

**WELCOME TO SOCSOUTH**



**U.S. SPECIAL OPERATIONS  
COMMAND SOUTH**

## Table of Contents

Mission & Organization, History	3
SOCSOUTH Contact Numbers	4
Directions to SOCSOUTH	5
Location, Lodging, Reporting to SOCSOUTH	5
In-Processing Procedures	7-8
SOCSOUTH Required Training	8-9
Chaplain, Family Support Office	9
Legal	9-10
Financial Assistance, Insurance	10
Housing	11-13
Communities	14-16
Utilities, Household Service, DMV, Voter Information	17-18
Medical	19-20
Dentists, Pediatricians, PCM, Therapy, & Specialists	20-23
School Enrollment Information	24-25
List of Schools	25-28
Homeschooling	28
Pets	29
USSOUTHCOM & US Army Garrison-Miami	30
Army Community Service Programs	30
Homestead Air Reserve Base	31
HARB Force Support, Services, & Base Facilities	31-32
Commonly Referenced Telephone Numbers	33
Command Facebook Pages	34
City/County Information	Miami-Dade (34-37)/Broward (38-41) 35-41



## **MISSION & ORGANIZATION**

Special Operations Command South (SOCSOUTH) is a sub-unified command assigned to Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM.) It is also the Theater Special Operations Command (TSOC) for U.S. Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM). SOCSOUTH is a joint (military members from all four services) Special Operations headquarters that plans and executes special operations in Central & South America and the Caribbean, principally employing Special Operations Forces provided by USSOCOM and its Service Special Operations Forces (SOF) component commands. The headquarters staff of military, DoD civilian employees, and contractors is comprised of more than 300 personnel.

SOCSOUTH has five assigned or attached subordinate commands including "Charlie" Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group; "Charlie" Company, 3rd Battalion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment; Naval Special Warfare Unit FOUR; 112th Signal Detachment SOCSOUTH; and Joint Special Operations Air Component-South.

The SOCSOUTH Headquarters is organized into traditional J-codes or directorates: J1, Manpower and Personnel; J2, Intelligence; J3, Operations; J4, Logistics; J5, Plans and Policy; J6, Communications; and J8, Comptroller. Within the J3 resides the "Regional Engagement Division" (J33), with four subordinate Regional Engagement Branches (REBs), who plan and monitor Special Operations in their designated sub-regions.

## **HISTORY**

The establishment of Special Operations Command South was authorized by the Joint Chiefs of Staff on May 20, 1986 and activated on Aug. 4, 1986 by USSOUTHCOM at Quarry Heights, Panama as a subordinate unified command of USSOUTHCOM.

In early 1990, SOCSOUTH moved to Corozal East, Panama and then in June 1999, it moved to Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico. In April 2004, Roosevelt Roads closed and SOCSOUTH moved to Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB), Florida. On Feb. 21, 2014, SOCSOUTH officially moved to its new headquarters building in Homestead, Florida.

**SOCSSOUTH Contact Phone Numbers:**

**SOCSSOUTH CDR:** 786-415-2007

**Senior Enlisted Advisor:** 786-415-2004

**First Sergeant:** 786-415-2036

**Military & Family Support:** 786-415-2040 (*POC for questions along with the sponsor*)

**J1 - Manpower & Personnel**

Director: 786-415-2100

NCOIC: 786-415-2102

**Staff Judge Advocate (SJA)**

Director: 786-415-2021

NCOIC: 786-415-2057

**J2 - Intelligence**

Director: 786-415-2200

NCOIC: 786-415-2202

**Medical**

NCOIC: 786-415-2053

**J3 - Operations**

Director: 786-415-2300

NCOIC: 786-415-2302

J3 Command Center (24hrs) 786-415-2700

**Chaplain**

786-415-2011

**J4 - Logistics**

Director: 786-415-2400

NCOIC: 786-415-2402

**J5 – Strategy & Plans**

Director: 786-415-2500

Duty Director: 786-415-2501

**J6 - Communications**

Director: 786-415-2600

NCOIC: 786-415-2602

**J7 – Exercises & Training**

Director: 786-415-2377

NCOIC: 786-415-2380

**J8 – Budget & Finances**

Director: 786-415-2800

NCOIC: 786-415-2802

**Headquarters Commandant**

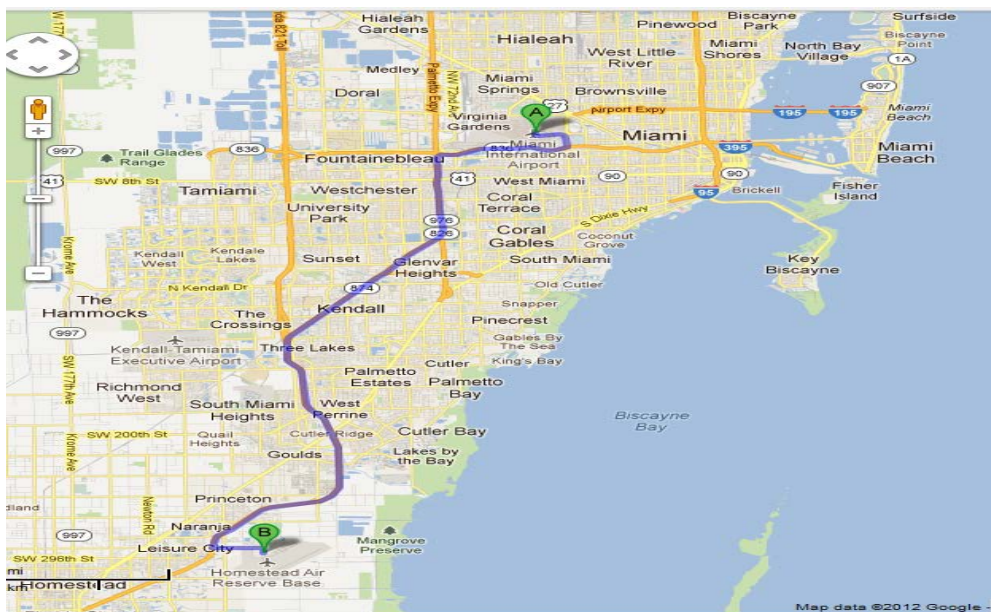
786-415-2769

## **Driving directions to SOCSOUTH from Miami International Airport:**

SOCSOUTH  
29401 SW 125<sup>th</sup> Ave. Bldg. 600  
Homestead Air Reserve Base, Florida 33039

The Florida turnpike expressway Miami and Homestead section only takes SUN PASS or Toll by Plate. You can buy a SUN PASS device at any pharmacy or gas station in Miami or Homestead. For more information: <https://www.sunpass.com/index>

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| 1. Head South  | 0.1 Mile  |
| 2. Slight left toward NW 21 <sup>st</sup> St.  | 0.4 Mile  |
| 3. Continue straight onto NW 21 <sup>st</sup> St.  | 0.2 Mile  |
| 4. Take the ramp   | 0.2 Mile  |
| 5. Keep right at the fork, follow signs for FL-953 S/FL-836/<br>Le Jeune Rd/Coral Gables | 0.2 Mile  |
| 6. Continue straight   | 0.8 Mile  |
| 7. Take the ramp onto FL-836 W   | 3.0 Mile  |
| 8. Take the exit on the left onto FL-826 S   | 3.9 Mile  |
| 9. Continue onto FL-874 S (signs for toll rd/Homestead)                                  | 7.2 Mile  |
| 10. Merge onto FL-821 Toll S/Homestead extension of<br>Florida Turnpike                  | 12.0 Mile |
| 11. Take exit 5 for SW 288 <sup>th</sup> St./Biscayne Dr.                                | 0.3 Mile  |
| 12. Turn left onto SW 288 <sup>th</sup> St./Biscayne Dr.                                 | 1.4 Mile  |
| 13. Turn right onto Coral sea Blvd   | 0.3 Mile  |



**Location:**

The U.S. Special Operations Command South (SOCOUTH) is located in sunny Miami-Dade County, Florida, on Homestead Air Reserve Base. ***Since the command is on a reserve installation, programs and services (CDC, commissary, Base Exchange, youth programs, library, or auto shop) are not provided.*** There are limited Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) programs provided by US Army Garrison-Miami (USAG-Miami) located approximately 35 miles north of SOCSOUTH in Doral, Florida. However, SOCSOUTH has a strong relationship with the local community to help fill this gap.

**Lodging:****Homestead Inn**

Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB)

Building 476

Phone: (786) 415-7198

Open 24/7, Manager on duty 0800-1900

[Homestead.Reservations@homestead.af.mil](mailto:Homestead.Reservations@homestead.af.mil)

**Temporary Lodging Expense**

IAW JFTR Volume 1, all service members are authorized 10 days TLE within CONUS. Extensions are not authorized.

**Reporting to SOCSOUTH:**

When reporting for duty, personnel must report to SOCSOUTH headquarters, 29401 SW 125th Ave, Bldg. 600, Homestead ARB, FL 33039. Newly reported personnel must be escorted by their sponsor or a service liaison until proper clearance is obtained. Contact the SOCSOUTH duty officer at (786) 415-2700 for assistance in case of an emergency prior to reporting.

The Coast Guard Transportation Movement Office will assist in arranging delivery of household goods and privately owned vehicles. Contact this office by phone to coordinate delivery at (305) 278-6833 for those with last names beginning with A – M and (305) 278-6826 for those with last names beginning with N – Z.

## **In-processing Procedures:**

### **Air Force Personnel:**

In-processing is conducted in the J1 office located at 29401 SW 125th Ave. Bldg 600 Homestead ARB, FL 33039 on the second floor and it's a walk-in basis. Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 15:30 p.m. (excluding holidays). Service members must be in uniform to in-process. Estimated time for in-processing is 20 minutes. Incoming personnel must turn in the following documents during in-processing:

- PT test
- SGLI and DD Form 93
- PCS Orders
- \* Permissive leave paperwork is done while in-processing.

In-processing checklists are provided by Headquarters, the inbound member and their sponsor must pick up a copy before in-processing with the J1 office. Service members have a month to complete the checklist and return it to the J1 AF desk. For additional assistance, contact the Air Force Service Desk at (786) 415-2112.

### **Army Personnel:**

In-processing is at the J1 office from 0830-1500 (excluding holidays). Service members must be in uniform to in-process. Estimated time for in-processing is 20 minutes. Incoming personnel must turn in the following documents during in-processing:

- . DA Form 31 (leave form) if requested PPTY leave needs to have stamp from housing office located at SOUTHCOM Garrison
- . 1610/1351-2 for TDY enroute
- . NCOER/OER (as applicable)
- . SGLI and DD Form 93
- . PCS Orders
- . Hotel receipts if requesting TLE
- . Jump log, ABN Cert and DLPT (as applicable)

In-processing checklists will be given to newcomers during in-processing. Service members have five (5) days to complete the checklist and return it to the J1. For additional assistance, contact the Army Service Desk at (786) 415-2117 or (786) 415-2120.

**Navy/Marines personnel:**

Navy Service Desk in processing guidelines:

Appointment times are 1000-1100, 1300-1400, and 1400-1500. Prior to arriving at SOCSOUTH, please bring the following with you:

PG2	Lodging Receipts
SGLI	License plate numbers
Last FITREP	Endorsed orders with loss document
IA Certificate	Copy of Official passport

Please call to request your desired date and time to meet with the Navy helpdesk. You will receive a confirmation email with your sponsor CC'd. Please ensure your sponsor escorts you on your appointment date to me. House hunting (permissive TDY) is authorized 10 days upon checking into SOCSOUTH. For additional assistance, contact the Navy Service Desk at (786) 415-2152.

***SOCSOUTH Required Training:***

All items listed below are found within the JKO website. If you do not have a JKO account please register and access through the link below. Air Force, Navy, Marines equivalent accepted.

[https://jkodirect.jten.mil/Atlas2/faces/page/desktop/DesktopHome.seam?cid=tab\\_2&tabId=2](https://jkodirect.jten.mil/Atlas2/faces/page/desktop/DesktopHome.seam?cid=tab_2&tabId=2)

Once registered and within the website go to the "Course Catalog" Tab and search by name or course number.

1. Course#: US1364 Course Name: Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Awareness Challenge V4  
Link: [https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course\\_prefix=DOD&course\\_number=-US1364](https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course_prefix=DOD&course_number=-US1364)
2. Course#: US007 Course Name: Level I Antiterrorism Awareness Training  
Link: [https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course\\_prefix=JS&course\\_number=-US007](https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course_prefix=JS&course_number=-US007)
3. Course#: OM-US745 Course Name: Intelligence Oversight Awareness Training  
Link: [https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course\\_prefix=SOC&course\\_number=OM-US745](https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course_prefix=SOC&course_number=OM-US745)
4. Course#: N-US649-HB Course Name: Human Rights Awareness Education  
Link: [https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course\\_prefix=JS&course\\_number=N-US649-HB](https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course_prefix=JS&course_number=N-US649-HB)
5. Course#: US008 Course Name: Joint Staff Composite Risk Management Operations Course  
Link: [https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course\\_prefix=JS&course\\_number=-US008](https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course_prefix=JS&course_number=-US008)
6. Course#: A-US1262 Course Name: Combating Trafficking in Persons in the SOUTHCOM AOR Course



Link: [https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course\\_prefix=J3T&course\\_number=A-US1262](https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course_prefix=J3T&course_number=A-US1262)

7. Course#: US009 Course Name: Joint Staff Operations Security (OPSEC)

Link: [https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course\\_prefix=JS&course\\_number=-US009](https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course_prefix=JS&course_number=-US009)

8. Course#: USA34 Course Name: Derivative Classification and Markings

Link: [https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course\\_prefix=STR&course\\_number=-USA34](https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course_prefix=STR&course_number=-USA34)

9. Course#: A-US1329 Course Name: SERE 100.2 Level A Education and Training In Support of the Code of Conduct (FOUO)

Link: [https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course\\_prefix=J3T&course\\_number=A-US1329](https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course_prefix=J3T&course_number=A-US1329)

10. Course#: US010 Course Name: Joint Staff Annual Ethics Training

Link: [https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course\\_prefix=JS&course\\_number=-US010](https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course_prefix=JS&course_number=-US010)

11. Course#: OM-US661 Course Name: Lautenberg Amendment Course

Link: [https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course\\_prefix=SOC&course\\_number=OM-US661](https://jkodirect.jten.mil/html/COI.xhtml?course_prefix=SOC&course_number=OM-US661)

Please print training certs, APFT, and weapons qualification. Bring them with you to ease in-processing.

If you have any questions/concerns about training, please contact SOCSOUTH Headquarters (786) 415-2041 OR (786) 415-2020

### ***Chaplain:***

CH (LTC) J.R. Lorenzen

Phone: 786-415-2011

RPC Ian J. Wakefield

Phone: 786-415-2031

Email: Jason.r.Lorenzen.mil@socom.mil

Mobile: 305-878-5890

Email: Ian.wakefield@socom.mil

### ***Military & Family Support Office:***

SOCSOUTH, Room 1004

Phone: (786) 415-2040

The Family Support Office is easily accessible to service members and families on the first floor of the SOCSOUTH entrance. The Community Programs and Peer Network Coordinator (CPPNC) has a wealth of information that can help reduce or eliminate problems, not only during the PCS process but throughout the assignment to SOCSOUTH. CPPNC will provide information on the local area, spousal employment, volunteer opportunities, Family Readiness Group (FRG), command events, and much more. Please call the CPPNC for assistance at (786) 415-2040.

### ***Legal:***

SOCSOUTH Office of Staff Judge Advocate (OSJA)

JAG Office Main Line: 786-415-2045

JAG Office Organizational Email: SOCSOUTH\_OMB\_JAG\_Office@socom.mil

The OSJA can provide limited legal assistance services to qualified members (Active duty, activated reservists, retirees, and their dependents).

**Services Provided:**

- (1) Notary services
- (2) Wills
- (3) Powers of Attorney
- (4) Lease/Contract review

***Financial Assistance:***

The Financial Readiness Program Manager can assist with information, referral, emergency assistance and budgeting. When preparing for your permanent change of station (PCS) move, be financially prepared. Schedule an appointment with the personal financial counselor at your current installation. Members moving from overseas are reminded that COLA, OHA, and other overseas entitlements will stop. Do not spend this money if it continues in your pay since it will all be taken back once it processes in the military pay system. Stop by the Finance Office, located at USAG-Miami, upon arrival to ensure accuracy of pay. Financial Readiness Program Manager - Phone: (305).437.2645

***Insurance:***

Talk to your automobile insurance agent to determine the best coverage for you. Ask the insurance agent to describe to you in "layman's terms" what each category of coverage is protecting you against and for what amount. Auto insurance is expensive here. South Florida is generally recognized as having the highest auto insurance rates in the United States. The state of Florida does not require drivers to carry extensive automobile Insurance policies. Your finance company will likely require you to carry much more auto insurance than the State requires and you very well may want to do so. This is a personal decision and understanding in layman's terms what is covered and for how much will help to guide your decision on auto insurance purchase. For more information regarding Florida's insurance laws, call (800) 342-2762.

Renter's insurance is strongly recommended for residents of this community. Renter's policies are generally a very good value for money and provide protection not only against loss from theft, but also against loss from fires, and wind damage that can occur during storms. Policies are normally available through the provider of your automobile insurance and individual policies are generally available from reputable insurance

companies. Check coverage amounts on new policies to make certain that you are not buying too much nor too little insurance based on the value of your belongings.

## ***Housing:***



### **Government Family Housing:** *Not available at this installation.*

Most communities require you to be approved by the Homeowners Associations (HOA) prior to moving in even if you have a lease in hand. The approval may require references and background checks. Make sure to give yourself time. This approval process can take up to 10 days, but usually is done in 7 days. Also, just as a suggestion, you may want to

move here and rent a couple months before buying. There are a lot of options with many different pros and cons; you may want to learn more before you buy in some areas.

The cost of rental housing is especially high here and it is common for renters to pay \$1,600 or more for a modest two-bedroom apartment and \$2,200 or more for a modest three bedroom home. You can rent cheaper at modest and safe locations as well. Very acceptable apartments/townhomes are available within the commuting distance for \$1,200-\$1,300 per month and three bedroom homes can be rented in very acceptable areas for less than \$1,800 per month. In addition, please be prepared to pay 3x the monthly rental at the lease signing (1<sup>st</sup> month, last month, and security deposit). Please note that 1<sup>st</sup> and last month's rent can be negotiated.

Because military personnel will need to secure housing from the local economy, service members may face unique issues they have not experienced before. ***The SOCSOUTH SJA Office and/or USAG-Miami housing office is available to review your lease prior to signing.*** Both the SOCSOUTH JAG Office and Housing Services Office personnel are available to brief all service members on resources available and tenant's rights. For additional Housing Services Office information and contacts, call the Director of Housing Services at (305) 437-2664.

## **Where Do We Live:**

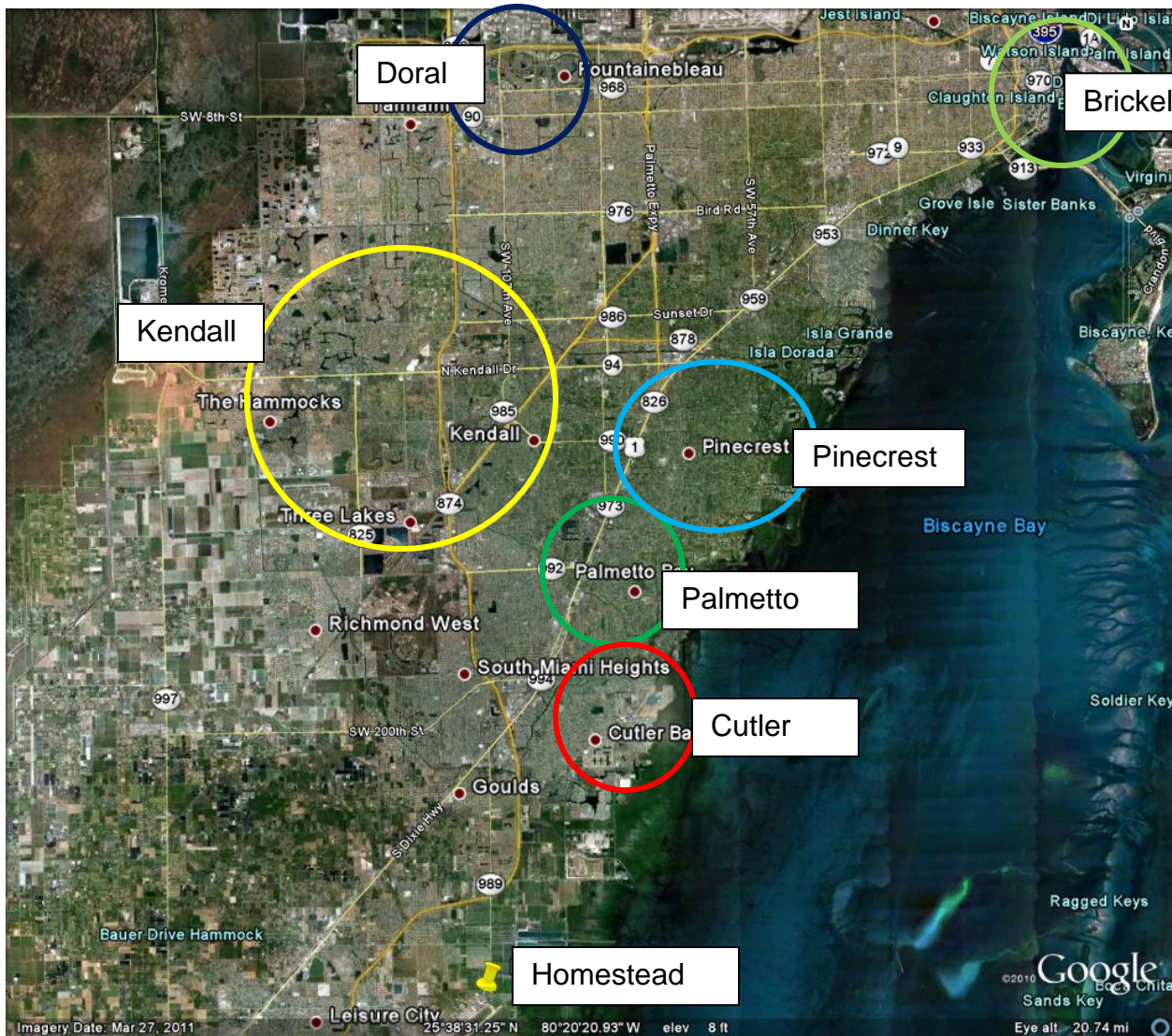
***The following list was comprised by the information gathered from members of the command. Most of our families live in Miami-Dade County within following the communities and neighborhoods (military-friendly and safe). However, we do have members residing in Broward County. If you would like more information on Miami-Dade or Broward, please contact the Family Support Office to gain the information***

***and to be linked with SMS of the specific community/city. More detailed information on cities in Miami-Dade is provided at the end of this packet.***

***Please feel free to use your own research and contacts. This document is not intended to serve as an endorsement of the federal government.***

**Highlighted areas to live North of Homestead ARB:** The following areas are between 10 to 40 miles drive from Homestead ARB. The rent average in these areas fluctuates between \$1,600.00 to \$3,500.00 or higher depending on what are you needs. (See the map below)

- 1) Palmetto Bay
- 2) Cutler Bay
- 3) Kendall
- 4) Coral Gables
- 5) Key Largo
- 6) Brickell Avenue
- 7) Doral
- 8) Biscayne Boulevard
- 9) Pinecrest



**Highlighted Neighborhoods close to Homestead ARB:** The rent around Homestead ARB, fluctuates between \$1,100.00 and \$2,400.00 a month. (See map below)

- 1) Santa Barbara (Townhomes)
- 2) Malibu Bay (Houses/Townhomes)
- 3) Town Gate (Townhome)
- 4) Waterstone (Houses)
- 5) Keys Gate Community (Houses/Townhomes)
- 6) Isles of Oasis (Houses)
- 7) Napa (Houses)



## ***Homestead Communities:***

### **Country Star:**

This is not a gated community. There are no HOA fees. The neighborhood is nice and military-friendly. It is located three miles away from Homestead Air Reserve Base. The rent varies from around \$1,300 and up.

### **Keys Gates:**

Neighborhoods: *Arbor Park, Augusta Greens, Centergate Condos, Dunwoodie, Estates at the Fairways, Fairways, Keys Landing, North Gate, Palm Isle Estates, Towngate, Shores, Cali Greens, and Palm Breeze at Keys Gate*

Keys Gate Clubhouse is in North Gate Neighborhood (you may need to check with your landlord to see if you clubhouse use is covered).

Security: Keys Gate is spread out over a couple miles in Homestead. It is not a closed community, but each neighborhood has its own entrance with a gate, lift bars, or a guard house at the entrance.

Playground: Each Neighborhood has some play area for the children

Homestead Air Reserve Base Distance: 5 - 20 min. commute

*Palm Breeze at Keys Gate*: is a guard gated town home community. The second half of the community is luxury townhomes. It is close to Gateway Environmental K-8 and the Keys Gate Schools. The largest model has 4 bedrooms/ 3 full bathrooms and 1 car attached garage, along with a small fenced backyard. There are 2 pools, a small Playground, and a lot of common grassy areas. Rent for the largest model is estimated at \$1600.

### **Waterstone:**

Waterstone is a gated community with two main entrances. Both entrances are guarded and you must show ID or have a gate pass to go through. Each neighborhood has a gate and/or bar that you must have a remote/sticker to open or call someone to open. Waterstone has two clubhouses with a gym, playground, and pools. There are sidewalks and ponds all through the community; it makes for a nice walk, run, or bike ride. The community is made up of two sections; Waterstone I on the north end and Waterstone II on the south. Most neighborhoods in Waterstone are a 5 min walk to the Clubhouse. Lawn care is included. Waterstone is VERY close to Homestead Air Reserve Base (5-8 min commute).

#### Waterstone I:

Floridian Bay Estates, Floridian Isles Town homes, Marbella Cove, Portofino Estates, Portofino Bay, and Stonebrook

Clubhouse: <http://www.waterstonegrand.com/>

#### Waterstone II Communities:

Waterstone Estates II, Floridian Isles II, Marbella Bay, Pebblebrook II, Portofino Palms, Portofino Pointe, Portofino Oaks, and Stonebook II

Clubhouse: <http://www.waterstoneii.com/>

#### Other Waterstone Communities:

The Groves and Waterstone Boulevard, these are not located inside the Main Gates of Waterstone; but are located just down from the Speedway Boulevard entrance of Waterstone on Speedway Blvd. They each have a separate HOA and DO NOT have clubhouse privileges.

#### **Mandarin Lakes:**

Mandarin Lakes is NOT a gated community; however, it does have some wonderful amenities. A clubhouse with a pool, workout center, bike riding trails, playground, basic cable television package, internet access, & central monitoring of security alarm system. It is a 3-5 min. commute to Homestead Air Reserve Base.

#### **Isles of Oasis:**

Gated communities with clubhouse and gym amenities. It is military and kid-friendly with a lot of police officers residing in the area. It is a 5-10 min. commute to Homestead Air Reserve Base.

#### **Malibu Bay:**

A gated community with amenities that include pool, clubhouse, fitness center and small playground. Estates at Mendocino is a cozy neighborhood within Malibu Bay, just across from the clubhouse and pool with nice single family homes, including several military families. Estates at Mendocino HOA hosts family functions several times a year.

5-10 min commute to Homestead Air Reserve Base.



### ***Kendall Communities:***

Neighborhoods: *Hammocks, Country Walk, The Crossings*

Decent area in Kendall. It is in the middle between Homestead and the heart of Miami. It is a 20-35 min commute to Homestead Air Reserve Base.

### ***Cutler Bay Communities:***

#### **Lake by the Bay**

It is not a gated community. It is located very close to area parks and 2 youth sports fields. It is just off exit 11 on the turnpike. Local shopping includes Southland Mall, Target, Applebee's, Olive Garden, Fudrucker's, Red Robin, The Falls Mall, Chuck E Cheese and the list goes on. It is 15-30 min to Homestead Air Reserve Base.

#### **Isles of Bayshore**

It is located right across the street from Lakes by the Bay. It is a gated community. It has a host of beautiful single family homes. It is 15-30 min to Homestead Air Reserve Base.

#### **Cutler Cay**

Gated community down on Old Cutler Road. Built in 2004-2006. 20 minute commute to Homestead ARB using local roads. Has a club house with a large pool and a cardiovascular and weight lift gym, tennis courts and a little playground. 3 miles from "Coral Reef Park"(which is a wonderful park). There are many different types of houses: one and two stories. 2 or 3 car garages, etc. Very secured. Guard 24 hrs. Walk/jogging paths by almost every main street. Residents exercise safely outdoors. Easy access from the Turnpike, exiting on Eureka Dr. Family oriented area, many parks, and good schools in Palmetto Bay and close to US1.

### ***Key Largo Area:***

It is a 30-40 min commute to Homestead Air Reserve Base (most of the drive is a one lane road).

### ***Broward County:***

We have a small population of families residing in Broward County cities. It is a 45 min - 2 hour commute to Homestead Air Reserve Base. Many utilize the vanpool for

transportation to and from work. Detailed city information provided in the *City/County Information* section. For more detailed information, please visit: [www.broward.org/](http://www.broward.org/)

***Utilities, Household Service, DMV, Voter Information:***

***Note: Check with your HOA, landlord, or tenant to determine which utility company services your subdivision or home; in addition, not all cable/internet services are available in all areas.***

***Electric, Water, Trash:***

**City of Homestead Utility Customer Service**

Telephone: 305-224-4800

Email: [CustomerService@cityofhomestead.com](mailto:CustomerService@cityofhomestead.com)

**Miami**

305-665-7477

[WWW.MIAMIDADE.GOV/WASD/](http://WWW.MIAMIDADE.GOV/WASD/)

**Electricity:**

Florida Power and Lighting

[www.fpl.com](http://www.fpl.com)

Customer Service Number: 305-442-8770

**Phone Company:**

***AT&T***

1 (866) 833 6005

***Cable/Internet Companies:***

***AT&T***

1 (866) 833 6005

***Comcast:***

1-800-XFINITY (1-800-934-6489)

***Direct TV***

1 (855) 246 8956

**Driver's License:**

If you are planning to obtain a driver's license in Florida, you must provide the following documents: 1) identification (passport or birth certificate), 2) Social Security number and 3) residential address (two items).

<http://www.flhsmv.gov/ddl/faqkeys.html>

Mobile DMV – The Family Support Office coordinates for the Mobile DMV to visit SOCSOUTH quarterly. If you have any questions and/or concerns, please contact the FSC office 786.415.2040.

**License Tag:**

Homestead:

South Dade Auto Tag Agency

30708 S Federal Hwy, Homestead, FL 33030 (305) 247-2731

Miami:

Bird Road Tag Agency

8530 Bird Road, Miami, Fl. 33155 (305)226-1231

**Voter Registration:**

[www.miamidade.gov/elections](http://www.miamidade.gov/elections)

305.247.4600

**Medical:**

**Homestead Air Reserve Base does not have a military clinic.**

SOC SOUTH has an aid station located within the headquarters building. The aid station provides services for Active duty, Reserve and National Guard soldiers. During your medical In-processing, don't forget to fill out the medical record transfer request. The clinic will process the request through SOUTHCOM.

The services the aid station offers are:

- 1) Physical Exams
- 2) Basic Sick Calls
- 3) Referrals to civilian doctors
- 4) Questions regarding the blue/yellow school immunization forms

Hours of operation: Monday – Friday 0800-1200 and 1300-1700

Phone: 786-415-2053

Closest Hospital to HARB:

**Homestead Baptist Hospital**

975 Baptist Way Homestead, FL 33033

Tel: 786-243-8505

Urgent Care Center (TriCare Prime Approved)

MD Now Urgent Care

18851 S Dixie Hwy Cutler Bay, FL 33157

(305) 255-7797

Mydmow.com

**Army Health Clinic SOUTHCOM**

The Army Health Clinic SOUTHCOM is the assigned support facility for SOCSOUTH members. It provides ambulatory primary healthcare services to enrolled active duty service members and adult active duty family members. The clinic is located on the SOUTHCOM Headquarters at 9301 NW 33rd St., Doral, Fla. 33172, in the Installation Services building, STE A1040.

Hours of operation: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 0700 - 1600

Thursday: 0700 – 1200

Sick Call Sign In: 7 AM - 7:30 AM (or call for an appointment)

Phone: (305) 437-1148

### **TriCare Information for Military Dependents:**

Note: All medical needs for military dependents are handled through TRICARE. When you PCS to Homestead, you will need to change your family's enrollment TriCare region to the South East Region. TRICARE has approved providers throughout Miami and Homestead area. In addition, before changing your PCM, call and make sure the doctor is accepting new patients.

### ***Military Family & Life Counselors (MFLC)***

The Military and Family Life Counseling Program supports service members, their families and survivors with non-medical counseling. Military and Family Life Counselors (MLFC) deliver valuable face-to-face counseling services, briefings and presentations to the military community both on and off the installation for FREE. MFLC counseling is confidential and will not be shared with the service member's chain of command.

Adult Counselor - (786) 575-0278

Youth Counselor - (786) 422-4558

### ***Dentists, Pediatricians, PCM, Therapy, & Specialists***

*This list was comprised by the information gather from members of the command. Please feel to do your own research and contacts. This document is not intended to serve as an endorsement of the federal government.*

#### **Dentists:**

##### **Pediatric Dentistry of Kendall**

11790 SW 89th Street  
Miami, FL 33186  
305-271-1151

##### **Dr. Boyan Chakalov, DMD**

83 NW 8th St,  
Homestead, FL 33030  
(305) 248-0027

##### **Mainstreet Children's Dentistry Homestead**

305.407.1026  
925 NE 30 Terrace, Suite 110  
Homestead, FL 33033

##### **Mainstreet Children's Dentistry**

786.738.6494  
8805 SW 144th St  
Palmetto Bay, FL 33176

##### **The Falls Dental Care Group**

8729 SW 136th St  
Miami, FL 33176  
(305) 255-5550

##### **Towncare Dental**

925 NE 30th Terrace #118  
Homestead, FL 33033  
(786) 738-6500

**Dr. Lidia M Paz DDS**

950 N Krome Ave #207  
 Homestead, FL 33030  
 (305) 247-5264

**Dr. Maigrely Abreu-Hernandez**

5965 Ponce de Leon Blvd  
 Coral Gables, FL 33146  
 (305) 662-7702

**Pediatrician/Doctors:****Homestead Pediatric Associates Inc**

Torres Danette MD and Dr. Pernez  
 311 NE 8th St # 203-204 Homestead, FL  
 (305) 245-4549

**Portofino Medical**

(305) 246-1030  
 925 NE 30<sup>th</sup> Ave Ste 308  
 Homestead, FL

**Kings Bay Pediatrics**

8750 SW 144th Ste 100 Palmetto Bay, FL  
 (305) 253-5585

**Pinecrest Pediatrics**

(786) 250-5224  
 11635 S Dixie Hwy  
 Pinecrest, FL

**Pediatric Associates**

100 NE 15th St Suite 101 Homestead, FL 33030  
 Phone: 305-245-8050  
 Fax: 305-245-5950  
 Website: <http://www.pediatricassociates.com>

**Dr. Norma J. Roche, MD**

698 N Homestead Blvd  
 #104  
 Homestead, FL 33030  
 (305) 245-3534

**Dr. Alfredo Machado MD**

Pediatric Associates-South FL  
 151 NW 11th St Suite E202  
 Homestead, FL 33030  
 (305) 245-3220

**Primary Care Manager (PCM):****Dr. Michael Feldman**

8750 SW 144th St., Miami, FL 33176  
 (305) 255-0098  
 Homestead Office: (305) 245-3001

**Dr. Mariela Perez**

(305) 245-8858  
 2048 NE 8th St Homestead FL 33033

**Dr. Norma J. Roche, MD**

698 N Homestead Blvd #104, Homestead, FL 33030  
 (305) 245-3534

**OB/GYN:**

**Dr. Cynthia Bradley**

8750 SW 144th St Suite 201  
Palmetto Bay, FL 33176  
(305) 378-4624

**Dr. Christina Pena**

3850 Bird Rd #402, Miami, FL 33146  
(305) 227-8727

**Julio Somoano PA**

7000 SW 97th Ave # 209  
Miami, FL 33173  
(305) 271-2511

**John Ayala**

7000 SW 97th Ave Ste 108  
Miami, FL  
(305) 598-5232

**Randye Karmin M.D** (High Risk, female doctor)

7400 N Kendall Dr. Ste 404  
305-670-0010

**Dr. Mario Gomez MD/PA** (does both GYN and OB)

925 NE 30th Terrace  
Suite 300  
Homestead, FL 33033  
(786) 377-2500

**Diagnostics:*****Virtual Imaging- Homestead***

692 N. Homestead Blvd.  
Suite 106  
Homestead, FL 33030  
Tel: 305-596-9992 Fax: 305-596-0942

**Vision:****South Florida Eyecare Centers**

948 N. Krome Ave. Homestead, FL 33030  
<http://www.southfloridaeyecarecenters.com/>  
305-247-2331

**Center for Excellence in Eye Care**

Baptist Medical Arts Building  
8940 N Kendall Drive - Suite 400-E Miami, FL 33176  
<http://www.centerforeyecare.com/>

**Children's Therapies:****Early Steps:**

The Florida Early Intervention Program for children birth-36months with delays in their development. They will help you get your child evaluated and find services. They do have therapist who can come to your home or the child's day care so they may receive therapy in their natural environment.

17615 SW 97th Avenue Miami, FL 33157  
(786) 268-2611

**Speech:*****Children's Speech Center***

[www.csc4me.com](http://www.csc4me.com)  
127ave, Miami  
305-279-8070

**Miami Children's in Cutler Bay**

Speech, OT, and PT  
(786) 268-1777

**Occupational Therapy:**

Alicia Morgado MOT, OTR/L  
786-350-8327



### **School Enrollment Information:**



Children attend school in either Broward or Miami-Dade County. Schools are a personal choice. There are many subject-based schools from sciences to the arts. Your address does not dictate where your child has to attend school, unless you choose a public school in your zone. Magnet, Charter, and Private schools are not zone-based schools. Public schools are the only schools that can almost guarantee free transportation, if you qualify.

Broward County Public Schools: [www.browardschools.com/](http://www.browardschools.com/)

Miami-Dade County Public Schools: [www.dadeschools.net/](http://www.dadeschools.net/)

Miami-Dade Charter Schools: <http://charterschools.dadeschools.net/default.asp>

### **School Liaison Officer:**

The SOUTHCOM School Liaison Officer (SLO) provides information, makes referrals, educates families and school districts, coordinates with school staff, manages partnerships between parents, school and installation and advocates for military students and their education. The SLO can be contacted by calling (305) 437-2633 Monday – Friday from 7:30 am – 4:30 pm. Located in USAG-Miami in Doral, FL

**Contact: Mrs. Gonzalez-Posada – Email: [ileana.gonzalez-posada.naf@mail.mil](mailto:ileana.gonzalez-posada.naf@mail.mil)**

**Application Periods** for the school year are approximately 8-10 months before school starts for magnet and charter schools. There are limited slots. We suggest you apply ASAP and advised you are military. In addition, for magnet schools and some charter schools you will need your orders to apply. If a slot is not available, military move up the wait list quickly! DO NOT wait until you are here, do apply ASAP.

### **The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children**

Florida recognizes the need to provide supports to students of military families. The compact rules are designed to:

- Facilitate the transfer of enrollment, immunization, and education records
- Promote smooth transitions to graduation
- Promote seamless transitions for course and educational placements
- Consider circumstances for excused absences
- Facilitate eligibility for enrollment in school and extracurricular participation

For more information: <http://www.mic3.net/>

Please review the Florida Statutes:

<http://mic3.net/pages/contact/Map/documents/InterstateCompactinFloridaStatutes.pdf>

### **Magnet School Application Link:**

Apply to over 100 Magnet Schools across Miami-Dade. The application period for the school year is open from **October 1st until January 15th**. If you miss the application window, arrangements can be made for military families to apply for consideration.

<http://yourchoicemiami.org/magnet-applications/>

### **Four Year Old-VPK:**

Florida has a FREE four year old Preschool Program- VPK for ALL four year olds. To apply you must go to your local voucher office and pick up your voucher, then find a Daycare/Preschool that has an opening. Most schools VPK program is part-time (0800-1200) and/or offer an all-day summer program prior to starting kindergarten. For more information: <http://vpkhelp.org/>

### **List of Schools:**

*This list was comprised by the information gathered from members of the command. Please feel free to do your own research and contacts. This document is not intended to serve as an endorsement of the federal government.*

\*\*\*\*\* There is NO on-post schools/CDC/YDC\*\*\*\*\*

### **Pre-Schools:**

#### ***First United Methodist Christian School (2yr - 7th Grade & VPK) Private***

<http://www.fumcs.com/>  
622-A N. Krome Ave.  
Homestead, FL 33030  
(305)248-7992

#### ***Cutler Ridge United Methodist Church and Preschool (VPK)***

<http://cutlerridgeumc.org/>  
20740 Old Cutler Rd – Cutler Bay, FL 33189  
Phone: (305)235-6651

#### ***Kingswood Montessori School (18mos-6th Grade & VPK)***

<http://www.kingswoodmontessori.com>  
20130 Southwest 304th Street  
Homestead, FL 33030  
(305) 248-2308

#### ***Rainbow Christian Academy (VPK, 2yo-8th grade) Private***

<http://www.rainbowchristianacademy.com/>

22940 Old Dixie Hwy  
 Miami Florida 33170 (is actually in Homestead)  
 305-258-0194

**CCLC at South Dade (Provides Childcare, VPK, & After-school Care)**

10190 SW 344 St  
 Florida City, FL 33034

**K-12 Schools:**

***Airbase Elementary (VPK & Magnet School)***

<http://abe.dadeschools.net/>  
 12829 Southwest 272nd Street  
 Homestead, FL 33032  
 (305) 258-3676

**Center For International Education (8-12 Magnet)**

900 Northeast 23rd Avenue, Homestead, FL 33033  
 Phone: (305) 248-7911  
[www.ciecambridge.org/](http://www.ciecambridge.org/)

**Coral Reef Montessori (Charter)**

10853 SW 216 Street Miami, FL 33170  
 Phone: 305.255.0064

**Coral Reef Senior High (Magnet)**

10101 SW 152nd St, Miami, FL 33157  
 Phone: (305) 232-2044  
[crhs.dadeschools.net/](http://crhs.dadeschools.net/)

***Key's Gate Charter School (K-2)***

<http://www.keyscharter.org>  
 2355 SE 28 Avenue Homestead, Florida 33035  
 (305) 230-5630

***Key's Gate Charter School (3-7)***

2000 SE 28 Avenue Homestead, Florida 33035  
 (305) 230-1616

***Keys Gate Charter High School (9-12)***

[www.keysgatecharterhigh.org/2325](http://www.keysgatecharterhigh.org/2325)  
 SE 28th Avenue Homestead, Florida 33035  
 (786) 272-9600

**Medical Academy for Science and Technology (MAST)**

1220 NW 1st Ave, Homestead, FL 33030

(305) 257-4500  
mastmedical.org/

**Miami Arts Charter (6-12)**

3000 SE 9th Street Homestead, FL 33035  
Phone: (786) 272- 6398  
<http://www.miamiartscharter.net/>

**Somerset City Arts Conservatory (Charter)**

1700 N Krome Ave  
Homestead, FL 33030  
Phone: (305) 246-4949  
<http://www.somersetcityarts.com/>

**Somerset Academy Oaks (Charter)**

1000 Old Dixie Highway  
Homestead, FL 33030  
Phone: (305) 247-3993  
<http://www.somersetoaks.com>

**Somerset Academy SOHO Charter (K-5)**

300 SE 1st Dr, Homestead, FL 33030  
Phone: (305) 245-6108  
<http://www.somersetsoho.com/WP/>

**Somerset Academy South Homestead 6-12 (Charter)**

305 NE 2nd Rd,  
Homestead, FL 33030  
305-258-7497  
<http://somersetacademysh.com/>

**Somerset Academy Silver Palms (K-12) (Charter)**

23255 SW 115th Ave, Homestead, FL 33032  
Phone: (305) 257-3737

**The Charter School at Waterstone (K-5)**

[http://www.edline.net/pages/TheCharterSchool\\_at\\_Waterstone](http://www.edline.net/pages/TheCharterSchool_at_Waterstone)  
855 Waterstone Way Homestead, FL 33033  
(305) 248-6206

***First United Methodist Christian School (2yr - 7th Grade & VPK) Private***

<http://www.fumcs.com/>  
622-A N. Krome Ave. Homestead, FL 33030  
(305)248-7992

***Rainbow Christian Academy (VPK, 2yo-8th grade) Private***

<http://www.rainbowchristianacademy.com/>  
 22940 Old Dixie Hwy Miami Florida 33170 (is actually in Homestead)  
 305-258-0194

**Westminster Christian School (PK3-12) (Private)**

[www.wcsmiami.org](http://www.wcsmiami.org)  
 6855 SW 152nd St, Palmetto Bay, FL 3315  
 (305) 233-2030

**Homeschooling:**



**Florida Online School:**

<http://www.flvs.net/Pages/default.aspx>

**Miami Dade Online Academy** partnered with K12

<http://mdo.dadeschools.net/>

**Groups:**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/homesteadheritagehomeschoolcoop/>

<http://www.pacemiami.org>

<http://www.lighthomeschoolmiami.org>

<http://www.pinelandsenrichmentprogram.org>

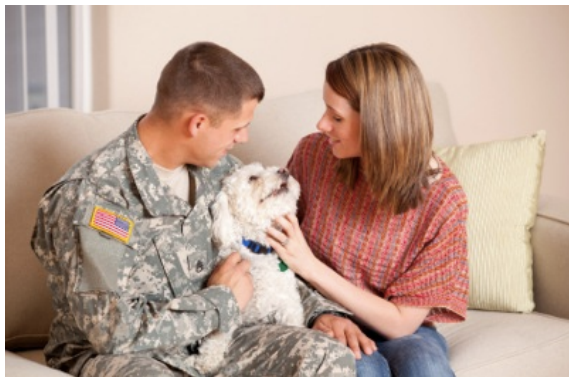
<http://www.pathhomeschool.org>

**Great starting point for wanting to find out homeschooling laws for Florida:**

<http://www.fpea.com/about-home-schooling/getting-started-guide>

<http://www.fpea.com/find-your-district/district-14/>

## **Pets:**



Dogs, cats, and ferrets must be vaccinated against the rabies virus beginning at four months of age, and they must be revaccinated as directed by the vaccine manufacturer (typically, every one or three years.) Dogs must be licensed every year and must wear their tags at all times. Four dogs are allowed to live on residential property that is less than one acre, six dogs on one to two acres, and eight dogs on two acres or more. The acquisition or keeping of **Pit Bull dogs are**

**prohibited in Miami-Dade County.** Depriving an animal of food, water, or adequate shelter is an act of animal cruelty.

For more information see the Miami-Dade County website:  
<http://www.miamidade.gov/animals/>.

### **Registration Requirements:**

Every person owning, keeping, or harboring any dog over four (4) months of age within Miami-Dade County, Florida, or bringing any dog over four (4) months of age into this County shall, within thirty (30) days of the dog entering the county, register the dog with the Department and obtain a license tag, which the dog shall wear at all times. Rabies vaccinations and licenses may be obtained from a Veterinarian or at the Miami-Dade Animal Services shelter located at: 7401 NW 74th Street, Miami, Florida 33166. Hours of operation: Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Telephone (305) 884-1101. County/State: [http://www.miamidade.gov/animals/kennel\\_license.asp](http://www.miamidade.gov/animals/kennel_license.asp).

### **Boarding Kennels:**

***This list was comprised by the information gather from members of the command. Please feel to do your own research and contacts. This document is not intended to serve as an endorsement of the federal government.***

Before boarding, make sure to contact the kennel to make sure that your pet is up-to-date with all required vaccinations.

Homestead Animal Hospital: <http://myhomesteadvet.com/>

Doggies Gone Wild: <http://doggies-gonewild.com/>

Wags to Wishes Doggie Day Care: <http://www.wags-to-wishes.com>

Knowles Animal Clinics: <http://www.knowlesanimalclinics.com>

Brickell Animal Hospital: <http://brickellanimalhospital.com/>

General list of kennels in Miami: <http://www.findpetcare.com/se/dog-boarding-miami.htm>.

## ***U.S. Southern Command and U.S. Army Garrison-Miami:***

The U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) and U.S. Army Garrison-Miami are thirty-five (35) miles north of SOCSOUTH in Doral, FL. The command is not on an installation, so many of the programs and services normally on an installation are not available

(commissary, Base Exchange, youth programs, library, and auto shop). The

command works with the local communities to ensure personnel have access to programs and services typically available on a military installation. Blessed with year round mild climates and unrivaled ocean access, America's southernmost resort city is also a sought-after international recreation destination. Miami caters to action-oriented visitors from around the globe with some of the world's top golf, tennis and sporting facilities. Add sparkling waters that are a magnet for boating enthusiasts, fishermen, divers and water sports aficionados to the equation, and it is clear why Miami is often a number one choice for active travelers of all ages and skill levels. The installation's base operator is (305) 437-1000.



### **U.S. Army Garrison-Miami Army Community Service Programs**

**Relocation Readiness:** Designed to reduce or eliminate problems arising because of frequent moves. Services include relocation counseling, pre-arrival information, overseas orientation, Newcomer Orientation, Miami Tour, Lending Closet and services to multicultural and Waiting Families.

**Employment Readiness:** Designed to help service member's transition from military to civilian life and locate employment opportunities for Family members. Services include job search assistance, career assessment/counseling, job/career fairs, private and public sector job resources, pre-separation briefings, seminars and workshops. Greater Miami is an entrepreneurial community that includes small ventures, mid-sized companies, Fortune 500 corporations and European, Asian and North and South American multinationals.

**Exceptional Family Member Program:** A mandatory enrollment program that provides services to Families with special needs.

For additional Army Community Service information and contacts, **call (305) 437-2665**. Visit the website:

**<https://miami.armymwr.com/us/miami/programs/army-community-service-acs>**

### ***Homestead Air Reserve Base:***

Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB) is located in Homestead, FL. The 482nd FW, the host unit of HARB, supports contingency and training operations of U.S. Southern Command and a number of tenant units, including Headquarters Special Operations Command South, the U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Safety and Security Team, and an air and maritime unit of U.S. Customs and Border



Protection. In addition, HARB is home to the most active NORAD alert site in the continental United States, operated by a detachment of F-15 fighter interceptors from the 125th FW of the Florida Air National Guard. The installation is a reserve installation, so many of the programs and services normally on an active duty installation are not available (commissary, Base Exchange, youth programs, library, and auto shop). The installation's base operator is (786) 415-7000/7682.

## **HARB Force Support, Services, & Base Facilities**

### **Lodging Office (Homestead Inn)**

Building 476

Phone: (786) 415-7198

Rooms have either one (1) queen or twin in each room. The facility is pet-free. If you need other accommodations, lodging will assist you with booking local hotels.

### **Military I.D. Cards** (Appointments required)

Building 346, Room 101 Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Phone: (786) 415-7138

Two valid forms of ID are required to include: Driver's license, military or school ID, social security card, voter's registration card, birth certificate, passport, resident card, alien card, foreign national ID with photo. All marriage certificates, birth certificates, and divorce decrees shown for DEERS must be the original court-certified copies.

### **Fitness Center**

Building 359 Hours: Mon-Fri 6 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Phone: (786) 415-7129

### **AAFES Express/Laundry/Dry Cleaning/Military Clothing**

Building 142 Hours: Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Phone: (305) 258-3881



**Community Activity Center (CAC) / All Ranks Bar / Dining Facility**

Building 400

Phone: (786) 415-7486

Lunch Hours: Tuesday - Friday 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Bar Hours: Monday - Wednesday 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Thursday - Friday 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

**Blazin Beanz Coffee Shop**

Building 344

Phone; (786) 415-6779

Hours: Monday - Friday 6 a.m. - 5 p.m.

UTA Saturday and Sunday 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**Barber Shop & Hair Tech Salon (Same day appointments accepted)**

Building 344 Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. - Noon

Phone: (786) 415-8449

**Outdoor Recreation**

Building 164 Hours: Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Phone: (786) 415-7092

**Visitor Control Center (VCC) (next to the front gate)**

Building 346 Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m. & 1:00p.m. -3:00 p.m.

Phone: (786) 415-7222

**Recycling Center**

Building 164 Hours: 0900-1500 M-F

Phone: (786) 415-7451

*Don't get stuck with those pesky moving boxes!*

***Commonly Referenced Telephone Numbers:***

American Red Cross – (877) 272-7337

Army Community Service (Doral) – (305) 437-2644

Chaplain (SOCSOUTH) - (786) 415-2011

Club (all ranks)/CAC (HARB) – (786) 415-7486

DEERS/ID (Doral) – (305) 437-2718

DEERS/ID (HARB) – (786) 415-7138

Emergency Financial Assistance (Doral) – (305) 437-2645

Family Support Office (SOCSOUTH) – (786) 415-2040

Fitness Center (HARB) – (786) 415-7091

Health Clinic (SOCSOUTH) – (786) 415-2050

Housing Office (Doral) – (305) 437-2664

JAG Office (SOCSOUTH) – (786) 415-2057

Leisure Travel Services (Doral) – (305) 437-1595

Outdoor Recreation (HARB) – (786) 415-7092

TriCare – (800) 444-5445

**Command Facebook Pages:****SOCSOUTH SFRG –**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SOCSOUTHSFRG/>

**SOCSOUTH -**

<https://www.facebook.com/USSOCSOUTH/>

**USSOUTHCOM –**

[https://www.facebook.com/southcom?ref=br\\_tf](https://www.facebook.com/southcom?ref=br_tf)

**Army Community Service –**

[https://www.facebook.com/southcom?ref=br\\_tf#!/USAGMiamiFamilySupportCenter](https://www.facebook.com/southcom?ref=br_tf#!/USAGMiamiFamilySupportCenter)

**Family and MWR –**

<https://www.facebook.com/USAGMiamiFamilySupportCenter#!/miamifmwr>

**Southern Command Spouses –**

[https://www.facebook.com/southcom?ref=br\\_tf#!/groups/131929440155922/](https://www.facebook.com/southcom?ref=br_tf#!/groups/131929440155922/)

**Parent Support Group –**

[https://www.facebook.com/southcom?ref=br\\_tf#!/groups/ussouthcompresents/](https://www.facebook.com/southcom?ref=br_tf#!/groups/ussouthcompresents/)

**Military Spouse Recipe Swap –**

<https://www.facebook.com/MilitarySpousesRecipeSwapPage>

**Broward Spouses –**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/165417533619618/>

**Conference Center of the Americas (CCA) –**

<https://www.facebook.com/USSOUTHCOMCCA>

## **City/County Information:**



### **Meet Miami-Dade County**

The Beacon Council, Miami-Dade County's Official Economic Development Partnership, has a wealth of information about the quality of life in Miami-Dade County. The website is

<http://www.beaconcouncil.com/meet-miami-dade-county> and has information on communities, cost of living, culture, dining, education, healthcare, recreation, shopping and sports.

**Homestead:** Homestead is a beautiful place to live and work. In our city, sunny days are the norm and the average temperature is 75 degrees. Miami is only thirty miles north of Homestead, home to a major international airport and one of the country's most vibrant and culturally rich cities. Military people who are used to living in close knit neighborhoods will appreciate the community atmosphere.

Homestead is adjacent to two national parks. Ten miles west of Homestead is a wealth of natural beauty: Everglades National Park. The Everglades are home to vast mangrove forests and watery saw grass plains. The Everglades are truly a subtropical wilderness that shelters alligators, ibis, eagles, manatees, and panthers. East of the city is Biscayne National Park encompassing the bay, barrier islands, and coral reefs. Just south of the city are the Florida Key's with an abundance of recreational activities. Residents of South Florida can enjoy outdoor activities like camping, fishing, boating, water skiing, throughout the year and visit the many cities and areas of recreation within less than 30 minute driving time.

The hometown atmosphere in Homestead that welcomes visitors comes from a community that is proud of the ongoing accomplishments that make the City of Homestead a desirable place to live, work, and raise a family. The City of Homestead offers a unique small-town atmosphere with all the amenities of a big city. Welcome to Homestead: truly a great place to live and work! <http://www.cityofhomestead.com/>

**Coral Gables:** Many of the buildings and districts of Coral Gables are meticulously preserved as historic landmarks. Among the more notable sites is the 1927 Coral Gables City Hall, with a distinctive mural by artist John St. John depicting scenes of the city's early days. The Douglas Road Entrance, one of several ornate street entrances to Coral Gables, reflects the Mediterranean style that dominates the city fashioned from a rock quarry. The Biltmore Hotel, completed in 1926, has been restored to its former grandeur as one of Greater Miami's premier resorts. Coral Gables is the site of the University of Miami. It is home to the Miami Hurricanes college football, baseball and

basketball teams. The Lowe Art Museum, located in the University of Miami, hosts changing exhibits by both local and international artists.

**Doral:** The City of Doral is located west and in the middle of Miami-Dade County, close to the Everglades in the area called South Florida. South Florida has almost everything that military personnel and Family members could want, such as nice weather, great shopping, fabulous recreation and cultural opportunities, the list is endless. The cost-of living is a little more than the national norm for a standard city, but the climate and the number of free and inexpensive recreational and cultural opportunities help to make up for it.

It is difficult to speak of South Florida without mentioning the many surrounding communities that comprise the Greater Miami area. Area communities have family-friendly enclaves, complete with tree-lined streets, parks and kids on bikes. As a dynamic, multi-cultural area, Greater Miami boasts the best of many worlds. Every group has made its mark on the area. Visit Little Havana's ethnic stores, restaurants and many festivals for a cultural experience. Just minutes away from Little Havana, Coconut Grove has sidewalk cafes and shopping. For those who seek a more fast-paced evening, South Beach's ocean front district has numerous activities to keep you entertained. South Florida has it all.

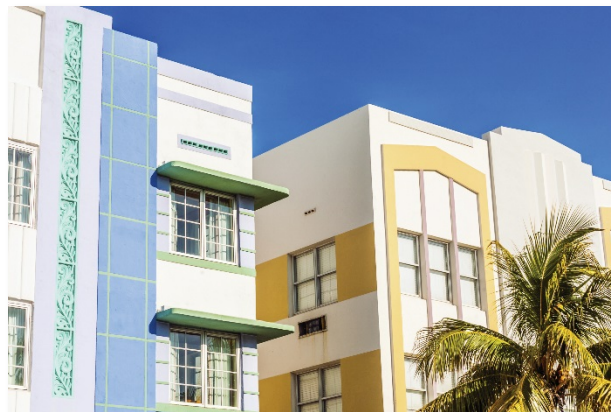
**Downtown Miami:** Miami's downtown attractions reflect the city's ability to look toward the future without losing sight of the past. The Freedom Tower on Biscayne Boulevard is a monument to the city's ability to change. Built in 1924, the city's first skyscraper has housed the offices of the Miami News and has been the gateway to freedom for thousands of Cuban refugees. The ornate Gusman Center, originally built in the mid-1920s as the Olympia Theater, offers a wide selection of performing arts, from stand-up comedians to the New World Symphony. The Metro-Dade Cultural Center, with its Mediterranean plaza and cascading fountains, provides an old-world setting for Greater Miami's state-of-the-art library. A historical and fine-arts museum displays the works of world-renowned artists, past and present. The Orange Bowl is home to the University of Miami Hurricanes football team and is the site of many concerts and special events throughout the year.

**Key Biscayne:** Key Biscayne has two beautiful parks: Crandon Park and Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Recreation Park. Each park has beaches, bike trails and nature tours. Crandon Park has world class tennis and golf facilities. It also the University of Miami's Marine Lab where students and faculty study the delicate ecology of Biscayne Bay and the Miami Seaquarium, home of Flipper the Dolphin, Lolita the Killer Whale and other sea creatures and exhibits.

**Miami Beach:** Once you explore the beach, discover Miami Beach's shopping, dining and pastel colored Art Deco District. The Wolfsonian Museum has a singular collection of more than 70,000 works of art. For art of a more poignant sort, visit the Holocaust Memorial, commemorating the Jewish victims and survivors of World War II. The uniquely designed lifeguard stations along the shore sport lively pastels that are

synonymous with Miami Beach. The Miami Beach Preservation League offers walking, biking and in-line skating tours of the Art Deco District. Palm, Star and Hibiscus islands are just a few of the many private islands that line the Venetian and MacArthur causeways and much of the western edge of Miami Beach. Here live some of Greater Miami's wealthiest residents.

**South Beach:** The popularity of South Beach is not only in tourism but also in fashion, music and film. South Beach has recently become home to a number of film, television and print production companies, making Miami the third largest industry center in the country. The Art Deco District contains more than 800 newly restored buildings designed in a distinctive architectural style, all within a single square-mile. The famous Ocean Drive is filled with people strolling, biking, skating or just sitting at its many cafes, restaurants and bars.





## ***Meet Broward County***

**Coconut Creek:** Coconut Creek, the “Butterfly Capital of the World”, is a well-planned city with a unique environmental consciousness nestled between Miami and Palm Beach. Spotlights as one of the “Best Cities to Live in America” by Money Magazine, and a Top Ten Place to Live in Florida by Movoto and NerdWallet, Coconut Creek is home to 59,000 residents and supports a diverse, growing business community. The City’s Mainstreet Project, home to the Seminole Casino Coconut Creek and the Coconut Creek Promenade, a 23-acre, open-air, upscale shopping and restaurant center, has received the “Award of Excellence” for its Design Standards by the Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association (FAPA). When complete, the City’s MainStreet area will be bustling with over 250 acres of LEED-certified businesses, upscale housing, and beautifully landscaped parks and greenways.

**Cooper City:** Cooper City has earned the reputation of being called "Someplace Special." While the City enjoys remembering its past, it understands the need to focus on the future. Cooper City is a vibrant community and is proud to boast about its strong sense of community, excellent park and recreational facilities and exceptional schools.

**Coral Springs:** The City Commission has identified five priorities that they believe reflect the key issues in the community. These priorities are intended to provide strategic direction for City staff. The priorities and their mission statements:

### *A Family-Friendly Community*

Augment the quality of life that defines the hometown feel of our community by assuring public safety and good schools, promoting arts and culture, capitalizing on the strength in our diversity, and embracing our inclusive, welcoming nature.

### *A Thriving Business Community*

Continue to provide fiscal benefit and economic stability to the City by encouraging and supporting economic development and redevelopment as well as expansion and retention of existing businesses.

### *An Attractive Community*

Take proactive measures to preserve and enhance the community’s appearance and maintain of its vital infrastructure. Lead by example in the stewardship and conservation of natural resources.

### *An Active, Healthy Community*

Influence and support an environment that promotes active, healthy, and enriched lifestyles for residents of all ages. Focus on leisure, cultural, recreational, and sporting activities and events that infuse event dollars into the local economy.

### *Innovative, High Performing Organization*

The City is committed to ethical governance, adherence to its Core Values, transparency, innovation, collaboration, and exceeding customer expectations by delivering high-quality programs and services that meet the needs of an increasingly diverse community.

**Dania Beach:** The City of Dania Beach was incorporated in 1904 as Broward's first city. The City is located immediately south of the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, Port Everglades, and the Broward County Convention Center. Dania Beach operates under a Commission-City Manager form of government and provides services to an estimated 30,000 residents.

Dania Beach is a major player in South Florida's academic, marine, and tourism industries. The American Maritime Officer's Training and the Simulation Training Assessment & Research Center for maritime ship City of Dania Beach Florida licensing is located within the City's boundary, with state of the art bridge and engine room simulators which offer advanced merchant marine training. Bass Pro Shops, Diver's Direct, and the City's newly renovated Dania Beach Marina are major attractions to the City for people interested in outdoor sports, boating, and fishing.

**Davie:** The Town of Davie is home to over 99,000 residents who live across a lush 35 square miles within central Broward. The Town's rural atmosphere, western theme district and sprawling educational complex foster an environment that separates Davie from all other municipalities in Broward County.

Our green open spaces, numerous parks and over 165 miles of trail system along with the opportunity to live an equestrian lifestyle are amenities that you just can't find in today's growing South Florida.

The Town of Davie is also the nexus of higher education in South Florida where several nationally known colleges, technical institutes, and universities make up the South Florida Educational Center. Plus, we have the privilege of calling Davie the home of the Miami Dolphins who practice at Nova Southeastern University! Davie is ideally located among major thoroughfares such as the Ronald Reagan Turnpike, I-595, I-75, and is within a few minutes travel to the Ft. Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport and Florida's deepest port, Port Everglades.

**Fort Lauderdale:** Incorporated on March 27, 1911, encompassing approximately 36 square miles with an estimated population of 176,013, Fort Lauderdale is the largest of Broward County's 31 municipalities and the eighth largest city in Florida. Embraced by the Atlantic Ocean, New River and a myriad of scenic inland waterways, Fort Lauderdale truly lives up to its designation as the "Venice of America."



An advantageous economic climate is helping the City of Fort Lauderdale establish itself as a world-class international business center and one of the most desirable locations for new, expanding or relocating businesses. Once known strictly as a tourism-based economy, Fort Lauderdale now supports a diverse range of industries, including marine, manufacturing, finance, insurance, real estate, high technology, avionics/aerospace, film and television production.

Fort Lauderdale also offers an outstanding quality of life, highlighted by a semi-tropical climate, rich natural beauty and array of cultural, entertainment and educational amenities. Blessed with over 3,000 hours of sunshine each year and pleasant year-round ocean breezes, world-famous Fort Lauderdale Beach offers premier opportunities for recreation, relaxation and enjoyment. The picturesque Riverwalk serves as the cornerstone of the City's arts, science, cultural and historic district which features the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Museum of Discovery and Science, Museum of Art and Old Fort Lauderdale Village and Museum. Las Olas Boulevard has gained international acclaim as Fort Lauderdale's centerpiece of fashion, fine dining and entertainment. In addition, the City's downtown area is home to Broward Community College, Florida Atlantic University, Florida International University, the award-winning Broward County Main Library, federal, county and school district offices.

Through the cooperative efforts of residents, businesses and local government, Fort Lauderdale has evolved into a City that offers the best of both worlds - an attractive business environment and an outstanding quality of life. Fort Lauderdale is a great place to live, work and raise a family, and the City looks forward to continuing to build upon its success to meet the challenges of the 21st Century and beyond.

**Miramar:** There are many reasons Miramar has become a preferred locale for major corporations and Fortune 500 companies to call home. The city is centrally located between the Miami and Fort Lauderdale metro areas and less than 30 minutes to the Miami and Fort Lauderdale airports and seaports. Interstate 75, and the Florida Turnpike are located within Miramar and 1-95 and the Sawgrass Expressway are minutes away. Miramar was named among the top 100 of "America's Best Places to Live" by Money Magazine in 2006 and again in 2008; offers the largest commerce park in the region which includes a foreign trade zone; and has a highly skilled and professional workforce.

Miramar is in a unique position relative to attracting corporate relocation, small and mid-sized businesses and development. The city government is committed to ensuring the quality of life currently enjoyed by its residents and providing the opportunity for sound and managed growth. The city also enjoys top flight medical treatment with Memorial Regional located within the city limits as well.

**Pembroke Pines:** Pembroke Pines is a welcoming, friendly, and warm community, offering its residents, businesses, and visitors a vibrant yet relaxing place to live and

work. The City reflects a diverse and high quality of life that meets the needs of families, singles, and senior citizens, providing “big City services” yet staying true to a small-community feel.

The City takes pride in its:

- Dozens of lushly landscaped parks
- Leisure and recreation opportunities, which include walking and bike paths, golf courses, music events, sports, and outdoor activities
- Varied shopping and restaurant destinations
- Entertainment venues
- Academic excellence in its schools and universities
- Cultural activities and attractions

Year-round tropical temperatures and sunny days

**Plantation:** Plantation has a natural environment that is unsurpassed by other south Florida cities. Situated among thousands of trees are safe, friendly neighborhoods, world class recreation facilities, and a stable business community. It is geographically centered in Broward County and is home to a number of large national firms. The city of Plantation was incorporated in April 1953 and has expanded into a growing, vibrant municipality with a residential population exceeding 85,000.

**Weston:** Weston is a family-oriented, master-planned community that strives to embrace each and every resident. Weston’s well managed growth has given rise to one of South Florida’s most desirable communities, both residential and corporate.

With a culturally diverse population, Weston is comprised of the finest residential neighborhoods, and a diverse corporate, commercial and retail environment. We are a safe community with A-rated public schools, superior parks and recreational facilities, a progressive government that is financially strong and a community-wide appearance that cities around the world wish to emulate.

For more detailed information, please visit: [www.broward.org/](http://www.broward.org/)