

# Overview of South Texas Military Task Force Washington D.C. Military Advocacy Trip



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Director, Intergovernmental Relations  
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# South Texas Military Task Force Trip to D.C.

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The South Texas Military Task Force (STMTF) is a committee of the United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce. It consists of a collection of civilian community and business leaders dedicated to preserving, protecting, and expanding the missions of the South Texas Military Facilities.

October 22<sup>nd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>, the Task Force Executive Committee traveled to Washington D.C. to meet with officials at the Pentagon and Capitol Hill to advocate on behalf of Naval Air Station Corpus Christi & Kingsville, Corpus Christi Army Depot, and Coast Guard Sector/Air Station Corpus Christi.





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## **Attendees & Advocates:**

- Kresten Cook, Executive Director STMTF
  - Alan Wilson, Charter Bank, Chairman STMTF
  - Wes Hoskins, First Community Bank, Past Chair STMTF
  - Garry Bradford, Texas Military Preparedness Commission
  - Al Arreola Jr, UCCC CEO
  - Clark Robinson, Port of Corpus Christi
  - Mayor Paulette Guajardo
  - Peter Zaroni, City Manager
  - Michael Rodriguez, Dept. City Manager
  - Sony Peronel, Asst. to City Manager
  - Ryan Skrobarczyk, IGR Director
  - Larry Meyers, Hance Scarborough
  - Jennifer Shephard, Hance Scarborough
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## **Meetings Conducted:**

- Army Deputy Assistant Secretary for Installations
  - Pentagon - Chief of Army Partnerships
  - Commander, Navy Installations Command - Chief of Naval Installations
  - Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Sustainment
  - Congressman Henry Cuellar's Defense Fellow
  - Senator Ted Cruz
  - Senator John Cornyn
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## **STMTF priorities include:**

- Demonstrate Corpus Christi is a pro-military city – actively improving military readiness through our partnership and supporting our military communities
  - Federal military construction funding for continued investment in local facilities to improve quality of life and prevent BRAC
  - Encouraging rapid approval through the Naval gifting process for projects like DEAAG grants
  - Reform the 180-day rule allowing for enlisted veterans to work at facilities like the Army Depot immediately upon retirement.
  - Require transparency of the 50/50 rule to ensure public depots receive the amount of repair work required by law
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## Task Force Follow-Up:

- An update was provided to military leadership on the need for new on-base single housing and the child development center since the barracks were condemned.
  - Demonstrate local support for rebuilding the CNATRA House to cement the highest-ranking Navy officer's position in Corpus Christi, Texas.
  - Chief of Naval Installations will travel to Corpus Christi before the end of this year to visit area installations and see needs first-hand
  - Senate tracking of amendments on the 50/50 rule and 180-day rule
  - Gained insight into the future of military aviation planning for CCAD purposes.
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