Letter from the Founder

The Missile Defense Advocacy Alliance was formed in 2002 -- in a directed strategic reaction to the growing ballistic missile threat to the United States. Over the past two decades, the organization’s advocacy and actions with our government and allies have positioned MDAA at the forefront of operations to shape, resource, develop, and improve the capacity and capability of missile defense to make our nation and the world safer.

Throughout this journey we’ve established a winning team, developing close partnerships with the top missile defense stakeholders within congress, our armed forces, academia, industry, and our allies. It is the team; it is the people; it is the vast network of thousands of relationships built over these past two decades which enable MDAA’s unrivaled influence and access across all missile defense domains. That is the MDAA difference--and it puts us in a position to set the conditions to win.

2023 has been a big year for the entire organization, and we couldn’t be more excited about the opportunities for MDAA or the progress being made to strengthen national and allied missile defense capability. We thank you for your support, and look forward to continuing to fight on behalf of you, our warfighters, and our nation!

Riki Ellison
Chairman & Founder

“I am extremely grateful for everything you have done, are doing, and will do in the defense of our nation.”

- Vice Admiral Jon A. Hill
Frmr. Director, Missile Defense Agency
Over 20 Years of Winning Advocacy
Winners Associate With Winners to Win!

1,300+ Alerts and Press Releases
MDAA's alerts and Press releases keep the missile defense community, congress and the public informed on issues and threats

52 Congressional Roundtables
The Congressional Roundtable Discussion Series brings together leaders from congress, the armed services, industry, and academia to discuss the challenges and opportunities for missile defense

USC SHIELD
MDAA established the Executive Program in Global Space and Defense at the University of Southern California (USC) in 2021. To date, have been 55 graduates and 11 capstones from the program

882 DOY Awards
MDAA has hosted 71 Missile Defender of the Year Award Ceremonies honoring the best missile defenders in 18 countries

2 Memorials
MDAA has created two commissioned dedicated memorials: The Ronald Reagan Missile Defense Site at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California and the Kauai Veteran’s Eternal Memorial and Missile Defense Viewing Site in Hawaii

277 Missile Defense Tests Seen
MDAA attends and views missile defense tests and exercises to expand the organization's knowledge and to educate the public on the status, improvements, and lessons learned for this vital mission

29 Countries Advocated in
MDAA engages with allies and partner countries to highlight contributions and collaborate on high-level discussion for evolution of deployment of missile defense

50 States Advocated in
In the state legislatures, MDAA has supported 12 missile defense Congressional resolutions and worked with state officials -- from governors, mayors, academic institutions to community leaders

Publication
On April 12, 2022, MDAA published "U.S. Missile Defense: An Overview of Past, Current, and Future Roles & Responsibilities"
Leading The Narrative

MDAA Strategic Spotlight on...

GUAM & INDO-PACIFIC

Through multiple advocacy fronts, including visits to Guam in support of the island’s Governor and key military leaders throughout the entire region, MDAA is engaged in the transformation of the island’s defense capabilities and strengthening our force readiness in the Indo-Pacific.

Homeland Defense: Roles & Responsibilities

MDAA continues to advance homeland defense and lead the charge to overhaul the roles and responsibilities of missile defense across the armed forces. Since publishing last year’s report, we’ve seen a significant increase in government commissioned studies into the challenges.

We’re also excited by the growing attention and coverage being given to missile defense challenges by national media outlets -- and we’re looking to keep the momentum going!

NATO

MDAA remains a clear and present voice advocating for greater missile defense investment and integration across the alliance. We continue to engage in exchanges in coalition countries, including high level talks in Germany, Netherlands and Romania.

Whether it was our response to the Alliance’s policy announcements made from Vilnius, or in our interview with the Commander of NATO’s recent joint exercise north of the Arctic, MDAA is actively pressing the case to ensure missile defense capability and capacity throughout the alliance.

Space

As technology allows new threats to evolve, our space capabilities have never been more important to setting the conditions to win against our adversaries.

MDAA’s advocacy continues to drive the future of space and missile defense preparedness, from command-and-control communication systems, hypersonic glide tracking systems and future kinetic and non-kinetic effectors.
MDAA continues to shape the next generation of missile defense leaders through our Global Space and Defense Executive Program, in partnership with the University of Southern California and its Sol Price School of Public Policy and Viterbi School of Engineering.

Now entering its third year, the SHIELD program continues to develop the expertise and innovative solutions to some of the most difficult challenges facing our nation's missile defense capability and capacity.

With 55 graduates and 11 capstone presentations through the first two years of the program, the SHIELD program has demonstrated its value -- and continues to compete with some of the top programs in the country.

One Team

The SHIELD program continues to deliver on its promise to bring together the best and the brightest from the public and private sector.

Leveraging MDAA's network of high-level relationships across the joint armed services, combatant commands, flag officers from allied nations, agencies, and industry, the SHIELD program delivers a highly competitive student body representing the rising stars in our nation's missile defense and space effort.
Ongoing Events....

Defender of the Year Award

Celebrating Individual Performance & Team Excellence

MDAA Recognition

In 2011, MDAA established the Defender of the Year Award Ceremony to recognize and honor members of the military who command fully operational and deployed missile defense systems.

Today, these events are held throughout the United States and around the world in 18 countries. Our global network of DOY awardees strengthens MDAA’s relationships and advocacy with the next generation of missile defense leaders!

Previous Winners

Riki Ellison with the 2023 European Missile Defender of the Year Awardees at the Royal Military Academy of the Netherlands.

Bringing honor to the 2022 NORAD and NORTHCOM Missile Warning and Defenders of the Year awardees from Colorado Springs, CO.

The 2022 Indo-Pacific Missile Defender of the Year Awardees with Riki Ellison and Admiral John Aquilino of the US INDO-PACIFIC Command at the ceremony held in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Riki Ellison, Gov. of Guam Lou Leon Guerrero, and Guam military leaders pose with the winners of the 2021 Guam Missile Defender of the Year Award.

FCA1 Mario Amaro is presented MDAA’s 2019 U.S. Missile Defender of the Year award for the U.S. Navy by Vice Admiral Jim Kilby in Alexandria, Virginia.

Riki Ellison Presenting Qatar with the 501st MDAA Defender of the Year Award (2018).
About The Memorial

The memorial serves as a permanent tribute to those that have served and those that will continue to serve our Armed Forces and an embedment of missile defense to defend and protect our nation and armed forces.

MDAA was honored to be heavily involved in the creation of the Ronald Reagan Missile Defense Site at Vandenberg Space Force Base. The memorial pays homage to President Reagan’s visionary goal of rendering nuclear weapons impotent and obsolete.
Watch past discussions with MDAA's Board of Directors, experts, and officials across all missile defense domains

**MDAA Congressional Roundtables 2023 Sessions**

**Combat Proven Integrated Air and Missile Defense - CENTCOM**

**The Missile Defense “Must Do” List for the FY-24 NDAA**

**Ensuring Effective Integrated Missile Defense Architecture with our Allies and Partners**

**Cruise Missile Defense Homeland Israel**

**Virtual CRT: Cruise Missile Defense Homeland Israel**

**Allied Joint Integrated Missile Defense North of the Arctic Circle- Formidable Shield**

For a complete list of our past Congressional Sessions, click here.

And don’t forget to stay up to date on all the MDAA Reception Events!
Expertise

Our Board of Directors contribute over a century of experience in some of the highest national security roles and represent our services. Together as one team, this expertise provides MDAA with an unmatched level of knowledge and understanding to navigate the complex challenges to implement our mission.

Vision

Our Board of Directors believe in the strategic importance of enhancing our nation’s missile defense capability -- and recognize the challenges ahead of us.

Engagement

Our Board of Directors are active participants in all MDAA advocacy. Their contributions and engagement have enhanced MDAA’s role as the leading voice in Missile Defense.

Mission Statement

MDAA’s mission is to make the world safer by advocating for the development and deployment of missile defense systems to defend the United States, its armed forces and its allies against missile threats.

MDAA is the only organization in existence whose primary mission is to educate the American public about missile defense issues and to recruit, organize, and mobilize proponents to advocate for the critical need of missile defense. We are a non-partisan membership-based and membership-funded organization that does not advocate on behalf of any specific system, technology, architecture or entity.

Media & Contact

Follow us on social media to stay up to date with all the latest MDAA news!