



# 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). Media embed opportunities are available for media to view full spectrum of operations.

For the most up-to-date press releases and to obtain imagery and video, please visit <https://www.flickr.com/photos/texasmilitaryforces/albums> or <https://www.dvidshub.net/feature/hurricaneharvey>

**FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLIC RELEASE:**

## **Joint Hurricane Harvey military operations enter new phase of relief efforts**

**AUSTIN, Texas (September 4, 2017)** – The Texas Military Department, alongside National Guard personnel from across the country and our active duty military partners, is transitioning to the critical life support and logistics support phase of Hurricane Harvey relief efforts. Embed opportunities are available for media to view the full spectrum of these operations.

“As search and rescue operations slow, the Texas Military Department will continue to assist local, state and federal agencies in this new phase of operations,” said Texas Adjutant General Maj. Gen. John F. Nichols. “Along with our National Guard and active duty partners, we’re bringing in new resources to bear for the critical life support and logistics support mission.”

The Texas National Guard has set up approximately 30 points of distribution (PODs) for food, water and other vital commodities between Beaumont and Corpus Christi, with many more opening in the days ahead. Additionally, 35 active Texas State Guard Shelter Teams are sheltering more than 8,000 evacuees at 13 shelters across the state and the Texas National Guard has three evacuation hubs. Our National Guard partners from other states are also playing a central role in this new mission.

“The array of military forces on the ground demonstrates the joint nature of this relief effort,” said Brig. Gen. Patrick Hamilton, the Dual Status Commander of the Hurricane Harvey relief effort. “We are working closely with our DoD partners to ensure we have the National Guard and active duty resources we need in every phase of the operation.”

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Some of the active duty resources on the ground in direct support of the mission include approximately 200 Army high water vehicles who are supporting the Red Cross and moving personnel and patients. The Air Force is providing strategic airlift, fixed-wing airlift, medical evacuation and helicopters to transport people and supplies. The Defense Logistics Agency has provided fuel, sandbags, generators and incident support bases and is delivering meals to dislocated citizens. Finally, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has deployed experts to the state and FEMA response nodes to help with power restoration, as well as the monitoring for flood controls of dams and levees.

At this time, approximately 16,000 military personnel are currently on the ground. Search and rescue operations continue to be ongoing with the Texas National Guard performing more than 16,000 rescues and evacuating more than 7,400 people and 1,000 animals, since Hurricane Harvey made landfall last month. Our partners have performed thousands of additional evacuations and rescue operations.

Embed availability will be based on mission need; however, we will attempt to honor all requests. Please contact the Texas Military Department state public affairs officer at 512-782-5620 or email [ng.tx.txarng.mbx.pao@mail.mil](mailto:ng.tx.txarng.mbx.pao@mail.mil) to coordinate an embed or for more information.

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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>.*