



# Ohio Adjutant General's Department

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For Immediate Release

## **Ohio National Guard members get Indy experience at Mid-Ohio**

COLUMBUS — Panther Racing will recognize the Ohio National Guard during the Mid-Ohio Sports Car Challenge and The Honda Indy® 200 at Mid-Ohio this weekend, August 1-4, 2013.

A series of events known as the Indy Racing League National Guard Experience is designed to increase awareness and community involvement with the National Guard.

Events will be hosted by Maj. Gen. Deborah A. Ashenhurst, Ohio adjutant general, and Panther Racing. In addition, Panther Racing team members and Sgt. 1st Class Heath Robinson, National Guard Hometown Hero, will take part in the events. Robinson has been recognized as the Ohio National Guard's Noncommissioned Officer of the Year for two years running, winning Ohio's Best Warrior Competition in 2012 and 2013.

On Aug. 1, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., ONG members and military-friendly employers will participate in two-seat rides, trackside at the Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course.

On Aug. 3, Girl Scouts from throughout Ohio will take part in a special presentation with Ashenhurst and Panther Racing owner John Barnes to honor women serving in the military. The National Guard Pink Camo IndyCar will be on display in the Fan Zone for this special recognition. Also on Aug. 3, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., Robinson and Panther Racing team members will sign autographs in the Fan Zone.

On Aug. 4, Barnes will host a hospitality area and pit tours for about 50 members of the Ohio Army National Guard and 30 Guard employers. With the help of Ashenhurst, Barnes will also recognize Robinson and conduct a "Road Map to Help" program to discuss employment opportunities for military members.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:** *Capt. Nicole L. Ashcroft, Ohio National Guard employer outreach coordinator, at 614-753-5394 or Maj. Al Renner, Recruiting and Retention South Region commander, at 614-460-1783.*