

**Overview of
Office of Secretary of Veterans & Defense Affairs
COVID19 Posture: Update #7
August 6, 2020**

Office of Secretary of Veterans & Defense Affairs:

- Conducted a combined in-person and virtual meeting of the Virginia Military Advisory Council (VMAC) at the Virginia War Memorial on July 16. In addition to receiving updates and reports from VMAC members, the Secretary hosted Governor Northam, the Assistant Secretary of the Army Alex Beehler, the Deputy Commandant of the Marine Corps and Commander of USMC Installation Command, MG Edward Banta, and the Executive Director of the Northern Virginia Regional Commission to sign the first multiservice regional intergovernmental support agreement (R-IGSA).
- Also at the July 16 VMAC, Kathy Roth-Douquet, CEO of Blue Star Families, Delegates Willet and Coyner, Senator Suetterlein, and several military spouses joined Governor Northam as he ceremonially signed into law legislation that enhances the Commonwealth's existing expedited and temporary licensing process for military spouses. To learn more about this new law that increases licensure opportunities for military spouses, please visit <https://www.governor.virginia.gov/newsroom/all-releases/2020/july-headline-859261-en.html>:
- Coordinated the request for Virginia National Guard to receive an extension of Title-32 status for COVID 19 pandemic response beyond August 21. President Trump signed presidential Memorandum-12 (PM-12) on August 3. However, Virginia and 47 other states will now assume a 25%-to-75% state-federal cost share for operations from August 22-December 31, 2020.
- COVIDWISE: Please see information about Virginia's new way to help defeat COVID-19 below.

Virginia Department of Military Affairs:

- Concluded the deployment of the 34th CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package (CERF-P) teams across the Commonwealth to support expanded COVID testing and point prevalence operations, PPE and decontamination coaching, Fulfilled mission assignments requested through emergency management process, to include logistics support, planning, mobile testing assistance and medical planning:
 - 105,904 COVID-19 test samples collected at 425 testing events;
 - 87,247 test samples transported to multiple lab locations;
 - 3,590 N95/PPE fittings;
 - 1.249,448 pounds of food distributed;
 - 50,919 hours of planning conducted in support of VDEM. "All aunders are cumulative as of July 3, 2020.

- Deployed approximately 80 personnel and 30 vehicles within 24 hours across Hampton Roads, Eastern Shore, and Northern Neck in response to Governor's declaration of emergency for Tropical Storm Isaias. Operations concluded on August 4, 2020,
- Coordinating with VDEM and VDH to determine requirements for further COVID-19 pandemic response.

Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS):

- Reopening of DVS offices and other facilities for in-person services began June 22 (Veteran's Cemeteries) and June 29 (Benefits Offices, VVFS program locations, and the interior of the Virginia War Memorial). In- person office visits are by appointment only. To learn more about scheduling an appointment at your local office, please visit: www.dvs.virginia.gov,
- Sitter-Barfoot Veterans Care Center (Richmond) moves into Phase II. To learn more about the changes this will bring, please visit <https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/veterans-care-centers> or call VVCC at 540-982-2869 or SBVCC at 804-371-8000;
- Continued work with the Virginia Chamber of Commerce to host the 2020 Virginia Veterans & Military Affairs Conference on August 19. The conference will be virtual this year. To learn more or to register for the event please visit: <https://www.vachamber.com/event/virginia-veterans-and-military-affairs-conference>