

Texas Military Department News

"Texans Serving Texas"

MEDIA ADVISORY

Those media wishing to cover the toy distribution in Austin are welcome to do so at St. Davis North Austin Medical Center at 10:45 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 14, 2018, and must arrive no later than 10:30 a.m. for parking and coordination.

Representatives with St. David's Children's Hospital and the Texas State Guard will be available for interviews. Media representatives in attendance will be provided access to some patient rooms during toy delivery.

St. David's Children's Hospital is located at 12221 N. Mopac Expy, Austin, Texas 78758.

FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLIC RELEASE:

Texas State Guard Delivers Toys to St. David's Children's Hospital

AUSTIN, Texas (Dec. 11, 2018) – Dozens of uniformed members of the Texas State Guard (TXSG), will sort, organize, and prepare hundreds of toys for delivery to children at St. David's Children's Hospital located at St. David's North Austin Medical Center, Dec. 14, 2018, at 10:45 a.m. St. David's North Austin Medical Center is located at 12221 N. Mopac Expy, Austin, Texas, 78758.

"Thanks to the generous donations of Texans, around the state, we hope to deliver more than 75,000 toys to children in hospitals and other organizations," said Sgt. 1st Class John Gately, statewide toy drive coordinator for the Guard. "To see the children smile with joy is the most rewarding experience during the year."

In its tenth year, the toy distribution is part of the Texas State Guard "Young Heroes of the Guard" toy drive program designed to collect and deliver new toys to pediatric patients at dedicated children's hospitals, orphanages, and women's shelters 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.

Since 2009, Texas State Guard volunteers have collected and distributed more than 200,000 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 <u>https://txsgtoydrive.com</u>.

-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).

For more information about the Texas Military Department visit our Website at <u>https://tmd.texas.gov.</u>