



# COVID-19: How to Request Support from the National Guard

*Educate Yourself. Stay Informed. Be Safe.*

A quick reference for law enforcement on how to request assistance from the United States National Guard to assist in public safety and public health efforts as the COVID-19 pandemic rapidly evolves.

Under the approval of each state's Governor, law enforcement agencies may request to use National Guard resources from the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force in order to capitalize on their unique skillset and ease resource hardship in local communities.<sup>1</sup>

### **National Guard capabilities during times of crises include:**

- Distribution of groceries, water, and food
- Traffic control
- Mobile patrols
- Checkpoint operations
- Site Security<sup>2</sup>
- Transport and use of special equipment
- Crowd control
- Quarantine enforcement.

Agencies should request support through their servicing Emergency Operations Center (EOC) or Emergency Management Agency (EMA). When requesting support, agencies should be prepared to articulate:

- Type of support requested
- Anticipated duration of support
- Quantity of personnel needed
- Type and quantity of equipment (including lethal and less-lethal weapons)
- Credentialing/deputizing requirements

### **Areas of Consideration**

- States may request support from out-of-state National Guard forces or active duty forces if their state cannot meet the need.
- Emergency declarations carry additional powers and resources that vary from state to state, including:
  - Activation of emergency operations centers and response plans
  - Deployment of state personnel, equipment, supplies, and emergency stockpiles," per Association of State and Territorial Health Officials.

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.nationalguard.mil/Portals/31/Resources/Fact%20Sheets/National%20Guard%20Reaction%20Force%20Fact%20Sheet%20\(Dec.%202017\).pdf](https://www.nationalguard.mil/Portals/31/Resources/Fact%20Sheets/National%20Guard%20Reaction%20Force%20Fact%20Sheet%20(Dec.%202017).pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.nationalguard.mil/Portals/31/Resources/Fact%20Sheets/National%20Guard%20Reaction%20Force%20Fact%20Sheet%20\(Dec.%202017\).pdf](https://www.nationalguard.mil/Portals/31/Resources/Fact%20Sheets/National%20Guard%20Reaction%20Force%20Fact%20Sheet%20(Dec.%202017).pdf)