



For Immediate Release
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Contact: Caitlin Kelleher
505.795.2480

Governor Bill Richardson's Director of Military Base Planning and Support, Hanson Scott Awarded for Outstanding Leadership

Scott named 2008 Public Sector Official of the Year Award by the Association of Defense Communities

SANTA FE – Governor Bill Richardson today applauded retired Brigadier General Hanson Scott who will be honored by for his work with New Mexico's military bases and namely for his efforts during the BRAC realignment. Scott will be awarded the Public Sector Official of the Year Award by the Association of Defense Communities next month.

“Hanson Scott played a vital role in the effort to keep New Mexico’s bases alive during BRAC and his commitment is evident as he continues to strengthen the partnership between our bases and surrounding communities,” said Governor Richardson. “I am honored to have Hanson, a retired Air Force general, on my staff and fighting for New Mexico’s military bases.”

Hanson Scott was chosen for his outstanding leadership and commitment in supporting active and realigning bases and for building partnerships between the military and the community.

The Defense Community Awards is a unique national program recognizing communities with active and closed installations, the individuals who lead them; and members from the military and private sector.

Scott is Director of the Office of Military Base Planning and Support for the State of New Mexico.

Nomination Letter and Biography attached.

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Nomination for Public Sector Official of the Year Award
Association of Defense Communities

Hanson Scott, Director of the Office of Military Base Planning and Support for New Mexico, is, as far as I know, the only person in the country who has played a key community role in two BRAC rounds, each time helping a base get taken off the list. Local community groups have greatly benefited from and praised his collaboration, leadership and support, so essential to their success. His work on Cannon AFB in Clovis (*“He’s 70% responsible for our success in getting Cannon off the list”*), White Sands Missile Range (*“He revitalized our efforts”*), Holloman AFB (*“A dedicated professional whose help on our Issues and follow-through make the difference”*) and Kirtland AFB (*“There is not one substantive Issue of ours, not one success, that he has not contributed to”*) sets a new standard in military/community partnership. He’s recognized for encyclopedic knowledge of the military establishment, his network and his vigorous follow-up, which add a new dimension to these partnerships. He issued Requests for Proposals, negotiated contracts and went to work in five days to support communities which might be vulnerable to BRAC, and hasn’t stopped since. His commitment to his constituency is unparalleled; specific examples—by no means all—are cited below.

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Clovis, New Mexico-Cannon Air Force Base: Hanson Scott was asked by the Clovis Committee of Fifty, one of the most credible community-military partnering organizations of its kind, to help lead their successful effort to fight the recommended 2005 closure of Cannon AFB. He helped organize and mobilize community support, providing organizational strategy and direction. He organized a strong support staff, focused on developing a strong counter-argument regarding the Military Value of Cannon AFB. He directed development of an Economic Impact assessment which found serious errors in information provided by DoD. His assessment found Cannon AFB closure would have a 30% negative impact on the economy; the economy of eastern NM would never have recovered. This report was accepted by the BRAC Commission and demonstrates his acumen in creating and sustaining effective efforts to develop partnerships with defense communities that enhance their economic development. He advised on timing of activities and site visits, and helped bring the BRAC hearing to Clovis; he played a key role in preparing the community presentation to the BRAC Commission. After the decision to bring a Special Operations mission to Cannon AFB, he worked closely with the community and the Air Force toward activation of the new Special Operations Wing in October 2007. He also worked with the State Land Office and the USAF on expansion of Melrose Range. He worked with the FAA and Air Force to increase the military value of eastern New Mexico through creation of the New Mexico Training Range Initiative, increasing available air space in several military operating areas and providing for supersonic flight. He worked closely with the Local Growth Organization. He was *there* for them.

Las Cruces, New Mexico-White Sands Missile Range: Hanson Scott worked closely with the Las Cruces community leaders as they created a strong Military Affairs Committee of the Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce, now the primary community group supporting White Sands Missile Range. This military installation's culture must be well understood for the community group to be effective. Hanson Scott took the lead in creating and sustaining effective partnerships that have made the Military Affairs Committee of the Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce viable, active and engaged. He did this without taking credit and helped create a true partner of White Sands Missile Range. He worked closely with the NM Legislature and the Governor in addressing New Mexico Gross Receipts Tax issues primarily affecting White Sands Missile Range; the Legislature passed the "Transformational Acquisition Programs" tax deduction which supports programs at Major Range Test Facility bases in New Mexico.

Alamogordo, New Mexico-Holloman AFB: Hanson Scott provided extensive assistance in implementing the State-funded assessment of Holloman AFB; steered the grant; drafted the RFPs and assisted the community project officer. He is directing land-use planning between the Bureau of Land Management and the State Land Office and Holloman AFB (also Ft. Bliss, and the White Sands Missile Range) which supports encroachment avoidance. The Committee of Fifty also has a vested interest in White Sands Missile Range as well as Fort Bliss, TX which is 89% in New Mexico, and he has kept them apprised all the way.

Albuquerque, New Mexico-Kirtland AFB: Hanson Scott was asked by the Kirtland Partnership to take on the Kirtland Joint Land Use Study. He worked closely with the Mid-Region Council of Governments and the Office of Economic Adjustment. He drafted the initial Scope of Work for the grant application and the follow-on RFPs. He's participating on the proposal review, technical and steering committees. Kirtland AFB asked him to help address several issues with the State Environmental Department; significant progress has been made. Through his extensive coordination with the State Legislature, an important New Mexico Tax Deduction was passed for the critical Operationally Responsive Space program. The 58th Special Operations Wing asked him to help obtain new Drop Zones. He coordinated with the State Land Office and a private property owner and two new Drop Zones were available in a few months, thereby ensuring the continued capability of the Air Force's only special operations wing with the mission of initial qualification of special operations and rescue forces.

Conclusion: What is missing above are the miles expended in this fifth largest state, and the energy expended by Hanson Scott in his work on behalf of his constituency. I have never known a harder worker. He has met, and exceeded, each criteria for the award of Public Sector Official of the Year.

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