

The Florida Senate  
**COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA**

**MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, SPACE, AND  
DOMESTIC SECURITY**

**Senator Wright, Chair  
Senator Harrell, Vice Chair**

**MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, January 12, 2021

**TIME:** 12:30—3:00 p.m.

**PLACE:** *Mallory Horne Committee Room, 37 Senate Building*

**MEMBERS:** Senator Wright, Chair; Senator Harrell, Vice Chair; Senators Burgess, Cruz, Gibson, Rodriguez, and Torres

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
	Public Testimony will be received from Room A2 at the Donald L. Tucker Civic Center, 505 W. Pensacola St., Tallahassee, FL 32306		
	Opening remarks by Senator Tom Wright, Chair		Presented
	Introduction of Committee Members		Presented
	Introduction by Chair of Committee Staff		Presented
	Presentation by Major General James S. Hartsell, Deputy Executive Director, Florida Department of Veterans Affairs		Presented
	Presentation by Beth Medina, Vice President, Enterprise Florida, on the Florida Defense Support Task Force and the Florida Defense Alliance		Presented
	Presentation by Jared Moskowitz, Director, Division of Emergency Management, Executive Office of the Governor		Presented
	Other Related Meeting Documents		



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

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*Honoring those who served U.S.*

**Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security**

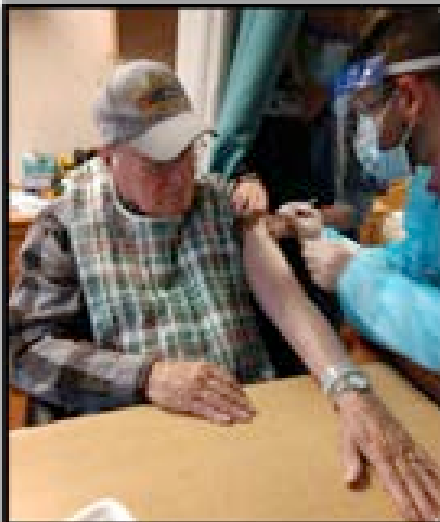
**Senator Tom A. Wright, Chairman**

***January 12, 2021***

***Major General James S. "Hammer" Hartsell***

***U.S. Marine Corps (Retired)***

# Veterans' Homes & COVID-19



# Veterans' Outreach & COVID-19



***Let us return your call:***  
**(727) 319-7440**

***Send us an email:***  
**VSO@fdva.state.fl.us**





# Ardie R. Copas State Veterans' Nursing Home



120-bed Skilled Nursing Facility in  
Port St. Lucie. Opens in 2021.



# Lake Baldwin State Veterans' Nursing Home



**112-bed Skilled Nursing Facility in  
Orlando. Opens in 2021.**



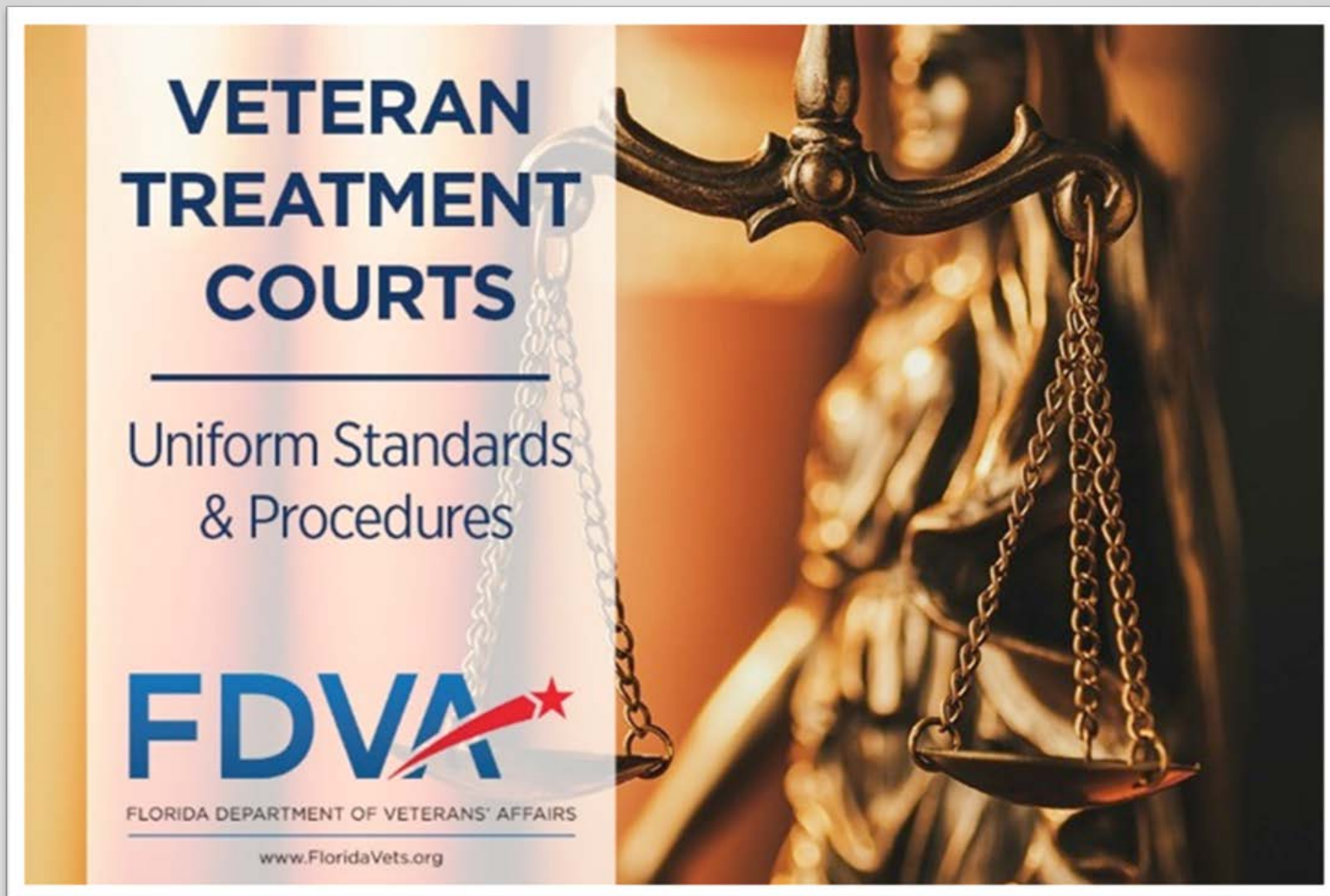
# Amendment 6



Helps spouses of older combat veterans with service connected disabilities retain their earned property tax discount upon the passing of the veteran.

**Passed!**

# Legislative Initiatives





# Legislative Initiatives





FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

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*Honoring those who served U.S.*



***#FLVets***



## THE FLORIDA SENATE

**APPEARANCE RECORD**

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

12 JAN 2021

*Meeting Date**Bill Number (if applicable)*Topic FDVA Update*Amendment Barcode (if applicable)*Name James "Hammer" Hartsell, Major General, USMC (Ret),Job Title Deputy Executive DirectorAddress 400 S. Monroe Street Ste 2105Phone 850-487-1533*Street*TallahasseeFL32399*City**State**Zip*Email HartsellJ@FDVA.State.FL.USSpeaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☒ InformationWaive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against  
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)Representing Florida Department of Veterans' AffairsAppearing at request of Chair: ☒ Yes ☐ NoLobbyist registered with Legislature: ☐ Yes ☒ No*While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.****This form is part of the public record for this meeting.***

S-001 (10/14/14)



# Florida's Support of Military and Defense

Senate Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security  
January 12, 2021





# Florida's Military Presence

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- 20+ major military installations
- Defense contributions to state economy:
  - \$94.9 Billion annual impact from military and defense business presence
  - 914,787 direct and indirect jobs
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> largest economic driver
- Optimum training environment; extensive ranges

# Major Military Bases In Florida





# Who's Who: Veterans, National Guard, and Military and Defense

## Veterans

**VA**



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs



Total Veterans  
\*all components, retirees  
(1.5 million)



## National Guard



Army & Air  
National Guard  
(13,000+)

## Military/Defense



21 Major  
Military Bases  
(AD 65,000+)  
(Reserve 24,500+)



Gov Base CDR Mtg

# **The Florida Model - Support of Military and Defense:**

- Florida Defense Alliance (FDA)
- Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF)
- Defense Grant Programs
- Governor's Base Commanders Meetings



# Florida Defense Alliance

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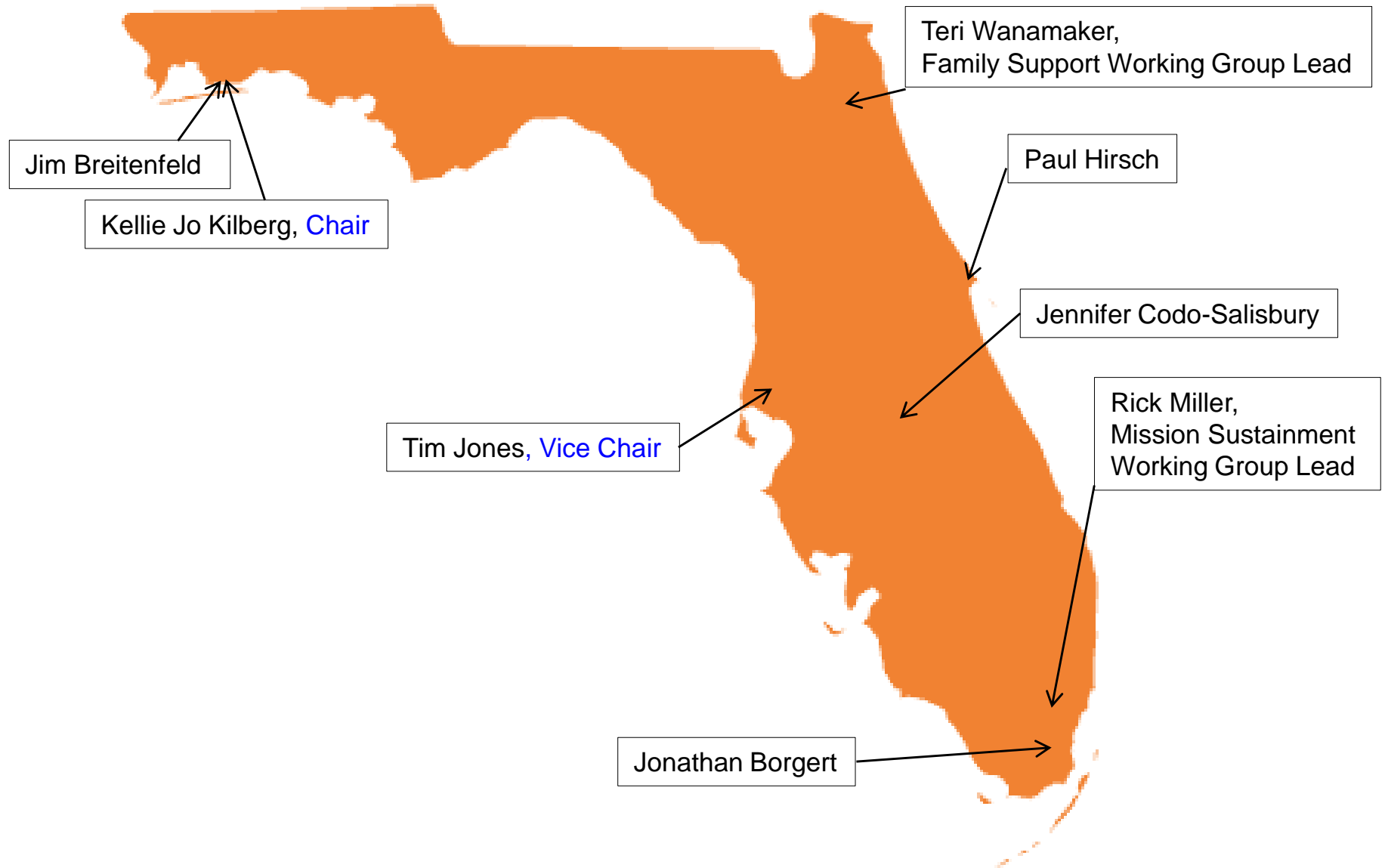
Authority & Purpose (from F.S. 288.980):

The FDA is the organization to ensure that Florida, its resident military bases and missions, and its military host communities are in competitive positions as the United States continues its defense realignment, and base structure adjustments, as well as efforts with the defense industrial base. The defense alliance shall serve as an overall advisory body for defense-related activities of Enterprise Florida, Inc.

## Mission:

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

# Members of the Florida Defense Alliance Board



# Florida Defense Support Task Force

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Mission (from F.S. 288.987):

- Make recommendations to preserve, protect and enhance Florida's military missions and installations
- Increase the defense industry in Florida
- Improve the military-friendly environment for service members, families, retirees and businesses that bring military-related jobs to the state



# Florida Defense Support Task Force Members

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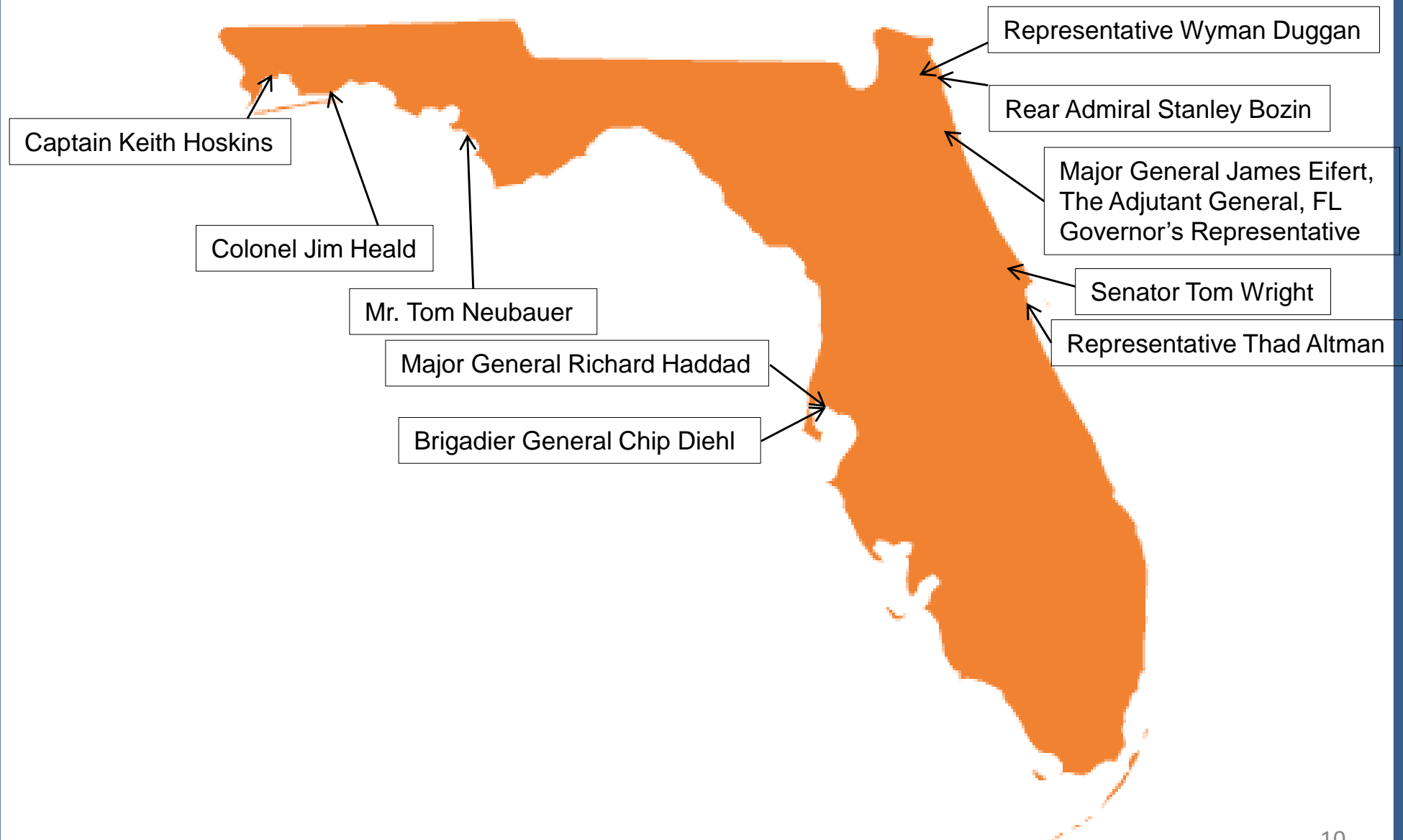
- Rep. Thad Altman – **Chair** – House
- Mr. Tom Neubauer – **Vice Chair** – Senate
- RADM, USN (ret.) Stan Bozin – Governor
- Brig. Gen., USAF (ret.) Chip Diehl – House
- Rep. Wyman Duggan – House
- Maj. Gen., USAF James O. Eifert, TAG – Governor's Representative
- Maj. Gen., USAF (ret.) Richard “Beef” Haddad – Senate
- Col., USAF (ret.) James Heald – House
- CAPT, USN (ret.) Keith Hoskins – Governor
- Sen. Tom Wright – Senate
- *3 current vacancies*



**Notes:**

**Chair rotates between  
Senate and House  
annually on July 1<sup>st</sup>**

# Members of the Florida Defense Support Task Force



# **Difference: FDA and Task Force**

## **Florida Defense Alliance**

- Volunteer representatives from local defense communities
- Support bases and solve base issues with the community
- Bring the perspective of local communities together to advise state level representatives of the community view
- Share and advise best practices and identify common problems where state level action would be appropriate

## **Florida Defense Support Task Force**

- State-level appointees with military, legislative, and business experience; working on state level issues; provide grants
- Promote FL bases at national level; address base issues; support state level military friendly legislation
- Maintain statewide perspective on all military issues



# Recap of 2020 Priorities

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- Secure Space Command/Space Force assets in Florida
- Protect the Gulf Range from oil drilling
- Ensure Tyndall AFB rebuild and enhancement

# Major Issues

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- Prevent encroachment/incompatible development
- Military family quality of life concerns
  - Spousal employment
  - Schools
- Resiliency
- Influence Pentagon decisions on missions and basing

# Recent Efforts

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- Support for Space Florida & Applicants for USSPACECOM HQ
- Coordinate with State Colleges & Universities to develop talent pipeline for Defense Industry
- Modernize Engagement, Marketing & Communications Plans



# Potential Initiatives for 2021

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- Secure Space Command/Space Force assets in Florida
- 2021 Florida Military Friendly Guide
- Military Base Protection Program funding
- Florida Purple Star Schools of Distinction program
- Florida Base Commanders Meeting
- Adding National Guard, Coast Guard Installations to Critical List



# Questions or Comments?

For future contact:

Beth Medina, EFI VP, Military & Defense / FDA Executive Director, [bmedina@enterpriseflorida.com](mailto:bmedina@enterpriseflorida.com), C: 850-294-8854

Ray Collins, FDSTF Executive Director, [rcollins@enterpriseflorida.com](mailto:rcollins@enterpriseflorida.com), c: 850-266-1865

Jake Felder, EFI Legislative Affairs Director, [jfelder@enterpriseflorida.com](mailto:jfelder@enterpriseflorida.com), o: 850-298-6651



1/12/2021

*Bill Number (if applicable)*

Topic **EFI, FDA, FDSTF, etc.**

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Beth Medina

**Job Title** Vice President, Military and Defense, EFI.

Address 101 N Monroe St Suite 1000

Phone 850.298.6652

Street

## Tallahassee

## Florida

32301

Email [bmedina@enterpriseflorida.com](mailto:bmedina@enterpriseflorida.com)

City

State

*Zip*

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☒ Information

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against  
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

## Representing EFI

Appearing at request of Chair: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☐ Yes ☒ No

*While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.*

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S-001 (10/14/14)



## THE FLORIDA SENATE

## APPEARANCE RECORD

1/12/2021

*Bill Number (if applicable)*

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Phone 850-878-4578

Email [rcollins@enterpriseflorida.com](mailto:rcollins@enterpriseflorida.com)

Zip

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against  
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☐ Yes ☒ No

S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE  
**APPEARANCE RECORD**

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

1-12-21

Meeting Date

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic REGIONAL DOMESTIC SECURITY TASKFORCE - ADMINISTRATION Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name KEVIN J. GUTHRIE

Job Title DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Address 2555 SHUMARD OAK BLVD  
Street

Phone 850-294-8250

TALLAHASSEE FL 32399  
City State Zip

Email KEVIN.GUTHRIE@EM.MYFLORIDA.COM

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☒ Information

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against  
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing FDEM

Appearing at request of Chair: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☐ Yes ☐ No

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S-001 (10/14/14)

# CourtSmart Tag Report

**Room:** SB 37

**Case No.:**

**Type:**

**Caption:** Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space and Domestic Security

**Judge:**

**Started:** 1/12/2021 12:32:50 PM

**Ends:** 1/12/2021 2:30:46 PM **Length:** 01:57:57

12:32:49 PM Meeting called to order by Chair Wright  
12:32:59 PM Roll call by CAA Lois Graham  
12:33:10 PM Quorum announced  
12:33:17 PM Opening comments by Chair Wright  
12:33:24 PM Pledge of Allegiance  
12:33:57 PM Chair with comments  
12:35:29 PM Introduction of members  
12:36:17 PM Introduction of Staff  
12:37:11 PM Tab 6 - Division of Emergency Management  
12:37:33 PM Mr. Kevin Guthrie, Deputy Director, Regional Domestic Security Taskforce, presents  
12:53:53 PM Chair Wright with a question  
12:54:09 PM Mr. Guthrie responds  
1:00:27 PM Chair Wright calls for questions  
1:00:40 PM Senator Gibson with question  
1:00:48 PM Mr. Guthrie responds  
1:01:28 PM Senator Gibson with follow-up  
1:01:44 PM Chair with comments  
1:02:04 PM Senator Gibson with follow-up  
1:02:14 PM Mr. Guthrie responds  
1:04:15 PM Senator Gibson with additional question  
1:04:26 PM Mr. Guthrie responds  
1:05:23 PM Senator Harrell with question  
1:05:30 PM Mr. Guthrie responds  
1:07:54 PM Senator Harrell with follow-up  
1:08:03 PM Mr. Guthrie responds  
1:09:05 PM Senator Harrell with follow-up  
1:09:15 PM Mr. Guthrie responds  
1:09:26 PM Senator Harrell with follow-up  
1:10:08 PM Mr. Guthrie responds  
1:10:14 PM Senator Torres with question  
1:10:23 PM Mr. Guthrie responds  
1:10:33 PM Senator Torres with further question  
1:10:42 PM Mr. Guthrie responds  
1:11:26 PM Senator Torres with follow-up  
1:11:33 PM Mr. Guthrie responds  
1:12:16 PM Senator Torres with question  
1:12:25 PM Mr. Guthrie responds  
1:13:04 PM Senator Rodriguez with question  
1:13:15 PM Mr. Guthrie responds  
1:13:32 PM Senator Cruz with question  
1:14:42 PM Mr. Guthrie responds  
1:15:44 PM Senator Gibson with comments

1:17:35 PM Mr. Guthrie responds  
1:18:37 PM Chair with questions  
1:18:44 PM Mr. Guthrie responds  
1:18:55 PM Chair with question  
1:19:36 PM Mr. Guthrie responds  
1:21:35 PM Chair with question  
1:21:38 PM Mr. Guthrie responds  
1:22:08 PM Chair with comments  
1:22:12 PM Senator Torres with question  
1:22:21 PM Mr. Guthrie responds  
1:22:52 PM Senator Torres with comments  
1:23:00 PM Mr. Guthrie responds  
1:23:18 PM Chair with comments  
1:23:27 PM Tab 4 - Department of Veterans Affairs  
1:23:56 PM Major General James S. Hartsell, Deputy Executive Director presents  
1:40:14 PM Chair with question  
1:41:13 PM Major General Hartsell responds and continues to present  
1:42:24 PM Chair calls for questions  
1:42:37 PM Senator Harrell with question  
1:42:45 PM Major General Hartsell responds  
1:45:09 PM Senator Harrell with follow-up  
1:45:18 PM Major General Hartsell responds  
1:46:16 PM Senator Burgess with question  
1:49:36 PM Major General Hartsell responds  
1:50:57 PM Chair with question  
1:51:05 PM Major General Hartsell responds  
1:51:17 PM Chair with follow-up  
1:51:23 PM Major General Hartsell responds  
1:51:56 PM Chair with comments  
1:52:02 PM Major General Hartsell responds  
1:54:22 PM Chair with comments  
1:55:27 PM Tab 5 - Enterprise Florida  
1:55:38 PM Chair with comments  
1:55:38 PM Ms. Beth Medina, Vice-President, Enterprise Florida  
1:55:43 PM Ms. Beth Medina with comments and presentation  
2:04:56 PM Mr. Raymond Collins, Executive Director, Florida Defense Support Task Force presents  
2:09:34 PM Senator Burgess with comments  
2:09:52 PM Mr. Collins responds  
2:10:20 PM Ms. Beth Medina presents  
2:13:13 PM Chair with question  
2:13:20 PM Ms. Medina responds  
2:17:18 PM Chair with question  
2:17:24 PM Ms. Medina responds  
2:17:35 PM Chair with comments  
2:17:42 PM Ms. Medina continues  
2:19:15 PM Chair with question  
2:19:20 PM Ms. Medina responds  
2:20:32 PM Chair calls for questions  
2:20:39 PM Senator Harrell with question  
2:20:56 PM Ms. Medina responds  
2:23:14 PM Senator Harrell with follow-up  
2:23:21 PM Chair with comments

**2:23:41 PM** Ms. Medina responds  
**2:24:12 PM** Senator Gibson with question  
**2:24:25 PM** Ms. Medina responds  
**2:26:18 PM** Senator Gibson with follow-up  
**2:26:25 PM** Ms. Medina responds  
**2:27:08 PM** Chair with comments  
**2:27:40 PM** Senator Gibson with comments  
**2:28:41 PM** Chair with comments  
**2:29:12 PM** Senator Gibson with comments  
**2:29:42 PM** Chair with response  
**2:29:57 PM** Chair with comments  
**2:30:19 PM** Senator Burgess moved to adjourn  
**2:30:33 PM** Meeting adjourned



\*Due to technical difficulties, Comments are not included in the meeting Audio Recordings. If additional information is needed, please contact the Military Affairs Comm. He.

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Meeting Date

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic

FDVA

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

DAVID M. SANDAN

Job Title

STATESMAN Retired Senator Citizen with son of

Address

66 WINTERS REEF DR

Phone

352 804 8597

Street

City

FRUITLAND PARK FL. 34731

State

Zip

Email

golferdave1955@gmail.com

Speaking:

☐

For

☐

Against

☒

Information

Waive Speaking:

☐

In Support

☐

Against

(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing

CITIZENS of Florida / Families of Veterans

Appearing at request of Chair:

☐

Yes

☒

No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature:

☐

Yes

☒

No

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