

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Defense Business Board Meets for First Time Following Zero-Based Review

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Attributable to Department of Defense Spokesman Eric Pahon:

The Defense Business Board met Wednesday, November 3rd, and Thursday, November 4th, for the first time since the completion of Secretary Austin's zero-based review process, reinforcing the department's commitment to becoming a more efficient and modern institution.

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III and Deputy Secretary of Defense Dr. Kathleen Hicks joined the meeting on Wednesday to welcome the Defense Business Board members and emphasize the value senior department leaders place on the Board's work.

The board received classified briefings on the department-wide audit outcomes, military operations, business operations, data strategy, information management, and acquisition strategies from senior civilian and military officials.

Within the department, the Defense Business Board is overseen by Deputy Secretary of Defense Kathleen Hicks. The board is chaired by former Secretary of the Air Force (Hon.) Deborah Lee James.

The Defense Business Board, established in 2002, provides the Secretary of Defense and Deputy Secretary of Defense along with other senior leaders within the Department of Defense with independent advice on business management issues. This private sector perspective is based on proven and effective "best business practices" from corporate America and presents new ideas to help senior leaders meet DoD management challenges.

Members are appointed by the Secretary of Defense or Deputy Secretary for a term of 1 - 4 years serving as special government employees (SGE).