



North Carolina National Guard Association

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INFORMATION PAPER NORTH CAROLINA NATIONAL GUARD AND THE NORTH CAROLINA NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION

The North Carolina National Guard consists of 12,049 members of the NC Army National Guard and the NC Air National Guard.

The National Guard is the only military organization tasked by the Constitution with the dual role of both state and national security. The National Guard serves at the discretion of the Governor to protect life and property as well as preserve peace, order, and public safety. Governor Perdue, as Commander in Chief of the North Carolina National Guard, has access to Guard personnel as needed to support the citizens of the State. Over the past ten years, the North Carolina National Guard has been called to state duty on several occasions due to hurricanes and winter storms across North Carolina. Response and performance by the thousands of Guardsmen called to state duty has been outstanding.

In addition, when needed for a national emergency, the National Guard is mobilized to federal duty by the President. Since 9-11-2001, more than 90 percent of North Carolina National Guardsmen have been called to federal duty in support of the Global War on Terrorism. Several NC Army and Air National Guardsmen have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in this role.

The National Guard is a ready military force, immediately available to and under the command of the Governor, missioned to protect life and property, provide public safety, and preserve peace and order for the public good. No other military force is structured to meet this criterion.

The North Carolina National Guard Association (NCNGA) is a fifty year old organization formed to promote state and national security by strengthening the North Carolina Army and Air National Guard. The Association currently has almost 16,000 dues-paying members from practically every municipality and county in North Carolina. The Educational Foundation awards over \$20,000 annually in scholarship money. It has been active in legislative areas in the past regarding funds for armory repair and maintenance, a tuition assistance program for members of the National Guard seeking higher education, distinctive National Guard license plates, and a comparatively small pension for retired National Guard members.