

Legislative Oversight Committee

Summary Report on the South Carolina Office of the Adjutant General September 2019



The position of Adjutant General is established by the South Carolina Constitution and is responsible for a number of subordinate organizations: S.C. Army National Guard, S.C. Air National Guard, State Guard, S.C. Emergency Management Division, S.C. Youth/Job ChalleNGe Academy, STARBASE Swamp Fox, S.C. Military Museum, and the S.C. Joint Services Detachment. The Agency is mostly federally funded and has about 12,000 members, employees, and volunteers. The S.C. Army National Guard reports that of the 65 Readiness Centers across the state, 15 are in poor condition and 34 are in fair condition, and the average age of the facilities is 39 years. The STARBASE Swamp Fox program teaches elementary students about STEM topics and should explore expanding the program to involve more students across the state. The S.C. Military Museum should coordinate its exhibits with other state-funded museums that display historical military artifacts and memorabilia. The S.C. Emergency Management Division distributes about \$3 million annually from the federal EMPG program to the counties to fund emergency management services.

Agency at a Glance

Under Article VI, Section 7 of the South Carolina Constitution, the Adjutant General was elected by the voters of the state. However, an amendment to the Constitution passed in 2015 states that, beginning with the 2018 election, the Adjutant General will be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Office of the Adjutant General had revenues of about \$150 million for FY 17-18, but most of those funds were one-time funds for emergency preparedness. In November 2017, the Office of the Adjutant General had about 12,000 members, employees, and volunteers, over 60% of which are from the Army National Guard. The Agency is the parent state agency for a number of subordinate organizations including S.C. Army National Guard, S.C. Air National Guard, State Guard, S.C. Emergency Management Division, S.C. Youth/Job ChalleNGe Academy, STARBASE Swamp Fox, S.C. Military Museum, and S.C. Joint Services Detachment.

Issues

S.C. ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

The S.C. Army National Guard is mostly federally funded through cooperative agreements with the U.S. government with a budget of almost \$27 million for 2018. The S.C. Army National Guard also serves a dual mission in support of both the federal and state governments. Any services provided by the S.C. National Guard as a part of state operations must be reimbursed to the federal government by the state. The deployment of Soldiers in support of the war on terror is moving from rotational predictable mission assignments to short notice contingency operations which makes it difficult for soldiers and the agency to plan.

FACILITIES

The Construction and Facilities Management Office staff oversees over 16,000 acres of land and 3.5 million square feet of buildings with a combined state and federal budget of \$21,967,026. National Guard facilities are built and maintained through a cost-share with the Department of Defense. The S.C. Army National Guard currently has a deficit of 1.5 million square feet in space and a \$60 million facility maintenance deficit. According to the Army National Guard Readiness Center Condition Report for 2017, of the 65 Readiness Centers across the state, 15 are in poor condition and 34 are in fair condition.

S.C. AIR NATIONAL GUARD

The SC Air National Guard makes up about 10% of the Office of the Adjutant General with about 1,300 members and employees. It consists of one unit, the 169th Fighter Wing which flies F-16 Fighters, and the base is already compatible for flying F-35 Fighters. The unit is located at McEntire Joint National Guard Base which it leases from the U.S. Air Force so it is in control of the operations at the base. The National Guard also houses the Army Aviation at the base.

S.C. STATE GUARD

The SC State Guard is an all-volunteer state military force which provides support to state and local authorities during emergencies or disasters. It has 978 members who serve without pay and are not reimbursed for expenses.

STARBASE SWAMP FOX

Its mission is to “expose our nation’s youth to the technological environments & positive civilian and military role models found on Active, Guard, and Reserve bases and installations, and nurture a winning network of collaborators, and build mutual loyalty within our communities, by providing 25 hours of exemplary hands-on instruction and activities that meet or exceed National Standards.” In accordance with Department of Defense program requirements, the program is located at McEntire JNGB and students must be bused to the base to participate. In order to meet the 5 hours of instruction a day and a total of 25 hours for the week to complete the program, students must come from a school that is geographically close to the base. In order to reach more students, the program should continue to explore possible expansions.

- **Agency Recommendation:** The STARBASE Swamp Fox program should explore possible expansion of the program through additional locations or programs taken to the schools in order to involve more students.

S.C. MILITARY MUSEUM

The South Carolina National Guard Museum and State Weapons Collection includes South Carolina artifacts from the Colonial Era to present-day military conflicts. The S.C. State Museum and the S.C. Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum display military artifacts and memorabilia from the same historical eras. To ensure that all the museums can fulfill their missions and prevent duplication of resources, they should coordinate their exhibits.

- **Agency Recommendation:** The museums should coordinate their exhibits with the other state-funded museums that display historical military artifacts and memorabilia to avoid redundancy. This includes the SC Military Museum, the SC State Museum, and the SC Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum.

YOUTH CHALLENGE

The mission of this program is to “intervene in the lives of at-risk youth to produce program graduates with the values, skills, education and self-discipline necessary to succeed in life.” This program accepts 16-18 year-olds who have dropped out or are in danger of failing high school. The program graduates approximately 200 students annually with a certificate of completion though not necessarily a GED. School districts in South Carolina offer multiple alternative school opportunities for students at risk of failing or dropping out of school, but these are not residential programs nor are they based upon a military regimen. The only other public entity in the state that utilizes a military style program for assisting dropouts is the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School.

S.C. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

The S.C. Emergency Management Division (SCEMD) is a division under the Adjutant General but reports directly to and advises the Governor during major emergencies and disasters. SCEMD serves as the lead state coordinating agency during natural disasters and emergencies and as the pass-through organization for federal funding to support several disaster recovery and mitigation programs. In addition to providing funding and assistance during and after disasters or emergencies, federal funding through the Emergency Management Performance Grant program has been provided annually to state and local governments to build, sustain, and deliver emergency management services.

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South Carolina Senate



Report on Office of the Adjutant General

September 2019

The position of Adjutant General is established by the South Carolina Constitution and is responsible for a number of subordinate organizations: S.C. Army National Guard, S.C. Air National Guard, State Guard, S.C. Emergency Management Division, S.C. Youth/Job ChalleNge Academy, STARBASE Swamp Fox, S.C. Military Museum, and the S.C. Joint Services Detachment. The Agency is mostly federally funded and has about 12,000 members, employees, and volunteers. The S.C. Army National Guard reports that of the 65 Readiness Centers across the state, 15 are in poor condition and 34 are in fair condition, and the average age of the facilities is 39 years. The STARBASE Swamp Fox program teaches elementary students about STEM topics and should explore expanding the program to involve more students across the state. The S.C. Military Museum should coordinate its exhibits with other state-funded museums that display historical military artifacts and memorabilia. The S.C. Emergency Management Division distributes about \$3 million annually from the federal EMPG program to the counties to fund emergency management services.

I. Agency at a Glance

Mission

The Office of the Adjutant General reports its mission is to:

- Provide combat-ready units to the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force.
- Provide planning, coordination and military capabilities in response to State emergencies.
- Add value to the State of South Carolina and nation with community-based organizations, partnerships, Soldiers, Airmen, and employees ready to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Governing Authority

Under Article VI, Section 7 of the South Carolina Constitution, the Adjutant General was elected by the voters of the state. However, an amendment to the Constitution passed in 2015 states that, beginning with the 2018 election, the Adjutant General will be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Article XIII, Section 1 of the South Carolina Constitution establishes the militia:

The militia of this State shall consist of all able-bodied male citizens of the State between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, except such persons as are now or may be exempted by the laws of the United States or this State, or who from religious scruples may be adverse to bearing arms, and shall be organized, officered, armed, equipped and disciplined as the General Assembly may by law direct.

Section 3 gives the Governor the authority to activate the militia:

The Governor shall have the power to call out the volunteer and militia forces, either or both, to execute the laws, repel invasions, suppress insurrections and preserve the public peace.

Operations/Programs

The Office of the Adjutant General is the parent state agency for a number of subordinate organizations. These include:

S.C. Army National Guard

Its mission is to generate mission/combat ready units able to fulfill both the federal and state missions. Specifically, its three main competences are (1) homeland defense/emergency preparedness (defense support to civil authorities), (2) quality soldier and family support systems, and (3) innovative technological applications.

S.C. Air National Guard (SCANG)

Its mission is to employ conventional munitions in the destruction/suppression of enemy air defenses, while providing around-the-clock homeland defense alert fighter response. Additionally, SCANG assists the state's homeland security office, and provides disaster preparation and response support for defense support to civil authorities' activities.

State Guard

S.C. State Guard (SCSG) is the state's volunteer militia (i.e., authorized and funded). SCSG assumes a support role in the event the S.C. Air National Guard and/or S.C. Army National Guard are mobilized. Volunteer members of the SCSG, over 900, include both retired and former military personnel as well as non-prior military service personnel, select professionals with specialized skills, and community leaders. SCSG augments the state's emergency response capabilities.

S.C. Emergency Management Division

S.C. Emergency Management Division (SCEMD) is the coordinating agency responsible for the statewide emergency management program. This program supports local authorities to minimize the loss of life and property from all-hazard events. SCEMD serves as the lead state coordinating agency during natural disasters and emergencies. Also, SCEMD serves as the pass-through organization for federal funding to support several disaster recovery and mitigation programs.

S.C. Youth/Job Challenge Academy (SCYCA)

SCYCA is a part of a nationwide program to provide educational enrichment to at-risk youth. SCYCA conducts two per year, five-month long classes designed to help youth acquire the basic skills and education necessary to succeed in life. Youth have the opportunity to work toward earning their General Education Development (GED). Select graduates of the SCYCA have the opportunity for additional training through the S.C. Job Challenge Program.

STARBASE Swamp Fox

STARBASE Swamp Fox motivates students to explore science, technology, engineering, and math by engaging students through an inquiry-based curriculum with "hands-on, mind-on" experiential activities. It is a part of a national educational program funded by the Department of Defense, focused on elementary students, primarily fifth graders. Additionally, the program supports school districts' standards of learning objectives.

S.C. Military Museum

S.C. Military Museum informs the public about South Carolina's military history from the colonial era to present day operations. It is the second oldest and fourth largest National Guard museum in the country.

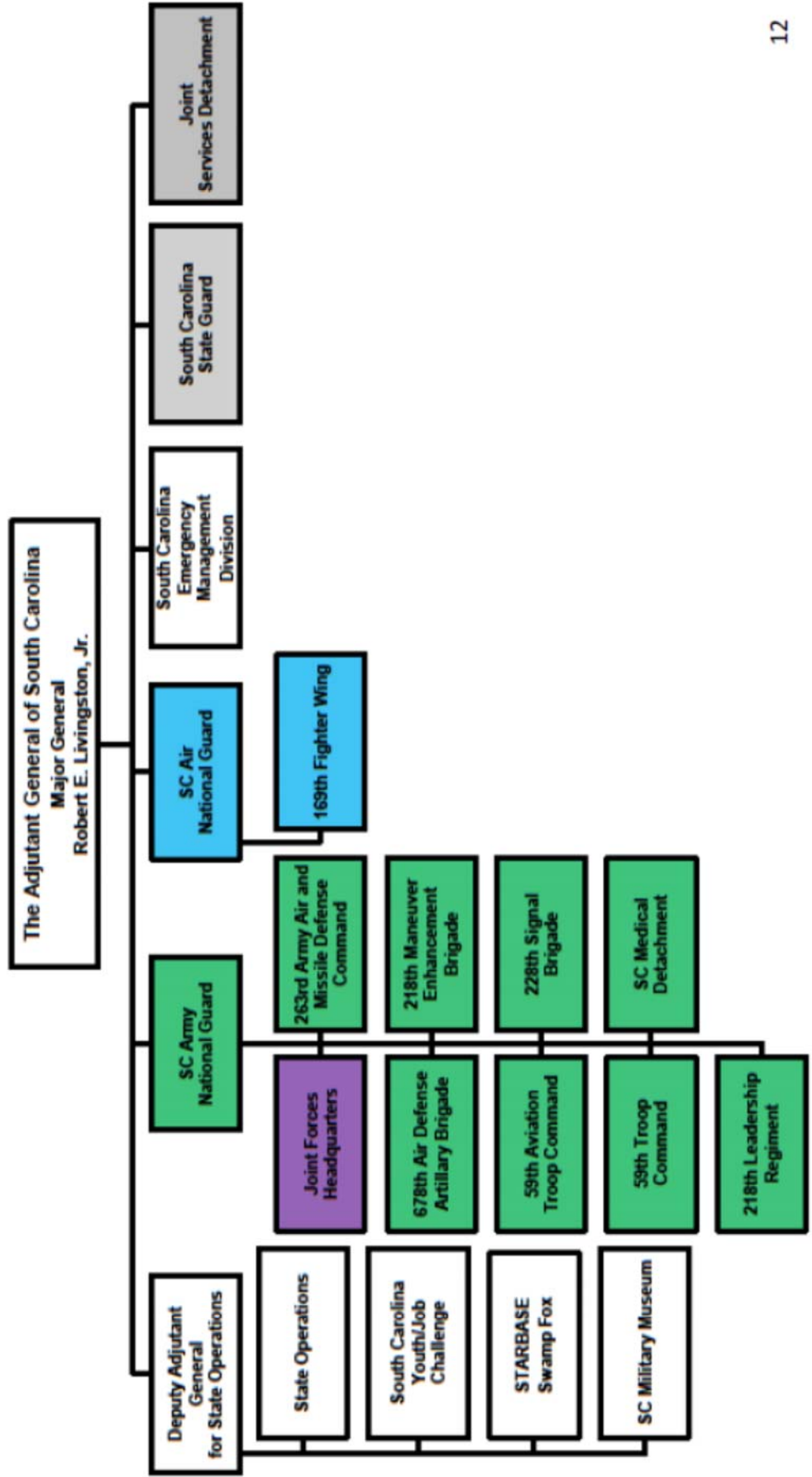
S.C. Joint Services Detachment

S.C. Joint Services Detachment is a volunteer organization; its members (approximately 30) are appointed by the Governor and the Adjutant General. This organizational unit supports the Youth Challenge Academy, S.C. Military Museum, and National Guard Service Members in preparation for, during, and after active duty deployments.

The following organizational chart shows the structure of the different organizations within the agency.



Organization



Finance:

Revenues

The agency's revenues increased from FY 16-17 to FY 17-18, mostly due to one-time general funds for emergency preparedness. All other sources of funding decreased during that same time period.

Division	Fiscal Year	Recurring Federal	Recurring General	One-time General	One-Time Other	Total
Air National Guard	FY 16-17	\$4,559,426	\$1,418,428		\$195,665	\$6,173,519
	FY 17-18	3,297,334	1,867,527			\$5,164,861
Army National Guard	FY 16-17	27,568,716	3,223,063		6,399,802	\$37,131,581
	FY 17-18	28,313,435	3,006,689		5,550,000	\$36,870,124
State Guard	FY 16-17	1,649,922	577,535			\$2,227,457
	FY 17-18		490,263			\$490,263
Military Museum	FY 16-17	34,050	338,726			\$372,776
	FY 17-18		351,143			\$351,143
Youth ChalleNGe Academy	FY 16-17	3,571,574	1,249,772			\$4,821,346
	FY 17-18	4,200,000	1,000,000			\$5,200,000
STARBASE Swampfox	FY 16-17	324,508	72,269			\$396,777
	FY 17-18	300,000	51,143			\$351,143
Emergency Management Div	FY 16-17	72,173,217	1,896,017	3,292,920	5,492,974	\$82,855,128
	FY 17-18	25,885,842	1,612,729	72,572,807	5,000,000	\$105,071,378
Total	FY 16-17	\$109,881,413	\$8,775,810	\$3,292,920	\$12,088,441	\$134,038,584
	FY 17-18	\$61,996,611	\$8,379,494	\$72,572,807	\$10,550,000	\$153,498,912

Expenditures

Eighty percent of the expenditures for 2016 were federal funds spent for emergency preparedness, National Guard operations and federal capital projects.

Fund Source	Type	Type	2016 Expenditures	
Emergency Operations	Recurring	Federal	\$68,541,245	Federal grants
Army/Air Appropriations	Recurring	Federal	28,145,249	Cooperative agreements to support Army/Air National Guard
Federal Capital Projects	Recurring	Federal	8,730,010	Federal grants for capital projects and military construction
General Funds	Recurring	State	8,508,508	Includes \$1 million to SDE for Youth Challenge
Emergency Operations Funds	One-time	Other	3,803,636	100% state-funded emergency expenditures
State Capital Projects	One-time	Other	3,352,486	Multi-year projects

State Appropriations	One-time	State	3,292,290	Appropriated funds for state match of federal disaster funds
Enterprise Operations	One-time	Other	2,877,836	Dining and billeting operations
Fixed Nuclear Facilities	One-time	Other	1,493,674	Funds from energy producers to support FNF program
Youth/Post Challenge	Recurring	Federal	1,165,066	Federal grants
Armory Operations	One-time	Other	560,810	Support armory operations
Total			\$130,471,440	

Budget

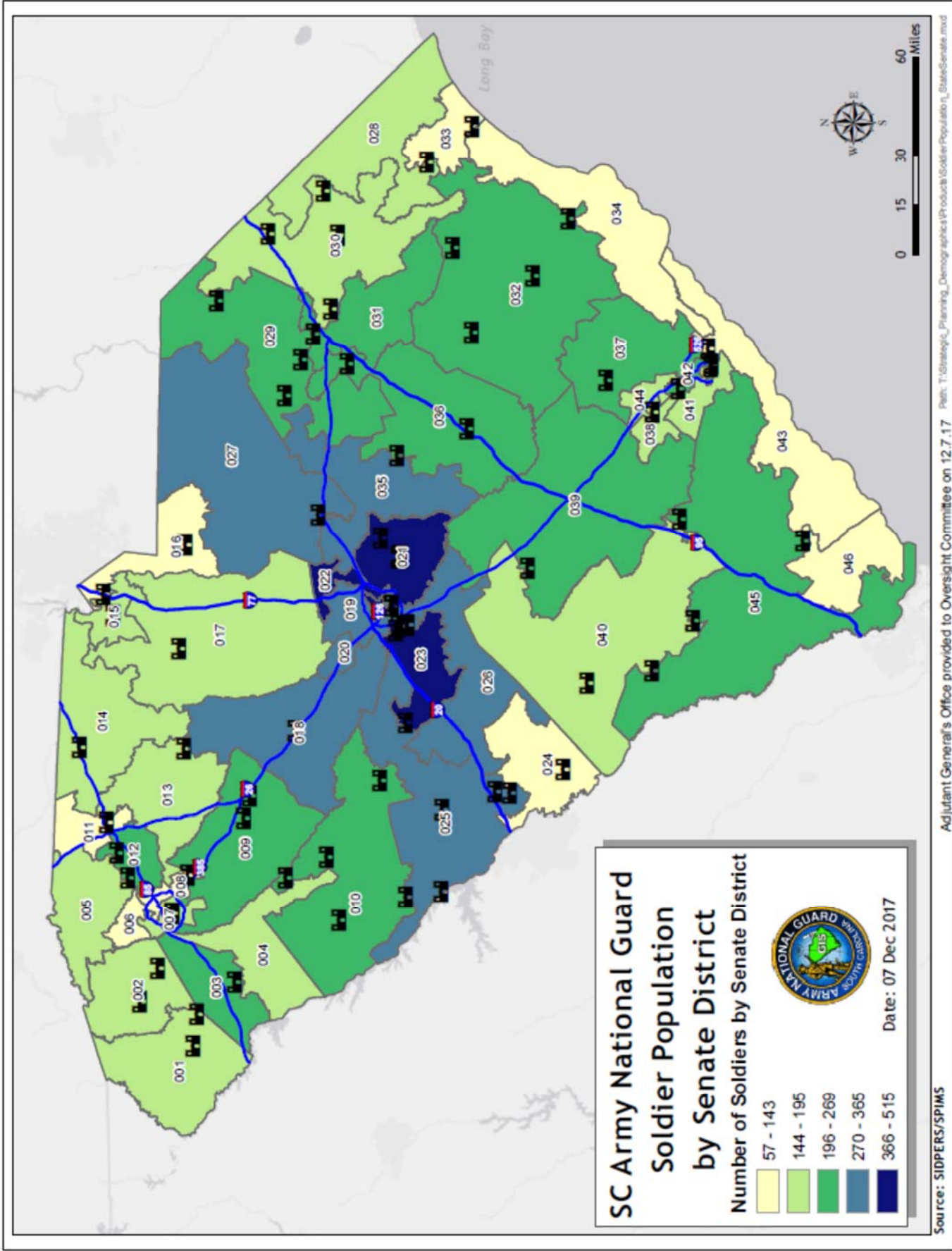
From 2017 to 2018, the Agency’s total budget increased almost 200% from \$156 million in 2017 to \$444 million in 2018. This increase is due mostly to increases in federal funds for emergency operations, capital projects, and cooperative agreements for the S.C. National Guard as well as state funds for emergency operations. For the FY 18-19 state budget, the Agency requested increases in state funding of almost \$7.5 million. It received increases of \$1.5 million in recurring state funds and \$3 million in nonrecurring state funds for armory revitalizations, \$451,000 for emergency preparedness, and \$235,000 for state operations and the S.C. State Guard.

Staffing

In November 2017, the Office of the Adjutant General had about 12,000 members, employees, and volunteers. Over sixty percent are members of the Army National Guard.

Type of Staff	Number
FTEs	105
Temporary	47
Grant	275
Time Limited	31
Volunteers (SC State Guard)	969
Volunteers (Joint Services Detachment)	30
Army National Guard (M-Day)	7,747
Army Active Guard Reserve	752
Army Technician	768
Air National Guard (M-Day)	791
Air Active Guard Reserve	168
Air Technician	345
Total	12,028

The following map shows the number of National Guard members by Senate district.



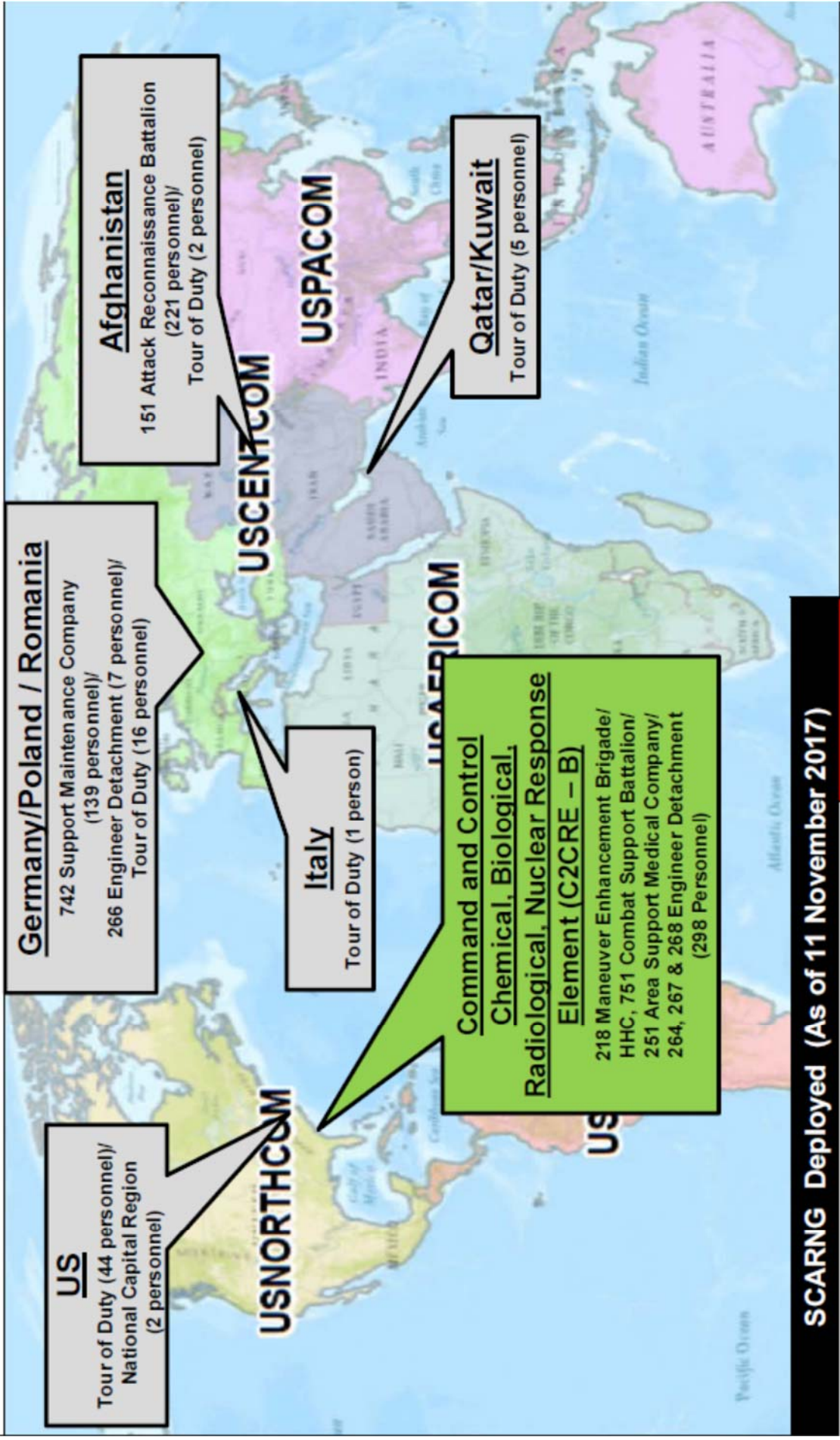
II. Issues

SC Army National Guard

The S.C. Army National Guard accounts for over half of the members, employees, and volunteers in the Office of the Adjutant General. The S.C. Army National Guard serves a dual mission in support of both the federal and state governments. It provided disaster response assistance within the state for the 2014 ice storm, the 2015 flood, Hurricane Matthew, the 2016 Pinnacle Mountain Fire, and Hurricane Irma. Any services provided by the S.C. National Guard as a part of state operations must be reimbursed to the federal government by the state. It also provides assistance to other states through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact. Those expenses must also be reimbursed to the federal government by the state after which the state will seek reimbursement from the requesting state. As part of this Compact, the S.C. National Guard sent members to assist Texas after Hurricane Harvey, Florida after Hurricane Irma, and Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria as part of this compact.

It provides combat-ready personnel and units to the U.S. Army in support of on-going operations, domestically and internationally. Since 2003, over 19,000 soldiers have been deployed in support of war on terrorism. For FY 17-18, there were 391 soldiers deployed outside of the U.S. and 46 deployed in the country with an additional 298 preparing for missions. For FY 18-19, eight units with 636 personnel are scheduled for deployment. These deployments are moving from rotational predictable mission assignments to short notice contingency operations which makes it difficult for soldiers and the agency to plan. The following map shows the deployments for FY 17-18.

SCARNG FY-18 Mobilizations



SCARNG Deployed (As of 11 November 2017)

Presently Deployed Outside of the US	Total: 391
Presently Deployed In the US	Total: 46
Presently on C2CRE-B	Total: 298

Army Early Response Force
 Currently six (6) units with 298 personnel are prepared for missions in FY17-18. Eight (8) units with 636 personnel are scheduled for FY18-19.

The S.C. Army National Guard has two organizational goals which would require additional soldiers:

- Increase the number of soldiers to 10,000 from almost 9,300.
- Gain a Brigade Combat Team.

The Brigade Combat Team would be made up of about 5,000 troops, but most of those would be units which already exist. In order to be able to increase the number of soldiers, the S.C. Army National Guard would have to have the capacity at its armories to support the increased numbers.

Facilities

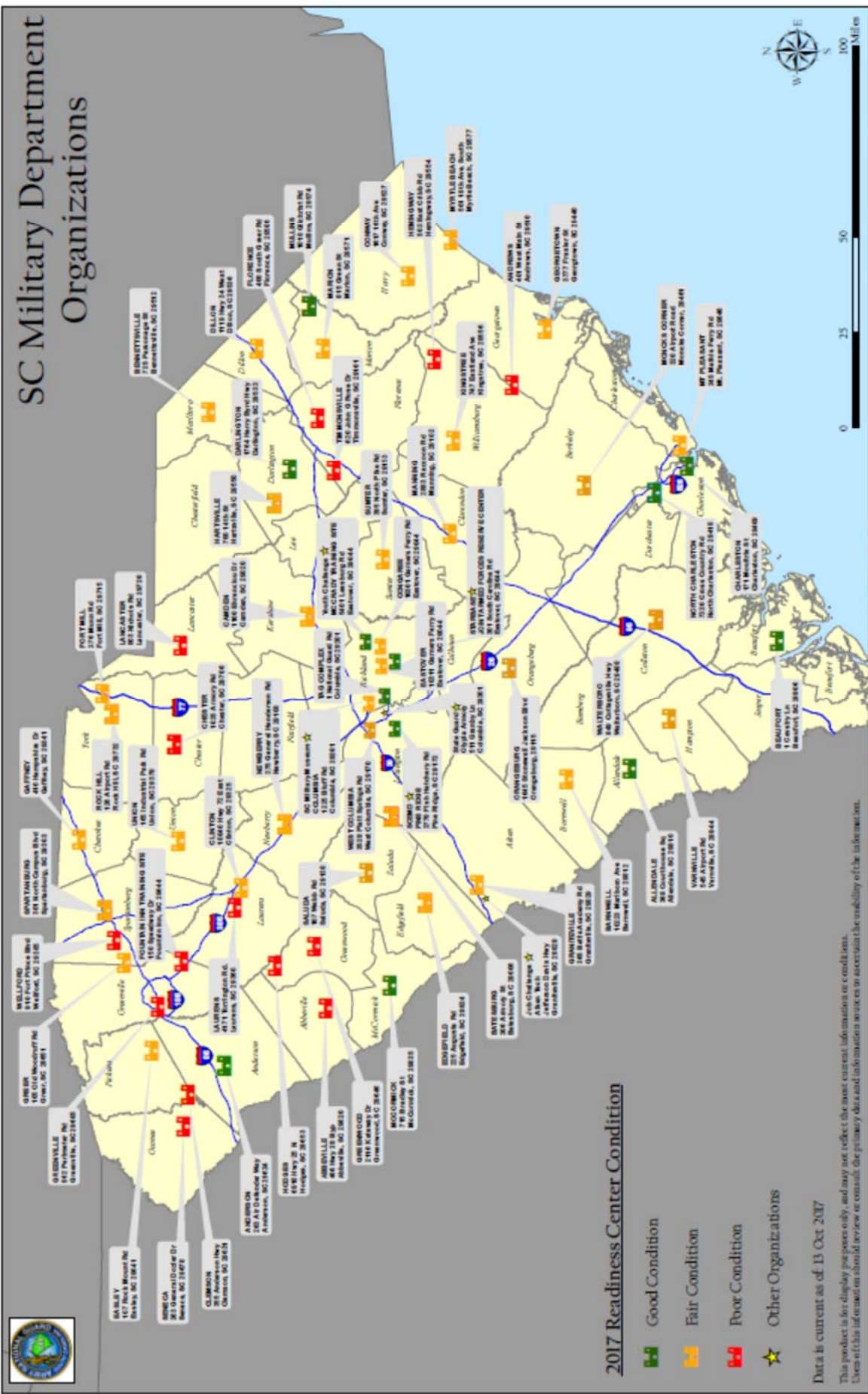
The SC Military Department operates 62 Readiness Centers, 12 Field Maintenance Sites, two Army Aviation Support Facilities, one Combined Support Maintenance Shop, one Unit Training Equipment Site, one Major Training Center with one sub-training site, two Close In Training Areas, and the National Guard Headquarters Complex. The Construction and Facilities Management Office (CFMO) staff oversees over 16,000 acres of land and 3.5 million square feet of buildings with a combined state and federal budget of \$21,967,026. In 2016-17, the CFMO continued construction of one new Readiness Center as a cost sharing effort with Greenville Technical College, and a Regional Field Maintenance Site in Greenville which will consolidate three Field Maintenance Sites thereby reducing overall sustainment cost. National Guard facilities are built and maintained through a cost-share with the Department of Defense:

- Construction - 75% federal/25% state
- Maintenance - 50% federal/50% state

The S.C. Army National Guard currently has a deficit of 1.5 million square feet in space. For facilities built on federal property, a state match is not required. There is a \$60 million facility maintenance deficit which would be \$30 million in state funds. To take advantage of potentially available federal funds for facilities, in August 2018, the Office of the Adjutant General requested a policy of the Joint Bond Review Committee (JBRC) be amended. This amendment would allow JBRC staff to approve a change in the source of funding for a project if the project has already been approved and there are no other changes to the project. The office reported that it could have received \$5 million in end-of-year funding from the National Guard Bureau last fiscal year which could have been used for facilities maintenance but had to be executed by the end of September. However, because those projects were approved as 100% state funded, to change the source of funding would have involved going through the entire approval process with the JBRC which would have taken 2-3 months so it had to decline the funds. The JBRC approved the amendment to its policy at its August 2018 meeting.

According to the SC Army National Guard readiness center condition report for 2017, 15 of the readiness centers are in poor condition and 34 of them are in fair condition. Most of the repairs needed include roof, window, and door replacements as well as renovations and upgrades to the facilities. The maintenance of the facilities is a challenge for the SC Army National Guard as the average age of the facilities is 39 years. The state funds have to be in place before they can be matched with federal funds. The following map shows the locations of the readiness centers and indicates the condition of each center.

SC Military Department Organizations



S.C. Air National Guard

The SC Air National Guard makes up about 10% of the Office of the Adjutant General with about 1,300 members and employees. The S.C. Air National Guard consists of one unit, the 169th Fighter Wing. The unit flies F-16 Fighters. The S.C. Air National Guard would like to add additional Air Guard missions, but they have been told that they have to give up current capabilities which they are unwilling to do. The unit is located at McEntire Joint National Guard Base (JNGB) which is leased from the U.S. Air Force so it is in control of the operations at the base. The base is already compatible for flying F-35 Fighters. Because it is a federal facility, any construction is 100% federally funded. McEntire JNGB also houses the part of the S.C. Army National Guard's Aviation assets at the base. Because it is located about 20 miles from an active U.S. Air Force base (Shaw Air Force Base), located in Sumter, SC, McEntire JNGB is always a target for BRAC. However, S.C. Army National Guard Aviation assets would still have to be housed at McEntire so it would have to remain open. McEntire JNGB also has encroachment mitigation issues of which one of the most significant is a non-operating steel plant located nearby the base. The S.C. Air National Guard is working with Richland County on compatible zoning. There are also parcels of land within the fenceline of the base which are not federally-owned. They are working with the Army Corps of Engineers to purchase that property. The S.C. Air National Guard also has to recruit members from a shrinking pool of candidates with the appropriate STEM education background. To encourage students to study those subjects, STARBASE Swamp Fox is housed at McEntire.

STARBASE Swamp Fox

This federally-funded program started in SC in 2003 as a program that was taken into the schools. In 2007, in accordance with Department of Defense program requirements, it moved to its permanent location at McEntire JNGB where students are bused to the facility. Its mission is to "expose our nation's youth to the technological environments & positive civilian and military role models found on Active, Guard, and Reserve bases and installations, and nurture a winning network of collaborators, and build mutual loyalty within our communities, by providing 25 hours of exemplary hands-on instruction and activities that meet or exceed National Standards." The program receives \$320,000 in nonrecurring federal funds each year and has 4 full-time employees and 4 temporary, part-time employees who are retired or former teachers.

The program uses a national curriculum that corresponds to state standards for STEM topics. It uses interactive activities for elementary school students. They are trying to expand the program to middle school students with a 2.0 program. The program served almost 1,200 students for FY 16-17. One of the limitations of the program is that it is located at McEntire JNGB and students must be bused to the base to participate. In order to meet the 5 hours of instruction a day and a total of 25 hours for the week to complete the program, students must come from a school that is geographically close to the base. Currently 7 school districts, some Catholic schools, and a private school participate which covers about 20 schools. There is also a waiting list for schools that would like to participate. Some schools that had participated when the program came to the schools were unable to bus the students to the base. There is no cost to the school for students to attend and the cost per student which is funded by the federal government is about \$300.

There is another STARBASE program located at the Marine Corps Air Station in Beaufort that serves the elementary schools in the Beaufort County area. STARBASE Swamp Fox is looking at a possible expansion in Greenville where the National Guard has built new facilities. In order to reach more students, the program should continue to explore possible expansions.

- Agency Recommendation

The STARBASE Swamp Fox program should explore possible expansion of the program through additional locations or programs taken to the schools in order to involve more students.

SC State Guard

The SC State Guard is an all-volunteer state military force which provides support to state and local authorities during emergencies or disasters. It has 978 members which is in line with its goal of about 1,000 members. For FY 16-17, the State Guard reported that it provided about 98,000 volunteer service hours at no cost to the state. It has services including land, water, and equestrian search and rescue teams, professional trained law enforcement augmentation teams, medical support teams of doctors and nurses, professional engineering teams, and Judge Advocates General (professional lawyers) teams. The Agency provides 2 FTE employees and 3 part-time employees to support the organization, and a budget of over \$300,000 in state funds. All of the members of the State Guard serve without pay and are not reimbursed for expenses. The State Guard does not want to receive pay but has training and equipment needs. The State Guard does have the ability to raise funds which the National Guard cannot do.

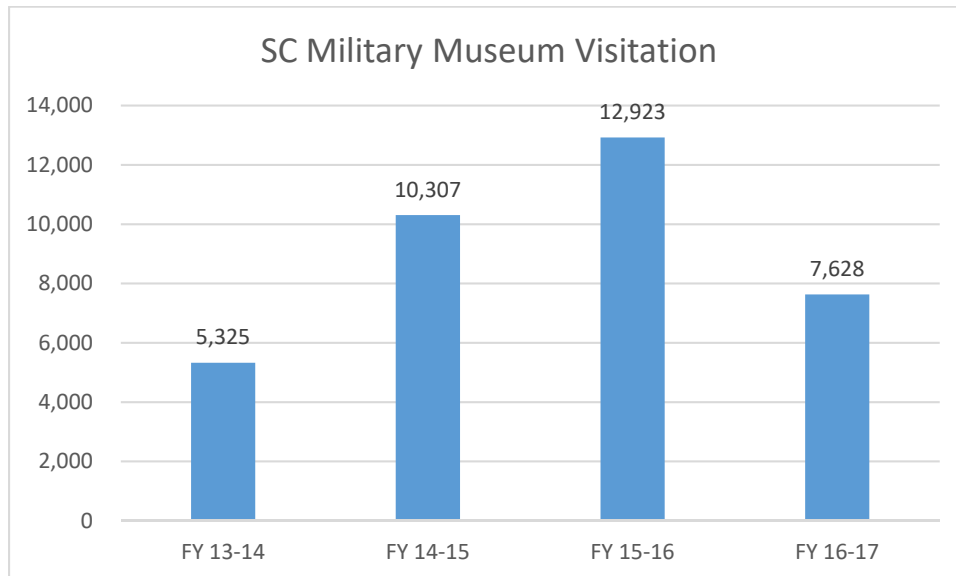
SC Military Museum



In 1981, the "South Carolina National Guard Museum and State Weapons Collection" was established by state law. Pursuant to S.C. Code §25-17-50, the museum "must be a military and historical museum charged with the responsibility for the collection, preservation, and exhibition of archives, books, records, documents, maps, charts, military equipment, uniforms, flags, and any other such articles. It may be a depository for materials considered relevant to national, state, or local history by the board. The museum collection must be open to the public at times determined by the board." In 1998, the name was changed to the "South Carolina Military Museum" by

state law. Its collection includes South Carolina artifacts from the Colonial Era to present-day military conflicts. The museum is located behind the Columbia armory within the T. Eston Marchant SCNG Complex.

The museum has 2 FTEs and 3 temporary employees as well as a number of volunteers and spent \$372,776 in FY 16-17 to support its operations. There is no admission charge to visit the museum. Visitation to the museum had been increasing but dropped off 40% in FY 16-17.



Tour groups have also been increasing from 36 groups with 1,123 people in FY 15-16 to 53 groups with 1,554 people in FY 16-17. The museum has been working to conform museum displays and educational materials to meet the requirements of the SC Department of Education’s history and social studies curriculum and standards.

The South Carolina State Museum also has a Civil War exhibit which they are planning to expand. The exhibit is in the same building as the Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum. The SC Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum’s mission states: “The South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum serves as the State’s military history museum by collecting, preserving, and exhibiting South Carolina’s military material culture from the colonial era to the present, and by providing superior educational experiences and programming.”

The various museums display military artifacts and memorabilia from the same historical eras. To ensure that all the museums can fulfill their missions and prevent duplication of resources, they should coordinate their exhibits.

- *Agency Recommendation*

The museums should coordinate their exhibits with the other state-funded museums that display historical military artifacts and memorabilia to avoid redundancy. This includes the SC Military Museum, the SC State Museum, and the SC Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum.

Youth ChalleNGe

The mission of this program is to “intervene in the lives of at-risk youth to produce program graduates with the values, skills, education and self-discipline necessary to succeed in life.” This program accepts 16-18 year-olds who have dropped out or are in danger of failing high school. The Youth ChalleNGe Program is evaluated by the National Guard Bureau and must follow the national directives in the operation of the program. Currently operating in 37 states, the Youth ChalleNGe program is funded with 25% state funds and 75% federal funds.

Graduates from Youth ChalleNGe by County - 2015-2017

County	2015	2016	2017	Total
Abbeville			1	1
Aiken	15	20	27	62
Allendale		1		1
Anderson	3	2	2	7
Bamberg	1		4	5
Barnwell	2		1	3
Beaufort	12	13	4	29
Berkeley	5	8	7	20
Calhoun	2	1	1	4
Charleston	16	15	11	42
Cherokee	2			2
Chester	1	1	2	4
Chesterfield	1	5		6
Clarendon	1	5	2	8
Colleton	5	2	2	9
Darlington	2	1	4	7
Dillon	2	1	2	5
Dorchester	2	5	6	13
Edgefield	2	1	2	5
Fairfield		2	4	6
Florence	4	6	1	11
Georgetown	2	2	1	5
Greenville	8	8	8	24
Greenwood	1	3	2	6
Hampton	1	2	2	5
Horry	2	3	1	6
Jasper	3	1	2	6
Kershaw	7	3	7	17
Lancaster	1	1	2	4
Laurens	1	3	1	5
Lee	1	2	1	4
Lexington	13	19	22	54
Marion		1		1
Marlboro	2		1	3
McCormick	1		1	2
Newberry	5	3	1	9
Oconee	1		2	3
Orangeburg	11	10	17	38
Pickens	2	1		3
Richland	40	53	49	142
Saluda	2	2	1	5
Spartanburg	3	1	2	6
Sumter	7	6	7	20
Union				
Williamsburg	2	2	3	7
York	5	2	4	11
Total	199	217	220	636

They conduct two 22-week classes annually. Once a student completes the residential 22-week class at Camp McCrady on Ft. Jackson, the student must spend a year in a mentoring program in his/her home community. While the Youth ChalleNGe program also provides a core educational curriculum to assist students in obtaining either a high school diploma or GED, the focus of the program is on life skills and changing behaviors. This program accepts non-violent, court-involved youth. The program graduates approximately 200 students annually with a certificate of completion though not necessarily a GED.

SC Youth ChalleNGe Graduates and Placements 2014 - 2017

Year	Graduates	GED	HS Degree	Placement Average					
				Higher Ed	Military	Employed	Unemployed	Unknown	Other
2014	69	16		2		29		51	6
2015	184	34	1	24		62	17	71	9
2016	212	90	1	54	3	43	33	77	3
2017	229	110		74		46	63	42	

The increase in higher education is mostly due to the establishment of the Job ChalleNGe Program. In 2016, the SC Job ChalleNGe Program, housed at Camp Long in Aiken County, began the first cohort. This program is a Department of Labor grant funded test program intended as a follow-on partner program with SCYCA to provide technical job skills training for deserving graduates of the SCYCA Program. The test period for this program ends in November 2018. Over the past 1½ years, the program has received over \$1 Million in grant funding. Approximately 70% of the graduates from Job ChalleNGe Cohorts 1 and 2 are employed with approximately 50% employed in their field of training. As of June 30, 2017, eight Job ChalleNGe graduates have entered military service.

Other Educational Opportunities for academically at risk youth

School districts in South Carolina offer multiple alternative school opportunities for students at risk of failing or dropping out of school, but these are not residential programs nor are they based upon a military regimen. The academic goals of these programs are often broader since they are geared towards either getting students back into their home school or providing the Carnegie credits required for graduation as well as preparation for GED attainment if appropriate.

The only other public entity in the state that utilizes a military style program for assisting dropouts is the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School. The Youth ChalleNGe program was previously housed at the school through a partnership agreement. The Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School is a residential alternative school utilizing a military model to assist 16-19 year olds in improving their academic ability, personal development and vocational skills to allow them to pursue higher education opportunities and/or succeed in the workplace. The school has three terms annually of 14 weeks each. While most students only attend a single term, a student may attend for subsequent terms if they are making satisfactory progress and exhibit a desire to succeed. The primary goal of the school is to have students attain a GED upon completion. All students attending the school participate in Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC).

SC Emergency Management Division

The SC Emergency Management Division (SCEMD) is a division under the Adjutant General but reports directly to and advises the Governor during major emergencies and disasters. Its mission is to lead the state emergency management program by supporting local authorities to minimize the loss of life and property from all-hazard

events. The division currently has about 100 employees with the number of temporary grant employees fluctuating depending on the amount of grant funding. It costs the division about \$5.5 million annually to run its operations. There are three sources for its primary funding: 54% federal, 25% state, and 21% fixed nuclear facilities. The fixed nuclear facilities funding is paid by the utilities with nuclear plants for SCEMD to assist the utilities in developing and coordinating plans, and conducting training on its emergency plans to address potential issues associated with the operations of the nuclear facilities.

SCEMD serves as the lead state coordinating agency during natural disasters and emergencies. Also, SCEMD serves as the pass-through organization for federal funding to support several disaster recovery and mitigation programs. The division has developed an emergency operations plan that defines and fixes responsibilities. Emergency Support Functions are divided by functional areas and assigned to entities with responsibilities for those areas.

The division coordinates funding for disasters. The following table shows the state share of funding for disasters over the past four years.

Disaster	Estimated Non-federal Share	State Appropriations	+ (-)	State Share Payments to Date
2014 Ice Storm	\$16,434,628	\$7,439,969	(\$9,052,586)	\$7,382,042
2015 Flood	\$45,584,876	\$72,000,000	\$26,415,124	\$17,016,378
2016 Hurricane Matthew	\$67,020,263	\$67,300,000	\$279,737	\$33,989,971
2016 Pinnacle Mountain Fire	\$1,039,233	\$1,250,000	\$210,767	\$571,048
2017 Hurricane Irma	\$11,964,262	TBD	N/A	N/A

Each county is required to have a county emergency management agency, plan, and program that is coordinated with the state emergency management plan.

In order to address resource requests, the process has to exhaust the resources at each level of government before moving to the next level. It starts at the local level, goes to the counties, then to the state, and finally the federal government. As part of the process, entities can use vendor contracts, some of which are already in place, the National Guard, resources from other states, and donated goods. In order to involve federal resources, there must be an emergency declaration or a major disaster declaration. There is also a fire management assistance grant available for fires which are an immediate threat to life and property. All of these federal programs generally require a 25% cost share.

FEMA offers three recovery programs:

- Individual Assistance - historically have to have 100 homes severely damaged or destroyed and funds are awarded to individuals or households. Housing costs are paid with 100% federal funds but other needs assistance requires a 25% cost share.
- Public Assistance - Available if the costs meet the overall state threshold of \$6,753,031 and each county must meet an individual threshold of \$3.68 per capita. These funds will reimburse local governments for response and restoration costs such as infrastructure repairs. The maximum cost share for the applicant is 25% which could be reimbursed by the state.
- Hazard Mitigation Grant - funds eligible applicants to complete projects to lessen the effects of the next disaster. The total amount that can be awarded is based on 15% of total federal costs for each disaster. Eligible entities apply for funds and applications are prioritized by the Interagency Coordination Committee with projects funded according to the priorities. The cost share is 75% federal and 25% state.

In addition to providing funding and assistance during and after disasters or emergencies, federal funding through the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) program has been provided annually to state and local governments to build, sustain, and deliver emergency management services. Funding is allocated to each County Emergency Management Office and requires a dollar-for-dollar match. Funding is determined for five areas: Base, Risk, Population, Community Emergency Response Team (optional) and Special Project amounts. A majority of the funding is used for salary to partially or fully fund County EM program staff. Equipment may be purchased but has to be found on the Department of Homeland Security’s authorized equipment list.

Emergency Management Performance Grant Funds Distributed to Counties

County	2016	2017	2018 - Proposed
Abbeville	\$66,060	\$65,929	\$65,902
Aiken	68,208	69,275	69,158
Allendale	54,500	57,354	57,362
Anderson	80,188	77,435	77,384
Bamberg	60,175	66,584	57,555
Barnwell	55,292	67,658	67,621
Beaufort	77,935	75,160	75,951
Berkeley	80,979	80,314	81,934
Calhoun	63,703	66,119	57,156
Charleston	95,917	88,591	81,050
Cherokee	60,518	59,707	59,690
Chester	57,738	57,904	57,837
Chesterfield	59,928	61,382	60,166
Clarendon	58,485	60,259	60,193
Colleton	62,729	60,102	65,595
Darlington	60,285	61,322	61,069
Dillon	56,178	57,377	57,281
Dorchester	75,369	75,761	72,414
Edgefield	56,057	58,259	57,249
Fairfield	57,520	58,812	58,766
Florence	75,945	75,660	75,281
Georgetown	67,392	70,008	69,957
Greenville	97,518	95,433	96,688
Greenwood	60,635	59,609	59,461
Hampton	65,717	66,225	66,176
Horry	75,404	74,302	76,844
Jasper	56,352	66,736	57,963
Kershaw	59,824	61,212	61,255
Lancaster	58,644	61,010	61,695
Laurens	61,259	60,661	60,512
Lee	55,149	56,902	56,838
Lexington	82,877	83,913	83,913
Marion	61,293	66,304	63,681
Marlboro	56,439	58,319	58,202
McCormick	52,862	55,666	55,706
Newberry	57,521	59,184	59,206
Oconee	71,757	69,762	69,728
Orangeburg	75,112	74,819	74,273
Pickens	67,640	66,403	63,740
Richland	81,537	91,220	82,204
Saluda	54,121	56,709	56,779

Spartanburg	88,212	84,673	84,808
Sumter	63,115	63,913	63,532
Union	58,579	57,519	57,436
Williamsburg	67,212	69,287	69,089
York	72,183	69,258	70,646
Total	\$3,052,063	\$3,101,133	\$3,056,946

The EMPG program focuses on planning, operations, equipment acquisitions, training, exercises, construction, and renovation to enhance and sustain the all-hazards core capabilities of governments. Each FEMA regional office will be responsible for reviewing the EMPG application and work plan. The regional offices will assess each state's emergency management sustainment and enhancement efforts, as well as the linkage to the core capabilities identified in the National Preparedness Goal.