



Ohio Adjutant General's Department

TED STRICKLAND, GOVERNOR

MAJOR GENERAL GREGORY L. WAYT, ADJUTANT GENERAL

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Media Advisory

Ohio National Guard to support Louisiana in response to hurricane Gustav

COLUMBUS, Ohio – Governor Ted Strickland announced today that he had approved a request from Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal for the Ohio National Guard to deploy approximately 1,500 soldiers to assist in the Hurricane Gustav recovery efforts. The units will be deployed to locations in Louisiana and will be clearing debris and opening transportation lanes, moving people and supplies and maintaining military equipment.

“We are thankful that the storm damage was not more severe,” Governor Strickland said, “but we understand that the Ohio National Guard assets will be critical to speed the recovery, enabling hundreds of thousands of Louisiana residents quickly to return to their homes and their lives.”

The deploying units include:

- 16th Eng. Brigade HQ, Columbus
- 216th Eng. Battalion HQ, Woodlawn/Cincinnati
- 811th Eng. Company, Tarlton
- 1191st Eng. Company, Portsmouth
- 1192nd Eng. Company, Newton Falls
- 837th Eng. Company, Lorain
- 945th Eng. Company, Norwalk
- 112th Transportation Company HQ, Green (Akron-Canton)
- 1483rd Transportation Company, Walbridge
- 1484th Transportation Company, Green (Akron-Canton)
- 1485th Transportation Company, Coshocton
- 1486th Transportation Company, Ashland/Mansfield
- 211th Maintenance Company, Newark

The assistance is being provided under the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), a national mutual aid and partnership agreement that allows state-to-state assistance during states of emergencies declared by the Governor or President. The agreement provides a responsive and straightforward system to for the National Guard in unaffected states to send personnel and equipment to help disaster relief efforts in affected states.

“The men and women of Ohio’s National Guard are proud to be a part of this integrated effort to support the citizens of Louisiana in their time of need, said Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Wayt, Ohio’s adjutant general, “and we thank them for their service. But we also need to remember the sacrifice and commitment made by the soldiers’ families and employers who will have to accommodate the absence of our soldiers from their day-to-day lives.”

The soldiers will transport to Columbus over the next several days where they will be processed and begin convoy operations to Louisiana by the end of the week.

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NOTE: In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the Ohio National Guard provided nearly 1,500 Soldiers and Airmen for response and recovery efforts in Louisiana and Mississippi, followed less than a month later by the deployment of another 1,200 Soldiers and Airmen to Louisiana in response to Hurricane Rita. Information about those deployments can be found at www.ohionationalguard.com/pao/buckeyeguard/response.pdf .

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: The Ohio National Guard Public Affairs Office at 614-336-7000 or Dr. Mark Wayda at 614-336-7174 or 614-496-3807 (cell) or James Sims at 614-336-7126 or 614-202-7949 (cell). For more information on the Ohio National Guard, please visit our public website at www.ohionationalguard.com.