



Ohio Adjutant General's Department

TED STRICKLAND, GOVERNOR

MAJOR GENERAL GREGORY L. WAYT, ADJUTANT GENERAL

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For Immediate Release

Ohio National Guard to host full-scale exercise at Camp Ravenna

Camp Ravenna, Ohio—The Portage County Public Safety Agencies and the Ohio National Guard will conduct a three-day, multi-state, multi-jurisdictional exercise beginning Friday August 6, 2010 at Camp Ravenna Joint Military Training Center (CRJMTC).

The exercise will simulate the destruction of buildings and public infrastructure. Training will be conducted on a structural collapse simulator in a fictional town, and test the interoperability of key agencies as well as capabilities of local, regional, state and national emergency responders.

"Camp Ravenna provides multiple training venues that will enable agencies to work in a very real and complex training environment," said Maj. Gen. Greg Wayt, Ohio adjutant general.

The exercise will include 200 local responders and rigorously test the Ohio National Guard's ability to support local and state civilian authorities, incident and unified commanders and the state's emergency management agencies. "The emphasis of all response planning is that all emergencies start at the local level and additional resources are called in to assist local efforts. Having the ability to exercise collectively as a group and work together under local authority is what it's all about," said John Mason, Portage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

The training will also highlight the Ohio National Guard's newly authorized Homeland Response Force (HRF). The HRF consists of approximately 570 Soldiers and Airmen, trained and equipped to identify, respond to and mitigate the effects of all hazards and natural disasters.

Responding Local Public Agencies List:

- Portage County Emergency Management Agency Office of Homeland Security
- Portage County Fire Chiefs Association
- Portage County Police Chiefs Association
- Portage County Sheriff's Office
- Portage County Public Health Departments

- Portage County Engineer's Office
- Portage Area Regional Transit Authority
- Summit Portage Red Cross
- Portage County Coroner
- Portage County Association of Funeral Directors
- Portage County HAZMAT Team
- Portage County Urban Search and Rescue Team
- Portage County Amateur Radio Service
- Portage County Board of Commissioners
- Robinson Memorial Hospital

Regional Team Participation List:

- Regional HAZMAT
- Regional Urban Search and Rescue

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EDITORS NOTE: Due to the size of this exercise, increased military and civilian emergency response ground and air traffic will be seen in the vicinity of Camp Ravenna between 5-8 August. Media is invited to observe the exercise between noon - 6 p.m. on 6 August, and between 8 - 6 p.m. on 7 August. Please arrive at the main gate of Camp Ravenna with media credentials, where a public affairs officer will escort you into the exercise. You will receive an information packet and be notified of an authorized spokesperson. Observation of the exercise is only granted to credentialed members of the media, elected officials, government leadership and non-exercising emergency response personnel. The exercise is not open to the public.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Portage County Public Information Officer at 330-296-9919
 The Ohio National Guard Public Affairs Office at 614-336-7000