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For Immediate Release

2013 National Matches set to begin at Camp Perry

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The opening ceremony for the 2013 National Rifle and Pistol Matches will take place at 10 a.m. Monday, July 8 at Camp Perry Joint Training Center in Port Clinton, Ohio. The National Matches are hosted jointly each year by the Ohio National Guard, National Rifle Association and Civilian Marksmanship Program.

Known as the "World Series of competitive shooting," the five-week event brings more than 6,000 national and international civilian and military competitors, volunteers, spectators, vendors and family members to Camp Perry Joint Training Center (CPJTC) each summer.

The opening ceremony will be held at the Friends of Camp Perry Memorial Plaza where retired Army Lt. Gen. John S. Crosby will give opening remarks and officially kick off the 2013 National Matches by firing the ceremonial "first shot" on the 600-yard Rodriguez Range.

The First Shot Ceremony and CPJTC are open to the public. In addition to the worldclass shooting range, CPJTC offers public beaches, newly constructed cottages and a state-of-the-art conference center.

For more information on the National Matches or to view the official program, go to http://www.odcmp.com/NM.htm.

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SPECIAL NOTE: Media Day during the National Matches is also scheduled for July 8, directly following the ceremony. Representatives from the Ohio National Guard, National Rifle Association (NRA) and Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) will be on hand to speak with media and facilitate interviews.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: The Ohio National Guard Public Affairs Office at 614-336-4499, Woody Arenas, NRA senior marketing coordinator, at 703-267-1469 or Christine Elder, CMP communications manager, at 419-635-2141.