



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

MILITARY DEPARTMENT
THE WILLIAM A. O'NEILL ARMORY
360 BROAD STREET
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06105-3795

February 24, 2011

Honorable Toni Nathaniel Harp
Honorable Toni E. Walker
Co-Chairpersons
Appropriations Committee
Room 2700, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

RE: APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE STATE AGENCY BUDGET PRESENTATIONS
AND PUBLIC HEARINGS, FEBRUARY 23, 2011

Although our agency's Financial Manager attended the public hearing to answer questions the committee had concerning our proposed budget, the Connecticut Military Department (CTMD) regrets not formally presenting our budget to your committee Wednesday night. I write to provide some comments and to express my support for the Governor's Budget.

With the nation still confronted by the need to support the war in Afghanistan and military operations in Iraq, along with peacekeeping and support operations throughout the world, the CTMD remains fully engaged in the training, equipping, mobilizing and demobilizing of large numbers of Connecticut's soldiers and airmen. With just under 100 soldiers and airmen currently deployed, we continue to reconstitute a force that at last year's peak impacted nearly 1,300 of our soldiers, airmen and their families. We are pleased that the majority of these members are back drilling with us again here at home.

With the current pace of military operations, the CTMD is challenged to get and keep our state budget balanced so as to leverage as many federal dollars as possible. By means of illustration, the CTMD employs over 5,000 persons in full and part-time statuses with a myriad of different funding sources that comprises an annual agency payroll of over \$131 million. We currently employ 116 state employees, using just 46 full-time equivalents (FTEs). Our state employees manage and process our federal reimbursements and maintain our 42 facilities across the state. The state contribution to our annual payroll is approximately \$3.2 million, about two and a half percent of the total. It would be impossible for the CTMD to execute the nearly \$250 million in annual federal expenditures without our 46 state FTEs supporting our key state service providers. The Fiscal Year 2012 Governor's Budget recommends approximately \$6.4 million in Personal Services and Other Expenses that we believe should be sufficient to meet our agency's anticipated operating needs.

Connecticut's military facility recapitalization program continues to be a good news story for not only our soldiers and airmen but the state as well. With recently completed projects through to those programmed to break ground in fiscal year 2013, the Military Department is projected to execute over \$285 million in federal construction dollars. These federal funds are currently leveraged by \$6.3 million in state bonding or just a 2 and a quarter percent state share. For the purpose of perspective the national average state match is around 15 percent.

Construction of our \$19 million Armed Forces Readiness Center at Camp Niantic is now complete and two of our National Guard units now occupy the building. The allocation of \$4 million in state bonding leveraged \$28 million dollars in federal funds for a Regional Training Institute at Camp Niantic, which is scheduled for a ribbon cutting this September. The \$9 million addition/alteration to the East Haven Rifle Range is scheduled for completion in April 2011 with full-up operations starting in late summer. The Middletown Joint Reserve Center, scheduled for a ribbon cutting this June, leveraged another \$64 million in federal construction funds. Because of the delay in the Federal FY 11 Budget, we await the receipt of an additional \$42 million that allows us to begin construction of a 100,000 sq ft readiness center for our aviators in Windsor Locks. We are also optimistic that we will go to contract on a \$45 million Joint Reserve Center by mid-September of this year.

The CTMD continues to transform the Air Guard Base at Bradley with Post-BRAC projects. The ribbon cutting for construction of our \$9.3 million addition to the TF-34 Engine Repair Facility is scheduled for late March/early April. The companion \$3.5 million Engine Test Cell Facility is scheduled to be complete this August. The Air Operations Group's \$9.1 million facility upgrades are scheduled to be completed in July. Finally, the first phase of our \$8 million C-27 Hangar renovation project began this December and when complete next fall will allow us to conduct C-27 maintenance operations indoors. We are also working closely with Connecticut's Congressional Delegation to accelerate a FY 2015 \$15 million project that will complete the facility requirements for conversion of the Base to support the C-27 airlift platform by its projected fielding date in calendar year 2013. To facilitate your understanding of our projects, I am attaching a copy of the 2011 Armory Construction Purchase Program Report.

The Connecticut National Guard is responsible both federally and by state statute for providing military funeral honors for approximately 3,000 deceased veterans across the state annually. We expect federal funding for the program to remain stable for the foreseeable future as the federal government continues covering approximately 75 percent of the costs associated with this \$1.4 million program. Of note during this budget cycle is the maintenance of the status quo relative to the states Funeral Honors account at \$319,500. Our efforts continue to be focused on making our operations as efficient as possible, by passing as much of the program expense to the federal side of the ledger as is legally permissible.

Continuing engagements in Iraq, Afghanistan and now Kosovo, Egypt and Qatar present a seemingly, never ending list of challenges for the CTMD. We, however, continue to look upon the current environment as one filled with opportunity to better serve the needs of soldiers, airmen and our citizens. We remain resolute in our commitment to provide the best for our Connecticut National Guard so that we can continue to effectively respond to both state and federally tasked missions. The CTMD is thankful for the Appropriations Committee's support for our agency programs and initiatives. We welcome the opportunity to discuss our budget in greater detail or to answer any questions the committee may have concerning our budget.

Sincerely,


THEODORUS J. MARTIN
Major General
The Adjutant General

Enclosure
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