South Carolina Military Department
Annual Report
FY 2020
Dear Supporters of the South Carolina Military Department:

It is an honor to present the South Carolina Military Department’s fiscal year 2020 annual magazine highlighting the accomplishments of the Soldiers, Airmen, state and federal employees, volunteers, and family members that contribute to the organization.

Fiscal year 2020 has presented unique challenges for the South Carolina Military Department, but we have continued to adapt in order to meet the mission. The organization has been involved in the state’s response to COVID-19 since March, with the South Carolina Emergency Management Division, South Carolina National Guard, and South Carolina State Guard working in support of civilian partners to keep the citizens of South Carolina safe. In the midst of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, the South Carolina Military Department was called on to support in the aftermath of deadly tornadoes that impacted the state in April. In June, we were called on again in order to support citizens’ right to peacefully protest, both within the state, as well as in our Nation’s Capital.

Outside of the response missions, this year the South Carolina Military Department also welcomed the newest unit in the organization with the activation of the 117th Engineer Brigade headquartered in Newberry, South Carolina. The South Carolina National Guard continued to meet their federal mission to deploy Soldiers and Airmen in support of the nation’s defense, as well as welcomed a number of service members home from mobilizations. Additionally, the South Carolina State Guard celebrated its 350th anniversary and continues to be a relevant force conducting frequent training to remain ready to respond as needed. The South Carolina Youth ChalleNGe academy found ways to adapt to COVID-19 in order to continue graduating students from the program and the South Carolina Emergency Management Division remains prepared to respond in the event of a major hurricane or other natural disasters in the state.

There is no greater honor than serving with the men and women of the South Carolina Military Department and I hope you are proud of the Soldiers, Airmen, federal and state employees, and families of the South Carolina Military Department for the work they have accomplished this past year in support of this great state and nation.

We thank you for your continued support and hope you enjoy seeing the accomplishments of the South Carolina Military Department throughout this magazine.

Sincerely,

R. Van McCarty
Major General, SCNG
The Adjutant General
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**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.

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

Brig. 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.
Chief Master Sergeant Kevin S. Thomas  
*State Interim Senior Enlisted Advisor*

Chief Master Sgt. Thomas is the interim senior enlisted advisor 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 is 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 Scott Bridgers  
*Assistant Adjutant General - Air*

Brig. Gen. Bridgers is the assistant adjutant general for Air National Guard and oversees operations on matters pertaining to the more than 1,200 Airmen in the South Carolina Air National Guard.
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.

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.
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.

PEOPLE:
• SET THE CONDITIONS
• PROMOTE GROWTH
• CHANGE THE CLIMATE

READINESS:
• BALANCE THE STRUCTURE
• MODERNIZE FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT
• INNOVATE TRAINING

PARTNERSHIPS:
• EVALUATE & OPTIMIZE
• IDENTIFY & DEVELOP
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.
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.

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.

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. The 117th Engineer Brigade is the newest brigade in the South Carolina National Guard.
U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 1-151st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion (ARB) and the 2-263rd Air Defense Artillery (ADA) Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, conduct a joint-training exercise in Oconee County, South Carolina, Sept. 9, 2020. The event provided both units the opportunity to exchange experiences and technical knowledge on their respective equipment, tactics, and mission capabilities. (U.S. Army National Guard photo Sgt. 1st Class Roby Di Giovine, South Carolina National Guard)

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 are emergency preparedness/homeland defense, quality Soldier and Family support systems, and innovative technological application. The South Carolina National Guard’s goal is to ensure relevance through the adaptation of its force to meet the challenges of the 21st Century.

In FY20, 16 percent of the SCARNG was engaged in more than 10 different countries to include South Korea, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Egypt, Qatar, Germany, Poland, Romania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Honduras, and various United States based missions such as the National Capital Region and the Southwest Border mission.

**FY20 Army National Guard Highlights:**

**Nov. 3, 2019** - The South Carolina National Guard conducted a ceremony to recognize the activation of the 117th Engineer Brigade in Newberry, South Carolina as the newest unit in the organization. The brigade serves as the headquarters for the 122nd Engineer Battalion, the 178th Engineer Battalion, and the 710th Explosive Hazardous Coordination Cell. It is commanded by U.S. Army Col. James Fowler and U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Peter Heggie.

**Dec. 7, 2019** - The South Carolina National Guard conducted a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the readiness center in Lancaster, South Carolina, to recognize the renovations recently conducted. The renovations included a new roof, windows and doors, masonry repairs, improved drainage, electrical and plumbing improvements and upgrades, and reconfiguration of the latrines and kitchen. The Lancaster readiness center is the home of 1782nd Engineer Support Company.

**Dec. 8, 2019** - The South Carolina National Guard conducted a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the readiness center in Greenville, South Carolina to recognize the renovations recently conducted. The renovations included a new roof and entryway and other exterior improvements, updated fire alarm system, updated heating/air conditioning and electrical systems, latrine renovations with new plumbing and water heater, wall, floor, and ceiling finishes, parking lot, sidewalks, and fencing. The Greenville readiness center is the home of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 151st Expeditionary Signal Battalion, 228th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade.

**Dec. 9, 2019** - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with Task Force Sentinel, 678th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, South Carolina National Guard were welcomed home from a deployment to the National Capital Region during a ceremony in Eastover, South Carolina.

**Dec. 12, 2019** - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 1221st Engineer Clearance Company, 122nd Engineer Battalion, 117th Engineer Brigade, South Carolina National Guard were welcomed home from deployment during a ceremony in West Columbia, South Carolina. The 1221st Engineer Clearance Company returned from a nearly nine month deployment to the Middle East in support of Operation Inherent Resolve where they provided route clearance support and engineer projects throughout Syria, Iraq, Jordan, and Kuwait.

**Dec. 13, 2019** - U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Jessica Smiley, South Carolina National Guard military police non-commissioned officer currently serving with the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, graduated as one of the first female National Guard Soldiers to complete U.S. Army Ranger School at Fort Benning, Georgia.
Jan. 3, 2020 - The 43rd Civil Support Team (CST), South Carolina National Guard, conducted a joint inspection with the South Carolina Air National Guard at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina, before loading equipment to travel to the U.S. Virgin Islands for training. The purpose of the training was to exercise the readiness of the 43rd CST and their ability to load required equipment and make movement in response to a real-world mission.

Jan. 25, 2020 - The South Carolina National Guard, 1-178th Field Artillery Battalion, welcomed South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster, and other members of the South Carolina government, to view live-fire training activities at McCrady Training Center in Eastover, South Carolina.

Feb. 25, 2020 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers and U.S. Air National Guard Airmen with the South Carolina National Guard participated in the South Carolina Military Department Day at the State House in Columbia, South Carolina providing military vehicle displays, equipment demonstrations, and information booths to bring recognition to and educate the lawmakers and general public about the capabilities and personnel that make up the organization. The South Carolina National Guard is a community-based organization with a dual role of a federal mission in support of national defense, as well as the state mission to serve the governor and the citizens of South Carolina in response to natural disasters, civil unrest, and other operations as directed by the governor.

March 4, 2020 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers and civilian rescuers with the South Carolina-Helicopter Aquatic Rescue Team conducted hoist-recovery training during Patriot South 2020 at Port Bienville, Gulfport, Mississippi. Patriot South is a Domestic Operations disaster-response training exercise conducted by National Guard units working with federal, state, and local emergency management agencies, and first responders.

March 20, 2020 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 59th Troop Command, South Carolina National Guard, and U.S. Air National Guard Airmen with the 169th Logistics Readiness Squadron, South Carolina National Guard, loaded personal protective equipment and other supplies to be transported and distributed to the 46 counties in South Carolina in support of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control.

April 6, 2020 - U.S. Army Maj. Gen. R. Van McCarty, the adjutant general for South Carolina, announced the South Carolina National Guard’s support to the state’s healthcare system for COVID-19 response efforts during a press conference in Columbia, South Carolina. The South Carolina National Guard worked with state and federal agencies to create an adaptable support plan intended to help expand hospital footprints, if needed.

April 15, 2020 - U.S. Army National Guard medical personnel with the South Carolina National Guard provided medical pre-screening to U.S.
Army National Guard Soldiers starting duty in Eastover, South Carolina. The medical pre-screening is part of measures put in place to limit the exposure of COVID-19 for the service members and protect the health of the force.

April 15, 2020 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 2-263rd Air Defense Artillery Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, assisted local civil authorities with manning traffic control points in Oconee County, South Carolina in the aftermath of the tornadoes that impacted the state April 13.

April 23, 2020 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the South Carolina National Guard received training from U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers from the Georgia National Guard on facility sanitation procedures at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina to be used in support of COVID-19 response efforts. The purpose of the training was to share sanitation methods aimed at halting the virus’ spread in the community.

April 24, 2020 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with Joint Task Force 59, South Carolina National Guard, supported Oliver Gospel with serving meals for the homeless community in Columbia, South Carolina.

April 27, 2020 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with Joint Task Force 59, South Carolina National Guard, transported and distributed school breakfasts and lunches in Horry County, South Carolina in support of Horry County Schools and the South Carolina Department of Education. The support from the South Carolina National Guard allowed the South Carolina Department of Education to continue providing meals to children during the COVID-19 school closures.

May 5, 2020 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 122nd Engineer Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, helped clear debris in Pickens County, South Carolina in the aftermath of storms that impacted the state, April 13.

May 21, 2020 - U.S. Army National Guard medical personnel with the South Carolina National Guard received training in obtaining nasal and oral swabs for COVID-19 testing from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina. The training certified the National Guard members as South Carolina Emergency Medical Technicians.

May 31, 2020 - Approximately 500 U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the South Carolina National Guard were activated to be prepared to assist law enforcement in maintaining citizen safety and peace at protests taking place throughout the state.

May 31, 2020 - The South Carolina National Guard conducted a dignified transfer of U.S. Army 1st Lt. Trevarius
Bowman with Company B, 198th Signal Battalion returning his remains to his Family in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Bowman died of non-combat related injuries May 19, 2020 while deployed to Afghanistan.

June 2020 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers attended a virtual Basic Leadership Course at the 218th Regional Training Institute at McCrady Training Center in Eastover, South Carolina in order to train U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers to be non-commissioned officers, while also following safety guidance for COVID-19.

June 1, 2020 - U.S. Army Lt. Col. Herman Crosson was announced as the brigade commander of the 59th Troop Command. Crosson is the first African American service member to command the 59th Troop Command, making his selection a historic event for the unit and the organization.

June 2, 2020 - Approximately 445 U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the South Carolina National Guard were activated to travel to the District of Columbia National Guard support the District of Columbia National Guard with protest assistance in the nation’s capital June 3, 2020 in order to protect citizen’s right to peacefully protest. When the South Carolina National Guard is activated in response to providing support to protests, it is in order to assist with maintaining citizen safety and peace and to deter violence. The mission of the South Carolina National Guard in D.C. was to support the District of Columbia National Guard service members assisting local law enforcement with crowd control, general security, and patrols for continued public safety and critical infrastructure security. When the South Carolina National Guard is activated for these missions, it is not intended to deter citizens from peacefully protesting, rather it is a means to help support an environment where citizens feel safe to exercise their rights and freedoms. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Erica Jaros, South Carolina National Guard)
Nation’s Capital to support the District of Columbia National Guard conducting crowd control, general security, and patrols for continued public safety and critical infrastructure security. When the South Carolina National Guard is activated for these missions, it is not intended to deter citizens from peacefully protesting, rather it is a means to help support an environment where citizens feel safe to exercise their rights and freedoms. 

June 23, 2020 – A South Carolina National Guard CH-47 Chinook helicopter placed a new bridge at the Lake Conestee Nature Preserve in Greenville, South Carolina in support of Greenville County after the previous bridge was destroyed by flooding in November 2018. The heavy lift mission served as a training exercise for South Carolina National Guard aviation members, providing a training opportunity to install a structure of this type, simulating a military objective, while providing assistance to the community.

June 29, 2020 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the South Carolina National Guard from the 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade and 108th Chemical Company sanitized the South Carolina National Guard’s readiness center located on The Citadel campus in Charleston, South Carolina as part of a facility sanitation team.

July 16, 2020 - Some U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with Company B, 198th Expeditionary Signal Battalion returned home with friends, family, and South Carolina National Guard leaders greeting them at the airports closest to their home of record, after a deployment in support of Operation Spartan Shield. Company B, 198th Expeditionary Signal Battalion is stationed in Newberry, South Carolina and provided communication support while deployed to the Middle East.

July 17, 2020 - The South Carolina National Guard Honor Guard provided full military honors during the funeral for retired U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Stanhope Spears, Sr., in Columbia, South Carolina. Spears served as the 26th Adjutant General for South Carolina for 16 years, 1995-2011, with a total of 51 years of service in the South Carolina National Guard.

Aug. 4, 2020 - U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the South Carolina National Guard worked on their swift water certification at the U.S. National Whitewater Center in Charlotte, North Carolina, in preparation for the 2020 hurricane season. Members of the 125th Engineer Company and the 264th-268th Engineer Detachment Firefighters conducted tactical swift water rescue scenarios, swift water obstacle maneuvers, and practice various techniques navigating swift water as individuals and as a team.

Aug. 8, 2020 - The South Carolina National Guard conducted a ceremony recognizing the inactivation of the 218th Brigade Support Battalion in Columbia, South Carolina.

Sept. 30, 2020 - Some U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 4-118th Infantry Battalion, 30th Armored Brigade Combat Team, attached to the 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Carolina National Guard, returned home from the Middle East with South Carolina National Guard leaders greeting them in Columbia, after a deployment in support of Operation Inherent Resolve and Operation Spartan Shield. The 4-118th Infantry Battalion deployed to the Middle East after departing South Carolina in August 2019.
McEntire Joint National Guard Base (JNGB) is a 2,400+ acre federal military installation just east of Columbia, South Carolina. Since the founding of the South Carolina Air National Guard (SCANG) in 1946, the base has been operated by the 169th Fighter Wing (169FW).

The SCANG’s 169FW is one of the United States Air Force’s (USAF) 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 2019-2020, more than 140 Swamp Fox Airmen were called up to active duty for worldwide Agile Combat Support deployments. The 169FW’s primary federal mission is to employ conventional munitions in the Suppression and Destruction of Enemy Air Defenses (SEAD/DEAD) role. Additionally, the 169FW provides continual air defense of the East Coast of the continental United States through for the North American Aerospace Defense Command with Airmen and aircraft executing the Aerospace Control Alert mission, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

In July, the 169FW began installing APG-83 Scalable Agile Beam Radar (SABR) and the first flight of an APG-83 in a SCANG aircraft occurred July 31. All upgrades were completed by September. The APG-83 is an Advanced Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) which provides substantial capability enhancements over the original, factory installed 1980s era, APG-68 mechanically scanned radars. Coupled with other display and avionics upgrades the AESA provides greatly enhanced autonomous, all-environment stand-off precision targeting. It provides greater target detection and tracking, and combat identification capabilities.

In support of its state mission, McEntire JNGB and the 169FW played a critical role in South Carolina’s COVID-19 response by providing medical personnel and logistics support. The SCANG’s State Air Surgeon was a key advisor to the Governor and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. Numerous expert Airmen from the 169th Medical Group were mobilized and deployed into “hot zones” to augment local authorities’ response to the pandemic.

**FY20 Air National Guard Highlights:**

Oct. 26, 2019 - U.S. Air Force (retired) Col. Jack Van Loan, fighter pilot and Vietnam War Prisoner of War, was honored with a Missing Man flyover by the 169FW during a memorial ceremony held in Columbia, South Carolina. Van Loan passed away in Columbia Oct. 14 and received full military honors for his 30 years of service, which included his 2,116 days spent in the North Vietnamese Hoa Lo prison, more commonly known as the “Hanoi Hilton.” The ceremony took place at the statue commemorating his release from “prison” in Centennial Plaza. The South Carolina Air National Guard’s 169FW was honored to pay tribute to this great American with a four-ship F-16 flyover.

Nov. 5, 2019 – The 169FW and McEntire JNGB hosted Airmen from Joint Base Charleston’s 628th Air Base Wing (628ABW) during the wing’s Operational Readiness Exercise. During the week, the 628ABW set up a Forward Operating Base at McEntire JNGB to exercise and evaluate their wartime mission of supporting airlift operations for C-17 Globemaster IIIs from the

U.S. Airmen and Soldiers along with family and friends participate in the 8th annual Foxtrot Warrior Run at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, Oct. 6, 2019, hosted by the South Carolina Air National Guard’s Top 3 Council. The event raised money to benefit Swamp Foxes in the time of need and other local wounded warriors. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Amy Bodkins, 169th Fighter Wing)
Air Force’s 437th Airlift Wing and the Air Force Reserve Command’s 315th Airlift Wing. McEntire JNGB routinely hosts joint service units needing to accomplish a wide variety of training missions.

Dec. 7, 2019 - U.S. Air National Guard Airmen from the SCANGs 169FW participated in basewide Resilience Tactical Pause (RTP) at McEntire JNGB. The RTP was implemented by U.S. Air Force Gen. David Goldfein, Air Force Chief of Staff, and U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Kaleth Wright, Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, to address the increasing number of Airmen suicides, attempted suicides, and guide Airmen to better options to resolve what may be causing their suffering.


Members of the South Carolina Military Base Task Force were hosted by the South Carolina Air National Guard at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina, October 23, 2019, for a meeting to engage initiatives to enhance the value of military installations and facilities as well as the quality of life for military personnel in South Carolina. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Edward Snyder, 169th Fighter Wing)
Competition held at nearby Shaw AFB. This competition involved a written examination, uniform inspection, inspection of tools and technical orders, and the loading an F-16 with a GBU-38 (500-pound GPS guided bomb), AIM-9 (heat seeking air-to-air missile) and an AIM-120 (radar guided air-to-air missile). Each team had 30 minutes to load the F-16. Team McEntire placed first with a score of 1,760 of 2,500 possible points and loaded the F-16 in 18:43 min. The other teams scored 1,340 points and 885 points.

Jan. 29, 2020 - U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. (retired) Lanny Cobb, former member of the South Carolina National Guard, was inducted into the Enlisted Hall of Fame during a ceremony at McCrady Training Center, in Eastover, South Carolina. Induction into the South Carolina National Guard Enlisted Hall of Fame is an honor for senior non-commissioned officers who have gone above and beyond in performance of their duties. Cobb enlisted in 1978 and retired in 2019 with more than 41 years of service. During his service, he held numerous positions, to include 169FW logistics superintendent, 245th Air Traffic Control logistics manager, and SCANG Joint Force Headquarters logistics superintendent.
May 14, 2020 - U.S. Air National Guard Airmen from the 169th Maintenance Group’s structures shop at McEntire JNGB designed a commemorative tail flash on a Swamp Fox F-16 fighter jet with the tail number 911 to honor those who died during the terrorists attacks.

Aug. 8, 2020 - Airmen from the SCANG’s 169FW at McEntire JNGB along with family and friends held a memorial service to remember U.S. Air Force Maj. Richard Garin, a pilot with the 157th Fighter Squadron who passed away July 28 after a valiant struggle with a sudden, severe medical complication. Garin enlisted in the SCANG in 2002 as a life support technician while attending the University of South Carolina. After graduating in 2006, he was competitively selected for an F-16 fighter pilot position. As a Swamp Fox fighter pilot, he excelled and was selected to attend the elite USAF Weapons School. A veteran of multiple combat tours to the Middle East, Garin dedicated his life to the service of others.

Aug. 31, 2020 - Leaders from Prisma Health visit U.S. Air National Guard Airmen of the SCANG at McEntire JNGB to recognize and thank the unit for the flyovers they provided over more than 60 hospitals around the state April 27 for Operation AMERICAN RESOLVE. The flyover event was USAF sponsored and offered air wings the honor to show their support to all healthcare professionals as they continued to fight the COVID-19 virus pandemic.

Sept. 6, 2020 - The SCANG performed the flyover for the Bojangles Southern 500 NASCAR race at Darlington Raceway. The pilots were U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. David Anderson and U.S. Air Force Capt. Mark Pierce. In addition, U.S. Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Steven David sang the National Anthem and the SCANG provided a color guard.

Sept. 22, 2020 - The SCANG sent several F-16s to participate in the Guardian Shield exercise in Washington, D.C. The exercise is part of the Department of Homeland Security defense of the National Capital Region.

Sept. 22, 2020 – Personnel from the Colombian Air Force visited McEntire JNGB as part of the State Partnership Program.
The South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD) leads the statewide emergency management program. As part of the state Military Department, SCEMD serves as the primary coordinating agency for all large-scale disaster preparedness, response and recovery operations in the Palmetto State.

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.
FY20 SCEMD Highlights:

SCEMD served as the state coordinating entity for the April 2020 severe weather/tornadoes and the on-going response to COVID-19. While recovery and mitigation program staff addressed short, intermediate and long-term needs, SCEMD continued to prepare for the next challenge.

SCEMD 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 and Pinnacle Mountain wildfire, 2017 Hurricane Irma, 2020 February severe weather, and the 2020 April tornadoes.

SCEMD continues to exercise and validate their communications and alert and warning systems with the counties, state and federal agencies. SCEMD continues to expand its use of social media, to include the South Carolina Emergency Manager mobile application, and established media channels to message and inform the public to provide the latest emergency information and assist in their emergency preparations. Additionally, after action improvement planning done following each major disaster declaration enables the agency (and state) to improve alert and warning capabilities.


The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) increased readiness to Operational Condition Level 2 and began daily operations with the primary focus on sourcing of personal protective equipment and contingency planning for medical surge at healthcare facilities. With response operations still ongoing, this incident represents South Carolina’s longest activation with a record number of requests for logistical support of more than 3,300 requests. Cost estimates for state and local governments and eligible private non-profits’ emergency protective measures currently exceed $174 million while total federal aid exceeds several billion dollars for various agencies.

April Severe Weather Event. During the night of April 12 and into the morning of April 13, several severe storms impacted South Carolina, generating at least 28 tornadoes in the state. Local coroners confirmed nine storm-related fatalities in four counties, and there were 290,000 customers statewide without power. More than 1,500 homes were damaged, over 200 destroyed, as well as an additional 200 with major damage. The SEOC, already activated for COVID-19, supported the response and recovery effort. The President approved a major disaster declaration for individual assistance for nine counties totaling almost $5 million in federal support. Eight counties, with damages totaling over $28.7 million, received a public assistance declaration to assist eligible governments and private non-profits.
COVID-19 RESPONSE

The South Carolina Military Department has been actively supporting the COVID-19 response efforts in South Carolina since March 13, 2020. The South Carolina Emergency Management Division has served as the operations center for the state’s response efforts, planning and coordinating the implementation of the South Carolina Emergency Operations Plan in the state. They have worked closely with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) in coordinating and communicating the state’s public health response to COVID-19 and supported the requests of state agencies and counties, as well as regional medical providers to meet the needs of the citizens during this pandemic.

The Soldiers and Airmen of the South Carolina National Guard have also been actively serving in their communities in partnership with state and local agencies. Early on, the South Carolina National Guard transported essential personal protective equipment to all 46 counties in support of the SCDHEC. School meals and Wi-Fi hotspots were delivered to children in Horry County in support of the South Carolina Department of Education when schools were closed due to the pandemic. Three food bank agencies and one homeless shelter were supported across seven counties with packaging and distributing food to those in need. Planning and coordination took place in support of the state’s medical surge plan, projecting future needs throughout the counties, and facilitating support from the South Carolina National Guard. As of September 2020, the South Carolina National Guard continues to support the South Carolina Department of Corrections with inmate medical screening in the prison system, and our priority has been supporting numerous mobile COVID-19 testing sites throughout South Carolina in support of the state’s healthcare system. N-95 mask decontamination, tentage support, and facility sanitizing continues, as well.

Additionally, the men and women of the South Carolina State Guard have been directly supporting the communities throughout the COVID-19 response efforts. The South Carolina State Guard has been supporting mobile COVID-19 testing sites with personnel to help setup and direct traffic, supporting food banks with packaging and distributing food items to those in need, providing personnel to assist with administrative duties at the South Carolina Emergency Management Division, and supported healthcare workers by helping convert a wellness center into a low acuity medical care facility, as a rehearsal in support of the state’s medical surge plan.

This is a small overview of what all the men and women of the South Carolina Military Department have done as part of the state’s response efforts since March and we will continue to offer our capabilities as long as there is a need in the state. We are continuously planning and assessing the impacts of the virus and we are working with partner agencies to address challenges to ensure we’re postured to meet the needs of the communities and citizens of South Carolina.
U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with Joint Task Force 59, South Carolina National Guard, assemble face shields at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina April 13, 2020 in support of the South Carolina Emergency Management Division. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Tim Andrews, South Carolina National Guard)

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the South Carolina National Guard from the 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade and 108th Chemical Company sanitize the South Carolina National Guard’s Readiness Center located on The Citadel campus in Charleston, South Carolina, June 29, 2020, as part of a facility sanitation team (FST). The teams ensure compliance with federal, state, and local policies while sanitizing facilities in the state in support of COVID-19 response efforts. The purpose of this sanitation is to limit the spread of the virus in the community while supporting the counties, state and local agencies, and first responders during COVID-19 response efforts in the state. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Adam Raynor, South Carolina National Guard)

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with Joint Task Force 59, South Carolina National Guard, train with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control on setting up and dismantling deployable medical shelters at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina, April 21, 2020, to familiarize the Soldiers with the equipment in case the state’s healthcare system determines the need for the shelters in support of COVID-19 response efforts. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Edward Snyder, South Carolina National Guard Public Affairs)

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 1053rd and 1055th Transportation companies, South Carolina National Guard, and U.S. Air National Guard Airmen with the 169th Logistics Readiness Squadron, South Carolina National Guard, load personal protective equipment and other supplies March 26, 2020 to be transported and distributed to the 46 counties in South Carolina in support of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. 1st Class Joe Cashion, South Carolina National Guard)
The South Carolina Military Department is committed to providing these specialized capabilities for homeland support:

**AVIATION**

By Sgt. 1st Class Roby Di Giovine

**MISSION COMMAND & CONTROL**

By Sgt. Tim Andrews

**ENGINEERING**

By Sgt. 1st Class Roby Di Giovine

**SECURITY**

By Staff Sgt. Erica Jaros

**LOGISTICS**

By Senior Master Sgt. Edward Snyder

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

By Sgt. Tim Andrews
Employment Services Division
The Employment Services Division aided in lowering the South Carolina National Guard (SCNG) unemployment rate and national veteran unemployment rate, placed service and Family members in 830 jobs.

Military Funeral Honors
The demand on the Military Funeral Honors (MFH) program has continued to grow as the largest calculated generation, the baby boomers, retire and reach their end of life. In FY20, MFH conducted a total of 2,296 funerals.

Survivor Outreach Services
Survivor Outreach Services (SOS) delivers on the Army’s commitment to support the Families of the fallen, and connects the survivor with the people who can help them cope with the loss of their service member. SOS coordinators currently service 1,200 survivors. The SCNG remains committed to caring for the loved ones of those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Resilience, Risk Reduction, and Suicide Prevention Program (R3SP)
R3SP integrates, educates and promotes resiliency by synchronizing Soldier, Airman and Family care systems and services in order to posture and promote consistent Resilience, Suicide Prevention, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response, and Substance Abuse Programs for service members and their Families, while maintaining a capability to quickly respond to emergent care needs.

The Suicide Prevention Program (SPP) remains in the top of the nation for Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training. SPP was selected to pilot the START program in FY20, an online training tool for service members, their Families, and community partners in how to start a conversation about suicide prevention. The SPP continues to build community relationships and state partnerships to help provide services for service members and their Families.

In the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) program, they hosted three refresher trainings and a Domestic Violence Awareness Victims Panel with the Richland County Sheriff’s Office. The SAPR office conducted 11 case management review briefings with the Adjutant General, managed 10 unrestricted sexual assault cases, and closed 4 cases.

Family Programs
The Family Programs Office currently offers four programs geographically dispersed within the state: Soldier & Family Readiness Specialist (formerly Family Readiness Support Assistance), Airman and Family Program, Family Assistance Specialist (FAS), Child and Youth Programs (C&YP), Personal Financial Counselor (PFC) Program, and the Military One Source (MOS) Program. Family Programs assisted Survivor Outreach Services with Gold and Blue Star Mothers, and the South Carolina National Guard retirement section with three Retiree Briefings. The Family Programs Office conducted two Back-to-School Bashes (one in partnership with Fort Jackson’s Army Community Services), two Pre-Command Course briefings with break-out sessions for the spouses, and the Christmas Cheer Program for low income military Families.

Behavioral Health Program
The Behavioral Health Program provides counseling,
assessment, and referrals in support of health needs of the South Carolina National Guard. The program provides a stable, cohesive and regionally-accessible psychological health program that strives to decrease high risk behaviors and promote healthy decision making choices in SCNG service members, Family members, and retirees. During FY20, the Behavioral Health Specialists Program reached over 15,842 service members, Family members and retirees. This total included 3,557 new staff consultations, 5,033 follow-ups, 2,538 outsider referrals, and 4,714 information and referral consultations. Additionally the Behavioral Health Specialists worked 302 case managements (individual service members), 18,084 outreach efforts, and 1 Duty-To-Warn.

**Substance Abuse Program**
The Substance Abuse Program 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 piloted the Commander’s Risk Reduction Dashboard in FY20 and will be the Army National Guard pilot for the Commander’s Risk Reduction Toolbox in FY21. The South Carolina Substance Abuse Program team successfully case managed over 50 new referrals this FY, to include 35 rehabilitation completions. The Substance Abuse Program now has the ability to conduct substance use assessments in-house at no cost to the Soldier. This will allow the Substance Abuse Program to accurately address the specific stressors that lead to substance use, make relevant referrals, and increase the number of successful completions, which will improve retention and reduce high risk behaviors. The team was also able to advocate for a Soldier to receive inpatient care through Fort Gordon, which opened up an additional resource for Soldiers needing inpatient care.

**Health and Wellness**
There were more than 2,490 service members enrolled in the Health and Wellness program with 294 flags removed for Army Physical Fitness Test and Army Body Composition Program by offering nutrition and physical fitness training sessions.
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 conducted a total of 54 missions in FY20 to include 2,235 sweeps, 37 planned missions, 7 assist missions, 10 WMD responses, and provided support to 37 agencies and entities to include the FBI, South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED), U.S. Coast Guard, Customs and Border Protection, Bureau of Protective Services, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, Clemson University, University of South Carolina, law enforcement, and fire departments.

The South Carolina-Helicopter Aquatic Rescue Team (SC-HART) operates as a collaborative effort between the State Urban Search and Rescue Task Force, 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 is 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. In FY20, elements from SC-HART conducted operations in response to four emergency calls in Oconee & Pickens counties.

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).
The 263rd Army Air 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 South Carolina National Guard continues to work closely with the South Carolina Forestry Commission to increase capability and capacity for conducting aerial wildfire fighting operations. Continued development of this partnership in both skill and size is paramount with forecasted increases in wildland fires over the next 3-5 years.

During FY20, the South Carolina National Guard Counterdrug Task Force partnered with federal, state and local law enforcement to support investigations resulting in the seizure of drugs, currency, weapons and vehicles totaling more than $77 million. The Task Force supported law enforcement agencies with management of required equipment, technical and digital support, communications support and preparation of various operational and financial reports and briefings. The Task Force provided assistance with telephonic and digital information exploitation, link analysis, document exploitation, commodity-financial analysis, and case construction to agencies including the FBI, Drug Enforcement Administration, 15th Circuit Court Drug Enforcement Unit, SLED, United States Postal Inspection, and the Greenville, Richland, Lexington, and Charleston County Sheriff’s offices. The Task Force provided domestic cannabis suppression and eradication operation support to SLED, as well as observation of airspace, maritime or surface areas to law enforcement agencies in support of investigations of illegal drug activities, drug trafficking and transportation. During this FY, the Task Force became participants in the Department of Justice asset forfeiture program receiving more than $25,000 which will be used to conduct law enforcement officer training and investigative support. The Task Force continues to work to increase operations in drug awareness and intervention in South Carolina by building a Civil Operations Drug Demand Program for FY21, specifically in support of the Governor’s Opioid Emergency Response Team, and with Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services, eventually positioning Civil Operations personnel to support High Intensity Drug Traffic Areas in order to support community-based organizations within those identified counties conducting drug reduction and intervention programs.
Aiken Readiness Center. Attacks on cyber security are a direct threat to our national and state security, economy, and our democracy. To counter this threat moving forward, the South Carolina Military Department’s number one priority is to build cyber defense capacity through the proposed Cyber Collaboration with the University of South Carolina-Aiken and Savannah River National Laboratory. This joint project is aligned with state priorities for advancing a technically competent workforce and promoting STEM and cyber higher education. This project transforms the traditional concept of a readiness center into a DreamPort, promoting communications and collaboration in cyber security and technology. The DreamPort enhances workforce development, provides a persistent cyber training environment, enables technical reach-back capability, lures business development across all sectors, and provides a gateway to the entire South Carolina Enterprise.

McEntire Joint National Guard Base and F-35. The South Carolina Air National Guard remains a premier operational unit in the Air Force. The 169th Fighter Wing and McEntire Joint National Guard Base, one of only three standalone Air National Guard bases, provides unique capability for South Carolina and the nation. McEntire is a domestic response hub and its importance was recently demonstrated when McEntire served as the central distribution center for COVID-19-related personal protective equipment delivered across the state, as well as providing hurricane relief during the past six years. No Air National Guard unit is better prepared, manned, and equipped to be selected during the next round of F-35 basing decisions.
State Partnership Program. The State Partnership Program (SPP) provides a unique opportunity for South Carolinians to learn from and mentor the SCNG’s partner, the Republic of Colombia. Since 2012, the SPP has provided opportunities for South Carolina National Guard (SCNG) members to engage with Colombians and assist in improving an array of processes, systems, and techniques, tactics, and procedures. The partnership looks for opportunities to support U.S. Southern Command’s Theater Campaign Strategy while establishing lasting relationships of trust and friendship from the beginning of career timelines. Since 2016, SCNG members assisted the Colombians in planning the transformation of their military to a post-conflict regional security force that supports the U.S. security objectives. The SPP continues to encourage Colombian relationships with various South Carolina civilian institutions including cadet exchanges with The Citadel and with the University of South Carolina for conditions-based maintenance. The SPP brings over $300,000 per year into the state and provides opportunities to keep the SCNG ready and relevant with an average of 30 engagements each year in an ever-changing global military environment. The SPP supports U.S. Army South Command’s initiatives including the 263rd Army Air and Missile Defense Command’s Integrated Air Defense support capability and the 169th Fighter Wing’s expertise in Air Sovereignty missions. Future focus includes exploring additional avenues to support the professionalization of the Colombian non-commissioned officer corps through the SCNG 218th Regional Training Institute. This past year, the SCNG SPP executed 12 events, prior to COVID-19 restrictions. As the SPP moves forward through the restrictions of COVID-19, we are maximizing relationships through virtual meetings and online forums.
Cyber Initiatives.
The South Carolina Army National Guard (SCARNG) leverages 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 the state and with federal agencies. The SCARNG provided direct support to eight cyber incidents within the state, including support to seven state/local government offices and one military installation.

Cyber Threat Analysis and Information Sharing.
The SCARNG and its partners, including Naval Information Warfare Center Atlantic, Dominion Energy, South Carolina Ports Authority, South Carolina State Guard, and academia, are focused on capabilities to collect, analyze and disseminate cyber threat information. This partnership enables the promotion of the exchange of cybersecurity ideas and information. The SCARNG is a formal member of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division’s South Carolina Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity Task Force, which is a collaborative effort between government, Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources, academia, and private industry cybersecurity professionals designed to enhance the cyber infrastructure security posture in the state.

Cyber Partnership Endeavors.
The SCARNG partnered with the U.S. Army Cyber Institute at West Point, South Carolina Ports Authority, and City of Charleston as part of exercise Jack Voltaic 3.0 (JV3.0). JV3.0 fostered collaboration between Department of Defense, federal, state, and 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 authorities 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.

Support to the South Carolina Elections Commission. The SCARNG participated in the planning and will participate in 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.

Developing Partnerships. The SCARNG partnered with new organizations to assist in the development of future projects. Due to Active Duty Cyber Protection Teams being engaged in real-world missions, 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 requirements input for a Department of Energy Electronic Warfare Range for use during joint exercises between federal and state agencies.
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, these assets include land, water and equestrian search & rescue teams, law enforcement augmentation teams, medical support teams, civil engineering teams, and Judge Advocate General (JAG) teams.

The SCSG provided a total of 51,103 volunteer service hours while training for disaster response missions and providing personnel to support the South Carolina Joint Operations Center, two county emergency operations centers, as well as personnel for general support missions. The SCSG JAGs provided legal support to the South Carolina National Guard (SCNG) at four Soldier Readiness Processing events and conducted two free will clinics. The SCSG engineer detachment supported the SCNG by providing building inspections and civil engineer reports on requested armories and other facilities. In support of COVID-19 missions in Berkeley, Charleston and Richland counties, the SCSG set up tents and equipment, provided traffic control at local COVID-19 testing sites, and assisted in the planning of field hospital sites. From March 24–June 30, 2020, the SCSG engineer detachment provided 852 volunteer service hours working with South Carolina Emergency Management Division and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control to conduct building inspections and provide civil engineer reports for potentially converting facilities for medical use for possible COVID-19 response missions.

During FY20, the SCSG conducted two search & rescue missions, supported the Cooper River Bridge Run, and five city or county festivals and community events. The SCSG honor unit conducted 28 honor guard missions for military funerals, and conducted seven honor guard missions for veterans events.

Joint Services Detachment. The Joint Services Detachment (JSD) is a State Defense Force unit which is part of the organized militia of South Carolina, which provides specialized professional support to the Military 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 Program and most recently the 3-year follow-on JOBS ChalleNGe that has resulted in its graduates gaining valuable marketable skills. In addition, the Detachment has supported the SC Military Museum and continues to participate in the military outreach to schools through the Patriotism—an American Tradition speakers program. Recently, the unit reorganized into a Joint Staff configuration that includes 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. Currently the JSD is preparing for Continuity of Operations training and assistance, primarily directed at small towns that have an identified need and priority of risk. 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.
STARBASE Swamp Fox, located at McEntire Joint National Guard Base is a Department of Defense (DoD)-sponsored Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) program for 5th grade students. In school year 2019-2020, the program was set to reach an all-time high attendance of over 1,600 students until schools were closed in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Even with the closure, the program had 1,184 students attend during the shortened school year. STARBASE Swamp Fox was re-certified as a fully compliant program in May 2020. This STEM program annually services students in the state’s greater Midlands area including eight public school districts, two parochial schools and two independent schools. 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 and minds-on approach, and serves as a catalyst for encouraging students in STEM subjects and future career options. The program is recognized by DoD STARBASE as a Level II program as it also conducts a STEM club for 6th graders at Southeast Middle School. STARBASE is 100 percent federally funded and the cost per student this past year was $270 for the five-day academic period. Since inception in 2003, STARBASE Swamp Fox has provided STEM enrichment educational classes for 15,523 South Carolina elementary students.

South Carolina Youth ChalleNGe Academy and South Carolina Job ChalleNGe Program.
The South Carolina Youth ChalleNGe Academy (SCYCA) is a community-based, quasi-military structured educational program that operates the Youth Challenge and Job Challenge Programs.

The Youth ChalleNGe Program leads, trains, and mentors at-risk youth, ages 16-18, to assist them in becoming productive and successful citizens. The program has two cycles per year, January and July, and can currently accept up to 150 youth per cycle. During FY20, Youth ChalleNGe graduated 125 cadets who earned 19 GEDs. Since its inception in 1998, the program has graduated 4,800 cadets with 1,726 earning their GED.

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. Job ChalleNGe currently partners with Midlands Technical College under a DoD/National Guard Bureau grant and has two cycles per year, January and July. During FY20, the program graduated 42 cadets. Since inception, nine classes and 215 graduates have completed the program.
The South Carolina Military Museum is located at 1 National Guard Road in Columbia, South Carolina.

South Carolina Military Museum. During FY20, the South Carolina Military Museum continued its mission of honoring this state’s citizen-Soldiers and Airmen and its martial tradition from 1670 to present day global operations. Jan. 18, 2020, the museum hosted an event recognizing the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge. Featuring South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster as the keynote speaker. The event included a special exhibit of this pivotal WWII battle, reenactors representing Allied and Axis forces, and South Carolina WWII veterans signing autographs. For the second straight year, the museum partnered with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and the Blue Knights M.C. (Police) to host the state’s largest Toys for Tots charity drive. The museum also continued to enhance its collection of authentic military artifacts, and its staff worked closely with the South Carolina Air National Guard to overhaul and enhance its “Swamp Fox” exhibit. In recognition of the 350-year anniversary of its birth, the museum developed and produced a documentary chronicling the history of the South Carolina National Guard.

The “Band of the Palmetto State,” celebrated 81 years of service in 2020. 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, the jazz ensemble known as the “Palmetto Jazz Orchestra,” a New Orleans-style group called “Battery Brass Band,” the jazz combo “Blues in Green,” a top 40s and southern rock group called “Moment’s Notice,” and the newest musical performance team “Mandatory Fun.” During FY20, the band, like many units within the organization, had to modify training and mission execution due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The band was able to support multiple ceremonial missions within the organization while adhering to social distancing guidelines, but was forced to cancel the annual summer tour. The band performed at the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony held in Columbia, as a community-based event supported by the band in the FY, as well as “Fall for Greenville” in October 2019. In March, the 246th Family sadly lost their acting first sergeant and enlisted band leader, U.S. Army Master Sgt. Jason Sprankle, after a long and courageous battle with cancer.
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 goals in FY20, both in terms of overall-mission readiness and service to the citizens of South Carolina. Aligned with its strategic plan, Palmetto Horizon 2018-2023, the South Carolina Military Department continued working toward the achievement of the organization’s strategic goals.

South Carolina Military Department

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<th>South Carolina Army National Guard</th>
<th>South Carolina Air National Guard</th>
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U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Van McCarty, the adjutant general for South Carolina, speaks during the South Carolina Military Department Day at the State House in Columbia, South Carolina, Feb. 25, 2020, which provided military vehicle displays, equipment demonstrations, and information booths to bring recognition to and educate the lawmakers and general public about the capabilities and personnel that make up the organization. The South Carolina National Guard is a community-based organization with a dual role of a federal mission in support of national defense, as well as the state mission to serve the governor and the citizens of South Carolina in response to natural disasters, civil unrest, and other operations as directed by the governor. (U. S. Army National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Brad Mincey, South Carolina National Guard Public Affairs)

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<th>Army National Guard</th>
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FY20 TOTAL FORCE

South Carolina Military Department members & employees
Construction and Facilities Management.
The Construction and Facilities Maintenance Office (CFMO) oversees 3.5 million square feet of buildings and over 16,000 acres, as well as a fully manned, equipped and functional fire department at the McCrady Training Center, with a combined state and federal budget of over $30 million. During FY20, the CFMO completed renovations of the Florence Readiness Center for a state and federal shared cost of over $3.8 million. The CFMO completed the designs for the renovation of the Sumter and Easley readiness centers with the estimated $3.9 million renovation of the Sumter Readiness Center scheduled to begin in Federal FY 2020. The CFMO completed over $2 million in repairs to the Marion, Mullins, Manning, and Myrtle Beach readiness centers as a result of previous act of nature damage. The agency began construction of female latrines at the Rock Hill and Saluda readiness centers with a cost of $500,000, and began design for the addition of female latrines to the Newberry and Kingstree readiness centers with a construction date in FY21. The CFMO procured the design for two barracks replacements at McCrady Training Center and Clarks Hill Training Site at a cost of $243,900, which will be bid for construction in FY21. Using the Army Corps of Engineers Builder, assessments were contracted at a cost of $396,612. The CFMO continues to improve the sustainability of facilities and reduce energy usage. The installation of advanced metering began on 53 facilities to better monitor electricity, water, and natural gas usage. In addition, the

CFMO
managed multiple
service contracts and performed
routine maintenance repairs to plumbing,
electrical, site repairs, and general facility work requests.

The agency is preparing for the construction of new readiness centers on Joint Base Charleston and in Aiken with the design for the Joint Base Charleston Readiness Center slated to begin in 2020 and for the Aiken Readiness Center in 2022. The Aiken Readiness Center will be co-located with USC-Aiken.

The agency’s efforts resulted in more efficient and sustainable facility operations, and enabled the agency to provide effective services to Soldiers and their Families while also supporting the local civilian community. The South Carolina National Guard (SCNG) has a physical presence in 40 of the state’s 46 counties thereby maintains its traditional community-based force where feasible and fiscally responsible. These locations include 64 readiness centers, 10 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, the SCNG headquarters complex, and the historic Olympia Armory.
AUTHORIZED PAX: 9,153

117 Engineer Brigade (PAX: 1,650)
59 TRP CMD (PAX: 1,632)
SC MED CMD (PAX: 173)
263RD AAMDC (PAX: 1,170)
218 MEB (PAX: 1,889)
59TH AVN TRP CMD (PAX: 1,083)
HHC 228 SIG BDE (PAX: 825)
SCARNG ELMT JT FCE HQ (PAX: 607)
McCGrady TNG SITE (PAX: 124)

This product is for display purposes only, and may not reflect the most current information or conditions.
Users of this information should review or consult the primary data and information sources to ascertain the usability of the information.
Data is current as of: 18 Feb 2020
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.