

## **News Release**

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## San Antonio BRAC program ends fiscal year with flurry of contract awards

\$148 million in awards includes work on Randolph Air Force Base and Fort Sam Houston

FORT WORTH, Texas – The final contracts awarded in the 2008 fiscal year as part of the San Antonio Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Program reflect the program's broad scope and joint military collaboration. The group of contracts, awarded before the start of the 2009 fiscal year which began on October 1, include projects that range from constructing a bridge to building sophisticated training facilities that simulate the working environments of combat medics, corpsmen, and many other medical personnel.

The largest contract was awarded by the Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment (AFCEE) for construction of 420,000 square feet of classrooms and laboratories that will be part of the Medical Education and Training Campus (METC) on Fort Sam Houston. The \$116.9 million contract was awarded to Environmental Chemical Corporation, which is headquartered in Burlingame, California and operates a regional office in San Antonio.

METC will consolidate the enlisted medical training programs of all branches of the U.S. military. In addition to classrooms and labs, METC's 1.9 million square feet of facilities will include dorms, a physical fitness center, and an 80,000 square foot dining facility. With an average daily student enrollment of more than 9,000, METC will be one of the largest institutions of its kind in the world.

AFCEE also awarded a \$9.7 million contract for construction of a 36,000 square foot administrative center on Randolph Air Force Base to integrate the Civilian Personnel Offices from five other bases across the country. The contractor is Weston Solutions, which is based in West Chester, Pennsylvania and maintains a satellite office in San Antonio. The Civilian Personnel Offices are aligned with the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph, which manages personnel programs and carries out policies affecting Air Force active-duty and civilian employees.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, awarded two contracts to build an addition to the Budge Dental Clinic on Fort Sam Houston and renovate the existing clinic. Both the \$13.6 million renovation contract and \$1.2 million construction contract went to the John J. Kirlin Construction Company, headquartered

Corps Awards Group of San Antonio BRAC Contracts

in Rockville, Maryland. The planned 2,000 square foot expansion of the clinic is necessary to meet the dental care needs of the additional personnel that will relocate to Fort Sam Houston because of BRAC mandates.

The Corps of Engineers also awarded a \$6.4 million contract to Texas Sterling Construction Company to build a bridge that will serve a tri-service research lab being planned for Fort Sam Houston. Texas Sterling's headquarters are in Houston and the company has a field office in San Antonio. The bridge is intended to ensure all weather and emergency vehicle access from the main post to the tri-service lab.

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About BRAC in San Antonio: The San Antonio BRAC Program is a construction and renovation initiative to provide the facilities that will accommodate the military personnel and missions that are moving to the city as required by the 2005 BRAC law. Construction work is scheduled to take place across San Antonio at Fort Sam Houston, Camp Bullis, Lackland and Randolph Air Force Bases through September 2011. In all, the San Antonio BRAC Program will involve building and renovating as many as 78 major facilities that amount to more than six million square feet of space. The total cost of BRAC and related military construction projects is projected to exceed \$2 billion.

Representatives of the Army Corps of Engineers are working on the San Antonio BRAC Program as members of the Joint Program Management Office (JPMO), which is overseeing the design and construction efforts. The JPMO is a joint military service entity that represents a partnership between the Corps, the Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment, and the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, and is supported by private sector contractors.

About the Fort Worth District: The Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was established in 1950. The District is responsible for water resources development in two-thirds of Texas, and military design and construction in Texas and parts of Louisiana and New Mexico. Visit the Fort Worth District web site at: <a href="https://www.swf.usace.army.mil">www.swf.usace.army.mil</a>.