



Texas Military Forces News

"Texans Defending Texas"

MEDIA ADVISORY

Members of the media are invited to cover the toy distribution preparations on Friday, Dec. 19, 2014, beginning at 10:30 a.m. at the Texas State Guard Headquarters Building at Camp Mabry at 2200 West 35th Street, Austin, Texas 78703.

Those media wishing to cover the toy distribution at do so Dell Children's Medical Center at 12:15 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 19, 2014, and must arrive no later than 12:00 p.m. and park at the main entrance in the circular driveway. Dell Children's Medical Center is located at 4900 Mueller Blvd., Austin, Texas, 78723.

Members of the media are required to RSVP no later than Friday, Dec. 18, 2014, by 5 p.m. with the Texas State Guard representative Staff Sgt. John Gately at 972-800-9160 or email at johnny.gately@txsg.state.tx.us.

FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLIC RELEASE:

Texas State Guard to Deliver Toys to Austin Area Hospital

AUSTIN, Texas (Dec. 17, 2014) – Dozens of uniformed members of the Texas State Guard (TXSG) will load thousands of toys for delivery to pediatric patients at an Austin area children's hospital, on Friday, Dec. 19, 2014, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Following the loading of the toys, volunteers with the TXSG will personally deliver collected toys to children at Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas in Austin. Although Dell Children's Medical Center is the only center being visited by members of the Guard on Friday, other toy distributions are being arranged across the state in Dallas, Houston, San Antonio and Lubbock.

In its sixth year, the toy distribution is part of the "Young Heroes of the Guard" toy roundup program designed to collect and deliver new toys to pediatric patients at every dedicated children's hospital in Texas during the holiday season. Additionally, the goal is to collect enough toys to leave behind an inventory of stuffed animals, games, dolls and more for the hospitals to give to patients throughout the following year.

This year the TXSG has raised more than 18,000 toys, making it the largest amount of donations in the program's five year history.

"Christmas is meant to be a joyous occasion and thanks to the generous donations of those across the state, we can bring a smile to the face of a child spending time away from home," said Maj. Gen. Gerald "Jake" Betty, Commanding General for the Texas State Guard. "As citizen-Soldiers

we enjoy giving back to the local communities who support us on a continued basis and cannot think of a better way to give back during the holiday season.”

Since 2009, Texas State Guard volunteers have collected and distributed more than 21,000 toys to children across Texas who are spending the holiday season away from home. For more information about the Texas State Guard and the “Young Heroes of the Guard” Toy Drive visit www.txsg.state.tx.us.

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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 Texas Military Department (formerly 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.