



Ohio Adjutant General's Department

Mike DeWine, Governor

Major General John C. Harris Jr., Adjutant General

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For Immediate Release

Ohio Army National Guard cuts ribbon on new Zanesville recruiting office

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The Ohio Army National Guard held a ribbon-cutting ceremony today, July 30, 2020, at its new recruiting office at 2644 Maple Ave. in Zanesville, Ohio.

[Col. Daniel Shank](#), Ohio assistant adjutant general for Army, presided over the ceremony with a small group of officials in attendance, including Zanesville Mayor Don Mason.

“Storefronts are essential to allow us to get our story out to the community and engage those who want to serve. Committing to the National Guard is a life-altering decision,” Shank said. “The organization is rich with opportunity and benefits, but it does take commitment. Building the trust with someone to make that commitment is difficult without looking them in the eye and really connecting with them. These storefronts allow us that opportunity.”

Sgt. Kenneth E. Whatley has been assigned to the location as the recruiting noncommissioned officer.

“Being able to be a positive influence in the lives of young people, along with providing them with the opportunity to serve their community and further their education, is something I’m very grateful for,” Whatley said of his role as a recruiter.

Education benefits for eligible Ohio National Guard Soldiers include college scholarships that pay 100% of college tuition.

Because of COVID-19, the Zanesville recruiting office is open by appointment only, which can be scheduled by calling Whatley at 740-258-4918.

There is a rich history of Ohio National Guard service in Zanesville. It was home to one of the first militia units in Ohio to volunteer after President Abraham Lincoln’s call for troops in April 1861, which became Company H, 1st Ohio Volunteer Infantry and served at the Battle of Bull Run in Virginia in July 1861. Zanesville was home to many different National Guard units throughout the decades, including infantry, artillery, and transportation.

The Ohio National Guard, which turned 232 years old on July 25, includes more than 11,000 members of the Ohio Army National Guard who serve their communities, state, and nation during times of natural and man-made emergencies.

EDITOR'S NOTES: A photo from today's ribbon-cutting is available at <https://www.dvidshub.net/image/6291393/ohio-army-national-guard-cuts-ribbon-new-zanesville-recruiting-office>.

Video from the event is available on the Ohio Army National Guard Recruiting Facebook page at www.facebook.com/OHarmyguardrecruiting.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Stephanie Beougher, public information officer, at (614) 506-3490 or stephanie.k.beougher.nfg@mail.mil.

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