

Tab 3	SM 160 by Avila (CO-INTRODUCERS) Collins; (Similar to H 00167) Redesignation of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization					
766156	A	S	RCS	MS, Avila	Delete L.78 - 85:	02/21 03:30 PM

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

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

**Senator Wright, Chair
Senator Torres, Vice Chair**

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 21, 2023

TIME: 1:00—3:00 p.m.

PLACE: 301 Senate Building

MEMBERS: Senator Wright, Chair; Senator Torres, Vice Chair; Senators Berman, Calatayud, Collins, Pizzo, and Rodriguez

TAB		BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1		Presentation on the Florida Department of Military Affairs by Major General John Haas, Assistant Adjutant General of Florida		Presented
2		Presentation on the Florida Division of Emergency Management by Director Kevin Guthrie		Presented
3		SM 160 Avila (Similar HM 167)	Redesignation of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization; Urging the United States Secretary of State to redesignate the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization, etc. MS 02/21/2023 Fav/CS RC	Fav/CS Yeas 7 Nays 0
Other Related Meeting Documents				

FLORIDA NATIONAL GUARD DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS



Senate Military and Veterans Affairs, Space and Domestic Security Committee



FLNG Overview Brief
21 February 2023

On behalf of The
Adjutant General



Our Mission



Provide Highly Trained Units and Personnel to:

- Support National Security Objectives
- Respond to Emergencies and Disasters
- Support Programs that Add Value to Our State and Nation

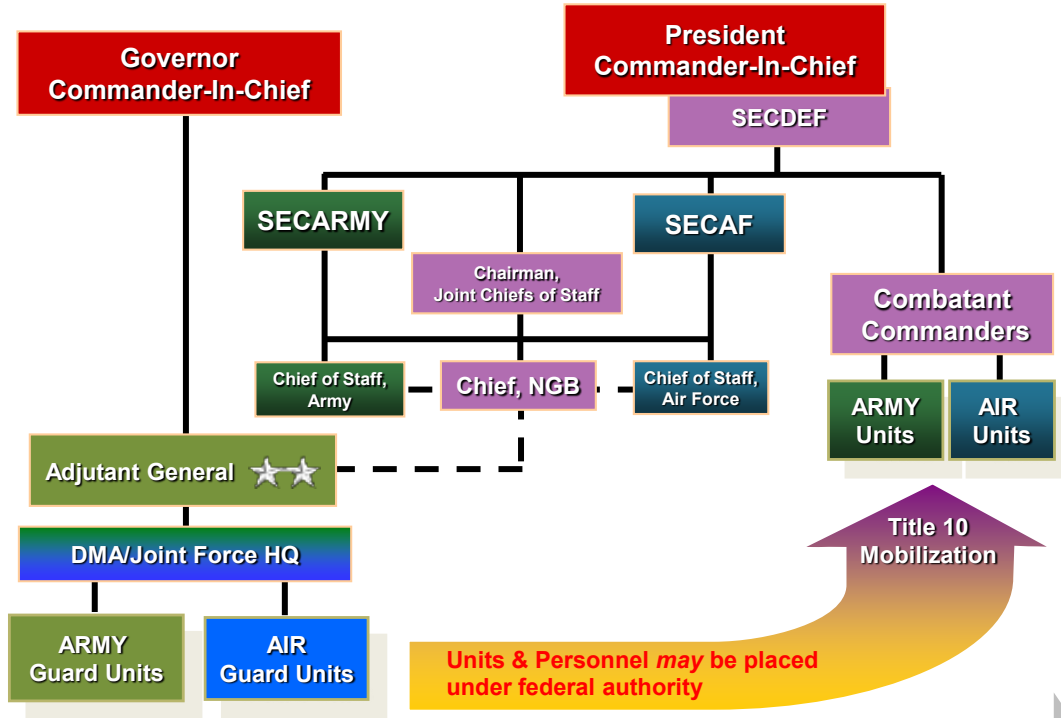




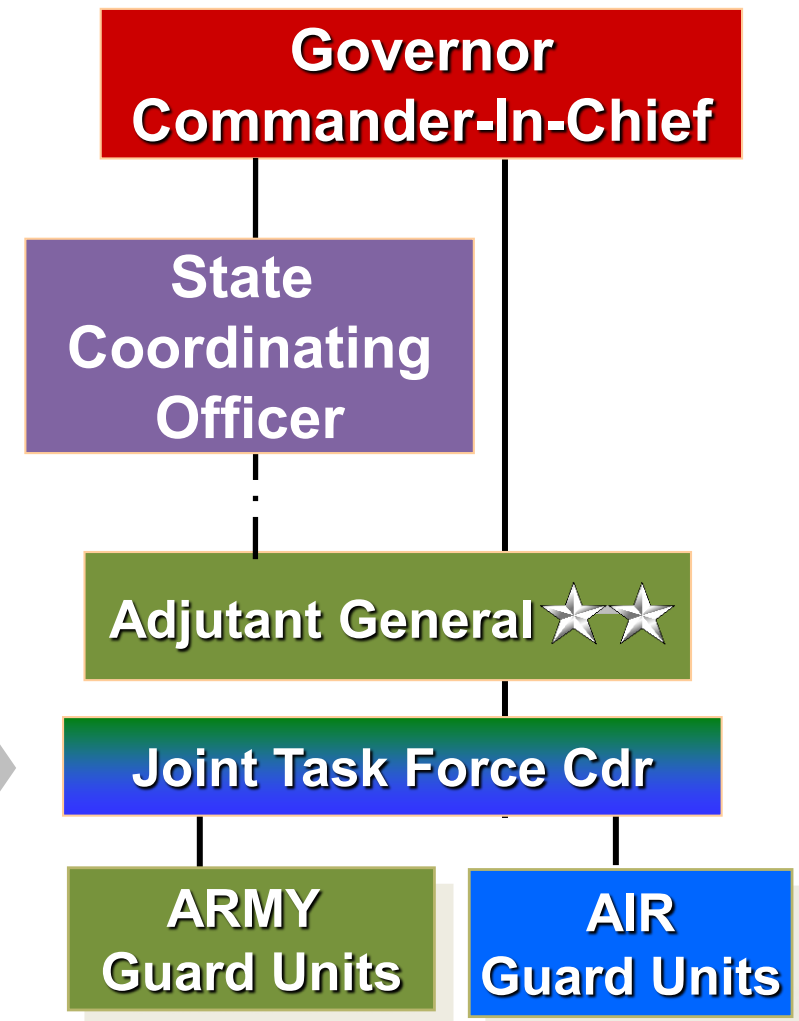
Chain of Command

Routine and Emergent

ROUTINE



EMERGENT



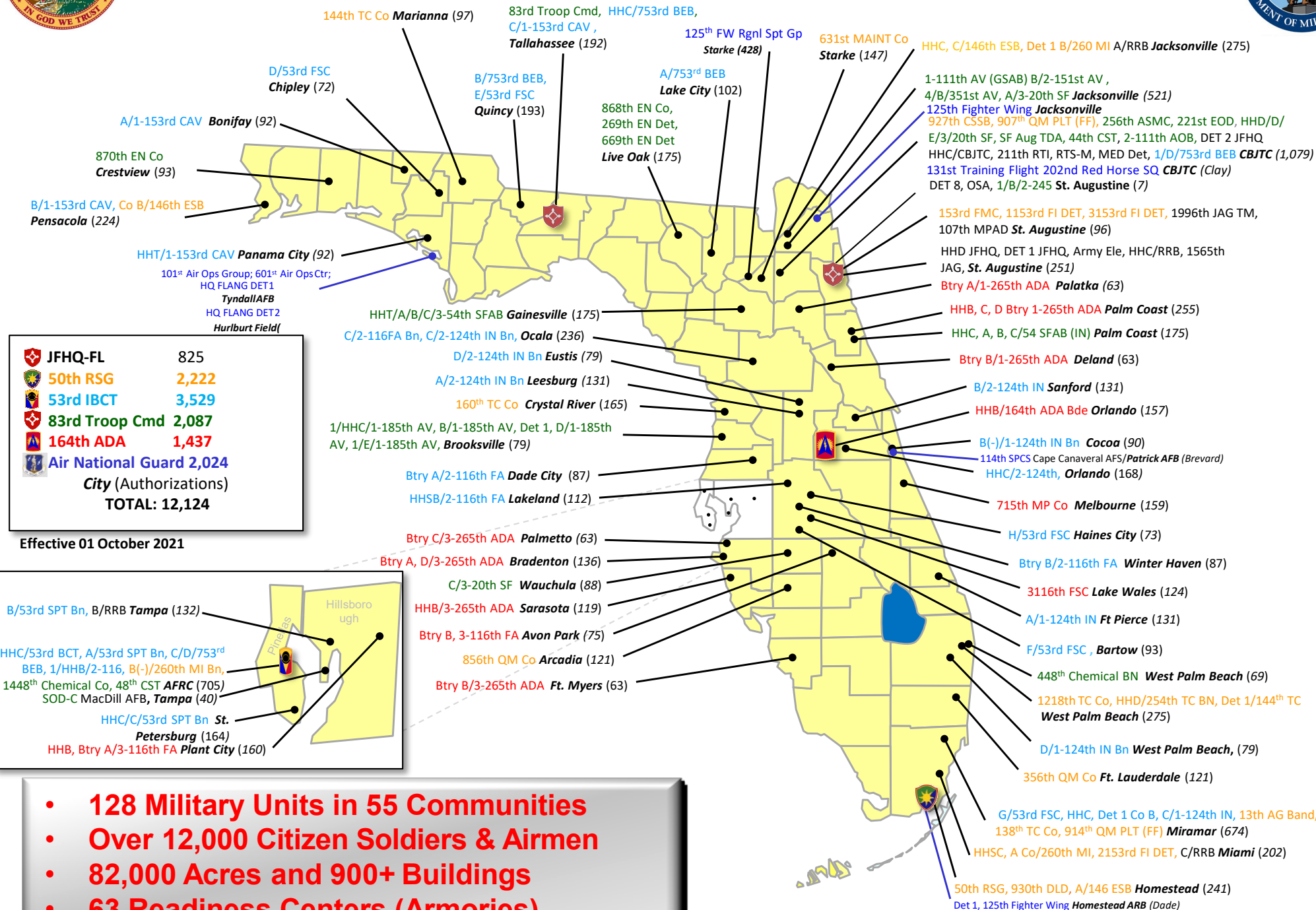
FLORIDA STATUTE § 250.06:

As the Commander of the Florida National Guard,
the Governor:

- ✓ Declares an emergency through an Executive Order
- ✓ Designates the "State Coordinating Officer"
- ✓ Orders the Guard to State Active Duty for emergency aid
- ✓ Initiates Emergency Management Assistance Compact with other Governors as required



Florida National Guard Units



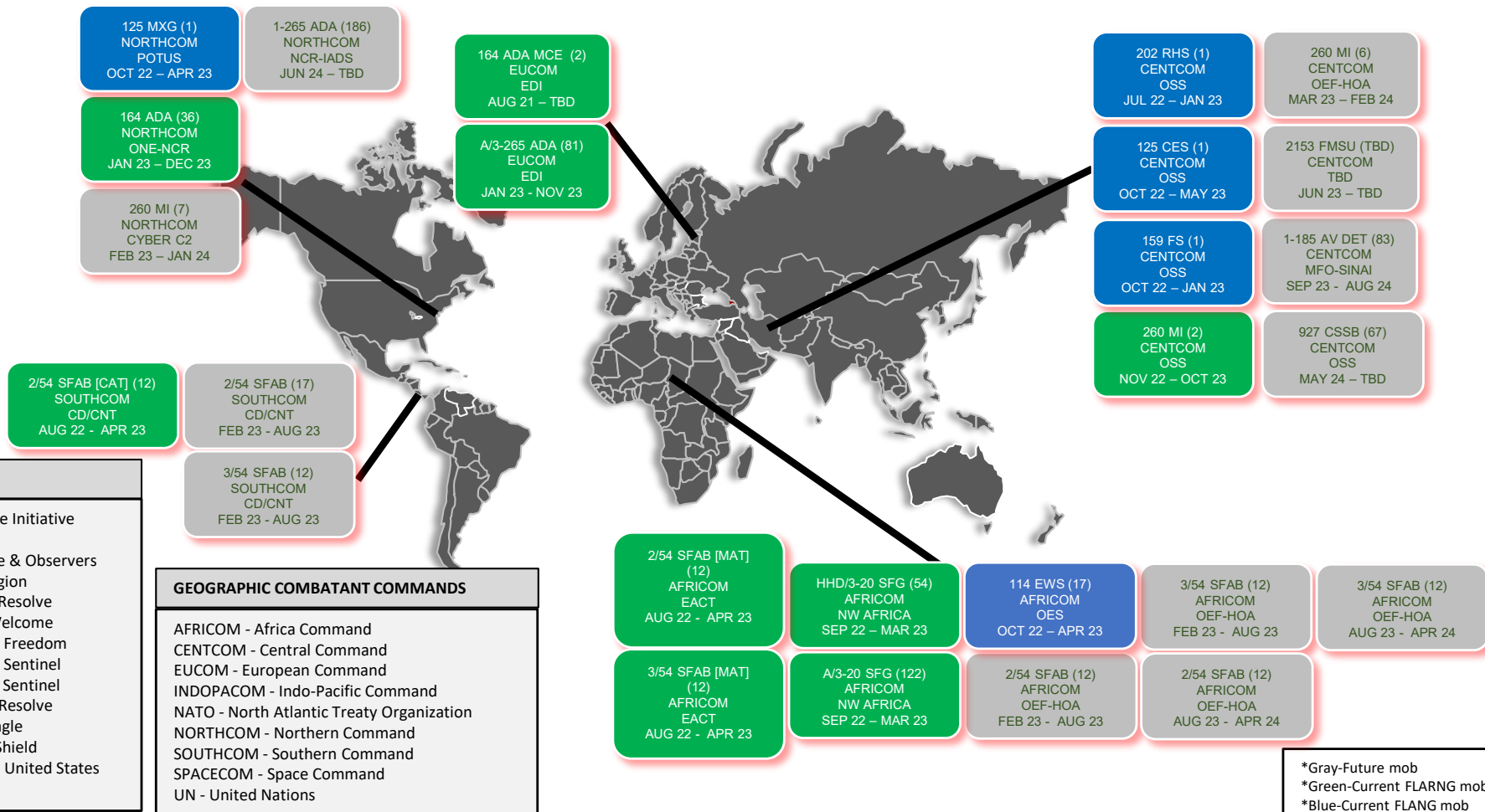
- 128 Military Units in 55 Communities
- Over 12,000 Citizen Soldiers & Airmen
- 82,000 Acres and 900+ Buildings
- 63 Readiness Centers (Armories)



Federal Mobilization Status

FLORIDA NATIONAL GUARD DEPLOYMENTS	
Total Soldiers & Airmen Currently Deployed As Of 21 January 2023:	354
Total Soldiers & Airmen Scheduled for Deployment Through December 2023:	173

UNCLASSIFIED



UNCLASSIFIED

Mobilized over 25,000 Guardsmen since September 11, 2001



Response Capabilities



1992 To Present - 98 Activations – 953,307 Total Work-Days

FLORIDA NATIONAL GUARD

2021 NGCS RESPONSES

2906

SERVICE MEMBERS

660,657

TOTAL MAN DAYS



1,112

TOTAL
MISSIONS



551

DAYS ON
MISSION



7

AIRPORTS



8

FOOD BANK
DISTRIBUTION
MISSIONS



TESTING

5,668,553

COMPLETED TESTS



47

TESTING SITES



664

NURSING
HOMES/ASSISTED
LIVING FACILITIES/ VA
CENTERS TESTED



16

Mobile Testing
Bus/Aardvark Trailer
Missions



LOGISTICS

80

SERVICE MEMBERS

28,943

MAN DAYS



2,614,578

MILES DRIVEN

33,321

PALLETS OF PPE



429

HOSPITAL BEDS



FLNG MISSION SUMMARY

The Florida National Guard (FLNG) transitions to recovery phase of COVID-19 Operations. Currently, SMs are supporting demobilization and closeout operations. All federal orders will end 30SEP2021.

TF MED

77

SERVICE MEMBERS

2145

MAN DAYS

1

FIELD HOSPITAL



NGRF

2020-2021

1,400

SERVICE

MEMBERS

5500

MAN DAYS



Hurricane IDA (LA)

24

SERVICE

MEMBERS

2

CIVILIANS

367

MAN DAYS



16

DAYS



38

LNO
SUPPORT



207

FLNG
Provider
Support



VACCINATIONS

10

VACCINATION SITES



130

MOBILE TEAMS



1,534,044

VACCINATIONS



HURRICANE ELSA

72

SERVICE
MEMBERS



5

MISSIONS

5

DAYS



As of 1 OCT 2021

FLORIDA NATIONAL GUARD

2022 NGCS RESPONSES

TROPICAL STORM NICOLE

544

SERVICE MEMBERS

8

DAYS ON MISSION

15

MISSIONS

10

COUNTIES

9

LNOs

1

SAR

HURRICANE IAN

5,227

SOLDIERS/AIRMEN



24

DAYS ON MISSION



250

TOTAL MISSIONS



500.9

AVIATION HOURS

7,964,928

MEALS

5,164,135

GALLONS OF WATER

5,418,000

LBs OF ICE

27

COUNTIES SUPPORTED



25

LNO's



51.5 Miles of Road Cleared

MISSIONS

45

SECURITY

36

SAR

32

PODs

7

ROUTE CLEARANCE

2

TIGER DAM

1

SLRC

FLNG MISSION SUMMARY

The Florida National Guard (FLNG) responded to the needs of the state of Florida throughout the year with efforts of 2 hurricanes, 1 state forest fire, and supporting the state Department of Corrections.

DOC

302

SERVICE MEMBERS



9

FACILITIES

DAYS

82

(AS OF 30NOV22)



CHIPOLA FIRE

37

SERVICE MEMBERS



1

ESF LNO

6

DAYS



175

BUCKETS

171,120

GALLONS

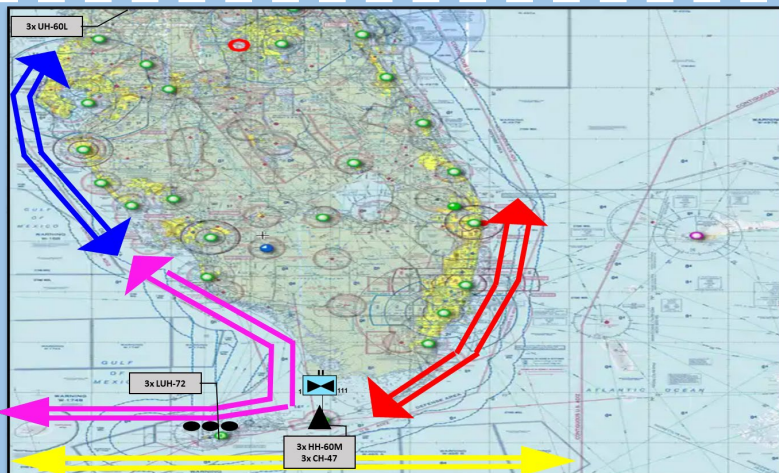
66.1

FLIGHT HOURS



FLORIDA NATIONAL GUARD

2023 NGCS RESPONSES



Migration Support

94
SOLDIERS/AIRMEN

35
DAYS ON
MISSION

392
TOTAL
Sorties

925.8
Flight Hours

600
Miles of
Coastline
Patrolled

52
CHUGS REPORTED
25
RUSTICS REPORTED
329
MIGRANTS REPORTED

12 AIRCRAFT



FLNG MISSION SUMMARY

The Florida National Guard (FLNG) was tasked with providing aviation support to state law enforcement to detect and report migrants approaching the Florida coastline while continuing to support the Department of Corrections with personnel in critically low-manned facilities.

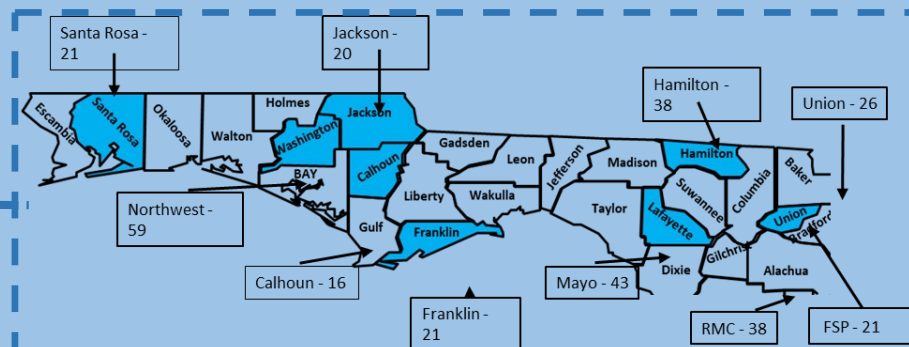
Department of Corrections



300
SERVICE MEMBERS

10
Facilities

124
DAYS



As of 15 FEB 2023



Federal Objectives (NDAA 2024)



Priority 1: Growing the Florida National Guard (FLNG)

- Although Florida is the 3rd most populous state, the FLNG is ranked 53 out of 54 when comparing Guard personnel to citizen population. The force allocation is determined by the Federal Government.
- Florida's population will grow 5M over the next 10 years, and Florida is the 4th most disaster-prone state in the nation.
- The FLNG is experiencing a sustained high activity level, with over 25,000 deployed since 9/11, and over 2M workdays total supporting disaster response.

Priority 2: Homestead Readiness Center

(MILCON - \$35M)

- Focusing strategic objectives around increasing force structure to meet the rapid growth of Florida's population and moving force structure to the south Florida area where Florida's attractive recruiting demographics are located.
- Capitalize on the strategic location in South Florida that will enable more efficient and effective response to the State during natural disasters in the Southeast and Southwest portions of Florida.
- Better supports equipment needs and the Soldiers of the 50th RSG and A/146th ESB with a combined strength of 228 Soldiers, with 17 full-time employees.

Priority 3: Miramar Vehicle Maintenance Shop

(MILCON - \$11.7M)

- The current regional vehicle maintenance shop is over 30 years old, functionally obsolete, does not comply with OSHA & ADA, and is co-located with a Readiness Center in metro Miami on a 5-acre lot that does not allow for adequate space to maintain large military vehicles.
- The facility will support 22 mechanics servicing 8 FLARNG units with 778 Soldiers, and 447 pieces of wheeled equipment.
- The proposed facility provides approximately 24,988 square feet of vehicle maintenance space, a 2,277 square foot unheated storage building, a 660 square foot flammable materials facility, a 440 square foot bulk POL building, and a 330 square foot controlled waste handling building. The project totals 28,695 square feet.

Priority 4: Camp Blanding Joint Training Center (CBJTC) to a Level II Installation

- CBJTC is a premiere training area supporting all services and federal agencies as well as state and local municipalities.
- CBJTC is a contingency Mobilization Force Generation Installation (MFGI) but lacks some of the required facilities to retain its status as an MFGI. Funding for years 1 and 2 of a five year phased plan were included in the Governor's Recommended Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024, and the Department will continue to work with the Governor's Office, the Federal Government and the Legislature to address funding for the following years.
- This priority improves training areas, ranges and ability to support larger formations for both training and state / federal mobilizations.

Priority 5: Establish the Space National Guard (SNG)

- Active-duty space units were moved out of the Air Force and placed in the new Space Force upon its establishment in 2019; however, space units in the Air National Guard remain orphaned in an Air Force that is no longer charged with the space mission.
- SNG provides USSF an optimized, properly aligned, Combat Reserve Component.
- Zero New Cost via ANG→SNG account transfers. No unit, GO/personnel, facility growth to establish SNG; same lean overhead.
- ANG has been conducting Space missions for 25 yrs. FY24 SNG stand-up ensures no space war fight interruption for 14 current Space units.



FLORIDA NATIONAL GUARD



**Right, Ready, Relevant
Since 1565**

QUESTIONS?



The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

21 FEBRUARY 2023

Meeting Date

Military and Veterans Affairs

Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name MAJOR GENERAL John HASS

Phone (850) 414 9049

Address 86 Marine Street

Email

St Augustine FL 32084

City

State

Zip

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☒ Information

OR

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐ I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

☐ I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

☐ I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)



Florida Division of Emergency Management

*Overview of FDEM and 2022 Hurricane Season
February 21, 2023*



Overview of FDEM Core Programs

Preparedness

- Administers Florida's All-Hazards planning programs to ensure the State Emergency Response Team (SERT) is prepared.
- Facilitates prompt and efficient response and recovery.
- Protects lives and property impacted by disasters.
- Coordinates training courses for counties and first responders.

Response

- Monitors incidents that may require State response.
- Manages 24/7 State Watch Office.
- Oversees Logistics vendor management and resource deployment.
- Supports State Emergency Response Commission through Tech Hazards Unit– *Nuclear Power Plants*.

Recovery

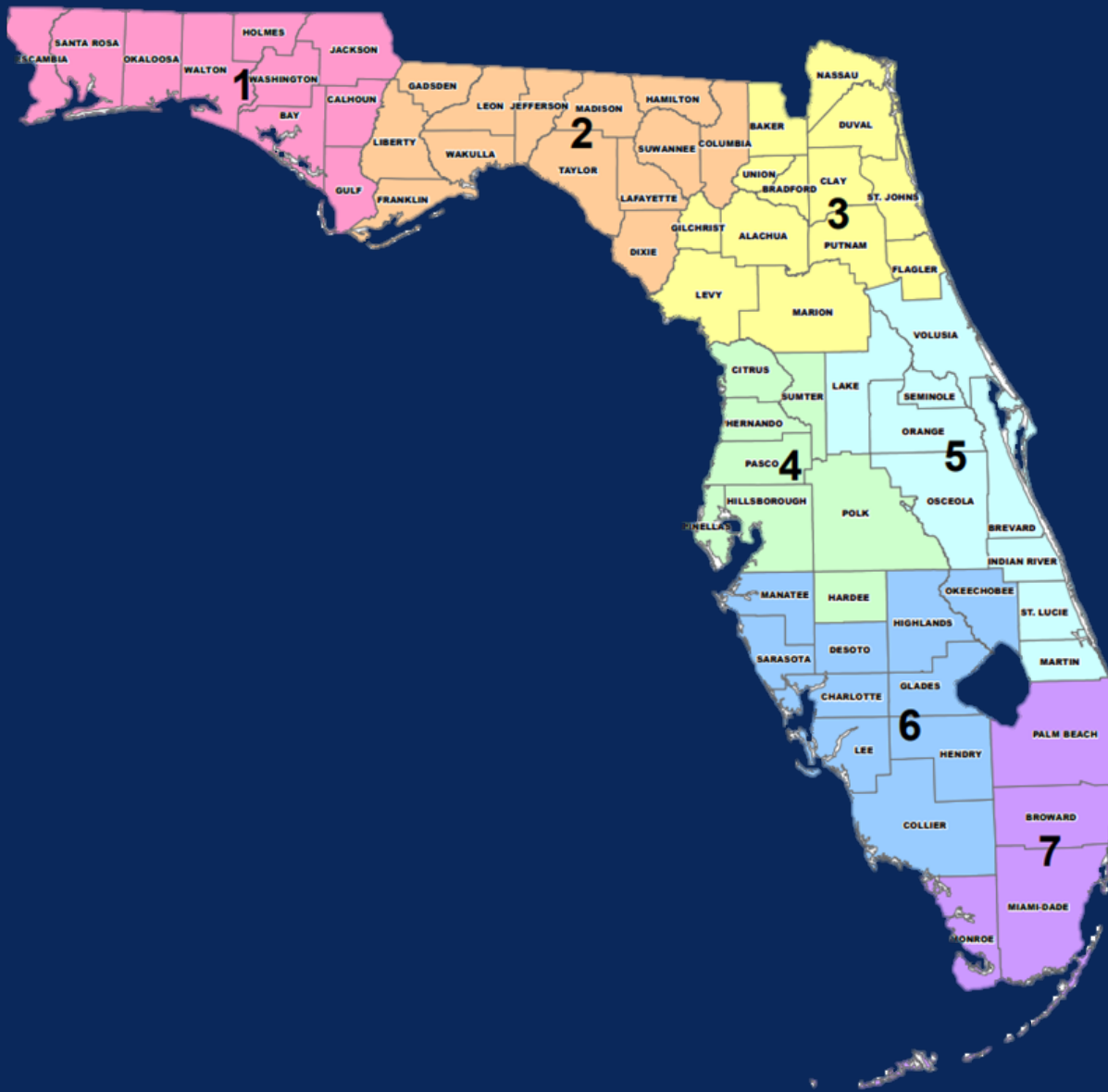
- Works to maximize federal disaster assistance to eligible public-sector partners and residents.
- Administers recovery funding such as Public Assistance, Individual Assistance, CARES Act and American Recovery Plan Act.
- Paid out over \$7 billion in recovery funding to local governments.

Mitigation

- State Coordinating Agency of the National Flood Insurance Program.
- Administers FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.
- Administers FEMA's Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Program.
- Provides technical assistance to counties developing and implementing local mitigation strategies.

Finance

- Provides all financial support, from procurement to payment, of all programmatic areas of the Division, with our approved legislative budget and declarations of approximately \$3.7 B.

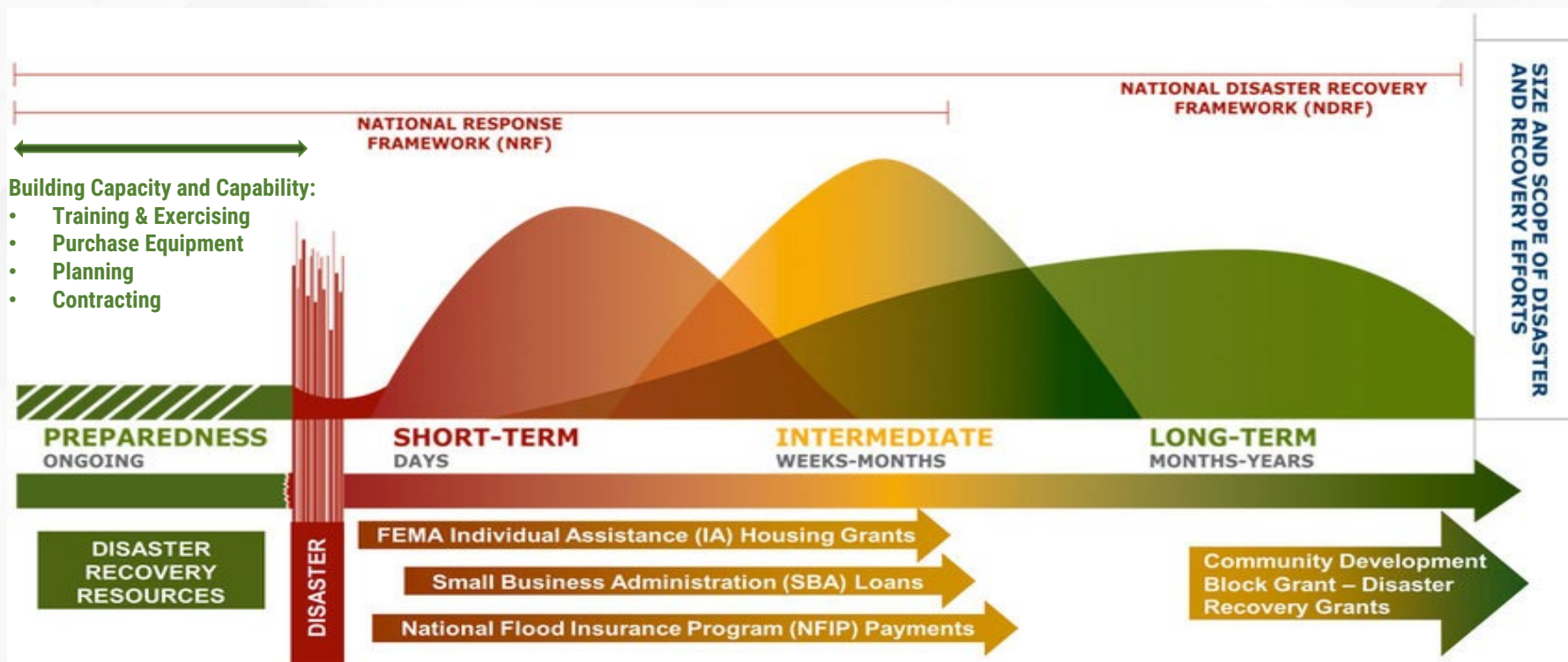


FDEM Operational Regions





Disaster Life Cycle





RECOVERY ROLES

Integrated Response Roles

Damage Assessments

Individual Assistance

Public Assistance

Joint Field Office (JFO) Operations

Volunteer Organization Coordination

Long-Term Recovery



Current Recovery Operations

- The State Emergency Response Team has been **activated for 146 days in response to Hurricanes Ian and Nicole, completing over 7,000 mission requests** with **354 active missions today**.
- There are currently **31 open major disasters** within the Division, including the following from 2022:
 - Hurricane Nicole
 - Hurricane Ian
 - Chipola Fire Complex
- The Division has distributed more than **\$8 billion in critical disaster funding** during Governor DeSantis' first term in office – the most the Division has ever paid out within this time period.



Hurricane Ian Recovery

- To assist with resuming normal government functions, the Division has established alternate **temporary sites** for damaged public buildings, including tents, trailers, and the accompanying wraparound services.
- The Division is supporting **debris removal** efforts in multiple impacted counties including vegetative debris, construction and demolition debris, derelict vessels, and private property debris removal.
- In November, Governor DeSantis announced the launch of the Unite Florida Recovery Portal to connect Floridians impacted by Hurricane Ian to important recovery resources, including **Florida's first-ever state-led sheltering and housing program.**





Hurricane Ian Recovery

FEMA REIMBURSEMENT

\$560.5 M OBLIGATED
\$2.1 B IN DEVELOPMENT

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

\$464.9 M APPROVED FOR EMERGENCY
RESPONSE COSTS

DOLLARS DISBURSED

\$982.1 M IN INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE

↳ **\$631.2 M** IN HOUSING ASSISTANCE

↳ **\$351 M** IN OTHER NEEDS ASSISTANCE

\$136.1 M IN RENTAL ASSISTANCE

DEBRIS REMOVAL

33,992,831 YD³ *ESTIMATED VEGETATIVE &
CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS*

31,763,809 YD³ *PICKED UP VEGETATIVE &
CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS*

Since October 25th, haulers and
monitors contracted through FDEM
have removed debris from

1,570 COMMERCIAL & PRIVATE PARCELS

372,136 YD³ WET DEBRIS REMOVED

4,126 VEHICLES &
VESSELS REMOVED

HOUSING/SHELTERING

FEMA's **Transitional Shelter Assistance (TSA) Program** is available to applicants who are unable to return to their pre-disaster primary residence because their home is either uninhabitable or inaccessible.

952 CURRENTLY USING TSA

83,707 CUMULATIVE USE TSA

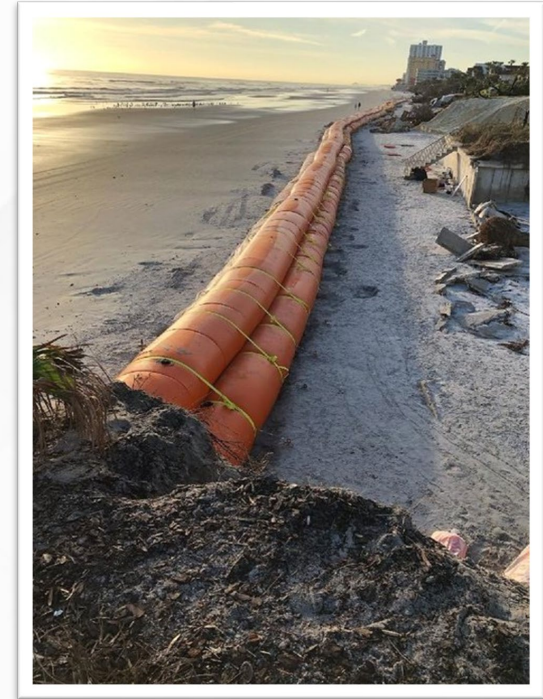
 **UNITE** *Florida*

11,368 APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED



Hurricane Nicole Recovery

- Hurricane Nicole made landfall on November 10th just south of Vero Beach as a Category 1 storm. Nicole was a very large system with a windfield that extended almost 450 miles wide.
- Strong swells in combination with astronomical high tide caused devastating storm surge and coastal flooding along the East-Central Florida Coast, and surge impacts were most notable along Volusia County where these communities were still extremely vulnerable from Ian.
- The Division continues to explore and support the installation of **Flood Control Systems to support storm surge and riverine flooding** concerns.
 - **Over 6,000 feet** of flood control systems have been installed in and around Daytona Shores.
- Flood control systems allow residents more time to complete permanent repairs without worrying about continued damage to their homes.



Thank You



For Additional Questions:

Kendall Kelley

Phone: 850-591-4813

Email: Kendall.Kelley@em.myflorida.com

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

2/21/23

Meeting Date

senate military + vet Affairs

Committee

PDEM presentation

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Director Kevin Anthony

Phone

Address 2555 Numard Oak Blvd.

Street

Email

Tallahassee

City

FL

State

32319

Zip

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☒ Information

OR

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security

BILL: CS/SM 160

INTRODUCER: Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security Committee and Senators Avila and Collins

SUBJECT: Redesignation of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization

DATE: February 22, 2023 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Brown</u>	<u>Proctor</u>	<u>MS</u>	<u>Fav/CS</u>
2.	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>RC</u>	<u> </u>

Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

I. Summary:

CS/SM 160 is a memorial to the United States Department of State, urging the United States Secretary of State to redesignate the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Columbia (FARC) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization. The memorial attests to the Legislature's firm commitment to Columbia, and opposes the Biden Administration's removal of the FARC's designation as a Foreign Terrorist Organization.

The memorial requires the Secretary of State to dispatch copies of the memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the United States Secretary of State, and each member of the state delegation to the United States Congress.

A memorial is an official legislative document addressed to the United States Congress, the President of the United States, or some other governmental entity that expresses the will of the Legislature on a matter within the jurisdiction of the recipient. A memorial requires passage by both legislative houses but does not require the Governor's approval nor is it subject to a veto.

II. Present Situation:

Measures Against Foreign Terrorists by the Presidential Administration and Congress

Executive Order 13224

On September 23, 2001, and in response to the attacks on September 11, 2001, the President of the United States signed Executive Order 13224 (Order), to bolster existing federal action against foreign terrorists and organizations.¹ Specifically, the Order establishes a process to disrupt the financial support network of terrorists and terrorist organizations. The Order does this by authorizing the government to designate and block assets of foreign individuals and entities that commit, or pose a significant risk of committing acts of terrorism.²

As used in the Order³, terrorism is defined as an action that:

- Involves a violent act or an act dangerous to human life, property, or infrastructure; and
- Appears intended to intimidate or coerce a civilian population; influence government policy by intimidation or coercion; or affect government conduct by mass destruction, assassination, kidnapping, or hostage-taking.⁴

The Order authorizes either the United States Secretary of State (Secretary) or the Secretary of the Treasury to initiate the designation of terrorists, in concert with the United States Attorney General and each other. Once designated, the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) can block assets of the person or groups.⁵

Agency Designation of Foreign Terrorists

The authority of the Secretary to designate an individual or entity as a terrorist or foreign terrorist organization is rooted in its immigration and nationality functions.⁶ The Secretary may designate an organization as a foreign terrorist organization if the Secretary finds that:

- The organization is a foreign organization;
- The organization engages in terrorist activity or terrorism, or retains the capability and intent to engage in terrorist activity or terrorism; and
- The terrorist activity or terrorism threatens the security of United States nationals or the United States.⁷

If the Secretary determines that an organization has engaged in terrorist activity or terrorism, the Secretary must:

- Provide written, classified notification with findings seven days prior to making a designation to the Speaker and Minority Leader of the United States House of

¹ The Bureau of Counterterrorism, U.S. Dep't of State, *Executive Order 13224* (Sept. 23, 2001), available at [https://www.state.gov/executive-order-13224/#:~:text=\(d\)%20the%20term%20%E2%80%9Cterrorism,by%20intimidation%20or%20coercion%3B%20or](https://www.state.gov/executive-order-13224/#:~:text=(d)%20the%20term%20%E2%80%9Cterrorism,by%20intimidation%20or%20coercion%3B%20or) (last visited Jan. 27, 2023).

² *Id.*

³ 8 USC 1189.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. §1104(a) and 1189.

⁷ 8 U.S.C. §1189(a)(1).

Representatives, the President pro tempore, Majority Leader, and Minority Leader of the United States Senate, and members of relevant committees of the United States Congress.

- Publish the designation in the Federal Register seven days after notification.⁸

The United States Congress may through congressional act disapprove the designation.⁹ If the designation stands, the Secretary may, after a 5-year period, review the designation of the foreign terrorist organization. In its review, the Secretary will determine whether current circumstances warrant revocation.¹⁰

Along with publication in the Federal Register, the Secretary also publishes and maintains the list of foreign terrorist organizations on its website.¹¹ Upon publication in the Federal Register, the United States Secretary of the Treasury may freeze the assets of the designated organization.¹²

In addition to the designation authority of the Secretary, the OFAC can designate terrorists and maintain its own list.¹³ Specifically, the OFAC may classify an individual as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT) and place his or her name on its list of Specially Designated Nationals (SDN). The assets of a SDGT are then blocked and the list of SDNs made publicly available, including to the international financial community. These federal actions curtail the ability of a SDN to conduct property or banking transactions in this country.¹⁴

History of FARC

Beginnings

In 1964, Manuel Marulanda and Jacobo Arenas founded the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Columbia, otherwise known as FARC.¹⁵ The group identified as its core mission social program development in rural areas and wealth redistribution. In furtherance of its mission, the FARC had as its original goal governmental overthrow, relying on the drug trade, ransom collected on kidnappings of politicians and elites, extortion, and illegal gold mining.¹⁶ The FARC used guns,

⁸ 8 U.S.C. §1189(a)(2)(A).

⁹ 8 U.S.C. §1189(a)(2)(B)(ii).

¹⁰ 8 U.S.C. §1189(a)(2)(C)(i).

¹¹ “Foreign Terrorist Organizations (FTOs) are foreign organizations that are designated by the Secretary of State in accordance with section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), as amended.” The Bureau of Counterterrorism, U.S. Dep’t of State, *Terrorist Designations and State Sponsors of Terrorism, Foreign Terrorist Organizations*, available at <https://www.state.gov/foreign-terrorist-organizations/> (last visited Jan. 23, 2023).

¹² 8 U.S.C. §1189(a)(2)(C).

¹³ The Office of Foreign Assets Control administers and enforces economic and trade sanctions based on United States foreign policy and national security goals against entities and individuals engaged in threats to national security foreign policy, or economy of the U.S., including as targeted foreign countries and regimes, international narcotics traffickers, and terrorists. United States Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control – Sanctions Programs and Information, available at <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/office-of-foreign-assets-control-sanctions-programs-and-information> (last visited Jan. 23, 2023).

¹⁴ United States Department of the Treasury, *Frequently Asked Questions – Specially Designated Nationals and SDN List*, available at <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-sanctions/faqs/topic/1631> (last visited Jan. 20, 2023).

¹⁵ Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University, *Mapping Militant Organizations, “Revolutionary Armed Forces of Columbia,”* available at https://cisac.fsi.stanford.edu/mappingmilitants/profiles/revolutionary-armed-forces-colombia-farc#text_block_17686 (last visited Jan. 24, 2023).

¹⁶ *Id.*

bombs, and homemade mortars in its attacks. In so doing, the group caused significant and lengthy periods of nationwide destabilization and violence, despite various peace talks and agreements entered into with the government.¹⁷

Expansion

In the 1970s, the group rapidly expanded due to significant revenues generated from narco-trafficking.¹⁸ Although in 1982 the group changed its name to the FARC-EP, or the People's Army, the government and media still widely referred to the group as the FARC. During an agreed to cease-fire between the FARC and the government, in 1985, the FARC co-founded the political party of the Patriotic Union (UP) with the Columbia Communist Party.¹⁹ The UP made advances in securing both local and national political seats. These political wins were swiftly retaliated through forced disappearances and assassinations by the Columbian army, right-wing paramilitaries, and drug gangs. In 1999, in response to more than 3,000 kidnappings perpetrated by the FARC and a significant spike in homicide rates, 25 percent of Columbia's entire population marched in a protest against the FARC. Violence continued, and during the 2002 political season, the FARC kidnapped a presidential candidate. In return, the government ended the legal status of the UP and the party could no longer participate politically.²⁰

2016 Peace Accord

The cycle of violence coinciding with intermittent attempts at peace continued until the parties finally agreed to the 2016 Peace Accord, ending 52 years of conflict since the beginnings of the FARC. On June 27, 2017, overseen by the United Nations, the FARC officially ended disarmament, relinquishing 7,132 weapons and 77 of the FARC's 900 arms stores from the countryside.²¹ Considered to have significant impact globally, then-President Juan Manuel-Santos received the Nobel Peace Prize for his role in the Accord, which concluded a 4-year negotiation.²²

By the date of the Accord, casualties of the long-term conflict totaled a minimum of 260,000 Columbians murdered, 80,000 missing, 20,000 kidnapped, 8.2 million displaced, 9.2 million government-registered as conflict victims, tens of thousands of recruited child soldiers, and untallied numbers of victims of torture, including sexual violence.²³

Combatant Groups in Columbia Currently in Operation

Although most FARC members have participated in reintegration since the 2016 Peace Accord, some former members continue to operate as dissidents in splinter groups.²⁴ One such identified

¹⁷ *Id.*

¹⁸ *Id.*

¹⁹ *Id.*

²⁰ *Id.*

²¹ *Id.*

²² Isacson, Adam, Advocacy for Human Rights in the Americas, *A Long Way to Go: Implementing Columbia's Peace Accord After Five Years* (Nov. 23, 2021), available at <https://www.wola.org/analysis/a-long-way-to-go-implementing-colombias-peace-accord-after-five-years/> (last visited Jan. 27, 2023).

²³ *Id.*

²⁴ Pursuant to the Peace Accord 13,000 former FARC members have laid down their weapons. Both splinter groups are together estimated to have 2,500 members. Bureau of Counterterrorism, U.S. Dep't of State, *Country Reports on Terrorism:*

group of FARC dissidents is the Segunda Marquetalia, organized in 2019.²⁵ Another splinter group is the FARC-EP.²⁶ This group consists of former FARC fighters and new recruits.²⁷

Additionally, the National Liberation Army (ELN), the oldest combatant group in Columbia, currently estimated at 2,300 individuals, remains an active threat.²⁸ The Colombian government and the ELN are currently engaged in peace talks in Mexico.²⁹

Collectively, these combatant groups continue to engage in bombings, violence against civilian populations, kidnappings, and attacks against military, police, government, and infrastructure.³⁰

While Venezuela and its border countries have traditionally been home to the combatant group, Hezbollah, recent sightings indicate its presence in Columbia.³¹ True to the group's clandestine nature, and having used fraudulent means to obtain Columbian citizenship, Hezbollah members in Columbia portray themselves as legitimate businesspeople.³² Hezbollah's violent history in Latin America includes bomb attacks and assassinations.³³

U.S. Response to the FARC

In 1997, the Secretary designated the FARC as a Foreign Terrorist Organization.³⁴

In 2000, the United States funded Plan Colombia, a \$9 billion United States military aid program intended to support the Colombian government in defeating the drug trade, reestablishing authority, and increasing its authority country-wide.³⁵

On December 1, 2021, the Secretary revoked and delisted both the designation of the FARC as a Foreign Terrorist Organization and its listing as a SDGT.³⁶ As justification for the revocation, the

2020, available at https://www.state.gov/reports/country-reports-on-terrorism-2020/colombia_trashed/ (last visited Jan. 25, 2023).

²⁵ *Id.*

²⁶ Astrin Suarez & Manuel Rueda, Associated Press, *Explainer: What Are Columbia's Ex-FARC Splinter Groups?*, available at <https://apnews.com/article/colombia-united-states-south-america-armed-forces-revolutionary-armed-forces-of-colombia-492c423824351ff8dc1ed4bba761d200> (last visited Jan. 27, 2023).

²⁷ *Id.*

²⁸ U.S. Dep't of State, *supra* note 24.

²⁹ Mayela Armas & Luis Jaime Acosta, Reuters, *Columbia, ELN rebels to resume peace talks in Mexico in February*, available at <https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/colombia-eln-rebels-resume-peace-talks-mexico-february-2023-01-21/> (last visited Jan. 27, 2023).

³⁰ U.S. Dep't of State, *supra* note 24.

³¹ Aurora Ortega, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Policy Notes, *Hezbollah in Columbia Past and Present Modus Operandi and the Need for Greater Scrutiny* (Mar. 2022, No. 119), available at <https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/media/5546?disposition=inline> (last visited Jan. 27, 2023).

³² *Id.* at 2 and 4.

³³ *Id.* at 2.

³⁴ The Secretary of State designated FARC as a Foreign Terrorist Organization October 8, 1997. Bureau of Counterterrorism, U.S. Dep't of State, *Foreign Terrorist Organizations*, available at <https://www.state.gov/foreign-terrorist-organizations/> (last visited Jan. 24, 2023).

³⁵ Center for International Security and Cooperation, *supra* note 15.

³⁶ The Secretary of State issued his revocation press release November 30, 2021 and delisted FARC as of December 1, 2021. Antony J. Blinken, Secretary of State, U.S. Dep't of State, *Revocation of the Terrorist Designations of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and Additional Terrorist Designations* (Nov. 30, 2021), available at

Secretary provided that subsequent to the 2016 Peace Accord, the FARC formally dissolved and disarmed. As such, the FARC no longer exists as a unified organization engaging in terrorism, nor does it have capacity or intent to do so.³⁷

Concurrent to the revocation of the FARC, the Secretary designated the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia - People's Army (FARC-EP) and Segunda Marquetalia, along with their leaders, as Foreign Terrorist Organizations and as a SDGT.³⁸ The new designations included a directive to block financial and property assets. As justification, the Secretary provided that the designation of FARC-EP and Segunda Marquetalia is directed at those who refused to demobilize and continue to engage in terrorist actions, such as killing former FARC members and kidnapping and killing political candidates.³⁹

Memorial

A memorial is an official legislative document addressed to the United States Congress, the President of the United States, or some other governmental entity that expresses the will of the Legislature on a matter within the jurisdiction of the recipient. A memorial requires passage by both legislative houses but does not require the Governor's approval nor is it subject to a veto.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

CS/SM 160 is a memorial to the United States Department of State, urging the Secretary to redesignate the FARC as a Foreign Terrorist Organization. The memorial attests to the Legislature's firm commitment to Columbia, and opposes the Biden Administration's removal of the FARC as a Foreign Terrorist Organization.

The memorial requires the Secretary of State to dispatch copies of the memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the United States Secretary of State, and each member of the state delegation to the United States Congress.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

<https://www.state.gov/revocation-of-the-terrorist-designations-of-the-revolutionary-armed-forces-of-colombia-farc-and-additional-terrorist-designations/> (last visited Jan. 23, 2023). U.S. Dep't of State, *supra* note 34.

³⁷ *Id.* The FARC political party, which formed after entry of the Peace Accord, has since changed its name to Comunes. Reuters, *Columbia's FARC party changes name to Comunes* (Jan. 24, 2021), available at <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-colombia-farc/colombias-farc-party-changes-name-to-comunes-idUSKBN29T0SF> (last visited Jan. 27, 2023).

³⁸ Bureau of Counterterrorism, U.S. Dep't of State, *Foreign Terrorist Organizations*, available at <https://www.state.gov/foreign-terrorist-organizations/> (last visited Jan. 24, 2023).

³⁹ Blinken, *supra* note 36.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None identified.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

None.

IX. Additional Information:

- A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

**CS by the Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security Committee
on February 21, 2023:**

The committee substitute specifies that copies of the memorial are to be dispatched by the Secretary of State.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.



766156

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/21/2023	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security (Avila) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 78 - 85
and insert:
to Colombia, a longstanding ally of the United States in Latin America, and opposes the Biden Administration's revocation of the FARC's designation as a Foreign Terrorist Organization.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Florida Legislature urges the United States Secretary of State to redesignate the FARC as a Foreign Terrorist Organization.



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State dispatch
copies of this memorial to the President of the United States,
the President

===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 5 - 72

and insert:

(FARC) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization pursuant to
section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as
amended.

WHEREAS, Colombia is among the oldest standing democracies
in Latin America, and

WHEREAS, the United States established diplomatic relations
with Colombia in 1822, and

WHEREAS, Colombia is a constitutional republic where the
people of Colombia hold the power and elect representatives to
exercise that power, and

WHEREAS, in October 1997, the United States Department of
State designated the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia
(FARC) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization, and

WHEREAS, after many years of violence and armed conflict,
Colombia is now the United States' strongest ally in Latin
America, and

WHEREAS, with the support of the United States through Plan
Colombia and the State of Florida, Colombia has transformed from
a volatile and near-failed state in 2001 into a stable and
prosperous democracy with a growing free market, and



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WHEREAS, May 15, 2023, will mark the 11-year anniversary of the effective date of the United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement, which has supported economic growth and employment opportunities in Colombia, the United States, and the State of Florida, and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida is responsible for roughly 25 percent of all trade between the United States and Colombia, and

WHEREAS, the United States, the State of Florida, and Colombia have shared a commitment to promoting security, prosperity, human rights, and democracy in Colombia and across the Western Hemisphere, and

WHEREAS, in recent years, the Colombian government has taken courageous steps to enforce the law, stop drug traffickers, and rein in foreign terrorist organizations like the National Liberation Army (ELN) and FARC, and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida continues to support the Colombian people in their efforts to preserve peace, support human rights defenders, promote greater educational opportunities, increase public and private investments, and respect human rights and the rule of law, and

WHEREAS, the United States maintains a strong commitment to cooperating with Colombia to investigate, arrest, and prosecute members of transnational criminal organizations and to dismantle terrorist groups like the ELN, FARC, and Hezbollah, whose illicit activities, specifically narcotrafficking, for many years devastated Colombia and other Western Hemisphere countries, and

WHEREAS, Colombia has been an essential partner to the United States in continuing efforts to support the courageous



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people of Venezuela in their fight for freedom, democracy, and economic prosperity against the dictatorship of Nicolás Maduro, and

WHEREAS, enemies of freedom, such as the communist regime in Cuba and the Maduro regime in Venezuela, exploit and abuse vulnerable individuals and perpetrate human rights abuses, such as torture, arbitrary killings, and imprisonment, while also promoting violent unrest, vandalism, and destruction of property against individuals simply asking to be heard, and

WHEREAS, in December 2021, the Biden Administration revoked the designation of the FARC as a Foreign Terrorist Organization, and

WHEREAS, the FARC has murdered, tortured, and kidnapped innocent Colombians and Americans, including kidnap victims and United States citizens Marc D. Gonsalves, Thomas R. Howes, and Keith Stansell, as well as American Thomas Janis, who was murdered, and has committed other crimes and gross violations of human rights, and

WHEREAS, the FARC subvert democratic institutions and those who defend them, and

WHEREAS, the FARC has committed and supported acts of terrorism and continues to do so, and

WHEREAS, the Colombian electorate in 2016 defeated a referendum that would have enacted a deal with the FARC, and

WHEREAS, the Colombian government later ratified an agreement with the FARC without the approval of the electorate, NOW,

By Senator Avila

39-00239-23

2023160__

Senate Memorial

A memorial to the United States Department of State, urging the United States Secretary of State to redesignate the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization.

WHEREAS, Colombia is among the oldest standing democracies in Latin America, and

WHEREAS, the United States established diplomatic relations with Colombia in 1822, and

WHEREAS, Colombia is a constitutional republic where the people of Colombia hold the power and elect representatives to exercise that power, and

WHEREAS, in October 1997, the United States Department of State designated the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization, and

WHEREAS, after many years of violence and armed conflict, Colombia is now the United States' strongest ally in Latin America, and

WHEREAS, with the support of the United States and the State of Florida, Colombia has transformed itself from a volatile and near-failed state in 2001 into a rich democracy with a growing free market, and

WHEREAS, May 15, 2023, will mark the 11-year anniversary of the effective date of the United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement, which has supported economic growth and employment opportunities in Colombia, the United States, and the State of Florida, and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida is responsible for roughly 25

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CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

39-00239-23

2023160__

percent of all trade between the United States and Colombia, and

WHEREAS, the United States, the State of Florida, and Colombia share a commitment to promoting security, prosperity, human rights, and democracy in Colombia and across the Western Hemisphere, and

WHEREAS, in recent years, the Colombian government has taken courageous steps to enforce the law, stop drug traffickers, and rein in foreign terrorist organizations like the National Liberation Army (ELN) and FARC, and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida continues to support the efforts of the Colombian government for peace, its support for human rights defenders, its provision of greater educational opportunities, its increases in public and private investments, and its respect for human rights and the rule of law, and

WHEREAS, the United States maintains a strong commitment to cooperating with the Colombian government to investigate, arrest, and prosecute members of transnational criminal organizations and to dismantle terrorist groups like the ELN, FARC, and Hezbollah, whose illicit activities, specifically narcotrafficking, for many years devastated Colombian and other Latin American societies, and

WHEREAS, Colombia is an essential partner with the United States in continuing efforts to support the courageous people of Venezuela in their fight for freedom, democracy, and economic prosperity against the dictatorship of Nicolás Maduro, and

WHEREAS, enemies of freedom, such as the communist regime in Cuba and the Maduro regime in Venezuela, exploit and abuse vulnerable individuals and promote violent unrest, vandalism, and destruction of property against individuals simply asking to

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59 be heard, and

60 WHEREAS, in December 2021, the Biden Administration revoked
61 the designation of FARC as a Foreign Terrorist Organization, and

62 WHEREAS, FARC has murdered, tortured, and kidnapped
63 innocent Colombians and committed gross violations of human
64 rights, and

65 WHEREAS, FARC opposes democratic institutions and those who
66 have fought for them, and

67 WHEREAS, FARC has committed and supported terrorism and
68 continues to do so, and

69 WHEREAS, the Colombian electorate in 2016 voted against a
70 referendum that would have enacted a deal with FARC, and

71 WHEREAS, the Colombian government later ratified an
72 agreement with FARC without the approval of the electorate, NOW,
73 THEREFORE,

74
75 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

76
77 That the Florida Legislature declares its firm commitment
78 to Colombia, the United States' strongest ally in Latin America,
79 and opposes the Biden Administration's revocation of FARC's
80 designation as a Foreign Terrorist Organization.

81 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Florida Legislature urges
82 the United States Secretary of State to redesignate FARC as a
83 Foreign Terrorist Organization.

84 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
85 dispatched to the President of the United States, the President
86 of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States
87 House of Representatives, the United States Secretary of State,

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88 and each member of the Florida delegation to the United States
89 Congress.

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The Florida Senate

Committee Agenda Request

To: Senator Tom Wright, Chair
Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security

Subject: Committee Agenda Request

Date: January 19, 2023

I respectfully request that **Senate Bill SM 160**, relating to Redesignation of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization, be placed on the:

- ☐ committee agenda at your earliest possible convenience.
- ☒ next committee agenda.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bryan Avila".

Senator Bryan Avila
Florida Senate, District 39

APPEARANCE RECORD21 Feb 2023

Meeting Date

WAIVEDSM 160

Bill Number or Topic

Military and Veterans Affairs, Space and Domestic Security

Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Christopher Holton

Phone

504-234-8857

Address

2020 Pennsylvania Ave.

Street

Washington

City

DC

State

20006

Zip

Email

holton@centerforsecuritypolicy.orgSenior Analyst
Center for Security Policy

Speaking:

☒

For

☐

Against

☐

Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

☐

In Support

☐

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:☒I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.☐I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:☐I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: SB 301

Case No.:

Type:

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

Judge:

Started: 2/21/2023 1:01:31 PM

Ends: 2/21/2023 2:05:52 PM

Length: 01:04:22

1:01:30 PM	Chair Wright calls meeting to order
1:01:44 PM	Roll Call
1:01:56 PM	Quorum is present
1:02:02 PM	Pledge of Alligance
1:02:28 PM	Chair Wright opening remarks
1:02:39 PM	Tab 3 SM 160 FARC by Senator Avila
1:03:01 PM	Chair Wright recognizes Senator Avila
1:03:06 PM	Senator Avila explains bills
1:05:26 PM	Chair Wright: questions - none
1:05:39 PM	Amendment 766156
1:05:48 PM	Senator Avila explains the amendment
1:05:57 PM	Chair Wright: questions, debate, and appearances on amendment
1:06:03 PM	Senator Avila closes on the amendment
1:07:39 PM	Voice vote on amendment
1:07:50 PM	Appearances
1:08:00 PM	Christopher Holton, Center for Security Policy waives
1:08:15 PM	Debate
1:08:18 PM	Senator Collins
1:08:59 PM	Chair Wright recognizes Senator Avila to close
1:09:07 PM	Senator Avila closes on SM 160
1:09:45 PM	Roll call vote on SM 160
1:10:00 PM	Tab 1 Presentation on DMA by Major General John Haas, Asst. Adjutant General of Florida
1:10:25 PM	Chair Wright recognizes General Haas
1:10:40 PM	General Haas presents
1:17:43 PM	Closing remarks by General Haas
1:18:43 PM	Questions
1:18:53 PM	Senator Torres
1:20:10 PM	General Haas
1:21:44 PM	Senator Pizzo
1:22:18 PM	General Haas
1:23:18 PM	Senator Pizzo
1:23:53 PM	General Haas
1:24:00 PM	Senator Pizzo
1:24:39 PM	General Haas
1:25:14 PM	Senator Pizzo
1:25:30 PM	General Haas
1:26:08 PM	Senator Berman
1:26:16 PM	General Haas
1:26:30 PM	Senator Berman
1:26:37 PM	General Haas
1:26:43 PM	Senator Collins
1:27:04 PM	General Haas
1:29:48 PM	Senator Collins
1:30:05 PM	General Haas
1:30:52 PM	Senator Collins
1:31:01 PM	Chair Wright comments
1:31:34 PM	Senator Torres comments
1:31:48 PM	General Haas
1:32:09 PM	Chair Wright closing remarks to General Haas
1:32:24 PM	Tab 2 Presentation on Division Emergency Management by Director Kevin Guthrie
1:32:45 PM	Chair Wright recognizes Director Guthrie
1:33:35 PM	Director Guthrie presents

1:50:28 PM	Director Guthrie concludes
1:51:03 PM	Questions
1:51:13 PM	Senator Berman
1:51:25 PM	Director Guthrie
1:51:49 PM	Senator Berman
1:52:02 PM	Director Guthrie
1:52:16 PM	Senator Pizzo
1:52:50 PM	Director Guthrie
1:53:15 PM	Senator Pizzo
1:53:15 PM	Director Guthrie
1:53:30 PM	Senator Pizzo
1:54:49 PM	Director Guthrie
1:55:55 PM	Senator Pizzo
1:56:15 PM	Director Guthrie
1:56:15 PM	Senator Pizzo
1:56:50 PM	Director Guthrie
1:57:55 PM	Senator Pizzo
1:58:00 PM	Director Guthrie
1:58:43 PM	Senator Pizzo
1:59:07 PM	Director Guthrie
1:59:15 PM	Senator Pizzo
1:59:57 PM	Director Guthrie
2:01:41 PM	Senator Pizzo
2:02:02 PM	Director Guthrie
2:02:53 PM	Senator Pizzo
2:03:09 PM	Senator Torres
2:03:24 PM	Director Guthrie
2:03:32 PM	Senator Torres
2:03:36 PM	Director Guthrie
2:03:55 PM	Senator Torres
2:04:28 PM	Director Guthrie
2:05:04 PM	Chair Wright thanks Director Guthrie
2:05:19 PM	Chair Wright closing remarks
2:05:37 PM	Senator Calatayud moves to adjourn