

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor Marion Ashley
Supervisor John Tavaglione
SUBJECT: Military and Defense Services

SUBMITTAL DATE:
March 12, 2014

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors instructs:

1. The County Executive Officer to establish the Office of Military and Defense Services (OMDS) within the Economic Development Agency on or before April 1, 2014; and
2. That the Office of Military and Defense Services-EDA be funded using existing resources and personnel without increased cost to the County General Fund

BACKGROUND: On February 24, 2014, the United States Secretary of Defense released his Department of Defense (DoD) Budget for FY-2015. The FY 2015 budget is set at \$496 billion, as limited by existing law. This budget calls for a significant reduction in Active Duty, Guard, and Reserve military forces, spending, system development, and contracts and raises significant concerns about the real possibility of a future Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC).

Military and civilian jobs on the two military installations in Riverside County are an asset to our nation, state, and region. Thousands of direct jobs are created by these two installations for our local and regional workforce. It is in the economic interest of our County and its 28 cities to protect these bases from another BRAC process to the best of our ability, and to ensure we are making every effort to grow local contracting opportunities within the County with the Department of Defense, the Military Department of the State of California, and major defense contractors.


Marion Ashley, Vice Chairman of the Board
Serving the 5th District


John Tavaglione, County Supervisor
Serving the 2nd District

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BACKGROUND (Cont.): According to records obtained from the DoD, \$5.1 billion dollars in defense contracts were awarded to 900 businesses in the County of Riverside over a 12 year period. Small and medium sized businesses benefited from those contracts, and those orders meant jobs for our workforce.

The OMDS will also work to establish relationships with major defense contractors to encourage them to consider Riverside County-based businesses for important subcontracting and supplier roles. Technology transfer is also a high priority for our local and regional businesses.

Our military installations in the County and surrounding region are important to our national defense and our regional economy. The OMDS will reach out to those military installations in the County and region to strengthen our support for those bases. It will also work as closely as possible with the voice of local businesses from our local Chambers of Commerce on training, education, and issues related to those installations and bases. Providing a vertically integrated approach to the management of Military and Defense Services will provide a one stop shop equipped to support our military installations and defense contractors.