



# DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS



# Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Brief to  
**Joint Budget Committee**  
07 December 2009



## DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS



# National Guard CY 09 Highlights

## Army National Guard Deployments

The Colorado Army National Guard currently has over 500 Soldiers deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom with approximately 150 preparing for mobilization in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



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# National Guard CY 09 Highlights

## Air National Guard

Trained, deployed and returned over 400 personnel in the 140th Wing in support of combat air power operations to Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom and operations in Curacao, Guantanamo Bay, Iraq, and Kuwait.

- Currently deployed: 6 personnel are in Afghanistan (Civil Engineers)
- Air Sovereignty Alert at Buckley AFB:
  - 71 Personnel, 3 F-16s (24/7 mission) including approximately 200 sorties and 96 practice scrambles.



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### National Guard Family Programs

- Added 6 full-time staff (Federal Funds) totalling 24 staff members
- Conducted Family retreat weekend for each service member returning from a deployment and their family members.
- Received \$215,679 from Tax Check-Off for Military Family Relief Fund
- Provided 56 Family grants totalling \$362,204 from Military Family Relief Fund





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### Division of Veterans Affairs Highlights CY 09

- 1746 Client visits, a 24% increase over CY08
- 5406 DVA-assisted claims pending with the federal VA
- \$89 million in previous claims completed by US Department of Veterans Affairs (State FY08-09)
- Administered Referendum E (Disabled Veterans Property Tax Exemption)
  - 500 validated applications



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### Board of Veterans Affairs

- Grants totaling \$ 902,393 (a 60% increase) have been awarded from the Veterans Trust Fund in FY 2009-10 due to HB 09-1329.



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### Civil Air Patrol

- Conducted over 100 searches for overdue/missing aircraft, lost/missing persons and emergency beacons
- Flew more than 150 counterdrug sorties with county sheriffs and federal law enforcement agencies
- Flew 6 air defense target missions
- 1900+ Volunteers – 1 FTE
  - 19% increase in membership in the last year
- 14 Cessna C-182s, 1 Gippsland GA-8, 3 gliders
  - Averaged over 240 flying hours per airplane – 9th in the nation
- 18 vans and 4WD vehicles
  - Used for emergency services, communications, glider trailer towing, personnel transportation





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## Future

- January 23, 2010 marks the 150th Anniversary of the Colorado National Guard
- The Fort Lupton Readiness Center is currently under construction.
  - This marks the first new readiness center in the state since 1998.
  - The average age of readiness centers in Colorado is 42 years.
- DMVA will build 4 new readiness centers (Grand Junction, Alamosa, Windsor and North Colorado Springs) subject to state funding.
  - We currently have an over 200,000 sq. ft. shortage in readiness center space.
  - Federal funds totalling \$52.5 million are at risk.
- Regional Training Institute (\$41.3 million FF), Training Center Complex (\$42.5 million FF) and HAATS (\$41 million FF) are planned for continued growth.
- Continue to explore future missions and capabilities.





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## State and Federal Veterans Cemeteries

### State Veterans Cemeteries:

- Veterans Memorial Cemetery of Western Colorado
- Colorado State Veterans Cemetery, Homelake

*“The administration, operation, and maintenance of a VA-supported state cemetery is solely the responsibility of the state.” ~VA Website*

### Federal Veterans Cemeteries:

- Fort Logan, Denver, CO
- Fort Lyon, Las Animas, CO
- TBD El Paso County Cemetery – Legislation to approve this project is currently awaiting a Senate vote.

*Federal veterans cemeteries are fully funded and administered by the federal government and are the sole responsibility of the federal government.*



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### State Historical Society Grants for Armories

The National Guard Readiness Center in Canon City is the only readiness center on the National Historical Register in Colorado.

We are planning to request a \$250,000 grant to return historic elements to the building.



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### Change in COARNG MTOE (SF)

Charlie Company, 5-19 Special Forces (Airborne) was moved from Fort Collins to Texas in 2007-2008 at a loss of 83 personnel.

Colorado gained over 800 personnel as a result of this move, which was a part of the “Grow the Army” initiative.





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## Veterans Assistance Clearinghouse HB 09-1291

This project is being coordinated with the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and other agencies to synergize existing programs and websites in order to find a no-cost solution.



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### Tuition Assistance/G.I. Promise Act HB 09-1039

636 persons received National Guard Tuition Assistance in FY 2009 for a total of \$815,000.

At least 10 persons qualified for this assistance through the G.I. Promise Act.



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## Funding Impacts of the National Guard New Units and Armories to Which Assigned

Element	SFY10	SFY11	SFY12	SFY13	SFY14	SFY15
Soldiers (Statewide)	Tax Rev	Tax Rev	Tax Rev	Tax Rev	Tax Rev	Tax Rev
Grand Junction Armory	Const	Const	O/M	O/M	O/M	O/M
Ft Lupton Armory	Const	Const	O/M	O/M	O/M	O/M
Colorado Springs Armory		Const	Const	O/M	O/M	O/M
Windsor		Const	Const	O/M	O/M	O/M
Alamosa Armory			Const	Const	O/M	O/M

**Tax Rev = State Taxes Received from Soldiers**

**Constr = Project in construction – No Operations and Maint Costs**

**O/M = Operations and Maintenance Costs to include Utilities**





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## DMVA Five-Year Projection

### Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Five-Year Projection of Need FY 2010-11 through FY 2014-15

Project Title	Fund Source	FY 2010-11	FY 2011-12	FY 2012-13	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	Totals
Alamosa Readiness Center Construction	CCF	0	2,721,263	0	0	0	\$2,721,263
	CF	853,568	0	0	0	0	\$853,568
	FF	610,702	7,100,000	0	0	0	\$7,710,702
Grand Junction Readiness Center Construction	CCF	0	0	0	0	0	\$0
	CF	3,688,553	0	0	0	0	\$3,688,553
	FF	0	0	0	0	0	\$0
North Colorado Springs Readiness Center Construction	CCF	0	0	1,500,000	0	0	\$1,500,000
	CF	0	0	0	0	0	\$0
	FF	0	2,034,163	22,874,000	0	0	\$24,908,163
Windsor Readiness Center Construction	CCF	0	3,793,155	0	0	0	\$3,793,155
	CF	1,888,105	0	0	0	0	\$1,888,105
	FF	714,315	8,300,250	0	0	0	\$9,014,565
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$7,755,243</b>	<b>\$23,948,831</b>	<b>\$24,374,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$56,078,074</b>



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### LEED Design for Armories

The Colorado National Guard is a national leader with regard to integrating sustainability. The Army Aviation Support Facility has been awarded two Air Force Design Awards to include: 2008 - Honor Award for Sustainable Design (one of only six honor awards given worldwide) and 2009 - Merit Award for Interior Design

Our dedication to Sustainable Design and Construction is illustrated with the prestigious Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design (LEED) Silver certification on the new Army Aviation Support Facility, awarded by the U.S. Green Building Council

In addition, the Guard's Grand Junction Field Maintenance Shop (completed in October of 2007) is also a LEED Silver Certifiable building and will soon receive a 282,000 Kilowatt hours/year photovoltaic system.

Colorado National Guard Facilities Management incorporates innovative infrastructure support for renewable energy in all projects to include: photovoltaic, domestic hot water solar heating, and geothermal as appropriate.



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### FY10-11 Budget Priorities

- Funding for Readiness Center Construction (Capitol Budget)
- Maintaining current funding to support operations and maintenance.
- Funding for Tuition Assistance





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### FY 2010-11 Budget Request

- \$5.3M General Fund for Personal Services, Common Policies, Tuition Assistance, Civil Air Patrol, County Veterans Service Officers, and Operations and Maintenance for Air and Army National Guard (Armories).
- \$1.4M Cash Funds for Veterans Trust Fund Grants, Veterans Cemetery in Grand Junction, and Local Armory Incentive Program.
- \$800,000 in Reappropriated Funds from Higher Education for National Guard Tuition Assistance.
- \$213M Federal Funds comprised of \$205M for the Air and Army National Guard federal mission (Training, Salaries, Equipment Maintenance, OPTEMPO) and \$8M for Air and Army Cooperative Agreements with the Department.

For \$5.3 million in General Fund the State gets \$213 million in Federal Funds