



NORTH CAROLINA'S EASTERN REGION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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North Carolina's Eastern Region Appoints Military Growth Task Force

Kinston, N.C., December 13, 2007 – At their regularly scheduled monthly board meeting today, The North Carolina's Eastern Region (NCER) Board of Directors made the initial appointments to the newly created Military Growth Task Force (MGTF).

The Military Growth Task Force, a special committee of the 13-county Eastern Region Economic Development Partnership has been established to plan for and address impacts resulting from the increase in force strength of United States Marine Corps at MCB Camp Lejeune, MCAS New River and MCAS Cherry Point.

As a result of the congressionally approved increase in marine strength nationally, the three marine installations located in Onslow County and Craven County are expected to add approximately 11,500 marines and 13,500 dependents and other civilians to the regional population by FY 2011. The direct impact of the military-related increase of 25,000 people will induce an additional growth in population of 15,000 people. This growth is in addition to the normal (unrelated to the military) projected increase in population by 2010 of over 21,000 persons. Thus, the seven county affected region that includes Onslow, Craven, Carteret, Duplin, Jones, Pamlico and Pender counties will see an overall population growth exceeding 61,000 in the next three years.

As a part of its actions today, the NCER Board also approved an initial \$100,000 in funding for the Military Growth Task Force. These funds are to be used as a match towards securing federal planning funds from the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA). The initial application for DoD, OEA funding is expected to be approximately \$1 million in the first year and be submitted for approval in the first quarter of 2008.

The list of NCER Board appointees to the MGTF is attached.

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END

NCER Military Growth Task Force Appointees

Onslow County (5)

Mike Alford (Chair) (3 yrs)

Business owner; Member of the Governors Military Advisory Board, Past Chair Jacksonville-Onslow Chamber Military Affairs Committee, Past Chair Committee of 100

Pete Grimes (2 yrs)

Retired Colonel, USMC President of Retired Officers organization

William H. Keller III (1 yr)

Colonel, USMC Retired

Dan Oliver (3 yrs)

Progress Energy, Committee of 100

Billy Sewell (2 yr)

NC Economic Development Board

Craven County (5)

Theron McCabe * (1 yr)

County Commissioner representing Cherry Point

Lonnie Pridgen (3 yrs)

NCER Board; Committee of 100; ACT Treasurer

Marvin Raines (2 yrs)

Committee of 100; NC Military Alliance Board

Dan "Sonny" Roberts III (1 yr)

ACT Executive Board; Governors Military Advisory Committee; New Bern Military Alliance Board

Jimmy Sanders (3 yrs)

ACT President; Havelock Mayor

Carteret County (3)

Dick Casey (2 yrs)

Newport Town Manager; General, USAF Retired

Dave Inscoc (1 yr)

Economic Developer

Greg Lewis (3 yrs)

County Commissioner

NCER Military Growth Task Force Appointees

Duplin County (2)

Billy Elston (2 yrs)

President, Carolina Investments, Inc.; Former Marine Corps civilian employee, Camp Lejeune

Randall Tyndall (1 yr)

County Planner

Pender County (2)

Nominee 1 Pending (2 yrs)

Nominee 2 Pending (1 yr)

1. *Task Force members are initially appointed to 1, 2, or 3 year terms (shown in parenthesis next to each name) in order to create a staggered and rotating member*

appointment process. At the conclusion of their initial term, members may be reappointed for a full three year term.

Jones County (2)

Jessie Eubanks (3 yrs)

County Commissioner; Former Board Member NCEWR

Frankie Howard (2 yrs)

County Manager

Ex-Officio Members

Wayne County (2)

Lee Smith (3 yrs)

County Manager

Tony Worrell (2 yrs)

President, WayCo Ham Company; Executive Vice President Seymour Johnson Support Council

2. *The Chair of the NCER Board will name the initial Chair of the Military Growth Task Force. The term as Chair of the MGTf shall be 2 years. After the initial 2 year term, the Chair of the MGTf will be elected by a majority vote of MGTf members. Chairs may be reelected.*

Pamlico County (2)

Jack Douglas Brinson (1 yr)

Chair, County Commission; Former member NCER Board

Jayne Robb (3 yrs)

County Planner & Economic Developer

Marine Appointees (3)

Appointee 1 (1 yr) *

Appointee 2 (3 yrs) *

Appointee 3 (2 yrs) *

* To be appointed by
the Commanding
General,
MCI East.

- 3. As a special committee of the NCER, MGTf is subject to all applicable North Carolina open meetings laws and requirements. The MGTf shall adhere to all NCER by-laws, policies and procedures. The MGTf shall establish its own operating structure, rules and procedures consistent with the above.*