



STATE OF OHIO
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT
2825 West Dublin Granville Road
Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789

NGOH-TAG

6 October 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR All Soldiers, Airmen, and Civilian Employees of the Ohio National Guard (ONG)

SUBJECT: Answering the Call

1. Our Nation has experienced a devastating hurricane season and hundreds of thousands of our neighbors in Texas, Florida, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico have been affected. Since the first storm made landfall in August, you, the men and women of the ONG, have been engaged with rescue and relief efforts. Because of your diligence, professionalism, and dedication, we've been ready to respond when called for help. ONG units have deployed nearly 200 personnel and equipment since August to assist emergency management teams on the ground and in the air.

a. Our satellite imagery analysts at the 178th Wing have kept a watchful eye on critical infrastructure and assisted with key information used by first responders to rescue residents in flooded neighborhoods.

b. In nearly back-to-back missions, our Soldiers and Chinooks from Company B, 3rd Battalion, 238th Aviation Regiment deployed to Texas and Florida to deliver fuel, water, and food—including hay for stranded livestock.

c. Airmen from the 269th Combat Communications Squadron are in the U.S. Virgin Islands where, in the first 24-hours of operations, they enabled communications services to five key agencies supporting 70,000 residents.

d. The 200th RED HORSE Squadron also has a team in the U.S. Virgin Islands who has built and is operating a Disaster Relief Bed-down System (DRBS) to provide basic life needs such as shelter, showers, and latrines for up to 300 people.

e. To help feed first responders and others, Airmen from the 179th Airlift Wing and the 178th Wing joined resources to respond to relief efforts in Puerto Rico with a Disaster Relief Mobile Kitchen Trailer (DRMKT).

f. Overnight, Ohio Army National Guard Soldiers from the 285th Medical Company arrived in Puerto Rico to begin medical support efforts. And just this morning, a C-130H took off from the 179th Airlift Wing to deliver a Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit (ROWPU) that will provide much needed drinking water to Puerto Rico.

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2. I mention all of this because it's important that everyone in this organization understands the difference their hard work is making in the lives of others. This is why we train and demand much of ourselves. This is why we are among the Nation's most trusted team of Soldiers, Airmen, and Civilians serving our communities, state, and Nation.

3. Our mission is not complete. We stand ready to send additional personnel and equipment for hurricane relief efforts when called, and we will not rest easy until the last Ohio National Guardsman returns home. You have my heartfelt appreciation for your commitment to successfully completing hurricane relief efforts and future missions on behalf of the citizens of Ohio. Thank you!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Bartman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

MARK E. BARTMAN
Major General
The Adjutant General