

# Soldier Systems Center

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# SPOTLIGHT

*Issue 17*

*APRIL 2025*





# A Brief Word



Team Natick,

This month I wanted to talk about two of the Army Values, Respect, and Integrity. These are two interconnected Army Values crucial to building a positive culture. Respect is about recognizing the inherent worth of every individual within our garrison community, regardless of rank, MOS, background, or personal beliefs. It means treating everyone with dignity, actively listening, and valuing their contributions. This include’s respecting our civilian workforce and family members who are integral to our overall mission. A respectful environment fosters trust and open communication, enabling us to operate more effectively as a team.

Integrity is one of the critical bedrocks upon which respect is built. It demands honesty in all our actions, adherence to the highest ethical standards, and the courage to do what is right, even when it’s difficult, or when we don’t want to. When we act with integrity, we earn the trust and respect of those around us, strengthening our team and enhancing our ability to accomplish the mission. Department of the Army 2019 says this about integrity “Leaders of integrity consistently follow honorable principles. The Army relies on leaders who are honest in word and deed” (ADP 6-22).

Ultimately, some of the most important things strong teams are built on are respect and integrity. Combined those values help to build a community where everyone feels valued, empowered, and committed to our shared mission. We are collectively a small but mighty community of professionals supporting America’s warfighters; from the Garrison Command Team, thank you for your contributions to making Natick Soldier Systems Center the great community it is.

Command Sgt. Maj. Joshua Kelley



# In This Issue

**Calendars & Resources**

Page  
4 - 9

**SAAPM & ACS Event**

Page  
10 - 11

**SGM Welcome**

Page  
12

**ACS Needs Assessment**

Page  
14

**Know Your Installation**

Page  
15

**Safety Updates**

Page  
16

**Around Post**

Page  
18

**Antiterrorism Update**

Page  
20

**NSSC Connect**

Page  
21

To submit content to the Spotlight please email the Garrison Public Affairs Team at: [vannessa.l.josey.civ@army.mil](mailto:vannessa.l.josey.civ@army.mil) and [alfred.tripolone.civ@army.mil](mailto:alfred.tripolone.civ@army.mil)



# April Events Calendar

## Monti Building Dedication

April 7 @ 2:30 p.m.

## Month of the Military Child Event

April 9 @ 12:00 p.m.

*Housing Playground (Awards, Pizza, and Cake for Children)*

## Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month Relay Race

April 16 @ 11:30 a.m.

*Carney Hall (Bldg 1) Sign-up at the link or via qr code:*

<https://forms.osi.apps.mil/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=D9fm-kuVEUiStgUw1vhMQ16WtIhdT9B.JhOLl4p3ZUqIUM0U5UIQzT1A4MEQ2M1Q4QIBLMk83TjRSQi4u>



## Denim Day

April 30 @ 12:00 p.m.

*Carney Hall (Bldg 1)*

*Wear your denim and join us for a group photo as we stand in support and solidarity against Sexual Assault.*



## Community Garden Survey

Would you be interested in an NSSC Community Garden?

*Take the survey and let us know!*

<https://forms.osi.apps.mil/r/YEQBM3c8Dy>



## Natick Army Community Service Program April 2025

### Child Abuse Prevention Awareness | 1 April 2025

Join us as we Take a Stand Against Child Abuse on Tuesday, 1 April at 1200 in front of Carney Hall (building 1). We will take a pledge and plant Pinwheels, subsequently followed by a SAAPM awareness walk.

\*\*\*We encourage participation to wear blue or teal.\*\*\*



### Month of the Military Child | Wednesday, 9 April 2025

Join us as we award and celebrate military children for their strength, resilience, and contributions to our community! We will gather at Heritage Lane at 1200. Lunch will be provided to Military Families.



### Denim Day for Sexual Assault Prevention & Awareness | 30 April 2025

Show your support to survivors and stand in solidarity by wearing jeans on Wednesday, 30 April. Denim Day supports survivors, educates on misconceptions and offers prevention against violence.

**\*To be a part of NSSC Denim Day group picture, meet us at 1200 in front of Carney Hall.\***

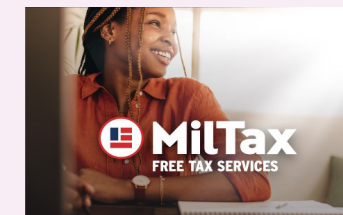


### MilTax | Available Now

MilTax e-filing software is free for Service Members, eligible family members, survivors, and recent veterans up to 365 days from their separation or retirement date. Military Tax Consultants are available 24/7 to schedule.

Visit the website below for more information:

<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/financial-legal/taxes/miltax-military-tax->



### 2025 AER Campaign | 1 March – 14 June 2025

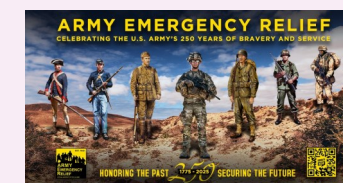
The AER Campaign kicks off on March 1, 2025! This is a great opportunity to provide financial support to our Soldiers and their Families.

To make a contribution visit: <https://give.armyemergencyrelief.org>

For more information contact: Natick Army Community Service

Phone: 508-206-4035

Email: [usarmy.natick.id-training.list.nati-accs@army.mil](mailto:usarmy.natick.id-training.list.nati-accs@army.mil)





# MWR Resources

At Natick Family and MWR, we strive to continuously improve the quality and ease of access to MWR services and information. When planning your next event, please visit our website where you can easily request rental equipment, request dates for facility use, or send a message to one of our representatives.



**Water Sports:** The dock is in, and the boats are ready. If you want to take a canoe or kayak out on the lake during lunch or after work, swing by MWR in Building 38 to rent a boat and pick up a life preserver and paddle.

## Thirty Minutes to Win It is BACK!!!

Beginning April 7, TMtWI Class will offer TWO CLASSES per day and be running FIVE DAYS a week!

Choose between 11:40 a.m. and 12:20 p.m. start times and, for the first time ever, you can choose between two payment options:

- **\$50/month** for TWO CLASSES per week (ONLY \$6.25 per class!) OR
- **\$75/month** for UNLIMITED CLASSES (if you come 3x a week, still only \$6.25 a class!)

The first introductory class is FREE.

Classes are to be utilized during the month that they are purchased and are not transferrable or carried forward.

Classes can be purchased with CASH or CREDIT CARD in Building 38.

Please direct all inquiries to [darin.p.stgeorge.naf@army.mil](mailto:darin.p.stgeorge.naf@army.mil) or (508) 206-4098

## Pickup Activities

**Mondays and Wednesdays** – Pickup Pickleball from 1200-1300 at the basketball court (weather permitting/if the court is wet, no pickleball). No experience necessary, all skill levels welcome.

**Tuesdays:** 1530 Pickup Hockey in front of building 1. Bring your own stick, eyewear, and gloves and join us for pick up hockey. No experience necessary, all skill levels welcome. Bring your own team of 6 or join one upon arrival.

**Thursdays:** 1530 Pickup Kickball on the athletic field (weather permitting/if the infield is wet, no kickball). Bring your own team of 10 or join one upon arrival.

## Equipment Rental

Visit [www.natick.armymwr.com](http://www.natick.armymwr.com) and click on the 'Equipment Checkout Center' banner.



Open to all authorized patrons. Prices subject to change.

## Hero WOD

# SMALL

## April 2025

*U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Marc Small, 29, was killed from wounds sustained when his unit was attacked with a rocket-propelled grenade in Faramuz on Feb. 12, 2009.*

### FOR TIME

**50-40-30-20-10**

**Wall-ball shots using a 20-pound ball**

**Box jumps using a 24-inch box**

**Kettlebell swings using a 1.5-pood kettlebell**

*A Hero WOD, also known as a Hero Workout, is a challenging and intense CrossFit workout that is named after a fallen hero. These workouts are created to pay tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their country or community.*

Do you and your team participate in the monthly Hero WODs? Send us your photos completing the workouts and we'll share them here in the Spotlight!





# Interested in carpooling?



The Garrison is conducting a survey to assess interest in carpooling and facilitate connections among potential riders using designated park and ride locations throughout the New England region. Your participation will help us better understand commuting preferences and improve transportation options for the Natick Soldier Systems Center community.

We want to hear from you!

Scan the QR code or type this link into your browser:

<https://forms.osi.apps.mil/r/zQ7BXZe4WC>



Please refer questions to Lynn Valcourt, X4051, Email: [lynn.m.valcourt.civ@army.mil](mailto:lynn.m.valcourt.civ@army.mil)



Your Opinion  
Matters!

**"We still need to  
hear from you"**

## TENANT SATISFACTION SURVEY

**3 MAR 2025 - 1 MAY 2025**

Your feedback can make a **BIG DIFFERENCE** in the  
quality of life for Army families.



**Your Army Wants to  
Hear from You!**

*\*Completely confidential*

We are investing significantly in housing improvements to ensure  
quality living conditions are provided to our Soldiers and families.  
Survey feedback will guide the Army's efforts to provide quality, safe  
and secure housing.



The completely confidential survey will be emailed from [ArmyHousingSurvey@celassociates.com](mailto:ArmyHousingSurvey@celassociates.com).  
For additional questions, please contact your local **Army Housing Office**.

OMB Control Number: 0704-0553. OMB Expiration date: 05/31/2025





April is Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (SAAPM), and we hope you will join in on some of the events taking place to take a stand against sexual violence and let survivors know that we are here for them.

Each Tuesday in April, starting on the 1st of the month, please join SHARP in wearing a teal article of clothing in support of survivors for the event, Teal Tuesdays. If you do not own anything teal, please feel free to take a pin or any other promotional item from the SHARP resource table in the lobby of Carney Hall (Bldg 1) that will be out for the month. We would love to be able to get some pictures of staff wearing teal and encourage you to snap a picture and submit it to PAO for social media use.

Please send your submissions to the Garrison Public Affairs Office:  
usarmy.natick.id-training.mbx.nati-imne-ssc-pa@army.mil

On April 1, ACS and SHARP came together at to place pinwheels for child abuse prevention, which was followed by a SAAPM Awareness Walk on the fitness trail. SHARP provided some fun promotional items for staff to take which included some reusable water bottles and sweat towels. NSSC leadership also signed the SAAPM Proclamation to show their dedication to sexual assault prevention.

On April 16, USARIEM is conducting a SHARP Relay Race which will kick off at 11:30 a.m. in front of Carney Hall (Bldg 1).

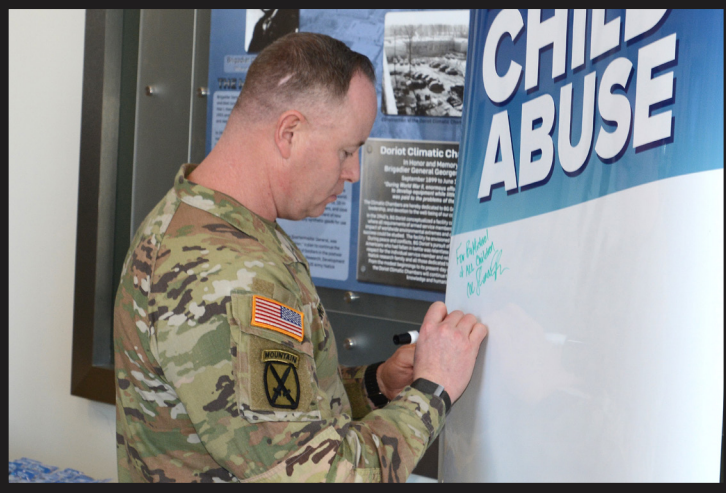


Participants must arrive at 11 a.m. on April 16 to obtain their jersey. Please scan the QR code to register for the event. Responses will not be collected past 5 p.m. on April 9.

We will be ending the month with Denim Day , which is the longest standing sexual violence prevention and education campaign in history since 1999. Please join us on April 30 in front of Carney Hall at 11:30 a.m. for a group photo. Staff should attend wearing jeans as a means of protest to challenge the destructive myths that surround sexual violence regarding what one wears.

For more information about the history of Denim Day, please visit [www.denimday.org](http://www.denimday.org)

Thank you, Team Natick! We look forward to your participation in our SAAPM events.





# NSSC Welcomes New Senior Enlisted Advisor

## Sergeant Major Krone Joins the Team

By: Mr. Alfred Tripolone III, U.S. Army Garrison Natick Public Affairs

The Natick Soldier Systems Center welcomed a new senior enlisted advisor last month as Sgt. Maj. Jesse J. Krone assumed responsibility as the senior enlisted leader to the NSSC Senior Commander during an assumption of responsibility ceremony Feb. 12.

Krone brings more than 20 years of experience and a well-rounded military background shaped by a range of assignments and leadership roles. He enlisted in the Army in 2002, completing basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia, and advanced individual training at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, as a Preventive Medicine Specialist. He later volunteered for Explosive Ordnance Disposal duties and graduated from the Naval School of Explosive Ordnance Disposal at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.

His deployments include three tours in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and one tour in Afghanistan under Operation Enduring Freedom. He has also served in Korea and Germany.

“I was very involved in my high school JROTC program, which really set me on the path to join the Army,” said Krone. “I joined at 17 through the delayed entry program and shipped to basic training two weeks after graduating high school.”

Throughout his career, Krone has developed



a leadership style grounded in adaptability, listening, and empowerment. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Leadership and Workforce Development from the Command and General Staff College and describes his approach as transformational.

“Different organizations require different approaches,” he said. “My focus is to understand the mission and the people and tailor my leadership accordingly. I want to serve as a sounding board, problem solver, and trusted advisor for the Senior Commander while representing the total workforce—both military and civilian.”

Krone said his first impressions of NSSC were overwhelmingly positive.

“It’s very clear this organization is filled with innovative minds and humble, hardworking professionals who are passionate about supporting the warfighter,” he said. “There’s a lot of strength in the behind-the-scenes work done here every day.”

In his new role, Krone hopes to foster collaboration, encourage open communication, and highlight the important work happening across the installation.

“I’m already incredibly proud to represent this team,” he said. “One of my goals is to help tell the Natick story—both inside and outside the gate.”

Outside of his professional responsibilities, Krone enjoys cooking, baking, and outdoor activities. He’s looking forward to exploring all that New England has to offer—especially during the summer months.

“I try to be very intentional about balancing work and personal life,” he said. “My mornings are my time—fitness, coffee, reflection. It helps me stay grounded.” As he steps into his new position, Krone expressed gratitude for the welcome he’s received and excitement for the road ahead.

“Thank you all for making me feel like part of the team,” he said. “I look forward to learning from you, supporting your efforts, and building strong partnerships—both across the installation and with our local community.”





# ACS Community Needs Assessment Update

By: Yolanda Kennedy, MA LMHC, NSSC ACS Director

The Army Community Service (ACS) team extends its sincere appreciation to all who participated in the recent Community Needs Assessment last month. With 352 completed surveys, we achieved the highest participation rate to date at Natick Soldier Systems Center. The data collected helps us see ourselves and better understand your needs as well as providing leaders with valuable insights into our Soldiers, Families, and Civilians challenges and requirements.

We hear you loud and clear! We will do more to educate and inform our NSSC community on the services ACS can provide AND how you can leverage us to obtain additional services that may be offered through our community partners and adjacent military installations such as Hanscom AFB or West Point. In addition, based on the request for additional family support programs, we will highlight Family Advocacy, Financial Readiness, Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP), and Relocation Assistance more prominently in future outreach efforts.

The results also confirmed what we're all feeling—everyone is experiencing higher stress right now. Notably, those individuals who engage in ACS programming or have attended ACS sponsored events reported lower stress than their peers who did not attend special events or utilize ACS programs. There is a clear correlation between program engagement and improved well-being. We encourage our NSSC family (Soldiers and NSSC Civilians

and their family members, retirees, veterans, and survivors to visit the ACS office (Room A-121) on the first floor of Carney Hall (building 1) or at the very least, email or call and let us know how we can help. If we cannot provide services on the spot, we will find someone who can.

For questions or additional information about ACS services email us at [usarmy.natick.id-training.list.nati-ac@army.mil](mailto:usarmy.natick.id-training.list.nati-ac@army.mil), or call us at 508-206-4035.

ACS remains committed to supporting the readiness and resilience of the Natick community. Your input drives our mission, and we thank you for your continued engagement.



# Know Your Installation

## Doriot Climatic Chambers

Although not named for a Medal of Honor recipient, Building 2, the Doriot Climatic Chambers, were very important to the establishment of the installation as a leader in military research and development.

The Doriot Climatic Chambers are named for Brigadier General Georges F. Doriot, who, during World War II, worked with his staff in the Quartermaster Corps to develop clothing and equipment for the individual Soldier. The Climatic Chambers were envisioned to test those items under severe climatic conditions and quickly field the improved items. General Doriot determined that an “Institute of Man” was needed to test Soldiers and their equipment at environmental extremes. The Doriot Climatic Chambers building was completed in 1954. Constant technology upgrades maintain the Doriot Climatic Chambers as a state-of-the-art facility for climatic testing.

General Doriot was born on September 24, 1899, in Paris, France and died June 2, 1987. He served as an Artillery Officer with the French Army in World War I, then graduated from the University of Paris in 1920. He came to the United States in 1921 and attended the Harvard Business School. In 1926 he became an Assistant Dean and Associate Professor of Industrial Management at Harvard.

In 1940, the same year he became a naturalized citizen, General Doriot was instrumental in creating the Army Industrial College for the US War Department. In 1941, with the backing of a former student, The



Quartermaster General, Major General Edmund B. Gregory, he was given a direct appointment to Lieutenant Colonel. He immediately went to work as Chief of the Military Planning Division, Office of the Quartermaster General. Under his direction, many of the country's best academic researchers, scientists, technologists, and industrial planners were brought together to support the war effort. The Military Planning Division's unprecedented accomplishments under General Doriot included the development of all new uniforms and equipment for use in every kind of climate and geographic region around the world; a whole family of new field rations (for example, B-, C-, D-, and K-Rations, 5-in-1s, 10-in-1s, Assault and Accessory Packs) along with stoves, food containers, openers, and cook tents for various climates. These planners also pioneered in the development of new plastic items, water-resistant and flameproof fabrics, and many synthetic goods for use in place of precious natural resources.

In 1946, General Doriot, while still at the Office of the Quartermaster General, was instrumental in drafting a blueprint and his concept for “The Institute of Man,” with a plan to continue the high level of industrial and technological research on behalf of Soldiers in the postwar era. This plan came to fruition with the opening of Natick Army Research, Development and Engineering Laboratories in 1954 and continues today.





## Injury Reporting

*By: Louis Calcagni, Director of Safety, Natick Soldier Systems Center*

In any workplace, small incidents often go unnoticed—until they escalate into major accidents. Mishap and near miss reporting is vital for identifying and addressing these hidden risks early. By encouraging employees to report close calls, we can proactively eliminate unsafe conditions, preventing injuries and costly damages.

A robust mishap / near miss reporting system at the Natick Soldier Systems Center (NSSC) can significantly reduce future mishaps. It empowers employees to contribute to a safer workplace while equipping management to pinpoint areas in need of improvement. Investigating and addressing mishaps and near misses early transforms potential hazards into opportunities to enhance safety procedures.

Below are the steps all NSSC employees should follow to promptly report a mishap or near miss:

1. The employee's immediate

supervisor should be notified immediately.

2. Report the mishap / near miss to the NSSC Occupational Health Clinic provider.

3. The NSSC Occupational Health Clinic provider will ensure that the Natick Form 1125 (Accident / Injury Cause Analysis) is filled out, processed, and filed into the employee's medical record.

4. Promptly report any mishap or near miss to the employee's Safety Office. This will enable safety personnel to conduct a thorough investigation within the Army Safety Management Information System

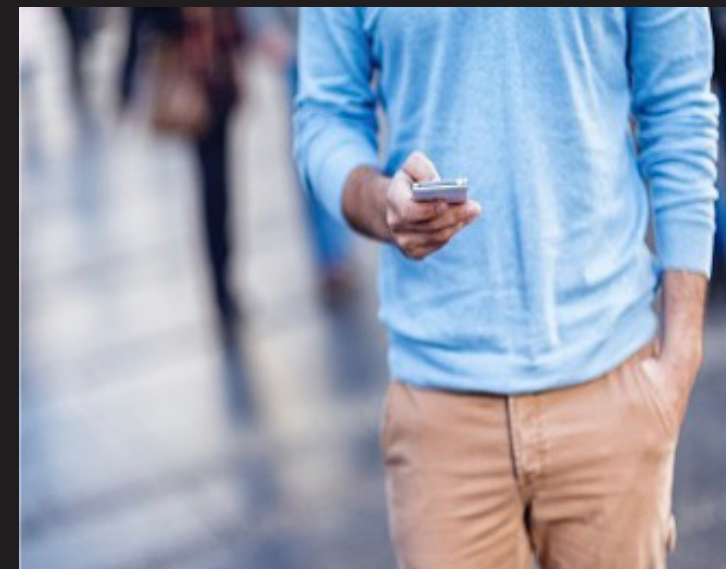
\* Delays in completing a mishap investigation can hinder the employee's ability to file for workers' compensation promptly, potentially complicating the claims process.

## Pedestrian Safety

*By: Earl Schlotterbeck, Safety and Occupational Manager, DEVCOM SC*

With the return to the office complete and the weather turning warmer, personnel are out walking and running during lunch and other times of the day. With this increased foot traffic comes with increased risks of pedestrian accidents.

Pedestrian safety is a shared responsibility, requiring awareness and proactive measures from both walkers and drivers. When navigating streets on foot, prioritize safety by planning a well-lit route with sidewalks whenever possible. If walking along the road is unavoidable, face oncoming traffic for better visibility. Always utilize designated crosswalks when available. To enhance your visibility, especially during low-light conditions, wear bright clothing during the day and reflective gear at night. Remember that drivers may not always see you, so remain vigilant, make eye contact with drivers before crossing, and never assume a car will stop.



Drivers share an equal responsibility in ensuring pedestrian safety. When approaching crosswalks, intersections, or areas with pedestrian activity, exercise heightened caution. Slow down, be prepared to stop, and yield the right of way to pedestrians already engaged in crossing. Maintain a safe speed, especially in areas with blind spots or locations with limited visibility.

Creating a culture of pedestrian safety requires mutual understanding and respect. Drivers can contribute by minimizing distractions, being aware of blind spots, and exercising patience when encountering pedestrians. Pedestrians can enhance their safety by staying alert, avoiding distractions like mobile phones or headphones, and making their presence known to drivers. Remember, a few moments of caution can prevent life-altering consequences.

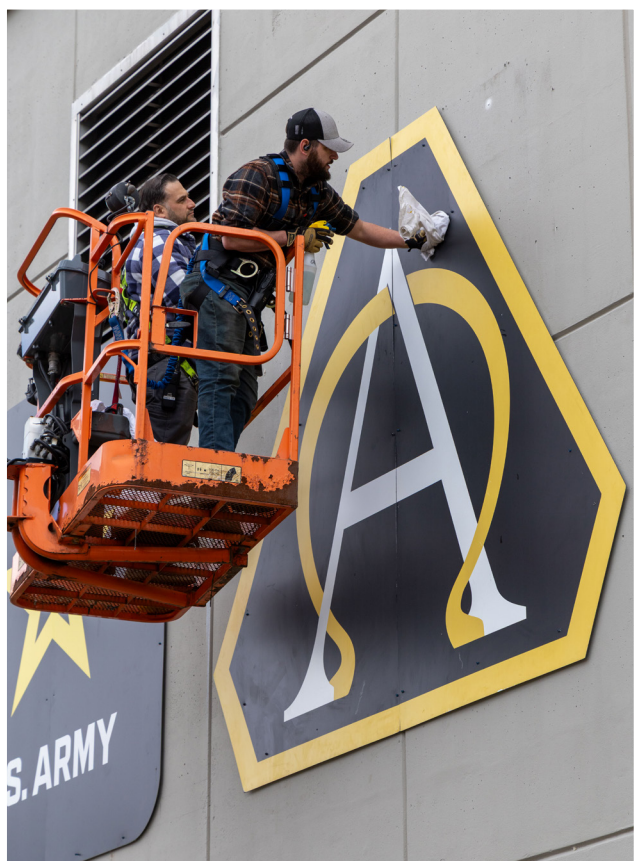


# Around the Installation

Submitted content from organizations around NSSC



Jason Gove turning over the keys to the Hudson Housing Area, completing the divesture of all excess outlying Natick Army Family Housing. A process years in the making, and resulting in a total of \$14.75M being deposited into a special account for Natick Soldier System Center Housing and Community Projects. (Submitted by Russell Stokes, Director Public Works NSSC)



Herrion Begolli and Eric Nichols complete the addition of the Army Secretary of the Army for Aquisitions, Logistics, and Technology Command logo to the exterior of Carney Hall (Bldg 1). (Submitted by Russell Stokes, Director Public Works NSSC)







## Antiterrorism Section

### Insider Threat in the Return To Office Environment

*By: Mr. Robert Burns, Antiterrorism Officer, U.S. Army Garrison Natick*

The familiar hum of activity is returning to the U.S. Army Natick Soldier Systems Center. As personnel transition back to in-office work, renewed emphasis on insider threat vigilance is essential. While the shift brings welcomed collaboration and face-to-face interaction, it also calls for heightened awareness of potential risks.

The concept of an “insider threat” extends beyond malicious actors. It includes any individual with authorized access who could unintentionally or intentionally compromise the organization’s security. This could involve mishandling sensitive information, unauthorized system access or seemingly innocuous actions that create vulnerabilities. In a post-pandemic, post-telework

environment — where remote work blurred traditional security perimeters — returning to the office presents unique challenges. Here’s what to consider:

#### Increased physical access

- With more personnel on site, the potential for unauthorized access to restricted areas and sensitive materials increases. Robust access control measures, including badge systems and surveillance, are essential.
- All personnel should be aware of the importance of not “tailgating” or allowing unauthorized individuals to enter restricted and controlled areas.

#### Data security in a shared environment

- The exchange of information in a physical office setting can create opportunities for data breaches. Personnel must remain vigilant about protecting sensitive data, whether it’s stored digitally, on paper or communicated verbally.
- Clean desk policies should be reinforced to prevent leaving sensitive documents exposed.
- With more people using the on-site network, cybersecurity is more important than ever.

#### Human factors and behavioral indicators

- Changes in behavior — such as increased stress, financial difficulties or expressions of dissatisfaction — may be potential indicators of insider threat risk.
- Supervisors and colleagues play a crucial role in recognizing and reporting such changes.
- Reporting concerns is not about accusing someone; it’s about protecting the organization’s assets.
- Insider threat training should be reinforced to help all personnel recognize potential indicators.

#### Reinforcing security awareness

- Ongoing security awareness training is crucial to ensure all personnel understand their responsibilities in preventing insider threats.
- Training should include topics such as:
  - Cyber awareness
  - Operations security (OPSEC)
  - Antiterrorism (AT)
  - Threat Awareness and Reporting Program (TARP)
  - Information security (INFOSEC)

- Physical security protocols
- Security is everyone’s responsibility.

#### The importance of a culture of security

- Fostering a culture where security is shared and prioritized is essential. This includes open communication, encouraging the reporting of concerns and promoting shared accountability.
- The Natick Soldier Systems Center is committed to providing a secure environment for its personnel and assets. By working together and remaining vigilant, we can mitigate the risks posed by insider threats and ensure mission success.

As we return to the office, let’s reaffirm our commitment to security and stay alert to protect the valuable assets entrusted to us.

Remember; if you see something, say something.

***Suspicious activity can be reported through iSALUTE at <https://www.usainscom.army.mil/iSALUTE/> or by calling 1-800-CALL-SPY.***





# NSSC Online

Follow us on the web



## U.S. Army Garrison Natick:

- Webpage: <https://home.army.mil/natick/>
- News: <https://www.army.mil/natick>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NatickSSC/>
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/u-s-army-garrison-natick/>

## DEVCOM Soldier Center Online:

- Webpage: <https://sc.devcom.army.mil>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/devcom.SoldierCenter>
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/us-army-ccdc-soldier-center/>
- X: [https://x.com/DEVCOM\\_SC](https://x.com/DEVCOM_SC)
- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/USArmyCCDCSoldierCenter>

## U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine:

- Webpage: <https://usariem.health.mil/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/USARIEM>
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