

Development: Multi Use SCIF

Developer: Florida International University,
Department of National Forensic Science
Technology Center

Address: 8285 Bryan Dairy Road, Largo

Type: Special Industrial Project

Total Square Footage: 500

Total Development Costs: \$183,655

Cost per SF: \$367.30

ESP Request: \$183,655

Per SF subsidy: \$367.30

ESP Criteria Score: 55



Summary: ESP application 45290, Florida International University, is considered a Special Industrial project that proposes to install a self-contained Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility (SCIF) within their existing space where the National Forensic Science Technology Center is located. A SCIF is a U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) accredited installation where sensitive compartmented information may be stored, used, discussed and/or electronically processed or viewed. DOD and government contractors use a SCIF to look at information specific to their contract. A “shared” SCIF means that multiple agencies and businesses can utilize the facility at different times.

The National Forensic Science Technology Center at Florida International University (NFSTC@FIU) believes this location is ideal for the local defense industry sector. It is centrally located in Pinellas County, home to over 800 defense contractors. NFSTC@FIU is a cleared DOD facility and also houses additional DOD contractor companies. NFSTC@FIU’s customer, USSOCOM headquartered at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, has indicated the need for SCIF space in Pinellas County, preferably located in or near NFSTC@FIU as a satellite of their operations. The site formerly housed Raytheon offices which had a SCIF in the same location. The communications infrastructure is still present. The building has a facility wide uninterruptible power source (UPS) and is not located within an evacuation zone.

Target Industry Linkage: The SCIF would provide Pinellas with a competitive edge over other locations and would help existing defense contractors review and bid on classified contracts that could increase their workforce. The SCIF would expand opportunities for defense service providers and subcontractors to do business efficiently with USSOCOM and MacDill Air Force Base, as well as provide an extension of the base itself.

Development Team: SCIF Solutions was founded in 2004 and is a Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business based in Jacksonville, Florida. SCIF Solutions will manufacture and install the SCIF. The National Forensic Science Technology Center (NFSTC@FIU), founded in Pinellas County in 1995, provides forensic services including training, assessment, research and technology assistance to the justice, military, homeland security and forensic communities. NFSTC@FIU is currently a DOD cleared facility and will complete the DOD certification process for the SCIF, as well as operate and maintain the facility.

Staff Recommendation: Funding Approval. The project aligns with the ESP goal for projects that include unique proposals that would enhance the County’s ability to create/retain target industry jobs or would otherwise contribute to an improved local economy (e.g., R&D facilities, business incubators, Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility).