

July 7, 2018

By Tech. Sgt. N. Alicia Halla

First Air Guard recruiting office in Juneau invites community to celebrate grand opening

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska — The Alaska National Guard is hosting a grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony July 10 at their armory in Juneau to celebrate the Alaska Air Guard's first-ever recruiting office in the capital city. The general public is invited and encouraged to attend. There will be several static display aircraft and refreshments.

Juneau is the third most-populated city in the state, running close to the population of Fairbanks. The Juneau office will open doors for the Air Guard to reach Southeast Alaska, including Sitka and Ketchikan.

"There's been a lot of interest in the Air Guard from people in Southeast Alaska," said Senior Master Sgt. Vickie Padello, Alaska Air Guard recruiting and retention superintendent. "We want to be able to reach more Alaskans with the opportunity to join our organization," she said.

The new recruiting office will be in an office at the National Guard armory, which is a shared facility with the University of Alaska Southeast recreation center. Recruiting offices help spread the word on National Guard benefits such as tuition assistance, life insurance and free training in civilian-transferrable skills.

Senators Dan Sullivan and Lisa Murkowski are scheduled to attend, along with the Alaska National Guard adjutant general, Maj. Gen. Laurie Hummel, and the Alaska Air National Guard commander, Col. Torrence Saxe.

Following the ribbon cutting, Airmen who represent a variety of career field options will be available to speak with community members and answer questions about different jobs that are available now. The Alaska Air Guard's C-17 Globemaster III, KC-135 Stratotanker, HC-130J Combat King II and HH-60 Pave Hawk aircraft will be on display at a nearby airfield with refreshments. Ceremony attendees are invited to use a courtesy shuttle to the static displays.

The Air National Guard also operates recruiting offices in Anchorage, Wasilla and Fairbanks.

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DETAILS

What: Alaska Air Guard recruiting grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony

When: Tuesday, July 10, 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Where: 12300 Mendenhall Loop Drive, Juneau

Note: Media interested in attending should call 428-6030 to RSVP no later than 12 p.m. Monday, July 9. Please leave a message with name, affiliation, and a phone number for us to reach you. We will meet at the front doors of the facility at 11:45 a.m. for escort to the event and interview coordination. Reporters may call or text 907-727-1972 the day of the event if there are questions.