



All California Defense Leadership Summit Agenda *California Serves*

Hosted by the Association of Defense Communities with the
Governor’s Military Council

at the

Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel
13th and J Street, Sacramento, CA
May 24 – 25, 2023

<https://defensecommunities.org/regional/california/>

Wednesday, May 24

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| | <p>Legislative and Agency Office Visits by Support Organizations and Installation Commanders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>By Request Only (Contact allison.henderson@opr.ca.gov if you would like to assistance in contacting your Assembly or Senate Member’s office)</i> |
| <p>3:30p.m.–5:30p.m.</p> | <p>CA Executive Agency Roundtable (Service Component GOs and CA agency leads) <i>Beavis Room, 2nd Floor Space, Sheraton Grand Hotel</i></p> <p><i>Select senior Defense leaders meet with requested state agency leadership to cover exclusive topics in an intimate conversation setting.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited space for invitation-only participants |



6:00p.m.–7:30p.m.

Welcome Reception

Gardenia Ballroom, Lower Level

Take advantage of this unique opportunity to network and engage with defense stakeholders from across the state in a relaxed environment

Welcome:

- Vice Admiral Jody Breckenridge, U.S. Coast Guard (ret.), Chair, Governor’s Military Council
- Association of Defense Communities
- Meg O’Grady, Senior Vice President for Military and Government Programs for National University



Thursday, May 25

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| 7:00a.m.–2:00p.m. | Registration Open |
| 7:00a.m.–8:00a.m. | Continental Breakfast <i>Grand Nave Foyer, Lower Level, Self-service</i> |
| 8:00a.m.–8:45a.m. | <p>Welcome/Opening Session <i>Camellia/Gardenia Ballroom, Lower Level</i></p> <p>National Anthem – Amia Baptise, Grant High School</p> <p>Invocation – Chaplain (Major) Saul Castillo, California National Guard</p> <p>Joint Color Guard – California National Guard</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governor’s Council Welcome – Vice Admiral Jody Breckenridge, U.S. Coast Guard (ret.), Chair, Governor’s Military Council • Municipal Welcome – City of Sacramento • Opening Address, Dee Dee Myers, Senior Advisor to the Governor and Director, Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development • Video Keynote Address, Governor Gavin Newsom |
| 8:45 a.m.–9:30a.m. | <p>Service Senior Leader Panel <i>Camellia/Gardenia Ballroom, Lower Level</i></p> <p><i>Learn the top priorities and mission critical concerns from senior leaders across the state’s military services and listen in on their biggest issues today.</i></p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major General Eldon Regua, U.S. Army (ret.) Governor’s Military Council <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major General Matthew Beevers, Acting, The Adjutant General, California National Guard • Rear Admiral Andrew Sugimoto, Commander, District 11, US Coast Guard |



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brigadier General Matthew Higer, Commanding General, 412th Test Wing, Edwards Air Force Base, US Air Force • Brigadier General Jason Woodworth, Commanding General, Marine Corps Installations – West, US Marine Corps • Captain Dwight Clemons, Chief of Staff, Navy Region Southwest • Chief Master Sergeant Willie H. Frazier, II, Senior Enlisted Leader, Space Systems Command, Los Angeles Air Force Base, US Space Force |
| <p>9:30a.m.–9:45a.m.</p> | <p>Networking Break</p> |
| <p>9:45a.m.–10:45a.m.</p> <p>A.M. PANEL 1</p> | <p>Education and Workforce Development in the California Defense Industry <i>Camellia/Magnolia Ballroom, Lower Level</i></p> <p><i>Explore how California’s education and defense sectors are adapting to meet the challenges and evolving demands of defense.</i></p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robert Meyer, Director of Economic Development, Employment Training Panel <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jose Anaya, Dean, El Camino College’s Community Advancement Division and the Business Training Center; Leadership Board of UpSkill California • Philip Juarez, Director, Cybersecurity Engineering Division, Naval Information Warfare Center Pacific (NIWC) • Meg O’Grady, Senior Vice President, Military and Government Programs, National University |
| <p>10:45a.m.–11:00a.m.</p> | <p>Networking Break</p> |
| <p>11:00a.m.–12:00p.m.</p> <p>A.M. PANEL 2</p> | <p>Building Stronger Partnerships: Installations and the Community <i>Camellia/Magnolia Ballroom, Lower Level</i></p> <p><i>Defense and community partners share best practices in building and maintaining strong military/community partnerships.</i></p> <p>Moderator:</p> |



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sandy Person, Executive Director, Travis Community Consortium <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colonel Gregory Pace, Marine Corps Logistics Base - Barstow Willie A. Hopkins, Jr., City Manager, City of Barstow John W. R. Pope, III, Executive Director, Naval Information Warfare Systems Command (NAVWAR) Ivan Bolden, Chief of Army Partnerships Rick Hern, Partnership Broker, Air Force Community Partnerships |
| 12:00p.m.–12:15p.m. | Networking Break/ lunch setup |
| 12:15a.m.–12:30p.m. | <p>Lunch Buffet Service <i>Grand Nave Foyer, Lower Level</i></p> |
| <p>12:30p.m.–1:30p.m.</p> <p>LUNCH PANELS</p> | <p>Lunch Program <i>Camellia/Magnolia Ballroom, Lower Level</i></p> <p>Topic 1: California Commitment: The Army’s Strategic Re-Engagement in the Golden State <i>The US Army has a renewed commitment to its defense activities in California; hear about its plans to reinforce the mission here.</i></p> <p>Speaker: Mario Diaz – Deputy Under Secretary of the Army</p> <p>Topic 2: California Legislative Update <i>Receive the latest information on legislation impacting military and defense communities in the state and at the national level.</i></p> <p>Speaker: Colonel Steve Vancil, US Air Force (Ret.), Solano County Military Officers Association of America</p> |
| 1:30p.m.–1:45p.m. | Networking Break/Room clearance/setup |
| 1:45p.m.–3:00p.m. | First Breakout Session |
| | <p>Breakout A: Quality of Life <i>Camellia Room</i></p> <p><i>Learn about updates on critical quality of life topics affecting military families and the latest state policy considerations.</i></p> |



Moderator:

- Kelli May Douglas, Defense-State Liaison Office, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Military Community and Family Policy

Speakers

- Childcare: Ms. Alethea Arguilez, Executive Director, First Five San Diego
- K-12 Education and Teacher Licensure: Mr. Jesse M Najera, Superintendent, Silver Valley Unified School District
- Spouse Employment and Licensure: Ms. April Palmer, Army SgtMaj Spouse (Special Education Teacher)
- Military/Veteran Quality of Life State Policy Considerations: Mr. Christian Burkin, Chief Consultant, Assembly Military and Veteran Affairs Committee

Breakout B: Climate & Environment

Magnolia Room

Leaders in climate sustainability research and execution discuss the critical role of the military in addressing the impact of climate change on national security and the state's efforts and role in partnering with them.

Special Presentation: Brigadier General Matthew Higer, 412th Test Wing, Edwards Air Force Base

Moderator:

- Wade Crowfoot, Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency

Speakers

- Mark Merrifield, Director, Center for Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation, Scripps Institute of Oceanography
- Nancy Vogel, Deputy Secretary for Water, California Natural Resources Agency
- Rachel Posner Ross, Deputy Chief Sustainability Officer, Department of Defense



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clare Mendelsohn, Deputy Secretary of Public Policy, California Environmental Protection Agency |
| 3:00p.m.–3:15p.m. | Networking Break |
| 3:15p.m.–4:45p.m. | Second Breakout Session |
| 3:15p.m.–4:45p.m. | <p>Breakout A: Grant and Funding Opportunities: <i>Camellia Room</i></p> <p><i>Receive insights into the latest funding opportunities and grant programs available for defense and community initiatives. The panel will feature experts from state and federal government agencies who will discuss the criteria, application process, and success stories of past grant recipients. Participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of the funding landscape and valuable tips for crafting successful grant proposals.</i></p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Louis Littleton, Director, Western Regional Office, Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shivani Bose-Varela, California Grants Portal Project Manager California State Library Amy Miller, Federal Grant Administrator, Governor’s Office of Planning and Research Samantha Hiller, Regional Engagement Principal, National Security Innovation Network (NSIN) Rob Rule, Assistant Director, Partnerships Western US and Pacific Region, Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Office of the Secretary of Defense <p>Breakout A: Ensuring Resilience of Critical Infrastructure <i>Magnolia Room</i></p> <p><i>Experts will discuss the natural and manmade threats to our critical infrastructure and strategies for addressing them.</i></p> <p>Moderator:</p> |



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Colonel Fred Meurer, U.S. Army (ret.), Governor's Military Council <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hannah Walter, Associate Deputy Director, California Transportation Commission• John D. Moreno, Programs Director, US Army Corps of Engineers South Pacific Division• Tom Ducker, Homeland Security Division Critical Infrastructure, California Office of Emergency Services• Lance L. LaBreck, Business Continuity & Corporate Preparedness, California Independent System Operator |
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