DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
MAJOR FUNCTIONS

- Provides for the defense, safety and welfare of the people of Hawaii.
- Maintains its readiness to respond to the needs of the people in the event of war or devastation originating from either natural or human-caused disasters.
- To meet its federal mission as part of the military reserve component, the Hawaii National Guard, consisting of the Army and Air National Guard divisions, is manned, trained, equipped and ready for call to active duty by the President in times of national emergency. To meet its State mission, the Hawaii National Guard responds when necessary to protect life and property, preserve peace, order and public safety as directed by competent State authority.
- Coordinates the civil defense planning of all public and private organizations within the islands, minimizes the loss of life and property damage, restores essential public services, and expedites the recovery of individuals in the event of natural or human-caused mass casualty situations.
- Administers the Youth Challenge Academy, which serves youth at risk by providing life-transforming experience through training under military-like conditions.
- Office of Veterans Services – Responsible for the statewide administration, conduct, and coordination of all functions and activities prescribed under Chapter 363, Veterans Rights and Benefits, HRS, for veterans and their dependents.

MAJOR PROGRAM AREAS

The Department of Defense has programs in the following major program areas:

Social Services
DEF 112 Services to Veterans

Formal Education
DEF 114 Hawaii National Guard Youth Challenge Academy

Public Safety
DEF 110 Amelioration of Physical Disasters