



Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management



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**Michael O'Hare
Director**



Mission



Core Mission: Provide Homeland Security and Defense; Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery





Objectives



- Build a culture of preparedness
- Ensure swift, coordinated responses
- Provide comprehensive recoveries post-incident
- Improve community and state resiliency





AS 26.23, ARTICLE 1

THE ALASKA DISASTER ACT



AS 26.23.020 The governor and disaster emergencies

Provides:

- The governor is responsible for meeting the dangers presented by disasters
- The governor shall declare a disaster if one has occurred or is imminent
- The governor is commander in chief of forces available for emergency duty, can delegate/assign command
- May expend up to \$1 million without legislative approval



In addition, the governor may:



- Suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute
- Use all available resources of the State and each political subdivision of the State
- Transfer personnel or alter the functions of State agencies
- Commandeer or use any private property
- Direct and compel relocation
- Prescribe routes, modes of transportation, and destinations in connection with relocation
- Control ingress and egress of a disaster area
- Suspend or limit sale and dispensing of alcohol, explosives, or combustibles
- Provide for use of temporary housing
- Allocate/redistribute food, water, fuel, clothing, medicine, and supplies
- Use money from the Oil and Hazardous Substance Release Prevention and Response Fund



Division Disaster Response



- Provide emergency response to save lives and property
- Coordinate multi-agency and NGO response
- Perform damage assessment of area
- Provide analysis of disaster impacts
- Convene Governor's Disaster Policy Cabinet (DPC) for recommendations
- Provide disaster documents based on DPC meeting
- Prepare federal disaster request if warranted



Division Disaster Response





Planning Focus



- State Emergency Operation Plan (EOP) development
- Large community EOP support
- Small community emergency response plan support
- Security vulnerability assessments
- Continuity of operations plan
- Catastrophic disaster plan
- Long-Term recovery plan
- Mitigation plans: State and local
- Alaska assessment – capability gaps





Planning Focus





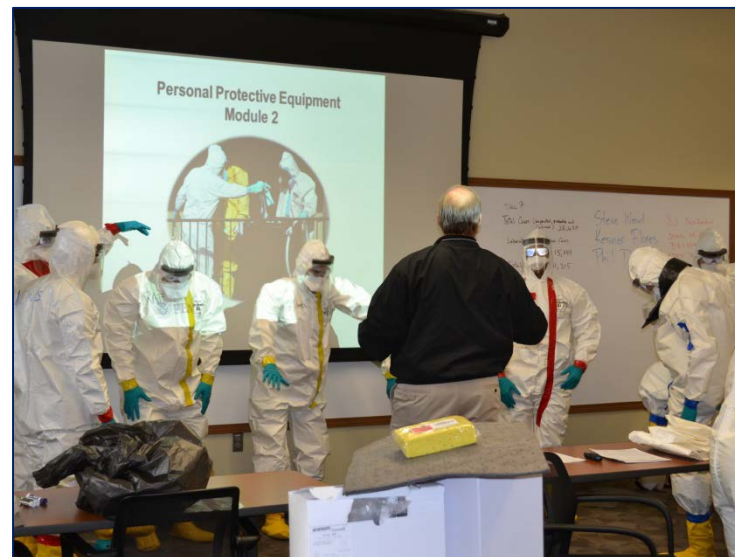
Preparedness Focus



- Emergency Management Training – state/local events
- Great Alaska Shakeout
- Local exercises – test local EOP
- Annual statewide Preparedness Conference
- Rural Engagement Workshops
- Public Emergency Management Information – coordination before, during and after disasters
- Public Outreach Campaigns – Alert/Warning, Family Preparedness, and Recovery



Preparedness Focus





Disaster Recovery Focus



Recovery Programs

- Emergency Protective Measures
- Public Assistance –Infrastructure damages
- Individual Family Grant – Personal and real property damages, temporary housing

Mitigation Programs

- Disaster Mitigation Grants – Post-disaster projects improve resiliency; funding cap set by disaster
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants – National competitive grants for resiliency



Disaster Recovery Focus





Community Grants Focus SFY2015



- FY2015 Emergency Preparedness Grant (EMPG) – Statewide for \$3,100,000
- FY2015 State Homeland Security Grants (SHSP) – 16 Communities for \$2,986,400
- FY2015 State Local Emergency Planning Committee Grants (LEPC) – 21 Communities for \$300,000
- Mitigation Grants
 - \$6,350,000 Tsunami, All-Hazard, and Earthquake Grants awarded
 - \$17,500,000 Hazard Mitigation and Pre-Disaster Mitigation



Innovative State Emergency Management



- Disaster Relief Fund program/process
- Statewide Community Preparedness – Grants, technical support, gap analysis
- Resiliency and Innovative Mitigation – Relocations/elevations, partnerships
- State Capital Investment in Catastrophic Plans – Generators/water purifiers/food
- Interagency Planning and Response to Disasters



Innovative State Emergency Management





Innovative Partnerships



- **Communities/Boroughs**
- **Local Emergency Planning Committees**
- **Native Corporations**
- **Business/Industry**
- **Utility Companies**
- **Alaska National Guard**
- **Other AK State Agencies**
- **Federal Emergency Management Agency**
- **American Red Cross**
- **Volunteer Organizations**
- **Department of Defense**
- **Office of the U.S. Attorney**
- **Department of the Interior**
- **U.S. Coast Guard**
- **Department of Homeland Security**
- **Federal Bureau of Investigation**
- **Environmental Protection Agency**
- **Emergency Management Assistance Compact**
- **Pacific Northwest Emergency Management Arrangement**



FY2017 Budget



Homeland Security & Emergency Management					
	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	Change from	
	Management Plan	Management Plan	Governor	FY2016 Management Plan	
Federal Funds	4,058.4	4,031.5	4,031.5	0.0	0.00%
Other Funds	2,911.2	2,955.6	2,955.6	0.0	0.00%
General Funds	2,646.9	2,467.3	2,467.3	0.0	0.00%

Additional General Fund decrements would reduce Federal Fund activities within the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.



Office of Veterans Affairs



Office of Veterans Affairs Overview



Verdie Bowen
Director, Office of Veterans Affairs



Veterans Affairs



Our Promise to Alaska's Veterans

We will ensure that all veterans, active duty, guard/reserve components, their dependents, and survivors understand and receive all the benefits, support, care, and recognition they have earned and are entitled to, by expertly administering all current programs, anticipating future needs, and taking appropriate action to meet those needs.

We will promote awareness through outreach efforts, assisting eligible members to receive from the U.S. federal and state governments any and all benefits to which they may be entitled under existing or future laws.



Veterans Affairs Motto



“Serving Alaska one Veteran at a Time”



Serving Alaska



- Serving Veterans Where they live:





Serving Alaska



- Veteran Demographics
 - 73,397 veterans plus 154,133 dependents
 - 65 and over: 19,581
 - 64 and under: 53,816
 - War Time Service: 58,023
 - Peace Time Service: 15,374
 - Female Veterans: 10,192
 - Male Veterans: 63,205
 - 5% annual growth



Serving Alaska



- **Major Accomplishments in 2015**
 - Assisted 18,256 veterans in receiving over \$222 million in federal funds for managed medical care
 - Assisted 17,336 veterans receive disability compensation, 327 veterans receive war time pension, 732 dependents receive Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, and 78 widows receive the widows death pension totaling \$244 million in federal funds
 - Assisted 4,605 veterans and eligible family members in receiving over \$74 million in federally funded Education/Vocational Rehabilitation benefits
 - Assisted 57,989 Alaskans with state and federal VA requests for benefits. This is an increase of over 10,000 from SFY 2014 and reflects a workload of 7.5 clients per day for a total combined staff of 21



Serving Alaska



- Major Accomplishments in 2015
 - Third full year of the Sharing & Reimbursement Agreements between the VA & Alaska Native Health Programs (ANHP):
 - Infused over \$8.1 million of federal funds back into the ANHP while providing care for 6,435 rural veterans
 - This agreement is now the national standard, and Alaska's Veterans Affairs was awarded the VA's Abraham Lincolns Pillars of Excellence Award for innovative solutions by Secretary McDonald





Serving Alaska



- **Major Accomplishments in 2015**
 - Assisted 5,208 veterans in obtaining home loan certificates resulting in over \$1.4 billion in guaranteed loans. This is the largest number of loans issued in Alaska since the start of the program
 - Second year competed and awarded \$250K from the Office of Rural Health's Highly Rural Transpiration Grant program
 - Grant provides federally funded reimbursable transportation to veterans through the Alaska Marine Highway, bus services, and taxis
 - The five state boroughs covered under this grant: Ketchikan, Kodiak Island, Kenai, Mat-Su, and Denali



Serving Alaska



- Major Accomplishments in 2015
 - Co-sponsored Tribal Veterans Representative (TVR) training for 30 new TVRs bringing our TVR volunteers to 250. This is the largest veterans volunteer corps in the nation under this program model and reduces need for more funded service officers
 - Co-sponsored Stand Downs with the VA's Office of Rural Health in Unalaska, Homer, Soldotna, Kotzebue, and Nome and held our annual events in Fairbanks and two in Anchorage providing 2,500 veterans in need with direct assistance from 60 agencies



Serving Alaska



- **Major Accomplishments in 2015**
 - Completed the first comprehensive Alaska Veterans Needs Assessment
 - Study completed by the Institute of Social and Economic Research UAA consisting of four areas:
 - » Normative Needs
 - » Relative Needs
 - » Expressed Needs
 - » Perceived Needs
 - Completed study reflected our efforts are on track with the needs of those we serve
 - The complete Alaska Veterans Needs Assessment is provided to each member of the House Finance Subcommittee before the presentation



Serving Alaska



- Co-sponsored several outreach efforts with local and national federal VA offices to deliver services to the following Alaska communities:
 - Akiak, Akiachak, Anchor Point, Bethel, Cantwell, Chevak, Clear, Cordova, Craig, Delta Junction, Dillingham, Dutch Harbor/Unalaska, Ft. Yukon, Gustavus, Galena, Glennallen, Homer, Houston, Haines, Healy, Homer, Hoonah, Juneau, Kenai, Ketchikan, Klawock, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Kwethluk, Mat-Su correctional facilities, Metlakatla, Mountain Village, Ninilchik, Nenana, Nome, North Pole, Petersburg, Palmer, St. Mary's, Selawik, Seward, Sitka, Soldotna, Sutton, Talkeetna, Tok, Toksook Bay, Valdez, Venetie, Willow, Wrangell, and Young Women's Christian Association, Anchorage



Goals for 2017



- Continue funding veteran outreach projects across the state
- Continue supporting Tribal Veterans Representative (TVR) training courses until a trained TVR is in every Alaska community
- Continue all efforts to enroll all veterans into the VA medical system
- Continue all efforts to ensure veterans receive all earned benefits



Goals for 2017



- Continue to monitor and manage expectations of a State of Alaska Veterans Cemetery while working closely with the VA to ensure maximum federal funds for construction are received with limited cost to the state
- Develop a software application called the Veterans Information System (VIS) with matching funds from the VA's Office of Rural Health with the single goal of increasing successful outreach events
- Continue to partner with the VA's Office of Rural Health and the Office of Tribal Government with the single goal of increasing access to healthcare and expansion of earned veterans benefits



Goals for 2017



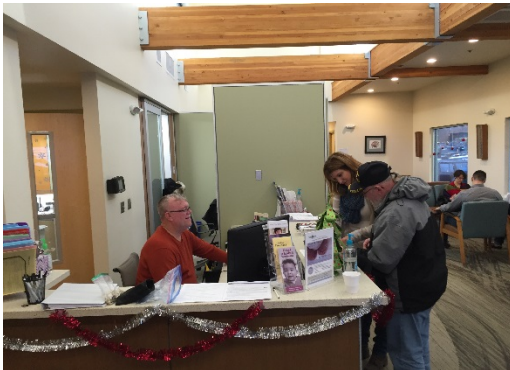
- Continue developing U.S. Army discharges for those who served in the Alaska Territorial Guard
- Continue our partnership with the DoD Welcoming Home every Vietnam veteran
- Work closely with the Alaska Mental Health Trust in applying for grants to enhance our outreach efforts and software initiatives



Goals for 2017



- Continue to modify rural Stand Down efforts into rural benefits events allowing more events across Alaska for our veterans
 - January 2016 held first Alaskan Pilot Claims Clinic in Kodiak-area Native Association's Mill Bay Clinic
 - 34 claims received with 11 new claims and 4 decided on the spot
 - Now the working model for next rural claims clinic





FY2017 Budget



Office of Veterans Affairs	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	Change from	
	Management Plan	Management Plan	Governor	FY2016 Management Plan	
Federal Funds	0.0	250.0	250.0	0.0	0.00%
Veterans Endowment Fund	12.2	11.6	12.8	+1.2	+9.38%
General Funds	1,785.3	1,794.9	1,794.9	0.0	0.00%

The \$1.2 that appears as the Veterans Endowment Fund increase is an estimate of the amount that will be available for appropriation by the legislature as described in AS 37.14.730(b). The \$250,000 in Federal Funds for the Highly Rural Transportation grant did not change. The Office of Veterans Affairs was insulated from DMVA's required budget reductions, and will be able to continue the important work they do for Alaska's veterans.



Contacts



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National Guard Retirement Benefits



- National Guard Naval Militia Retirement System created in 1972
- Intended as a “gap filler” between end of National Guard service and eligibility for federal reserve military retirement at age 60.
- Two part eligibility:
 - Eligible for federal military retirement
 - Served at least five years in the Alaska National Guard
 - Involuntary separation not involving misconduct, e.g., medical discharge, waives these requirements.



National Guard Retirement Benefits



Three options-

- 22.1%: \$100 each month for the same number of months that the member participated in the Alaska National Guard (incurs additional income tax penalty); or
- 68.5%: In a lump sum that is actuarially determined to be equal to the value, at the time of retirement, of the entire pension due (incurs additional income tax penalty); or
- 9.4%: In a monthly amount that will result in payment by the member's 72nd birthday of an amount that is determined to be the actuarial equivalent of the entire pension due at the time of retirement (reduces income tax penalty).



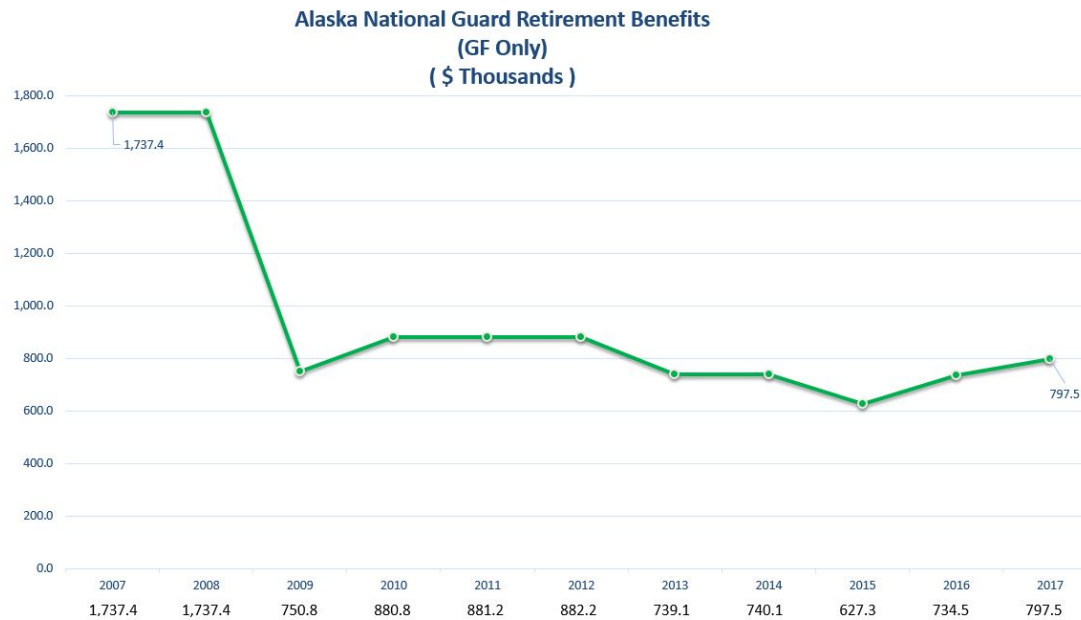
By The Numbers



- Total annual contribution of \$797.5 GF
- Increase of \$63K GF based upon actuarial valuation
- Approximately \$36M in fund
- Capital Budget Supplements: \$8M (1996) & \$10M (2006)
- Alaskan Participation (2014 datacall)
 - 4139 Servicemembers earning benefits
 - 1756 Servicemembers vested
 - 639 Former Servicemembers receiving benefits



NGNMRS Look Back





Alaska Army National Guard Assigned End Strength 1990 - Present

