



**Governor Mike DeWine**  
Commander in Chief

**MG Matthew S. Woodruff**  
Adjutant General

**BG Gary Lehman**  
SDF Commander

**COL Brian Reeder**  
OHMR Commander

**CAPT Beverly Carpenter**  
ONM Commander

**Volume 1 - Spring 2026**

## Annual Training 2026: Distinguished Visitors

During 6-8 March 2026, the Ohio Military Reserve completed its routine, Annual Training period for its homeland threat and emergency preparedness missions as assigned by the Ohio adjutant general.

Several distinguished visitors observed OHMR exercises during AT26 including commander in chief, Governor Mike DeWine, State Senator Michele Reynolds, Rep. Sean Brennan, and Rep. Beryl Brown-Piccolantonio.

Military leadership participation included MG Matthew S. Woodruff, Adjutant General, COL Jonathan M. Stewart, Assistant Adjutant General and BG (OH) Larry Pinkerton, Commander of the State Defense Force.

Members of the OHMR's 4th Civil Support and Sustainment Brigade participated in exercises in coordination with public and private partners at the Col. Robert Haubrich Armory in Columbus. OHMR partners participating in the training included members of Ohio Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster, the American Red Cross, and Ohio Southern Baptist Disaster Relief.

"We are grateful to partner with OHMR as we fulfill our mission for the governor and the people of Ohio," said Maj. Gen. Mathew S. Woodruff, Ohio adjutant general. "The OHMR strengthens the state's readiness and resilience by serving as a force multiplier, providing logistics, humanitarian assistance, and emergency management support."

In addition to annual training, the OHMR recertified its capability to operate community points of distribution, known as CPODs. The Ohio EMA Logistics Branch provided training and oversight while the OHMR conducted the exercise. CPODs would be needed in a disaster if the infrastructure breaks down preventing distribution of food, water, and other supplies through normal means. OHMR training also supported sheltering and mass feeding operations, demonstrating whole community interoperability among disaster relief partners.

"By all measure, Annual Training 2026 was a tremendous success for Ohio Military Reserve members and the citizens of Ohio," said Col. (Ohio) Gary Lehman, OHMR commander. "We are grateful for the support we received during AT26 from the Ohio National Guard, Ohio Emergency Management Agency, American Red Cross, the Ohio Southern Baptist Disaster Relief, and other Ohio Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster partners and participants."



**NOTICE: Service Members should check ReadyNet for new Command Policies.**

## AT26: Logistics Staging Area

On March 5, the Ohio Emergency Management Agency conducted a Logistics Staging Area Full Scale Exercise at Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base to validate Ohio's ability to rapidly receive, stage, manage, and distribute emergency resources during a large-scale disaster. The exercise was executed in partnership with the Ohio Public Private Partnership (OP3), the Ohio National Guard, and multiple law enforcement agencies, including the Ohio State Highway Patrol, Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base security forces, and the Columbus Regional Airport Authority/Port Authority, ensuring a coordinated, secure, and realistic operating environment.



A key component of the exercise was the integration of private sector and nonprofit partners through OP3. Vehicles and transportation assets were provided by Walmart, DHL Logistics, Kroger, the Central Ohio Transit Authority, the Columbus Airport Authority, Ohio 811, the Ohio Southern Baptist Disaster Relief, and Disaster Aid USA. These partners played a critical role in simulating real world supply chain support, reinforcing the importance of public private collaboration in disaster logistics and resource distribution.

Service members of OHMR provided core control, staging, and command and control functions for the LSA operation. OHMR personnel staffed key operational roles, managed vehicle flow, coordinated staging and movement of resources, and supported overall mission execution, demonstrating the organization's capability to augment state logistics operations under Emergency Support Function 7. Their participation reinforced the value of the OHMR as a trained, mission ready force multiplier for statewide emergency response operations.



## AT26: VOAD Partners

Members of Ohio Volunteers Active in Disaster participated in AT26 to demonstrate whole community interoperability during a disaster.

VOAD is a coalition of the major national voluntary organizations in the United States that have made disaster-related work a priority. National VOAD member agencies provide skilled direct services along the continuum from disaster prevention and preparation to response, recovery, and mitigation.

The American Red Cross conducted an emergency shelter training exercise. FEMA, working in partnership with the American Red Cross, established a nationwide database of emergency shelter information where thousands of profiles of potential shelter resources, as well as virtually any type of facility associated with the care of disaster survivors, are maintained. OHMR and civilian volunteers received emergency sheltering certification during AT26.

Ohio Southern Baptist Disaster Relief deployed their mass feeding operations during AT26. Their participation served two purposes: simulate a mass feeding exercise while also providing meal service for OHMR service members during the entire AT period.





## AT26: Community Points of Distribution

During AT26, OHMR service members and VOAD partner American Red Cross participated in certification training for the operation of community points of distribution. CPODs are integral to the OHMR mission and consist of planned methods to distribute emergency supplies. They would be needed if the infrastructure broke down, where food, water, and other supplies could not be distributed through normal means. OHMR service members that completed the requirements are now certified to train for CPOD operations.

## A SACRED TRUST: Lineage of Ohio's Military Medicine

3 Part Series

The history of military medicine in the United States is a record spanning nearly two and a half centuries. It is a chronicle defined by hardship, discipline, scientific advancement, and profound human service. From the improvised hospitals of the Revolutionary War to the high-tech tactical care of the 21st century, the goal has remained constant; a nation cannot defend itself if it cannot preserve its Soldiers.

Today, the 3rd Medical Detachment of the OHMR stands as the inheritor of this legacy. By understanding the origins of the US Army Medical Department and the specific traditions of the Ohio Militia, we understand the weight of the patch we wear and the importance of the mission we carry forward.



### PART II: Ohio's Militia Tradition

**Frontier Defenders:** Ohio's medical service predates its statehood. As settlers moved into the Northwest Territory, the frontier that would become the state of Ohio, in the late 1700s, militia surgeons served in block-houses and forts, treating frostbite, trauma, and disease during the Northwest Indian War (1785-1795).

During the War of 1812, Ohio militia surgeons accompanied regiments to the Great Lakes frontier, serving at Fort Meigs and Lake Erie. These officers represented the earliest formalized medical organizations in service to the state of Ohio.

**The Volunteer State:** Ohio contributed more than 300,000 Soldiers to the Union Army during the Civil War, the highest per capita of any free state. During the war, Ohio became a hub of medical innovation:

- **Camp Dennison:** Hosted one of the Union's major general hospitals near Cincinnati.
- **Mary Ann Bickerdyke:** An Ohio native who assisted the U.S. Sanitary Corps in building 300 hospitals and was appointed Chief of Nursing for General Grant's army at Vicksburg.

**A Century of Service:** From the Spanish-American War through the World Wars, Ohio National Guard medical units mobilized for federal service. Whether implementing field sanitation in Cuba or staffing laboratories in Europe, Ohio's citizen-soldiers have consistently provided the backbone of support for a nation in need.

- By MAJ Robert C. Miller, MD, MBA, FRSM Commanding Officer, 3rd Medical Detachment

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

## AT26: Photo Album



## OHIO MILITARY RESERVE FAMILY READINESS GROUP

# Volunteers Needed

**Join Our Family Readiness Group  
Help Support Our Service Members!**

FRG is a command-supported organization that promotes communication, preparedness, and mutual support between service members, their families, and unit leadership.

The FRG provides families with information, resources, and connection through training, activations, and routine service.

### **Who May Participate:**

- Spouses and Partners
- Parents and Guardians
- Adult Family Members

### **Purpose:**

- Share Accurate and Timely Information
- Promote Family Readiness and Awareness
- Support Families During Training/Activation
- Encourage Communication and Involvement



**STATE DEFENSE FORCE**

### **Contact:**

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## Brief from CSM Rittenhouse

To ensure our organization remains mission-ready, we must focus on two sets of guiding principles ; the US Army Core Values and the TAG's Fundamental Principles as defined by MG John C. Harris, Jr. (USA RET). While all these principles are vital, we must specifically focus on the intersection of Integrity (Army Value #6) and Blameless Problem Solving (TAG Principle #8). By reflecting on these values, we can better understand our responsibilities to the unit and the citizens of Ohio.

**Living with Integrity:** As Soldiers, we face daily challenges that test our moral and ethical boundaries. Integrity means doing what is right even when others are cutting corners or when you don't fully understand the reasoning behind a directive. Focusing on your own actions rather than the failures of others ensures that the standard is maintained; eventually, those who cheat or ignore regulations will be held accountable.

**Practicing Blameless Problem Solving:** Leadership is not found in pointing out flaws or complaining to peers. It is found in the transition from identifying a problem to analyzing and presenting a viable solution. Constant complaining kills morale within the squad, section, and the entire Brigade. By encouraging others to work toward solutions rather than dwelling on issues, we bring the organization into a better future. Being positive and positive interactions is infectious and will change the morale quickly within the BDE.

### Seven Army Core Values

**Loyalty:** Bear true faith and allegiance to the U.S.

Constitution, the Army, your unit, and your fellow Soldiers.

**Duty:** Fulfill your obligations and accomplish tasks as part of a team.

**Respect:** Treat people as they should be treated, appreciating the dignity and worth of all.

**Selfless Service:** Prioritize the welfare of the nation, the Army, and your subordinates above your own.

**Honor:** Live up to all Army values in every action.

**Integrity:** Do what is right, legally and morally, even when no one is watching.

**Personal Courage:** Face fear, danger, or adversity—both physical and moral.

### TAG's Fundamental Principles

**Operational Mindset:** Be a champion and win the day.

**Ownership:** Take responsibility, be trustworthy, and commit to the team.

**Communication:** Give candid feedback, establish clear expectations, and communicate effectively.

**Problem Solving:** Practice blameless problem solving and cultivate innovation.

**Standards:** Ruthlessly enforce standards, make quality a priority, and remain relentlessly efficient.

**Character:** Be curious, celebrate wins, and honor our military heritage and traditions.

**Decision Making:** Make fact-based decisions and strive to meet your full personal potential while remaining resilient.

## Sentinel

The Sentinel is published quarterly and relies on submissions from MSCs, NCOs 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](mailto:PAO@sdf.ohio.gov) or contact OC Robert Paduchik at mobile number 202-441-6810.

### Issue Schedule

**Summer 2026**

**Fall 2026**

**Winter 2027**

**Spring 2027**

### Publication

**July**

**October**

**January**

**April**

### Submission Date

**June 30, 2026**

**September 30, 2026**

**December 31, 2026**

**March 31, 2027**



## 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>