



Ohio Adjutant General's Department

Mike DeWine, Governor

Major General John C. Harris Jr., Adjutant General

April 1, 2025

Log# 25-07

Ohio Army National Guard to conduct 2025 State Best Warrior Competition

COLUMBUS, Ohio — About 12 Ohio Army National Guard members, along with eight visiting Serbian and Hungarian soldiers, will compete in the 2025 OHARNG Best Warrior Competition this Thursday through Sunday, April 3-6, at Camp James A. Garfield Joint Military Training Center in Newton Falls, Ohio.

The Best Warrior Competition is a physically and mentally challenging multiday event that tests participants on a variety of technical and tactical skills. The competition is also used to determine the OHARNG Noncommissioned Officer of the Year and Soldier of the Year.

Members of the media are invited to attend a portion of the event on Friday, April 4, to meet the participants and observe them competing in a combat pistol qualification, tactical stress shoot, and a grenade launcher challenge. Members of the Serbian Armed Forces and Hungarian Defence Forces are competing as part of the Ohio National Guard's pairing with those nations through the Defense Department's State Partnership Program.

The top Ohio Army National Guard noncommissioned officer and Soldier determined by this week's event will go on to represent Ohio at the regional Best Warrior Competition April 30-May 3 at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.

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WHO: Media interested in covering the event must RSVP by 5 p.m., on Wednesday, April 2 so that prior coordination can be made to allow you on to the installation. Contact Heidi Griesmer, public information officer, at 614-506-3490 or heidi.m.griesmer.nfg@army.mil.

WHEN: 11 a.m., on Friday, April 4, 2025

WHERE: Camp James A. Garfield Joint Military Training Center. Media attending should park and meet at the gravel parking lot to the right of and outside the main gate, off state Route 5. Addresses for mobile devices:

- Google Maps: Camp James A. Garfield, 8451 State Route 5, Ravenna, OH 44266
- Apple Maps: Camp James A. Garfield, 1038 Admin Rd, Ravenna, OH 44266

NOTES FOR CONFIRMED MEDIA ATTENDEES ON THE DAY OF THE EVENT:

- Point of contact is Capt. Anthony Eliopoulos, public affairs officer, at 440-654-1105 or anthony.l.eliopoulos.mil@army.mil
- You will be met at the front gate gravel parking lot and processed through security. A government vehicle will transport you between locations on the installation.
- Dress accordingly for the outdoors and any potential weather conditions, as there will not be any covered shelters at the event locations.
- Media who may want to shoot close to the action during the event will be required to wear provided personal protective equipment, including vests and helmets.

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