

# The City of Garfield Heights

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OFFICE OF THE LAW DIRECTOR

June 16, 2005

Members  
2005 Defense Base Closure & Realignment Commission  
2521 South Clark St., Ste. 600  
Arlington, VA 22202



06202005

RE: Resolution No. 25-2005

Dear Members:

The Garfield Heights City Council adopted Resolution No. 25-2005 on June 13, 2005. This Resolution is captioned as follows:

**AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION TO RETAIN 1,028 IMPORTANT FEDERAL DEFENSE JOBS AT THE DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE IN DOWNTOWN CLEVELAND AND SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING THE CLEVELAND DEFENSE INDUSTRY ALLIANCE AND THE GREATER CLEVELAND PARTNERSHIP IN THEIR ADVOCACY EFFORTS TO PROTECT THE REGION'S ECONOMIC VITALITY BY APPEALING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO REALIGN THESE JOBS TO OTHER CITIES AND ENCOURAGING THEIR RETENTION; AND FURTHER COMMITTING COUNCIL'S SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE IN THIS UNDERTAKING.**

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

DAVID E. MACK  
Law Director

DEM:bz  
Encl.

RESOLUTION NO.: 25-2005

SPONSORED BY: MAYOR THOMAS J. LONGO

Adopted  
6/13/05

4 YEJ  
ABSENT

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION TO RETAIN 1,028 IMPORTANT FEDERAL DEFENSE JOBS AT THE DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE IN DOWNTOWN CLEVELAND AND SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING THE CLEVELAND DEFENSE INDUSTRY ALLIANCE AND THE GREATER CLEVELAND PARTNERSHIP IN THEIR ADVOCACY EFFORTS TO PROTECT THE REGION'S ECONOMIC VITALITY BY APPEALING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO REALIGN THESE JOBS TO OTHER CITIES AND ENCOURAGING THEIR RETENTION; AND FURTHER COMMITTING COUNCIL'S SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE IN THIS UNDERTAKING.

*Whereas*, the Garfield Heights City Council has as one of its primary responsibilities improving the health and welfare of its citizens, which includes ensuring the availability of a diverse selection of employment opportunities in the Greater Cleveland are; and

*Whereas*, the Defense Finance & Accounting Service (DFAS) in downtown Cleveland is currently the fourth largest federal employer in Greater Cleveland, with a \$65 million annual payroll; and

*Whereas*, DFAS employs some 1,200 people from throughout the region, and provides jobs that are vital to the health of the regional workforce and enrich the ranks of professionals in Northeast Ohio; and

*Whereas*, the Cleveland DFAS office is the world center for Navy payroll services and personnel data management as well as the Reserve Pay Center of Excellence, distributing \$101 billion and serving 2,745,000 military and civilian personnel, retirees and annuitants in FY 2003; and

*Whereas*, Cleveland's DFAS office is an integral part of the system that supports our armed forces, and is a cutting edge model of operational efficiency and customer service for U.S. military pay operations around the world; and

*Whereas*, the loss of these jobs could cost Greater Cleveland an estimated \$128 million, further eroding our regional and state tax base and endangering money for vital services, such as police and fire protection throughout Northeast Ohio; and

*Whereas*, Cleveland is one of the nation's preeminent financial service centers, home to the headquarters of several large commercial banks and the regional Federal Reserve, and perfectly situated to continue its track record of excellence here well into the future; and

*Whereas*, the United States Department of Defense (DOD) has recommended to the base Closure and Realignment Commission that 1,028 jobs currently performed by the Cleveland DFAS in the Anthony J. Celebrezze Federal Building be relocated to other cities; and

*Whereas*, the recommendation is not a final decision; and

Whereas, the Cleveland Defense Industry Alliance has announced its intentions to work with community partners to fight and reverse DOD's proposal before the Base Realignment and Closure Commission forwards its recommendations to President Bush in September 2005; and

Whereas, this Resolution constitutes an emergency measure for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health or safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Garfield Heights, Ohio, that:

Section 1. That Council hereby urges the Base Realignment and Closure Commission to remove the Cleveland office of the Defense Finance and Accounting Service from the list of closures and realignments proposed on May 13, 2005, and retain the 1,028 important federal defense jobs in Cleveland.

Section 2. That this Council encourages the Cleveland Defense Industry Alliance and the Greater Cleveland Partnership in their advocacy efforts to preserve the region's economic vitality by working to reverse the U.S. Department of Defense's recommendation to realign these professional jobs to other cities.

Section 3. That the Law Department be and is hereby authorized and directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to President George W. Bush, Congressional Representatives Stephanie Tubbs Jones, Dennis Kucinich, Sherrod Brown and Steven LaTourette, and Senators Mike DeWine and George Voinovich; the appropriate representatives from the Base Realignment and Closure Commission, and the members of the Cleveland Defense Industry Alliance.

Section 4. Council declares this Resolution to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare and shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption by this Council and approval by the Mayor, otherwise from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: June 13, 2005

APPROVED: Thomas J. Long  
MAYOR

Joseph M. DeLuca  
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST: Brian Miller

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 13, 2005

CLERK OF COUNCIL