



INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING

Premier Military Training for a
Secure and Prosperous America

OCTOBER 2023 | NEWSLETTER

August 2023 Annual Workshop.

Preparation for the fiscal year (FY) 2024 mission season kicked off during the annual Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) Joint Workshop for Operational Mission Planners, held in Tysons, VA, on 29–31 August. Attendees included Active Duty, Reservists, and Guardsmen of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Air Force. Mission planners, unit representatives, and upcoming mission participants met with their IRT program managers and participated in topical briefings, networked across service components, and gained valuable knowledge as they strengthened their teams to prepare for upcoming

civil-military training opportunities throughout the United States and its territories. During the workshop, over 100 attendees celebrated a successful FY23 mission year while learning about tools and resources that will further advance operational excellence in FY24. The workshop included breakout sessions to address best practices and logistical considerations for specific mission types such as cybersecurity, medical, and civil engineering. Planned breaks throughout the day and service component specific time allocations provided networking opportunities.

Distinguished guest Mr. Judd Lyons, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Reserve Integration, was joined by Colonel Jaclyn Chatwick, IRT Director, to present this year's IRT Annual Award to deserving recipients' whose significant contributions in FY23 delivered lasting benefits to the program and the Joint Service Members it serves. Major Christopher Brown, IRT Operations Officer, moderated this pinnacle annual ceremony that reflected on and celebrated IRT participants' hard work and success over the past year, as well as their ability to adapt and innovate to achieve successful mission outcomes.

Of the recipients in attendance, special guest Mr. Daniel Aquino, Special Assistant to the Governor for Military Affairs (CNMI), traveled to the workshop to accept the IRT Civil-Military Partnership of the Year Award on behalf of the FY23 partnership between the United States Army Reserve and the Northern Mariana Islands on the Operation Health CNMI mission. In the coming months, we will continue to highlight all our award winners in recognition of their service and excellence.



Mr. Judd Lyons, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Reserve Integration, OSD leadership, and members of the Guam Wellness 2023 team

IRT Leaders and staff are closely monitoring the COVID-19 public health situation. We provide updated information on our website concerning its effect on our FY 2023 missions. Please check irt.defense.gov regularly for the latest information on the IRT program.

DEFEND THE NATION

IRT provides hands-on, real-world training to improve readiness and survivability in complex contingency environments

SUCCEED THROUGH TEAMWORK

IRT is a collaborative program that leverages military contributions and community resources to multiply value and cost savings for participants

TAKE CARE OF OUR PEOPLE

IRT strengthens and builds partnerships, while providing key services for American communities utilizing joint training operations

IRT TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

- Civil-Military Partnerships
- Joint Mission Planning
- Medical Training

IRT LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Colonel Jaclyn Chatwick, Director
- Colonel George Koklanaris, Deputy Director
- Major Christopher Brown, Operations Officer
- Chief Master Sergeant Alexander Wilson, Superintendent

CIVIL-MILITARY PARTNER OF THE YEAR SPOTLIGHT

Mr. Daniel "Danny" Aquino

Special Assistant to the Governor for Military Affairs, Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs



"The IRT mission benefited the military and residents of the CNMI (Saipan, Tinian, and Rota), who are experiencing tremendous hardships. The mission military

Services coordinated the logistics of three separate islands simultaneously. Receiving the 2023 Civil-Military Partnership of the Year award was rewarding and was an amazing experience. On behalf of Governor Palacios, Lt. Governor Apatang, my staff, and CNMI residents, thank you."



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OSD STAFF HIGHLIGHT

LIEUTENANT COLONEL KENNETH BRIAN COLLINS
ARMY/ARMY RESERVE, IRT MCS



“Working with the IRT Program allowed me and my team to dive deep into the Military Decision Making Process. We can use what we learned as a mission command team to plan more efficiently and effectively in the future. It was very satisfying to put our plan into action and see our planning result in the delivery of essential services for the gracious and friendly residents of CNMI, a community in need of what we could provide.”

SERVICE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

SENIOR AIRMAN AARON T. RAZAYESKI
U.S. AIR FORCE RESERVE COMMAND



“IRT has given me a crucial emphasis on readiness and attention to detail. The leadership of those around me has laid out and enhanced the foundation for my own leadership capabilities. IRT has also been the grindstone sharpening not only my own deployable skillset, but the skillset of every Service Member involved. What I enjoy most about IRT is that rain or shine, through thick or thin, at the end of the day a local community is receiving vital support.”

IRT EVENTS & MISSIONS

- Oct 1: FY24 ID Community Outreach Program Cyber
- Oct 1: FY24 ID Secretary of State Security Operations Center (SOC) Cyber
- Oct 1-3, 4: FY24 IN Camp Tobenebee Rifle and Archery Ranges Reconstruction Initial-Final Planning Meetings, Mission Start
- Oct 6-8, 13: FY24 MI Gaylord District Young State Park Construction Initial-Final Planning Meetings, Mission Start
- Oct 16: FY24 AK Areawide Residential Construction to Invest in Communities (ARCTIC) Materials Transport Initial Planning Meeting
- Oct 20: FY24 CA Santa Cruz Island Reserve Transportation Initial Planning Meeting
- Oct 31: FY24 CA Hoopa K'imaw Medical Center Medical Initial Planning Meeting
- Ongoing: FY24 ID Community Outreach Program Cyber
- Ongoing: FY24 ID Secretary of State Operations Center (SOC) Cyber

More information on missions at:



FY24 IRT PROGRAM MANAGERS

- Major Daniel LaVorgna
Army Reserve | Army Active Duty
- Captain Scott Thurman
Army National Guard
- Lieutenant Colonel Timothy Salvino
Marine Corps Reserve | Marine Corps Active Duty
- Lieutenant Commander Shaun Shillady
Navy Reserve | Navy Active Duty
- Lieutenant Colonel Steven Johnson
Air National Guard | Air Force Active Duty
- Chief Master Sergeant Rebecca Coulombe
Air Force Reserve