Employees Serve Their Country in Iraq

The war in Iraq has affected the County’s workforce in personal ways, with hundreds of employees in the military reserves being called into active duty. The Board of Supervisors took a number of actions to support these employees, including extending from 360 days to 720 days the amount of time that the County would provide military leave with offset pay and spearheading an effort to encourage employees to write letters and send care packages. As of Oct. 31, 2007, there were 79 activated reservists, down from 106 in November 2001. The number reached a high of 169 in March and May 2003. Hardest hit was the Sheriff’s Department, which peaked at 95 in April 2003. To lessen the impact, the Board recommended retired public safety officers be considered to backfill positions while the reservists were on duty.