



Texas Military Department News

"Texans Serving Texas"

MEDIA ADVISORY

Media is invited to cover the graduation ceremony at Rice Consolidated High School in Altair, Texas on Saturday, June 18, 2016, at 10 a.m. and must arrive no later than 9 a.m. to allow for parking and coordination. The event will last approximately two hours. Airmen, soldiers, cadets, staff and family participating in the event will be available afterward for interviews. High-resolution photos will be available after the event on DVIDS.

Members of the media are required to RSVP no later than Friday, June 17, 2016, by 5 p.m. with the Counter Drug Public Affairs Office the 1st Lt. Alicia Lacy at (512) 782-5642 or via email at alica.m.lacy.mil@mail.mil.

Rice Consolidated High School is located at Highway 90-A, Altair, Texas 77412.

FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLIC RELEASE:

The Texas ChalleNGe Academy-East to graduate 49 Cadets

AUSTIN, Texas (June 15, 2016) - The Texas ChalleNGe Academy-East will host a graduation ceremony for 49 cadets, 10 a.m., Saturday, at Rice Consolidated High School, Highway 90-A, Altair Texas 77412.

The Texas ChalleNGe Academy, a Texas National Guard youth education program, is a disciplined, military-style educational program for 16-18-year-old, at-risk male and female youth who have dropped out of school or are having difficulty being successful in a traditional school environment. The 22-week residential phase focuses on eight core components: academic excellence, health and hygiene, physical fitness, leadership and followership, service to community, job skills, responsible citizenship, and life coping skills. Many of the graduates will have completed a General Education Development certificate while enrolled in the residential program; others will return to their home campuses having recovered credits and with a newfound sense of self and success.

After the cadets graduate the 22-week residential program, they will begin a one-year, post-residential mentoring program. Graduates will be considered positively placed if they are spending 30 or more hours a week at work, in school, in the military, volunteering, or a combination of those.

The program is sponsored by the Texas National Guard, and this commitment by the ChalleNGe Academy is part of the Texas National Guard's goal to add value to our communities and

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develop and participate in local, state and national programs that provide a positive impact in our communities.

The media is invited to attend the graduation. The ceremony will last approximately two hours.

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The mission of the Texas Military Department (TMD) 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 Department is 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 Department visit our Website at <https://tmd.texas.gov>.