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A PUBLICATION OF THE 502nd AIR BASE WING — JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-FORT SAM HOUSTON


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## Army South, partner armies work together to develop enlisted leaders

 By Robert Ramon  
ARSOUTH Public Affairs

More than 20 senior enlisted leaders from Brazil and Colombia joined U.S. Army South and other leaders in visiting Fort Benning, Ga., and Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., June 14-25 to discuss increasing the development of their noncommissioned officer corps with senior enlisted leaders from the U.S. military.

The delegation, led by the Sergeant Major of the Colombian army, represents the Joint Senior

Enlisted Development Program in Colombia that provides instruction to enlisted members of militaries throughout the region.

The visit to the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation at Fort Benning included discussions focused on the U.S. NCO professional development and education system. The partner nation senior leaders were also made aware of the opportunities available to them to attend and even teach courses at WHINSEC.

"This event is very important

to us and our country especially at the NCO school in Colombia, because this helps us strengthen our knowledge about leadership and teamwork, which is what our students are learning," said Command Sgt. Maj. Libardo Doncel, command sergeant major of the Colombian army's NCO Schools.

The U.S. delegation included senior enlisted leaders from U.S. Army South, U.S. Southern Com-

**See ARSOUTH, P16**


Sgt. 1st Class Fredy Lugo (right), the U.S. Army South personnel directorate noncommissioned officer in charge of manpower, talks with a Colombian NCO at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. June 23. Noncommissioned officers from the U.S., Colombian and Brazilian armies traveled to the 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) headquarters to exchange an understanding of operational capacity and gather insight on how NCOs play a role in their operations.

 Photo by Master Sgt.  
Sean Parrish

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# Tax relief available for victims of severe storms, tornadoes, straight-line winds and flooding in Texas

By Lea Crusberg  
IRS Media Relations

Victims of the severe storms, tornadoes, straight-line winds and flooding that took place beginning on May 4 in parts of Texas may qualify for tax relief from the Internal Revenue Service.

Following recent disaster declarations for individual assistance issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the IRS announced that affected taxpayers in Texas will receive tax relief.

President Barack Obama has declared Bastrop, Blanco, Caldwell, Cooke, Dallas, Denton, Eastland, Fort Bend, Fannin, Fayette, Gaines, Grayson, Guadalupe, Harris, Hays, Henderson, Hidalgo, Johnson, Liberty, Milam, Montague, Navarro, Nueces, Rusk, Smith, Travis, Van Zandt, Walker, Wichita, Williamson, and Wise counties a federal disaster area. Individuals who reside or have a business in these counties may qualify for tax relief.

The declaration permits the IRS to postpone certain deadlines for taxpayers who reside or have a business in the disaster area. For instance, certain deadlines falling on or after May 4, and on or before Nov. 2, have been postponed to Nov. 2.

This includes the May 15 deadline for many tax-exempt organizations to file their annual Form 990. It also includes the June 15 and Sept. 15 deadlines for making

quarterly estimated tax payments. A variety of business tax deadlines are also affected including the July 31 deadline for quarterly payroll and excise tax returns.

The IRS is also waiving the failure-to-deposit penalties for employment and excise tax deposits due on or after May 4, as long as the deposits were made by May 19.

If an affected taxpayer receives a penalty notice from the IRS, the taxpayer should call the telephone number on the notice to have the IRS abate any interest and any late filing or late payment penalties that would otherwise apply. Penalties or interest will be abated only for taxpayers who have an original or extended filing, payment or deposit due date, including an extended filing or payment due date, that falls within the postponement period.

The IRS automatically identifies taxpayers located in the covered disaster area and applies automatic filing and payment relief. But affected taxpayers who reside or have a business located outside the covered disaster area must call the IRS disaster hotline at 866-562-5227 to request this tax relief.

Taxpayers considered to be affected taxpayers eligible for the postponement of time to file returns, pay taxes and perform other time-sensitive acts are those taxpayers listed in Treas. Reg. § 301.7508A-1(d)(1), and include individuals who

live, and businesses whose principal place of business is located, in the covered disaster area.

Taxpayers not in the covered disaster area, but whose records necessary to meet a deadline listed in Treas. Reg. § 301.7508A-1(c) are in the covered disaster area, are also entitled to relief. In addition, all relief workers affiliated with a recognized government or philanthropic organization assisting in the relief activities in the covered disaster area and any individual visiting the covered disaster area who was killed or injured as a result of the disaster are entitled to relief.

Under section 7508A, the IRS gives affected taxpayers until Nov. 2 to file most tax returns (including individual, corporate, and estate and trust income tax returns; partnership returns, S corporation returns, and trust returns; estate, gift, and generation-skipping transfer tax returns; and employment and certain excise tax returns), or to make tax payments, including estimated tax payments, that have either an original or extended due date occurring on or after May 4 and on or before Nov. 2.

The IRS also gives affected taxpayers until Nov 2 to perform other time-sensitive actions described in Treas. Reg. § 301.7508A-1(c)(1) and Rev. Proc. 2007-56, 2007-34 I.R.B. 388 (Aug. 20, 2007), that are due to be performed on or after May 4

and on or before Nov. 2.

This relief also includes the filing of Form 5500 series returns, in the manner described in section 8 of Rev. Proc. 2007-56. The relief described in section 17 of Rev. Proc. 2007-56, pertaining to like-kind exchanges of property, also applies to certain taxpayers who are not otherwise affected taxpayers and may include acts required to be performed before or after the period above.

The postponement of time to file and pay does not apply to information returns in the W-2, 1098, 1099 series, or to Forms 1042-S or 8027. Penalties for failure to timely file information returns can be waived under existing procedures for reasonable cause. Likewise, the postponement does not apply to employment and excise tax deposits. The IRS, however, will abate penalties for failure to make timely employment and excise tax deposits due on or after May 4 and on or before May 19 provided the taxpayer made these deposits by May 19.

Affected taxpayers in a federally declared disaster area have the option of claiming disaster-related casualty losses on their federal income tax return for either this year or last year. Claiming the loss on an original or amended return for last year will get the taxpayer an earlier refund, but waiting to claim the loss on this year's return could result in a greater tax saving, depending on other

income factors.

Individuals may deduct personal property losses that are not covered by insurance or other reimbursements. For details, see Form 4684 (<http://www.irs.gov/uac/Form-4684>, -Casualties-and-Thefts) and its instructions. Affected taxpayers claiming the disaster loss on last year's return should put the Disaster Designation "Texas, Severe Storms, Tornadoes, Straight-line Winds and Flooding" at the top of the form so that the IRS can expedite processing the refund.

The IRS will waive the usual fees and expedite requests for copies of previously filed tax returns for affected taxpayers. Taxpayers should put the assigned Disaster Designation in red ink at the top of Form 4506 (<http://www.irs.gov/uac/Form-4506>, -Request-for-Copy-of-Tax-Return), Request for Copy of Tax Return, or Form 4506-T, Request for Transcript of Tax Return, as appropriate, and submit it to the IRS.

Affected taxpayers who are contacted by the IRS on a collection or examination matter should explain how the disaster impacts them so that the IRS can provide appropriate consideration to their case. Taxpayers may download forms and publications from the official IRS website at <http://www.irs.gov> or order them by calling 800-829-3676. For general tax questions, call 800-829-1040.



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## News Briefs

### North New Braunfels, Harry Wurzbach West Access Control Points Open In Mornings

The North New Braunfels Access Control Point, located by the Quadrangle, and the Harry Wurzbach West ACP, also known as the Pershing Gate, is open from 5:30-8:30 a.m. Mondays through Friday, except on federal holidays, according to the 502nd Security Forces Squadron.

### Army North Honors Senior Leader At Military Tattoo

Army North (Fifth Army) honors one of its own during a farewell tattoo ceremony at 9 a.m. Friday in the Quadrangle on Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, Maj. Gen. Simeon Trombitas, ARNORTH deputy commanding general for operations, brings his time at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston to a close with the formal event celebrating his 37-year career and achievements.

### New Joint Base San Antonio Website

The Joint Base San Antonio website at <http://www.JBSA.mil> has a new look and includes easier access to family-related resources.

### Traffic Flow Altered Near Fort Sam Houston Elementary

The traffic flow at the intersection of Nursery and Williams Roads near Fort Sam Houston Elementary School on Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston will be altered through Aug. 23. The project realigns the intersection from a "Y" intersection to a 90-degree intersection, which JBSA civil engineers said will improve traffic flow and safety. Since this construction is timed to take place during the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District summer vacation, it should have negligible impact on the school. Provisions will be made for the shoulders alongside Nursery and Williams Roads to be used as vehicle lanes to allow traffic to continue to flow in both the northbound and southbound directions during construction. Once traffic is diverted to the shoulders, the construction contractor will close the main lanes of Nursery and Williams Roads to rebuild the intersection. Biesenbach Road, in front of the school, will carry eastbound and westbound traffic between Nursery and Williams Roads.

See NEWS BRIEFS, P6

# AMEDD Center and School, HRCoE, establishes Academy Brigade (Provisional)

By Esther Garcia and Phillip Reidinger  
AMEDDC&S, HRCoE  
Public Affairs

History was made July 2 with an uncasing ceremony at the U.S. Army Medical Department Museum Amphitheater on Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston that officially established the Academy Brigade (Provisional), the Headquarters and Support Company (Provisional) and its subordinate units.

"Today's ceremony marks another milestone in our transformation in support of Force 2025," said Maj. Gen. Steve Jones, commanding general, U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, U.S. Army Health Readiness Center of Excellence, as he welcomed military leaders from throughout JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, as well as Soldiers, officers, friends, staff and faculty.

"The first was our designation as the United States Army Health Readiness Center of Excellence," Jones added. "There are many milestones yet to come as we demonstrate our commitment to providing the best military in the world with the best medical support possible."

Headquarters, Department of the Army, designated the AMEDDC&S as the Army's Health Readiness Center of Excellence Feb. 19. As an Army Health Readiness



Photo by Esther Garcia

Lt. Col. Patrick Zenk (center), commander of troops and Academy Brigade (Provisional) brigade executive officer, is flanked by (from left) Col. William Drennon, incoming Academy Brigade (Provisional) commander; Sgt. Maj. Larry Lipsey, brigade command sergeant major; Maj. Rory Walley, incoming Headquarters and Support Company (Provisional) commander; and 1st Sgt. John Case, with his subordinate units lined up at the rear at the U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, U.S. Army Health Readiness Center of Excellence, Academy Brigade (Provisional) Organization Ceremony held at the AMEDD Museum Amphitheater at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston July 2.

CoE, the AMEDDC&S plays an expanded role supporting the Army to lead the design, integration, education and training of new and innovative approaches to health and the Army Health System.

The designation enables the command to focus on medical capability development and integration functions and serve the Army as a single agency with which to coordinate the medical and health needs of Soldiers and their Families.

The Health Readiness Center of Excellence also establishes operational conditions for the command to establish a university model and degree granting authority for the AMEDDC&S as an academic institution.

The AMEDDC&S has reorganized to enhance mission command,

improve functional alignment, fully implement the Army HRCoE and set the conditions for becoming a degree-granting institution.

The restructure into two training brigades with cadre, faculty and students assigned to the same organization will enhance mission command and improve functional alignment for the brigades, each of which will have responsibility for the execution of training and education, as well as quality of life and immersion into the Army Profession, officials said. It will also create a focus for concept, requirements, and doctrinal development in a Capability Development and Integration Directorate analogous to other CoEs.

"Conflicts in the future, like those in the past, will ultimately be resolved on land.

They will be won with the blood of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines who make up our Joint Force," Jones said. "Those warfighters will fight more effectively because they know Army Medicine is present on the battlefield with them and they will take comfort knowing that we are also caring for their families back home.

"The Academy Brigade will play a critical role in the transformation of Army Medicine to meet these challenges," the general added. "It will train medical leaders with new ideas, who can think critically, inspire Soldiers, instill discipline, and develop the character that makes our Army the best in the world."

Jones said the Academy Brigade is being established to

improve the exercise of mission command within the AMEDDC&S, HRCoE, and will better align authority and responsibility as cadre, faculty and students will be assigned within the same organization and chain of command.

The Headquarters and Support Company (Provisional) is aligned under AMEDDC&S, HRCoE, and is under the command of Maj. Rory Walley and 1st Sgt. John Case.

Academy Brigade (Provisional) is under the command of Col. William Drennon, with Sgt. Maj. Larry Lipsey as the unit command sergeant major and Lt. Col. Patrick Zenk as the brigade executive officer, and consists of a headquarters detachment under the Academy Brigade and two battalions: the

See BRIGADE, P15

# New Army traumatic brain injury assessment device clears FDA

By Crystal Maynard  
Army Medicine

A new handheld medical device for analyzing brain injuries, which was developed by the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command's Combat Casualty Care Research Program and the BrainScope Company, Inc., has been cleared by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

The Ahead 200 was cleared by the FDA in May to help clinicians assess mildly presenting head trauma patients.

The device uses commercial smartphone technology to analyze a patient's brain activity for signs

of a traumatic brain injury within 24 hours of the injury.

"Traumatic brain injuries have been one of the signature injuries in Iraq and Afghanistan," said Lt. Col. Chessley Atchison, program manager for the Technology Enabled Capability Demonstration: Brain in Combat portfolio of the CCCRP. "There is a great need for a tool like this in theater. A normal electroencephalogram machine is a big piece of machinery and can't be used in the field."

The device works by measuring the brain's electrical activity via a disposable headset that is placed on the forehead. Once recorded, the Ahead 200

uses algorithms, which quantify and characterize activity associated with traumatic brain injuries.

Used in conjunction with other tools, the Ahead 200 medical device will help assist clinicians in the real-time screening and care of warfighters with head injuries.

"The size and ease of use of the Ahead 200 allows medics to triage wounded warfighters quickly," Atchison said. "Our goal is to not only save lives, but to ensure the best possible outcome for those injured in the line of duty, and tools like the Ahead 200 help us reach that goal."

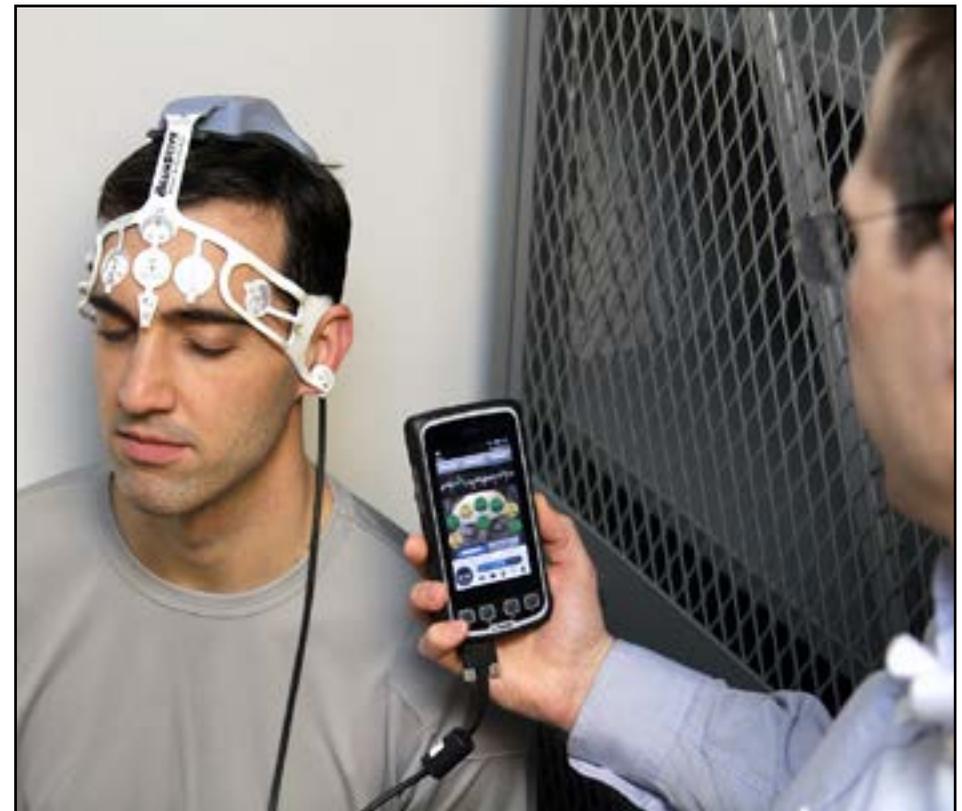


Photo courtesy BrainScope Company, Inc.

The Ahead 200, developed by the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command and the BrainScope Company, Inc., uses commercial smartphone technology to analyze a patient's brain activity for signs of a traumatic brain injury within 24 hours of the injury.



## News Briefs

### Continued from P3

#### Harry Wurzbach East ACP, Towers Intersection Blockages

Motorists entering Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston through the Harry Wurzbach East Access Control Point are asked not to block the drive-ways at The Towers on Park Lane. This ensures the safety of Towers residents and other motorists, according to the 502nd Civil Engineer Squadron. Those who stop in the marked cross-hatching could receive ticket. For more information, call 295-4784.

#### Stray Animals Notice For JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Residents

Many stray or roaming animal sightings are near residences. The stray or roaming animals are seeking food, water and shelter. Although this is not necessarily a housing problem, housing officials ask that residents refrain from feeding any animal that does not belong to them or that is running wild on Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston. If stray or roaming dogs in housing areas or entering the installation are seen, please call the 502nd Civil Engineering Squadron service call desk at 671-5555 to establish a work order and report the stray as soon as possible. Civil engineers will set traps for the strays and remove once the strays have been caught. If a wild animal is seen, keep away and make sure that no one is leaving food or water near housing areas. In addition, call Lincoln Military Housing at 221-0948 to have pest control service place a trap around the residence.

#### Closure of Hardee Road

A portion of Hardee Road between Koehler and Williams Road will close beginning July 17 for construction, which is expected to last into the fall season. Detour signs will be in place to route traffic to Koehler Road. Officials ask drivers to follow detours signs and use extra caution around construction zones.

# High school students attend inaugural USAISR science, mathematics camp

By Steven Galvan  
USAISR Public Affairs

For the first time in four years, the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research hosted GEMS II, or Gains in the Education of Mathematics and Science, camp for high school students along with GEMS I for middle school students.

The Army-sponsored camps held at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston are designed to spark interest in students to study science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM.

The four-day camps were packed with hands-on activities designed to expose the students or interns to subjects in sensory and cardiovascular physiology; neuromuscular reflexes; blood typing; types of bacteria; DNA structure and function; surgical knots and suturing techniques; dentistry; and hair, fiber and fingerprint analysis.

The classroom instruction and laboratory hands-on events were facilitated and led by two Texas-licensed teachers and five college students known as near-peer mentors.

"We are very excited to be offering the camp to high school students this year," said Stephanie Truss, GEMS program coordinator. "Not only do we get to expand our curriculum and offer new and challenging activities, but students who attended the GEMS I camp can return and attend GEMS II."

Hunter Strating was one of the first returning interns. She attended the camp in 2013 and said she was thrilled to learn she could come back for the next level camp.

"I really liked GEMS I, so I wanted to do it again," Strating said. "This one is more advanced, but like the first time, it's interesting, fun and I'm making new friends."



Photo by Steven Galvan

Gains in the Education of Mathematics and Science near-peer mentor Ricardo Vargas (center) looks on as GEMS II interns Karen Vargas (left) and Christian Brough (right) dissect a sheep brain June 16 at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research. This was the first year that GEMS II was offered to high school students at the USAISR. Ricardo is also a near-peer mentor who earned a bachelor's degree in English from Texas A&M San Antonio this year and will be returning as a graduate student to complete his prerequisites for medical school in the fall. Karen is his younger sister.

New activities were added to the GEMS II curriculum that were not previously offered in GEMS I. The new activities included dissecting bovine eyes and sheep brains and working with live crickets.

Additionally, after performing hands-on activities, the students learned from USAISR investigators about their research in these areas.

Other firsts that occurred this summer were two sisters working together as near-peer mentors, and a brother working as a near-peer mentor while his younger sister attended the camp as an intern.

Teresa and Heather Hall are both students at Texas A&M University and worked together as near-peer mentors. At only 15 months apart in age, they have had the opportunity to work together before and were delighted to have the chance to work together again this summer.

"Working with Teresa is a lot of fun because getting to collaborate with her in our areas of interest is a unique opportunity," Heather said.

"Heather and I work really well together," Teresa said. "Being so close in age has meant that we have been able to work together on other things in our lives. It was great to find a summer job where we could continue to do that."

Teresa is a pre-medical student working on a double major in biochemistry and genetics with minors in psychology and women's and gender studies. She said that being able to participate in GEMS as a near-peer mentor is not only beneficial on a personal level, but as a premedical student.

"Medical school administrators love to see that students have this type of experience," she said. "It has also prompted me to enhance my own understanding of the

nervous system."

Her sister also believes being a near-peer mentor is beneficial as she pursues a degree in elementary education.

"Since I want to pursue teaching, this is an excellent opportunity to gain experience and exposure to the field."

Ricardo Vargas is also a near-peer mentor who earned a bachelor's degree in English from Texas A&M San Antonio this year and will be returning as a graduate student to complete his prerequisites for medical school in the fall. He said GEMS is a great opportunity for him to be involved with science on a personal and engaging level, but is even more rewarding since he's able to share this experience with his younger sister.

"GEMS has been helping me on my career goals by reigniting my passion for science," he said. "Working with my sister has been fun because it changes the atmosphere for me. I can't take myself too seriously when she's around because she always makes me laugh."

"Having my brother as a near-peer is pretty cool," said Vargas' sister, Karen. "It's different telling someone of your experience when they actually live and experience it with you."

Karen also stated she enjoyed meeting and working with the other interns because it gives everyone the opportunity to share their knowledge and participate in activities that are not offered during the school year.

"My favorite part of GEMS is seeing all of the actual scientists work around me," Vargas said. "Being surrounded by so many professionals is inspiring because it shows that a love for learning pays off."

"I highly recommend this to all kids interested in science," Strating said.

# BAMC, USAISR hold first LGBT Pride Month event

By Lori Newman  
BAMC Public Affairs

Brooke Army Medical Center and the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston held their first event to commemorate Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month June 26.

Brig. Gen. Tammy Smith, deputy chief of staff, Army Reserve, was the guest speaker for the event, which was attended by her wife, Tracy, and a large number of BAMC and USAISR staff.

"Inclusion and diversity matter because of what we do in the military. We have to be able to compete for the best talent. It's a tough competition," Smith said.

"We have to make sure on all fronts that we

know that we welcome all talented people regardless of their background, regardless of where they come from, regardless of what their family is, regardless of who they love."

The general said she believes the LGBT Pride celebration is a celebration of authenticity. "It's about the ability to be authentic, so when we celebrate pride we are actually celebrating the fact that we value our people."

Smith explained that LGBT Pride Month is celebrated in June to coincide with the Stonewall Riots, which occurred June 28, 1969 at the Stonewall Inn, located in the Greenwich Village neighborhood of Manhattan, New York City.

"The Stonewall Riots are considered the start-

ing point of the modern gay rights revolution," she said.

Smith spoke about her military career and how she felt she had to live two separate lives – her life at work and her private life.

"I had my set of off-the-grid friends, those were members of the gay and lesbian community and we lived an entirely separate life from what was our regular life," she said.

"We were so protective of that off-the-grid life that we never gave any of you the opportunity to start a conversation with us about what our life might be outside the workplace. This was just how we lived our compartmentalized life."

She said it became harder for her to separate the two when she

met her wife, because she wanted to share her happiness with her coworkers but felt she could not.

"Once you fall in love it's hard to keep those compartments separate," Smith said. "I wanted to share Tracy with the people in my workplace."

Smith said she was about to retire from the military because it was becoming harder for her to separate her personal life from her work life. Then the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy was repealed so she changed her mind. "I felt like the weight of the world was lifted off my shoulders," she said.

Later, she was promoted to brigadier general and became the first openly gay general officer serving in the Army.

During Smith's remarks, Tracy interrupted



Photo by Lori Newman

Col. Gary Cooper (left), commander, Brooke Army Medical Center Troop Command, and BAMC Command Sgt. Maj. Tabitha Gavia (right) present a framed copy of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month Presidential Proclamation to Brig. Gen. Tammy Smith (center), Army Reserve, deputy chief of staff June 26 as a token of appreciation for being the guest speaker at the first BAMC LGBT Pride event.

to inform everyone that the Supreme Court ruling was announced allowing same-sex couples to marry nationwide. The announcement garnered a standing ovation from the audience as Smith hugged her spouse.

"The intent behind an

event such as this is to inform, to educate, to defy stereotypes and maybe to help somebody in the room to examine a closely held bias that they had and maybe see what they are holding as a bias in themselves in a different way," Smith said.

# Young runner motivates Army Birthday Run participants at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston

By Steven Galvan  
USAISR Public Affairs

It is said that “big things come in small packages.” That expression was witnessed firsthand by Soldiers at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston June 3 during a post-wide three-mile installation run to celebrate the Army’s 240th birthday.

Less than four feet tall and weighing less than 60 pounds, 10-year-old Pablo Sierra IV joined his dad, Staff Sgt. Pablo Sierra III, and Soldiers from the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research as they ran in formation with the U.S. Army Medical Command and other major commands on post.

During the run, the MEDCOM first sergeant noticed the young runner in the formation and asked him to run alongside her.

“She took him and they were running circles around the formation and motivating runners to keep up,” the older Sierra said.

“She told me to yell at them and tell them to ‘fall back in,’” said the fourth grader. “It made me feel special and important.”

“Imagine as I was leading the run for our MEDCOM headquarters, seeing this phenomenal young runner with a big smile running around with our first sergeant encouraging our Soldiers to keep focused,” said

Maj. Gen. Jimmie O. Keenan, MEDCOM deputy commanding general (operations) and chief, U.S. Army Nurse Corps.

This may be a sign of things to come.

“He has been telling me for a few years now that he wants to join the military,” said Sierra III. “Like any kid, his favorite color or other things may change, but telling me that he’s joining the military has never changed.”

“I’ve known since I was 7 that I wanted to join the military when I grow up,” Sierra IV said. “The uniform and the people wearing the uniform are special. I’m very proud of my parents. They are both in the Army and are special and I want to

continue the tradition.”

While it may be several years before he can join the military and wear the uniform, Sierra IV will continue to run with his dad whenever possible, for this wasn’t the first time he ran in formation – he had run with his dad a couple of time before.

The young runner’s willingness to run and participate with the first sergeant didn’t go unnoticed. Keenan asked to meet the younger Sierra at MEDCOM headquarters a few days after the run.

“She gave me a coin and told me that I did a good job and that she was proud of me,” Sierra IV said.

Not only did he get a coin from the general, he



Photo by Steven Galvan

Maj. Gen. Jimmie O. Keenan (center), MEDCOM deputy commanding general (operations) and chief, U.S. Army Nurse Corps presents Pablo Sierra IV with a command coin June 5 for his participation and motivation during the Army birthday run at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston June 3 as his stepmother, Spc. Sarah L. Sierra, looks on.

was also coined by the USAISR Commander, Col. (Dr.) Michael D. Wirt.

“When his parents brought him over to

MEDCOM headquarters so that I could recognize him, he asked if we could get a selfie,” Keenan said. “It made my day.”

# Joint Chiefs chairman addresses pay, compensation in online discussion

By Jim Garamone  
DOD News, Defense  
Media Activity

Questioners didn't pull any punches during the Facebook town hall conducted by the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff June 24.

In his fifth social media town hall, Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey was asked if proposed changes to the pay and compensation package were a betrayal of those who have served faithfully and their families.

The questioner said she has seen erosion in the military pay, retirement and commissary benefits.

"Our profession runs on trust, and keeping faith with the men and women who serve in uniform and their fami-

lies is non-negotiable," Dempsey said.

The chairman went on to stress that he and the rest of the Joint Chiefs of Staff have made it clear that any changes to military retirement must be grandfathered. Simply put, all currently serving service members would have the choice to retire under the present system or opt into the new system.

No one joins the military to get rich, the chairman said, but a fair pay and compensation system is needed to ensure the services can recruit and retain the best people even in a budget constrained environment.

"In today's difficult budget environment we are working to bal-

ance manpower costs with training, modernization and operation costs," Dempsey said. "We're doing it carefully and transparently, and we will continue to monitor fluctuations in cost of living to ensure our men and women in uniform remain fairly compensated."

Changes have been proposed to the military retirement system as part of the proposed fiscal 2016 defense budget. If Congress approves the budget and President Barack Obama signs it, about 85 percent of all service members will receive some form of a portable retirement benefit, a Joint Staff official said.

Those who serve 20 years would receive 80



Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Daniel Hinton

Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, sits at his desk in the Pentagon preparing for a Facebook town hall June 24. The chairman holds periodic chats with the military world at large via social media. His first was in December 2013.

percent of the current pension, according to the official.

"They will also have the opportunity to

achieve nearly equivalent or better retirement benefits when they reach retirement age through a series of

defined contributions to their Thrift Savings Plan account with DOD TSP matching," the official said.

# Army Medical Service Corps marks 98th anniversary

June 30 marked the 98th anniversary of the creation of the U.S. Army Medical Service Corps, which came about through many years of reorganization and change.

Precursors began with appointing an Apothecary General during the Revolutionary War and continued with establishment of an Ambulance Corps and U.S. Army Medical Storekeepers during the Civil War.

These evolved into the World War I Sanitary Corps, which was established by General Order No. 80 on June 30, 1917 as a temporary part of the Army Medical Department, based on authority provided by an May 18, 1917 Act of Congress.

This corps modernized the Medical Department with officers in a wide variety of administrative and scientific specialties, ranging from accounting, personnel, medical equipment repair, hospital design, medical supply, patient registrar, and adjutant; to bacteriology, parasitology, physiology, psychology, occupational therapy, sanitary engineering, x-ray, and nutrition. Positions included command of hospital and sanitation detachments, motorized ambulance companies and hospital trains.

This corps, which rapidly expanded to nearly 3,000 officers during World War I, enabled the relief of physicians from a variety of administrative, technical and scientific duties. The Sanitary Corps was demobilized following the war.

After World War I ended, the Army moved the Sanitary Corps into the newly formed Army Reserves. In 1920, the active Army Medical Department established another corps of officers to manage medical support, the Medical Administrative Corps.

In the years between the wars, the Army decided it needed a permanent ancillary medical organization. This led to establishing the Medical Administrative Corps June 4, 1920.

During World War II, the MAC increased from less than 100 officers in 1939 to more than 22,000 by 1945. These officers freed



Officers of the 117th Sanitary Train (42nd Division) in Bertricamp, France, April 1918.

physicians for patient care responsibilities by occupying an expanded variety of positions. These positions included replacement of the second physician in maneuver battalions.

During World War II, both the MAC and the Sanitary Corps played important roles, with the MAC handling administrative and logistics functions, while the Sanitary Corps provided psychologists, sanitary engineers, laboratory officers, optometrists and other scientific specialists.

A third precursor, the Pharmacy Corps, was established as a Regular Army

branch July 12, 1943. On Aug. 4, 1947 Congress passed a law that merged the Sanitary Corps, MAC and the Pharmacy Corps into the Medical Service Corps consisting of four sections: pharmacy, supply and administration, medical allied sciences, sanitary engineering, and optometry.

MSC medical battalion commanders in Korea remained in command as those units performed their combat missions the outbreak of hostilities in 1950.

MSC aviators were assigned to the first helicopter evacuation detachments in

Korea, units that presaged the revolutionary role of the helicopter ambulance. These MSC officers and their crews made history in Vietnam receiving every award of valor including the Medal of Honor.

Individual MSCs have figured prominently in Army Medical Department scientific achievements. A few examples:

- Maj. Reuben L. Kahn, SNC, developed a procedure that became the serological test for syphilis (1918).
- Col. George W. Hunter III, MSC, developed a snail poisoning program which essentially eliminated schistosomiasis



Capt. Louis F. Williams lectures at the Medical Field Service School, Carlisle Barracks, Pa., in June 1941



Capt. Steven Horosko III inspects a mosquito light trap on the banks of the Juba River in Bardera, Somalia in February 1993.



Photos courtesy Army Medical Department Center of History and Heritage  
Female officers at the Medical Field Service School in October 1967.



A class of Medical Service Corps officers learns how to properly strap a patient and litter onto an H-13 helicopter in October 1954.

(snail fever) in Japan. (1950-53).

• Lt. Cols. Dan C. Cavanaugh and John D. Marshall, MSC, made significant advances understanding plague through linking plague epidemics to weather; developing serological tests and documenting the efficacy of the vaccine (1960-70).

• Col. Frank R. Camp, MSC, led the Army programs in blood banking and transfusion research to world-wide influence (1964-75).

• Col. Robert B. Lindberg, MSC, and colleagues developed sulfamylon cream which markedly reduced burn mortality (1965).

• Lt. Col. Charles R. Angel, MSC, and a team of researchers provided the technology transfer which enabled the establishment of the first mass screening laboratory for heroin testing in large populations (1971).

• Reserve Capt. Millie Hughes-Fulford, MSC, was selected in 1984 as an astronaut for the Spacelab IV mission, becoming the first astronaut from any medical department.

In today's Army, MSCs provide administration, planning, programming and budgeting for every Army Medical Department effort. They maintain the Army's wartime medical capability through command of its field medical establishment.

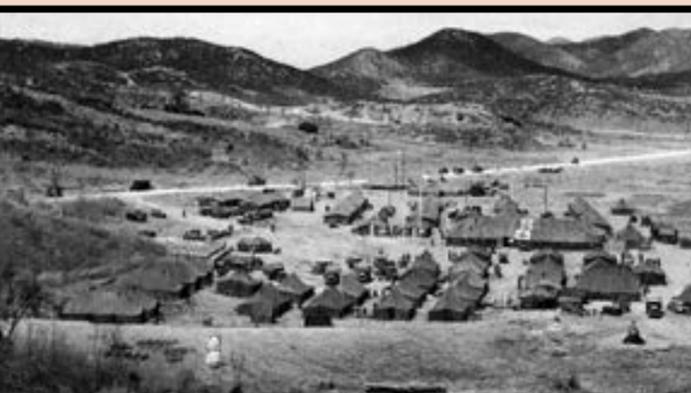
(Source: Army Medical Department Center of History and Heritage)



1st Lt. Henry O. Tuell and Capt. Howard Elliott in a Vietnam Dustoff operation in May 1970.



Future health services officers arrive at then-Fort Sam Houston for training in the 1960s.



The 45th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital, or MASH, during the Korean War.



A medical technician is lowered from a U.S. Army UH-60A Black Hawk helicopter to look for survivors following the November 1985 eruption of a volcano in Columbia.



A nutrition officer (right) weighs plate waste during a mess survey at Camp Shelby, Miss., in 1942.

Photos courtesy Army Medical Department Center of History and Heritage

# 502nd Force Support Group welcomes new command sergeant major

The 502nd Force Support Group welcomed Command Sgt. Maj. Craig Youngblood in a change of responsibility ceremony June 9 at the main flagpole on Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston. Youngblood, who comes in from Fort Lee, Va., replaces Command Sgt. Maj. Bryan Witzel, who has

been assigned to Fort Campbell, Ky.

Youngblood, a Miami, resident, has served in numerous units throughout his career. These units include the 3rd of the 160th Special Operation Aviation Regiment Airborne at Hunter Army Airfield Savannah, Ga.; Montgomery Recruiting Battalion with duty in Fort Walton Beach, Fla.; Combined Arms Support Command at Fort Lee, Va. 4th Brigade, 1st Armor Division, Fort Bliss, Texas; 210th Fires Brigade, Camp Casey, Korea; 244th Quartermaster Battalion, Fort Lee, Va.; and the 308th Brigade Support Battalion at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash..

The command sergeant major is a graduate of the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Course and the Command Sergeants Major Course. His civilian education includes a Bachelor of Science degree in information technology management from Trident University in California. He is working towards his Master of Arts in education/secondary teacher education.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal; Gold Recruiters Badge with three Sapphires, Drill Sergeant Badge, Parachutist Badge and Air Assault Badge.



**Command Sgt. Maj.  
Craig Youngblood**

*(Source: 502nd Force Support Group)*

# JBSA-Fort Sam Houston welcomes new citizens

By Tiffany Sertich

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston  
Military & Family Readiness Center

The Relocation Readiness program at the Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center offers citizenship and immigration assistance to qualifying military service members and their families by providing information on American customs and culture and coordinates with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services to ensure an officer will be available on-site for assistance with application and naturalization questions.

Eight service members stood on stage June 23 for the first naturalization ceremony in the M&FRC auditorium. The USCIS

officer administered the oath of allegiance and then welcomed the new American citizens.

“Our local USCIS was in the process of looking for a new location to conduct Naturalization Ceremonies for approved applicants stationed at Fort Sam Houston. I saw an opportunity to improve our services making things easier and convenient for our military members and their families,” said Roy Bolton, Relocation Readiness, community readiness consultant. “Patrons can complete their application for naturalization, conduct their interviews and fingerprinting, and officially become citizens all in one location that’s easily accessible to them.”

Twice a month, the M&FRC will provide



Photo by Ruben Wallace

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services conducted a naturalization ceremony at the Military & Family Readiness Center on Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston June 23, and administered the oath of allegiance to eight active duty service members representing seven different nations. Taking the oath are (from left) Seaman Recruit Suho Choi, South Korea; Seaman Apprentice Andrew Fraser, Jamaica; Spc. Ping Liu, People’s Republic of China; Seaman Olanrewaju Omotosho, Nigeria; Seaman Crispine Obiye, Kenya; Seaman Apprentice Jannah Bonggot, Philippines; Seaman Moyosore Oguntoye, Nigeria; and Seaman Victor Amos, Ghana.

assistance for legal permanent residents in the U.S. Armed Forces and their dependents to process their naturaliza-

tion applications.

The USCIS will process applications for naturalization, conduct interviews, and fingerprinting in the

mornings, and host a naturalization ceremony once a month.

The next citizen and immigration assistance

sessions are slated for 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday and July 28. The next naturalization ceremony is 2 p.m. July 28.

# BAMC Soldiers earn multiple medals at Warrior Games

By Elaine Sanchez  
BAMC Public Affairs

Warrior athletes from Brooke Army Medical Center's Warrior Transition Battalion at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston scored multiple medals at the Department of Defense Warrior Games at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va. June 19-28.

Their excellence in everything from running to racing to sitting volleyball helped tip the Army over the top to earn the Chairman's Cup with 162 medals and 141 total medal points. The second highest medal earner was the Marine Corps with 105 medals and 96 points.

Army Capt. Kelly Elmlinger, a cancer survivor assigned to BAMC WTB, earned five gold, one silver and two bronze medals for her prowess in wheelchair racing and swimming. While she aimed for excellence, Elmlinger said the Games represent far more to her than a race to the finish line.

"These competitions are more about the celebrations of everyone at their own point in life and celebrating the goals and the gains that you've made to get to that point," the Army nurse said in an interview with Defense Media Activity.

"Without a doubt, I would not have gotten to this point had it not been for my family, my friends, my colleagues and peers," she told DMA.

"From my mom and dad raising all of us and the foundation they gave us, to all the ups and downs throughout my career and in the past couple of years, and to all of those people who encouraged me in



Photo by Tim Hippius

Army Capt. Kelly Elmlinger, a surgical nurse with the Warrior Transition Unit at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston wins her division of the 800 meters in the 2015 Department of Defense Warrior Games track competition on Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., June 23. The 2015 DOD Warrior Games were held June 19-28. The games are an adaptive sports competition for wounded, ill and injured service members and veterans.

those moments that I've learned from and became stronger from and then now, I just want to say thank you."

The following is the medal tally for present and former BAMC WTB Soldiers:

- Elmlinger: Gold for the 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter dash, 800-meter dash and 1,500-meter run; silver for the 50-meter freestyle swim; and bronze for the 50-meter backstroke swim and 100-meter freestyle swim.

- Master Sgt. Rhoden Galloway (veteran): Silver for the 50-meter freestyle swim, 100-meter freestyle swim and 50-meter backstroke swim; and bronze for the

rifle standing shooting.

- Sgt. 1st Class Samantha Goldenstein: Gold for the 20-kilometer upright cycle, 800-meter run, 1,500-meter run and 400-meter dash; and silver for the 200-meter dash.

- National Guard Staff Sgt. Robert Green: Gold for the discus seated, shot put and as a seated volleyball team member (Army team won gold).

- Sgt. 1st Class Katie Kuiper (veteran): Gold for the 200-meter dash, 400-meter dash, 800-meter run and 1,500-meter run.

- 1st Lt. Christopher Parks: Bronze for the shot put seated.

- Spc. Haywood Range (veteran): Silver for the

shot put standing and 800-meter run and bronze for the discus standing.

- Staff Sgt. Michael Smith: Bronze for the 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter dash and 800-meter run.

Stuart Campbell, program director for the Center for the Intrepid, where several of the athletes underwent rehabilitation, added praise for former CFI patient Capt. Christie Wise, an Air Force pilot who earned gold for the 50-meter breast stroke and 50-meter back stroke; silver for the 50-meter freestyle, 100-meter freestyle, 50-meter freestyle relay, 10-kilometer hand cycle, sitting shot put and sitting discus; and bronze for the 100-meter wheelchair sprint, 200-meter wheelchair sprint and 400-meter wheelchair sprint. Her athletic prowess runs in the family; her brother took home Olympic gold for men's halfpipe at Sochi Russia.

"These athletes should be recognized for their ability to persevere and overcome the challenges of their injuries. At the same time, we should recognize the incredible professionalism and dedication of DOD medical professionals," Campbell said. "The partnership of individuals with great personal drive and professionals with world-class skills was on display during the Warrior Games."

The Warrior Games feature eight sporting events with approximately 200 athletes representing teams from the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, U.S. Special Operations Command and British Armed

Forces. This is the sixth year the Warrior Games have taken place and the first time they have been organized by the Department of Defense.

Adaptive sports and athletic reconditioning activities play a fundamental role in recovery, rehabilitation and reintegrating service members back to their units, or as they transition into the civilian environment, officials said.

"The courage, strength and skill of our warrior athletes and their families inspire their fellow service men and

women, and Americans everywhere," said Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Jessica Wright. "Everyone in the Department of Defense looks forward to celebrating the athletes' accomplishments before, during and after June's competition."

For more on the DOD Warrior Games, visit [http://www.wtc.army.mil/warrior\\_games/warrior\\_games\\_2015.html](http://www.wtc.army.mil/warrior_games/warrior_games_2015.html), [http://www.defense.gov/home/features/2015/0615\\_warriorgames/](http://www.defense.gov/home/features/2015/0615_warriorgames/) or <https://www.dvidshub.net/feature/armyteam>.

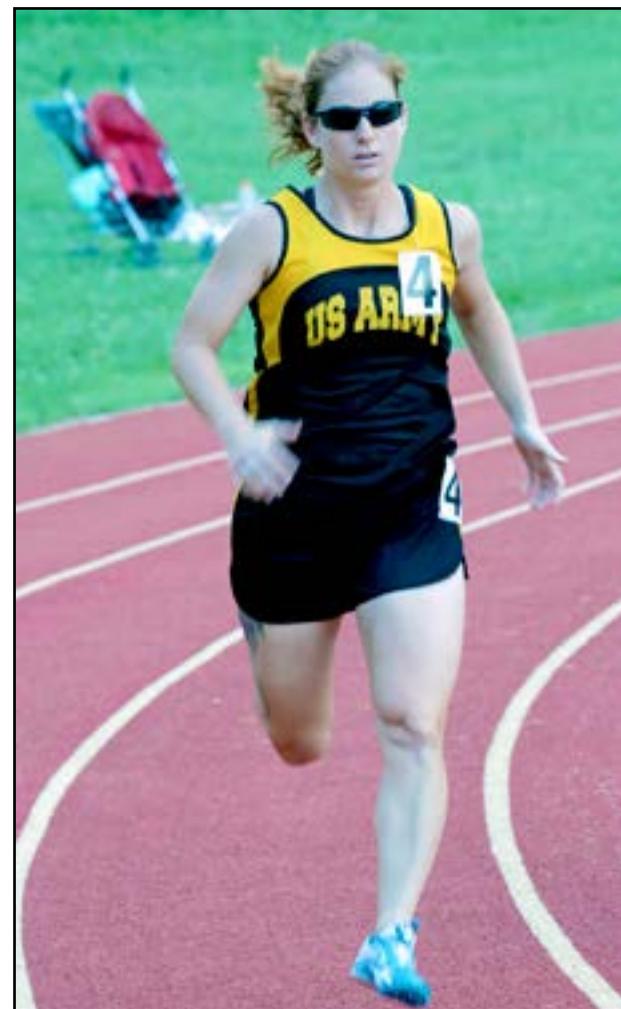


Photo by Spc. Garry Abidin

Sgt. 1st Class Samantha Goldenstein sprints around a turn during the track event at the 2015 Department of Defense Warrior Games at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., June 23.

## BRIGADE from P3

Academy Battalion (Provisional), with a headquarters detachment, three companies, and the U.S. Army School of Aviation Medicine, and the 187th Medical Battalion with a headquarters detachment, three companies and the AMEDD Student Detachment.

The 32nd Medical Brigade is under the command of Col. Jack Davis and Command Sgt. Maj. David Franco and consists of one headquarters detachment, two battalions: the 232nd Medical Battalion with a headquarters company and seven companies, the 264th Medical Battalion with a headquarters detachment and four companies, including the AMEDD Noncommissioned Officers Academy, the AMEDD Board and the AMEDD Personnel Proponent Directorate.

The Army HRCoE under the U.S. Army Medical Command maintains a focus on combat casualty care and aligns with the Army Training and Doctrine Command Centers of Excellence in terms of the authority and responsibility for developing medical readiness and health concepts, identifying

medical readiness and health capability gaps, and defining and refining future Soldier medical and health requirements established by TRADOC.

The HRCoE structure increases collaboration across CoEs, other organizations, programs and the generating force to improve support to the operating force. It embraces best practices and initiatives that improve efficiency and effectiveness of the Army and other service partners overall. Its common structure across all HRCoEs improves the ability of external agencies to communicate with CoE subordinate elements.

Where integrated staffs are realized and common instruction shared, manpower requirements are decreased and greater synergy is gained between staffs and schools.

The Army HRCoE supports the Army Campaign Plan and the Army Medicine 2020 Campaign Plan by providing the Army Surgeon General a mission command structure from which to lead the design, integration, and training of new and innovative approaches to health and the Army Health System which, in turn, enable a ready, re-

silient force of Soldiers, families and Communities for the Army.

The Army HRCoE better focuses the Army on improving the readiness of the force by achieving healthy outcomes, promoting sleep, activity, and nutrition as a performance triad and reducing the number of medically non-ready Soldiers.

The HRCoE maintains a focus on combat casualty care and aligns with other TRADOC CoEs in terms of the authority and responsibility for developing medical/health concepts, identifying medical/health capability gaps, and refining future health readiness requirements based on Soldier capability needs established by TRADOC.

Jones welcomed Drennon who most recently served as the chief of the AMEDDC&S, HRCoE Leader Training Center.

“He successfully commanded a medical evacuation battalion and a combat support hospital and served tours in Iraq and Afghanistan,” Jones said of Drennon. “With his experience and proven performance, he was the obvious selection as the brigade commander.”

“We just crossed the line of departure and it is time for us to as-



Photo by Esther Garcia

Maj. Rory Walley (right), incoming Headquarters and Support Company (Provisional) commander, and 1st Sgt. John Case (left) uncased the colors for the new company at the U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, U.S. Army Health Readiness Center of Excellence Organization Ceremony held at the AMEDD Museum Amphitheater Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston July 2.

sume our new mission and move forward with the utmost professionalism and discipline,” Drennon said.

“Thank you for accept-

ing the challenge to join our new team. You have my confidence and loyalty” Drennon added. “Together, we will overcome all challenges, accomplish

all missions and grow stronger each day.”

Lipsey is coming from the Medical Capabilities Integration Center, AMEDDC&S, HRCoE.

# Learn to avoid landlord-tenant disputes: Read your lease and know your legal rights

By E. Stephanie Hebert  
502nd Installation Support Group  
Legal Office JBSA-Lackland

Many landlord-tenant disputes can be avoided if tenants pay close attention to the rules of the relationship contained in their lease agreement and educate themselves about their legal rights.

## Research your landlord

Most of us have electronic information available at our fingertips 24/7. We can search the Internet, read online complaints and view videos about businesses. We should research the complaint history of the landlord or property management company to determine whether we want to do business with this person or business for the next 12 months or more.

For example, is your future landlord likely to withhold your security deposit? Have there been any complaints filed against the landlord with the Better Business Bureau? Has the landlord ever been sued in Bexar County? If you can't find any online reviews or complaint history, ask the landlord for the contact information of his former tenants and then contact those people to find out about their experience with the landlord.

## Read your lease

Many people sign their leases electronically, but they fail to actually read them. It's a lot of paperwork, but you must read the lease before you sign it because it contains the rules for the landlord-tenant relationship. If you don't understand the

lease, bring it to your installation legal office and ask questions.

## Before you move in

Before moving your household goods into the residence, take photographs of each room (each door, door stop, carpet, tile, ceiling, ceiling fan, window, blind, drawer, closet, air conditioning vent and filter, lighting fixture and kitchen appliance). If you've leased a house, don't forget to photograph the garage, yard (back, front and sides), shrubs, and fence.

Once you have taken still photographs, take video footage of the entire interior and exterior of the residence.

Use an inventory and condition form or move-in checklist to identify in writing the current condition of each item inside and outside the residence. If you were not provided with such a form, you can find one online. Complete the form and turn it into the landlord within the requisite period of time.

## Keep records

Keep a copy of all records concerning your lease. You never know when you may need to refer to your lease or the numerous attachments that accompany it.

For example, bank statements evidencing each rental payment, proof of payment of security and pet deposits, photographs and videos of the condition of the property, and your written inventory and condition form will all need to be gathered if there is a subsequent dispute

over the refund of your security deposit.

Copies of money orders, your rental application, and request for repairs should also be kept in the same location. An easy way to keep these records together is to organize, scan, and email them to yourself just in case your physical records are lost or damaged. Writing and retaining notes regarding conversations you have with your landlord will be useful as well.

## Know your legal rights

The lease dictates how much notice you must give to the landlord before you can legally vacate the residence.

If you are going on a deployment or a permanent change-of-station move, the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, the Texas Property Code and your lease require that you take certain actions before you or your family are allowed to terminate the lease early as a result of your military service.

You must deliver a copy of your orders (or the equivalent of orders), along with a written notice to terminate, to your landlord. Thereafter, the lease ends 30 days after the next rental payment is due. For example, if you deliver notice on May 15, your lease ends will end June 30.

## Moving out

Your lease will usually contain a list of tasks you must perform before your lease ends. It may require you to hire professionals to perform these tasks (carpet cleaner, maid, exterminator and yard maintenance crew).

Ask your landlord for a preferred list of contractors that you can hire to perform these tasks. Your landlord is less likely to argue over the services performed by one of their chosen contractors.

Once all tasks have been performed, take photos and videos once again, and then make yourself available for the final "walk-through" of the residence with the landlord. Turn in all garage door openers, house keys, pool keys and gate keys before the lease expires, preferably at the time of the walk-through.

You must provide your landlord with your forwarding address in writing if you expect to have your security deposit refunded to you within 30 days after you surrender the property. If the landlord retains a portion of your deposit for "damages," a written explanation of any deductions must be provided, but you cannot be charged for "normal wear and tear."

## Need help?

Do you want an attorney to preview your proposed lease agreement before you sign it? Are you experiencing a problem terminating your lease because of military orders? Are you having difficulty getting your security deposit back?

Call the legal office at your location to schedule an appointment and bring a copy of all lease documents. At Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, call 671-3362; at JBSA-Randolph, call 652-6781 and at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, call 221-2282.



Photo by Army Master Sgt. Sean Parrish

Columbian Sgt. Maj. of the Army Asdrubal Melo (second from right), and Command Sgt. Maj. Carlos Olvera (right), the U.S. Army South command sergeant major, participate in a briefing at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. June 23. Noncommissioned officers from the U.S., Colombian and Brazilian armies traveled to the 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) headquarters to exchange an understanding of operational capacity and gather insight on how NCOs play a role in their operations.

## ARSOUTH from P1

mand, U.S. Special Operations South, U.S. Marine Corps Forces South, Combined Arms Center, 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) and WHINSEC.

Participants from the partner nations said they were interested in learning from their U.S. military counterparts. They asked a lot of questions and engaged in detailed discussions.

"This type of partnership with your country is what helps make the changes," said Sgt. Maj. of the Colombian army Asdrubal Melo. "As I go back to my country to make decisions, I will talk to my general about our training, our doctrine and our leadership to show him how we can process all that better according to the knowledge I got from this visit."

This engagement was more than just helping the partner nations. The U.S. delegation also learned from its counterparts.

"We have a tremendous partnership with these countries and we take every opportunity to help them develop their NCO

Corps," said Command Sgt. Maj. William Zaiser, the SOUTHCOM command senior enlisted leader.

"Having these senior enlisted leaders here for this event allows for a great exchange of ideas where we learn just as much from them as they do from us."

Through the many briefs and discussions all of the participants agreed on the importance of delegating authority to noncommissioned officers, allowing officers to save time and extend the operational and tactical reach of any army.

"The militaries of both Brazil and Colombia have shown that they take the development of non-commissioned officers seriously," said Command Sgt. Maj. Carlos Olvera, the Army South command sergeant major. "This visit is a great example of us working together with our partners on leadership development, which helps build their capacity. The combined commitment to security in the region shows that Army South continues to be a regionally engaged, partner of choice."

# INSIDE THE GATE

## 4 Lenses™

### Discovery Workshop

Friday, 9 a.m. to noon, Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. This workshop provides an insight to the way people think, feel and act. Understanding personality theory can help with motivating reluctant people, improving communication; strengthen leadership abilities, and reducing stress and conflict. A minimum of 12 participants is required for this workshop. Call 221-2380.

### Car Seat 101

Monday, 9-11 a.m., Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Motor vehicle injuries are the leading cause of death among children in the United States according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Review the basics associated with car seat installation. This class is required before attending the Safety Seat Clinic. Call 221-2418.

### Spiritual Resilience

Monday, 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. A basic understanding of resilience provides a rationale for the skills the participants will learn. For more information on Comprehensive Airman Fitness or to register, call 221-2418.

### Talk Is Cheap

Monday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Focus is on communication skills, listening skills and understanding the fundamentals of emotional factors of communication. Call 221-2418.

### Accessing Higher Education

Monday through Wednesday and July 27-29, 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Accessing Higher Education is a 3-day track for those pursuing higher educa-

tion. Service members will review education requirements that support their personal goals. Topics include: achieving academic success, research and comparing institutions, and financials. Call 221-1213.

### Employment Readiness Orientation

Mondays, 9-10 a.m., Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Get to know your Employment Readiness Team so they can assist you with your employment needs and desires. Call 221-2380.

### Air Force Pre-Separation

Tuesday, 28, 9 a.m. to noon, Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Service members planning to separate from the federal service must attend this mandatory counseling. To register, call 221-2380. Patrons separating are encouraged to begin the process 18 months prior to their separation date.

### Citizenship, Immigration

Tuesday, 9 a.m. to noon and July 28, 9 a.m. to noon, Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Information provided on American customs and culture. A U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service officer will be available on-site to assist with application questions. Eligible patrons will take the Oath of Allegiance at a naturalization ceremony beginning at 2 p.m. on July 28. Registration not required. Call 221-2705.

### Army Pre-Separation

Tuesdays through Fridays, 8:30 a.m. to noon, Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Soldier for Life, building 2263. Army patrons separating are encouraged to begin the process 18 months prior to their separation date. This counseling is coordinated through the Soldier for Life Program. Call 221-1213.

### Coffee Talk Support Group

Wednesday, noon to 1 p.m., Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. A casual dialogue to share helpful resources and ways to overcome challenges. The monthly topic is Individual Education Program and 504 plans. Call 221-2705.

### Dress For Success

Wednesday, 9-11 a.m., Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Take pride in your appearance and follow expected guidelines of what to wear and be prepared for your interview. Call 221-2380.

### Sponsorship Training

Wednesday, 2-3 p.m., Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Mandatory training for military sponsors. Sponsors serve as the link between a newcomer and their unit, installation and new community. Learn about roles and responsibilities. The Electronic Sponsorship Application & Training is available at <http://apps.militaryonesource.mil/ESAT> and provides registration, training certificates, sponsorship duty checklist, newcomer needs assessment, welcome packet and links to important Department of Defense and service relocation websites. Call 221-2705.

### 5 Love Languages Of Couples

Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Learn your partner's love language and develop a better understanding, while exploring your communication styles. Call 221-2418.

### Post-Deployment Resiliency Training

Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m., Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Service members returning from deployment are required to attend a resiliency training discussing ways to deal with the stressors associated with post-deployment and reintegrate back into the home life. Call 221-2418.

### Read to the Rhythm Summer Reading Program

The Joint Base San Antonio libraries encourages families to shake, rattle, or roll to the library for "Read to the Rhythm!," the Department of Defense Summer Reading Program. During the next two months, the libraries will host a range of free activities for children, teens, and adults that encourage and support a love of reading. Register now through

August, participants win prizes for reaching their reading goals. Visit the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Keith A. Campbell Memorial Library each Thursday at 10 a.m., the JBSA-Lackland Library each Tuesday at 10 a.m. and the JBSA-Randolph Library each Wednesday at 10 a.m. to take part in special activities. For more information, call the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Keith A. Campbell Memorial Library 221-4702; the JBSA-Lackland Library 671-2673; or the JBSA-Randolph Library 652-5578; or visit <http://www.jbsalibraries.org>.

### Newcomer's Orientation

July 17, 8 a.m. to noon, Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Mandatory in-processing briefing for all military and civilian personnel newly assigned to JBSA. Service members must coordinate with their unit personnel coordinator or commander support element. Spouses are welcome to attend; all patrons must be seated by 7:50 a.m. Call 221-2705.

# OUTSIDE THE GATE

## Warrant Officer Association Meeting

The next meeting of the Lone Star Silver Chapter of the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Association will be 5:30 p.m. July 20 at the Longhorn Cafe, 1003 Rittiman Road, at the corner of Rittiman and Harry Wurzbach. All active duty, retired, Reserve, National Guard warrant officers and family members of current or retired warrant officers are invited. For more information, call 571-4967.

## San Antonio City Pools Now Open

All 23 San Antonio Parks and Recreation Department pools are now open with free admission Tuesdays through Sundays with varying hours. Lap swimming for those who want to get in a low-impact aerobic workout will continue to be offered Tuesdays

through Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. at the Department's four regional pools. They are Heritage, 1423 Ellison Drive; Lady Bird Johnson, 10700 Nacogdoches; South Side Lions, 3100 Hiawatha; and Woodlawn, 221 Alexander Ave. For more information and a list of pools, visit [http://www.sanantonio.parksandrec/swimming\\_outdoor.aspx](http://www.sanantonio.parksandrec/swimming_outdoor.aspx) or call 207-3299.

## 2nd Infantry Division Reunion

The Second (Indianhead) Division Association is searching for anyone who served in the Army's 2nd Infantry Division at any time. For information about the association and its 94th annual reunion in San Antonio from Sept. 22-26, email [2idahq@comcast.net](mailto:2idahq@comcast.net) or call 224-225-1202.

## Texas Military Polo Club

Interested in a challenge and know how to ride a horse? The Texas Military Polo Club is offering polo lessons. For more information, call 512-484-4384 or visit <http://www.facebook.com/texasmilitarypolo>.

## CONGRESSIONAL STAFF DELEGATION VISITS JBSA



Photo by Benjamin Faske

Senior Airman Jordan Fuller, 802nd Security Forces Squadron military working dog handler, readies his dog Rocco/v105 for a demonstration as the congressional staff delegation looks on June 30 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland. The congressional staff delegation from Washington, D.C., observed demonstrations and met with military members during their visit.