

Establishment of Joint Interagency Task Force

August 27, 2025

Overview

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth released a memo announcing the formation of the Joint Interagency Task Force 401 (JIATF 401), a major restructuring aimed at accelerating the DOD counter-drone capabilities

Joint Interagency Task Force 401 (JIATF 401) is a newly established Department of Defense initiative aimed at accelerating the development and deployment of counter-drone technologies. Replacing the former Joint C-sUAS Office, it consolidates operational, acquisition, and interagency efforts under a single authority with expanded powers to rapidly field solutions against emerging unmanned aerial threats.

Leadership and Members

JIATF 401 is structured as a jointly manned organization composed of personnel from across the Department of Defense and other Federal Agencies. Key roles and contributing entities consist of:

- **The Director of JIATF 401:** They hold acquisition and procurement authority empowered to approve up to \$50 million per initiative. The director reports to Deputy Secretary of Defense Stephen Fienberg
- **Army Secretary Daniel Driscoll:** Tasked with formally establishing the task force and delivering an implementation plan within 30 days

Goals

- **Rapid Deployment:** Compress development and deployment timelines shortened from years to months
- **Unified Command:** Blend operational, acquisition, and interagency roles under one roof
- **Test & Training:** Within 30 days (9/26/25), the task force must recommend plans for dedicated C-sUAS test and training range

What Vendors Can Expect

Technology vendors can expect faster engagement cycles, clearer acquisition pathways, and greater funding flexibility under JIATF 401. The task force is empowered to bypass traditional procurement bottlenecks, approve up to \$50 million per initiative, and rapidly onboard technical talent creating new opportunities for vendors offering counter-drone, AI, electronic warfare, and autonomous system solutions

Vendors may also see benefits from increased collaboration with DOD labs and interagency partners as the task force consolidates efforts across the dense ecosystems.

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