

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

DECEMBER 2020

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

INTRODUCTION

HISTORY

The Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management was created by legislation in 1972 under the original name of Department of Military, Civil Defense and Veterans Services. In this legislation, the administrative offices of the Adjutant General became the Military Bureau; the former Civil Defense and Public Safety Agency became the Bureau of Civil Defense; and the former Department of Veterans Services became the Bureau of Veterans Services; with the Adjutant General designated as both Commissioner of the new department and Director of the Military Bureau.

Effective in June 1974, the 106th Legislature revised the law to direct the appointment of the Deputy Adjutant General as Director of the Military Bureau, thus freeing the Adjutant General to function solely as Commissioner of the Department. This revision also renamed the Bureau of Civil Defense as the Bureau of Civil Emergency Preparedness. Over the next couple of years, the Department was re-designated Department of Defense and Veterans Services.

During the 113th Legislature the Bureau of Civil Emergency Preparedness was renamed the Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA). At the direction of the 115th Legislature, the Bureau of Veterans Services was changed to the Division of Veterans Services. In 1995 the 117th Legislature added the requirement that the Adjutant General/Commissioner's appointment be subject to Legislative confirmation. In 1997 the 118th Legislature re-designated the Division of Veterans Services as the Bureau of Maine Veterans Services and designated its leader as the Bureau Director. In October 2001, the Department was assigned responsibility for coordinating the homeland security activities of the State, to include interface in such matters with federal, county, and local government. The Commissioner was assigned the additional duty of directing these activities. The Maine Military Authority was established as a public instrumentality of the State within the Executive Department in 2001 and given specific authorities to be managed by the Commissioner of the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management.

During the 123rd Legislature in 2008 TITLE 3 M.R.S.A. §959 was amended to read that the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters shall include the Maine Emergency Management Agency which is within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management.

The 129th Legislature enacted a change to 37-B, §501 to re-designate veterans' services to be the Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services. Also, in 2019 the Maine Military Authority shut down operations and is in the process of formal closure activities.

MISSION

The Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management (DVEM) is responsible for all military, veterans and emergency management related operations within the State of Maine. It is established to coordinate and improve the discharge of the State Government's

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT INTRODUCTION

responsibility relating to military, veterans and emergency preparedness through the authorization, planning and provisions of resources, administration, operation and audit of activities in these areas.

DVEM is a customer-focused organization providing quality services and benefits daily and in times of crisis, protects life, freedom, and property for all of Maine's people.

We value:

- Quality customer service in response to people's needs
- Clearly defined plans to accomplish our goals
- A work environment of mutual respect, concern and trust
- Enhanced opportunities for professional development and personal initiative
- Pride in public service to Community, State and Nation
- Individual and team responsibility and accountability
- Commitment to quality performance and a high degree of integrity & professionalism

PROGRAMS

The Department includes the Administration Section, the Military Bureau, the Maine Emergency Management Agency, the Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services and the Maine Military Authority. The Commissioner and the Director of the Maine Emergency Management Agency are appointed by the Governor. The Commissioner may appoint a Deputy Commissioner, Director of the Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services, and Executive Director of the Maine Military Authority. The Military Bureau is managed by federal employees funded by the two branches of the National Guard Bureau; Air National Guard and Army National Guard.

Maine Law provides the authority for the programs comprising the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management as follows:

Program 210 – Dept of Defense, Veterans & Emergency Management

Program 213 – Military Bureau

Program 214 – Maine Emergency Management Agency

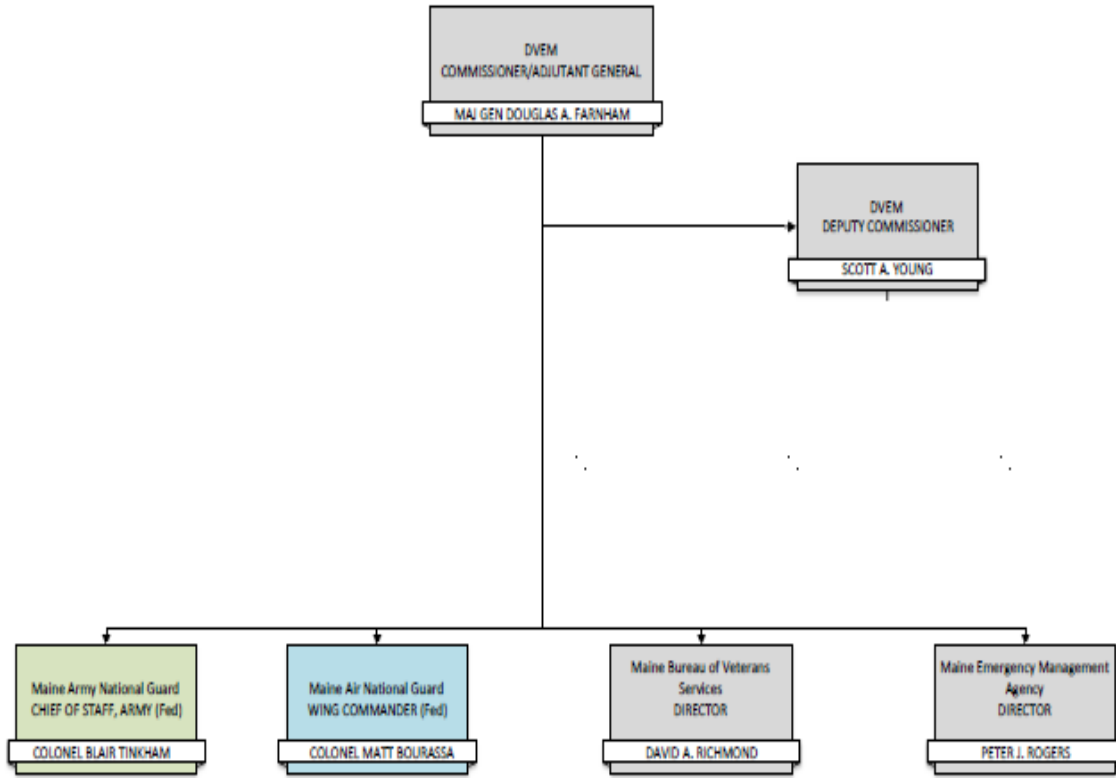
Program 215 – Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services

Program 620 – Maine Military Authority

Program element 210 essentially only includes the Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, and 2 support staff. This element will not be included separately in this report. Additionally, the Maine Emergency Management Agency's (MEMA) oversight is provided by the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety. **MEMA's overview is in a separate report.**

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

The Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management is led by the Commissioner and Adjutant General, Major General Douglas A. Farnham. His Deputy Commissioner is Scott A. Young who also serves as the department's primary legislative liaison.



**COMMISSIONER and ADJUTANT GENERAL
MAJOR GENERAL Douglas A. Farnham**

Maj. Gen. Farnham assumed his duties as the Adjutant General, Maine National Guard in January 2016 and also serves as Commissioner for the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management. He is responsible for managing the activities of Maine's Army and Air National Guard, Maine Veterans' Services and Maine Emergency Management Agency. General Farnham is a 1984 graduate of the United States Air Force Academy. As an instructor pilot and flight examiner in the C-21A Learjet, he served as the primary pilot for Commander, United States Space Command and later taught at the C-21 formal training school. General Farnham joined the Maine Air National Guard in 1991. He has served in various operations and command positions in the 101st Air Refueling Wing. He also deployed as United States Central Command Deputy Director of Mobility Forces. Prior to assuming his current position, General Farnham commanded the 101st Air Refueling Wing in the Maine Air National Guard.



**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
Scott A Young**

Scott A. Young is Deputy Commissioner for the Maine Department of Defense, Veterans, and Emergency Management. He is responsible to the commissioner for the operation and administration of department programs and policies as assigned to include preparing and oversight of the department budget, oversight of all department state employee actions, review and coordination of all major contracts, primary legislative liaison, and constituent services. He received his B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Maine before joining the United States Air Force in 1981. He served on Active Duty at Loring AFB, Maine for 4 years prior to joining the Maine National Guard as a full-time military technician in 1985. He completed a 30-year career as a full-time federal employee in 2015 and completed over 37 years of service in the Air Force and Air National Guard in 2019 where he retired at the rank of Brigadier General holding both the Maine Air National Guard Commander and Assistant Adjutant General-Air positions.

MILITARY BUREAU, MAINE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

The Maine Army National Guard is authorized 2,096 members that attend four training periods one weekend each month for a total forty-eight, and fifteen days of annual training each year. Of these, 204 are dual status military technicians, 221 are Active Guard Reserve. The full-time workforce is augmented by 46 Title 5 federal civilians, and 74 state employees.

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**



**ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL-ARMY- BRIGADIER GENERAL
Diane L. Dunn.**

BG Dunn assumed her duties as the Assistant Adjutant General- Army in December 2020. She is responsible for talent management of the force and the organizations strategic focus. Talent management consists of joint staff development and training, field grade leader opportunities and growth, and the officer career management. While the strategic focus is force structure strategic plan, the development of Maine's training sites, the state partnership program with Montenegro, equipment modernization, facility management and modernization, the arctic strategic plan (Arctic Interest Group) and the organizational fiscal stewardship.

Brig Gen Dunn's previous assignments include Maine Army National Guard Chief of Staff, Brigade Commander of the 120th Regional Support Group (Bangor). She has a master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Maine.

MILITARY BUREAU, MAINE AIR NATIONAL GUARD

The Maine Air National Guard is authorized 1,136 members that attend four training periods one weekend each month for a total forty-eight, and fifteen days of annual training each year. Of these, 241 are full time federal employees and 225 are full-time military. There are 74 state employees employed by the ME ANG.



**ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL-AIR- BRIGADIER
GENERAL Steven D. Michaud**

Brig Gen Michaud is the Assistant Adjutant General, Air at Joint Force Headquarters, Maine Air National Guard, Camp Chamberlain, Augusta, Maine. Additionally, he serves as the Commander of the Maine Air National Guard. In this position, he is the principal advisor to The Adjutant General on all MeANG units and ensures the combat readiness and mission capability of an Air Refueling Wing and two Geographically Separated Units. He provides command, control and supervision of all ANG units within the state. Prior to his current assignment, Brig Gen Michaud was the Commander of the 101st Maintenance Group, Bangor, Maine.

MAINE BUREAU OF VETERANS' SERVICES

Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services is currently authorized 44 full-time State employees with funding provided for a half time employee for the homeless veteran program.



**DIRECTOR, MAINE BUREAU OF VETERANS SERVICES -
David A Richmond**

David Richmond is the Director of the Maine Bureau of Veterans Services. He was commissioned in 1993 through Army ROTC and served on active duty as an armor officer, including assignments as a tank platoon leader, heavy mortar platoon leader, and battalion adjutant. After leaving active service 1997, he served in the Maine National Guard in various positions until 2004, when he completed his final assignment as the Commander of Company B, 3rd of the 172nd Infantry (Mountain) in Brewer, Maine. He began working for the Maine Bureau of Veterans Services in 1998 and served as a construction project officer, superintendent of the cemetery system, and deputy director, before his appointment to director in March of 2019.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

MAINE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

MEMA is currently led by Director Peter J Rogers with authorized 30 full-time State employees. The Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety provides oversight for MEMA. **Their program information is contained in a separate document.**



DIRECTOR, MAINE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BUREAU

Peter J Rogers

Peter Rogers is the Director of MEMA. He has worked at the agency since 2014 serving as the Deputy Director and Chief of Staff as well as the Homeland Security Division Director. As director of MEMA, he is responsible for coordinating the state's response to major disasters as well as planning, training and exercises to ensure readiness at the local and state levels of government for the safety and security of Maine's citizens. Director Rogers is also currently serving as the Governor's Deputy Homeland Security Advisor where he coordinates homeland security activities through collaboration with federal partners, other state departments and agencies, local governments, private sector partners, and other states. Prior to joining MEMA, Director Rogers served as Communications Director, Governor's Office, Communications Director, Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Acting Director of the State Planning Office, Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management and State Office Representative US Senate. Rogers received his commission from Norwich University and served in the US Army for 22 years.

MAINE MILITARY AUTHORITY

Currently MMA only employs 1 person. The position works under the Administration function of the department and is supervised by the Deputy Commissioner. Since, MMA is in the process of closure activities and MMA's base of operations was Limestone, Maine, this person serves as the "boots on ground" to assist with all aspects of this effort.

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
ENABLING OR AUTHORIZING LAW**

MILITARY BUREAU

The federal authority for the National Guard is in the Constitution of the United States, Article I, Section 8, Clause 12, which states:

“To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining, the Militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the Service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively, the Appointment of the Officers, and the Authority of training the Militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress.”

Title 32 United States Code §101 et seq., describes the National Guard of the United States and its relationship with the States. Title 37-B M.R.S.A. §3, The Military Bureau has jurisdiction over and responsibility for the administration of the state military forces and the Maine Military Authority. See Title 37-B M.R.S.A. chapter 3 for statutory authority and requirements.

<http://legislature.maine.gov/statutes/37-B/title37-Bch0sec0.html>

MAINE BUREAU OF VETERANS’ SERVICES

Title 37-B, Chapter 7: The Maine Bureau of Veterans Services, referred to in this chapter as the “Bureau” or MBVS is established and shall provide informational services, program assistance, memorial facilities and financial aid to veterans in the state and their dependents in order to ensure that they receive all entitlements due under the law, are relieved to the extent possible of financial hardship, receive every opportunity for self-improvement through higher education and are afforded proper recognition for their service and sacrifice to the nation. The Bureau shall serve as the primary source of information for veterans in the state regarding all services, benefits and honors administered by the state and, to the maximum extent possible, services and benefits provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, veterans’ service organizations and other organizations dedicated to serving veterans. [2015, c. 465, Pt. A, §2 (AMD).]

<http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/37-B/title37-Bch7sec0.html>

The Bureau acts as the primary public advocate for veterans before the United States Department of Veterans Affairs [2001, c. 662, §60(NEW).]

MAINE MILITARY AUTHORITY

The Maine Military Authority, originally established in 1997 to operate the Maine Readiness Sustainment Maintenance Site (MERSMS) to repair, rebuild, and store military vehicles and equipment for the National Guard Bureau and the U.S. Department of Defense, officially became a public instrumentality of the State of Maine when recognized by the legislature in 2001 as a result of Public Law, Chapter 374 S.P. 441 – LD 1495, An Act to Establish the Maine Military Authority.

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
ENABLING OR AUTHORIZING LAW**

Public Law, Chapter 374 also enabled the Maine Military Authority the ability to bid on contracts for the federal government or its instrumentalities and agencies. It also allows the Maine Military Authority to contract with any state or their agencies, municipalities, foreign governments, public bodies, private corporations, partnerships, associations and individuals.

See Title 37-B MRSA § 391-399 for statutory authority and requirements.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

MILITARY BUREAU

The Maine National Guard's **priorities** are to provide trained and ready Soldiers and Airmen in order to meet the requirements of both the Governor and our federal customer, the Department of Defense (DOD) and, ultimately, the President. In order to meet this expectation our members train in their military specialty regularly, usually one weekend per month and two weeks per year, in order to provide relevant units that are expected to deploy worldwide. The DOD has established guidelines for our members to meet for job expectations, physical fitness, military education, and medical readiness.

The Maine National Guard is always prepared to provide logistical and support services to the community and State of Maine in the event of natural disasters, or as directed by the Governor. The priority of each of our operational units is to be prepared to provide trained units and qualified persons available for active duty in the armed forces in time of war or national emergency, while being able and ready to provide trained, organized and disciplined units and individuals to protect life, property, and preserve peace, order and public safety within the state. We are a resource for the Governor to call upon within the first few hours of a domestic incident.

We provide access to the "Essential Ten" capability, which includes:

- Aviation/ Airlift
- Command and Control
- Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and high-yield Explosives response
- Engineering
- Medical
- Communications
- Transportation
- Security
- Logistics
- Maintenance

Our **goal** is to maintain a mix of these capabilities available at all times should our services be requested. We use nationally developed readiness programs and reports that track pertinent features such as maintenance, training and actual personnel fill percentage to ensure our responsiveness is maintained.

Other joint programs include:

State Partnership Program

The State Partnership Program is conducted to build a bilateral military relationship between Maine and the country of Montenegro. This program is funded through the National Guard Bureau and the US European Command.

The State Partnership Program is designed to support US interests through the support of NATO partners and those aspiring to NATO membership. The program allows the Maine

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National Guard to share operational experience with the Montenegrin Armed Forces while also providing cultural awareness and leadership skills to our Soldiers and Airmen through the shared experiences provided by the program.

State Partnership Program operations are determined by a combination of the Montenegrin Armed Forces' Strategic Defense Review, the US Embassy's Integrated Country Strategy, the US European Command Country Cooperation Plan, and the specific NATO Capability Targets set for Montenegro. Maine and Montenegro have been partnered since 2006 and have made significant progress in exposing the Montenegrin Armed Forces to US Military standards and procedures. The success of the partnership was cemented with the formal accession of Montenegro into NATO in 2017.

Counterdrug Program

The Maine National Guard Counterdrug Program (MENG CDP) has two missions that help address Maine's opioid epidemic; Investigative and Case Analysis Support and Civil Operations; The MENG CDP Investigative and Case Analysis Support mission goal is to improve intelligence led policing and information sharing between the agencies we support.

We support the opioid epidemic policing effort by providing law enforcement agencies with eight trained case support analysts in the following agencies; Maine Drug Enforcement Agency (MDEA) in seven of their eight districts, the Maine Intelligence Analysis Center (MIAC), and the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) in one of their two locations. These case support analysts are strategically located throughout the state to maximize our value and provide unique military skills support to these agencies to help combat the opioid epidemic. The program's future goals are to provide an analyst in each of MDEAs eight districts, both HIDTA locations in the state of Maine and the US Postal Service Inspection office in Portland. This would improve information sharing across the state and provide these agencies with a capability that does not currently exist. Additionally, our state is in the process being granted the ability to participate in the federal asset forfeiture program. This would allow us to bring new money into the state that can be used for coalition support or new cutting-edge technology that can be used by our state and local law enforcement agencies.

The MENG CDP Civil Operations goal is to support Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and state level activities focused on the opiate crisis in Maine and demand reduction efforts in their local areas. Currently, MENG CDP has two civil operations personnel located in the state with the intention of significantly expanding operations in FY22. The current personnel support four CBOs (Healthy Communities of the Capital Area, Healthy Androscoggin, SOPO Unite, Be the Influence). These agencies collectively work to implement activities to reduce young people's substance use and misuse, and the resulting impact on the health, safety, and success of Maine individuals, families, and communities. Additionally, our civil operators have begun implementing our Adventure Program in the classrooms of four middle schools in the state. This program is six-weeks long and combines social-emotional learning (SEL) methods with a variety of events focused on promoting student resiliency. Upon conclusion of the classroom portion, our program operates and maintains two Reality Oriented Physical Exercise (ROPE) courses, used as an optional culmination event to further enhance these skills. The Adventure Program is one of a kind in the state and incorporates the latest teaching methods encouraged by national prevention organizations, including the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and the National Institute on Drug Abuse. We have also submitted the program contents to the ME Dept of Education for feedback on

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

improvements and to ensure we are fully aligned with their SEL vision for the schools.

Weapons of Mass Destruction – Civil Support Team (WMD-CST)

The Maine National Guard WMD-CST is a 22-person team comprised of both Army and Air National Guard full time personnel, headquartered in Waterville, who provide emergency response capability to Maine Emergency Management Agency, county and local first responders and other interagency partners. The team can identify WMD hazards, chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive agents, unknown substances, assess current and projected consequences, advise on response measures, assist with appropriate requests for additional state and federal support.

Maine's WMD-CST has a full suite of chemical, biological, and radiological analysis equipment, an on-site analytical lab, technical decontamination, and has a full suite of specialized communications capabilities. They are on call 24 hours / 7 days a week which provides a quick response time, deploying advance party within 90 minutes and main body within 3 hours. WMD-CST personnel have over 650 hours of hazardous materials, confined space, maritime and many other technical certifications. The team can be prepositioned support at National and State Security Events and is no cost to the requesting agency.

Additionally, the on-scene medical team includes a Physician Assistant and medic for monitoring and emergency medical treatment. The medical personnel coordinate with medical personnel and hospitals, provide advice for initial casualty medical management and treatment measures. The team also provides technical decontamination measures and has a full suite of secure communications platforms.

Deployment Cycle Support Services (Formerly Yellow Ribbon)

Deployment Cycle Support is a comprehensive program that identifies and provides resources for servicemembers, veterans, and their families to ensure that they are better prepared and sustained throughout the deployment cycle. Deployment Cycle Support is based on the fact that all servicemembers, veterans, and their families are in some portion of that cycle, preparing, executing, or recovering from deployment. The Deployment Cycle Support team utilizes National Guard, State, and Federal employees, as well as civilian organizations to identify servicemembers, veterans, and their families who may need assistance with the challenges inherent to transitions and to connect them to those services and organizations.

By direction of the United States Congress the Secretary of Defense initiated the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program which provides information, services, referral, and proactive outreach programs to soldiers of the Army Reserve and their families through all phases of the deployment cycle. In order to support this mission, the Maine Deployment Cycle Support Program expands upon the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program in order to meet the needs of a geographically dispersed and Active Duty Post/Base absent state.

The following is a breakdown of the thirteen programs, by name, with a brief description of the Deployment Cycle Support program:

- *Maine Military and Community Leadership Council*

Governor Paul R. LePage created this council by Executive Order #16 (FY 11/12) to connect

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

military and community support personnel to share information, recommend legislation, and suggest initiatives for the support of Maine military members, veterans, and family members. The council meets quarterly in Augusta, with its annual meeting co-occurring with an annual state-wide conference aimed at increasing awareness to civilian providers of services. The Adjutant General chairs the meeting; administrative support and coordination is through the Director of Deployment Cycle Support Services.

- *Maine National Guard Family Program*

This is an official program of the National Guard. The State Family Program Director coordinates all aspects of this program and coordinates the State Program with National Guard Bureau. The State Family Program Director is responsible for informing the Adjutant General on all issues concerning military families and unit family programs; coordinating an annual conference focusing on military families; coordinating an annual summer camp for National Guard youth; other family and youth based activities; and all appropriated funds and non-appropriated funds for these programs. In addition, the state Family Program Director oversees the Child and Youth program and the Solder and Family Readiness Support operations.

- *Child and Youth*

A Federally funded program placed under the Family Program in most states (as well as ours) that promotes wellness and a sense of connectedness for children of Guard members. Our program sponsors, among other things, Kid's Club, events with the Governor's Office, White Water Rafting, excursions, summer camps, liaison to Operation Military Kids, and various others. This is a non-psychological program focused on resiliency.

- *Family Readiness Support Assistant*

Five administrative positions in Maine, responsible for logistical and administrative support to help train local Family Readiness Groups and individuals on establishing volunteer networks, managing unit-based family programs, advise the commander(s) on family related issues and assist in creating morale building and educational events. Actual training can be requested of the regional Family Readiness Support Assistant representative.

- *Maine Military Family Relief Fund*

The fund receives funding from various sources to include donations from the legislature's Yellow Ribbon License plate fund, a tax check off, and through individual donations. It disburses funds through a nonprofit organization based upon requests from respective chains of command.

- *Strong Bonds*

This is a program that focuses on personal relationships in order to make the right choices, bolster already existing relationship, and faces the particular challenges of personal relationships in light of military membership by one or both of the partners. This is an event-based program and Maine has two programs. For our married members we offer Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program (PREP) and for our single members we offer Premarital, Interpersonal, Choices and Knowledge (PICK) program. Chaplains are responsible, exclusively for coordinating and running the events.

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- *Military OneSource*

Military OneSource is a federally contracted program to provide a database of resources on a national basis.

Resources include:

- Non-Diagnosable Counseling
- General Education
- Financial Management
- Spousal Support
- Moving Assistance, and many others

- *Survivor Outreach Services*

Survivor Outreach Services provides information, coordination, and support for survivors of military related deaths. They provide information and referrals for those that are primary dependents of the deceased.

Transition Assistance Advisor

Assists all Student Military and Veterans Associations (SMVA) with access to care and enrollment at Veterans Administration (VA) healthcare facilities near their home of record. They offer help with employment issues, various state and federal veteran's benefits and military healthcare benefits. They also assist service members and their families in applying for other VA entitlements and benefits such as compensation and pension for disabilities, insurance, loan guarantee, vocational rehabilitation/employment and educational benefits. Additionally, they work with other Joint Forces Headquarters staff members and Directors of State Family Programs to build a state coalition of support with VA and community organizations for Guard members and their families to access in their community.

MAINE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

The Maine Army National Guard (MEARNG) traces its heritage back to May 31, 1671 with the first muster of the York County Regiment of Militia. With honorable service in the American Revolution, the War of 1812, the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, Desert Storm, and post-9/11 combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Maine Army National Guard provides trained and ready units to the state and nation. The MEARNG has its headquarters at Camp Chamberlain in Augusta, with support facilities located at Camp Keyes, Augusta. The two major subordinate units in the MEARNG are the 120th Regional Support Group in Bangor and the 52nd Troop Command in Augusta. These units provide command and control for the battalions and companies in their region. Subordinate elements of the 120th Regional Support Group include transportation, maintenance, aviation, infantry, logistics, and military police units, located in armories in Kennebec, Penobscot, and Washington Counties. The 52nd Troop Command oversees an engineer battalion, a civil support team, and a cyber defense team, with armories across York, Cumberland, Oxford, Androscoggin, Somerset, Kennebec, and Aroostook Counties. In event of a disaster in Maine, the MEARNG offers engineer, aviation, transportation, military police, and civil support capabilities to the Governor. MEARNG units train year-round at training sites across the state to be ready for their state and federal mission, whenever called.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

MAINE AIR NATIONAL GUARD

The Maine Air National Guard (MeANG) maintains its headquarters co-located with the Maine Army National Guard at Camp Chamberlain in Augusta. It provides command and control, and administrative support and regulatory guidance to its subordinate units throughout the state. The MeANG has three operational units. The 101st Air Refueling Wing, which is in Bangor, and the 243rd Engineering Installation Squadron and the 265th Combat Communications Squadron, both of which are located in South Portland. The Federal mission of the 101st Air Refueling Wing is to employ air refueling, airlift, Aerospace Expeditionary forces, and Expeditionary Combat Support forces to ongoing military operations worldwide. The federal mission of the 243rd Engineering Installation Squadron is to provide worldwide engineering, installation and relocation of command, control, communications, computers and intelligence systems. The federal mission of the 265th Combat Communications Squadron is to deploy, operate, and maintain expeditionary cyber assets in support of United States National Strategy.

MAINE BUREAU OF VETERANS' SERVICES

The Bureau's goal is that all of Maine's veterans will be informed, assisted, honored, and relieved of financial hardship to the greatest extent possible.

The Bureau's objective is to ensure that Maine's veterans and their eligible dependents receive all of the benefits to which they are entitled under state and federal law.

Claims Advocacy

The Bureau is charged by State of Maine statutes to act as the primary public advocate for veterans before the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. The Bureau's six field offices provide statewide support to Maine's roughly 114,000 veterans. They provide a wide variety of expertise and knowledge in the following areas: housing, medical and hospital care, educational aid, compensation, vocational rehabilitation, burials and nursing home care. The State Claims Office, located at Togus, administers the claims support and appeals advocate program.

Maine Veterans' Cemetery System

The cemetery system consists of four cemeteries located as follows: Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, Civic Center Drive, Augusta; Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, Mount Vernon Road, Augusta; Northern Maine Veterans' Cemetery, Lombard Road, Caribou; and Southern Maine Veterans' Cemetery, Stanley Road, Springvale. The Civic Center Drive cemetery in Augusta was the first state cemetery built and was opened in 1970. The Mount Vernon Road cemetery in Augusta was opened in May 2001. The Caribou cemetery was opened in June 2003. The Springvale cemetery was opened in September 2010.

The cemeteries are memorials established in honor of all veterans. All grave markers are either flat-type granite or upright marble grave markers, which are furnished by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, National Cemetery Administration. Landscaping, planting of trees, shrubs and floral plantings are all part of the overall décor of the cemeteries and are not designed for any one grave. Additionally, the flag of the United States in the Memorial Circle is in honor of all veterans buried in the cemeteries.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Veteran eligibility for interment at these four cemeteries includes:

- Those who served in the United States Armed Forces and who at the time of discharge received an honorable discharge or general discharge under honorable conditions, provided the discharge was not upgraded through a program of general amnesty; and, if having served as an enlisted person after September 7, 1980 or as an officer after October 16, 1981, served for a minimum of 24 continuous months or the full period for which the person was called to active duty; or
- Those who served in the Maine National Guard and died as a result of injury, disease or illness sustained while serving on state active service as provided in 37-B M.R.S., Chapter 3, Subchapter III, §101-A(1); or
- Those who served in the Reserve Components of the United States Armed Forces and are entitled to retired pay under 10 United States Code, chapter 1223 or would have been entitled to retired pay under chapter 1223 at age 60.

Dependent eligibility includes wives, husbands, surviving spouses, unmarried minor children, unmarried dependent children enrolled in secondary school or unmarried adult children who became incapable of self-support before reaching 18 years of age on account of mental or physical disabilities.

Veterans Dependents Educational Benefits

This program provides educational assistance benefits to dependents of disabled veterans as defined in M.R.S. Title 37-B, Chapter 7, Section 505(2).

Spouses of veterans who are attending state-supported post-secondary vocational schools or institutions of collegiate grade must be admitted free of tuition including mandatory fees and lab fees for a certificate program or an associate's, bachelor's or master's degree program. Room and board may not be waived. Spouses are entitled to receive up to 120 credit hours of educational benefits and have 10 years from the date of first entrance to complete the program.

A child of a veteran who is attending state-supported post-secondary vocational schools or institutions of collegiate grade must be admitted free of tuition including mandatory fees and lab fees for a certificate program, an associate's or bachelor's program. The tuition waiver provided under this paragraph may be reduced by an amount necessary to ensure that the value of this waiver, combined with all other grants and benefits received by the student, does not exceed the total cost of education. Room and board may not be waived. A child of a veteran has 10 academic years from the date of first entrance to complete 120 credit hours. For degree programs that require more than 120 credit hours, the state-supported post-secondary vocational school or institution of collegiate grade may grant a tuition waiver beyond 120 credit hours. If such a waiver is granted, the state-supported postsecondary vocational school or institution of collegiate grade shall notify the director. The director may waive the limit of 10 consecutive academic years when the recipient's education has been interrupted by severe medical disability, learning disability, illness or other hardship, thereby making continued attendance impossible. Students must maintain at least a 2.0 or "C" grade point average to continue receiving educational benefits. If a student's grade point average falls below 2.0 or a "C", then the student has one

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semester to bring the grade point average up to at least 2.0 or a “C”. If after that semester the student’s grade point average is below 2.0 or a “C”, the student loses educational benefits under this paragraph until the student achieves a grade point average of at least 2.0 or a “C”.

Veterans’ Financial Assistance Program

The Veterans’ Temporary Assistance Fund (37-B MRS, §505, subsection 1, paragraph 1-A&B) was established as a dedicated, non-lapsing “Other Special Revenue Funds” account in the Bureau. The fund is administered and used by the Director for the purpose of offering financial assistance to veterans. The program is funded at \$250,000 per year.

The program consists of the following two types of grants:

(1) Temporary assistance not to exceed \$2,000 to a veteran currently a resident of this state who has filed a valid claim for a veteran’s pension, pending notification of the award of such pension. For the purpose of this paragraph, “Claim for a veteran’s pension” means a claim filed with the United States Department of Veterans Administration pursuant to 38 United States Code, Chapter 15.

(2) The Bureau may provide a grant of temporary assistance not to exceed \$2,000 to a veteran currently a resident of this state who demonstrates to the Bureau’s satisfaction a financial need and suffers an emergency, including but not limited to: damage of that veteran’s home to fire, flood or hurricane that is not full compensable by insurance; illness or the illness of an immediate family member; hardship that would result in the veteran becoming homeless. No more than \$2,000 in emergency assistance may be provided to a veteran in any 12-month period. For the purpose of this paragraph, “Veteran” has the same meaning as “Eligible Veteran” in section M.R.S. Title 37 Chapter 7 Section 504, subsection 4, paragraph A-1. The Director may also determine eligibility for temporary financial assistance on a case-by-case basis.

Military Discharge Retention Services

The Bureau maintains records of Maine veterans who were discharged from service in the United States Armed Forces. Certified copies are provided to veterans as requested. There are over 600,000 such records on file in the Bureau’s main office dating back from World War II to the present. Records prior to World War II are available through the Maine State Archives. The Bureau has scanned all documents on file from World War II forward and continues to scan all new discharges that come into the office.

Homeless Veteran Coordinator – Maine Bureau of Veterans’ Services

The Maine Bureau of Veterans’ Services Director is charged to establish partnerships to coordinate efforts to remedy and prevent homelessness among veterans in this state. The Bureau’s Homeless Veteran Coordinator is a member of several coordinated efforts including: Homeless Veterans in Need; the Homeless Veteran Action Committee; and the Veterans Administration Maine Homeless Veteran Team. Each coalition meets on a regular basis to address the immediate needs of Maine’s homeless veterans – both chronic and those at risk.

The role of the Homeless Veteran Coordinator is to:

- *Identify Homeless Veterans in The State*

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The Homeless Veteran Coordinator actively works to identify homeless veterans across the state through family referrals, self-identification of veterans, traveling to commonly known gathering points, working with town officials, law enforcement officials, other state agencies, and other veterans. Once identified, the Homeless Veteran Coordinator begins to establish a working relationship with the homeless veteran in order to connect the veteran to needed services and support.

The immediate impact on Maine's homeless veterans is direct access to an advocate wherever they are currently located in the state. The Bureau strives to conduct coordinated outreach in all of Maine's 16 counties in order to proactively engage with homeless veterans in need of assistance in the areas of housing, healthcare, drug and alcohol counseling, mental health support, and employment.

- *Assist with Annual Outreach Events*

The Homeless Veteran Coordinator assists with annual outreach events which are targeted to reach the maximum number of veterans in need, and to disseminate information on resources and services available to assist homeless veterans. The Bureau participates in the Homeless Veterans' Stand Down at Veterans Administration Maine Healthcare System each October and provides dedicated funding for the event. In October 2018, 93 homeless veterans received services at the Homeless Veterans' Stand Down (six were female), and five homeless veterans were helped that were not previously on the Maine Homeless Veteran Action Committee's By Name List. Funds from the MBVS were allocated to the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) for the purchase of boots and jackets that were issued at the Stand Down. The Bureau continues to see positive results from the efforts of the Homeless Veteran Coordinator. When the 2020 annual Stand Down was canceled due to the pandemic, the Bureau had a group of organizations that conducted four Mobile Homeless Veterans Stand Downs, on a smaller scale (in Bangor, Lewiston, Portland and Sanford), that assisted 31 veterans with food, cold weather clothing, equipment, and most importantly, with connection to shelter resources.

The MBVS Homeless Veterans Coordinator participates in the annual Maine State Housing Authority- Point in Time Survey Count with the intent of gathering a "snapshot" of homelessness on one night of the year. This statewide, coordinated effort encompasses all homeless individuals and specifically denotes homeless veterans.

- *Connection to Housing and Resources*

Identifying and securing temporary or permanent living space for veterans within the veterans' communities. The Bureau also has working partnerships with the Preble Street Shelter in Portland; Easterseals in Portland; and Veterans, Inc. in Lewiston, as well as each of the other designated homeless shelters throughout the State of Maine, including the Betsy Ann Ross House of Hope in Augusta (female veterans only). As a result of newly enacted law of the 129th first regular session Chapter 504 which added 37-B, §513-A, the Bureau has completed rule-making to administer funding to Homeless Veterans Transitional Housing facilities that do not receive assistance from the state or federal government.

Director of Strategic Partnerships – Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services

The Director of Strategic Partnerships for the Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services works as a conduit between the community, business, educational facilities, Veterans Administration (VA)

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Maine Healthcare System (Togus), Vet Centers, the Wabanaki Tribes, and veterans' advocacy groups to create partnerships and increase services to veterans and their families throughout the state of Maine. This outreach work includes: creating Memorandums of Understanding with other State agencies to improve collaborative and online services for veterans with the University of Maine System, Maine Community College System, Maine Maritime Academy; the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife; VA Maine Healthcare System and Vet Centers; and the Maine Bureau of Motor Vehicles (pending).

In March of 2019, MBVS co-founded the Maine Justice Action Committee (MJAC) with multiple partners including the Maine Department of Corrections, Maine State Prison staff, Easterseals Maine, VA Veterans Justice Outreach Specialists, and other veterans' advocacy groups. Initially, the MJAC had three goals: (1) To improve intake procedures for veterans who are justice involved, (2) To improve communications between corrections and advocates for incarcerated veterans, and (3) To utilize Skype technology with incarcerated veterans so they can access MBVS's Veteran Service Officers quickly. These three goals have been met since the formation of the group, as well as hosting two resource fairs for incarcerated veterans at two state prisons, connections being made between GI Bill resources and educational programming for incarcerated veterans, and the startup of a companion dog training program (an offshoot of K-9s on the Frontlines).

Additionally, the MBVS was invited to create a weekly Veterans' Writing Group at the Kennebec County Jail and the Bureau participates in bi-monthly Veterans Treatment Court sessions at the Maine District Court. These connections have created direct opportunities for assistance with requests for copies of a veterans' DD-214, discharge upgrade paperwork, housing for homeless veterans, connections to VA healthcare, substance abuse, and mental health services.

The Bureau was also an active member of the Center for Court Innovation Strategic Planning Initiative which led to a \$200,000 grant for Veterans' Court staff education and the exploration of expanding Veteran Treatment Courts to other districts in the state of Maine (utilizing courts that already have an established Drug Treatment Court). The Bureau is also working with the Maine Arts Commission to start an art program for incarcerated veterans.

The Bureau was awarded a \$10,000 grant from the Maine Health Access Foundation to conduct a six-month needs assessment of veterans' access to dental care in Maine and created the first-ever Oral Health Access for Maine Veterans Report.

<https://www.maine.gov/veterans/benefits/healthcare/maine-dental-report-2020.html>

The MBVS in partnership with the VA Maine Healthcare System premiered the LGBTQ Veterans' Film, "Breaking the Silence," which aired in Augusta and Lewiston. This groundbreaking film created by the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs depicts five veterans' stories as they describe what it was like serving in the military despite military policy prohibiting them to do so.

In August of 2019, the MBVS reached out to the Wabanaki Tribes to determine how the Bureau could improve services to Maine's tribal veterans and their families. These meetings resulted in requests for cultural sensitivity training for the Bureau's staff and VA Maine Healthcare System's staff who interact with tribal members. Donald Soctomah, an educator and the Passamaquoddy Tribe's Historian, conducted the training in December 2019. MBVS

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coordinated this event which was open for all.

The Wabanaki Tribes requested assistance with developing a joint Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the VA Maine Healthcare System and the tribes at Togus regarding veterans' healthcare services on the tribal reservations, the Mission Act, and the utilization of telemedicine. The Bureau facilitated this negotiation which resulted in a signed agreement.

MBVS also held a Call to Action to Prevent Veterans' Suicide throughout the month of September 2019 which included partnering with the National Alliance on Mental Illness and Vet Centers for multiple suicide prevention trainings in the community. MBVS hosted an educational event at the State House featuring state and federal dignitaries and over 30 veterans' organizations and the services they offer. In 2020, MBVS rolled out the Maine Safer Homes Task Force, made up of Sportsmen's Alliance of Maine, VFW, MBVS, MCDC, Maine VA and others. The goal of the task force is to promote safe storage options for firearms and other lethal means.

Director of Communications – Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services

The Director of Communications implements, as a core function of the Bureau, a marketing and outreach program to increase to the greatest extent practicable, awareness of services and benefits available to veterans and family members of veterans and to encourage veterans to seek the benefits and services to which they are entitled.

The marketing and outreach program objectives include, but are not limited to:

(1) Identifying Residents of the State Who Are Veterans;

[2015, c. 465, Pt. A, §3 (NEW)]. As part of the State of Maine's dedicated Recognition Program, the Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services (MBVS) holds a number of Veteran Recognition Ceremonies across the State of Maine. MBVS hosted a celebration for Vietnam War Veterans Day on March 29, 2019, at the State House (Hall of Flags). Over 250 veterans and their families experienced a tremendous "Welcome Home" event that was filled with speeches, veterans' recognition, historical displays, era photographs, music, and food.

(2) State of Maine Silver Star Honorable Service Medal;

In 2019, MBVS awarded Two Purple Heart-decorated Vietnam Veterans the State of Maine Silver Star Honorable Service Medal for their sacrifice during the war and the Bureau is currently assisting a WWII Pacific Theater combat veteran in obtaining his Purple Heart Medal. This program is marketed and advertised through the Bureau's website, three social media platforms utilized by MBVS, as well as leveraging media contacts throughout the state. This program allows veterans to self-identify to the Bureau, while at the same time, provides MBVS the opportunity to honor their service and sacrifice.

(3) Increasing awareness of the bureau for veterans and family members of veterans;

[2015, c. 465, Pt. A, §3 (NEW)]. The Bureau has significantly increased awareness for veterans and family members of veterans across the state. The Bureau has tripled its presence on social media and has an extremely active online presence with a 100% response rate within eight

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
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minutes. The Bureau's monthly newsletter has grown to almost 7,000 subscribers and MBVS now submits regular articles/writings/updates to various publications: Portland Press Herald, Richardson Magazine, Sportsman Alliance of Maine newsletter, and Turner Publishing.

Submissions have included updates, programs, and services offered by the Bureau to veterans, service members and their families. Also of note, the Bureau has developed a 147-page comprehensive benefits resource guide available in both print and electronic format. The guide is a resource too for veterans, family members, and MBVS partners to reference all that is available to veterans across Maine. The resource guide is updated annually in order to ensure its users have the most up-to-date information possible.

(4) Implementing media and technology to encourage veterans to self-identify to the bureau and communicating to veterans and family members of veterans about the services and benefits available to them;

[2015, c. 465, Pt. A, §3 (NEW).]. As previously stated, the Bureau has a significant social media presence and has a working relationship with members of the Maine news media. Within the past year and a half, the Bureau worked on producing four individual videos promoting the benefits and services offered to Maine veterans and their families: Veteran Service Officers, Employment Services, Educational Opportunities, and Suicide Prevention Resources. The Bureau is also currently working on its fifth video project – Homeless Veteran Services. The Bureau has also published Public Service Announcements relating to suicide prevention and awareness and MBVS representatives have been guests on numerous radio shows promoting benefits and services.

(5) Attendance by bureau personnel at events organized for and by veterans that, as determined by the director, facilitate the objectives of this subsection; and

[2015, c. 465, Pt. A, §3 (NEW).]. The Bureau's Director of Communications works closely with the Bureau's Director as well as the Director of Strategic Partnerships to cover all event and attendance requests across the state. With over 400 agencies, organizations and resources available to veterans across the state, the Director is able to help prioritize Bureau attendance where it would be the most valuable and impactful. When necessary, presentations, flyers, brochures, and handouts are created by the Director of Communications to meet the objective of the event.

(6) Establishing benchmarks to measure the effectiveness of marketing and outreach efforts.

[2015, c. 465, Pt. A, §3 (NEW).]. Metrics currently used and measured include, but are not limited to website traffic, social media traffic and "likes", event registrations, newsletter subscription requests, calls to our field offices as well as the number of veterans who call to make appointments with our Veteran Service Officers.

National Recognition

The Bureau was awarded its third straight Pillar of Excellence Award from the Veterans Administration (VA) in FY20 for the creation of an Innovative State Program. Co-founding the Maine Justice Action Committee (MJAC) with the Maine Department of Corrections (MDOC) Veterans' Pod staff, VA Incarcerated Veterans Coordinator, VA Veteran Justice Outreach Specialist, Easterseals Maine and Preble Street. The Bureau was


**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
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awarded the VA’s Pillar of Excellence in FY19 for its Homeless Veterans Initiatives and in FY18 for its Veterans Suicide Prevention efforts.


Veterans Service Claims work during pandemic

In the midst of the pandemic, the Bureau was also very successfully able to shift their work to meet the needs of Maine’s veterans remotely via Teams and tele-appointment. Although VSOs have been unable to meet veterans face-to-face, they have held telephone and Teams appointments with veterans in need of assistance. MBVS field offices continued to provide veteran outreach and community engagement throughout the pandemic by attending virtual events. These included a joint veteran benefits virtual conference with the Maine State Approving Agency, participating in the University of New England Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) conference to provide veteran information and VA rating procedures to a wide array of clinicians that specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of TBI, as well as multiple other regional speaking engagements such as Maine Military Community Network quarterly meeting to provide updates from the Bureau and the VA Claims process.




Maine Bureau of
Veterans’ Services



2019 YEAR IN REVIEW



OUR DEDICATED TEAM WORKED HARD LAST YEAR TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO OUR VETERANS.
HERE’S A RECAP OF THE SERVICES PROVIDED IN 2019.

State Park/Museum Passes		Claims Filed	
	<h1>1223</h1> Passes Issued		<h1>1941</h1> Claims Filed
		<h1>6</h1> Field Offices	<h1>1218</h1> Claims Completed
Recreational Licenses	Veteran Recognition	<h1>8</h1> Veteran Service Officers	<h1>164</h1> Number of Veterans MBVS Assisted with VA Healthcare Applications
<h1>49</h1> Licenses Granted	<h1>1994</h1> Certificates & Coins Presented	VDEB (Education Benefit)	
Value of Claims		<h1>325 Students Newly Enrolled</h1>	
<h1>\$32.9 Million</h1>			

Veterans Serving Veterans

WWW.MAINE.GOV/VETERANS
207-430-6035
MAINEBVS@MAINE.GOV

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
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MAINE MILITARY AUTHORITY

The Department of Defense, Veterans, and Emergency Management made the decision in November 2018 to cease Maine Military Authority (MMA) operations. The business model established for MMA was effective and well suited for government rebuild and refurbishment programs. As a result of the federal government reducing and transitioned their repair and sustainment programs, MMA's federal contracts came to an end. Consequently, MMA pursued contracts with public and private entities as well as municipal, state, private corporations, and other national and foreign governmental agencies. In 2015, MMA was awarded a contract with the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) to refurbish articulating buses. Unfortunately, due to several factors the program experienced significant cost overruns which forced a stop-work condition as well as a renegotiation of terms with MBTA. This contract was completed in November 2018. Attempts to secure other contracts did not materialize which resulted in the closure of MMA.

As MMA is no longer operational, our goals relate to closure activities.

These include:

Environmental Closure

As a hazardous waste generator and holder of a Hazardous Waste Generator License, MMA has an obligation under State law to perform specific actions related to closure of the waste generation sites. Near term goals are evaluation and characterization of waste generation sites for residual contamination, preparation of remediation plans if contamination is found, complete remediation activities as necessary and official closure of the Hazardous Waste Generator License.

Miscellaneous Contract Completion

Residual to the MBTA and previously held governmental contracts, MMA has obligations for a Foreign Military Sales storage and MBTA equipment supply contract. Our goal is to see these contracts to completion. These contracts were completed by the end of calendar year 2019.

Hazardous Waste Generator License Closure

As DVEM doesn't have an appropriation in the General Fund for MMA and the fact that MMA didn't produce any revenue for its enterprise fund as it closed out its final contract, the department doesn't have money to complete the environmental work necessary for closure. DVEM must secure funds, prepare and award environmental investigation contracts, and develop detailed and deliberate remediation contracts as required. This is essentially a 3-phase effort with funding the most immediate need.

MMA Foreign Military Sales Storage Contract

MMA is nearing completion of its third year of a 5-year contract with the US government to store US military equipment. The department completed this contract in calendar year 2020.

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
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MBTA Equipment Supply Contract

MMA has nearly completed delivery of all equipment under the contract. Final delivery and acceptance were mid-November 2019.

To date the department has not met the timelines expected of the Hazardous Waste Generator License Closure activities. Once funding is secured, DVEM will work with the Department of Environmental Protection and the landowner to develop expectations and a timeline to certify closure.

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION**

MILITARY BUREAU, MAINE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

The Maine Army National Guard has regular and consistent interagency coordination efforts with state, federal, and local agencies.

Among them are:

(1) Counter Drug Task Force coordinates with the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration, the Department of Public Safety through engagement with the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency, the Maine Department of Education through engagement with the local schools, and local law enforcement agencies.

(2) Our 11th Weapons of Mass Destruction-Civil Support Team (WMD-CST) regularly coordinates with the Maine Emergency Management Agency, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Energy, The Maine State Police, and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. In addition, the WMD-CST is requested to support the Secret Service, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the Federal CDC.

(3) Our Department of Military Support (DOMS) regularly coordinates with Maine's Emergency Management Agency, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Secret Service, Maine State police and local towns and cities (innovative readiness training).

(4) Deployment Support Services coordinates with Behavioral Health, Medical Health, general repair services, law enforcement, employment, Veterans Administration, state and federal Department of Labor, faith-based organizations, volunteer drivers, educational institutions, etc. The network hosts the state-wide annual meeting, several, regional resource and/or job fairs, and in conjunction with the Augusta Area Military Association, sponsors a Web Site and Facebook page that outline the resources for military related individuals.

(5) Elements of the Deployment Cycle Services are contracted through the DOD Master Cooperative Agreement and are 100% federally funded.

MILITARY BUREAU, MAINE AIR NATIONAL GUARD

The Maine Air National Guard has regular and consistent interagency coordination efforts with state, federal, and local agencies.

Among them are:

(1) The 101st Air Refueling Wing operates on a civilian public airport, Bangor International Airport. We have for many years established an Airport Joint Use Agreement. We are currently in the process of updating the agreement. This agreement extends to facility use and maintenance, Fire Protection services and snow and ice removal. Fire response services at Bangor International Airport are 100% federally funded through a cooperative agreement with the State of Maine. The majority of snow removal equipment on the airfield is provided and maintained by the MeANG, while the City of Bangor provides equipment operators and some minor maintenance.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION

(2) Mutual aid agreements currently exist with Bangor Fire Department, Bangor Police Department, and Penobscot County Sheriff's Department among others. The police agreement, in part, provides the MeANG with access to canine support for drug and explosive detection services while allowing the police department access to ANG facilities to conduct canine training.

(3) Master Cooperative Agreements between the State of Maine and the National Guard Bureau are utilized in the following areas: Facilities Operations and Maintenance, Environmental, Fire Protection, and Security. The Facilities Operations and Maintenance and Environmental agreements are funded 75% by the federal government and 25% by the State of Maine. Fire Protection and Security agreements are 100% federally funded.

The Maine Air National Guard provides a full spectrum of support services to service members, family members and the military community at large.

Among them are:

(1) The Airmen and Family Readiness program provides reliable, relevant and timely information, and support services directly to our Airmen and their families. The full-time employee in this area is supported by a cadre of volunteers.

(2) The 2008 National Defense Authorization Act enacted the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program for all Guard and Reserve units. The program coordinates with several federal agencies including the Veteran's Administration, Vet Centers, TRICARE, and the American Red Cross. State and local coordination efforts are with the University of Maine, Military Family Assistance Centers, the Department of Labor, and the Small Business Association.

(3) The Maine National Guard Youth Program provides fun, safe, educational activities to school aged children of the National Guard at low or no cost to the families.

(4) A Wing Director of Psychological Health is available to help service members, spouses, family members, children and staff address deployment/reintegration issues, Marriage and relationship issues, parenting/sibling & family issues, communication challenges and stress and anxiety, depression, grief and loss, and daily life issues.

(5) Military One Source Support includes personalized consultations on issues such as deployment, relocation, parenting, education, special needs, and finances, as well as customized research describing community resources and appropriate military referrals in the local community.

(6) The Bangor Air National Guard Base provides one of the few identification issuing stations available to all services and retirees in the State of Maine. Currently, the 101st Force Support Squadron is issuing hundreds of IDs each year.

MAINE BUREAU OF VETERANS' SERVICES

(1) U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs State Cemetery Grants Program

The Bureau has received a grant of approximately \$3.8 million dollars for the expansion of

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION**

the Southern Maine Veterans Cemetery in Springvale, Maine. The expansion will include new roadways, 7,000 new plots, and more than 3,500 full-size casket plots.

(2) U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs/Vet Centers

The Bureau currently has one field service office co-located with the Vet Center (Lewiston), one field service office co-located with Department of Health and Human Services (Portland), one field service office co-located with the Veterans Administration's Bangor Community Based Outpatient Clinic, and one field service office co-located with the Veterans Administration Maine Healthcare System (Togus) in Augusta. The Bureau receives minimum funding for office space and must try to find partners that are willing to share their space and pay for the office space cost.

MAINE MILITARY AUTHORITY

DVEM is working with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Loring Development Authority (LDA) as it ceases MMA operations.

It was in the department's interest to facilitate LDA's ability to attract and sustain suitable industrial operations and advance economic development in the greater Limestone area. As MMA ceased operations, equipment, supplies, and materials were sold to private entities who had established an industrial operation at Limestone. In addition, DVEM entered into a purchase agreement to sell real property installed equipment to LDA to facilitate their efforts to attract business to the region.

DVEM has collaborated with the DEP concerning closure requirements and timeframe. An open line of communication is in place and the DEP is given routine updates as to the status of funding and our license closure activities.

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
CONSTITUENCIES SERVED**

MILITARY BUREAU, MAINE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

The primary internal constituents of the Maine Army National Guard are our Soldiers, their families and the communities in which they live and work. Our external constituents are our local, State, regional and federal partners to whom we serve thru our State and Federal mission. We do not anticipate any projected changes in the near future.

MILITARY BUREAU, MAINE AIR NATIONAL GUARD

The Maine Air National Guard provides the United States Department of Defense with ready, rapidly deployable, scalable, expeditionary combat support. The department may also provide domestic operations support for civil emergencies to the people of Maine and other states upon Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) request and concurrence by the Governor of Maine. The 101st Civil Engineering Squadron currently maintains the FEMA Region 1, Mobile Emergency Operations Center, a mobile command and control platform that may be tasked primarily in New England upon coordination with the National Guard Bureau.

MAINE BUREAU OF VETERANS' SERVICES

The Bureau serves a veteran population of approximately 114,000 (as reported by the Veterans Administration (VA) in 2019). The figures shown below come from VA demographics program VetPop 2017 as of 8/28/2019. The VA projects that Maine's veteran population will be reduced by 2,000-3,000 veterans per year for the next 10 years.

County	9/2019	9/30/20	9/30/21	9/30/22	9/30/23	9/30/24	9/30/25	9/30/26
Androscoggin	9,258	9,038	8,815	8,597	8,384	8,175	7,969	7,767
Aroostook	6,295	6,140	5,985	5,833	5,682	5,532	5,384	5,238
Cumberland	18,406	17,883	17,372	16,874	16,391	15,920	15,462	15,016
Franklin	2,544	2,482	2,418	2,355	2,293	2,232	2,171	2,112
Hancock	4,594	4,475	4,360	4,249	4,139	4,033	3,928	3,825
Kennebec	10,149	9,936	9,742	9,550	9,362	9,176	8,993	8,812
Knox	3,204	3,099	2,996	2,895	2,797	2,701	2,609	2,518
Lincoln	2,999	2,896	2,800	2,706	2,614	2,525	2,437	2,352
Oxford	5,129	4,999	4,877	4,757	4,642	4,529	4,419	4,312
Penobscot	12,614	12,408	12,204	12,003	11,808	11,618	11,432	11,250
Piscataquis	1,811	1,762	1,715	1,669	1,624	1,579	1,535	1,492
Sagadahoc	3,833	3,741	3,645	3,550	3,456	3,362	3,269	3,177
Somerset	4,596	4,503	4,407	4,310	4,214	4,117	4,021	3,925
Waldo	3,259	3,180	3,105	3,030	2,956	2,883	2,811	2,740
Washington	3,132	3,051	2,971	2,893	2,816	2,741	2,667	2,594
York	16,724	16,281	15,879	15,487	15,106	14,735	14,373	14,022
Grand Total	108,547	105,874	103,290	100,757	98,283	95,859	93,480	91,152

MAINE MILITARY AUTHORITY

Currently there are no constituents served by MMA. DVEM does not project any change.

MILITARY BUREAU, MAINE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

Recruiting and Retention

The Maine Army National Guard's (MEARNG) recruiting team has become a Maine community staple. Maine's National Guard recruiters are trained Soldiers who seek qualified military available (QMA) citizens through critical partnerships in our high schools, trade schools, and colleges. Maine National Guard recruiters have provided lessons in leadership, history, and technology (STEM) to high school programs. While seeking future Soldiers (or Airmen) who want to engage in community service; serving their communities, Maine, and the Nation; while earning educational, medical, leadership benefits while on their path to adulthood and becoming productive members of Maine's economy. Every recruiters goal is to assist and mentor our current and future Soldiers through high school, college, trade school, or entering directly into the workforce with their military trained skills, that local business is seeking.

Facilities

Historically the National Guard has faced significant funding challenges in the areas of construction and repairs to state-owned infrastructure. The lack of State Capital funding to match federal construction dollars in order to construct and repair critical training facilities continues to adversely impact the Maine National Guard's ability to achieve Federal and State military readiness capabilities. The average General Fund appropriation for maintenance and repairs over the last eight years has been around \$362,000. The average General Fund appropriation for maintenance and repairs projected for the next few years is estimated to be around \$650,000.

The current situation places us at a critical crossroads for effectively funding our remaining facilities. The Armory Bond, Capital Repairs Maintenance Construction and Acquisition Funds and the Reimbursement Account Funds have been essentially exhausted. There are currently no remaining facilities to be sold without significant detriment to the readiness of the Guard. The loss of revenues from these accounts will bring us back to supporting the State maintenance and repair requirements from the estimated annual general fund appropriation of \$650,000. Essentially, the State will be supporting its share of the National Guard facilities (approx.. 516,000 SF) at \$1.26 per square foot. At the same time, the federal government continues to provide support (approx. 1.5 M SF) at an average rate of \$3.16 per square foot for our facilities. As a reference, the DOD cost factor for an armory is \$5.98 per square foot.

The Maine National Guard has faced significant funding challenges in the area of construction and repairs to state-owned infrastructure, and the lack of State Capital funding to match federal construction dollars in order to construct and repair critical new training facilities. The five new facilities that have been constructed in the past nine years have been constructed using 100% federal funds.

The National Guard state-owned facilities are primarily comprised of the newly constructed State Joint Force Headquarters at Camp Chamberlain and the State Readiness Centers (Armories) located across the state from Sanford to Caribou. The average age of these facilities is 49 years, as compared to the industry recommended life cycle of 35 years. Approximately

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
EMERGING ISSUES**

twenty-five years ago, state budget cuts resulted in the elimination of custodians at each of our State Armories. Our buildings have steadily deteriorated since.

In 1998, the Legislature authorized the sale of excess armories with the revenues to be applied towards the backlog of maintenance and repair. Since 2010, DVEM has sold 2 armories, generating \$380,000 dollars towards the maintenance and repair of the remaining facilities; an average of \$ 29,318 was available per year. The average annual General Fund appropriation for maintenance and repairs over the same period was \$389,741.

Currently, our state- supported facilities are insured at \$156 million dollars.

Since 2011 the Armory Bond provided the National Guard with \$11,000,000. These funds allowed us to complete many much-needed repairs, renovations, and upgrades to our facilities. These funds have been exhausted. The reality is that over the last eight years, even with the additional revenues provided by the non-appropriated fund sources, the National Guard has still only been able to maintain its facilities at the minimal level.

State FY	Total State Requirement	Total Expended	Variance
2011	3,083,611	537,455	(2,546,156)
2012	3,083,611	436,102	(2,647,509)
2013	3,083,611	290,666	(2,792,945)
2014	3,083,611	898,330	(2,185,281)
2015	3,083,611	3,425,685	342,074
2016	3,083,611	3,218,965	135,354
2017	3,083,611	1,898,162	(1,185,449)
2018	3,083,611	3,537,109	453,498
2019	3,083,611	1,017,782	(2,065,829)

**Total State Supported Square Footage is 515,654; Total State Requirement based upon 515,654 SF x \$5.98 (DOD cost factor for an Armory, UFC 3-701-01 for Reserve facilities)*

Woodville (T2R9) Training Site, composed of approximately 5,400 acres is critical for the Maine Army National Guard to address significant small arms range and training site requirements. The Maine National Guard takes its mission to be "Always Ready" to support our state and nation extremely seriously, and in order to do that, we need to provide quality training for our young men and women in uniform. Existing training facilities in Maine cannot host battalion-sized units or the full suite of required demolition, rifle and machine gun training.

The Woodville Training Site is in Township T2R9 NWP, and the town of Woodville, Maine, east of Interstate I-95 and approximately 8 miles north of Lincoln and 8 miles south of Medway. Starting in the fall of 2019 to 2022, the Maine Army National Guard will invest over 5 million dollars in the next two years to the local economies by constructing:

- Stream Smart Bridge constructed in 2020 to allow vehicles to travel across the stream habitat in a safe and ecologically responsible manner.
- 3.3 miles of road construction to support troop movement
- Light Demolition Range for mine and explosive training
- 9 Acres of tree clearing to facilitate bivouac construction planned.
- Training Site Operations Building will improve environmental and operational management.
- 25-Meter Range used for small arms weapons familiarization.

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
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In the near term, the Maine Army National Guard will be pursuing ways to invest into a modern Qualification Training Range. The intent is to modernize our range while our communities in Bangor, Woodville, Lincoln, Chester and Millinocket gain sustained economic benefit from National Guard Soldiers from the New England region traveling and utilizing the range complex at Woodville Training Site.

MILITARY BUREAU, MAINE AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Mission

As the KC-135 fleet continues to age, the opportunity to obtain the KC-46A as a replacement remains a significant concern. Additionally, the 101st is heavily dependent upon travel to obtain flight simulator training and we continue to work with the active duty component to highlight the material value to placement of a flight simulator in Bangor.

Over the years the area surrounding the South Portland Air National Station has grown into a busy commercial center. Limited space and the presence of a cemetery on site has prevented the installation of upgraded force protection measures and the upgrade of antiquated facilities. Consequently, we are anticipating joining the 265th Combat Communications Squadron and the 243rd Engineering Installation Squadron with the Maine Army National Guard at a joint site it Saco.

Force Structure

The National Defense Authorization Act for 2018 required the conversion of 12.6% of Title 32 dual-status military technicians to Title 5 civilian. Subsequent Acts have further directed the transition of additional dual-status military technicians to Active Guard Reserve (AGR). While there are advantages to both systems, the long-term impact to force readiness remains unknown.

Recruiting and Retention

An aging force, frequent deployments, and a more vibrant economy continue to present challenges in the areas of recruiting and retention. Our South Portland units in particular maintain vigorous requirements for technical aptitude and recruits who complete the training find a healthy demand for their skills in the civilian sector. Legislation enacted by the State of Maine that provides tuition assistance to members of the Maine National Guard is a vital incentive.

MAINE BUREAU OF VETERANS' SERVICES

A proposed bill for the Legislature has been submitted that would update M.R.S. 37-B Section 504 (4) regarding veteran's eligibility for internment in the Maine Veterans Cemetery System and align the criteria with that of the National Cemetery Administration. This legislation would allow MBVS to continue to receive plot allowance of \$742.00 for every veteran buried (this amount is variable and set by the Veterans Administration (VA)), and a VA provided headstone. Those who served some time on active duty in the US Military, but not long enough to meet the federal definition of "veteran", would be adversely affected. Those individuals would no longer be eligible for burial (with the exception of those who have already pre-applied and have been issued a certificate of eligibility.)

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
EMERGING ISSUES**

MAINE MILITARY AUTHORITY

If environmental investigation reveals contamination, remedial activities may be required. Remediation or restoration may take years to complete.

APPENDIX

**FINANCIAL
REPORTS**

**Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management
Total Actual Expenditures by Fund Types, State Fiscal Year
Total Department**

	Total Funds	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Federal Funds	Bond Funds	Enterprise Fund	Covid-19 Relief Fund
FY2011	92,815,906	7,520,849	1,952,469	40,364,802	1,000	42,976,786	0
FY2012	77,709,076	6,305,408	1,151,331	33,450,944	0	36,801,393	0
FY2013	77,166,500	6,334,807	796,137	33,901,096	300,000	35,834,460	0
FY2014	50,184,874	6,113,995	1,028,777	31,466,720	47,437	11,527,945	0
FY2015	47,699,309	6,741,749	1,015,388	31,568,298	756,383	7,617,491	0
FY2016	61,224,905	6,929,391	2,814,558	40,321,818	2,559,027	8,600,111	0
FY2017	63,090,966	7,978,350	1,483,319	40,899,999	2,878,967	9,850,331	0
FY2018	61,056,926	7,865,193	1,420,590	36,510,066	2,665,337	12,595,740	0
FY2019	58,856,437	9,009,769	1,357,668	41,153,518	4,228,096	3,107,386	0
FY2020	50,077,657	10,029,483	1,807,081	36,695,567	497,215	803,970	244,341

Military Bureau

	Total Funds	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Federal Funds	Bond Funds	Enterprise Fund	Covid-19 Relief Fund
FY2011	23,151,860	2,466,232	431,272	20,254,356	0	0	0
FY2012	21,596,472	2,387,866	590,543	18,618,063	0	0	0
FY2013	21,078,563	2,422,051	334,492	18,322,020	0	0	0
FY2014	20,503,576	2,448,331	328,471	17,679,337	47,437	0	0
FY2015	22,191,267	2,553,157	198,226	18,683,501	756,383	0	0
FY2016	31,866,896	2,858,833	139,480	26,309,556	2,559,027	0	0
FY2017	39,318,966	3,169,417	663,422	32,607,160	2,878,967	0	0
FY2018	36,290,155	2,998,375	655,585	29,970,858	2,665,337	0	0
FY2019	33,813,018	3,104,663	712,067	25,768,192	4,228,096	0	0
FY2020	31,604,049	4,097,556	1,124,921	25,697,516	497,215	0	186,841

Maine Bureau of Veterans Services

	Total Funds	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Federal Funds	Bond Funds	Enterprise Fund	Covid-19 Relief Fund
FY2011	4,006,445	2,243,094	185,990	1,577,361	0	0	0
FY2012	3,519,490	2,227,952	237,740	1,053,798	0	0	0
FY2013	2,928,791	2,381,387	94,391	453,013	0	0	0
FY2014	3,659,943	2,565,793	233,016	861,134	0	0	0
FY2015	5,439,810	2,679,383	271,735	2,488,692	0	0	0
FY2016	4,661,588	2,975,911	244,326	1,441,351	0	0	0
FY2017	3,721,592	3,140,013	228,376	353,203	0	0	0
FY2018	4,147,721	3,636,924	209,041	301,756	0	0	0
FY2019	4,671,346	3,705,114	251,346	714,886	0	0	0
FY2020	5,469,855	4,284,896	150,119	1,034,840	0	0	0

Maine Military Authority

	Total Funds	General Fund	Special Revenue				Enterprise Fund	Covid-19 Relief Fund
			Funds	Federal Funds	Bond Funds	Funds		
FY2011	42,976,786	0	0	0	0	42,976,786	0	
FY2012	36,801,393	0	0	0	0	36,801,393	0	
FY2013	35,834,460	0	0	0	0	35,834,460	0	
FY2014	11,527,945	0	0	0	0	11,527,945	0	
FY2015	7,617,491	0	0	0	0	7,617,491	0	
FY2016	10,466,015	0	1,865,904	0	0	8,600,111	0	
FY2017	9,977,579	0	127,248	0	0	9,850,331	0	
FY2018	12,595,740	0	0	0	0	12,595,740	0	
FY2019	3,107,386	0	0	0	0	3,107,386	0	
FY2020	803,970	0	0	0	0	803,970	0	

Maine Emergency Management Agency

	Total Funds	General Fund	Special Revenue				Enterprise Fund	Covid-19 Relief Fund
			Funds	Federal Funds	Bond Funds	Funds		
FY2011	22,453,744	2,584,452	1,335,207	18,533,085	1,000	0		
FY2012	15,572,884	1,470,753	323,048	13,779,083	0	0		
FY2013	17,112,894	1,319,577	367,254	15,126,063	300,000	0		
FY2014	14,275,102	881,563	467,290	12,926,249	0	0		
FY2015	12,211,787	1,270,255	545,427	10,396,105	0	0		
FY2016	14,020,861	885,102	564,848	12,570,911	0	0		
FY2017	9,751,809	1,347,900	464,273	7,939,636	0	0		
FY2018	7,697,494	904,078	555,964	6,237,452	0	0		
FY2019	16,932,595	1,867,900	394,255	14,670,440	0	0		
FY2020	11,779,730	1,280,169	532,043	9,963,212	4,306	0	57,501	

Admin-Defense and Veterans Services

	Total Funds	General Fund	Special Revenue				Enterprise Fund	Covid-19 Relief Fund
			Funds	Federal Funds	Bond Funds	Funds		
FY2011	227,071	227,071				0		
FY2012	218,837	218,837				0		
FY2013	211,792	211,792				0		
FY2014	218,308	218,308				0		
FY2015	238,954	238,954				0		
FY2016	209,545	209,545				0		
FY2017	321,020	321,020				0		
FY2018	325,816	325,816				0		
FY2019	332,092	332,092				0		
FY2020	366,863	366,863				0		

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