

Public Affairs Update December 1-28, 2020



Here is the latest summary of stories and coverage of South Carolina National Guard Soldiers and Airmen supporting the National Guard mission to provide ready units to conduct operations that support and defend our fellow citizens, the Constitution of the United States of America, and South Carolina, whenever and wherever the threat arises or the need exists. The South Carolina National Guard is a premier organization of diverse Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen who are Ready, Relevant, Resilient and Responsible to our communities, state, and nation in time of need, and who are led by competent, capable, caring, and professional leaders and live by the values of loyalty, excellence in all we do, accountability, duty, emphasis on community, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage.

The digital FY2020 Annual Report can be found here:

https://www.scgard.ng.mil/Portals/45/Documents/annual%20reports/Annual%20Report%202020.pdf?ver=xZKjG_hQx_wl_Sot2WUB8Q%3d%3d

South Carolina National Guard Training, Missions, Current Events:

Happy holidays from the adjutant general

U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Van McCarty, the adjutant general for South Carolina, and his wife, Susan, provide a holiday message to the members of the South Carolina Military Department.

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0jvsl_0SKaE

All Guard Endurance Team

U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Paul Laymon, 169th Security Forces Squadron commander, and U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Kenneth Wingard, 218th Regional Training Institute, 5th Battalion instructor, talk about the All Guard Endurance Team.

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RL_XHh_WiwE

CH47 routine training

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with Company B, 238th General Support Aviation Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, perform routine flight operations on a CH-47F Chinook helicopter in vicinity of Donaldson Center, South Carolina, Dec. 17, 2020.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157717401892558>

South Carolina National Guard celebrates National Guard 384th birthday

The South Carolina National Guard celebrated the National Guard's 384th birthday with a cake-cutting ceremony Dec. 15, 2020, in Columbia, South Carolina. The National Guard's birthday is recognized as Dec. 13, 1636. Traditionally, the oldest and youngest member of the organization assist with the cake-cutting, but due to COVID-19 restrictions, U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Van McCarty, the adjutant general for South Carolina, conducted a small ceremony recognizing the accomplishments of the South Carolina National Guard this past year and U.S. Army Capt. Thaddeus Coe assisted McCarty with cutting the cake.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Q8ulx48vTg>

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157717351247722>

South Carolina National Guard provides cyber support for 3rd Infantry Division command post exercise

The South Carolina National Guard provided cyber assets to support the 3rd Infantry Division's command post exercise (CPX) Nov. 16-20, 2020 at Fort Stewart, Georgia, to test the 3rd Infantry Division's capabilities to respond to cyber threats.

Article:

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/385033/south-carolina-national-guard-provides-cyber-support-3rd-infantry-division-command-post-exercise>

South Carolina National Guard participates in annual wreath-laying ceremony

U.S. National Guard Soldiers and Airmen with the South Carolina National Guard participate in the annual wreath-laying ceremony at the Armed Forces Memorial on the State House grounds in Columbia, South Carolina, Dec. 14, 2020, to honor and recognize service members who have made the ultimate sacrifice. U.S. Army Maj. Gen. R. Van McCarty, the adjutant general for South Carolina, and U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Scott Lambe, 9th Air Force Air National Guard assistant to the commander, presented the wreath, U.S. National Guard Soldiers and Airmen with the South Carolina National Guard Honor Guard presented the colors, and a bugler played Taps.

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K_UkRaLtZnw

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157717321568923>

South Carolina National Guard Soldiers attend Senior Gunner Course

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 51st Military Police Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, hosted the Senior Gunner Course at McCrady Training Center in Eastover, South Carolina, Nov. 30 - Dec. 14, 2020, in order to increase the overall readiness of Soldiers with crew served weapons. The key tasks included crew tables of fire, crew evaluations, correctly identifying ammunition, correctly identifying vehicles, and developing and briefing a unit training plan. The class was mostly comprised of Soldiers from the 132nd and 133rd Military Police companies, and Company D, 1-118th Infantry Battalion.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157717360683081>

South Carolina National Guard Soldier competes in Mr. Olympia

U.S. Army Maj. Charlton Grant, South Carolina National Guard Joint Force Headquarters, talks about why he started bodybuilding and how that led him to be the second South Carolina National Guard member to compete at Mr. Olympia.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T2Pz-N1QEPM>

South Carolina Military Museum hosts Toys for Tots ride

Bikers participates in a motorcycle ride leaving from the South Carolina Military Museum in Columbia, South Carolina, Dec. 6, 2020, in support of the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157717187011491>

51st Military Police Battalion change of responsibility

The 51st Military Police Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, conducted a change of responsibility ceremony, Dec. 6, 2020, at McCrady Training Center in Eastover, South Carolina, recognizing U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Montrose, outgoing command sergeant major, and welcoming U.S. Army Sgt. Maj. Steven Alston, incoming command sergeant major.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157717252437106>

Lt. Col. Edward Cloyd promoted to colonel

U.S. Army Lt. Col. Edward Cloyd, 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade commander, South Carolina Army National Guard, is promoted to the rank of colonel during a ceremony held on the aircraft carrier USS Yorktown in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, Dec. 5, 2020. Cloyd was pinned by his wife, Rhetta, and son, Hampton, with U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Jones, the Deputy Adjutant General for the South Carolina Military Department, officiating the ceremony.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157717186964788>

South Carolina National Guard transportation Soldiers move Military All-Terrain Vehicle

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 1050th Transportation Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, moved more than 590 Military All-Terrain Vehicles (MATV) from the Port of Charleston to a holding location in North Charleston.

Article:

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/384653/south-carolina-national-guard-transportation-soldiers-move-military-all-terrain-vehicle>

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157717149495532>

218th MEB conducts Best Warrior Competition

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Carolina National Guard, participate in the Best Warrior Competition held at McCrady Training Center in Eastover, South Carolina, Dec. 4-5, 2020. Soldiers from the 218th MEB competed against one another in a range of physical, mental, and technical events to determine who will represent the brigade at the state level competition in January 2021.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157717184391473>

How to deal with stress during the holidays

On this episode of the Palmetto Guardian we talk with Mrs. Lisa Mustard, South Carolina National Guard behavioral health office, about how to deal with stress during the holidays.

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oFKIH4z_Kbl

COVID-19 Response Coverage:

South Carolina National Guard supports testing sites

The South Carolina National Guard supports mobile testing sites throughout the state with setting up, tearing down, directing traffic, and providing information to citizens visiting the test site:

Joanna: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157717377811056>

Charleston: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157717588040953>

Moderna vaccine

The South Carolina National Guard is a Moderna Department of Defense (DoD) vaccine pilot program state and is provided a limited DoD allocation for South Carolina National Guard Soldiers and Airmen to have the opportunity to voluntarily take the vaccine.

Receiving shipment: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157717475606841> and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157717475026287>

Getting vaccine: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157717501081492>

State vaccine preparation exercise

South Carolina National Guard leaders conduct a pre-vaccine preparation meeting with first responders Dec. 1, 2020, at the South Carolina Emergency Management Division in Pine Ridge, South Carolina. The meeting was conducted to discuss and resolve any issues that may arise as the South Carolina National Guard moves toward assisting in distributing the COVID-19 vaccine. Attendees discussed and worked through planning, operations, logistics, and communication to ensure a safe and efficient distribution plan.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157717587434706>

Priorities of Public Affairs

Priorities of Public Affairs coverage include real-world crisis events, joint exercises, training, high-visibility community events, deployments and homecomings, newsworthy situations that support current events and South Carolina National Guard support or involvement, special emphasis events that support recognized DoD themes or campaigns, and designated patriotic holidays and events that support the South Carolina community, and the adjutant general's priorities of recruiting and retention, professional military education, individual and collective training, and accountability through effectively leveraging limited resources according to laws, regulations, and policies to maximize individual and unit readiness. The most recent annual report for the SC Military Department can be found here:

<https://www.scguard.ng.mil/Portals/45/Documents/annual%20reports/Annual%20Report%202019.pdf?ver=2019-12-09-120622-060>

Please contact the South Carolina National Guard Public Affairs office for coverage of events that meet the criteria.

For more up-to-date information on the South Carolina National Guard, follow us on social media:

	Army National Guard	Air National Guard
Instagram:	@official_scguard	@scairnationalguard
Twitter:	@SCNationalGuard	@theSCANG
Facebook:	South Carolina National Guard	South Carolina Air National Guard
Flickr:	SC National Guard	S.C. Air National Guard
Youtube:	SCNationalGuard	S.C. Air National Guard
DVIDS:	South Carolina National Guard	169th Fighter Wing