

2021 Federal Legislative Agenda

The Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce Mission is to promote and sustain the economic growth of the Calhoun County Region, resulting in a community that is a dynamic place to work, visit and live.

Anniston Army Depot

- The Chamber supports the Depot's mission of "Providing superior industrial expertise, products, and services to support America's Warfighters, Allies and commercial customers."
- The Chamber supports the Depot's assignment as the Center of Industrial and Technical Excellence (CITE) by the Secretary of the Army for Combat Vehicles (wheeled and tracked) (except Bradley) including Assault Bridging, Artillery, Stryker Family of Vehicles, Small Caliber Weapons and Locomotive and large generators.
- The Chamber will work with Congressional Representatives and the Depot to ensure the current and ensuing fiscal year's workload is at or above levels to maintain permanent and a contingent of temporary and contract employees.
- The Chamber will provide assistance to increase the Depots future workload through other military services and Foreign Military Sales work.
- The Chamber will work to ensure the Department of Defense and the Army assigns future modernized combat vehicles and other CITE related systems and to the Depot as the "Depot Source of Repair."
- The Chamber will support the Depot and local Defense Contractors and the community by encouraging and facilitating Public/Private and community Partnerships.
- The Chamber will work to ensure a transparent movement of the Defense Generation and Rail Repair facility from Hill Air Force Base to the Depot schedule for completion in 2021.

Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP)

- The Chamber recognizes the CDP as an essential training organization under the Department of Homeland Security with significant growth potential and positive economic impact for the county.
- The Chamber will work to ensure the CDP's budget never falls below \$65 million and to grow the CDP via Economy Act Agreements with the Center for Disease Control, the VA and other organizations.
- The Chamber supports increased training at the CDP and additional funding to grow the capabilities necessary.
- The Chamber will assist the increased FEMA Mission Training at the CDP and help facilitate lodging to meet the need of added responder personnel in times of emergencies and natural disasters.
- The Chamber will work with the CDP to safely resume all local and distance training as the current pandemic situation allows.

Alabama Army National Guard

- The Chamber will work with 167th Theater Sustainment Command, the McClellan Army National Guard Training Center and the State to ensure the Army National Guard's mission is sustained and grows.
- The Chamber will continue to include National Guard and Reserve components in the Military and Security Affairs Committee.
- The Chamber will continue to support retention of the 200th Regional Training Institute at the Ft McClellan NG Training Center.

Healthcare

- The Chamber will support efforts to reach an equitable resolution on the Medicare Wage Index Issue so that hospitals in the regions will be fairly reimbursed for the services provided to the Medicare population. The current wage index calculation penalizes Alabama hospitals, which are already some of the most efficient in the country in terms of costs, by paying hospitals in other states almost double what is paid in Alabama for the same care.