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.

Please share with your Soldiers that they can find the postings for full-time employment opportunities on the South Carolina National Guard website, accessible without a CAC card: https://www.scguard.ng.mil/Resources/Employment-Opportunities/

Also, as we enter an election cycle, please share with your Soldiers, Airmen, and civilian employees guidance on engaging in political activity: https://www.scguard.ng.mil/Resources/Political-Guidance/

South Carolina National Guard Training, Operations Coverage

The Adjutant General for South Carolina addresses members of the SC Military Department
U.S. Army Maj. Gen. R. Van McCarty, the adjutant general for South Carolina, addresses the Soldiers, Airmen, and state and federal employees of the South Carolina Military Department, June 12, 2020, about issues and concerns for the organization.
Video: https://youtu.be/rkQo2oFbVgA

South Carolina National Guard places new bridge for Lake Conestee Nature Preserve
U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the South Carolina National Guard use a CH-47 Chinook helicopter to place a new bridge at the Lake Conestee Nature Preserve in Greenville, South Carolina, June 23, 2020 in support of Greenville County after the previous bridge was destroyed by flooding in November 2018. The heavy lift mission serves as a training exercise for South Carolina National Guard aviation members, providing a training opportunity to install a structure of this type, simulating a military objective, while providing assistance to the community.
Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-VqRgXI4WrE
Timelapse: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-PnT4uFWLEc
Photos: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714835184547

South Carolina National Guard Military Police conduct key leader engagement, annual training
U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 132nd Military Police Company, South Carolina National Guard, conduct a key leader engagement with U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Jones, deputy adjutant general for the South Carolina Military Department, during their annual training held at Clarks Hill
Training Site in McCormick County, South Carolina, June 23, 2020. The training culminated with three key tasks of route regulation, establishing traffic control points, and narrow passage movement operations. The training validated unit operational readiness for future deployments.

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=23dIKeLgq-4

Military Police Company conducts re-enlistment ceremony
U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Jones, deputy adjutant general for the South Carolina Military Department, participates in a re-enlistment ceremony, June 23, 2020 at Clarks Hill in McCormick County, South Carolina for U.S. Army Sgt. Charley Green Jr. and U.S. Army Sgt. Deon Mathis with the South Carolina National Guard 132nd Military Police Company. Green and Mathis were administered the re-enlistment oath during their annual training, committing to another 6 years in the South Carolina Army National Guard.

Photos: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714842382601

New 169th Fighter Wing Director of Psychological Health springs into action
During his deployment to Turkey, Rico Brown witnessed a mental health technician having to juggle multiple social service jobs for hundreds of Soldiers. "I saw the opportunity to observe and to see there was a gap. There had to be a way to contribute more," Brown said. It was that experience that inspired Brown to switch careers and go into the field of mental health services. Today, Brown is the South Carolina Air National Guard’s new Director of Psychological Health.


Photos: https://www.flickr.com/photos/thescang/albums/72157714918279117

Lt. Col. Jeff Heaton promoted to colonel
U.S. Army Lt. Col. Jeff Heaton, South Carolina National Guard state personnel officer, is promoted to the rank of colonel during a ceremony on June 18, 2020, at the South Carolina Army National Guard University Readiness Center in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

Photos: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714771575711

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Guy Harbin promoted to chief warrant officer 5
The 59th Aviation Troop Command, South Carolina National Guard, conducted a ceremony for U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer 4 Guy Harbin recognizing his promotion to chief warrant officer 5, June 14, 2020 at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina.

Photos: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714844239348

59th Troop Command change of command ceremony
The 59th Troop Command, South Carolina National Guard, honored U.S. Army Col. Timothy A. Wood, 59th Troop Command outgoing commander, and welcomed U.S. Army Lt. Col. Herman E. Crosson, 59th Troop Command incoming commander, during a change of command ceremony, June 14, 2020 at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina. Wood relinquished his command to Crosson after a successful three-year post as commander.

Photos: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714722082616
124th Engineer Company returns from deployment
Approximately 140 U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 124th Engineer Company, 122nd Engineer Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, returned home June 9, 2020 from a nearly yearlong deployment to the Middle East in support of Operation Inherent Resolve conducting construction projects.
Photos: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714641875456

751st CSSB returns from deployment
Approximately 40 U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 751st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, returned home June 8, 2020 from a nearly yearlong deployment to the Middle East in support of Operation Spartan Shield providing contracting work, range operations, dining facility operations, billets management, and more.
Photos: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714626639723

UH-60 sling load training
Photos: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714665183606

157th Fighter Squadron change of command
Photos: https://www.flickr.com/photos/thescang/albums/72157714636270086

218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade conducts annual training
Hurricane ROC Drill: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714793307167
TOC setup: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714842847368
Promotion ceremony: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714842779223
https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714841564963
Morale Day: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714930627578

South Carolina National Guard engineers respond in aftermath of storms in state
In the aftermath of the tornadoes that impacted this small community, 14 South Carolina Army National Guard Soldiers with the 125th Engineer Company answered the call for help and assisted Pickens County Emergency Operation Center (EOC) and Team Rubicon, a non-governmental organization (NGO), in a Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA) debris clearing mission that spanned from May 2-9. This was the first time in history that all three organizations worked together. Denise Kwiatek, Pickens County Emergency Management director, Brian Ackerman, Team Rubicon director of operations in South Carolina, and U.S. Army 2nd Lt. Nathaniel Richmond, 125th Engineer Company platoon leader, worked jointly to assess, plan, and accomplish the debris reduction mission.
Serving as a 15R in the South Carolina Army National Guard
Highlighting the importance of the 15R (Army AH-64 Attack Helicopter Repairer ) MOS and opportunities in the South Carolina National Guard.

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k2jV23Gqa78

Civil Disturbance Response Coverage

South Carolina National Guard demobilized from response efforts in D.C.
Approximately 445 U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Carolina National Guard, demobilized June 12, 2020 at several locations across the state, including North Charleston, South Carolina, after completing their mission in the District of Columbia.

Story:

South Carolina National Guard Soldiers return from District of Columbia
U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the South Carolina National Guard returned back to multiple locations in South Carolina June 9, 2020 after supporting the District of Columbia National Guard in the nation's capital since June 2, directing traffic and assisting with crowd control during protests. The mission of the South Carolina National Guard in D.C. was to support the District of Columbia National Guard service members assisting local law enforcement with crowd control, general security, and patrols for continued public safety and critical infrastructure security, including national monuments. When the South Carolina National Guard is activated for these missions, it is not intended to deter citizens from peacefully protesting, rather it is a means to help support an environment where citizens feel safe to exercise their rights and freedoms.

Photos: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714640501541

South Carolina National Guard supports District of Columbia National Guard during protest response
The South Carolina National Guard’s mission is to support the District of Columbia National Guard service members who are assisting local law enforcement with crowd control, general security, and patrols for continued public safety and critical infrastructure security, including the national monuments.

Story:

Photos: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714638290013
https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714612518737
https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714611741632
South Carolina National Guard activated to respond in District of Columbia
The South Carolina National Guard has been activated in support of civil unrest response efforts in the District of Columbia, beginning June 2, 2020.

Photos: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/7215771455647852

South Carolina National Guard activated in support of protests in state
The South Carolina National Guard was activated beginning May 31, 2020, to assist law enforcement in maintaining citizen safety and peace at protests taking place throughout the state.

Photos: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714543675833

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:

June 30: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714931205826
June 29: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714932846733
June 25: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714931411636
June 23: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714844284443
June 22: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714832169982
June 19: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714832195497
June 17: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714931653311
June 14: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714832035882
June 13: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714832078677
June 11: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714831451638
June 9: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714675970686
June 5: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714625379147
June 5: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714624786993
June 5: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714624504728

COVID-19 message from South Carolina National Guard Command Sergeant Major
U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Russ Vickery, South Carolina National Guard state command sergeant major, shares a message to the Soldiers and Airmen who have been activated and responding to missions in the state since March in support of COVID-19 response efforts.

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oNq4FFyxx3w
South Carolina National Guard utilizes Facility Sanitation Teams
U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the South Carolina National Guard from the 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade and 108th Chemical Company sanitize the South Carolina National Guard’s Readiness Center located on The Citadel campus in Charleston, South Carolina, June 29, 2020, as part of a facility sanitation team (FST). The teams ensure compliance with federal, state, and local policies while sanitizing facilities in the state in support of COVID-19 response efforts. The purpose of this sanitation is to limit the spread of the virus in the community while supporting the counties, state and local agencies, and first responders during COVID-19 response efforts in the state.
Photos: https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157714933101137

Swamp Fox medical technicians support COVID-19 state response
Two U.S. Air National Guard Airmen with the South Carolina Air National Guard (SCANG) have been working on the leading edge of South Carolina’s medical response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

External Media Coverage:

South Carolina National Guard participates in hurricane lane reversal exercise
The South Carolina Department of Public Safety, along with a number of other state and local agencies, conducted a hurricane evacuation exercise on Thursday, June 25, to test lane reversal plans for all three major coastal areas of the state.
Article: https://www.wltx.com/article/traffic/hurricane-lane-reversal-exercises-set-for-june-25-2020/101-37cf9f0-d758-4fa1-a188-3988dc6a7f3b

Helicopter used to install new bridge at Lake Conestee Nature Preserve
The SC Army National Guard’s 2nd Battalion, 151st Aviation Regiment, on Tuesday installed a new bridge at the Lake Conestee Nature Preserve.

SC National Guard demobilized, screened for COVID-19 following return from DC
Members of the 1-118th Infantry Battalion Headquarters and Headquarters Company, as well as companies A, B, C, D and I, the 4-118th Infantry Battalion rear detachment, and a detachment from the 1-134 Field Artillery Regiment, returned to SC on June 9 after a spending a week in DC assisting local law enforcement with ensuring peaceful protests.
Elgin’s Staley retires from Army National Guard
After 28 years of honorable service, SC. Army National Guard Command Sgt. Maj. Phil Staley retired May 29. The Guard held a retirement ceremony for Staley on June 7 at McEntire Joint National Guard Base in Eastover.

Article:

SC National Guard deploys to DC
445 soldiers from the S.C. National Guard are heading to Washington, D.C., for an unspecified amount of time amid the protest outbreak that has enveloped the nation’s capital.

The Post & Courier:
https://www.postandcourier.com/militarydigest/sc-national-guard-deploying-to-dc-after-trump-asks-for-support-amid-protests/article_55efce7a-a4e5-11ea-b725-db6528be2111.html

WLTX:

FOX Carolina:

News 19:

Count on News 2:

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:

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