



# Texas Military Forces News

*"Texans Defending Texas"*

## MEDIA ADVISORY

For more information, please contact the Texas Military Forces State Public Affairs Office customer service line at 512-782-5620 or email at [ng.tx.txarng.mbx.pao@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tx.txarng.mbx.pao@mail.mil).

### FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLIC RELEASE:

## Texas Military Forces to be affected by federal furlough policy

**CAMP MABRY, Texas (May 30, 2013)** – Members of the Texas Military Forces remain committed to supporting the state of Texas, if called into service by Gov. Perry, despite a May 14, 2013, Department of Defense (DoD) announcement mandating furloughs for the federal civil service workforce.

"The Department of Defense has directed the Texas Army and Air National Guard to institute furloughs for both military technicians and non-military technicians who are employed to prepare the Texas National Guard for state and federal missions," said Col. Amy F. Cook, state public affairs officer. "Notices are being distributed today to affected employees, and furlough days are expected to begin in early July, unless Congress overrides the sequestration provision in the federal budget or provides local, budget-management flexibility."

"The affected employees will be in an unpaid, furlough status for 11 non-consecutive days between July and September," Cook said. "Effectively, a 20 percent reduction in pay through the end of the current federal fiscal year."

Together, the Texas Army and Air National Guard have more than 22,000 members, ten percent of whom are full-time employees. More than half of the Texas National Guard's full-time members are expected to be furloughed, which may result in degraded maintenance and curtailment of critical training, including aviation readiness, which could negatively affect essential capabilities that state officials and first responders rely on in disaster situations.

"The components of the Texas Military Forces operate in a fiscally responsible fashion – with both our state and federal resources," said Maj. Gen. John F. Nichols, The Adjutant General of Texas. "Regardless of personnel constraints imposed at the national-level, we stand ready to support the Governor of Texas during any time of need."

The DoD-mandated furlough is not expected to impact traditional members of the National Guard, who typically drill one weekend per month and two weeks a year.

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*The mission of the Texas Military Forces (TXMF) is to provide the Governor and the President with ready and trained forces in support of the citizens of Texas and State and Federal civil/military authorities at home and abroad.*

*The Texas Military Forces are commanded by the Adjutant General of Texas, the state's senior military official appointed by the governor, and is comprised of the Adjutant General's Department, the Texas Army National Guard (TXARNG), the Texas Air National Guard (TXANG), the Texas State Guard (TXSG) and the Domestic Operations Command (DOMOPS).*

*For more information about the Texas Military Forces visit our Website at [www.txmf.us](http://www.txmf.us).*

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