



Ohio Adjutant General's Department

JOHN R. KASICH, GOVERNOR

MAJOR GENERAL MARK E. BARTMAN, ADJUTANT GENERAL

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For Immediate Release

Media Advisory

Ohio National Guard, Ohio Fire Academy partner for realistic training exercise to test emergency responders

- WHO:** The Ohio National Guard, Ohio Department of Commerce Division of State Fire Marshal Ohio Fire Academy and other local, state and federal agencies.
- WHAT:** Training exercise featuring simulated large-scale catastrophic event to test abilities of various first responders, including collaborative efforts among agencies during emergency events to be better prepared to safeguard Ohioans. Planned exercise activities in the morning will include controlled training fires, small explosions and simulated gun fire. There will be no hazard to the public at any time during the exercise.
- WHEN:** Media availability will be 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, June 17.
- WHERE:** Ohio Fire Academy, 8895 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068.
- BACKGROUND:** This event is part of Operation Guardian Shield '15, a joint, interagency and multistate complex catastrophe full-scale exercise being conducted June 13-18 at multiple locations throughout Ohio. The exercise will test the capabilities of the Ohio National Guard, in concert with other states' National Guard forces and interagency partners, to respond in support of local, state and federal agencies.
- Guardian Shield '15 will specifically focus on the National Guard's ability to respond to a simulated chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear (CBRN) event.

The training scenario centers on a simulated train derailment with an associated CBRN event. Civil agencies and National Guard forces will provide disaster response including analysis, decontamination, medical triage, and search and extraction. Specific to the event at the Ohio Fire Academy, the training scenario will include an active shooter, vehicle-borne improvised explosive device and hazardous chemical labs.

Participating agencies include: Ohio National Guard Homeland Response Force; Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Indiana, West Virginia and Georgia National Guards; FBI; Transportation Security Administration; U.S. Marshals Service; Ohio Emergency Management Agency; Ohio Fire Academy; Ohio Department of Transportation; Ohio Task Force 1; State Incident Management Team; and local law enforcement, fire and HAZMAT entities.

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NEWSROOM NOTE: News media are encouraged to arrive at least 30 minutes in advance of the scheduled start time.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: James Sims at 614-336-7126/614-202-7949 or james.a.sims20.nfg@mail.mil or Maj. Nicole Ashcroft at 614-406-7597 or Nicole.I.ashcroft.mil@mail.mil.

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