



# Texas Military Department News

*"Texans Serving Texas"*

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

All media inquiries should be forwarded to the Texas Military Department State Public Affairs Office at 512-782-5620 or email at [ng.tx.txarng.mbx.pao@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tx.txarng.mbx.pao@mail.mil).

For the most up-to-date press releases and to obtain imagery and video, please visit the Texas Military Department website at <https://tmd.texas.gov> under the "Breaking News" section.

### **FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLIC RELEASE:**

## **Texas Guardsmen Mobilize in Support of Hurricane Harvey**

**AUSTIN, Texas (August 24, 2017)** – At the request of Gov. Greg Abbott, through the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM), approximately 700 members with the Texas Army and Air National Guards and Texas State Guard with the Texas Military Department have been activated and are prepositioning throughout the state ahead of Hurricane Harvey and its anticipated landfall later this week. Additional personnel remain on standby to respond to impacted areas as needed.

Currently, UH-60 Blackhawk and UH-72 Lakota air crews remain prepositioned and on standby in Austin and San Antonio to assist with any emergency search and rescue, swift water rescues and/or emergency evacuations. In addition, multiple Texas Army National ground transportation teams have been activated to support local and state agencies with any request for swift water rescues, high water ground transportation and personnel evacuation needs. They remain prepositioned in Victoria and College Station with other locations expected as the storm track becomes clearer. Members of the Texas State Guard are mobilized to provide any local shelter operations and Electronic Tracking Network assistance in the affected counties.

"This is what we train for," said Brig. Gen. Patrick M. Hamilton, Commander of Domestic Operations Task Force. "And we're proud to stand beside our civilian partners, first responders and volunteers to serve the citizens of Texas."

The Texas Military Department will continue to work with TDEM to project additional personnel and equipment requirements as needed based on the impact of Hurricane Harvey and the needs of the state. Hurricane Harvey is the first hurricane to make a direct landfall on the Texas coast since 2008.

“This is Texans helping Texans – neighbors helping neighbors,” Hamilton said. “While we don’t want to have to put our training to the test during a tragedy, our citizen-guardsmen remain prepared to help save lives and property, when called.”

-30-

*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>.*