



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 prepares to support flood relief efforts

COLUMBUS, Ohio – The Ohio National Guard will deploy about 20 Soldiers from the Toledo-based 323rd Military Police Company to Shelby in Richland County to assist local law enforcement authorities with traffic control and security, freeing up law enforcement personnel to continue daily police functions. They will arrive sometime tonight.

“The Ohio National Guard will provide as many Soldiers and Airmen as needed when asked by the governor to help respond to the floods,” said Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Wayt, Ohio adjutant general. “This is what the Ohio National Guard does...when called, we respond with ready units.”

Requests for Ohio National Guard assistance originate at the local level, are processed through county Emergency Management Agency officials in affected counties who then forward the requests to the state Emergency Management Agency. The state Emergency Management Agency has visibility of all available state assets including the Department of Transportation, the Department of Natural Resources, the State Highway Patrol and the Ohio National Guard. If a need for the Ohio National Guard is identified, the governor decides whether or not to activate the Ohio National Guard.

The Ohio National Guard was last mobilized for relief efforts on the Gulf Coast during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in September, 2005. About 2,700 Ohio Army and Air National Guard troops responded.

-30-

Editor's Note: For additional information, call Dr. Mark Wayda at (614) 496-3807 or CPT Marshall Jackson at (614) 496-3813.