



Ohio Adjutant General's Department

Mike DeWine, Governor

Major General John C. Harris Jr., Adjutant General

Twenty years after 9/11, we must not forget

Twenty years ago, our country came under attack. We watched in shock as innocent men, women and children lost their lives.

On this 20th anniversary of 9/11, it is important that we remember and pay tribute to the victims of those attacks.

We must also express our gratitude to the Soldiers and Airmen who've served since 2001 to defend the homeland. Today's National Guard is nothing like it was on 9/11. The past two decades have seen the Guard go from a strategic reserve for the U.S. Army and Air Force to an operational force. That means we have been working every day since 9/11 to support federal missions, as well as multiple state missions here in Ohio.

That service has come at a price. For some, it was not being there for the birth of a child. For others, it may have been an injury. For our 15 fallen heroes, it was the ultimate sacrifice in support of the War on Terrorism. They will never be forgotten. Neither will their loved ones. September 26 is Gold Star Mothers and Families Day, a time to honor all the spouses, parents, children, and others who have lost a family member in military service. We owe a debt of gratitude to our Gold Star Families and they will always be a valued part of our military family.

Two decades after 9/11, we thank all who have served or continue to serve in response to the events of that tragic day.

The more than 16,000 men and women of the Ohio National Guard continue the selfless act of military service, ready to deploy at a moment's notice to provide a safe and secure Nation. It is an honor to serve with them.

John C. Harris Jr.
Major General
The Adjutant General