



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Contact: Kalei Rupp, 907-428-6032
or Jeremy Zidek 907-441-2337**

State of Alaska Shutdown Impacts on the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska — The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) has identified the following impact that will take effect if a state shutdown occurs.

Alaska National Guard

Uniformed Guard members will continue their duties as normal. DMVA environmental reviews by state employees will continue, and some state personnel will remain on staff to provide required services for federal facilities.

Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHS&EM)

Emergency monitoring staff will consist of three emergency management specialists working from the State Emergency Operations Center. If a disaster event necessitates response activities, appropriate DHS&EM and other state government emergency response personnel will be recalled to address the immediate life, health and safety needs of the effected Alaskans. The recalled staff will be funded through the Alaska Disaster Relief Fund. During the course of a shutdown, DHS&EM will cease processing grants for individuals and communities for disaster-related response and preparation activities.

Office of Veterans Affairs

All Office of Veterans Affairs staff will be laid off. Additionally, grants to veteran organizations for 17 Veterans Service Officers statewide will not be renewed when they expire June 30. This will leave Alaska's approximately 75,000 veterans without assistance to claim the benefits they have earned.

Division of Administrative Services

The Division of Administrative Services will recall necessary staff for federal reimbursement processing, and to conduct the fiscal year close-out requirements.

Alaska Military Youth Academy

Initially, all Alaska Military Youth Academy staff will be laid off. However, AMYA will recall the essential staff needed to complete the current training cycle. Cadets will graduate in August, at which point remaining AMYA staff will be laid off. In the event of a shutdown, DMVA will be required to notify the National Guard Bureau that it can no longer perform the activities required for the AMYA program. The program will be terminated, and it is unknown if Alaska will receive funding for subsequent classes.

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs is dedicated to the mission of securing the state and defending the nation. More than 4,300 professionals within the Army National Guard, the Air National Guard, Homeland Security & Emergency Management, the Alaska Military Youth Academy, Veterans Affairs, Administrative Services, the Alaska Aerospace Corporation, the Alaska State Defense Force, and the Alaska Naval Militia all work diligently to ensure the safety, security and future success of Alaska and its people.

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