1.List of key officials attending the hearing with contact information for each.



Will Grimsley, Secretary of Veteran's Affairs Will.grimslewy@scdva.sc.gov 803-734-0205



Joseph McLamb, Chief Of Staff Joseph.mclamb@scdva.sc.gov 803-737-1335



Edward Bell (ED), Director of Government Affairs edward.bell@scdva.sc.gov 803-360-8228



Fanta Coleman, Director, Office of Resource Management Fanta.Coleman@scdva.sc.gov 803.898.1519

2. ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Office of the Secretary

Chief of Staff Name: Joseph McLamb Class: UA02

Staffing Chart 3 JAN 23

Executive Assistant Name: Terrytynn Di Chiara Class: AH20

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Name: Will Grimdley Class: UA01

General Counsel
Name: Colleen Clark
Class: AE40

Government Affairs Director Name: Ed Bell Class: A120

Resource Management Director Name: Fanta Coleman Class: AN07

Grants Coordinator II (VTC) Name: Vacant Class: 8E20

Deputy Director Name: Dan Wrightsman

Poincetton Name: David Rozelle Class: AH55 Regional Focus Upstate Regional Integrator Name: Paulette Dunn Class: AH45 Pee Dee Regional Integrator Name: Jade Borkley Class: AH45 Class: AH45 Class: AH45 Class: AH45 Class: AH45 Class: AH45 Coalition Senior Coalition Senior Coalition Senior Coalition Coordinator Name: Steve Noonan Name: Afford Taylo Pregram Coordinator Name: Sobried Trujillo Class: AH45 Coalition Coordinator Name: Sobried Trujillo Class: AH45 Coalition Coordinator Name: Sobried Trujillo Class: AH45 Class: AH45 Coalition Coordinator Name: Sobried Trujillo Class: AH45 Class: AH45 Class: AH46 Training Training Training Training Training							
Director Cass: AA75 Cass:	Veteran Service		rambes	Public Information	Operations		
Particle Administrative Administra	Admin Supervisor	Class: AH50 War Roster Administrator Name: Rose Signment Title	Free Tuition Coordinator	Director Name: Brandon Wilson Class: 8044	Director Name: David Rozelle Class:: AHSS	Departy of Name: D. Class : At	Deputy Director Name: Dan Wrightsm: Class : AH45
Manual		lace: AA75	Class: AH10	Multimedia Coordinator Name: Avery Ledwell Clacs: BC24	Regional Focus Upstate Regional Integrate Name: Paulette Dunn Class : AH45		ntegrator nt-McEady
Property Director Path Wortherty	centers			Social Media Coordinator Name: Klana Miller Clacs: BC32	Pos Dee Regional Name: Jade Berkit Class: AH45	tegrator	Low County Regional Name: Vacant Class : AH45
two Claims Representative Assistant Class Adds Class Ad	Regional Office	Deputy Dire Name: Pat W Class: AH45	ctor Vortherly	Military Affairs	Functional Focus Coalition	Operations	a
tive Administrative Assistant Name: Eddie Willson Class: AA75 Administrative Assistant Name: Inil Coher Name: Mame: Mame: Mill Coher Name: Mame: Mill Coher Name: Mill Coher Na	Claims Representative Name: Chris Pressley Class: GA45	Claims Representative Name: Nikisha Owens Class: GA45		Director Name: Sandy Claypoole Class : AH45	Senior Common Coordinator Name: Steve Noonan Class: AG44	Senior uperations Coordinator Name: Alford Taylor Class: AH40	Officer Officer Name: San Class: 8830
Administrative Assistant Administrative Specialist Name: Mane: Misses Bead Guality of Litio Coordinator Class: AHBS Name: Misses AHBS Name: Jill Coher Name: Misses Specialist Name: Jill Coher Name: Misses AHBS	Claims Representative Name: Vacant Class: GA45	Administrative Assistant Name: Eddie Wilson Class: AA75		Base Support Coordinator Name: Vacant Clacs : AH35	Palmetto Pathfinder Program Coordinator Name: Gabriel Traillo	Operations Coordinator Name: Kailay Washington Class: 8435	
Administrative Assistant Administrative Specialist Name: Jill Coker Name: Rayla Singleton Class: AA73 Class: AA30 B&G Specialist Name: Corray Truesdale Name: Kannath L. Pruitt Class: KA15 Class: KA15 Class: KA15 Class: KA15 Class: KA15	MJ "Dolly" Cooper Veter	rans Cemetery Superintend Name: Wade Class: AH43	lent e Breaud	Quality of Life Coordinator Name: Jason Fowler Class : AH35	Class: AG43 Coalition Coordinator	Justice Involved Veteran	Hous
B&G Specialist Name: Corey Truecdale Name: Kanneth L. Pruitt Class: KA15 Class: KA15	Gen Main Tech Name: Revin Drane Class: KC85	Administrative Assistant Name: Jill Coker Class: AA73	Administrative Specialist Name: Kayla Singleton Class: AA30		Name: Rodney Oldham Class: AH35	Coordinator (VTC) Name: Vacant Class: AH40	Officer Name: Ale Class: AH45
The same of the sa	B&G Supervisor Name: Derrick Ciani Class: KA20	B&G Specialist Name: Corey Truesdale Class: KA15	B&G Specialist Name: Kennethi L Pruitt Cless:KA15			Training Officer Name: Anthony Maikkula	Transition Coordinato Name: Visc Class: AH40

Officer Name: Alexis R. Martin

Transition Housing

Housing

Transition Housing

Class: AH45

Coordinator Name: Vacant Class: AH40

Training Officer Name: Anthony Maikkula Class: A643

Duty positions in black have an approved FTE.

Outy positions in red do not have an approved FTE.

Outy positions in red do not have an approved FTE.

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B&G Specialist Name: Vacant Class: KA10

B&G Spec Name: Vacant Class: KA15

Name: Graham Carson Class: KA15

B&G Specialist Class: KA20

Name: Sarah Dremann Plans & Assessments

Class: 8830 Officer

Plans

Low County Regional Integrator Name: Vacant Class : AH45

Budget important information we would like the members to be aware of.

- 1. We are requested \$277,783 in recurring and \$16,000 in non-recurring funds, along with 4 new FTEs, to provide Regional Integration Coordinators in support of the department's main effort, the integration of all state-wide Veteran service providers.
 - a. Two years ago, we requested and received authority and funding for four Regional Integration Officers, responsible for bringing together the varied Veteran service providers (federal, state, local, non-profit, private sector) within each of the state's four traditional regions through the South Carolina Veteran Coalition.
 - b. Since then, the work of the Regional Integration Officers has expanded exponentially, with growth in the Coalition occurring at twice the rate we predicted.
 - c. As a result, we are requesting four additional people to allow us to keep up with the growing demands associated with recruiting, managing, and sustaining the Coalition.
- 2. We are requesting \$97,000 in recurring funds for the Palmetto Pathfinder Program, the department's flagship initiative, which connects transitioning service members with trained volunteer Veteran peer mentors to aid in their transition to civilian life and help them emerge as thriving Veterans in South Carolina.
 - a. The concept for this initiative grew out of the Governors Challenge, and was initially funded using private funds for its first year.
 - b. Based on the demonstrated value of this program, we are now asking for state funds on a recurring basis to sustain the program indefinitely.
- 3. We are requesting \$190,635 in recurring funds, \$747,000 in non-recurring and \$114,000 in capital funds along with 4 new FTEs, to address long-standing shortfalls at the MJ "Dolly" Cooper State Veterans' Cemetery.
 - a. The Cooper Veteran Cemetery has been in existence for more than 15 years. In that time, it has never met the minimum standards established by the National Cemetery Administration. This is both an embarrassment to the state and a potential threat to continuing federal support of the facility.
 - b. Our request for non-recurring funds is designed to address deferred maintenance and cemetery facilities and to correct improperly emplaced headstones.
 - c. Our request for recurring funds and additional people is designed to address the staffing shortfalls that have consistently resulted in sub-standard performance at the Cemetery.
 - d. Our request for capital funds is to allow the emplacement of perimeter fencing as a deterrent to both vandals and wild animals who have damaged the grounds over the past several years.
- 4. We are requesting \$255,000 in recurring funds to provide the resources necessary to execute South Carolina Code Section 25-11-85, which provides for reimbursement payments to Veteran Service Organizations that provide honor guard support at the funerals of Veteran. To date, we have been using department operational funds to fulfill the mandate of Section 25-11-85.

- 5. We are requesting \$98,625 in non-recurring and \$16,800 in recurring funds to create and sustain a Virtual Transition Assistance program.
 - a. The Transition Assistance Programs of all armed services provide only marginal assistance to transitioning service members, and we are working with our federal counterparts to address this.
 - b. Our request is designed to establish a South Carolina-specific, web-based tool, available to transitioning service members world-wide. We believe this will significantly aid the transition from service member to thriving Veteran, and will also serve as a recruiting tool to bring highly skilled Veterans into the South Carolina work force.
 - Our non-recurring request will cover the cost of designed and establishing this on-line tool, while the recurring request will cover the annual maintenance costs of maintaining it.
- 6. We are requesting \$58,917 in recurring and \$4,000 in non-recurring funds, along with one additional FTE, to expand the capabilities of our Office of Public Information.
 - a. While our communications efforts have enjoyed considerable success in our first two years, we have one remaining significant gap: our oldest generation of Veterans draws very little information from the venues that are most popular with our younger Veterans (social media, internet, etc.).
 - b. We are requesting additional funding and an FTE for a Creative Outreach Coordinator focused on the more traditional venues of information such as print media, television, radio, etc., in order to better reach the oldest generation of Veterans.
- 7. We are requesting \$10,000,000 in recurring funds for the Military Enhancement Fund.
 - a. The Military Enhancement Fund is a direct investment in the long-term success of the military installations of South Carolina and an effective tool for maintaining their viability into the future.
 - b. In its first year, this General Assembly initiative has proven to be of great value to both our military installations and our military families. The department has already awarded more than \$11 million in grants to communities surrounding our military installations, contributing directly to both military installation operational capacity and the quality of life of our military families.
 - c. The success of these initial grants has generated a growing interest in this fund to address a host of issues in the communities surrounding our military installations (and in North Augusta, which does not qualify under the current parameters of the law).

4. Budget Request Summary in priority order

									1	1	1	1
BUDGET	T REQUESTS		FUNDING					FTES				
Priority	Request Type	Request Title	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total
1	B1 Recurring	Division of Operations Regional Integration Coordinators	277,783	0	0	0	277,783	4	0	0	0	4
2	B2 Non Recurring	Division of Operations Regional Integration Coordinators	16,000	0	0	0	16,000	0	0	0	0	0
3	B1 Recurring	Division of Operations Palmetto Pathfinder Course	97,000	0	0	0	97,000	0	0	0	0	0
4	B1 Recurring	Division of Veteran Services Cooper State Veteran Cemetery Enhancement	190,635	0	0	0	190,635	4	0	0	0	4
5	B2 Non Recurring	Division of Veteran Services Cooper State Veteran Cemetery Enhancement	747,000	0	0	0	747,000	0	0	0	0	0
6	C Capital	Perimeter Fencing for Cooper Veteran Cemetery	114,000	0	0	0	114,000	0	0	0	0	0
7	B1 Recurring	Division of Veteran Services Veteran Service Organization Burial Honor Guard Support Fund	255,000	0	0	0	255,000	0	0	0	0	0
8	B2 Non Recurring	Division of Operations Virtual Transition Assistance Program	98,625	0	0	0	98,625	0	0	0	0	0
9	B1 Recurring	Division of Operations Virtual Transition Assistance Program	16,800	0	0	0	16,800	0	0	0	0	0
10	B1 Recurring	Office of Public Information Creative Outreach Coordinator	58,917	0	0	0	58,917	1	0	0	0	1
11	B2 Non Recurring	Office of Public Information Creative Outreach Coordinator	4,000	0	0	0	4,000	0	0	0	0	0
12	B1 Recurring	Division of Military Affairs Military Enhancement Plan Fund	10,000,000	0	0	0	10,000,000	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS			11,875,760	0	0	0	11,875,760	9	0	0	0	9

5. New Proviso Request Summary

We are not requesting any new provisos.

6. We request the following Proviso be continued from last year without change

- **101.1.** (VET: M.J. "Dolly" Cooper Veterans Cemetery Carry Forward) The Department of Veterans' Affairs may carry forward unexpended funds appropriated and/or authorized for the M.J. "Dolly" Cooper Veterans Cemetery from the prior fiscal year and shall use such funds for the same purpose. In addition, any unexpended funds in the Department of Veterans' Affairs, including Special Line Items, shall be carried forward from the prior fiscal year into the current fiscal year and used for operation of the M.J. "Dolly" Cooper Veterans Cemetery. Funds carried forward more than the amount needed for the operation of the Cemetery may be used for other expenses of the Department of Veterans' Affairs.
- **101.2.** (VET: Budget Reduction Exemption) Funds appropriated for the Department of Veterans' Affairs shall be excluded from any across-the-board agency base reductions mandated by the Executive Budget Office or General Assembly.
- **101.3.** (VET: Base Protection Plan Allocation) Funds appropriated to the department for the Base Protection Plan may be allocated to items including, but not limited to, land acquisition, recreational purposes, educational purposes, and facilities for military personnel. Eligible recipients are counties and municipalities with federal military installations
- **11.9.** (CHE: Tuition Age) For the current fiscal year, the age limitation for those children of certain war veterans who may be admitted to any state-supported college, university, or post high school technical education institution free of tuition is suspended for eligible children that successfully appeal the Department of Veterans' Affairs on the grounds of a serious extenuating health condition

7. Carry forward information, from SCEIS.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS SUMMARY OF CARRY FORWARD CASH BALANCES FISCAL YEAR 2023

	Fund	Balance 7/1/2022
General Fund - Veterans' Cemetery	1001	1,622,105
General Fund - MBTF Non Recurring	1001	455,545
General Fund - Admin Svcs Non Recurring	1001	15,000
General Fund - Office of Secretary Non Recurring	1001	452,500
General Fund - Public Information Non Recurring	1001	13,800
General Fund - SC Base Protection Fund Non Recurring	1001	7,989,071
General Fund - State Coalition Integration Office Non Recurring	1001	38,500
General Fund - Vet Cemetery Hearse Non Recurring	1001	60,000
COVID-19 GF Reimbursement	3035	3,926
Donations	3098	48,793
Special Operating	3417	11,899
Maybank Fund	34E4	45,211
Military Family Relief Fund - Housing Authority	35E5	163,804
Veterans' Cemetery Capital Reserve Fund	3634	3,29
Veterans' Cemetery Special Revenue Fund	3639	139,27
Sale of Assets	3958	41,420
Military Family Relief Fund	49E2	245,39
Grand Total		13,349,54

8. FTE Breakdown. (See attached)

Dept Of Veterans' Affairs - E260 FTE Count by Office and Funding January 2023

	Filled FTE					Vaca			
Division	State	Other	Federal	Total	State	Other	Federal	Total	Grand Total
Veteran's Affairs	40.0000	0.0000	0.0000	40.0000	8.0000	0.0000	0.0000	8.0000	48.0000
Total	40.0000	0.0000	0.0000	40.0000	8.0000	0.0000	0.0000	8.0000	48.0000
Percentage	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%		100.00%	0.00%	0.00%		

9. Any other information your agency wishes to provide (such as a summary of your Accountability Report).

After three years of learning, experimentation, and growth, the department has now matured to the point that this year's budget request is focused on sustaining proven initiatives, addressing long-term shortfalls that predate the establishment of the department, and giving the department the internal resources needed to address the increased demands that are the result of the agency's successes to date.

Our full Accountability Report is attached for reference.