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CHAMBER AND SDMAC ESTABLISH COLLABORATION

Organizations provide strengthened support for San Diego military, veteran, and defense communities

SAN DIEGO - September 17, 2014 - Today, the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce (the Chamber) and the San Diego Military Advisory Council (SDMAC) announced the establishment of an enhanced collaboration. Through this new effort to align synergies, both organizations will work together to strengthen support for San Diego military, veteran, and defense communities through enhanced communication and engagement.

"The Chamber is a strong supporter of military and defense, and we are very proud to have this new working relationship with SDMAC," said Jerry Sanders, Chamber President & CEO. "We will utilize Chamber resources to the best of our ability to leverage the city's unmatched military presence to enhance regional prosperity and business opportunities."

"SDMAC is happy to be entering a new chapter with the Chamber and we look forward to both organizations working together for the betterment of our San Diego military community," said Jamie Moraga, President, SDMAC. "While the Chamber is focused on business, jobs, and the economy – and SDMAC is focused on military, veterans, and defense – both organizations agree that these communities play a significant role in San Diego's economy, to the tune of billions of dollars and thousands of jobs for our region. It's important that we stand strong in support of these communities wherever possible."

To better reflect the Chamber's direction in this collaboration and better meet the needs of defense and military in our community, the Chamber has renamed its Military Affairs Advisory Council (MAAC). MAAC will now be known as the Defense, Veterans & Military Affairs Committee (DVM).

The primary focus of the Defense, Veterans & Military Affairs Committee is veteran's affairs, advocacy and issues affecting the San Diego business community as it relates to the military.

With this new objective, the Chamber will help San Diego continue to grow as a worldwide destination for business while advocating on military and veterans issues and connecting veterans to jobs.

About The San Diego Regional Chamber

The San Diego Regional Chamber is the hub for connections and collaboration among the regional business community, and uses that clout to advocate for public policies and candidates that support economic growth and the creation of jobs for all businesses. As the largest Chamber on the West Coast, representing more than 3,000 businesses and 400,000 employees, the San Diego Regional Chamber is fighting to make San Diego the most business-friendly region in California. For more information, please visit <u>SDChamber.org</u> or call 619-544-1300.

About the San Diego Military Advisory Council

The San Diego Military Advisory Council is a nonprofit, mutual benefit corporation supporting, promoting, and representing the common business of the military, its quality of life, and the defense community in San Diego. For more information, visit: <u>www.sdmac.org</u>.

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