

# South Carolina Military Department

Annual Report  
FY 2021



# The State of South Carolina Military Department



R. VAN MCCARTY  
MAJOR GENERAL  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
1 NATIONAL GUARD ROAD  
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29201-4752

October 1, 2021

Dear Supporters of the South Carolina Military Department:

It is an honor to present the South Carolina Military Department's fiscal year 2021 annual magazine highlighting the accomplishments of the Soldiers, Airmen, state and federal employees, volunteers, and family members that contribute to the organization.

In fiscal year 2021 the South Carolina Military Department continued to accomplish the mission as we navigated what the new normal looks like in the sustained COVID-19 environment. The South Carolina Air National Guard successfully completed a deployment to Prince Sultan Air Base in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in order to help bolster defensive capabilities against threats in the region. The South Carolina Army National Guard supported the 59th Presidential Inauguration in our nation's capital in January, and were there to answer the call in Louisiana when the citizens needed our help in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida this past September. Youth ChalleNGe and STARBASE were able to implement their curriculum to graduate students of their respective programs. The South Carolina Emergency Management Division, South Carolina State Guard, and South Carolina National Guard continue to support the COVID-19 response efforts in the state. This past September we also recognized the 20th anniversary of the attacks on our nation. We paid tribute to the hard work and sacrifices of our Soldiers and Airmen, past and present, who contributed to the efforts to protect our nation over the past 20 years.

This is just a portion of what our service members, employees, and families accomplished this past year, and I am proud to be part of this great organization. I know that we will continue to be successful in the new year with more scheduled deployments, fielding of new equipment, and maintaining a ready and responsible force that is prepared to provide support to the state of South Carolina.

We thank you for your continued support and hope you take the time to review the achievements of the South Carolina Military Department throughout this magazine.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Van McCarty".

R. Van McCarty  
Major General, SCNG  
The Adjutant General

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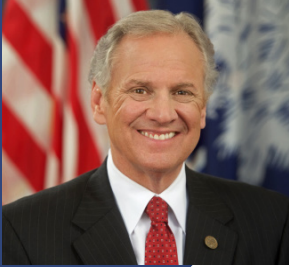
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# SOUTH CAROLINA NATIONAL GUARD LEADERSHIP



**Governor Henry McMaster**  
*Governor of South Carolina*

Gov. McMaster serves as the 117th Governor of South Carolina beginning January 2017. The Governor by law is the Commander in Chief for the South Carolina National Guard.



**Major General R. Van McCarty**  
*The Adjutant General, South Carolina*

Maj. Gen. McCarty serves as the 29th adjutant general for South Carolina, and head of the South Carolina Military Department. He administers the affairs of the South Carolina Army and Air National Guard, the South Carolina Emergency Management Division, the State Guard, and the Youth ChalleNGe and Job ChalleNGe programs, South Carolina Military Museum, and STARBASE.



**Brigadier General Jeffrey Jones**  
*Deputy Adjutant General*

Brig. Gen. Jones serves as deputy adjutant general and is responsible for monitoring the state readiness. In addition, he supervises the administrative activities and daily operations of the South Carolina Military Department.



**Brigadier General David M. Jenkins**  
*Assistant Adjutant General - Army*

Brig. Gen. Jenkins serves as the assistant adjutant general for Army National Guard and dual status commander during military support to civilian authorities missions.



**Major General Brad Owens**  
*Director of the Joint Staff*

Maj. Gen. Owens serves as the director of the joint staff, overseeing and directing the administration of all South Carolina National Guard joint staff programs supporting South Carolina domestic response and homeland defense contingency operations.



**Command Chief Master Sgt. Camille Caldwell**  
*Command Senior Enlisted Leader*

Chief Master Sgt. Camille Caldwell serves as the senior enlisted leader for the South Carolina National Guard and serves as the advisor to the adjutant general and other key leaders on matters of health and welfare of the state's enlisted service members.



**Chief Warrant Officer 5 Raymond Evans**  
*State Command Chief Warrant Officer*

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Evans serves as the personal advisor to the adjutant general for South Carolina for all warrant officer related issues, and career management for warrant officers in the South Carolina National Guard.



**Brigadier General Boris Armstrong**  
*Chief of Staff - Air*

Brig. Gen. Armstrong serves as the chief of staff for the South Carolina Air National Guard. He supervises the preparation of plans, policies, and programs for the Air National Guard units assigned to the state, as well as advises and assists the adjutant general in their execution.



**Brigadier General Akshai Gandhi**  
*Assistant Adjutant General - Air*

Brig. Gen. Akshai Gandhi serves as the assistant adjutant general for the Air National Guard and oversees operations on matters pertaining to the more than 1,300 Airmen in the South Carolina Air National Guard.



U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 132nd Military Police Company, South Carolina National Guard, participated in a multi-component exercise during their annual training at Fort Stewart, Georgia, July 20, 2021, providing route security, route regulation enforcement, and traffic control point operations. The exercise included units from the active duty, Army National Guard, and the Army Reserve. The 125th Multi-Role Bridging Company, South Carolina National Guard, also supported the exercise providing bridging assets to conduct a wet gap crossing operation. (Courtesy photo)

## MISSION

Provide ready forces to conduct operations that support and defend our fellow citizens, the Constitution of the United States of America and South Carolina, whenever and wherever the threat arises or the need exists.

## VISION

The South Carolina Military Department is a premier organization of diverse Soldiers, Airmen, and civilians who are ready, relevant, resilient, and responsible to our communities, state, and nation in time of need - led by Competent, Capable, Caring, and Professional leaders.



U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with Company A, 1-151st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, South Carolina Army National Guard, conducted aerial gunnery and practiced firing techniques over drill weekend at Poinsett Electronic Combat Range in Sumter, South Carolina April 16, 2021. The aircrews fired both 30mm rounds and rockets and the training allowed Soldiers to sharpen their maintenance, refueling, and armory skills with their assigned AH-64 Apache helicopters during the three day training. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Brian Calhoun, 108th Public Affairs Detachment)



## STRATEGIC GOALS

Promote a cohesive, disciplined, and resilient organizational culture, where our people are trained, knowledgeable, and mentor each other in a positive, supportive environment; maintain trained and ready forces for the defense of our country and emergency support of our communities by investing in innovative individual and collective training opportunities and world-class facilities; and strengthen and leverage current relationships while identifying opportunities for mutually beneficial partnerships to maximize future competitiveness.

Senior leaders with the South Carolina National Guard visited U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers and Colombian Army soldiers conducting training at the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) at Fort Polk, Louisiana, June 15, 2021. U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Van McCarty, the adjutant general for South Carolina, U.S. Army Col. Edward Cloyd, 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade commander, and U.S. Army Col. John McElveen, 59th Aviation Troop Command commander, visited with Soldiers from the 1-118th Infantry Battalion, the 1-151st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, and Company B, 2-238th General Support Aviation Battalion, each from the South Carolina National Guard, as well as a platoon from the Colombian Army Counternarcotics Brigade, during their training at JRTC. (Courtesy photo)

### PEOPLE:


- SET THE CONDITIONS
- PROMOTE GROWTH
- CHANGE THE CLIMATE

### READINESS:

- BALANCE THE STRUCTURE
- MODERNIZE FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT
- INNOVATE TRAINING

### PARTNERSHIPS:

- EVALUATE & OPTIMIZE
- IDENTIFY & DEVELOP



U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers from South Carolina National Guard units across the state participated in the state-level Best Warrior Competition, March 5, 2021 at the McCrady Training Center in Eastover, South Carolina. The Best Warrior Competition is an annual event held by the South Carolina National Guard for enlisted Soldiers, private through sergeant first class. The competition entails both mental and physical tasks. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Brian Calhoun, 108th Public Affairs Detachment)

# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD



By Sgt. Chelsea Baker

## Joint Force Headquarters

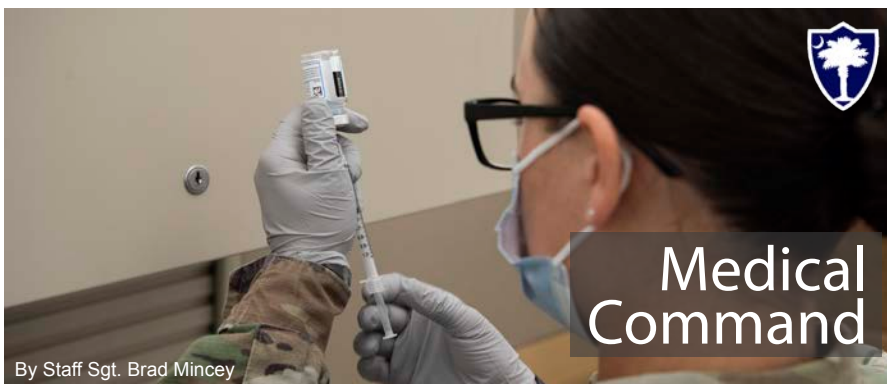
Joint Force Headquarters provides command and control, timely, effective, and accurate personnel support to all Soldiers assigned and attached, while simultaneously managing vital training, deployable statistics, logistical readiness, and Major Support Command personnel vacancies. The unit is headquartered in Columbia, South Carolina.

By Sgt. 1st Class Kimberly Calkins



## 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade

218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade is a mission tailored force that conducts support area operations, maneuver support operations, and support to consequence management and stability operations in order to assure the mobility, protection, and freedom of action of the supported force. The unit is headquartered in Charleston, South Carolina.



By Staff Sgt. Brad Mincey

## Medical Command

Medical Command plans, programs, provides, and sustains health force protection and medical/dental support to ensure medical readiness, operations, training, mobilization, and demobilization of South Carolina Army National Guard units. The unit is headquartered at McEntire Joint National Guard Base in Eastover, South Carolina.

59th Troop Command controls and supervises Army National Guard units attached to the troop command, to include military police, transportation, and water purification to provide trained and equipped units capable of immediate expansion to war strength and available for service in time of war or national emergency. The unit is headquartered at McEntire Joint National Guard Base in Eastover, South Carolina.

Courtesy Photo



## 59th Troop Command

By Sgt. 1st Class Roby Di Giovine



## 59th Aviation Troop Command

59th Aviation Troop Command is responsible for the peace time leadership of all South Carolina Army National Guard aviation units, as well as supports wartime mobilizations of these units. The adjutant general charges the 59th Aviation Troop Command with providing command and control for Army aviation missions during military support to civilian authority operations. These operations include, but are not limited to: hurricane support, homeland defense operations, firefighting, and disaster relief. The unit is headquartered at McEntire Joint National Guard Base in Eastover, South Carolina, with an additional aviation support facility in Greenville.



By Spc. Josiah Lining



## 218th Regional Training Institute

218th Regional Training Institute (RTI) provides institutional training based on the collective requirements identified by National Guard Bureau for Army National Guard, U.S. Army Reserve, and active component in support of the Army's modular force. The RTI also provides coordinating authority, quality assurance, scheduling, and accreditation oversight for functionally aligned units. The RTI provides operational, training, administrative, logistical, and resource management support as specified and approved by the adjutant general. The unit is headquartered at McCrady Training Center in Eastover, South Carolina.

228th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade (TTSB) deploys and provides premier secure, reliable, and sustainable communications, as well as cyber support across the full spectrum of Joint and Combined military operations. The unit is headquartered in Spartanburg, South Carolina. The 228th TTSB is one of only two TTSBs in the National Guard.



By Sgt. Chelsea Baker

## 228th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade



By Sgt. Tim Andrews

## 263rd Army Air & Missile Defense Command

263rd Army Air and Missile Defense Command (AAMDC) deploys in the Northern Command Area of Operation and conducts Joint and Combined Theater Air and Missile Defense in support of designated operations. The unit is headquartered in Anderson, South Carolina. The 263rd AAMDC is the only AAMDC in the National Guard.

678th Air Defense Artillery (ADA) Brigade provides command and coordinates the operations of subordinate air defense artillery battalions and other assigned and attached units. The unit is headquartered in Eastover, South Carolina. The 678th ADA Brigade is one of only three ADA brigades in the National Guard.



By Spc. Josiah Lining

## 678th Air Defense Artillery Brigade



Courtesy Photo

## 117th Engineer Brigade

117th Engineer Brigade plans, integrates, and directs the execution of engineering missions conducted by three mission tailored engineer battalions not organic to maneuver units and augment engineer units organic to corps and division. The brigade provides technical and tactical guidance and command and control to teams, companies, and battalions. The unit is headquartered in Newberry, South Carolina.

# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD HIGHLIGHTS



*A South Carolina Army National Guard UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter from Company A, 1-111th General Support Aviation Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, prepares to transport a high mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicle while conducting sling load training along with the 351st Aviation Support Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, at Clarks Hill Training Center in Plum Branch, South Carolina, Oct. 17, 2020. Sling load capabilities are a key element of air operations within South Carolina's disaster-relief plan, and this event provided challenging and realistic training scenarios for ground personnel and aircrews. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Brian Calhoun, 108th Public Affairs Detachment)*

The mission of the South Carolina Army National Guard (SCARNG) is to generate mission-ready units able to fulfill both the federal and state missions; specifically its three main competencies of emergency preparedness/home-land defense, quality Soldier and family support systems, and innovative technological application. The SCARNG's goal is to ensure relevance through the adaptation of its force structure to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

In fiscal year 2021, approximately 5 percent of the SCARNG deployed worldwide in five different countries to include Kuwait, Egypt, Jordan, Germany, and Colombia. The SCARNG was also involved in various Continental United States-based missions such as civil disturbance support in the state and nation's capital, and operations on the Southwest Border and in the National Capital Region.

## **FY21 Army National Guard Highlights:**

Oct. 23, 2020 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with Det. 1, Company B, 238th General Support Aviation Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, supported an airborne-training operation with a CH-47F Chinook helicopter in Scotland County, North Carolina. The parachute-drop mission served as a training exercise for South Carolina National Guard aviation members, while providing assistance to other U.S. Army units, both active duty and reserve components.

Dec. 1, 2020 - South Carolina National Guard (SCNG) leaders conducted a pre-vaccine preparation meeting with first responders at the South Carolina Emergency Management Division to discuss and resolve any issues that may arise as the SCNG moved toward assisting in distributing the COVID-19 vaccine. Attendees discussed and

worked through planning, operations, logistics, and communication to ensure a safe and efficient distribution plan.

Dec. 14, 2020 - U.S. Army Maj. Gen. R. Van McCarty, the adjutant general for South Carolina, placed a wreath at the Armed Forces Memorial on the State House grounds in Columbia during the annual ceremony recognizing service members who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

Jan. 9, 2021 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers and helicopters of the 1-151st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion conducted air-ground integrated training with elements and equipment of the 2-151st Aviation Regiment and 351st Aviation Support Battalion. All three battalions are part of the 59th Aviation Troop Command, SCARNG. The event focused on convoy-security support, logistic operations, and medical recovery and treatment operations. The convoy consisted of

several trucks and specialized vehicles with aviation support-specific capabilities. The air component of the exercise included a total of 10 aircraft: four AH-64D Apaches performing in a combat overwatch and route-clearing role, one CH-47F Chinook, and five UH-60L Black Hawk helicopters providing heavy and medium lift capabilities.

Feb. 19, 2021 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 678th Air Defense Artillery, SCARNG, returned home from a 12-month deployment to Germany, working as the rotational Mission Command Element in support of the 10th AAMDC in Europe.

Feb. 26, 2021 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with Det. 1, Company B, 238th General Support Aviation Battalion, SCARNG, supported special operations and airborne personnel during a static-line paratroop in vicinity of Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

March 1, 2021 - U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. William R. Kzyer II assumed the role of state command sergeant major for the SCARNG.

March 5, 2021 - The SCNG conducted the Enlisted Hall of Fame induction ceremony at McCrady Training Center to recognize the 2021 inductees. The 2021 inductees included retired U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Jewell McCullough, retired U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Stephen Shepherd, retired U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Preston Gee, Jr., and retired U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. William Bryant. Induction into the SCNG Enlisted Hall



*South Carolina National Guard swab team members put on personal protective equipment before conducting testing at a COVID-19 testing site Nov. 16, 2020, in Conway, South Carolina. The Soldiers also assisted with registration and directing traffic at the site. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Brad Mincey, South Carolina National Guard)*

of Fame is an honor for senior non-commissioned officers who have gone above and beyond in performance of their duties.

March 11, 2021 - U.S. National Guard Soldiers and Airmen with the 43rd Civil Support Team, SCNG, conducted validation lanes in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. The training consisted of conducting Collective Lanes Training such as site survey training for the detection of chemical threats, and decontamination as part of their annual evaluation by U.S. Army North.

March 13, 2021 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 125th Multi-Role Bridge Company, SCARNG, conducted training on their newest Inflatable Combat Assault Craft (I-CAC), more commonly known as a Zodiac, to familiarize their Soldiers with the functionality of the multi-fuel engine and the handling of the 15-passenger craft. The new Zodiacs will allow the unit to operate in a variety of theaters to better

support state and national defense security missions and homeland emergency response missions.

March 24, 2021 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 125th Cyber Protection Battalion, SCARNG, partnered with the city of Beaufort and other regional organizations as they conducted their first cybersecurity exercise at the Beaufort Police Department training facility. Soldiers worked with representatives from the South Carolina Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity organization to mentor leadership from the city of Beaufort; Beaufort County government including the Sheriff's Office and Emergency Management; Beaufort Memorial Hospital; Beaufort and Port Royal Police and Fire Departments; and Beaufort Jasper Water & Sewer Authority to respond to complex scenarios of simulated threats and attacks during the day-long exercise. Soldiers helped to provide a real life experience on how best to respond to a cyber attack.

# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD HIGHLIGHTS



*U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the South Carolina National Guard provided security support to the 59th Presidential Inauguration in Washington, D.C., Jan. 20, 2021. At least 25,000 National Guard men and women were authorized to conduct security, communication, and logistical missions in support of federal and District authorities leading up to and through the inauguration. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Brian Calhoun, 108th Public Affairs Detachment)*

April 17, 2021 - The SCNG conducted a dedication ceremony for a memorial bench honoring SCNG service members who have died while deployed in support of combat operations. Family members of the fallen service members were invited to shovel mulch around the Palmetto trees planted on either side of the bench in honor of their Soldier.

April 28, 2021 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the SCARNG assisted testing and vaccination sites in their continued efforts to support local and state agencies and first responders during the COVID-19 pandemic.

May 1, 2021 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 1-178th Field Artillery Battalion, SCARNG, conducted a live fire training exercise at Fort Stewart, Georgia. The training consisted of artillery firing tables and direct fire lanes during their annual training. The unit is required to successfully accomplish all tables in order to be fully mission capable and ready to deploy.

May 8, 2021 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the SCARNG were pinned as warrant officers, after graduating from the Reserve Component Warrant Officer Candidate School. These Soldiers completed a six-month program through the Palmetto Military Academy, 218th Regional Training Institute, SCARNG, in the instruction of becoming a warrant officer.

May 18, 2021 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the SCARNG used UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters to assist with firefighting and rescue training during a joint exercise with elements of South Carolina Task Force Rescue 1 and the South Carolina Forestry Commission at Keowee Toxaway State Park in Oconee County, South Carolina. The purpose of the event was to consolidate interagency relationships and procedures in firefighting, air operations, and aircraft deconfliction, as well as perform currency training for ground personnel and air crews alike.

May 26, 2021 - The 678th Air Defense Artillery, SCARNG,

conducted a deployment ceremony for U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 678th Air Defense Artillery, Task Force Veritas. Task Force Veritas will provide mission command to the homeland defense mission as part of Operation Noble Eagle. Task Force efforts to protect the National Capital Region include the use of radar, ground based air defense systems, and communications equipment.

June 10 - 19, 2021 - The 263rd Army Air and Missile Defense Command and 2-263rd Air Defense Artillery Battalion, SCARNG, participated in Amalgam Dart 21-1, June 10-19, 2021, with operations ranging across the Arctic from the Beaufort Sea to Thule, Greenland. Amalgam Dart 21-01 provides NORAD the opportunity to hone continental defense skills as Canadian and U.S. forces operate together in the Arctic.

June 2021 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers and Colombian Army soldiers conducted training at the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) at Fort Polk, Lou-

isiana. Soldiers from the 1-118th Infantry Battalion, the 1-151st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, and Company B, 2-238th General Support Aviation Battalion, each from the SCARNG, as well as a platoon from the Colombian Army Counternarcotics Brigade, completed training at JRTC.

June 18, 2021 - Twenty-Eight U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the SCARNG, from units assigned throughout the state, participated in The Citadel Department of Defense Cyber Institute inaugural National Guard Cyber Boot Camp, at The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina. For two weeks, the Soldiers pursued training in Security+ and Penetration testing. The students learned basic to intermediate security concepts and how to conduct PenTest+ testing to enhance a company's cybersecurity program.

June 23, 2021 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 1980th Support Detachment, SCARNG,

returned home after a deployment to the Middle East in support of Operation Spartan Shield.

June 24, 2021 - The SCNG Service Member and Family Care directorate hosted a career and resource fair at the State Fair Grounds in Columbia. The career fair was used to help connect service members and families with local employers, state agencies, and organizations that provide military and veteran services, in order to gain employment or advance their career. It was also an opportunity for service members who have been on orders in support of COVID-19 response efforts to obtain civilian employment with their transition from active duty.

June 26, 2021 - The 246th U.S. Army Band, SCARNG, performed a live concert during the Early Independence Day Celebration, June 26, 2021, in Columbia. This concert was part of their summer tour as they provided several locations

throughout the state with patriotic music to celebrate the nation's independence.

July 6 - Aug. 4, 2021 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers, Battery B, 2-263rd Air Defense Artillery Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, traveled to the National Training Center (NTC), where they participated in Air Defense maneuvers consisting of a platoon plus sized element of five Avenger teams, two Sentinel Radars for the 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT), Oklahoma National Guard during NTC rotation 21-08.5, July 6 - Aug. 4, 2021, in Fort Irwin, California. This rotation was the first rotation in 20 years in which an IBCT operated at the NTC where the exercises focused on air defense operations (Sentinel Radars) facilitating offensive seizure and defense posturing. During the rotations, Battery B participated in short-range missile engagements of fixed and rotary wing aircraft.

July 18, 2021 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 122nd Engineer Battalion, SCARNG, celebrated the 75th anniversary of the battalion, in Edgefield, during a community event, highlighting the history of the unit and honoring former leadership. To start the ceremony, Soldiers assigned to the 122nd Engineer Battalion marched in formation from the Edgefield readiness center to Edgefield Town Square. As a community-based organization, the SCNG participates in local events and partners with communities to bring visibility to the service members and the capabilities of the organization.

July 22, 2021 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with Company



*U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 1223rd Vertical Engineering Company, South Carolina National Guard, built an air assault obstacle course at McCrady Training Center in Eastover, South Carolina, June 10, 2021. The engineers built the course as part of their two-week annual training in order to practice their skills of building structures and maintaining their mission readiness as a unit. The course is intended for future training events at McCrady. (U.S. Army National Guard Photo by Spc. Josiah Lining, 108th Public Affairs Detachment)*

# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD HIGHLIGHTS

A, 4th Battalion, 118th Infantry Regiment, SCARNG, out of Dillon, South Carolina, conducted live-fire accuracy screening tests on M1A1 Abrams tanks, at Fort Jackson. This live-fire exercise consisted of Soldiers ensuring complete armor accuracy checks, performing preventive maintenance checks and services, and zeroing sights on 50-caliber machine guns and tank barrels. This training is essential to Soldiers progressing and becoming proficient in live-fire gunnery to qualify as a team to support mission readiness.

Aug. 14, 2021 - The SCARNG conducted a ceremony for the Palmetto Military Academy Officer Candidate School graduation at McCrady Training Center to recognize the completion of the program for Class 72 and their commissioning into the SCARNG. The ceremony also recognized the 2021 Palmetto Military Academy Hall of Fame inductees.

Aug. 26 - Sept. 17, 2021 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 117th Engineer Brigade, SCARNG, participated in Bright Star 21, a joint training exercise with the Egyptian army, in Egypt. Bright Star was a multilateral exercise hosted by the Arab Republic of Egypt with support from U.S. Cen-



*U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 132nd Military Police Company, 51st Military Police Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, react to an enemy contact scenario during the South Carolina National Guard's combined arms exercise at McCrady Training Center in Eastover, South Carolina, June 9, 2021. The combined arms exercise allowed units to improve their proficiency in designated mission essential tasks while operating against opposing forces. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kimberly D. Calkins, South Carolina National Guard)*

tral Command. The exercise contains three key events: command post exercise, field training exercise, and a senior leader seminar. Bright Star promotes and enhances regional security and cooperation and promotes interoperability and partnerships by bringing together more than 20 different countries as part of the exercise.

September 2021 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the SCARNG supported the Louisiana National Guard in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida in multiple areas in Louisiana. The SCNG sent approximately 190 Soldiers from engineer, military police, aviation, and transportation units to support the citizens of Louisiana. The types of missions the SCARNG conducted included point of distribution operations, directing traffic, debris clearance, sand removal, transporting equipment and supplies, and site security.

Sept. 7, 2021 - The SCNG recognized the 20th anniversary of Sept. 11, 2001, highlighting the support

provided by the organization over the past 20 years. U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Van McCarty, the adjutant general for South Carolina, provided remarks recognizing the impact of past, present, and future service members, and the documentary of the SCNG's support to the Global War on Terrorism was debuted.

Sept. 11, 2021 - The SCARNG conducted a warrant officer hall of fame ceremony at McCrady Training Center recognizing the newest inductees into the warrant officer hall of fame. Those selected to be inducted into the warrant officer hall of fame have made significant contributions to the organization and nation while serving in the SCARNG.

Sept. 25 - The South Carolina Survivor Outreach Services recognized Gold Star Mothers and Families Day with an event at the American Legion in Lexington. This event served as an opportunity to recognize the families of fallen service members, while honoring the memory of those they have lost.



## ***FY21 Air National Guard Highlights***

McEntire Joint National Guard Base (JNGB) is a 2,400+ acre federal military installation just east of Columbia. Since the founding of the South Carolina Air National Guard (SCANG) in 1946, the base has been operated by the 169th Fighter Wing.

The 169th Fighter Wing is one of the United States Air Force's premier fighter wings and provides combatant commanders with world-class combat capability to meet the nation's needs for contingency operations and general war requirements. During 2020-2021, more than 300 Airmen were called up to active duty for a deployment to Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia. Additionally, contingents of SCANG medical and services personnel supported humanitarian missions in Missouri

for Operation Healthy Delta, as well as in the Republic of Colombia for 'Angel of the Andes' as part of our State Partnership Program with Colombia.

In support of its state mission, McEntire JNGB and the 169th Fighter Wing continue to play a critical role in South Carolina's COVID-19 response by providing medical personnel and logistics support.

The 169th Fighter Wing's primary federal mission is to employ conventional munitions in the Suppression and Destruction of Enemy Air Defenses (SEAD/DEAD) role. Additionally, the 169th Fighter Wing provides continual air defense of the east coast of the continental United States through the North American

Aerospace Defense Command with Airmen and aircraft executing the Aerospace Control Alert mission, 24-hours a day, 365-days a year.

### **FY21 Air National Guard Highlights:**

Oct. 3, 2020 - U.S. Air Force Col. Shane Stewart relinquished command of the 169th Medical Group, SCANG, to U.S. Air Force Col. Phillip Latham at McEntire JNGB.

Nov. 16, 2020 - McEntire JNGB hosted Palmetto Challenge, a global mobilization exercise held at McEntire JNGB, and Pope Army Airfield, North Carolina. The exercise was held in order to develop readiness and awareness in a simulated deployed environment for over 100 U.S. Air Force Airmen

# AIR NATIONAL GUARD HIGHLIGHTS



*U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Jonathan Curenton, 169th Logistics Readiness Squadron, guides forklift driver, Staff Sgt. Kevin Williams, as he loads equipment onto a trailer after a joint inspection (JI) at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina, as the South Carolina Air National Guard's 169th Fighter Wing prepares for an Air and Space Force Expeditionary Force deployment to Saudi Arabia, March 31, 2021. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Edward Snyder, 169th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)*

from Joint Base Charleston.

Nov. 20, 2020 - The 169th Fighter Wing collected 471 pounds of donated non-perishable food items for delivery to a local food bank in Columbia, South Carolina.

Dec. 5, 2020 - U.S. Air National Guard Airmen from the 169th Fighter Wing prepare gift bags for SCANG families during the holiday season at McEntire JNGB.

Dec. 21, 2020 - The South Carolina National Guard (SCNG) Medical Command received a shipment of medical supplies used for administering the COVID-19 vaccination at McEntire JNGB. The SCNG was a Moderna Department of Defense (DoD) vaccine pilot program state and was provided a limited DoD allocation for SCNG Soldiers and Airmen to have the opportunity to voluntarily take the vaccine, prior to a vaccine receiving FDA approval.

Jan. 8, 2021 - The 169th Maintenance Squadron, SCANG, conducted a change of command

ceremony with U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. David Bell relinquishing command to U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Shawn Daley.

Feb. 23, 2021 - U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Chad P. Franks, 15th Air Force commander, discussed total force integration initiatives and the active association program, with U.S. Air Force Col. Mark Massaro, 495th Fighter Group commander, and (then) U.S. Air Force Col. Akshai Gandhi, 169th Fighter Wing commander, at McEntire JNGB. This was Franks' first visit with the SCANG in his current position to meet with U.S. Air National Guard Airmen of the 169th Fighter Wing.

March 2, 2021 - U.S. Air National Guard Airmen with the 169th Fighter Wing Security Forces, SCANG, teamed up with local law enforcement officers from the Richland County Sheriff's Department Special Response Team (SRT) to conduct inter-agency active-shooter training at McEntire JNGB. South Carolina Army National Guard (SCARNG), Company A, 1-111th General

Aviation Support Battalion UH-60 Black Hawk medium-lift utility helicopters transported the SRT to join security forces personnel to engage active-shooter exercise threats, demonstrating quick response capabilities.

March 5, 2021 - Three members of Congress, South Carolina's lieutenant governor, members of the South Carolina legislature, plus senior congressional staff met with leaders of the South Carolina Military Department at McEntire JNGB to learn about the capabilities of McEntire JNGB for federal and state response, as well as the benefits McEntire JNGB provides to the citizens of South Carolina.

March 6, 2021 - The 169th Operations Group, SCANG, conducted a change of command ceremony with U.S. Air Force Col. Brian Tenbrunsel relinquishing command to U.S. Air Force Col. Michael Ferrario.

March 7, 2021 - The 169th Maintenance Operations Flight,



SCANG, conducted a change of command ceremony with U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Grady Patterson relinquishing command to U.S. Air Force Maj. Shawn Schroder.

March 7, 2021 - U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Scott Lambe, Air National Guard Assistant to the Commander, 15th Air Force, was celebrated by fellow Airmen, family, and friends during his retirement ceremony from the SCANG at McEntire JNGB.

April 2, 2021 - The 169th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, SCANG, conducted a change of command ceremony with U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Christopher Gamble relinquishing command to U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Brian Doyle.

April 11, 2021 - U.S. Air National Guard Airmen with the 169th Fighter Wing, SCANG, depart McEntire JNGB to support an Air and Space Expeditionary Force deployment at Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia. The 169th Fighter Wing supported U.S. Central Command by preserving operational depth, staging joint forces and projecting



*U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Amy Densmore, left, and Senior Airman Benjamin Reedy, both from the 169th Maintenance Squadron Aerospace Ground Equipment section, load donated food items collected from their unit. The 169th Fighter Wing at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina Air National Guard, collected 471 pounds of donated non-perishable food items for delivery to a local food bank in Columbia, South Carolina, Nov. 20, 2020. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Edward Snyder, 169th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)*

overwhelming combat power in the region. This was the wing's largest deployment since the summer of 2018 when they supported an Air Expeditionary Force rotation to Kuwait.

June 5, 2021 - U.S. Air National Guard Airmen from the 157th Expeditionary Fighter Generation Squadron were recognized for their

roles in an Integrated Combat Turn by U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Evan Pettus, 378th Wing commander, at Prince Sultan Air Base, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. A six-member maintenance team helped refuel and load live munitions onto F-16 Fighting Falcons while engines were still running and then returned those jets to the mission.



*U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. David Green, 169th Fighter Wing Security Forces, neutralizes a simulated active-shooter, during an exercise where base defenders team up with local law enforcement officers from the Richland County Sheriff's Department Special Response Team (SRT) to conduct inter-agency active-shooter training at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina, March 2, 2021. UH-60 Black Hawk medium-lift utility helicopters from the South Carolina Army National Guard's Company A, 1-111th Aviation Battalion, transported the SRT to join U.S. Air Force base defenders to engage active-shooter exercise threats, demonstrating quick response capabilities. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Edward Snyder, 169th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)*

# AIR NATIONAL GUARD HIGHLIGHTS



*The South Carolina Air National Guard 169th Operations Group conducted a change of command ceremony, March 6, 2021, at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina, where U.S. Air Force Col. Brian Tenbrunsel relinquished command to Col. Michael Ferrario. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Edward Snyder, 169th Fighter Wing)*

June 15, 2021 - U.S. Air National Guard engineers from the 285th Civil Engineer Squadron, Virgin Islands Air National Guard, tackled a reroofing construction project at the base firing range on McEntire JNGB, while performing their Deployment for Training (DFT). During this June 4-19 training event, they completed a roofing and storage build at the base firing range, as well as improvements at the recreational pond site that includes a new dock and pergola bar-b-que pit.

June 30, 2021 - U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Reggie German was recognized by U.S. Army Gen. Daniel Hokanson, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, during the Southeast Region Adjutant General meeting June 30, 2021, held in Charleston, South Carolina. German serves as a fitness

specialist with the 169th Force Support Squadron, SCANG. He was recently recognized as the U.S. Air Force 2020 Force Support Reserve Component Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year.

July 18, 2021 - U.S. Air National Guard Airmen deployed to Prince Sultan Air Base (PSAB), Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, returned home to the 169th Fighter Wing at McEntire JNGB. "Swamp Fox" Airmen from the SCANG's 169th Fighter Wing were deployed to PSAB for three months to project combat power and help bolster defensive capabilities against potential threats in the region.

July 2021 - Students attended the STARBASE Swamp Fox summer camp at McEntire JNGB. STARBASE is a Department of Defense science, technology,

engineering and mathematics program for 5th graders that provides math and science instruction in a fun learning environment.

Aug. 14, 2021 - U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Alex Jackson assumed command of the 169th Communications Squadron at McEntire JNGB.

Aug. 14, 2021 - U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Camille Caldwell assumed responsibility as the state command senior enlisted leader for the SCNG during a ceremony at McEntire JNGB. Caldwell is the second state command senior enlisted leader for the SCNG and took over from U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Kevin Thomas. In her new role, Caldwell will be the enlisted advisor for senior SCNG leadership.

Aug. 14, 2021 - U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Isaac Carr assumed responsibility as the new state command chief for the SCANG during a ceremony at McEntire JNGB. Carr is the 14th state command chief for the SCANG and took over from U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Kevin Thomas. In his new role, Carr will be the enlisted advisor for senior SCANG leadership.

Aug. 19, 2021 - U.S. Rep. Nancy Mace from Charleston, South Carolina spoke with South Carolina National Guard senior leadership during her visit to McEntire JNGB about the current state of the SCNG and future endeavors for the organization, as well as a familiarization of the base and the capabilities of the units housed there.

Aug. 27, 2021 - U.S. Air Force civil engineers from the pavements and construction equipment career field, from eight separate units, teamed up with U.S. Navy Seabees from the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133, Gulfport, Mississippi for an Expedient and Expeditionary Airfield Damage Repair (E-ADR) demonstration at McEntire JNGB. The training was part of a United States Indo-Pacific Command exercise. The purpose of the training was to provide just enough, just in time repair capability with minimal cost and materials in a wartime situation.

Aug. 30 - Sept. 10, 2021 - SCNG medical personnel conducted a humanitarian medical mission in Colombia during the Angel de los Andes and Cooperacion VII

exercises. The exercises provide training opportunities with South Carolina's state partner, the Republic of Colombia, in realistic combat search and rescue missions as well as humanitarian aid and disaster response scenarios such as earthquakes and tsunamis.

Sept. 11, 2021 - The SCANG, 169th Fighter Wing conducted a change of command ceremony at McEntire JNGB, where U.S. Air Force Col. Quaid Quadri Jr. assumed command from U.S. Air Force (then) Col. Akshai Gandhi.

Sept. 12, 2021 - U.S. Air Force Col. Akshai Gandhi was promoted to the rank of brigadier general during a ceremony at McEntire JNGB. He will serve as the SCNG assistant adjutant general, Air.

2021 - U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Megan Floyd, SCANG, is recognized as the first place winner of the Staff Sergeant Christopher S. Frost outstanding communication NCO award for the 2021 Air Combat Command Public Affairs awards for communication excellence.



*Tech. Sgt. Everette Robinson, 157th Expeditionary Fighter Generation Squadron crew chief, prepared an F-16 Fighting Falcon fighter jet for takeoff at Prince Sultan Air Base, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, May 11, 2021. The "Swamp Fox" Airmen from the South Carolina Air National Guard were deployed to PSAB to project combat power and help bolster defensive capabilities against potential threats in the region. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Carl Clegg, 169th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)*

# SOUTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

The South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD) leads the statewide emergency management program. As part of the South Carolina Military Department, SCEMD serves as the primary coordinating agency for all large-scale disaster preparedness, response and recovery operations in the Palmetto State.

NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
SOUTH CAROLINA

By Sgt. Tim Andrews

## SCEMD's Vision

To be an accomplished and innovative leader in emergency management that is ready, relevant, resilient, and responsive.

## SCEMD's Mission

The South Carolina Emergency Management Division leads the state emergency management program by supporting local authorities to minimize the loss of life and property from all-hazard events.

## South Carolina Emergency Management Division

SCEMD serves as the state coordinating entity for response and recovery activities while preparing for the next emergency or disaster. Work continues to assist and process eligible reimbursements under the Stafford Act in support of on-going recovery operations from the 2015 severe flood, 2016 Hurricane Matthew, 2017 Hurricane Irma, 2018 Hurricane Florence, 2019 Hurricane Dorian, 2020 February severe weather, 2020 April tornadoes, and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

### COVID-19

March 13, 2020, the Governor declared a State of Emergency in response to the spread of COVID-19. The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) increased readiness level to Operational Condition level 2 and began seven-day-a-week operations. While response support is still ongoing, SEOC operations concluded June 7, 2021. This incident represents South Carolina's longest activation with a record number of resource requests for logistical support with over 5,700. SCEMD provided logistics, information technology, facilities, communications and contracting support to the state for over 15 consecutive months. We provided personal protective equipment (PPE), cleaning supplies, equipment, and many other materials in support of hospitals, the reopening of childcare centers, state elections, employee return-to-work, reopening of schools, and more. Despite international shortages, we successfully stood up a state PPE stockpile capable of providing a 60-day supply of PPE. SCEMD also leveraged standing contracts for equipment, transportation and response services that made PPE warehousing and distribution possible. A Community Vaccination Center was established at the Columbia Place Mall and provided free vaccinations for an eight-week period, seven days a week. SCEMD's planning support developed and implemented the state's medical surge plan and vaccine distribution plans, and other important contingency plans. SCEMD's Public Information staff began working from within a Joint Information Center in Emergency Support Function (ESF)-15 and in heavy coordination with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. Regular press conferences were held with socially distanced measures in place or were held virtually to help deliver important health information to the media, which would then relay it to the public. SCEMD also coordinated with eligible applicants to administer FEMA's Public Assistance program with cost estimates for emergency protective measures currently exceeding \$586 million dollars.

### Additional 2020-2021 SCEMD highlights:

- Monitored all tropical cyclone activity in the Atlantic Basin, and provided updates to counties and state agencies.
- Assisted applicants and processed eligible reimbursements under the Stafford Act in support of on-going recovery operations from the 2015 severe flood, 2016 Hurricane Matthew, 2017 Hurricane Irma, 2018 Hurricane Florence, 2019 Hurricane Dorian, and 2020 February severe weather, 2020 April tornadoes, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Since 2014, SCEMD has processed over \$1.6 billion in eligible claims, and over \$200 million in hazard mitigation grant actions.
- Processed more than \$22 million in mitigation project reimbursements. The Mitigation Staff supported municipal, county, and state agencies in developing 50 hazard mitigation projects for future funding associated with Hurricane Florence and nine approved pre-disaster mitigation program projects. The mitigation planning team supported the review and approval of five local hazard mitigation plans resulting in 100% mitigation plan coverage across the state for the first time in more than five years.
- Coordinated with the Department of Administration on use of Coronavirus Relief Fund funding for costs not covered by FEMA's Public Assistance program, maximizing federal assistance programs in support of local governments and other eligible applicants.
- Conducted planning workshops with federal, state, local, tribal, and non-governmental agencies to enhance planning and support for the South Carolina Emergency Operations Plan, and updated 11 other comprehensive plans.
- Along with partner state agencies, affected counties, and the State Emergency Response Team, coordinated and conducted three FEMA evaluated radiological emergency preparedness exercises with Oconee Nuclear Station, Catawba Nuclear Station, and Vogtle Electric Generating Plants.
- SCEMD was able to coordinate and present 43 training events for more than 1,059 personnel, and developed, coordinated and/or participated in 65 exercises involving more than 1,145 participants.
- With the move to teleworking and offsite working conditions, SCEMD was forced to adapt new procedures and new technologies to continue the COVID-19 response. Old teleconference platforms were replaced by video conferences and webinars.
- Coordinated the state's participation in the South Carolina Earthquake Awareness Week and the Great Southeast Shakeout exercise which included 268,113 registered participants and an aggressive social media campaign focused on earthquake awareness.

# COVID 19 RESPONSE



*U.S. Army Spc. Jason Turner, 251st Area Support Medical Company, South Carolina National Guard, administered the COVID-19 vaccine to citizens, May 1, 2021, at a COVID-19 vaccination site in Saluda, South Carolina. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Brad Mincey, South Carolina National Guard)*

The SCNG continued COVID-19 response operations, with over 650 service members mobilized to support this response at the height. Guard members assisted partners in all 46 counties in providing testing site support for over 314,000 residents, conducted inmate medical screenings at 20 South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC) institutions, and prepared over 200,000 inmate meals at four SCDC institutions. Guard members transported and distributed personal protective equipment (PPE) to all counties, assisted 15 food banks statewide in distributing groceries and household products, supported the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control with administrative assistance, and sanitized over 60 facilities.

The SCNG assisted seven hospitals, six long-term care facilities, and three alternate care sites with patient screening, treatment and administrative support. Service members administered COVID-19 vaccines to 4,346 active Guard members, retirees, and family members, and 116,283 vaccines to civilians at COVID-19 vaccination sites across the state. This support included mass vaccination sites at Darlington Raceway, Myrtle Beach, Gamecock Park in Columbia, and a Federal CVC site in Columbia. This support was the first time the South Carolina National Guard medical personnel has administered vaccines to civilians as part of an activation. Other tasks performed by Guard members included PPE decontamination support, traffic control support, temporary hospital design and construction, school lunch support, and vaccine storage. This activation has been the longest in-state mobilization for the SCNG.



*By Senior Master Sgt. Edward Snyder*

U.S. Air National Guard Airmen with the 169th Logistics Readiness Squadron, South Carolina National Guard, assisted the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control in unloading a shipment of medical personal protective equipment received from the Strategic National Stockpile March 31, 2020 to be sorted and distributed to the 46 counties in the state in support of the COVID-19 response efforts.

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the South Carolina National Guard loaded personal protective equipment on a CH-47 Chinook assigned to the 2-238th General Support Aviation Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, April 2, 2020 to be transported and distributed to counties in the upstate of South Carolina in support of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control.



By Sgt. First Class Roby Di Giovine



By Staff Sgt. Brad Mincey

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the South Carolina National Guard provided assistance at the Second Harvest Food Bank in Williamston, South Carolina July 6, 2020. Soldiers assisted food banks across the state with packing, moving, and distributing food during the COVID-19 pandemic.

U.S. Army Spc. Regina Martin, 251st Area Support Medical Company, South Carolina National Guard, prepared syringes of the COVID-19 vaccine to administer to U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the South Carolina National Guard, March 30, 2021, at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina.



By Staff Sgt. Brad Mincey



By Senior Master Sgt. Edward Snyder

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with 1-178th Field Artillery Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, assisted local healthcare professionals with providing COVID-19 vaccination support to registered patients at the Florence Civic Center vaccination site in Florence, South Carolina, Feb. 19, 2021. U.S. National Guard Soldiers and Airmen with the South Carolina National Guard have supported hospitals and other state partners across South Carolina by fulfilling a variety of needs since March 2020.

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the South Carolina National Guard provided traffic management support during a mass COVID-19 vaccination event with partners from the South Carolina Health Department, Emergency Management Division and Department of Administration, along with Richland County Emergency Services and the Federal Emergency Management Agency at the Columbia Place Mall, Columbia, South Carolina, April 14, 2021.



By Staff Sgt. Brad Mincey



By Staff Sgt. Brad Mincey

U.S. Army Spc. Regina Martin, 251st Area Support Medical Company, South Carolina National Guard, administered the COVID-19 vaccination to U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Courtney Riley, 751st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, March 30, 2021, at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina.

# DSCA CAPABILITIES

The South Carolina Military Department is committed to providing these specialized capabilities for homeland support:

## AVIATION



## MISSION COMMAND & CONTROL



## ENGINEERING



## SECURITY



## LOGISTICS



## CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, NUCLEAR & EXPLOSIVES (CBRNE)





## MAINTENANCE



Senior Airman Mackenzie Bacalzo

## COMMUNICATIONS



By 2nd Lt. Jorge Intriago

## CYBER



By Sgt. Tim Andrews

## MEDICAL



By Senior Master Sgt. Edward Snyder

## TRANSPORTATION



By Staff Sgt. Brad Mincey

## GENERAL PURPOSE TROOPS



By Staff Sgt. Brad Mincey

# SERVICE MEMBER AND FAMILY CARE



*The South Carolina National Guard Service Member and Family Care office hosted a career and resource fair, June 24, 2021, at the State Fair Grounds in Columbia, South Carolina. The career fair was used to help connect service members and families with local employers, state agencies, and organizations that provide military and veteran services, in order to gain employment or advance their career. It was also an opportunity for service members who had been on orders in support of COVID-19 response efforts to obtain civilian employment with their transition from active duty. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Spc. Josiah Lining, 108th Public Affairs Detachment)*

Through the efforts of the Service Member and Family Care (SMFC) program, the organization continued to posture, promote and provide regionally accessible programs that support comprehensive fitness dimensions and employment to reduce stressors for service members and their, thus enabling them to thrive personally and professionally. These programs include:

**Employment Services Outreach.** The team placed a total of 523 service members, veterans, and family members across the state. The unemployment rate of our service members in the South Carolina National Guard continues to be less than 2 percent. Additionally, by working with our network of over 1,700 business and community partners, we were successful in reducing the unemployment rate of our veteran population by 4.4 percent from fiscal year 2020, ending with a 4.6 percent unemployment rate this fiscal year.

**Resilience, Risk Reduction, and Suicide Prevention (R3SP).** The R3SP program had a 95 percent fill rate for Master Resilience Trainers (MRT) with a fully qualified MRT placed in 57 out of 60 reportable units statewide. The state remains in the top 10 in the nation for MRT fills. This year, five Soldiers went to MRT school. R3SP hosted a Resilient Leader Course certifying those Soldiers as Resilience Training Assistants.

**Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR).** In the SAPR program, the South Carolina National Guard credentialed six new victim advocates this year and re-credentialed 14 victim advocates (VA). The SAPR program hosted three refresher trainings, which allow VAs to earn the required continuing education units to stay credentialed. In addition to the refresher training, the SAPR office hosted a commander and senior leader training.

**Suicide Prevention Program (SPP).** SPP remains in the top five in the nation for Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training for the sixth year in a row. Because of the work done with its community partners, SPP was selected to pilot the SC START program in fiscal year 21. SC START is an on-line training tool for service members, their families, and our community

partners teaching how to start a conversation about suicide prevention and provide resources. SPP, along with community partners, was selected to present its program at the Department of Defense/Veterans Affairs Suicide Prevention Conference to bring awareness to the issue of veteran suicides, and how to intervene and prevent suicides in our community. SC START is now in its third year as a pilot program for the National Guard Bureau (NGB) program. The next step is briefing the Chief of NGB to be recommended to be expanded nationwide. As of 2021, the South Carolina National Guard is the only U.S. military organization that employs the full continuum of care for LivingWorks Suicide Prevention training along with the Army's ACE suicide prevention efforts. SPP teamed up with the Substance Abuse Program, the SAPR office and Behavioral Health to conduct a series of force focus surveys. The survey teams included a behavioral health specialist, sexual assault response coordinator, as well as the risk reduction coordinator and the suicide prevention coordinator for the state. The team conducted 900 surveys across the state. The surveys concentrated on the health and resiliency of the South Carolina fulltime force. It allowed Soldiers and staff to provide open and honest feedback to the most senior leadership.

**Substance Abuse Program (SAP).** SAP provides case management, risk mitigation, and targeted prevention training for substance use and high risk areas presented on the Unit Risk Inventories (URI) for each unit. South Carolina's SAP is ranked among the top in the nation for URIs completed, roughly 5,000 in fiscal year 2021, and Soldiers trained, roughly 5,100. In addition, South Carolina was the Army National Guard pilot for the Commander's Risk Reduction Toolbox. The SAP team has successfully case managed over 125 new referrals this fiscal year, to include 70 rehabilitation completions. SAP has the ability to conduct substance use assessments in house at no cost to the Soldier utilizing the SASSI Institute. It has allowed SAP to accurately address the specific stressors that are leading to substance use, make relevant referrals, and increase the number of successful completions, which improved retention and reduced high risk behaviors.

**Behavioral Health Program.** Behavioral health provided counseling, assessment and referrals in supporting the mental health needs of service members, families, and veterans/retirees. Behavior health specialists provided assessments, counseling crises management, and case management for service members and their families who were experiencing life stressors or psychological health challenges. The behavioral health specialists reached over 13,100 service members, family members, and retirees. This total included 4,686 new staff consultations, 5,457 follow up consultations, 2,959 outside referrals, and 5,838 information and referral consultations. Additionally, behavioral health specialists worked 297 counseling/case management, individual service members or family members, 18,907 outreach efforts, and two duty-to-warn cases.

**Family Programs.** This office encompasses four programs, Soldier Family Readiness Specialists, Child and Youth Programs, Personal Financial Counselor (PFC) and Military One Source program. Family Programs continues to support service members and families during deployment cycles including socially distanced homecomings and holiday cheer events. Soldier Family Readiness Specialist teams provided successful deployment outreach 4,835 times. They closed 1,267 non-medical cases, providing assistance and support and participated in at least 806 community and unit-based events networking with community and military resources and briefing units, as well as supporting all civil disturbance missions, annual trainings, and deployments. The Child & Youth Programs continued to provide support. They recently completed 2021 Teen Youth Retreat. Additionally, Youth and Soldier hunting and fishing events and virtual support were provided. PFC provided budget/financial planning to include money management techniques, credit score improvement, retirement and estate planning, savings and investing, student loan and tuition assistance, consumer awareness, financial planning pre and post deployment and more.

**Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR).** ESGR developed and promoted supportive work environments for service members in the reserve components through outreach, recognition, conflict resolution, and educational opportunities that increased awareness of applicable laws. ESGR volunteers have influenced 601 employers and 3,702 service members serving in South Carolina. Ninety-one employers were nominated for and presented Patriot awards, 14 Above and Beyond awards, and three Pro Patria awards were presented to employers. Additionally, South Carolina ESGR had two South Carolina employers that received the 2021 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award, which is the highest recognition given by the U.S. government to employers for their support of their employees who serve in the Guard and Reserve. South Carolina ESGR Ombudsmen mediated 22 formal cases and handled 43 informal USERRA inquiries. Committee members logged 1,971 volunteer hours across South Carolina.

**Health and Wellness.** The program provided a no-cost option to service members, retirees, and family members. The services include developing individual and unit fitness programs to improve overall health & wellness and mitigate injury, thereby increasing readiness. With oversight from a lead coach stationed in Columbia, a team of seven regionally located Health and

Wellness coaches worked diligently over the last year to reduce the total number of flagged Soldiers by 518. Additionally, we conducted 122 unit briefings, 470 group training sessions, and 395 individual training sessions. We connected with 23 community partners and attended or participated in 17 community meetings. We are aggressively preparing Soldiers for the new Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT), by providing ACFT demonstrations, assisting with grader training, providing ACFT specific workouts, and creating a library of videos designed to provide examples of exercises. We also provide access to a free training application, TrainHeroic. The app allows us to stay connected with service members, retirees, and family members virtually, and provide workouts they can perform at home, at the armory, or at a local park or gym. We currently have 1,872 service members enrolled in our program and maintain a connection with them through face-to-face visits, through social media, email, text, and the TrainHeroic app messaging system. We also meet with service members during drill and annual training, as well as individual consultations. We attend events with partner veteran groups and coordinate with other programs in the South Carolina Army National Guard. In addition, all coaches provide scheduled training sessions throughout their area of responsibility.

**Veterans Advisor Program.** The program provided 2,260 services – 228 Veterans Affairs claims, 132 employment, 145 education, 139 medical, 50 behavioral health, 136 finance, 75 legal, 108 housing, 520 records, 26 unit leadership, 54 health and wellness, 220 retirement, and 427 others services to 1,093 National Guard service members, 317 other military service members, 61 family members, and assisted 209 veteran service organizations. Veteran advisors also conducted outreach and performed their duties through effective communication with community partners.



*The South Carolina National Guard Service Member and Family Care (SMFC) directorate supported the South Carolina Department of Veterans Affairs in their third annual Steps & Strides Against Veteran Suicide fall festival and walk, Sept. 25, 2021, in Columbia, South Carolina. SMFC provided attendees with resources regarding suicide awareness and prevention methods. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Tim Andrews, South Carolina National Guard)*

# NATIONAL GUARD SUPPORT TO STATE & NATION



## SC-Helicopter Aquatic Rescue Team

By Sgt. 1st Class Roby Di Giovine

The South Carolina Helicopter Aquatic Rescue Team (SC-HART) operates as a collaborative effort between the State Urban Search and Rescue Task Force (SC-TF1), South Carolina Emergency Management Division, and South Carolina Army National Guard aviation units based at McEntire Joint National Guard Base. Its capabilities include land and water-based hoist operations with military aircrews and civilian rescue technicians. SC-HART responds to requests for helicopter rescue capabilities on a nationwide basis. SC-HART trained to respond to swift water, open water, confined area, urban structure and mountain condition search and rescue for both ambulatory and non-ambulatory emergencies. During fiscal year 2021, SC-HART joined with the South Carolina Forestry Commission to conduct a multi-day aerial firefighting exercise to ensure South Carolina is prepared in the event of a forest fire within the borders of the state. **In August 2021, the SC-HART rescued two injured kayakers from the Chattooga River, as well as an injured hiker near Raven Cliff Falls.**



By Sgt. Tim Andrews

## 43rd Civil Support Team

The 43rd Civil Support Team (CST) provides Defense Support to Civil Authorities (DSCA) support in the event of an incident involving or potentially involving Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) and Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear assistance to federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies throughout the state. The 43rd CST provided Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Explosive (CBRNE) support to local, state and federal agencies in the form of 40 response missions encompassing 2,831 hazard sweeps, 38 planned missions, and 2 WMD responses.



## Aerospace Control Alert

The 169th Fighter Wing, South Carolina Air National Guard, continually supports the Aerospace Control Alert Mission, defending east coast air space in support of North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD).

By Sgt. Brian Calhoun



The South Carolina Army National Guard (SCARNG) continues to work closely with the South Carolina Forestry Commission to increase capability and capacity for conducting aerial wildfire fighting operations. In May 2021, aviation elements of the SCARNG and the South Carolina Forestry Commission conducted a multi-day aerial firefighting exercise to ensure South Carolina is prepared in the event of a forest fire within the borders of the state.

By Sgt. 1st Class Roby Di Giovine

The 263rd Army Air and Missile Defense Command (AAMDC) is a globally available operational unit, which deploys in the U.S. Northern Command area of responsibility to conduct joint and combined theater air and missile defense operations in support of designated plans and contingency operations. The unit maintains a presence of mobilized personnel providing training and readiness oversight for homeland defense, known as the Integrated Air Defense System mission. The 263rd AAMDC is the only AAMDC in the National Guard, and is one of four in the entire U.S. Army.



By Sgt. Tim Andrews

★ NATIONAL GUARD ★  
**COUNTERDRUG**

The South Carolina National Guard Counterdrug Task Force provided support to local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies during the past year. Case support analysts assisted in the seizure of more than \$22 million in drugs, \$2 million in currency, and 106 firearms, resulting in 330 arrests by law enforcement. Drug Demand Reduction Outreach supported 23 events totaling 36.5 hours. The Counterdrug Task Force provided training support to 79 law enforcement agencies, saving those agencies approximately \$50,000.

# FUTURE INITIATIVES



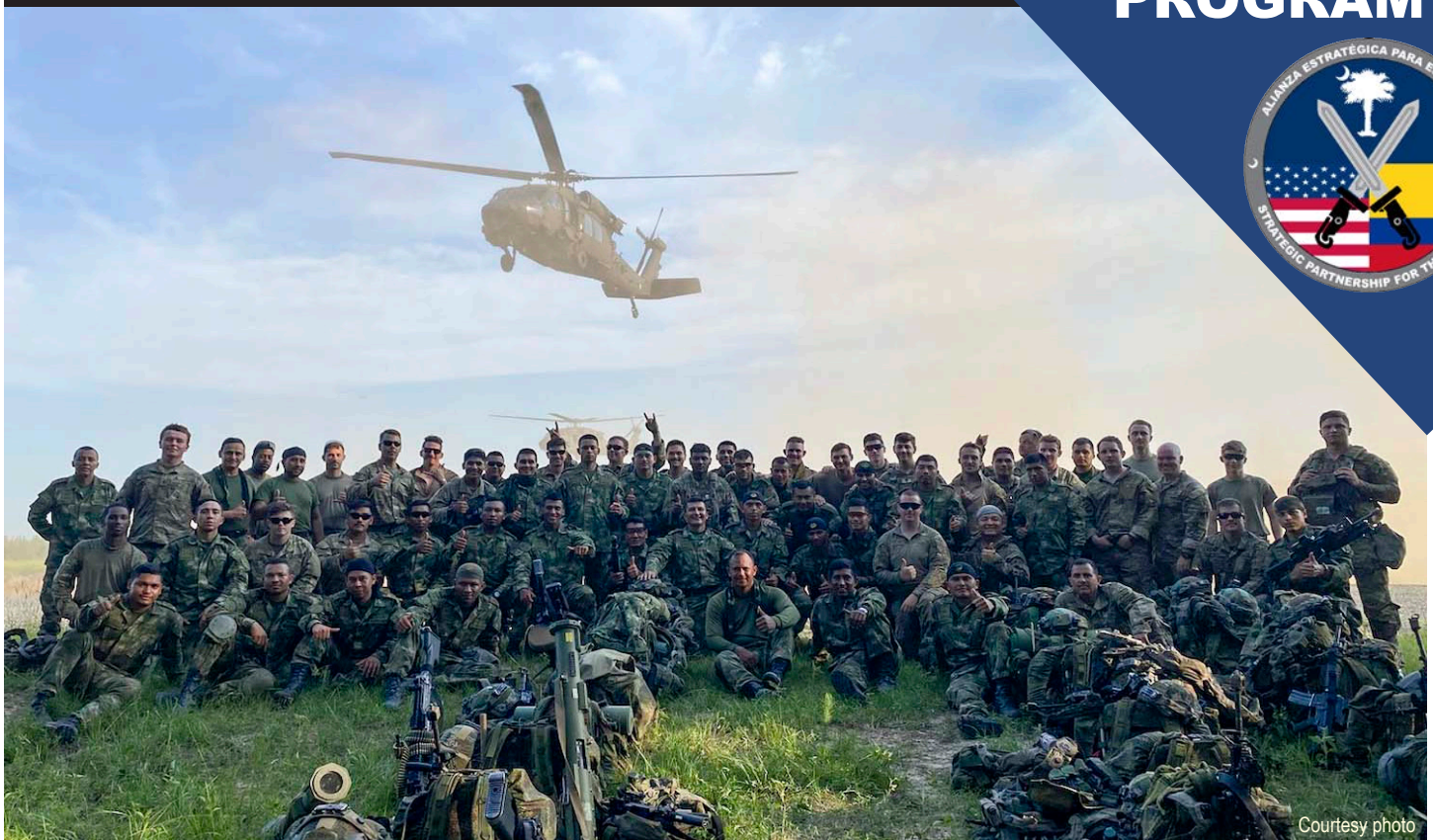
*U.S. Air Force Akshai Gandhi, 169th Fighter Wing commander, speaks with members of the South Carolina Legislature plus senior congressional staff, March 5, 2021 during a visit with leaders of the South Carolina Military Department at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina. The purpose of the visit was to highlight the capabilities of McEntire JNGB for federal and state response as well as the benefits McEntire JNGB provides to the citizens of South Carolina. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Edward Snyder, 169th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)*

**Semper Primus.** For decades, the South Carolina Air National Guard's (SCANG) 169th Fighter Wing has been driven by aggressive innovation, adaptability and a fearless/peerless "Always First" ethos. One of only three standalone Air National Guard bases in the nation, the SCANG's McEntire Joint National Guard Base is home to a number of unique strengths, not the least of which is its status as an invaluable agile power projection and domestic response hub for the state in times of catastrophic emergencies like hurricanes, floods, and pandemics. The installation also prides itself on being uniquely prepared to take on high tech capabilities and cutting-edge weapon systems. Whether its absolute readiness to be the next F-35 base or flexible posturing for emergent missions like Information Warfare, Team Swamp Fox remains poised for the future.

**DreamPort.** Faced with the very real and escalating threat of cyber attacks against our state's infrastructure, economy, and overall security, the South Carolina Military Department is fully committed to strengthening and expanding cyber defense capabilities throughout the state. Thanks to an innovative, strategic partnership with the University of South Carolina-Aiken and Savannah River National Laboratory, the traditional readiness center concept has been re-imagined and revolutionized, resulting in plans for the DreamPort. The joint project aligns with and embodies a statewide emphasis on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics training, higher education, and technical proficiency in cyber security. Together, we will enhance workforce development, host a world-class training environment, boost business development across all sectors, and ultimately safeguard our fellow South Carolinians against rapidly evolving threats.

# Republic of Colombia

# STATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM



**State Partnership Program (SPP) between the Republic of Colombia and South Carolina.** Under U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Van McCarty, the adjutant general of South Carolina, the SPP provides a unique opportunity for South Carolinians to collaborate with, learn from, and mentor partners from the Republic of Colombia. Since 2012, SPP has offered numerous opportunities for South Carolina National Guard members to work together with Colombian service members to strengthen a wide array of processes, systems, techniques, tactics, and procedures. Despite COVID-19 and extended periods of Colombian unrest, SPP executed a dozen security cooperation engagements over the past year, including the historic embed of a Colombian army platoon with the 1-118th Infantry Battalion for its Joint Readiness Training Center rotation at Fort Polk, Louisiana. The Colombian soldiers conducted tactical infantry operations, and strengthened their ability to plan and execute complex maneuver operations. The SPP consistently yields significant returns on investment from a readiness standpoint and continuously deepens relationships with the Colombian military.



# CYBER



*U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 125th Cyber Protection Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, work with the city of Beaufort and other regional organizations as they conduct their first ever cybersecurity exercise March 24, 2021 at the Beaufort Police Department training facility in Beaufort, South Carolina. Soldiers worked with representatives from the South Carolina Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity organization to mentor leadership from the city of Beaufort; Beaufort County government including the Sheriff's Office and Emergency Management; Beaufort Memorial Hospital; Beaufort and Port Royal Police and Fire Departments; and Beaufort Jasper Water & Sewer Authority to respond to complex scenarios of simulated threats and attacks during the day-long exercise. Soldiers helped provide a real life experience on how best to respond to a cyber attack. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by U.S. Army Spc. Flonasia Neals, South Carolina National Guard)*

The South Carolina Army National Guard (SCARNG) leveraged its cybersecurity capabilities through multiple state and federal cybersecurity initiatives. Through collaborative training and exercises, the SCARNG built relationships, trust and synergies in improving cybersecurity practices and resiliency across South Carolina and with supporting agencies. SCARNG cyber teams provided direct support to two cyber incidents within the state, and support to seven state/local government offices and one military installation.

The SCARNG partnered with the U.S. Army Cyber Institute at West Point, SC Ports Authority, and City of Charleston as part of exercise Jack Voltaic 3.0 (JV3.0). JV3.0 fostered collaboration between DoD, federal, state, local governments, and corporate partners to better understand dependencies and interdependencies of a widespread cyber-attack in a large urban area in order to build a repeatable cyber security framework. In addition, JV3.0 exercised the authority and capabilities of deploying the National Guard to defend the nation by leveraging military cyber capabilities in domestic response to cyber incidents. As an extension of JV3.0, the SCARNG participated in the exercise Jack Pandemus, which explored a scenario based on disruptions to gas pipelines, electrical power generation and healthcare delivery caused by cyber incidents, and measured incident response during ongoing pandemic response.

The SCARNG participated in the planning for the Department of Homeland Security-hosted South Carolina elections table top exercise. Additionally the SCARNG is ready to support cyber incident response actions as required.

The SCARNG partnered with new organizations to assist in the development of future projects. Due to active duty cyber protection teams being deployed, the SCARNG advised the 3rd Infantry Division's key leadership on methods to incorporate cybersecurity planning and scenarios within larger exercises. The SCARNG also provided requirement input for a Department of Energy Electronic Warfare Range for use during joint exercises between federal and state agencies.



*U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers from the South Carolina National Guard Defense Cyber Optic Element (DCOE), under the state communication office, participated in Cyber Shield 21, the Department of Defense's largest unclassified cyber defense exercise, from July 10-24, 2021. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Tim Andrews, South Carolina National Guard)*



# STATE DEFENSE FORCES

**South Carolina State Guard.** The South Carolina State Guard (SCSG) is an all-volunteer state military force, which provides support to civil authorities during times of disaster or other emergencies. In addition to general support personnel, the assets the SCSG provided included land, water, and equestrian search and rescue teams, law enforcement augmentation teams, medical support teams, civil engineering teams, and Judge Advocate General (JAG) teams.

In fiscal year 2021, the SCSG provided assets in support to civil authorities, as well as personnel to support the South Carolina Joint Operations Center in coordinating and tracking COVID-19 response missions. SCSG personnel set up tents, provided traffic control at local COVID-19 testing sites, and distributed food and water in support of six COVID-19 missions in Berkeley, Charleston, Horry, and Richland counties.

SCSG JAGs provided a free clinic for South Carolina National Guard members and first responders to complete their will. The SCSG Honors Unit also conducted 19 honor guard missions for military funerals and five honor guard missions for veteran events.



Courtesy photo

**Joint Services Detachment.** The Joint Services Detachment (JSD) is a State Defense Force unit which is part of the organized militia of South Carolina and as a component of the South Carolina Military Department. It provides specialized professional support to the Department. The Detachment consists of volunteers from across the state, appointed by the Governor and the Adjutant General of South Carolina, who provide administrative support to the Governor and the Adjutant General. The unit is composed of legal, medical, governmental, business, and law enforcement executives who assist the Adjutant General in developing and reviewing policy. Since its beginning in 1996, the Detachment has supported the successful Youth Challenge Academy (YCA) Program and the follow-on to the 3-year U. S. Department of Labor Grant of the JOBS Challenge, funded by South Carolina in November 2019. The JSD provides a panel of subject matter experts in business, government, and the military to answer questions from the Cadets that enables them to gain valuable life and marketable job skills. The Detachment also supports the SC Military Museum and continues to participate in the military outreach to schools through the Patriotism-An American Tradition speakers' program. In 2018, the unit reorganized into a Joint Staff configuration that included a Civil Affairs Operations Section that allows the unit to assist in the long-term recovery from natural and man-made disasters in multiple phases of Emergency Management. The JSD, during the challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic, is poised to assist numerous small towns throughout the State preparing Continuity of Operations (COOP) plans and training. In addition, the JSD has developed a Cybersecurity capability which will add to

the outreach to small towns with a model to aid in their cyber protection. The Joint Services Detachment continues to work with its partners-the SCNG, the SCEMD, and the SCSG as it seeks to increase its long-term contributions to the State of South Carolina.



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH



*Students at the STARBASE Swamp Fox summer camp successfully launched model rockets on their last day of camp July 29, 2021 at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina. STARBASE is a Department of Defense STEM program for 5th graders that provides math and science instruction in a fun learning environment. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Lt. Col. Jim St. Clair; 169th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)*

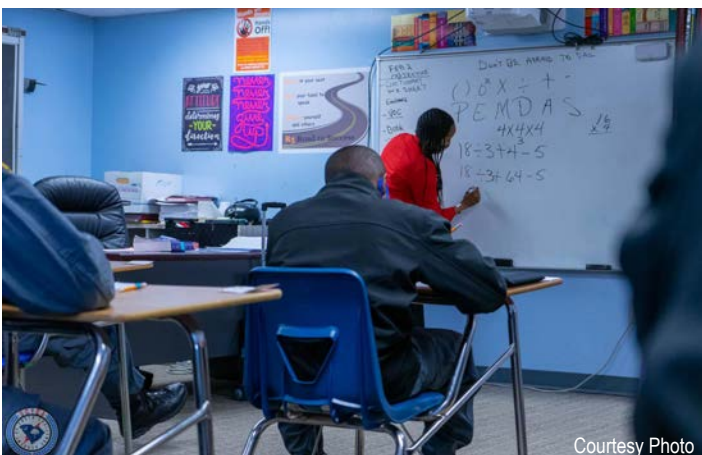
**STARBASE.** STARBASE Swamp Fox, located at McEntire Joint National Guard Base (JNGB), is a Department of Defense (DoD)-sponsored Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) program for 5th grade students. Designed to augment, enhance and reinforce a number of the State's educational math and science standards, the program uses a child-friendly, hands-on/minds-on approach, and serves as a catalyst for encouraging students in STEM subjects and future career options. Its mission is to raise the interest and improve the knowledge and skills of students, focusing on at-risk youth, by exposing them to an exciting, dynamic, technological environment and the positive role models found in the South Carolina Army and Air National Guard. During school year 2020-2021, STARBASE experienced numerous challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The DoD issued a waiver which allowed the program to be taught on the campuses of the participating schools instead of the standard mandated attendance at McEntire JNGB. This past school year, STARBASE Swamp Fox provided in-person instruction with 1,078 students at 16 schools from eight school districts. STARBASE is 100 percent federally funded and since its inception in 2003, it has provided STEM-enrichment classes for 16,601 South Carolina elementary students.

**South Carolina Youth ChalleNGe Academy and South Carolina Job ChalleNGe Program.** The South Carolina Youth ChalleNGe Academy is a community-based, quasi-military structured educational program that operates the Youth ChalleNGe and Job ChalleNGe programs. The mission of South Carolina Youth ChalleNGe Academy is to empower and prepare youth to develop personal, academic and career success through education, mentoring, and training.

The Youth ChalleNGe Program serves youth throughout South Carolina, ages 16-18 years old (age 15 only if turning 16 within the cycle). The program has two cycles per year, January and July, and can currently accept up to 150 youth per cycle. During fiscal year 2021, Youth ChalleNGe graduated 86 cadets who earned 64 GED diplomas. Since its inception in 1998, the

program has graduated 4,886 cadets with 1,790 earning their GED diploma.

The Job ChalleNGe Program is a follow-on program for selected Youth ChalleNGe Program graduates to provide hands-on job skills training through college trade courses. The program normally has two cycles per year, January and July, but also added a trial third cycle during the summer to provide an additional opportunity for graduated cadets. Job ChalleNGe currently partners with Midlands Technical College and is building additional partnerships under a Department of Defense/National Guard Bureau grant. Despite the challenges of COVID-19, during fiscal year 2021, the program graduated 32 cadets. Since its inception in January 2016, 11 classes and 247 graduates have completed the program.



Courtesy Photo



Courtesy Photo



*The South Carolina Military Museum is located at 1 National Guard Road in Columbia, South Carolina.*

**South Carolina Military Museum.** During fiscal year 2021, despite the challenges resulting from COVID-19, the South Carolina Military Museum continued its mission to preserve the legacy of the Palmetto State’s military history, build community partnerships, and improve the visitor experience. The museum continued to enhance its collection of military artifacts through the cultivation of new donors and by maintaining relationships with past donors.

The year began with the museum staff returning to work on-site

following COVID-19 constraints. Oct. 1, 2020, the museum opened an exhibition commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the Victory over Japan to end WWII. The exhibition highlighted South Carolina veterans who served in the Pacific, as well as stories relating to inclusion in the military. Dec. 6, 2020, for the third consecutive year, the museum partnered with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and the Blue Knights Motorcycle Club to host the state’s largest Toys for Tots charity drive. Starting in November 2020, the museum initiated an ambitious facility improvement plan which continued till June 2021. This work included a substantial expansion of the Artillery hall exhibition space, renovation of a large multipurpose room, installation of updated security and fire alarm systems, and significant upgrades to climate control systems. A new collaboration was initiated with SCETV in an effort to develop K-12 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math programming for teachers and students. In April 2021, the museum returned to normal operating hours and museum volunteers were welcomed back to work in May. Museum staff continued to be involved in community events and organizations including Army Heritage Month with the U.S. Army Central Command, the American Legion, and the South Carolina model show. Museum staff were featured on the Our American Stories program in May.



*The 246th U.S. Army Band, South Carolina National Guard, performed a live concert during the Carolina Celebration of Liberty, June 27, 2021, at the First Baptist Church in Columbia, South Carolina. This concert was part of their summer tour as they provide several locations throughout the state with patriotic music to celebrate the nation’s independence. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Tim Andrews, South Carolina National Guard)*

**246th Army Band.** The “Band of the Palmetto State,” celebrated 82 years of service in 2021. As the premier musical representative of the South Carolina National Guard, this acclaimed organization travels throughout the state presenting a variety of music to enthusiastic audiences. The band is comprised of multiple performing groups in addition to the traditional concert, marching, and ceremonial bands. Among them, a New Orleans-style group called, “Battery Brass Band,” the jazz combo “Blues in Green,” and two popular music groups, “Moment’s Notice” and “Mandatory Fun.” The newest group, an eight-piece, “Night Show” style little big band, made its debut during the

band’s Operational Readiness Evaluation in July. The evaluation, conducted every three years by a three-person team of National Guard band leaders, gave the unit a “success” rating from full-time operations to musical readiness. After nearly 18 months of COVID-19 cancellations and postponements, the unit was able to perform for the public during their annual summer tour. The two-week annual training period included stops in Barnwell, Lexington, Rock Hill, Greenville, and Columbia, and included a performance at the 34th annual “Carolina Celebration of Liberty,” which was broadcast throughout the state.

# SOUTH CAROLINA MILITARY DEPARTMENT FORCE STRUCTURE

The guiding principles of the Office of the Adjutant General and South Carolina Military Department are to promote a cohesive, disciplined, and resilient organizational culture, where our people are trained, knowledgeable, and mentor each other in a positive, supportive environment; maintain trained and ready forces for the defense of our country and emergency support of our communities by investing in innovative individual and collective training opportunities and world-class facilities; and strengthen and leverage current relationships while identifying opportunities for mutually beneficial partnerships to maximize future competitiveness. The agency continued to meet these objectives in fiscal year 2021, both in terms of overall-mission readiness and service to the citizens of South Carolina. The South Carolina Military Department also continued working toward the achievement of the organization's strategic goals.



*U.S. Army Maj. Gen. R. Van McCarty, the adjutant general for South Carolina, placed a wreath at the Armed Forces Memorial on the State House grounds in Columbia, South Carolina, Dec. 14, 2020, during the annual ceremony recognizing service members who have made the ultimate sacrifice. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Chelsea Baker, South Carolina National Guard)*



## FISCAL YEAR 2021 TOTAL FORCE

### South Carolina Military Department members & employees

<b>Army National Guard</b> 9,245	<b>Air National Guard</b> 1,356	<b>Joint Services Det.</b> 30	<b>State Operations</b> 507	<b>State Guard</b> 883
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## Construction and Facilities Management.

The Construction and Facilities Maintenance Office (CFMO) oversees 3.5 million square feet of buildings, over 16,000 acres of training land, and a fully manned, equipped and functional fire department at McCrady Training Center, with a combined state and federal budget of over \$30 million. During fiscal year 2021, the CFMO awarded renovation contracts for the Sumter and Easley readiness centers. The shared state and federal investment of over \$6.2 million will ensure these two facilities meet modern codes and address the requirements of the South Carolina Army National Guard (SCARNG) units for future years. The CFMO continues to implement the plan of adding full female latrines and showers to existing readiness centers to meet the requirements of an increasing number of female Soldiers in the SCARNG ranks. Female latrine additions at the Rock Hill and Saluda readiness centers were completed with investment of \$688,000 of shared state and federal funds. The design for the Newberry Readiness Center female latrine addition was completed, and a construction contract was awarded at a shared cost of \$187,951. Contracts for designs for the Kingstree, West Columbia, and Walterboro readiness centers' female latrine additions were awarded, with projected construction contracts to be awarded in 2022. To address numerous roof leaks at the Columbia Readiness Center, the CFMO contracted the design and full roof replacement with an investment of \$968,000 of shared state and federal funds.

The CFMO continues to assess facilities to identify and project maintenance needs. The agency completed the Installation Energy and Water Plan to identify priorities for energy projects. The plan will prioritize sustainability projects for federal funds, which will benefit the agency in potential cost savings and resiliency in energy and water

needs.

In addition, the CFMO has contracted for the designs of backup generators at the Georgetown and Marion readiness centers, and a solar generation bank at McCrady Training Center.

The CFMO is preparing for the construction of new readiness centers on Joint Base Charleston and in Aiken County. Construction of the Joint Base Charleston Readiness Center and the design of the Aiken Readiness Center and DreamPort Facility is slated to begin in 2022. The Aiken Readiness Center will be co-located with University of South Carolina Aiken, as well as the DreamPort facility.

The agency's efforts resulted in more efficient and sustainable facility operations, and enabled the agency to provide necessary services to Soldiers and their families while also supporting the local civilian community. The SCARNG has a physical presence in 40 of the state's 46 counties thereby maintaining its traditional community-based force, where feasible and fiscally responsible. These locations include 63 readiness centers, nine Field Maintenance Shops, two Army Aviation Support Facilities, a Combined Support Maintenance Shop, a Unit Training Equipment Site, a major training center, McCrady Training Center, with one sub-training site, Clarks Hill Training Site, one close-in training area at the Savannah River Site, the South Carolina National Guard headquarters complex, and the Olympia Armory.



*U.S. Army Maj. Gen. R. Van McCarty, the adjutant general for South Carolina, and Dr. Sandra J. Jordan, University of South Carolina Aiken (UofSC Aiken) chancellor, signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) at the UofSC Aiken campus Feb. 1, 2021, in support of the development of a new South Carolina National Guard readiness center with a focus on enhancing cyber initiatives in the state. The readiness center, referred to as a cyber-security DreamPort, is expected to be the home of the South Carolina National Guard's 125th Cyber Battalion, currently headquartered at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina. Constructing the facility on the UofSC Aiken campus allows for the South Carolina National Guard to leverage the academic partnership with UofSC Aiken, as well as utilize the nearby cyber capabilities including the U.S. Army's Cyber Center of Excellence at Fort Gordon, Georgia and the Savannah River National Laboratory's Advanced Manufacturing Collaborative. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Tim Andrews, South Carolina National Guard)*



**Greenville RC**

HHC 2-151 AVN  
DET 1 CO A 2-151 AVN  
DET 1 CO B 2-238 AVN  
DET 2 HHC 2-238 AVN  
DET 3 CO D 2-238 AVN  
DET 3 CO E 2-238 AVN  
RSP CO A

**Greenville Armory**

HHC 151 SIG BN

**Wellford**

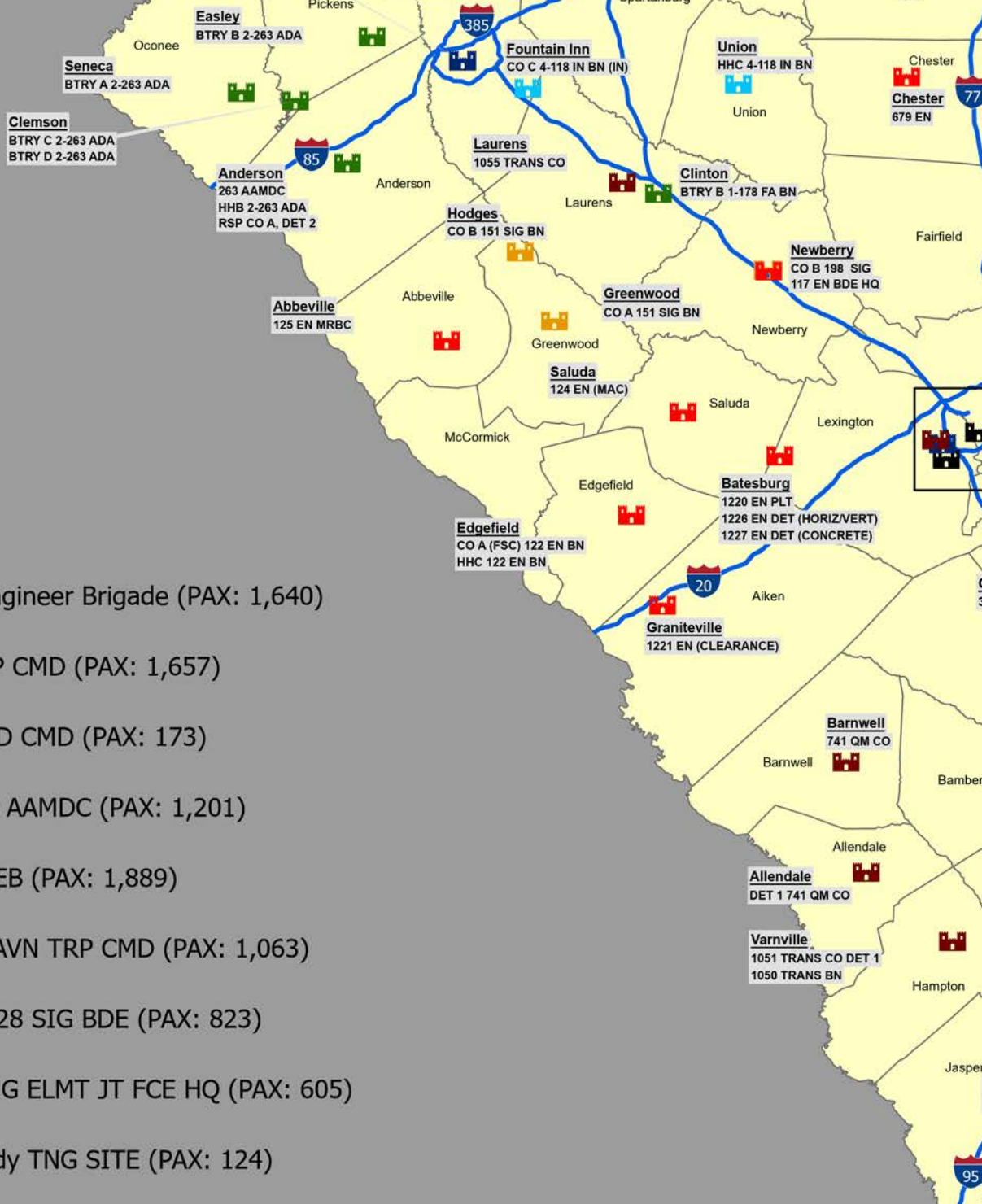
174 EN CO (HORIZONTAL)

**Spartanburg**

228 SIG BDE  
RSP CO A, DET 1

**Rock Hill**

CO A (FSC) 178 EN BN  
HHC 178 EN BN



117 Engineer Brigade (PAX: 1,640)

59 TRP CMD (PAX: 1,657)

SC MED CMD (PAX: 173)

263RD AAMDC (PAX: 1,201)

218 MEB (PAX: 1,889)

59TH AVN TRP CMD (PAX: 1,063)

HHC 228 SIG BDE (PAX: 823)

SCARNG ELMT JT FCE HQ (PAX: 605)

McCrady TNG SITE (PAX: 124)

# SCARNG Stationing Plan FY 2021



- Class IX**  
742 MAINT CO
- Columbia**  
1980 AQ  
59TH CHAPLAIN TEAM  
R & R CMD  
SCARNG ELMT JF HQ  
ARMY ELMT JF HQ
- Congaree**  
1051 RGNL TRIAL DEF  
678 ADA BRIGADE
- Eastover**  
1810 JAG  
642 SUPPORT BN  
CO A 1-151 AVN BN  
CO B 1-151 AVN BN  
CO C 1-151 AVN BN  
CO D 1-151 AVN BN  
CO E 1-151 AVN BN
- McEntire MURC**  
751 CSSB  
246 ARMY BAND  
HHC 1-151 AVN BN  
59TH AVN TRP CMD  
59 TRP CMD  
SC MED CMD  
125 CYBER PROTECTION BN  
135 CYBER SECURITY  
145 CYBER WARFARE
- Lima Company**  
CO A 1-111 AVN  
DET 1 HHC 1-111 AVN  
DET 1 CO D 1-111 AVN  
CO E 1-111 AVN DET 1  
CO B 642 DET 1  
DET 2 CO C 2-238 AVN
- McCrady**  
1-134 FA FIST DET (FIST)  
108 PUBLIC AFFAIRS DET  
266 EN DET (FF)  
264 EN DET (FF)  
267 EN DET (FF)  
218TH REGIMENT (RTI)  
265 EN DET (FF)  
742 OD CO DET UTES  
268 EN DET (FF)
- Pine Ridge**  
DET 1 SCARNG ELMT JF HQ  
43 CST
- West Columbia**  
132 MP CO  
RSP CO B  
RSP CO B, DET 2
- West Columbia AAOF**  
CO B 2-641 AVN DET 5  
ARNG OSA

The South Carolina Military Department consists of the South Carolina National Guard, South Carolina State Guard, State Operations Department, South Carolina Emergency Management Division, South Carolina Youth Challenge Academy, STARBASE Swamp Fox, and South Carolina Military Museum. The South Carolina Military Department is led by Maj. Gen. R. Van McCarty, the Adjutant General for South Carolina. The Governor serves as the Commander-in-Chief of the South Carolina National Guard.

