



DEOMI

Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute
'READINESS...Is Our Guiding Principle'



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DEOMI Recon Team Responds in Wake of Hurricane Ian

3 October 2022



From left: U.S. Army Maj. William Adams; U.S. Navy Capt. Delmy Robinson; U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Nathan Lacey; and U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Duane Venticinque.

*Story by U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Lance Pounds, DEOMI Public Affairs
Photos courtesy of DEOMI*

PATRICK SPACE FORCE BASE, Fla. —The Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute sent a recon team on Friday to assess the institute for possible damages caused by Hurricane Ian. Ian, a near Category 5 hurricane at landfall, was downgraded to a tropical storm by the time it arrived on Patrick SFB.

Ian passed over the base early morning Thursday with surface winds more than 50 knots (58 mph). The base was placed on HURCON 1 status, which restricted access to only those who have been authorized or are assigned to a hurricane recovery team, to minimize the hazards associated with Ian. In addition to high winds, these hazards included storm surges, heavy rain, flooding, and tornadoes or waterspouts—all of which residents in the area experienced.



Robinson.

Robinson said a thorough walkthrough of the facility was conducted and no safety or health hazards were identified. She added that each floor of DEOMI was dry, utilities were in normal working order, and DEOMI's network was fully operational.

This is good news for the institute because more than 50 in-resident students are scheduled to start phase two of the Equal Opportunity Advisor Course 23-1, on Monday. The EOAC is DEOMI's flagship course. Its purpose is to train and certify Armed Forces personnel (DoD and Coast Guard) assigned to military and civilian equal opportunity billets as Equal Opportunity Advisors or Command Climate Specialists.

The recon team's positive report, coupled with an "all-clear" from the Space Launch Delta 45 Commander, means that DEOMI retained its mission-ready status, despite having endured Ian's wrath.

The DEOMI team is an inclusive force that values and develops all individuals and thrives on their contributions. Since its inception in 1971, then known as the Defense Race Relations Institute, DEOMI has developed and delivered innovative education, training, research, and collaborative solutions to approximately 52,000 DEOMI military and civilian graduates.

DEOMI's recovery team members were Chief Academic Advisor, Dr. Michael Faughnan; Director of Resource Management, U.S. Army Maj. William Adams; Information Technology Noncommissioned Officer In-Charge, U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Duane Venticinque; Resource Management Noncommissioned Officer In-Charge, U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Nathan Lacey; Education and Training Senior Enlisted Leader, U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Maritza Mueller; and Senior Network Administrator, Mr. Tracy Dewitt.

"My most sincere appreciation to the Recon Team that showed up with me early this morning to ensure DEOMI is good to go for our staff, faculty and students," said DEOMI Commandant, U.S. Navy Capt. Delmy



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