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Volume 1 - Fall 2025

2025 Annual Training: Homeland Response Force

In July, OHMR service members participated in the 2025 Annual Training at Camp Ravenna Joint Military Training Center in Portage County, Ohio. AT25 held special significance concerning OHMR's current missions and future opportunities.

The fact OHMR played a supporting role in the Ohio Army National Guard Homeland Response Force's (HRF) training exercises during the 5-day period demonstrated OHARNG confidence in our service members and capabilities. Primarily, service members served as victim role players during HRF training and also provided volunteer manpower. Also, 3rd Medical deployed the OHMR medical services trailer which provides doctors, nurses and EMT qualified personnel onsite during annual training exercises. Additionally, service members with 25C training and volunteer technicians with AUXC qualified training maintained a "no internet" communications system during annual training; a capability that impressed VIP guests to the Tactical Operations Center. OHMR 7th UAS impressed Hungarian Army partners with OHMR drone capabilities and OHARNG leaders expressed interest in using 7th UAS drone services as a cost saving alternative to ground survey activities.

Equally important as OHMR support of the HRF training, AT25 involved a special visit from emergency management partners from the Ohio Mass Care Partners from the Ohio Department of Public Safety. Showcasing OHMR capabilities and personnel further promotes OHMR opportunities for future missions.



OHARNG Homeland Response Force

The Homeland Response Force (HRF) is a National Guard unit designed for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and high-yield Explosive (CBRNE) incidents, providing critical support during emergencies. The HRF is tasked with supporting local, state, and federal emergency management agencies in response to disasters, including natural and terrorist attacks. When activated, the HRF can mobilize within 6-12 hours.

A HRF consists of approximately 575 National Guard personnel and is regionally aligned across the United States. There are 10 HRFs located throughout the United States, each prepared to support their respective regions during emergencies. HRF units integrate seamlessly with civilian emergency management systems to ensure effective collaboration during crises.

OHSDf and GuardCare 2025

The Ohio National Guard, Ohio Military Reserve and the Ohio Naval Reserve partnered with the Ohio Department of Health, Crawford County Public Health, Crawford County Board of Developmental Disabilities and other local community partners to provide healthcare services to Ohio citizens during GuardCare 2025. The weekend event was held at the Trillium Event Center in Bucyrus, Ohio, Aug. 7-8, 2025.

GuardCare is a yearly event that provides free healthcare to medically underserved communities while also giving OHARNG and SDF service members and medical personnel valuable real-world training. During this two-day event, Ohio residents received a wide array of no-cost health services including medical screenings, sports physicals, dental exams, vision exams, mammograms, and a variety of immunizations.



OHMR 7th Unmanned Aerial Systems

In the ever-evolving landscape of modern emergency response, where threats can emerge from floods, wildfires, or man-made crises, the role of advanced technology becomes indispensable. The 7th UAS Detachment in the Ohio Military Reserve is at the helm of a pioneering unit that's redefining how we protect and serve the Buckeye State.

The 7th UAS (Unmanned Aerial Systems), is OHMR's newest asset, born from a directive to build cutting-edge drone capabilities. With a core team of 10 service members, supplemented by volunteer pilots, technicians, and analysts; the 7th operates UAS platforms and government approved blue list aircraft. These include commercial off-shelf systems like the DJI series for high-res imaging and custom modified units for extended endurance. Many members hold FAA Part 107 credentials and other training requirements for drone operations.

Embodying the OHMR philosophy of integration with multi-agency partners, the 7th UAS works closely with Ohio Army National Guard, Ohio Department of Public Safety, FEMA teams, and even local fire departments. 7th UAS drones have provided overhead surveillance during simulated ground scenarios, spotting hazards and locating personnel in minutes versus hours.

UAS capabilities evolve fast, and so does the 7th UAS, spearheading R&D initiatives, like integrating AI for autonomous obstacle avoidance or partnering with other organizations for counter-drone techniques. Preparedness is key; service members conduct monthly proficiency checks and tabletop simulations to stay razor-sharp. All of this is reflected in the 7th UAS motto "Precision from Above" a nod to the ability to deliver real-time data that informs decisions on the ground.

- CPL Dan Weiss



The Sentinel is a quarterly publication of the Ohio State Defense Force. Submissions from SDF service members and retirees are welcome and should be submitted by email to PAO@sdf.ohio.gov

OHMR Chaplain Corps

Greetings, I am CH Peterson, the Chief of Chaplains for OHMR. I have been active with OHMR since 2022, when I commenced my role as a limited duty officer. I was motivated to join OHMR after observing the beneficial changes in my wife following her participation in drills and ATs. I was already aware of my wife's exceptional character, but her engagement with remarkable individuals at OHMR has intensified this realization. I was profoundly impressed when she rescued the young man from the burning vehicle one wintry afternoon while returning from drill. I occasionally interacted with some soldiers at OHMR when I delivered items to the armory or had the opportunity to dine with her colleagues. All individuals with whom I interacted with appeared benevolent and exhibited a commitment to assisting others through acts of service. I was motivated to join after recognizing an opportunity for my involvement. I am a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor with a Supervisor Designation and possess seminary training. I am professionally trained as a mental health counselor and pastor. I possess a distinctive skill set that is frequently beneficial when individuals encounter life's challenges. I can examine factors from both a clinical and spiritual perspective. I am assigned to HHC and serve as the Chief of Chaplains, a position formerly held by Chaplain Cooper.

I am acclimating to my position as Chief of Chaplains, tasked with supporting chaplains across OHMR and addressing the needs of soldiers within OHMR. As chaplains, we offer spiritual and moral support, religious services, and confidential counseling to soldiers. Furthermore, we counsel commanders on morale, ethics, and religious or spiritual matters. Individuals often perceive our roles as solely focused on conveying the Word of God to soldiers; while this is frequently a primary objective, we also fulfill the role of providing companionship to soldiers during various professional and personal events. Numerous individuals prefer to encapsulate their responsibilities as a ministry of presence. Chaplains can provide guidance and support during challenging periods in an individual's life. A significant advantage of serving as a soldier in OHMR is the support provided not only by fellow soldiers but also by a chaplain. If you require assistance, please contact us and inform us. Be Blessed. - **CH Marco Peterson**



Pictured L-R: 2LT Shipley, PFC Lofton, CPT Peterson, 1LT Roberts, and 2LT Sells.

OHMR Chaplain Corps

CPT Marco Peterson
1LT Robert Roberts
2LT Dennis Harris
2LT David Sells
2LT Daniel Shipley
PFC Jon Lofton

Columbus
Middletown
Norwalk
Newark
Alliance
Columbus

Retirements Announced

MSG Warren Cook

HHC / 4th CSSB

SFC Richard Hamilton

HHC / 4th CSSB

SSG Sean Maskaluk

A Co 1st BN / 4th CSSB



OHSDF/OHMR Staff Changes Announced

On 06SEP25 COL (OH) Gary Lehman announced several staff changes (effective 01OCT25) on the OHMR ReadyNet platform.

From SDF to OHMR:

- CPT Smith from SDF J1 to OHMR S4
- LTC Reeder from SDF J8 to OHMR XO
- 1LT Blake from SDF J3A to OHMR HHC CDR

From OHMR to SDF:

- LTC Greentree from OHMR SJA to SDF J8
- LTC Lanzillota, C from OHMR S3 to SDF J6
- LTC Reeseman, S from OHMR S1 to SDF J1
- LTC Reeseman, M from OHMR XO to SDF IG/Projects
- 2LT Cleveland from OHMR HHC CDR to SDF J3A

Within OHMR:

- MAJ Wiley from OHMR 2BN CDR to OHMR S3
- CPT Wright from OHMR 2BN XO to 2BN CDR
- CPT Peterson from OHMR Chief, R&R to OHMR S1
- 1LT Jones OHMR R&R Officer to OHMR Chief, R&R
- 1LT Scott OHMR HHC JAG to OHMR SJA

Within SDF:

- CPT Singer to SDF AdC position
- WO1 Turnage from SDF PBO to Training Academy

SDF Training Academy Update

The OHSDF Training Academy welcomes WO1 Turnage as newest member of the Cadre. The Academy is seeking two additional service members to join the instructional team; interested personnel should contact MAJ (OH) Adkins [stephen.adkins@sdf.ohio.gov] for more information.

Congratulations to CPT (OH) Stewart, SFC (OH) Culvert, and SGT (OH) Wills for receiving the Achievement Award for their role in Annual Training last July.

The Training Academy is collaboratively working with the Ohio Army National Guard to transition the primary OHSDF training venue to the DSCC Regional Training Institute. This change will provide improved facilities and a more secure, professional training environment. Once approved, the Academy will provide updates.

In 2026 the Academy will host OCS, ALC, SLC, SGITC, POCC, IET, BLC, and AOC courses. Class start dates and application deadlines will be announced soon. A new enrollment process for all Academy training programs is in development to improve efficiency and communication with students and MSCs.

AOC Graduation is scheduled for November, while IET and BLC Graduations will take place in December. These ceremonies mark significant milestones for our developing leaders across the OHSDF.



Brief from CSM Rittenhouse



Physical Standards: BDE HHC, did the first of many reporting of Height Weight among the troops, remember this is not an overnight process. Getting in shape and losing weight is a lifestyle change, both in exercise and eating healthier. I highly recommend SM to speak with their health care provider and come up with a plan of action that best suits them.

Soldiering Skills: As Soldiers we have common skills that we must master during our service. We have lost touch with this over the years, and I have executed a plan of action to reintroduce the Critical Common Task List that will be a requirement for all soldiers to complete yearly. This task list will evolve as the BDE becomes more proficient in the skill sets. Getting back to the basics of being a soldier is the goal.

Soldiers' Welfare: With things going on today in the world, it is more important now than ever that we care for one another. We need to be checking on our soldiers and making sure they are good to go. If soldiers are having problems, we need to work together to help them. Encourage them that we are there for them. We may not be able to fix it right away, but we can find the means to assist them.

Winter tips: As we move into the winter months, don't be quick to layer up. Remember dressing for the field versus office work are two different things. For the field, go as long as you can before you start wearing layers under your OCP. Start with a base layer, like long johns or silk EWCS layer 1. Wear that for as long as you can before adding the next layer, the grid poly pro pants and shirt in coyote brown, in the civilian world you can wear base sweatshirt / sweatpants in brown or black. This should be worn under the OCP and then you can wear the Coyote fleece jacket over your OCP before you add an extreme cold weather jacket. While Gortex Jackets are expensive they do provide the much-needed wind and waterproof properties needed in a cold weather jacket. They also make pants to match. If you do not have an OCP one but have a Woodland one, wear it in the field. You being warm and protected is more important than matching camo patterns. A suggested list of alternate jackets will be published soon, but the key to this is to start slow in the layering process and then be sure you have what will keep you warm in the cold field environment. Reach out to you section leaders for more information or suggestions.

NCO Promotions

SSG Charles Stone II promoted to SFC

SSG Donald Campbell promoted to SFC

SSG Christopher Toledo promoted to SFC and appointed BDE HHC 1SG

Sentinel

The Sentinel is published quarterly and relies on submissions from MSC's, NCO's and Service Members of the State Defense Forces of Ohio to provide content for publication. Below is the publication schedule with deadlines for submissions.

If you have questions regarding submissions or anything regarding the Sentinel please contact PAO by email at PAO@sdf.ohio.gov or contact OC Robert Paduchik at mobile number 202-441-6810.

Issue Schedule

Winter 2026
Spring 2026
Summer 2026
Fall 2026

Publication

January
April
July
October

Submission Date

December 31, 2025
March 31, 2026
June 30, 2026
September 30, 2026



The State Guard Association of Ohio

The State Guard Association of Ohio assists Ohio State Defense Force service members in many ways including raising private funds to support the health, welfare, and spiritual needs of Ohio's SDF members and their families. Past assistance has included: providing uniforms and meals to SDF service members, legislative support and public information.

The SGAOH is part of the National State Guard Association of The United States. Our members pay modest annual dues and are self-governed through the election of officers during our annual meeting.

We Stand Ready, For Ohio!

Membership Levels and Fees

Annual - \$10

This is the basic membership that will give you access to all of our services and voting rights during our annual meeting.

3-Years - \$25

If you would like to buy three years of membership at once, we provide a discount rate!

Life Member - \$200

No need to renew every year! In addition to the regular benefits, life members are entitled to extra perks. To show your status, you will be eligible to wear a star on your SGAOH ribbon!

Join SGA Ohio online today at: <https://sgaoh.org>

In Memory of a Life of Service

Major General (OH) Charles E. Hollar, age 81, of Newark, passed away on April 23, 2025. Prior Service US Army. And a former CORPs Commander of the Ohio Military Reserve.

Mr. Hollar was a graduate of Newark High School. He attended Ohio Wesleyan University and completed his Masters degree at Ohio State University. He was a member of the Association of the United States Army. He worked at Fort Hayes Career Center in vocational education of Plumbing and Heating until he fulfilled a role in administration. He retired from Columbus Public Schools as an Administrator of Maintenance.

He was born September 18, 1943 in Newark to the late Carl E. and Virginia (Camp). In addition to his parents, MG Hollar was preceded in death by his wife, Judith (2017) whom he married on March 17, 1962; and a son, Jeffrey Allen Hollar (1990). MG Hollar is survived by his son, Douglas B. Hollar and a sister, Cynthia Hollar; grandson, Daniel Hollar (Tonya) and one great-grandson.



Reflections of Service

MG Charles Hollar, US Army career and years of service to our nation were easily identified on his uniform: Expert Infantryman Badge, Master Parachutist, Pathfinder, Air Assault. He joined the OHMR to lead and teach the younger troops. He made an impression whenever he walked into the room.

My first impression of MG Hollar was at Annual Training 2003; he walked onto the stage of a crowded auditorium at Camp Perry. His boots were highly polished, reflecting the light from the stage. His uniform crisp and starched so that you could hear it, as he walked. He stood centered stage holding a bayonet in his hand, he gave a speech to the troops in the audience that iron sharpens iron and that we were here to sharpen the skills of being the best soldiers in the OHMR. He said look around you and notice the soldiers next to you. You are all here, to become the very product he holds in his hand, the tip of the blade, the first to respond. He said while at Annual Training you will make lifelong friendships, but never forget your mission is to the state and the soldiers next to you. His experience showed. He walked the walk. I was impressed as was many others.

Over the years, I was privilege to have many conversations with MG Hollar, in them all, I always walked away with learning something new. He was always teaching; educating was his passion both civilian and military. He will be remembered always! FILO MG Hollar, All the Way!

- CSM Cliff Rittenhouse

Leonard Ellsworth Sines, age 82, of Chillicothe, formerly of Washington CH, passed away on Thursday, September 4, 2025 at the Adena Regional Medical Center in Chillicothe. CPT (OH) Leonard Sines proudly served his country in the United States Army during the Vietnam Era and the 2nd Military Police Brigade of the Ohio Military Reserve.

CPT (OH) Sines was born on May 5, 1943 in Circleville to the late Grant and Christina (Sollars) Sines. He was a 1963 graduate of Jackson High School. Leonard and his wife, Bonnie, were self-employed and sold portable buildings for many years in the local area.

Survivors include his loving and devoted wife, Bonnie Lou (Jones) Sines, his children, Heather Lynn (Earl R.) Palmer, and Clinton Everett Sines and his fiancé, Rachel Russell; grandchildren, Breann Nicole Sines, Evan Thomas Sines, Kayla Renae Sines and her fiancé, Jarod Bellar, Ethan Palmer, Rebecca Palmer, and Noah Whitesel; great-granddaughter, Elaina Rae Michael; and sister, Mary Jean (Carroll) Liston.