

Texas Military Department News

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLIC RELEASE:

Texas National Guard Deploys Contingency Border Force

AUSTIN, **Texas** (Dec. 19, 2022) – The Texas National Guard has activated and deployed airlift assets from the 136th Airlift Wing in Fort Worth, Texas. These aircraft and support personnel had been on alert status since last Thursday.

Four C-130J cargo aircraft are expediting the movement of Soldiers and equipment to El Paso as part of the Governor's enhanced border security effort. The force of more than 400 personnel will be mission ready in El Paso Monday afternoon.

Texas National Guard is increasing its posture along the border in response to high levels of illegal border crossings over the past week and the pending expiration of Title 42. The end of Title 42 is expected to lead to a massive influx of illegal immigrants allowing criminals to further exploit gaps while federal authorities are inundated with migrant processing.

The deployment includes a Security Response Force composed of elements of the 606th Military Police Battalion mobilizing to El Paso, Texas. The Security Response Force (SRF) is a flexible capability for the Texas National Guard trained in Civil Disturbance Operations and Mass Migration Response, used to safeguard the border and repel and turn-back illegal immigrants.

A second Security Response Force from the 236th MP Company remains on high alert, prepared to deploy if needed, to other areas of the border. These actions are part of a larger strategy to use every available tool to fight back against the record-breaking level of illegal immigration and transnational criminal activity.

For more information, the media may contact Texas Military Department Public Affairs Office at media@tmd.texas.gov or 512-782-5620.

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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 Office of State Administration (formerly the Office of the Executive Director), the Texas Army National Guard (TXARNG), the Texas Air National Guard (TXANG) and the Texas State Guard (TXSG).

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