 2013 MAB meeting were not approved due to the lack of a quorum. There were nine members present.

Chairman Diaz commented that although the MAB previously voted to support the Golden Veteran's Day Parade, an emergency meeting could be convened next week in the event that the County Attorney determined that another vote was required before executing contracts.

Chairman Diaz expressed his appreciation to MAB members for attending tonight's (10/02) meeting, considering the poor weather conditions.

Chairman Diaz explained that the Bayfront Park Amphitheatre would cost \$5,000; however, that facility would not hold the estimated 25,000 attendance. He said the fee for an alternative location in the park was initially \$105,000 before being reduced to \$35,000. Chairman Diaz noted he was in communication with City of Miami Commissioner Frank Carollo to find out if the fee could be further reduced and proceeded to encourage MAB members to communicate these concerns with members of the Bayfront Park Committee and the City of Miami administration.

Chairman Diaz commented that the MAB could not formally vote to support the Toys for Tots program due to the lack of quorum; however, noted that information on the program could be posted on the MAB website.

In response to Chairman Diaz' question about the toy collection deadline, GY SGT Eddy Fonseca, Jr. said the collection would begin in November and would continue until distributed on December 20, 2013.

- **Next meeting date**

Chairman Diaz said there would not be a regular MAB meeting on November 6, 2013 and members would be notified of the next meeting date.

- **Board Member & Guest Comments**

Mr. Daubert provided Mr. Cruz with contact information for Mr. Fred Perkins, noting he had restored military vehicles.

Mr. Eddy (unknown speaker) commented that that the fiftieth anniversary of the Bay of Pigs invasion was two years ago, noting that Vietnam Veterans who were not Cuban were questioning why the Bay of Pigs veterans were being included in the Vietnam Veterans Welcome Home Parade.

Chairman Diaz explained that during the planning stages of the Parade, several Vietnam Veterans suggested including the Bay of Pigs veterans; noting that many Bay of Pigs veterans were also Vietnam veterans; and that neither group received a welcome back home celebration. He proceeded to note that the Parade logo used the wording "Golden Veterans Parade, Welcome Back Vietnam Veterans, Salute to Bay of Pigs & All

Veterans. Chairman Diaz also noted that the three individuals who suggested the inclusion of Bay of Pigs were Anglo and not Hispanic.

Mr. Eddy (unknown speaker) pointed out that he was disseminating Parade information throughout the entire State. He suggested asking Mr. Paul Russo, Director/Chief Executive Officer, Miami VA Healthcare System (VA) to provide Vietnam Veterans with transportation to the Parade.

Mr. Thomas Davis commented that the VA Healthcare System was very supportive of veterans attending the recent airshow at the Homestead Air Force base.

Chairman Diaz noted he had made arrangements for the Miami-Dade Transit Department to provide bus transportation from the VA Hospital. He also noted that the County was extremely involved in the Parade; that public safety resources were fully committed; and that Mayor Gimenez had pledged \$50,000 that was not included in the current budget. Chairman Diaz pointed out that the VA would distribute fliers to its entire database; however, could not provide email addresses or other contact information because of Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) regulations. He also commented that transportation might be available for veterans from the VA located in West Palm Beach. Chairman Diaz pointed out that the concert would conclude at sundown; that participants would return by bus after the concert; that perhaps a bus could be scheduled to return after the parade; and that the specific logistics needed to be further addressed.

Chairman Diaz mentioned that the Parade was about the men and women that served this Country and not about politicians. He noted the silhouettes on the Parade poster represented the veterans who were no longer here. Chairman Diaz said parade planning usually begins several years in advance; however, it was the decision of the MAB to proceed with the event despite the short timeframe.

Staff Sergeant Jon Sastre indicated that the number of ROTC members marching in the parade had not yet been determined. He noted that FIU would provide Roary, its mascot, as well as its cheerleaders. Staff Sergeant Sastre said the FIU battalion included universities and colleges located in Miami-Dade, Broward and West Palm Beach counties.

Mr. Atwood and Ms. Garces commented that there were 2,500 student and alumni veterans in the FIU Veterans Chapter.

Chairman Diaz expressed his vision that there were 30,000 people in the Parade. He acknowledged MAB members for their hard work; noting that there would be specific tasks assigned to MAB members after tomorrow's (10/3) planning meeting.

Sergeant Nancy Fernandez inquired whether there would be a meeting for law enforcement personnel.

Mr. Cruz responded that Lieutenant Gonzalez, City of Miami Police Department, would coordinate the scheduling and specific assignments as well as communicate with point of contact individuals from participating police departments.

Chairman Diaz commented that there would be 4,000 chairs set up for veterans and their families and that there would also be additional open space on the lawn. He stressed the importance of getting the word out because he did not want anyone to say that they were not aware of the Parade.

Ms. Garces noted the importance of receiving confirmations of attendance as quickly as possible even before the October 25th deadline to avoid any unanticipated issues.

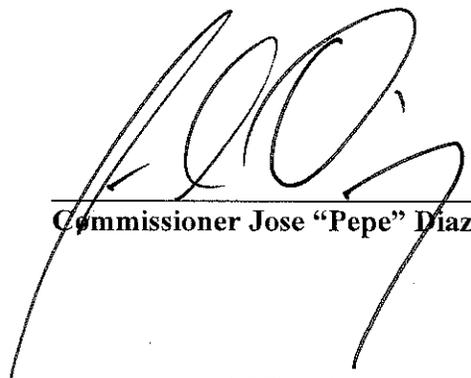
Ms. Ruiz pointed out that the City of Doral's Council directive was to provide City staff and police services up to a certain amount. She proceeded to offer these services to the MAB Board, noting that she would coordinate these activities with the appropriate staff.

Ms. Garces said that she encountered tremendous doubt about the Parade's success. She noted that everyone involved was fully committed; pointing out that Chairman Diaz continued to work on Parade details just one day after undergoing major surgery. She said it was imperative for everyone to remain positive about the Parade's success. Ms. Garces commented that it would be an amazing Parade, noting it was the first time that all 34 municipalities came together passing resolutions of support for a single event. Ms. Garces commented that members of this Board were the best promoters of the Parade and that the media would soon begin their marketing efforts as well. She said everyone involved needed to be Parade ambassadors; to believe in its success; and to be certain that this would be an amazing, historic event.

Chairman Diaz acknowledged Mr. Cruz and Ms. Garces for their diligent efforts.

- **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the Military Affairs Board meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.



Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Chairman



**Military Affairs Board
October 2, 2013**

Prepared by: Alan Eisenberg

EXHIBITS LIST

NO.	DATE	ITEM #	DESCRIPTION
1	10/02		Meeting Agenda
2	10/02		Toys For Tots brochure
3	10/02		Letter from Johnathan Borgert, Military Affairs Committee, Homestead-Florida City Chamber of Commerce Re: Florida Defense Support Task Force meeting
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MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
OFFICE OF THE CHAIR
MILITARY AFFAIRS ADVISORY BOARD
MONTHLY MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2ND, 2013
6:00PM

FIRE FIGHTERS MEMORIAL BUILDING
8000 NW 21 Street, Doral, FL 33122
AGENDA

- ❖ Welcome
- ❖ Moment of Silence /
Pledge of Allegiance
- ❖ Board Member Roundtable
- ❖ Old Business
 - Veteran's Day Parade update
 - Review of Parade Line Up
 - Veterans Organizations
 - Sponsorship
 - Military Assets
 - Miami-Dade School Board Participation
 - Event Promotion
 - Production Costs

❖ **New Business**

➤ **Coca-Cola Veteran Initiative**

❖ **Approval of Minutes (September 4th, 2013)**

❖ **Next meeting date is scheduled for November 6th, 2013**

❖ **Discussion items for the next agenda**

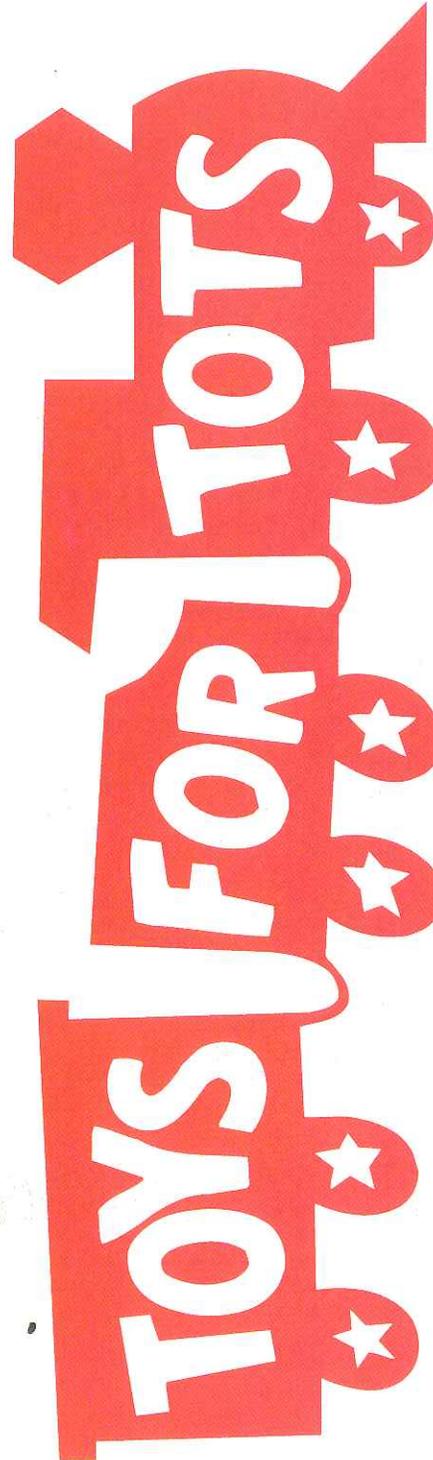
❖ **Adjournment**

TO SUPPORT THE
TOYS FOR TOTS PROGRAM



Your Local Point of Contact Is:

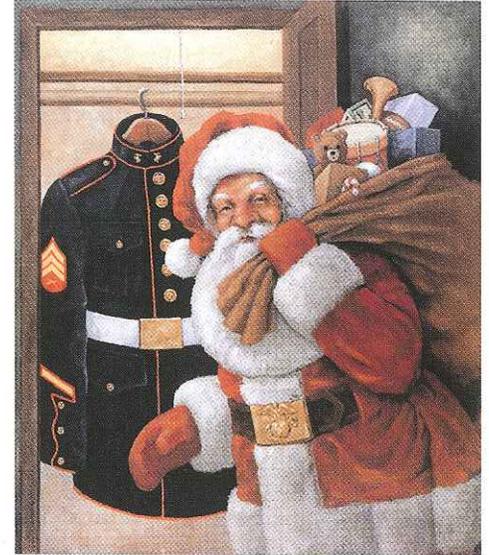
MARINE CORPS RESERVE



Marine Corps Reserve



TOYS FOR TOTS



U.S. MARINE CORPS RESERVE

For more information visit www.toysfortots.org

*"bringing the joy of Christmas to needy
Children nationwide"*



An American Holiday Tradition

Christmas is a time of joy, happiness, and goodwill. It is a time of giving and helping those who are less fortunate than ourselves, especially impoverished children. For over half a century, one organization - the **U.S. Marine Corps** - is the unchallenged leader in looking after America's needy children at Christmas.

In 1947, Major Bill Hendricks - with the support of members of his Los Angeles Marine Corps Reserve unit - collected and distributed 5,000 toys to needy children. Bill's program was so successful that in 1948, the Marine Corps adopted it and expanded it nationwide as the **U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program**. In the intervening years, Marines have conducted successful Toys for Tots campaigns each year, collecting and distributing more than 450,000,000 toys.

The program has enjoyed the support of an array of notable Americans. Walt Disney designed the logo. Nat "King" Cole and Peggy Lee recorded the Toys for Tots song. Bob Hope, John Wayne, Brooke Shields, Johnny Carson, Garth Brooks, Tim Allen, Kenny Rogers, and Billy Ray Cyrus are but a few of the long list of celebrities who have used their time and talent to promote Toys for Tots. First Lady Barbara Bush served as the honorary national chairperson in 1992, and in her autobiography named Toys for Tots as one of her favorite charities.

Today, Toys for Tots is the Marine Corps' premier community action program. To many Americans, Christmas isn't complete without the image of uniformed Marines collecting and distributing toys to needy children of their communities. Over the past 10 years, Marines have distributed an average of over 15,000,000 toys annually, and brought the joy of Christmas to an average of more than 6,400,000 less fortunate children each year.

How Toys for Tots Works

Marine Corps Reserve Units, located throughout the nation, conduct toy collection and distribution campaigns in the communities near their Reserve Centers each year. To expand the nationwide coverage of Toys for Tots, the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation authorizes Marine Corps League Detachments and Local Community Organizations (LCO's) to conduct Toys for Tots campaigns in communities without a local Marine Reserve Unit.

Campaigns begin in October and last until December 22nd. Caring Americans drop off new, unwrapped toys at collection receptacles located in local businesses. Local Toys for Tots Coordinators pick up, sort, and store these toys in a central warehouse. As Christmas nears, Marines distribute toys themselves and enlist the aid of local social welfare agencies and churches to distribute toys to needy children on Christmas Day.

While Marines and LCO's organize, coordinate, and manage the program, the ultimate success depends on the support of the local community and the generosity of the people who donate toys.

Local business leaders play a key role by allowing Marines to locate collection receptacles in their stores; by providing free warehouse space during October, November, and December for sorting and storing toys; by providing vehicles to collect toys from collection sites; by sponsoring toy raising events; and by helping Marines receive maximum media exposure for Toys for Tots.

How You Can Help

Donate a Toy to your local Toys for Tots Campaign
Donate Your Time to help local Toys for Tots Campaigns
Donate Service Support to local Toys for Tots Campaigns
Collection receptacles at your business
Warehouse space
Transportation support
Media Exposure

Make a tax deductible donation to:

Marine Toys for Tots Foundation
18251 Quantico Gateway Drive
Triangle, VA 22172

Marine Toys for Tots Foundation

The **Marine Toys for Tots Foundation**, an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) tax exempt not-for-profit charity, is the authorized fund raising and support organization for the **U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program**. The Foundation provides support to Marine Corps Reserve Units, Marine Corps League Detachments, and approved local community organizations in accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding with the **Commander, Marine Forces Reserve**, who directs the Toys for Tots Program from his headquarters in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The mission of the Foundation is to assist the U.S. Marine Corps in providing a tangible sign of hope to economically disadvantaged children at Christmas. The focus of this assistance is supporting the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program. This support includes raising funds to provide toys to supplement the collections of local Toys for Tots coordinators; defraying the costs of conducting annual Toys for Tots campaigns; providing administrative, advisory, financial, logistic, and promotional support to local coordinators; providing other support the Marine Corps, as a federal agency, cannot provide; and conducting public education and information programs which call the general public to action in support of Toys for Tots.

For more information about the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program and the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, visit the Foundation's web site:

www.toysfortots.org



Jonathan Borgert
Military Affairs Committee
Homestead-Florida City Chamber of Commerce

1 October 2013

Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Miami-Dade County Military Affairs Board
Office of Community Advocacy
Board of County Commissioners
111 N.W. 1st Street, Suite 1034
Miami, Florida 33128

Dear Commissioner Diaz and Members of the Board:

On behalf of the Military Affairs Committee of the Homestead-Florida City Chamber of Commerce, it is my pleasure to cordially invite Commissioner Diaz and the Military Affairs Board, as well as all other guests, to the upcoming meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force, to be held October 17th at the Hampton Inn in Homestead, FL (2855 N.E. 9th Street, Homestead, Florida, 33033), from 8-10am.

The Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) was created in 2011 by the Florida Legislature with a defined vision: "The Florida Defense Support Task Force will be an aggressive and effective advocate to promote, preserve, protect and expand military missions and installations across the state of Florida." As a part of its efforts to preserve and protect military installations in Florida, the FDSTF has been holding its monthly meeting around the State of Florida, to better understand the issues faced by the military and local communities that support them. Further information can be found on the FDSTF website: <http://www.eflorida.com/FDSTF/about.html>

If anyone requires further information about the FDSTF meeting and/or the Homestead-Florida City Military Affairs Committee, please do not hesitate to contact me, Jonathan Borgert, at: Jonathan@eaglebrands.com or 305-401-8107. If possible, please RSVP so we can ensure there is adequate seating for all attendees.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and I look forward to working with the Military Affairs Board in the near future.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Borgert