



Ohio Adjutant General's Department

Mike DeWine, Governor

Major General John C. Harris Jr., Adjutant General

A message from the adjutant general on the Ohio National Guard's 233rd birthday

Gen. Daniel Hokanson, chief of the National Guard Bureau, recently commented about the unprecedented year for National Guard deployments: "... we have become the most capable, professional, ready and combat proven National Guard in the history of the United States."

When a pandemic caused critical shortages in resources and heightened the need for a humanitarian response from our organization, we were challenged to respond in settings that we could never have dreamed of just months before — food banks, PPE warehouses, vaccination clinics, prisons and the list goes on.

You were ready to answer the call to deploy at a moment's notice with professionalism and a dedication that exceeded expectations. That is the minuteman tradition woven into the fabric of our organization.

You've proven why we have an Ohio National Guard — to be there when our state and nation need us most.

The Ohio National Guard will celebrate a birthday this Sunday. It was 233 years ago on July 25, 1788, that the Northwest Territory Militia was established. Since then, the Guard has played a vital role in providing aid after natural disasters and defending the nation during major conflicts.

Please join me in taking a moment to remember those who have served before us and laid the foundation for the "professional, ready and combat proven" organization we are today.

John C. Harris Jr.
Major General
The Adjutant General