

Military Department

AT A GLANCE

MAJOR GENERAL FRANCIS J. EVON, *The Adjutant General*

BRIGADIER GENERAL RALPH F. HEDENBERG, *Assistant Adjutant General, Army*

BRIGADIER GENERAL GERALD E. McDONALD, *Assistant Adjutant General, Air*

Established - 1939

Statutory Authority – CGS Title 27

Central office – Gov. William A. O'Neill Armory, 360 Broad Street, Hartford, CT 06105-3706

Number of State Employees – 128

Number of State Full-Time Equivalent Positions – 42

Recurring State Operating Expenses - \$6,420,298

Federal Appropriations - \$296,480,463

MISSION

The Military Department is a unique dual-status agency, having both federal and state missions. The federal mission is to maintain properly trained and equipped National Guard units for prompt federalization in the event of war, domestic emergencies or other emergencies. The state mission is to coordinate, support and augment federal, state and local authorities in emergency response, to provide emergency response planning and to conduct community service programs.

STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITY

Title 27 of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) contains the Military Department's statutory authority and responsibility. The Department's principle public responsibilities are (1) to train, resource, and coordinate state emergency response assets and (2) to plan for and protect citizens and their property in times of war, terrorism, invasion, rebellion, riot or disaster. The Military Department facilitates public safety during emergencies.

ORGANIZATION

The Military Department is functionally divided into four components: (1) the Military Department Headquarters, (2) Connecticut Army National Guard (CTARNG), (3) Connecticut Air National Guard (CTANG) and (4) Organized Militia. The Military Department employs 128 full-time state employees, utilizing just 42 full-time equivalent positions. The CTARNG is comprised of 2,831 traditional (part-time) Soldiers, 757 full-time federally employed Soldiers and 82 federal civilian employees, totaling 3,649 personnel. The CTANG is comprised of 809 traditional (part-time) airmen, 305 full-time federally employed airmen and 34 federal civilian technicians, totaling 1,142 personnel. The Organized Militia consists of 331 personnel.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT

Military Department Headquarters

The Connecticut Military Department Headquarters is comprised of The Adjutant General (TAG) and Assistant Adjutant General (AAG). They are appointed by the Governor of Connecticut. TAG serves concurrently as Commander of the State National Guard. TAG is a federally recognized Major General billet. The AAG serves in a Brigadier General billet. Both TAG and AAG are approved in their military rank by the Department of Defense (DoD).

TAG is the Commander of the Connecticut National Guard (CTNG) and the Organized Militia. He commands the elements of the Military Department through the Joint Force Headquarters (JFHQ), located in the Gov. William A. O'Neill Armory in Hartford. TAG also oversees the civilian employees who provide administrative support to the military personnel of the department.

The Connecticut National Guard is dedicated to maintaining a working environment that empowers all members to reach their fullest potential. The goal of the Connecticut National Guard is to be representative of all racial and ethnic groups and to mirror the make-up of the community. The CT National Guard matches the composition of the community, with 36.0% of its members identifying as minorities. The population of civilian employees is comprised of 34.4% minority employees. The CTNG maintains its focus on inclusion of employees with disabilities in its civilian workforce, which comprise 19.1% of all total permanent civilian employees. The CTNG places a priority on recognizing those diverse members of the force who have made significant contributions in the Guard and their communities. Celebration of special observances is also highly encouraged to promote cultural awareness and education. This year's events included recognitions of Black History Month, Women's History Month, Holocaust Days of Remembrance, Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month, Pride Month, Juneteenth, Women's Equality Day, and Hispanic Heritage month.

The CTNG prioritizes regular refinement of its Equal Opportunity (EO) and Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) programs to meet and exceed the expectations of a model program. Efforts undertaken this year address many different aspects of compliance with Equal Opportunity initiatives. In the past five years, recruiting efforts have resulted in a 15.3% increase of minority enlistments into the CTNG. In line with the governor's state diversity initiatives, all members of the full-time staff engage in training to provide emphasis in the areas of EEO counseling, mediation, and anti-harassment to facilitate a climate free of discrimination and encourage cooperative problem solving and communication in workplace disputes. The CTNG Strategic Plan remains dedicated to a program centered around leadership commitment, education and training on diversity and inclusion, diversity awareness and community outreach and involvement, achieved through policy development and recruiting and retention efforts. The CTNG strives to ensure that all members of the organization are given every opportunity to thrive and are treated with dignity and respect because diversity is our strength.

The Military Department is committed to conducting military operations in an environmentally friendly manner, receiving several hundred thousand dollars from the federal government to conduct site evaluations and remediation activities at sites statewide to ensure the cleanest standards are achieved and maintained. The CTNG also conducts federally mandated environmental assessments of its installations each year, utilizing both internal and external inspection teams. The Military Department will continue to perform its mission while looking for new ways to reduce pollution-generating activities and to preserve and enhance the departments

valuable training lands.

State Fiscal/Administrative Office

The State Fiscal/Administrative Office provides a full range of support for the Military Department's state requirements. In carrying out this mission, the Fiscal/Administrative Office executes the Biennial Budget, the Annual Budget, and any related adjustment options as required. The Fiscal/Administrative Office also performs all agency general fund accounting transactions, grant accounting, accounts receivable and payable functions, purchasing, contract administration, grants administration and asset management. The State Fiscal/Administrative Office also provides personnel and payroll support to state employees; payroll support to all Organized Militia and National Guard members on State Active Duty (SAD); and all payments associated with the Military Funeral Honors (MFH) program, the Military Relief Fund, and the Combat Zone Bonus programs. It prepares lease documents and Memorandums of Agreement or Memorandums of Understanding for the use of the Military Department's facilities by other agencies and the public. The office also provides and accounts for state funds and all state-owned property. It procures equipment and pays for operations and maintenance of state-owned buildings and equipment. The State Fiscal/Administrative Office is the central office for tracking expenses, ensuring compliance with Federal Emergency Management Agency guidelines, and processing reimbursement requests associated with any emergency declarations. In FY 2024, the department worked closely with the National Guard, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP), and the Department of Public Health (DPH) in generating and coordinating the reimbursement documentation and ensuring funds were dispersed responsibly and in accordance with newly created legislation.

The Human Resources section is responsible for providing job posting and recruitment, classification, time and labor functions, records maintenance, labor relations and dispute resolution, including representing the agency during Office of Labor Relations hearings, arbitrations and Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) hearings, workers' compensation, career benefits, and FMLA information for all state employees of the department. Additionally, it provides payroll services in support of the Organized Militia and CTNG State Active Duty (SAD) missions, and the Military Funeral Honors payments.

State Military Administrative and Programs Office

The State Military Administrative and Programs Office oversees the operations of the Organized Militia in accordance with (IAW) CGS 27-2, administers the State Active Duty program, The Military Relief Fund (MRF), the Wartime Service Bonus (WSB), the Military Funeral Honors (MFH) program, acts as the Command Historian, and manages various state-funded programs that support the military community in Connecticut.

The State Military Administrative and Programs Office is the curator of all historical records and property related to Connecticut Military History and the National Guard. The staff maintains the records of service members who have performed military duty in the service of the state dating back to the nation's colonial period. Individuals may request to research these records through this office. The office also provides support to the Connecticut Militia Heritage Committee (CMHC). The CMHC sponsored one event during FY24 – "Commemorating the end of the Vietnam War 27 January 1973 50 Years". The event was held on November 19, 2023 at the

Windsor Locks Readiness Center and included a presentation by Chief Warrant Officer (CW5) Ken Roach who served two tours in Vietnam and flew 1,529 combat flight hours with the 101st Aviation Battalion.

As the administrator for state-funded programs, the Military Administrative and Programs Officer processed ten applications for the Military Relief Fund, awarding \$15,135.00 in grants. The office processed 113 applications for the Wartime Service Bonus in FY23 totaling \$65,900.00. The purpose of the Military Relief Fund is to provide assistance through a grant to a military member or their Family member who is experiencing a financial crisis brought upon by service-related circumstances. The Wartime Service Bonus provides a grant of \$50 per month for every month of active-duty service for members of the National Guard who have been called to federal service in support of the GWOT.

The State Military Administrative and Programs Office is the managing authority primarily responsible for the administrative and fiscal functions of emergency call-ups of the CTNG by the Governor. The Connecticut National Guard was not called to State Active Duty during FY2024.

Connecticut National Guard Joint Force Headquarters (NGCT- JFHQ)

The CTNG-JFHQ is comprised of five primary staff sections and several special staff sections that report to TAG through the AAG and the Director of the Joint Staff. Each staff section is responsible for a specific function of the CTNG.

Military Personnel Office G-1

G-1 is the staff section responsible for the personnel readiness and all associated human resource actions for Soldiers assigned to the CTARNG. These actions include processing evaluation reports, promotion/reduction actions, management of strength and accountability actions, mobilization and demobilization actions, casualty assistance and notification, and medical readiness. The combined G-1 budget is over \$1.7 million to support the activities and augmented personnel of all its sections.

Subsections of the G-1 are Officer Personnel Branch, Enlisted Personnel Branch, Boards Branch, Soldier Services Branch (which covers education services, awards, incentives, and retirement services), Health Services Section, Human Resources Systems Branch, and Personnel Services Branch (which augments the major subordinate commands and battalions with personnel specialists). Also, under the umbrella of the G-1 are Deputy State Surgeon and Military Funeral Honors (MFH).

A function of the G-1 is to conduct Soldier Readiness Program (SRP) events which prepares, validates, and reports personnel and medical readiness for individual Soldiers and units for mobilization and deployments in support of federal missions mostly in an overseas environment. One SRP and four reverse SRPs were conducted for two units, which screened over 82 Soldiers for mobilization and demobilization.

The G-1 promoted approximately 1,201 CTARNG Soldiers (1,051 Enlisted and 150 Officers) and processed approximately 1,867 evaluation reports (1,310 for Non-Commissioned Officers and 557 for Officers). Total personnel transactions processed by this office amounted to

27,133. Additionally, the directorate conducted 58 total boards: 18 Officer Federal Recognition Boards, eight Officer Candidate Boards, nine Enlisted Promotion Boards, two Best Qualified Boards, four Standby Advisory Boards (STAB), a Qualitative Retention Board (QRB), a Senior Service College Board (SSC), 11 Awards Boards, and four Career Management Assignment Boards (CMAB). The G-1 prepared and boarded hundreds of Non-Commissioned Officers (NCOs) and Officers for promotion and other personnel actions.

The Awards Section processed over 66 federal and 23 state award transactions to include 0 Distinguished Service Medals, 5 Legion of Merits, 30 Meritorious Service Medals, 11 Army Achievement Medals, 19 Army Commendation Medals and 23 Connecticut Medals of Merit.

The Retirement Services Section processed over 111 applications for retired pay, 14 applications for the Permanent Disability Retirement List, nine Survival Benefit Plan annuity claims, conducted four retirement briefings, and supported monthly retirement breakfasts and the annual retiree picnic.

Since 2019, the Army implemented the Integrated Personnel and Pay System - Army (IPPS-A). IPPS-A is an online Human Resource system designed to provide integrated multi-component personnel, pay, and talent management capabilities across the Army. In early 2023, all three Army components implemented IPPS-A Release 3. IPPS-A Release 3 was a monumental personnel management achievement where all three components are able to complete most personnel actions in the same human resource system. IPPS-A Release 3 added more capabilities and enhancements to increase efficiency and transparency down to the Soldier level. Future updates include automation of pay through the IPPS-A.

Along with IPPS-A, the HR Systems branch was responsible for resolving 3004 problem cases in the Interactive Personnel Electronic Records Management System (iPERMS) and completed 2,680 personnel record file reviews. In addition, 1,632 batches containing 6,307 documents and 10,954 pages were processed and released to the Soldier's Official Military Personnel File (OMPF).

The Education Services office manages Federal Tuition Assistance through the ArmyIgnited.com platform and maximized the utilization of federal funding. A total of \$317,183 was utilized by 146 Soldiers taking advantage of the program in the past fiscal year. Soldiers attending the 17 Connecticut state universities and community colleges saw a total of 763 Connecticut State tuition waivers granted and 8 Minuteman scholarships awarded. The Education Office also facilitates the Veterans Opportunity to Work (VOW) Act, which provides re-deploying Soldiers and Airmen the training, education, benefits information, and credentials needed to transition back to the civilian workforce or pursue higher education. The Education Office also serves as a testing site for the Army Personnel Testing (APT) program. Some of the tests that are offered are Armed Forces Classification Test (AFCT), Selection Instrument Flight Training (SIFT), Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT), and several Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) examinations. The Education Office administered 109 tests over the last year.

The Incentives office oversaw and allocated approximately 115 reenlistment bonus contracts, which amounted to \$1.15 million, all funded by National Guard Bureau (NGB) to support retention efforts in FY24. The office effectively distributed 375 Selected Reserve Incentive

Program (SRIP) payments, reaching a total of more than \$3.15 million for FY24. This office demonstrated exceptional leadership and dedication by resolving 250 contract violations and terminating 152 contracts within Guard Incentive Management System (GIMS) while also managing the GI Bill programs and daily correction data quality across GIMS and the Director's Personnel Readiness Overview (DPRO). This led to a significant improvement in Connecticut's Education Management Index (EMI) data quality ranking from #48 to #20 in the nation. The Incentives office proactively developed Connecticut's Blended Retirement System-Continuation Pay (BRS-CP) Fact Sheet, making sure every member down to the lowest rank was aware of the program. A total of 37 BRS-CP packets were successfully processed, adding up to \$662,956.43.

Medical Management

The Office of the CTARNG State Surgeon continues to improve the medical readiness of its Soldiers so they can perform their military duties in order for units to accomplish their state and federal missions. Under the direction of the State Surgeon, this office conducts annual Periodic Health Assessments (PHAs) which screened over 3,600 Soldiers to ensure they were medically fit in the areas of physical, dental, mental health, immunizations, vision, and overall wellness. Presently, the CTARNG's medical readiness rate is at 88% (ranked #5 in the Army National Guard), indicating that percentage of our population can be medically ready to mobilize in a 72-hour period. In terms of flu immunization, 2023-2024 was another successful year as the Connecticut National Guard achieved 90% compliance.

Military Funeral Honors Program (MFH)

The mission of the MFH Program renders professional funeral honors in accordance with service tradition to all eligible Army Service Members, Retirees, and Veterans in Connecticut. Honors are performed at the request of an authorized Family member. Headquartered at the Waterbury Armory, the MFH program consists of eight Active-Duty Operational Support (ADOS) Soldiers, numerous traditional part-time CTARNG Soldiers, an Active Guard/Reserve (AGR) Soldier, a federal technician, and a federal contractor. MFH Soldiers continually train and perform all aspects of MFH operations. The CTARNG MFH office provided support at more than 1,800 missions in the last twelve months.

Military Funeral Honors consists of a two-man flag-folding team, the presentation of the U.S. Flag, and the rendering of Taps. The flag-folding team is paid with federal funds. The State of Connecticut augments federal honors with the addition of a three-member firing party detail, conducted by members of authorized Veterans Service Organization (VSO), paid with state funds. The firing party details are available for all service branches (Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, and Coast Guard). The CTARNG MFH Office coordinated over 3,000 firing parties in the last twelve months.

Casualty Operations (CASOPS)

CASOPS performs the administrative functions of casualty reporting, casualty notification and casualty assistance on behalf of the CTARNG G-1 and the United States Army. CASOPS tracks and documents all Army casualty cases for the State of Connecticut, whether the Soldier is on Active Duty or a current member of the CTARNG.

The casualty reporting process is the source of information for the Next of Kin (NOK) regarding a casualty incident. Dispatch of the reports for reportable casualty cases are forwarded to the Casualty Assistance Center (CAC) at Fort Drum, New York or through the CTARNG G-1. The casualty notification process is the method of notifying the NOK of a casualty in a timely, professional, and dignified way. The method of notifying the NOK varies based on the status of the casualty. A Casualty Notification Officer is charged with these duties from the CASOPS office.

Casualty assistance is provided to those receiving benefits or entitlements pursuant to the casualty. A Casualty Assistance Officer (CAO) is charged with performing these duties. The CAO assists the NOK after a casualty occurs. The CAO helps settle claims and assists with survivor benefits. The CAO continues to work with NOK with an ongoing need for information from the CTARNG or Department of the Army. In the last twelve months, the CASOPS section conducted 10 missions which included casualty notification and/or casualty assistance to the Family members of killed or injured Army service members. CASOPS is co-located with the G-1 MFH Office in Waterbury. CASOPS is manned by an Active-Duty Operation Support (ADOS) Officer and an AGR NCO. The MFH and CASOPS programs work together to accomplish the daily mission requirements of MFH and the periodic mission requirements of CASOPS.

.Directorate of Operations, Plans and Training (G-3)

The G-3 is the principal staff officer for all matters concerning training, operations, plans, force development/modernization and physical security. Responsibilities include assisting and advising TAG on all matters in support of training readiness. The Directorate of Operations is responsible for the review and approval of all major training exercises and training guidance. The G-3 leads a collaborative effort amongst the staff directorates to plan, prepare, coordinate, and disseminate command guidance and intent. This process ensures synchronization, communication, and completeness of both resources and tasks. Furthermore, the G-3 coordinate's exercises and reviews plans and orders of subordinate units to determine requirements and assess the appropriate allocation of training resources. The total budget managed by the G-3 is in excess of \$36 million.

The G-3 is comprised of three branches: Force Training, Mobilization & Readiness, and Protection. Additional areas of responsibility include supervising the Connecticut Training Center (CTC) operations and Distributed Learning Centers (DLCs) in the Middletown, Hartford, Danbury, and Camp Nett Regional Training Institute (RTI) facilities. DLCs provided web and computer-based training to 10,463 users over 4,452 hours this fiscal year to date.

Force Training Branch (FTB) facilitates all Inactive Duty Training (IDT), Annual Training (AT) and additional training requirements for Soldiers and Airmen. The FTB supervised the conduct of 51 in-state courses training over 1,000 Soldiers and Airmen in a multitude of required military training. Focusing efforts on primary military education (PME) and Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) qualification, FTB is responsible for organizing and conducting schools internal to the state and obtaining/allocating quotas for out-of-state schools. In doing so, the FTB successfully executed the enrollment and completion of over 960 quota sources for out-of-state schools. The FTB coordinated and synchronized training events that enabled units to maintain a level of readiness ensuring training requirements were met. The FTB effectively integrated the latest edition of Army publications on training management to all training guidance and course programs of instruction (POIs.)

The Mobilization & Readiness Branch (MRB) provided deployment support for twenty-three units and small detachments totaling 103 service members. At the time of writing, two units are deployed with a total of eight service members. MRB facilitated quarterly unit status reporting reviews, a process required by federal law, identifying each unit's readiness progress throughout the year based on predetermined aim points. These goals or aim points are derived through the five-year Regionally Aligned Readiness and Modernization Model (ReARMM). The readiness function in MRB reviews, analyzes, and recommends planned or programmed force structure while coordinating modernization of weapons and equipment systems for the CTARNG. Evaluation of organizational structure, functions, and workload of military/civilian personnel are conducted to ensure the proper utilization and requirements of manpower. Additionally, the MRB works with other staff sections and units to synchronize all force structure and stationing actions within the CTARNG. This process allows, over time, changes to the location and make-up of the units within Connecticut ensuring they are modern, relevant, and positioned to support the state.

The Protection Branch (PB) is tasked to coordinate, plan, resource, train, and inspect all aspects of current and future operations to ensure all force protection measures are taken to secure the force. The program resources and implements a budget of over \$2 million dollars and incorporates 20 sites across the state. They establish the policies, procedures, and physical measures designed to safeguard personnel, property, and operations within and related to the Connecticut Army National Guard (CTARNG). In the past year, the program has especially worked to increase electronic security system capabilities protecting sensitive areas.

The measures established by the PB are designed to prevent unauthorized access to equipment, facilities, materials, and information and to protect against espionage, terrorism, damage, misuse, and theft. The Protection Program is designed to ensure that effective and efficient resources are applied to meet the needs of the units during peacetime. This Protection Program can be expanded to allow for security of the installation as well as the rapid marshalling and deployment of forces and material during mobilization and in times of national emergency or war.

The program protects against traditional criminal operations as well as terrorist and hostile intelligence operations. The PB applies risk management processes to integrate and coordinate protection programs into Army operations, expand program oversight, ensure senior leader accountability, and better facilitate informed decision making and resource allocation in an all-threats and hazards environment.

Connecticut Training Center (CTC)

The CTC includes three installations: East Haven Rifle Range (EHRR), Stones Ranch Military Reservation (SRMR), and Camp Nett at Niantic. The mission of the CTC is to command, operate, and manage the resources at the three sites to set the conditions for excellence in training. Assigned missions are accomplished and year-round customer service is provided through administrative, engineering, logistical, training, and operational support to CTARNG units, as well as other DoD, DoJ, State, and Federal agencies.

CTC staff supported all of the Connecticut Army National Guard Regional Training Institute's classes to include Officer Candidate School, Warrant Officer Candidate School, Combat Medics Military Occupational Specialty Qualification (MOS-Q) course, and 31B Military Police Officer MOS-Q course. Additionally, Camp Nett hosted many regional civilian and military defense training events that included many partner services, agencies, and governmental agencies from across the nation. This year, we saw the completion of multiple projects at CTC facilities to include several renovation and energy efficiency projects, Morale, Wellness, and Recreation (MWR) improvements, latrine renovations, HVAC, building remodeling, and full construction on Camp Nett at Niantic. The CTC team prides itself on strong customer service and a deep desire to upkeep and rejuvenate of our facilities to support the warfighter for years to come. The CTC provided training areas, facilities, and equipment along with operational and logistical support to more than 120,000 man-days (# of Service Members x # of days supported) (approximately 25,000 at SRMR, 95,000 at Camp Nett, 10,000 at East Haven Rifle Range).

Connecticut National Guard Joint Staff

Counterdrug Task Force Directorate (J-32)

Directorate of Joint Current Operations (J-33)

Directorates of Joint Operations, Plans, Training, and Exercises (J-3,5,7)

Directorate of Joint Cyber Operations (J-36)

Directorate of Joint Plans and Security Operations (J-53)

Directorate of Joint Resiliency (J-9)

Counterdrug Task Force Directorate (J-32)

In 1988, Congress created the National Guard Counterdrug Program. This federally funded program authorizes National Guard personnel to assist local, state, federal, and tribal law enforcement agencies (LEAs) prevent illegal drug production, manufacturing, importation, or distribution. The Connecticut National Guard (CTNG) Counterdrug Task Force consists of nine Soldiers and Airmen on Title 32 Full-Time National Guard Counterdrug orders. Six CTNG analysts currently support law enforcement at the Connecticut State Police Statewide Narcotics Task Force, the Connecticut Intelligence Center, Drug Enforcement Administration, Bridgeport Police Department, Hartford Police Department, and the United States Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound. One Drug Demand Reduction and Outreach (DDRO) specialist supports the Western Connecticut Coalition at the request of New England High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Executive Director. Two personnel support the counterdrug program's management.

Utilizing \$1.1 million in appropriated funding, the CTNG Counterdrug Task Force's support to investigations at these agencies contributed to 140 drug related arrests, the seizure of 26,492 grams of fentanyl, 19,000 grams of cocaine (crack and powder), 14,000 grams of heroin, 101 prescription pills, 256 pounds of marijuana, 40 weapons, \$154,106 worth of seized property, and \$563,735 of seized currency. The Counterdrug Task Force supported two DEA drug take-back days with manpower and personnel to load and transport 17,501 lbs. of prescription drugs to the state incinerator. This is the 23rd and 24th time we have partnered with DEA and the total of amount of unneeded prescription drugs removed to date is 144,904 pounds.

The DDRO program highlights include work on the Governor's Challenge, the creation of and facilitation of committees on appropriate spending of opioid settlement funds; supporting of

the CT National Prevention Week holding events in every region of the state, training hundreds of individuals in Narcan use, training youth on emerging drug trends, mindfulness, and how to make the right decision when it comes to drugs and their future, and assisted in multiple other drug prevention trainings.

Additionally, the Counterdrug Task Force coordinated the distribution and accountability of \$14.8 million worth of excess military property to state and local law enforcement agencies through the Department of Defense 1033 program.

Directorate of Joint Current Operations (J-33)

The CTNG J-33 maintains a 24/7/365 Joint Operations Center (JOC) at the William A. O'Neill Armory located on the first floor adjacent to the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). Daily during steady state operations, the JOC is staffed with one officer in charge (OIC), one non-commissioned officer in charge (NCOIC), one common operating picture manager (COP MGR) and six staff duty officers. The JOC is a scalable and flexible information gathering, processing, and sharing element of the combined CTNG Joint Staff, working under the overall operational control of the J-3 Operations Director and Chief of the Joint Staff. Its mission is nested in the National Incident Management System, National and State Response Frameworks, and Department of Defense (DoD) doctrine outlining Defense Support to Civil Authorities and National Guard Civil Support (DSCA).

During emergencies, the JOC mirrors the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) in activation posture. The JOC assigns, trains, and equips Liaison Officers (LNO) to the SEOC during activations. Depending on the size, severity, and complexity of a statewide emergency response, the JOC will expand in force strength and bring on additional members for all-hazards planning, mission tracking, and various other key staff positions. The J-33 is active in several Emergency Support Function (ESF) working groups to include ESF5 (Emergency Management), ESF (Resource Support), ESF11 (Agriculture and Natural Resources), and ESF14 (Long Term Community Recovery and Mitigation) to prepare for and respond to emergency events in the state. The J-33 team routinely conducts training and exercises with agencies across the state building interagency and interoperability with state partners to build a cohesive team a prepare for any event that may arise.

The J-33 oversees and manages the CT Military Departments Community Actions support to local municipalities and echelons of the Government at all levels. Through this program, the CTMD supported 361 Community Support requests. Of special note, the J-33 supported 75 towns for their Memorial Day Parades, the CT Veterans Honor Flight program, Red Sox and Yard Goats Color Guard Support, Sikorski recruiting and C-130 Lightning static display support, National DEA Drug takeback, the Special Olympics, and the U.S Army Enlisted Recognition Ceremony to name a few. These community engagements reached 109 out of the 169 towns in the state. The CTMD conducted 16 speaking engagements, 59 color guards, 51 marching units, 35 band requests, 25 facilities requests, 76 equipment displays and 71 flyovers.

The J-33 oversees the maintenance and deployment of the CT Department of Public Health (DPH), Mobile Field Hospital (MFH). This is a 100-bed field tent that can be deployed in 25, 50, or 100 bed configurations and is currently located at the New England Disaster Training Center (NEDTC). Its use is codified in CT General Statutes and part of the Governors Five Year

Strategic Plan. It is deployed every year to the Durham Fair by Middlesex Hospital as the licensed facility to ensure proper functionality and preparedness for emergency response.

14th Civil Support Team (CST)

The 14th Civil Support Team is a joint National Guard unit consisting of 22 Active Guard Reserve (AGR) Soldiers and Airmen. The 14th CST's mission, on order of the Adjutant General of CT, is to support civil authorities in the prevention of emergency response and mitigation of domestic chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and/or high-yield explosive (CBRNE) events. The CST accomplishes this mission by identifying CBRNE agents/substances, assessing current and projected consequences, advising on response measures, and assisting with appropriate requests for additional state and federal support. The 14th CST is an integral part of the Connecticut Military Department's All- Hazards Plan and the larger CBRNE enterprise of the Department of Defense. The 14th CST continues as an active member of the Transportation Security Agency led Collaborative Operations by Response Agencies (COBRA), the Department of Homeland Security Visual Intermodal Prevention Response (VIPR) and other interagency security, law enforcement, and emergency response missions. As a result, the 14th CST provided support to 154 operational missions in support of the TSA, Connecticut State Police, CT Dept of Public Health, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, and multiple local police and fire departments. Additionally, key personnel assisted other CSTs around the country in their large-scale operational missions to include the Boston Fourth of July celebration, United Nations General Assembly, the annual Army vs Navy football game, the NYC New Years Eve Celebration, and the Kentucky Derby. 14th CST provided 40 assists, 25 training events, and 10 exercises in support of the Defense of Civil Authorities (DSCA) mission. The operational missions included security and hazardous materials screenings of critical CT transportation infrastructure such as rail lines, bus terminals, airports, and ferry ports. In addition, the 14th CST continues is strong partnership with CT state agencies such as the CT Dept of Energy and Environmental Protection, the Dept of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, and the CT Department of Public Health. The 14th CST also supports large scale readiness events such as the FBI/CDC Epidemiology Investigation exercise in Rhode Island, the State Emergency Response Coordinator (SERC) Region 3 Full scale Multi-Agency HAZMAT exercise, and the CST Region 1 Regional Exercise. The 14th CST deployed five personnel with monitoring equipment to Torrington, CT with CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Emergency Response Unit (ERU) and Torrington FD to provide presumptive analytical identification of unknown chemicals and environmental hazardous materials at an abandoned warehouse. Overall, members of the 14th CST conducted more than 2,000 total hours of HAZMAT and CBRNE specific training and supported other CSTs worldwide with SME coverage and support while simultaneously providing expert 24-7, on-call statewide HAZMAT/CBRNE response readiness.

Directorate of Joint Cyber Operations (J-36)

The Cyber Operations Officer (J-36) is the principal staff advisor on all matters relating to cyberspace operations. This officer conducts design, configuration, implementation, and operations of cybersecurity and defense infrastructure to ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and accessibility of mission critical and mission essential C4ISR (Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance) sites, systems, and services. The position is responsible to: (1) Manage the implementation of policies set forth

by the National Guard Bureau (NGB), the Department of Defense to include the Department of the Army and the Department of the Air Force, the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA), and the United States Cyber Command (USCYBERCOM). (2) Coordinate and collaborate cyber security planning with state and federal agencies. (3) Advise TAG-CT on cyber security processes and capabilities to fill needs and requirements identified in National Military Strategy, capability gap assessments, strategic vision, and force development in support of US Interagency, DoD and Connecticut plans for Homeland Defense, Civil Support or Homeland Security including, but not limited to FEMA, DHS, OSD, CJCS, NGB and CTMD plans.

The J-36 planned, executed, and evaluated Cyber Yankee 2024 hosted by Massachusetts National Guard at the MA Regional Training Institute (RTI) on Joint Base Cape Cod (JBCC). Cyber Yankee 2024 (CY24) is the National Guard's tactical-level Defensive Cyber Operations (DCO) exercise focused on the New England region. The exercise evaluated a whole-of-government response to a significant cyber incident involving Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources (CI/KR). CY24 was the tenth year of the exercise and included participants from the Active and Reserve components of the military, local/state/federal government, and civilian members of private industry. This year was the first year of including international partners, to include Connecticut's State Partnership Program country, Uruguay. All participants worked together to perform incident response, threat analysis, and cyber defensive operations as "Blue" teams against a cyber offensive or "Red" team performing as multiple threat actors on a critical infrastructure enterprise network environment.

Additionally, the J-36 planned and executed Cyber Nutmeg 2023 hosted at Central Connecticut State University. Cyber Nutmeg is a one-day event designed to heighten awareness on cybersecurity threats and defenses to protect organizations. The event included participants from state, municipal and educational leaders, including first selectmen, mayors, town managers, superintendents, and the IT and cybersecurity professionals who support them. Cyber Nutmeg is an opportunity to share collective challenges, discuss innovative solutions, and work toward our common goal: security our state's networks and protecting our data. Cyber Nutmeg consisted of three main components: a threat briefing from the FBI, Homeland Security, and CT Counter Terrorism and Intelligence (CTIC), Cyber Security Awareness Training/workshops, and a National Guard led Tabletop exercise where blended groups can work collaboratively to focus on today's most prevalent threats.

The J-36 participated in the 2024 Governor's Emergency Planning and Preparedness Initiative (EPPI) in conjunction with federal partners, state agencies and municipalities as part of ESF 17 and the Cyber Disruption Task Force. The 2024 EPPI focused on coordination and consequence management for an election security-based incident to include two cyber injects. The State of Connecticut's primary incident response capability is the Connecticut National Guard's Defensive Cyber Operations Element for immediate on-site incident response.

The J-36 is an active member of the Cybersecurity Planning Committee and assisted in the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) which provides funding to state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) governments to address cybersecurity risks and cybersecurity threats to SLTT-owned or operated information systems. Based on the 2022-2023 Connecticut National Guard municipal assessments, the J-36 provided recommendations to the planning committee to help prioritize funding and reduce the overall cyber security risk to the state.

The J-36 planned and executed two Cyber Subject Matter Expert Exchanges (SMEE) with the Uruguayan military forces at ESMAD in Montevideo, Uruguay. The SMEE covered numerous cybersecurity topics at the tactical and operational level including incident response, security operations center (SOC) operations, and purple team operations, and defensive operations. The Connecticut National Guard (CTNG) Joint Cyber team visited the Uruguayan Army Cyber SOC and traveled to ANTEL, which is the government-run largest telecommunications company in Uruguay. In 24 years of CTNG being a partner with Uruguay, these two SMEEs were the fourth and fifth Cyber SMEEs CTNG participated in (2 in 2019, and a virtual SMEE in 2021), and was by far the largest.

Directorate of Strategic Plans and Security Cooperation (J-53)

The J-53 is responsible for the State Partnership Program (SPP) with the Oriental Republic of Uruguay (URY). The purpose of the SPP is to conduct engagements which support US strategic goals in the Latin American continent. The CTNG SPP establishes enduring military-to-military and military-to-civilian relationships through mutually beneficial exchanges. These relationships and exchanges assist the U.S. Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM) and the U.S. Department of State in advancing Foreign Policy goals and become the partner of choice in the Western Hemisphere. This year marked the 24th Anniversary of partnership between Connecticut and Uruguay. The J-53 conducted/participated in twelve SPP engagements with Uruguay, and other U.S. DOD entities that focused on reinforcing strategic initiatives to develop URY's capabilities to support U.N. Peace Keeping Operations (PKO) around the world. The events included four planning and staff assistance events in Uruguay, Cyber defense, Logistics, Engineers capability to support civilian authorities with disaster response, infantry pre-deployment training, and aviation fixed/rotary wing maintenance operations, and Women, Peace and Security (WPS). CTNG is currently working on plans that enable CTNG personnel to conduct overseas deployment training (ODT) in Uruguay in the coming years. Vital to the successful execution of the SPP is the presence of a CTNG member embedded at the U.S. Embassy – Montevideo representing not only the National Guard but the State of Connecticut to Uruguayan society as a whole.

Directorate of Joint Training, Exercises, and Readiness (J-7)

The Director of Exercise, Plans, and Training (J-7) lies within the Joint Staff and is responsible for developing, coordinating, managing, planning, resourcing and conducting training and exercises. This position further evaluates and analyzes training and exercises for the joint force. The J-7 supports operational planning, joint doctrine, professional education, and development through military education opportunities and outside training programs and certifications that support joint policy and readiness.

The J-7 advises The Adjutant General and (TAG) and Chief of the Joint Staff for the formulation of plans, policies and budgeting for current and future operations. The J-7 is responsible for the development and coordination of strategic plans, policy and initiatives concerning military support programs, state domestic operations, and federal and state homeland security activities. The J-7 plays an active role in the development and training in the Connecticut National Guard (CTNG) All-Hazards Plan as well as a participant in several state and regional planning groups.

The J-7 has coordinated and resourced numerous training events for military, federal, state, municipal and industry partners through workshops and exercises that focus on readiness, response, and mitigation of natural disasters and other events that impact communities within and around the state of Connecticut as well as other events that impact those communities. The office also supports and further conducts annual exercises focused on the emergency support functions that support the CTNG All Hazards Plan and the Connecticut State Response Framework.

The J-7 is responsible for securing and executing grants through the Nuclear Safety Emergency Fund, which provide additional training opportunities or resources that support the Connecticut Military Department's response to nuclear focused events within the State of Connecticut.

Additionally, the J-7 manages the New England Disaster Training Center (NEDTC) located in Windsor Locks, Connecticut on the campus of Camp Hartell. NEDTC is fully resourced and funded annually through the Homeland Security Grant Program and provides municipal, state, and federal first responders with a unique opportunity to conduct training with a focus on national priority areas as designated by the Department of Homeland Security. In FY 23, NEDTC facilitated more than 1,238 hours of training for over 1,200 first responders.

Directorate of Joint Resiliency (J-9)

The Adjutant General established the Joint Resiliency Directorate (JRD or J-9) to enhance the agency's prevention and personnel support systems and to remove any structural barriers by creating one staff section dedicated to maximizing the human potential of the agency's Service Members (Army and Air National Guard), civilian employees and their Families.

The JRD is an integrated, multi-domain organization focused on maximizing Service Members' holistic wellness, performance, and quality of military service through rigorous needs analysis, innovative programs, proactive coordination, and efficient access to resources. The Directorate's core mission is to help build and retain unit readiness through knowledgeable, resilient, and healthy Service Members and Families within an organizational culture that values individual dignity and respect.

The combined annual Federal budget of the JRD is \$1,944,050 to support the activities and personnel of all its sections, a 32 percent increase from the previous fiscal year. The Directorate is comprised of 32 staff members including civilian federal technicians, uniformed personnel, and DoD contractors assigned to five subsections: the Integrated Primary Prevention Workforce, the Risk Reduction, Resiliency and Suicide Prevention (R3SP) section, the Joint Behavioral Health Team, the Chaplain Corps, and the State Family Program / Service Member and Family Support Center. The majority of the JRD staff is based at the Governor William A. O'Neill Armory in Hartford with additional staff and satellite officers located at the Middletown Armed Forces Reserve Center, the Bradley Air National Guard Base in East Granby, Windsor Locks Readiness Center, Niantic Readiness Center, and the Waterbury Armory.

The JRD also works extensively with two external organizational partners to build more resilient and ready Service Members while trying to prevent harmful or negative behaviors: the Holistic Health and Fitness (H2F) program, whose staff provide training in developing and maintaining healthy and physically fit lifestyles, and the Sexual Assault, Prevention and Response

(SAPR) program staff who work to reduce sexual assault through prevention and training, victim care and advocacy and implementation of SAPR program policies.

Integrated Primary Prevention Workforce

Connecticut's Integrated Primary Prevention Workforce mission is to enhance the resilience and readiness of Soldiers, Airmen, civilian employees, and their Families by integrating and operationalizing evidence-based prevention strategies, education, resources, and community support at multiple levels to address the "upstream" factors that often serve as precursors to negative behaviors and adverse outcomes.

The Integrated Primary Prevention Workforce (IPPW) was established per Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 6400.09 ("DoD Policy on Integrated Primary Prevention of Self-Directed Harm and Prohibited Abuse or Harm," September 11, 2020). In accordance with the requirements outlined in DoD Instruction 6400.09, the National Guard Bureau (NGB) issued the National Guard Integrated Primary Prevention Strategy on October 12, 2022, instructing all 54 states and territories to create an IPPW.

The four primary focus areas or domains of the IPPW, as established by DoD, are: preventing sexual assault, preventing self-directed harm, preventing domestic abuse, and preventing workplace harassment/violence.

The CTNG's IPPW staff is comprised of six permanent federal technicians consisting of an Integrated Primary Prevention Officer, two Primary Prevention Specialists (generalists), two Prevention Specialists assigned to assist major subordinate commands with integrating and implementing prevention programs, and an Attorney Advisor. All assigned IPPW staff must complete mandatory initial and continuing education training annually and be credentialed by DoD. IPPW personnel and operational costs are one hundred percent Federally funded. The Connecticut National Guard was the first state in the nation to select and employ its team of IPPW prevention specialists.

In its second year, the IPPW has focused on developing processes and partnerships to improve data collection and analysis to better assess annually the risks and prevention needs of the organization. This included administering and analyzing the 2023 Defense Organizational Climate Survey (DEOCS), which provides valuable information about Service Members' perceptions of the organization's climate and where improvement efforts should be targeted. Fifty-one percent of eligible CTNG Service Members voluntarily responded to the 2023 DEOCS. IPPW also developed the organization's first Comprehensive Integrated Primary Prevention (CIPP) Plan to help identify and guide CTNG prevention goals, desired outcomes, and the most effective activities to achieve those outcomes. The IPPW staff will update the CIPP Plan every six months as the organization's assessed prevention needs and goals change. The IPPW also researches and evaluates available resilience education program and curriculums for possible implementation within the CTNG, has entered into a DoD-approved research partnership with the University of Pennsylvania to study and enhance the training curriculum provided to suicide prevention officers assigned to CTNG units, and co-leads, in conjunction with the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and facilitated by the Federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the "Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide among Service Members, Veterans and their Families" initiative to identify,

resource and implement Connecticut-specific priorities to help prevent self-harm in this high-risk population.

Risk Reduction, Resiliency and Suicide Prevention (R3SP)

The mission of the Risk Reduction, Resiliency, and Suicide Prevention (R3SP) section is to plan and implement a comprehensive program that assists individual Service Members, units, and major commands to prevent harmful behaviors including suicides and substance abuse. Major efforts include providing various training courses in resiliency and suicide prevention, conducting comprehensive drug testing and facilitating referrals for substance abuse treatment, conducting and assessing unit risk surveys and assisting Commanders in developing risk reduction action plans, and conducting awareness programs/events to increase the awareness of resources available to Service Members and Families to help eliminate the stigma associated with seeking help for self-harm behaviors. The R3SP staff also partner extensively with other JRD sections and external partners on assessing, developing, and implementing new prevention programs and resources.

As a Department of the Army-funded entity, most of the R3SP's programs and training is focused on members of the Connecticut Army National Guard (CTARNG), however many of the R3SP's awareness programs/events such as for Suicide Prevention Month in September, are directed towards and open to members of both the Army and Air National Guard.

The R3SP section has an annual Federal budget of approximately \$279,000 and is staffed with two CTARNG Non-commissioned Officers (NCOs) and two DoD civilian contractors.

The Resilience Program is led by the State Resiliency Coordinator (SRC) who is responsible for organizing and delivering the CTARNG's resiliency training efforts including enrolling Soldiers in the Army's Master Resilience Training (MRT) Course and operating the state's Resiliency Training Assistant (RTA) courses. The SRC also organizes and runs the Commander's Ready and Resilient Council (CR2C) that meets quarterly to inform the Adjutant General on current prevention and resiliency efforts, review program statistics, and to receive his guidance on priorities to focus on. In the last Federal fiscal year, nine NCOs earned certifications as Master Resilience Trainers and another 25 Soldiers became RTAs responsible for delivering training on resilience skills to all members of the CTARNG. Currently, ninety-five percent of all CTARNG units have at least one trained MRT.

The Risk Reduction Program encompasses both the Drug Testing Program run by the Drug Testing Coordinator (DTC) and the Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) run by the Risk Reduction Coordinator (RRC) and the Prevention Coordinator (PC). The purpose of the ASAP program is to connect Soldiers with identified substance abuse issues with available counseling and treatment programs. All Soldiers who test positive are referred to the ASAP where they are enrolled in treatment with a civilian provider.

The DTC is responsible for administering an annual comprehensive drug testing program in accordance with Department of the Army guidance in 62 individual CTARNG units. All units have trained Unit Prevention Leaders (UPLs) to assist in the administration of monthly drug tests. The DTC conducts UPL instruction courses each year providing training to approximately 80 new and current UPLs annually. In the last Federal fiscal year, 3,970 Soldiers or 108.61 percent of all

assigned personnel were tested with a positivity rate of 2.89 percent resulting in the discharge of seven Soldiers. This positivity rate is below the national average of the U.S. Army National Guard.

The Risk Reduction Program staff administers a Unit Risk Inventory (URI) to all CTARNG units annually. The URI is an opportunity for Service Members to give an honest, anonymous assessment of their well-being and any harmful behaviors and offers commanders the ability to gauge the individual readiness and resilience of their personnel. After individual results are reviewed, unit leaders meet with the multi-disciplinary Wellness Team (R3SP, Behavioral Health, Family Programs, Integrated Primary Prevention, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response and Chaplain representatives) to create and resource a Risk Mitigation Plan to address any areas of concern including providing additional training on specific risk behavior topics. As part of unit level prevention efforts, the RRC and PC also complete an annual Personal Readiness brief to all CTARNG units that includes information on the drug testing, substance abuse prevention, and suicide prevention programs as well as other available assistance resources.

The Suicide Prevention Program focuses on providing prevention and intervention training to Service Members. The program delivers multiple iterations of the Army's primary suicide prevention training course required of all first line leaders -- Ask, Care, Escort - Suicide Intervention (ACE-SI) Tier 1. The Suicide Prevention Program helps units develop their own internal suicide prevention training capabilities by teaching the ACE-SI Tier 2 "train the trainer" course, and by working with units to plan and conduct annual suicide prevention training known as "ACE Base plus One" modular training designed to be taught by unit first line leaders. The Risk Reduction staff also instruct the supplemental Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) course which provides advanced skills for recognizing someone at risk of committing suicide and how to provide a skilled intervention to connect them to further support. In the last Federal Fiscal Year, 57 Soldiers completed ACE-SI courses and 38 Soldiers completed the ASIST course. All CTARNG units are required to have a minimum of 10 percent of their assigned personnel trained in ACE-SI/ASIST as well as having a minimum of one appointed, trained Suicide Intervention Officer (SIO). These training metrics are tracked by the Risk Reduction staff who work with unit commanders to meet these requirements.

Joint Behavioral Health Team

The mission of the Joint Behavioral Health Team (JBHT) is to provide comprehensive guidance, support, and case management services in behavioral and psychological health to Connecticut National Guard (CTNG) Soldiers, Airmen, and civilian employees. The JBHT plays a critical role in promoting the well-being of Service Members by addressing a wide range of needs. Their commitment extends beyond individual care to fostering a supportive environment within the military community where Service Members are encouraged to seek confidential help voluntarily.

The JBHT is funded by the National Guard Bureau and consists of a five-person full-time staff. The Team is comprised of the Director of Psychological Health who is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) and holds an Advanced Alcohol and Drug Counselor (AADC) certification; two LCSWs, one Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) who also is a Licensed Alcohol & Drug Counselor (LADC), and one administrative staff member. On average, the team handles 150 active cases and 500-600 contacts with Soldiers, Airmen, and employees annually. In addition, more than 1,100 referrals to internal and external resources were made during the previous

Federal fiscal year. The JBHT staffs a 1-800 “Careline,” offering a ready and easy way to connect with Service Members 24 hours a day/7 days a week.

The JBHT offers multiple programs and services to support the health and well-being of Service Members and the overall National Guard mission. The JBHT oversees case management ensuring that individuals receive personalized support and access to appropriate resources. This includes coordinating care, monitoring progress, and advocating for the best possible outcomes. The team employs evidence-based approaches to address specific issues, such as anxiety, depression, and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Solution-focused interventions aim to improve individual Service Member functioning and resilience. In times of crisis, the JBHT provides immediate assistance including risk assessment, safety planning, and referrals to additional resources as needed, with follow-up assistance to help smooth the Service Member’s transition back to daily life. The JBHT clinicians also conduct a variety of training to enhance awareness of mental health issues, resilience, and coping strategies.

Alongside case management, team clinicians develop and conduct mental health/substance abuse group counseling sessions and support programs, provide immediate response services and postvention plan support to units following an unexpected loss of a Service Member, develop and maintain effective relationships with community mental health providers who will accept CTNG personnel for outpatient and residential services, and collaborate closely with other programs and sections on a variety of prevention and awareness initiatives including R3SP, State Family Program, Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program, Fitness Improvement Program, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program and others. The JBHT staff engages with many external organizations to help expand behavioral health wrap-around services and programs for CTNG members and Veterans including the U.S. Veterans Administration, Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs, Connecticut Suicide Advisory Board, and several other non-profit and community-based organizations. The JBHT is also the Command’s link to the Military Support Embedded Clinicians Program that currently provides 23 trained community clinicians to Connecticut National Guard units to provide immediate access to confidential and no-cost behavioral health resources to Service Members during drill weekends. Funded through the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Connecticut is the only state that embeds clinicians within National Guard individual units.

The JBHT also assists unit commanders and medical personnel to maintain military medical readiness requirements by managing medical profiles related to behavioral health, screening Service Members for behavioral health issues during periodic health assessments, and evaluating Service Members’ mental health during deployment and post-deployment phases as part of the Service Member Readiness Program (SRP/RSRP).

Chaplain/Chaplain Corps

The Chaplain Corps’ mission is to provide wide-ranging care for Soldiers, Airmen, and their Families through mental, emotional, physical, and especially spiritual support. Extensive Chaplain services are provided for the spiritual and emotional well-being of Service Members and their Families through pastoral care and a nurturing presence by the CTNG’s full-time support Chaplain and a team of traditional Chaplains and Chaplain Assistants assigned to CTNG Army and Air Major Commands. Key functions of the Chaplain Corps include providing religious services,

spiritual education, and confidential counseling, facilitating a military environment that values and respects the freedom to practice all religions, advising Commanders on issues related to religious, ethical, moral, and morale concerns, advocating for the needs of Soldiers, Airmen, and their Families, and assisting with connecting those in need to supportive services. The Chaplain Corps provides this support through a diversified program of spiritual education and training including Strong Bond/Building Strong and Ready Teams (SB/BSRT) programs and events, resiliency training, and suicide prevention and postvention training.

Other Chaplain Corps core duties include assisting with emergency situations for Soldiers and Airmen in crisis and making referrals to additional resources, assisting with formal casualty next-of-kin notifications, visiting the injured and sick, and monitoring the needs and well-being of Soldiers and Airmen participating in mobilizations/demobilizations, and providing reintegration training and support as needed.

Some of this year's Chaplain Corps accomplishments include integrating the Strong Bonds program into the Comprehensive Airman Fitness section of Ready Airman Training, positively impacting the resiliency of more than 1,490 Airmen and their Families through 55 events. The Chaplain Corps was a part of the initiative of establishing the Artificial Intelligence Working Group, which significantly enhanced operational efficiency and decision-making across the Connecticut National Guard while providing guidance on the ethical implementation of artificial intelligence. The Corps managed over \$250,000 in Building Strong and Ready Teams/Strong Bonds funds, securing and utilizing these resources effectively to support numerous events and initiatives. The Chaplain Corps has also been an active partner with the IPPW, contributing to comprehensive prevention planning and helping to assess and pilot new programs that support the resilience and psychological readiness of Soldiers and Airmen. Additionally, the Chaplain Corps advanced recruiting and retention efforts bringing new Religious Affairs Airmen into the CT Air National Guard and new Religious Affairs Specialists into the CT Army National Guard and hosted multiple innovative evening Strong Bonds events. The Corps also provided comprehensive support to units, Service Members and Families in need following tragic events, serious injuries, and during casualty notifications and bereavement ensuring continuous chaplain presence and support for all affected personnel.

State Family Program/Service Member and Family Support Center (SMFSC)

The State Family Program and aligned Service Member and Family Support Center (SMFSC) establishes and facilitates ongoing communication, involvement, support, and recognition between National Guard Families and the National Guard in a partnership that promotes the best interests of both. Its combined annual budget is \$859,700, a 25 percent increase from the previous fiscal year.

The SMFSC staff assists Service Members and Families of any military branch during periods of peace and war and throughout their military lifecycle from enlistment through retirement. The SMFSC is comprised of the Family Program Office, which combines aggressive outreach methods with education and support groups to deliver a wide variety of service options that include: four geographically dispersed Family Assistance Centers staffed by one Lead and six Military and Family Readiness Specialists who provide information and referral services as well as monthly outreach to deployed Families, the Child and Youth Program, which works to empower military youth and educate Connecticut's education system on the effects of

deployment, the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program, which places particular emphasis on preparing Service Members and their Families for deployment and reintegration and the stressors associated with separation, a Military OneSource consultant whose program provides resources and support to Service Members and their Families anywhere in the world, a Personal Financial Consultant to assist Service Members and Families with financial goals and budget skills, a Transition Assistance Advisor to aid those exiting military service and prepare them for transition to civilian life, and a Survivor Outreach Specialist who works directly with the survivors of our fallen to ensure they continue to receive the necessary supports needed.

The SMFSC is a joint Army and Air National Guard entity with the Air National Guard's Airmen and Family Readiness Program Manager and the Air Yellow Ribbon Coordinator integrated into all Service Center operations and programs to provide comprehensive services to the total National Guard Family.

Augmenting the paid staff of the SMFSC are a corps of committed volunteers and partner agencies who assist in providing emotional and recreational support to military Families statewide. All statutory and gratuitous volunteers are trained to ensure quality of services and are recognized annually for their contributions to the Program.

Additionally, the SMFSC and its partner agencies collaboratively host a variety of events throughout the year to support Connecticut's military service community to include Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, donated Thanksgiving meals distribution, Operation Embracing Lonely Families (ELF) providing holiday gift, financial and general support to the Families of deployed Service Members, spring, winter and summer youth day camps, resiliency trainings, a Back-to-School supplies/resources "Bash", and multiple benefits and entitlements briefings.

Over the last year, the SMFSC hosted or participated in 131 events attended by 4,166 people. Our Family Assistance Centers made 4500 contacts to community partners, non-deployed service members and their Families, and outreach calls to ensure the well-being of Family members of deployed Service Members.

Significantly, over the past 12 months the SMFSC participated in the new DoD and National Guard Bureau (NGB) Military Family Readiness Programs certification process. This process evaluates the performance consistency of Family Programs once every four years against 40 distinct program standards focused on elements of quality, effectiveness, utilization, accessibility, customer satisfaction, and cost. The CTNG SMFSC met all requirements and NGB has recommended Connecticut for its initial four-year certification. Upon receipt of its certification, Connecticut's SMFSC will conduct an internal self-assessment annually to endure its programming and performance continues to meet certification standards.

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR)

The mission of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) is to gain and maintain employer support for National Guard and Reserve Service Members by recognizing outstanding employer support, which increases awareness of the governing Federal law and resolving any conflicts through mediation. ESGR is a volunteer-centric organization. At the National level, full-time ESGR staff serve within the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs (OASD/RA), which is a part of the Office of the Secretary of Defense. ESGR

“field” committees are in every state and territory as well as Europe and primarily consist of volunteers with some minimal contractor support funded through a DoD contract.

Established in 1972, ESGR’s goal is to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve Component members and their civilian employers and to assist in the resolution of conflicts arising from an employee’s military commitment. It is the lead DoD organization for this mission under DoD Directive 1250.1.

Primary activities and responsibilities conducted annually by the Connecticut State ESGR Committee include: provide Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) information briefings to Guard and Reserve units to mobilizing and demobilizing Service Members and to employers, conduct a proactive regional Boss Lift program, escorting local employers to training facilities/sites in Connecticut and other military installations in the United States directed at promoting a deeper understanding and appreciation of the role of the National Guard and Reserve, develop partnerships with state and regional businesses and professional organizations, as well as other Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) and volunteer groups, assists Service Members through the Ombudsman Program to prevent, resolve, and reduce employer and employee conflicts that result from National Guard or Reserve membership and duty requirement, assist employers in hiring highly qualified Service Member/Veteran, and recruit and develop volunteers to support and help promote the ESGR mission.

Achievements for this period include: 249 Service Members and 205 employers provided USERRA information and assistance, 15 ESGR Statements of Support signed by Connecticut employers who employ Service Members, and 36 Patriot Awards presented to Connecticut employers for their exceptional support of employees who voluntarily serve in the National Guard and Reserves. These efforts totaled 311 man-hours of work from 15 dedicated volunteers. Employers, Service Members and volunteers can learn more about ESGR at www.esgr.mil and the Connecticut committee at <https://www.facebook.com/CTESGR>.

Directorate of Logistics (DOL) G-4

The G-4 provides logistics management and subject matter expertise in all areas of supply operations and accountability, ground and air transportation, ground maintenance, logistics automation, and logistics mobilization and de-mobilization. The G-4 ensures that all personnel assigned to the CTARNG are properly equipped and fed, that more than \$981 million in equipment is accounted for and maintained in accordance with established Department of the Army Directives, provides movement control and transportation coordination within the Installations Transportation Offices and that all units are properly resourced to respond to federal missions and state missions to include Defense Support to Civil Authorities or Homeland Defense missions.

The directorate’s logistics expertise, equipping guidance, traffic management, and logistics sustainment was demonstrated extensively throughout the year. The G-4 also provided focused logistical support to CTARNG units deploying in support of operations around the world. The directorate also ensured that all returning equipment is accounted, returned in the proper condition then enrolled into a surface maintenance RESET program to guarantee that all equipment is fully mission capable to support future state, federal, and training requirements.

The directorate conducts a robust unit assistance and inspection program. These teams are staffed with SMEs in maintenance, supply, food service, and transportation. Teams spend time with units throughout the year to teach best practices and promote compliance with established Army and DOD Regulations. The assistance visits are often associated with upcoming inspections and deployments.

The directorate's Surface Maintenance division operates three Field Maintenance Shops (located in Middletown, Windsor Locks and Danbury), one Unit Training Equipment Shop (located in East Lyme), and the Combined Support Maintenance Shop and RESET section (located in Windsor Locks). The 99 full time members of this section work on all the ground equipment and weapons for the state. The facilities completed 2,601 work orders ranging from annual services to complete engine and transmissions replacements. Our Sustainment Automation Support Management Office (SASMO) is located in Windsor Locks and provides training and maintenance on units Logistical Information Systems (LIS).

The current total budget managed by the G-4 logistics Directorate is \$7.539 million.

Construction and Facilities Management Office (CFMO)

The Connecticut Army National Guard is engaged in a continuing facility transformation program moving CTARNG forces from antiquated, single-purpose state armories into multipurpose, federally/state funded, joint-service Armed Forces Reserve Centers (AFRC), Readiness Centers, and Field Maintenance Shops (FMS). These modern military facilities are designed to support state and federal armed forces requirements for national defense, homeland security and disaster response. Our motto, "Always Ready, Always There," embodies why the CTARNG continues to strive for acquisition and maintenance of mission essential facilities that provide for the overall health, safety, training, and readiness of the force. These improvements advance the quality of life and mobilization capabilities for CTARNG Citizen Soldiers, as well as meeting health and life safety needs that arise due to the age of the facilities.

The Adjutant General's vision for the future of the CTARNG is to have modern facilities throughout the state, to provide for service members and their Families, as well as provide coverage for any state missions. Several sources of federal funding provide construction and maintenance dollars to ensure the facilities in the State are of the highest quality for our Soldiers and citizens.

The first source for major federal funding for projects is the Military Construction (MILCON) program funded through the Future Year Defense Program (FYDP). In FY24, CTARNG received \$6M in Military Construction funding to construct an aircraft hangar for 2 UH-60M medevac helicopters at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Windsor Locks. Currently in construction is the Putnam Readiness Center that will provide support for the outermost communities of northeast Connecticut. The project was funded with \$19.5 million of FY22 federal fiscal year and \$6.5 million in State Bond funds. State Bond funds are critical to the CTARNG's ability to execute these federally funded projects. State funds cover administrative, construction management, property acquisition, and site prep to enable these projects to move forward. The CTARNG has been selected to receive advanced Planning and Design funds for a major renovation of the TASMG facility at Groton New London Airport to reach 35% design and compete for full project funding in future years. This project will include a large addition and renovation to existing spaces to increase

the throughput of the facility and allow the state to continue supporting the Aviation fleet for 14 Northeastern States and Territories. In the 2024 Legislative session, the legislature and Bond Commission approved \$5M in bonding to support the State Matching obligations for this project as well as for the construction of the Windsor Locks Hangar.

The second source for federal construction funding for the CTARNG is the Sustainment, Restoration, and Modernization (SRM) program. SRM funding leveraged by state bonding has allowed for the completion of several major SRM projects in 2023-2024. These include the renovation of latrines in our troop barracks at Camp Nett in Niantic, masonry, roof, and entrance repairs at the Branford Armory, and renovation of a multi-purpose instruction facility at Camp Nett in Niantic. State-matching has also enabled the CTARNG to execute multiple energy efficiency and sustainability projects. The Norwich Armory is currently under construction to install a Photovoltaic Solar array on the roof, HVAC upgrades are underway for the Regional Training institute, Troop Medical Clinic, and New Haven Armed Forces Reserve Center to reduce our energy usage and carbon footprint. Over FY23 and FY24, the CTARNG has installed electric vehicle charging stations at 5 facilities to support both the State and Federal fleet of non-tactical vehicles as we transition to increased EV use.

The final component of SRM is demolition and turn-in of obsolete facilities. The CTARNG has continued an aggressive Connecticut Department of Administrative Services excess property process and demolition program to ensure our state has the space to build and meet future facility requirements.

Aviation Operations

The Army Aviation Support Facility (AASF) and Windsor Locks Readiness Center (WLRC) located at Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks, Connecticut provides a full range of rotary-wing and fixed-wing aviation capability to the Connecticut National Guard (CTNG). Located on 37 acres at the northeast corner of Bradley International Airport, the AASF and WLRC are home to 16 Army Aviation units. Aircraft assigned to these facilities consist of eight CH-47F Chinook heavy helicopters each capable of lifting 33 passengers and/or cargo totaling 26,000 pounds, five UH-60M Blackhawk utility helicopters capable of carrying 11 passengers or 8,000 pounds of cargo, three HH-60M Medical Evacuation (MEDEVAC) helicopters capable of transporting up to 6 patients with hoist capability, and one C-12U Huron turboprop airplane capable of carrying up to six passengers or cargo. Of note this year, the three HH-60M MEDEVAC Aircraft returned from their deployment to Southwest Asia with the 185th Combat Aviation Brigade along with the Soldiers, aircrews, and detachments of the 3-126 and 3-142 Aviation Battalions.

The WLRC is an 110,000 square foot facility, which houses all Army Aviation units currently assigned to Windsor Locks. Completed in the fall of 2013, the WLRC provides the 1109th Theater Aviation Sustainment Maintenance Group (TASMG) Headquarters and the 1st Battalion 169th Aviation Regiment with state-of-the-art facilities to train and prepare for their state and federal missions. The State Army Aviation and State Safety offices are co-located on the first floor of the readiness center. The WLRC is the home for STARBASE-Connecticut, a youth education initiative promoting science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) to grade school children from socio-economically disadvantaged areas. The WLRC also provides office space for the 1109th TASMG Command and Staff, Connecticut National Guard Joint Cyber Response Team, and is

identified as the primary location for Joint Force Headquarters Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP).

The AASF provides training, maintenance, and logistics support to approximately 558 CTNG Aviation Soldiers in their respective military skill sets. These specialties encompass all facets of Army Aviation, to include aircraft maintenance and repair, fuel handlers, aviators, and a host of other skills required to support such a complex organization. Extensive aircraft maintenance, logistics, and training operations are conducted on a daily basis out of the AASF.

From July 1, 2023, thru June 30, 2024, the AASF executed 1,612.1 flight hours in support of both training for and executing federal, state, and local missions. Additionally, the AASF has provided support for the air movement of personnel and equipment, joint training exercises, aviation support to state and federal agencies such as the Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Homeland Security, Diplomatic Security Services, Department of the Interior, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, U.S. Military Academy at West Point, the Governor's Office, and the Office of the President of the United States.

Aerial Firefighting Operations: Both the CH-47F Chinook and UH-60M Blackhawk helicopters provide the State of Connecticut and the nation with an aerial firefighting capability. Throughout the year, Connecticut Army National Guard (CTARNG) aviation aircrews train and prepare for aerial firefighting duties based on RED FLAG warnings around the state. Both our CH-47F and UH-60M aircraft can respond to widespread fire emergencies with 2,000 and 600 gallon water buckets respectively.

Aerial Evacuation: Annually, aircrews receive training and familiarization on aerial recovery operations utilizing a rescue hoist mounted on the HH-60M helicopters. It provides the State of Connecticut and the nation with a unique recovery capability in the event of an emergency or natural disaster. Our MEDEVAC aircraft are equipped with an external rescue hoist, a nose mounted Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) camera, and internal litter system to provide an aerial medical treatment and evacuation capability to the state.

The AASF & WLRC routinely provide reception services for deploying and redeploying CTNG Soldiers. The Army National Guard ramp in Windsor Locks maintains the capability to serve as a personnel and equipment staging area for both commercial and military aircraft. In conjunction with the New England Disaster Training Center (NEDTC), the AASF and WLRC also offers classroom space with audio visual capabilities for exercises conducted by local, state, and federal agencies.

The Connecticut Army National Guard Aviation Program has an outstanding safety record which spans more than 40 years without a major (Class A or B) accident or mishap. It is one of only a few states in the nation to receive the Distinguished Aviation Safety Award from National Guard Bureau.

Connecticut Army National Guard Safety Office

The Safety Office (SO) plans, manages, and administers the safety program for the CTARNG in accordance with (IAW) program and policy guidance established by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Department of Defense (DoD), Department of the Army

(DA), and National Guard Bureau (NGB). The SO advises The Adjutant General (TAG), commanders of subordinate units, directors, and other key staff on appropriate safety measures and alternative courses of action to achieve critical mission goals with a minimum risk to people and property. The SO also develops and issues safety guidelines for training activities and for other activities, which impact directly or indirectly on military readiness throughout the CTARNG.

During the past year, the SO conducted four Organization Inspection Programs (OIP) inspections on four major commands, inspecting their Commander's Safety Program. Through the inspections and staff assistance visits, the SO shared lessons learned and best practices to produce a safe work environment for employees, Soldiers, and visitors. The Safety Office assisted Battalions with completing the Enhanced Army Readiness Assessment Program (EARAP) to ensure Commanders understood their units' risks and mitigation efforts. The SO directly supported the CTARNG in addressing the hazard of driving. Five training events were conducted to ensure that the leadership had training, experience, and resources to address the hazard.

Three national organizations conducted inspections on CTARNG safety programs: The Quality Assurance Specialist Ammunition Surveillance completed an inspection of the state's arms, ammunition, and explosives program, NGB Communications-Electronics Command Radiation Safety Program inspected our radiological commodities program, and NGB Safety Division conducted a Composite ARNG Safety Development & Assessment Program. The CTARNG met all requirements on all the inspections and received several individual commendations.

The SO consists of a Safety and Occupational Health Manager and Safety Specialist, plus part-time military Safety Officers. The SO's annual budget is approximately \$60,000. The SO works closely with the Occupational Health Office to mitigate hazards in the workplace and monitor workforce health.

The Safety and Occupational Health Manager identifies specific safety problems and formulates appropriate control measures using the Risk Management System. The Safety Specialist ensures compliance with the OSHA regulations to include the conduct of surveys and inspections of work sites and storage areas such as ammunition, chemical and radiation storage facilities, warehouses, motor pools, and repair and maintenance facilities. The Safety Manager recommends measures to maintain required levels of safety.

The Safety Office also develops and conducts a comprehensive safety education program. The SO creates and publishes safety training materials to educate our forces in the identification and mitigation of hazards that could occur in the conduct of operations. The SO manages an overall program effort to reduce off-duty and on-duty accidents, particularly the prevention of traffic accidents involving SMs in military and privately owned vehicles, as well as on motorcycles. The SO routinely distributes safety messages for the organization to include holiday specific hazards.

The SO is integral in pre-accident planning and post-accident investigation. The SO is prepared to work closely with first responders and incident commanders to control accident sites and mitigate the risks inherent to those sites.

The SO conducted extensive training in hazard identification and mitigation. The SO also provides personal protective equipment to aviation and ground maintenance personnel as well as

motorcycle operators. Safety emphasis for the upcoming year includes the facilitation of motorcycle safety courses to promote safe riding practices, privately-owned vehicle safety, and off-duty personal safety.

Inspector General

The Office of the Inspector General (IG) serves as an extension of the eyes, ears, voice, and conscience of TAG, providing a continuing assessment on the state of the economy, efficiency, discipline, training, morale, esprit de corps, and combat readiness of the Command. The IG leads and promotes an inspection program that provides a full-service evaluation of operational, administrative, and logistical effectiveness per applicable statutes and regulations. The IG provides assistance and attempts to resolve all matters at the lowest level, properly conducts inquiries into complaints, and thoroughly investigates allegations of impropriety while being accurate, impartial, fair and steadfast in the course of all duties.

The IG has oversight of the Organizational Inspection Program (OIP), which integrates command, staff, and IG inspections throughout the command. The IG also leveraged internal and external audits, staff assistance visits, management control mechanisms, and oversight functions to ensure the CTNG is a learning organization.

In summary, the benefit of an Inspector General program is a Command that proactively identifies unit issues and trends, provides an accurate picture of combat readiness, and gives leaders insight into their organization for improved readiness.

Recruiting and Retention Battalion (RRB)

The RRB is responsible for strength maintenance by enlisting quality recruits and accessing exceptional officers into the CTARNG. Working in tandem with unit commanders, the RRB assists in retaining Soldiers already serving in the CTARNG. The RRB closed 2023 accessing 364 Soldiers and officers into the CTARNG against the state's mission of 550 accessions. In FY 2024, the RRB has accessed 294 Soldiers and officers through June 14th, 2024 toward our state mission of 550. The RRB is currently approximately 50% ahead of the previous year's accession total. FY 2023 showed some great signs of improvement from FY 2022. In FY 2024, the Connecticut Army National Guard is bringing accession numbers back to pre-COVID rates. Currently, Connecticut is the 12th best performing state in the nation in Recruiting and the 10th best overall in Retention achieving 136% of our national Retention mission to date. Connecticut finished 3rd overall in the Nation in Retention in FY 2023. The Connecticut RRB has provided a 25% DoD market share within Connecticut – the best market share amongst all the services and the first time the CTARNG has been the best in market share since 2020.

The RRB staff is stationed throughout Connecticut in National Guard armories, facilities, and at our seven storefront recruiting offices. This year, the RRB is working on locating a new storefront in Waterbury, which will be located across from UCONN Waterbury campus. The RRB annual marketing budget for 2022 is \$2.5 million. The marketing and advertising section of the RRB normally executes contracts and agreements for CTARNG branding to be on display at popular locations and state schools in Connecticut (to include facilities at the University of Connecticut and Dunkin Donuts Park, home to the Colorado Rockies' AA-affiliate, the Hartford Yard Goats). The RRB focuses efforts to social media platforms to reach our target market. In FY

2025, we will look to expand our market outreach in the Hispanic community and will look to take advantage of local influencers to help spread the CTARNG message among different social media platforms. The RRB supports all unit deployment and redeployment ceremonies, numerous community events to include Memorial Day parades, Veterans' commemorations, and countless public service visits to schools and universities throughout the state.

Enlisted Strength Maintenance, consisting of Recruiting and Retention NCOs as well as a Recruit Sustainment Program (RSP) for newly-enlisted Soldiers, is a facet of RRB's organization. This year, the RSP is currently ranked 9th overall in the nation and will look to finish first amongst all the states and territories.

There are many challenges facing the RRB, but we are continuing to adjust to the difficult environment and soon the CTARNG will be back on pace making mission.

United States Property and Fiscal Office (USPFO)

Pursuant to Title 32, U.S. Code, the United States Property and Fiscal Office (USPFO) oversees federal funding and equipment supplied to the Connecticut National Guard (CTNG) to support unit readiness. In carrying out this statutory mission, the USPFO pays all National Guard personnel in the state, provides and accounts for federal funds and property, purchases equipment and services, and pays for operations and maintenance of facilities and equipment. The USPFO manages and reports on federal funds and property in accordance with all federal policies and guidance.

This year, the federal government, through the Department of Defense (DoD), has provided \$296,480,463 to the CTNG for its operations, maintenance, and personnel. Additionally, the total value of federal property administered by the USPFO for the CTNG is approximately \$1,088,380,070.

<i>Federal Equipment and Supplies</i>	ARMY	AIR
Total Value	\$981,731,316	\$106,648,754
<i>Federal Expenditures - Base</i>	ARMY	AIR
Construction	\$0	\$23,106
Pay & Allowances	\$39,475,625	\$44,520,607
Operations & Maintenance	<u>\$183,375,815</u>	<u>\$29,085,400</u>
Total - Base	\$222,851,440	\$73,629,023

The Comptroller Division is responsible for all financial management operations of the CTARNG including budget planning and execution, accurate funds accounting and management of disbursements to include the payment of travel vouchers, civilian and military payrolls, and government purchases. This Division also oversees the DoD travel programs and system to facilitate required travel of CTARNG personnel.

The Purchasing and Contracting Division makes all major federal purchases for both the Connecticut Army and Air National Guards to include the solicitation and award of contracts of all sizes for a wide range of goods and services. This division awards and administers large-scale, high-profile National Guard project contracts such as facility construction and improvement and

equipment procurement, manages Military Interdepartmental Purchase Requests (MIPRs) and the Government Purchase Card Program (GPC), administers State-Federal Cooperative Agreements, prepares Inter-Service and Intra-Government Service Agreements, and Memorandums of Agreement.

The Supply and Services Division of the USPFO consists of five branches that provide logistical support to more than 3,500 Soldiers of the CTARNG. It receives and oversees the accountability of all federal property provided to units of the CTARNG in coordination with the Deputy Chief of Staff Logistics (DCSLOG) G-4. The Material Management branch processes the bulk acquisition of food, fuel, ammunition, medical supplies, material, and services. The Property Management branch coordinates incoming and outgoing equipment transactions and helps maintain the proper accountability of more than \$981 million in major Army end items and equipment. The Connecticut Supply Depot (CSD) located at Camp Hartell in Windsor Locks serves as the central shipping and receiving point for the CTARNG, processing all non-aviation equipment transfers and shipments. The CSD also manages the turn-in process for all outdated or non-mission capable equipment. The Ammunition Supply Point (ASP), part of the CSD, is responsible for the receipt, storage and issue of ammunition to CTARNG units and out-of-state units training at Camp Nett in Niantic and at Stone's Ranch Military Reservation in East Lyme. The Central Issuing Facility (CIF) section also located in Windsor Locks is responsible for the receipt, storage, issue, and turn-in of more than \$22.2 million in Organizational Clothing and Individual Equipment (OCIE), providing CTARNG Soldiers with all required personal equipment to perform their federal and state missions. The Budget Analysis Branch manages all supply and services funds utilizing the Army-wide Global Combat Support System-Army (GCSS-Army) and General Fund Enterprise Business (GFEBS) systems.

The Transportation Branch of the Supply and Services Division manages and directs the commercial traffic management programs for the CTARNG including contracting for and coordinating the commercial movement of personnel, units, and equipment in support of training and overseas deployments, providing technical traffic management advisory services, and formulating commercial traffic management programs and policies. The Transportation Branch also works closely with the G4's Defense Movement Coordinator (DMC) on supporting unit movement plans and requirements. In providing customer support, this Branch uses and interprets DoD Joint Travel Regulations, Technical Manuals, and Department of Transportation (DOT) Regulations, Comptroller General Decisions and Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 49 (Transportation) and 29 (OSHA/Hazard Management).

The Data Processing Center (DPC) manages all information technology requirements for the USPFO including maintaining common core information databases, administering systems, and supporting production services for other divisions as well as other CTARNG directorates and units. DPC ensures the integrity and security of multiple types of fiscal and property data and manages data access and reliability controls. DPC's responsibilities include planning and implementing life-cycle technology equipment improvements, ensuring sufficient systems and data storage redundancy and developing and testing a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) to sustain information technology systems in the event of an emergency. DPC also provides help desk support to individual USPFO employees and other members of the CTARNG.

The Internal Review (IR) Division is an independent assessment entity serving the USPFO and TAG. It provides a full array of internal review services to the commanders and staff of the

CTARNG and CTANG in accordance with Generally Accepted Government Audit Standards (GAGAS) issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. The IR Division is an integral part of TAG's system of internal controls and serves to assist managers in effectively discharging their fiscal stewardship responsibilities. The IR Division conducts functional area internal reviews and audits to determine accountability, compliance with regulations, the extent to which organizations are using their resources economically and efficiently, and whether they are meeting target performance measures in the most cost-effective manner. The IR Division auditors are vigilant during internal reviews and audits in identifying suspected fraud, waste, mismanagement, or improper/illegal acts involving federal resources. The IR Division also serves as the audit focal point for all external audit agencies.

CONNECTICUT ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

The CTARNG consists of four Major Commands (MACOMs) with 64 units stationed in 14 state readiness centers, four armed forces reserve centers, two Army aviation facilities, five maintenance facilities, and five training facilities. The CTARNG has a total of 3,649 Soldiers and employees comprised of 2,831 traditional (part-time) Soldiers and 757 full-time federally employed Soldiers along with an additional 82 federal civilian employees. The CTARNG comprises approximately 70% of the Military Department's personnel strength. The CTARNG also possesses just over \$1.1 billion dollars of federal equipment and supplies.

143rd Support Group (Regional) (RSG)

The 143rd RSG, headquartered in Middletown, CT, is a brigade-level command tasked with providing properly manned, equipped, and organized units to protect life, property, and the preservation of peace, order, and public safety in DSCA (Defense Support of Civil Authorities) for disaster response, humanitarian relief, civil disturbance, and homeland defense. When activated for federal service, the 143rd RSG operates as a Base Support Integrator (BOS-I) and executes Mission Command for contingency bases, to support Joint Reception, Staging, Onward Movement, and Integration (JRSOI) to facilitate theater operations. In theater the RSG has responsibilities for managing facilities, providing administrative, logistical, and life support for Soldiers and ensuring the security of personnel and facilities on contingency bases. The RSG provides mission command of assigned units during homeland security, homeland defense, and civil support missions within the United States, to include managing the reception, staging, onward movement, and integration of supporting forces. When not deployed, the 143rd RSG provides Mission Command for training, readiness, and mobilization oversight of assigned forces.

The 143rd RSG is the higher headquarters for three subordinate battalions, which comprises most of the CTARNG's combat service support elements of engineers, medical, and logistics. Sixteen distinct companies and detachments with an assigned total of 1,115 Soldiers comprise the command. The 143rd RSG and subordinate units are based out of nine armories, readiness centers, and facilities throughout Connecticut. The 143rd RSG has 69 Active Guard Reserve (AGR) Soldiers to ensure continuous operations for administrative, training, and logistics support.

Over the last year, the 143rd RSG led Operation Nutmeg (OP NUTMEG), one of the largest and most ambitious collective training missions undertaken by the CTARNG in the last two decades. OP NUTMEG engaged participation of two separate major subordinate commands

(MSC) spanning 3(+) battalions and 13(+) companies with nearly 250 pieces of rolling stock and just short of 1,000 troops. OP NUTMEG included line haul, check point operations, wet gap crossing, area security, react to contact, and a mass casualty exercise. Throughout OP NUTMEG, units participated in individual weapons qualification, crew served weapons qualification, gunnery, construction, and employment of a detention holding area, and provision of Role 1 and Role 2 medical care. In total, the exercise accounted for over 250,000 miles of driver training and experience, 67,000 gallons of fuel distribution and consumption, 160,000 rounds of ammunition and approximately 1,300 direct maintenance labor hours. As a result of this exercise, the units are more prepared to execute their wartime mission and the RSG as a whole boasted the highest Soldier retention rate for any MSC in the state, as did one of its subordinate battalions.

Since OP NUTMEG, the 143rd RSG has focused its efforts on establishing a synchronized Base Operations Center and publishing a robust operations order (OPORD) in anticipation of the July 2024 Combined Training Exercise. The planning and resourcing for this upcoming training has included the comprehensive coordination of personnel movement from Connecticut to Fort Devens, Massachusetts, consisting of 600 Soldiers from ten units across the brigade. Another critical 143rd RSG mission planned for the upcoming joint exercise was the establishment of a Joint Reception, Staging, Onward Movement, and Integration (JRSOI) for all participants, which includes a thorough in-processing of personnel, strategic tactical vehicle staging, logistics package distribution, coordination, and synchronization of individual unit movements to various training areas, and base life support responsibilities. In addition, the 143rd RSG sponsored the 2nd Annual Pride Month Color Fun Run Event for Service Members and their Families and supported multiple Community Actions Events statewide. Concurrently, the 143rd RSG successfully ensured teams and equipment throughout the brigade were ready to respond to multiple storms during the unpredictable hurricane and winter storm seasons.

192nd Engineer Battalion (Multifunctional)

The 192nd Multifunctional Engineer Battalion, headquartered in Stratford, CT, commands a Headquarters and Headquarters Company, a Forward Support Company, a Multi-Role Bridge Company, an Engineer Support Company, two Firefighter Detachments, a Well Drilling Detachment, and a Construction Management Team. The engineer battalion is comprised of 46 different military occupational specialties and is doctrinally trained to complete a vast array of engineer, general construction, and mission command tasks from the company to corps levels. Additionally, the battalion is responsible for providing the Governor with fully manned, equipped, and trained units to support DSCA operations throughout Connecticut and the northeast. DSCA operations include disaster response, humanitarian relief, civil disturbance, and homeland defense. The Engineer Battalion participated in several joint training operations with the CT Air National Guard throughout the year. This year, the Engineer Battalion continued to support the Connecticut's State Partnership Program with the nation of Uruguay and is planning to send a four-member team of engineer trainers to Uruguay in support of their Armed Forces. Additionally, the battalion again provided planning and support to 13 Memorial Day activities with color guards, firing details, and vehicles.

118th Medical Battalion (Multifunctional)

The 118th Multifunctional Medical Battalion (MMB) commands a Headquarters and Headquarter Detachment, the 141st Medical Company (Ground Ambulance), and 142nd Medical Company (Area Support). With almost half of the medical personnel within CTARNG assigned to the 118th Medical Battalion, the battalion is considered the subject matter expert (SME) on various Army medical functions such as medical care, mental health, preventive medicine, medical logistics and medical ground evacuation. All training is focused on improving subordinate unit readiness in response to possible state and federal missions. Additionally, the 118th MMB is responsible for providing the Governor with fully manned, equipped and trained units to support DSCA operations throughout Connecticut and the northeast. The 141st and 142nd train annually with Hartford Hospital's Center for Education, Simulation, and Innovation (CESI) to maintain currency on cutting edge medical advancements and continuing credit hours in order to sustain their National Registry EMT certifications. The battalion participated in a large-scale, brigade-wide annual training with the 143rd Regional Support Group. During this period, units participated in a mass casualty response exercise, provided both real-world and notional (for training) role 1 and role 2 care including laboratory, radiology and behavioral health services, and specialty personnel practiced their craft in medical clinics on Fort Drum, NY. During the July 2023, the 118th Medical Battalion participated in training Uruguayan military forces in Tactical Combat Casualty Care as part of the State Partnership Program and is scheduled to teach this course in Uruguay again in August 2024.

143rd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion

The 143rd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion (CSSB) commands a Headquarters Company, 1048th Medium Truck Company, 906th Quartermaster Platoon and the 102nd Army Band. The unit maintained an incredibly high operational tempo (OPTEMPO) throughout the year with the utmost professionalism, while maintaining the highest level of readiness.

The 1048th Medium Transportation Company continued to provide dynamic support to the State, as it certified in its National Guard Response Force role and will be executing Annual Training with the 143D Regional Support Group at Fort Devens, MA and Fort Dix, NJ.

The 102nd Band has also been nothing less than stellar. The unit supported missions all over the State, to include at NCAA's Big East Tournament. The unit has been preparing to undergo their operational readiness assessment, which is their national-level certification for military musicians.

85th Troop Command

The 85th Troop Command, stationed at Camp Nett in Niantic, is the brigade-level headquarters for the 1st Battalion, 102nd Infantry Regiment (Mountain), the 192nd Military Police Battalion, and the 14th Civil Support Team (WMD). The command is comprised of two battalion-level units including 12 company-level units and detachments totaling 1,296 Soldiers and four Airmen for a total strength of 1,300 CT Guardsmen and women. The 85th Troop Command and subordinate units are located in seven armories, readiness centers, and facilities across Connecticut. The 85th Troop Command has 84 full-time support personnel to ensure continuous operations for payroll, training, and logistics support.

The Federal mission of the 85th Troop Command is to field a force trained to the Army standard that can mobilize, achieve Mission Essential Task List proficiency and successfully deploy and re-deploy. The state mission is to provide units manned, equipped, organized and trained to function in the protection of life, property and the preservation of peace, order and public safety in military support to civil authorities for disaster response, humanitarian relief, civil disturbance and homeland defense. The 85th Troop Command provides mission command of assigned units during homeland security, homeland defense, and civil support missions within the United States.

1-102d Infantry Battalion (Mountain)

The 1-102nd Infantry Battalion (Mountain), with headquarters in New Haven CT, with five satellite armories across the state. The battalion has four combat arms companies, one sustainment company and one signal company assigned to them. The BN executed a challenging and successful past year as it began the initial pre-mobilization planning of for a potential deployment in support of Operation Spartan Shield within the next 24 months.

The Soldiers of the 1-102nd INF BN were fully trained on the Joint Battle Command Platform (JBC-P), which is the Army's next-generation friendly force tracking system, equipping Soldiers with a faster satellite network, secure data encryption and advanced logistics. Its new capabilities include Increased accuracy and density of situational awareness to further mitigate risk of fratricide, orders, graphical overlays, friendly, hostile, neutral, unknown, and non-combatant situational awareness, free draw, free text, chat and combat messages, sensor integration to enable capability to pinpoint location and improved route planning.

Approximately 30 mortarmen successfully graduated from the Mortar Safety School at Stones Ranch Military Reservation and over 25 combat medics were re-certified as National Registry EMT-Basic professionals.

The battalion began a busy training year by conducting their Annual Training in July 2023 at Fort Drum, New York. Soldiers conducted individual weapons qualification, squad field exercise lanes, mortar live fire exercise, and crew gunnery tables. Additionally, Soldiers participated in the Norwegian Foot March, which is 18.6 miles long with a minimum of a 25-pound ruck-sack.

The battalion also supported the state by participating in nine Memorial Day Parade events across the state in May 2024 and 3 DEA Drug takeback events during the year.

192d Military Police Battalion

The 192nd Military Police Battalion, stationed at Camp Nett in Niantic, is a Corrections/Detention Battalion Headquarters designed to provide mission command, staff planning, security, personnel accountability, personnel services (administration, finance, ministry, medical), and logistical support (supply, field feeding services and routine facility maintenance) for the operation of a confinement facility for U.S. military prisoners, or a detention facility for detainees in any environment worldwide. The 192nd Military Police Battalion and its subordinate units executed a combined annual training event at Fort Drum, NY with the 143rd Regional Support Group during the 2023 annual training cycle. The battalion and its subordinate companies participated in a brigade level training exercise supporting various operations and concluding with

providing security for a wet gap crossing training exercise. Additionally, the battalion headquarters and headquarters company began planning for the 2024 annual training cycle which includes gunnery training, a combined battalion training event at Camp Ethan Allen, Vermont, and a Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) rotation for one subordinate company. The 192nd MP BN includes Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC) and serves as the higher headquarters of the 143rd Military Police Company (headquartered in West Hartford), the 643rd Military Police Company (headquartered in Westbrook) and the 928th Military Police Detachment (headquartered in Newtown).

The 143rd Military Police Company's mission is to provide support to an area of operations in any of the Military Police functions. Military Police operations focus efforts on civil order maintenance, threat mitigation, and personnel and asset protection regardless of the operational environment. These technical capabilities and tactical tasks combine to form the Military Police disciplines (police operations, detention operations, and security and mobility support) that enable the elements of combat power, supporting the generating force and operations across the range of military operations. Additionally, the company provides personnel as part of the National Guard Response Force of Connecticut to provide military support to civilian authorities and respond to state emergencies. In 2023, the 143rd Military Police Company completed their annual training with the battalion headquarters and adjacent companies at Fort Drum, NY as part of the brigade level training exercise. The training focused on completing live fire tables of gunnery and supporting various training iterations throughout the battalion and brigade area of operations. The 143rd MP Company, in coordination with HHC, 192nd Military Police Battalion, has spent several months planning and preparing for this year's annual training exercise to include individual weapons qualification, crew-served weapons qualification, Army Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills, and Military Police focused battle tasks, for the combined annual training event with the 192nd MP BN at Camp Ethan Allen, VT in 2023.

The 643rd Military Police Company's mission, which mirrors the 143rd Military Police Company mission, is to provide support to an area of operations in any of the Military Police functions. Military Police operations focus efforts on civil order maintenance, threat mitigation, and personnel and asset protection, regardless of the operational environment. These technical capabilities and tactical tasks combine to form the Military Police disciplines (police operations, detention operations, and security and mobility support) that enable the elements of combat power, supporting the generating force and operations across the range of military operations. Additionally, the company provides personnel as part of the National Guard Response Force of Connecticut to provide military support to civilian authorities and respond to state emergencies. The 643rd MP CO completed their annual training in 2023 with the battalion headquarters and 143rd RSG at Fort Drum, NY. The 643rd MP Company's training focused on squad and platoon level battle tasks in preparation for their JRTC rotation in 2024. Additionally, the 643rd MP Company provided a platoon of Soldiers from the unit to provide an integral security element in support of the brigade wet gap crossing exercise. In coordination with and the support of battalion, brigade, and state staff sections, the 643rd MP Company has spent the past year diligently planning and preparing for the movement to and execution of a JRTC rotation at Fort Johnson, LA occurring this summer. The 643rd MP CO will focus on company and platoon level training tasks in support of a BEB and IBCT during the JRTC rotation.

The 928th Military Police Detachment is the only Military Working Dog (MWD) Detachment unit in the reserve component inventory. The unit is authorized six patrol explosive detection dog

teams and three patrol drug detection dog teams. In 2023, the unit was called upon to conduct support to over 40 United States Secret Service missions with approximately 50 MWD teams. Additionally, the unit supported the United States Military Academy (USMA) at West Point Provost Marshal Office, multiple Department of Defense events, and several local police departments and the Connecticut State Police in Connecticut. During 2023, the unit successfully deployed and re-deployed two MWD Handler and Patrol Explosive Detection Dog teams from their mission overseas in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. The detachment is scheduled to deploy two more teams during 2024 in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. The 928th MWD teams supported over 500 in-state missions/taskings including State of Connecticut force protection details, Connecticut force protection sweeps located at the Bradley Air National Guard Base in East Granby, MWD demonstrations in support of community awareness and recruiting / retention events, and regular and ongoing support to local law enforcement upon request.

14th Civil Support Team (WMD)

The 14th Civil Support Team is a joint National Guard unit consisting of 22 Active Guard Reserve (AGR) Soldiers and Airmen. The 14th CST's mission, on order of the Adjutant General of CT, is to support civil authorities in the prevention of, emergency response and mitigation of domestic chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and/or high-yield explosive (CBRNE) events. The CST accomplishes this mission by identifying CBRNE agents/substances, assessing current and projected consequences, advising on response measures, and assisting with appropriate requests for additional state and federal support. The 14th CST is an integral part of the Connecticut Military Department's All-Hazards Plan and the larger CBRNE enterprise of the Department of Defense. The 14th CST continues as an active member of the Transportation Security Agency led Collaborative Operations by Response Agencies (COBRA), the Department of Homeland Security Visual Intermodal Prevention Response (VIPR) and other interagency security, law enforcement and emergency response missions. As a result, the 14th CST provided support to 154 operational missions in support of the TSA, Connecticut State Police, CT Dept of Public Health, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security and multiple local police and fire departments. Additionally key personnel assisted other CSTs around the country in their large-scale operational missions to include the Boston Fourth of July celebration, United Nations General Assembly, the annual Army vs Navy football game, the NYC New Years Eve Celebration, and the Kentucky Derby. 14th CST provided 40 assists, 25 training events and 10 exercises in support of the Defense of Civil Authorities (DSCA) mission. The operational missions included security and hazardous materials screenings of critical CT transportation infrastructure such as rail lines, bus terminals, airports, and ferry ports. In addition, the 14th CST continues is strong partnership with CT state agencies such as the CT Dept of Energy and Environmental Protection and the Dept of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and the CT Department of Public Health. The 14th CST also supports large scale readiness events such as the FBI/CDC Epidemiology Investigation exercise in Rhode Island, the State Emergency Response Coordinator (SERC) Region 3 Full scale Multi-Agency HAZMAT exercise and the CST Region 1 Regional Exercise. The 14th CST deployed five personnel with monitoring equipment to Torrington, CT with CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Emergency Response Unit (ERU) and Torrington FD to provide presumptive analytical identification of unknown chemicals & environmental hazardous materials at an abandoned warehouse. Overall, members of the 14th CST conducted more than 2,000 total hours of HAZMAT and CBRNE specific training and supported other CSTs worldwide with SME coverage and support while simultaneously providing expert 24-7, on-call statewide HAZMAT/CBRNE response readiness.

1109th Theater Aviation Sustainment Maintenance Group (TASMG)

The 1109th Theater Aviation Sustainment Group (TASMG) is the brigade-level headquarters for the Alpha Company, 1109th TASMG (Battalion Level Sustainment Maintenance), 1st Battalion, (General Support) 169th Aviation Regiment, and Detachment 2, Company B, 641st Operational Support Airlift (OSA). In total, the command is comprised of two battalion-level units comprised of eight company-level units and detachments totaling 710 Soldiers. The 1109th TASMG and subordinate units are located at the Groton Armory collocated with the Groton Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot (AVCRAD) facility and the Windsor Locks Readiness Center collocated with Army Aviation Support Facility # 1 (AASF). The 1109th TASMG has 78 Active Guard Reserve Soldiers and 192 federal technicians to ensure continuous operations for payroll, training, and logistics support and readiness of aircraft and aircrews.

The mission of the 1109th TASMG is build and maintain a relevant, ready, and cohesive aviation sustainment maintenance unit that is resourced and equipped to quickly mobilize and deploy in support of either federal decisive action or state support mission sets. The Federal mission is to provide to a theater of operations fixed base dedicated theater aviation sustainment / depot level aviation maintenance support to the combat commander. This mission supports Army Material Command (AMC) and Aviation and Missile Command (AMCOM) to sustain aviation readiness in theater. The state mission is to provide units manned, equipped, organized, and trained to function in the protection of life, property, and the preservation of peace, order, and public safety in defense support of civil authorities for disaster response, humanitarian relief, civil disturbance, and homeland defense. The 1109th TASMG provides mission command of assigned units during training, homeland security, homeland defense, and civil support missions within the United States.

Over the last year, the 1109th TASMG has prepared for deployment and welcomed personnel from the Company C, 3rd Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment (MEDEVAC) and Company C, 3rd battalion, 142nd Aviation Regiment (ASLT) from their deployment in support of Operation Inherent Resolve in Southwest Asia in January 2024. The TASMG further supported its federal mission requirements by supervising and supporting the preparation for deployment of one subordinate unit in support of Operation Inherent Resolve in Southwest Asia in March 2025.

Alpha Company, 1109th TASMG

Alpha Company, 1109th TASMG is one of four sustainment level maintenance companies in the National Guard. It consists of 280 authorized maintainers and logisticians focused on airframe, component, avionics, and electrical repairs on all UH-60 Blackhawk, CH-47 Chinook, and AH-64 Apache aircraft. Its mission is to perform scheduled/unscheduled maintenance, field level maintenance, and limited depot maintenance. During Annual Training in June 2024, it conducted maintenance contact teams supporting operations in Morrisville, North Carolina (AH-64 Maintenance), Fort Indian Town Gap, Pennsylvania (CH-47F and Components), Tobyhanna Army Depot (TYAD) Pennsylvania (Bench Avionics), Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) Maryland (UH-60M, CH-47F and Components), and Joint Base Cape Cod, Massachusetts (UH-60 and Components) and at their home station in Groton, CT. Alpha Company operated under simulated Large Scale Combat Operations (LSCO) as independent dispersed and displaced maintenance

and logistics theater sustainment unit. Alpha Company also provides Class IX aviation repair parts to the support area, ensuring sustainment of our aviation fleet.

1/169th Aviation Regiment (General Support)

The 1st Battalion, 169th Aviation Regiment (General Support Aviation Support Battalion), commands a headquarters company, a medium helicopter detachment that operates seven CH-47F chinook helicopters, an air assault company that operates five UH-60M Black Hawk helicopters, a MEDEVAC detachment that operates three HH-60M Black Hawk helicopters, an aviation maintenance company, and a forward support company. From July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, the battalion executed 1,500 flight hours in support of state and federal missions. In January 2024, Company C, 3rd Battalion, 126th Aviation regiment (MEDEVAC) and Company C, 3rd battalion, 142nd Aviation Regiment returned from a yearlong deployment to Southwest Asia in support of Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR). The battalion was postured to support the Exportable Combat Training Center rotation 24-01 at Camp Shelby Mississippi in May 2024, however, was stood down days prior to movement due to inadequate funding at the national level. The battalion postured quickly, conducting a multiple location annual training in June 2024, successfully reintegrating its recently redeployed flight companies, and executed over 200 flight hours between Windsor Locks, Connecticut, Fort Drum, New York and Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania. The battalion is scheduled to deploy its headquarters company in support of the NATO Kosovo Force (KFOR) mission in the Fall of 2026.

Additionally, the battalion provided support in the form of air movement of personnel and equipment for air assault training, joint training exercises, and air movement support to state and federal agencies.

Detachment 2, Company B, 2-641st Operational Support Airlift (OSA)

Detachment 2, Company B, 2-641st Operational Support Airlift (OSA) is a regional flight detachment that operates one C-12 airplane. When they are not deployed, they execute short and long-range transportation missions involving high ranking military officials, courier missions, and occasionally state government officials. From July 2023 to June 2024, they executed 108 missions resulting in 420 flight hours and transported 182 passengers and 6,028 pounds of cargo throughout the United States.

Connecticut Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot (AVCRAD)

With 250 full-time military and civilian employees, the CT-AVCRAD provides both field and sustainment level maintenance for Army National Guard aviation assets in the 14 northeast states and the District of Columbia (which includes 74 aviation units stationed at 26 facilities with a total of 300 plus helicopters).

The AVCRAD continued to maintain its quality management certifications of ISO 9001:2015 and AS 9110 Rev C (Aviation Maintenance) and was successfully audited this year with no non-conformities found. It also managed the execution of a \$107.9 million budget that includes more than \$87 million of aviation parts support to regional National Guard aviation units. In coordination with the Connecticut Army National Guard's Contracting Office, they continue to execute the largest labor contract in CTARNG, worth an estimated \$7.1 million annually. Its

successful maintenance of our aviation service contract to enhance our federal workforce created an estimated area economic impact of \$22.3 million this year for southeast Connecticut based on wages.

The AVCRAD completed over 1,000 aircraft and components maintenance requests, including 74 maintenance road trips within the supported region, which directly contributed to an increase in aircraft readiness rates throughout the Army National Guard. Three UH-60M Blackhawk aircraft were completely overhauled and painted through the facility's On Condition Sustainment Maintenance (OCSM) program. The facility completed the overhaul and repair of two battle or crash damaged CH-47F Chinooks and is currently applying Army directed modifications to them to extend their serviceable lifespan even further. The AVCRAD also recently took delivery of a crash damaged AH-64D attack helicopter from Utah that will be completely repaired and overhauled saving the Army National Guard millions of dollars over purchasing a new aircraft.

The AVCRAD continued working with Army Aviation and Missile Command's Utility, Cargo, and Attack Program Manager's Offices by providing technical support teams for aircraft survivability equipment updates, as well as modifying military aircraft to comply with changing FAA requirements. Recently, the AVCRAD has committed to a multi-year modernization project with the Utility Helicopter Project Office (UHPO) as part of the larger Army ReARMM initiative. This agreement will apply aircraft survivability modifications to UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters throughout the Army National Guard over the course of three years, beginning with Connecticut's own aircraft out of Windsor Locks. In addition to increasing aircraft readiness, the AVCRAD is instrumental in increasing the overall personnel readiness of their supported region. The AVCRAD hosted six annual training periods of more than 90 Soldiers for different units during the last year. The AVCRAD also hosts multiple specialized training events every year in skills ranging from Non-Destructive Testing, to Night Vision Goggle repair, and Army supply ordering and turn-in procedures.

The AVCRAD maintains its efforts to reduce impacts on the environment and the infrastructure of the Town of Groton and the State of Connecticut. The AVCRAD has implemented technology that further reduces the amount of hazardous waste generated, which in time will change the facility category from a Large Quantity Generator to a Small Quantity Generator. The AVCRAD supports the State and its Reduce, Reuse, Recycle program on a continual basis, educating staff on the benefits of protecting their health as well as the environment while positively impacting the mission.

169th Regiment Regional Training Institute (RTI)

The 169th Regiment is a component of the One Army School System providing a wide spectrum of residential military training for all three components of the U.S. Army. The 169th consists of a Headquarters, 1st Battalion Officer Candidate School/Warrant Officer Candidate School (OCS/WOCS), 2nd Battalion (Modular Training) and 3rd Battalion (Military Police Training). The regiment employs a staff of 9 full-time service members and expands to 60 officers and non-commissioned officers during its monthly training periods. The 169th Regiment and its three subordinate battalions are certified as an "Institution of Excellence," by the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) – the highest possible rating assigned to training institutions. The regiment's annual operating budget is approximately \$1,200,000.

The regiment functions as the subject matter expert for Military Police courses for the entire Army National Guard, ensuring MP training is standardized at each of the nine training sites throughout the nation. The SME coordinates directly with training sites, National Guard Bureau, TRADOC and the U.S. Army Military Police School at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

The 1st Battalion, 169th Regiment conducts OCS and WOCS for the northeast region, serving as the regional headquarters for both programs. The OCS/WOCS Battalion conducted a two-week annual training for the northeast region at Camp Nett at Niantic, training 87 students from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and the six New England states. This year, the program graduated 7 CT officer candidates. The WOCS program graduated 6 warrant officer candidates from the region. Five of these candidates were CT warrant officer candidates. In addition to its officer candidate courses, the battalion also teaches the Platoon Trainer Qualification Course and Maneuver Tactics Foundation Course.

The 2nd Battalion, 169th Regiment provides training in healthcare, Combat Medic Specialist Military Occupational Specialty Transition Course, National Emergency Registry Medical Technician Basic, Combat Medic Specialist Sustainment, the Combat Lifesaver Course, the Basic Life Support course and the Common Faculty Development Instructor course. The battalion graduated ten students from the Combat Medic Specialist Course. The Comprehensive Medical Training Course that the battalion is authorized to instruct replaces Combat Medic Specialist Sustainment and standardizes the biennially required medical refresher training in which there were 92 students that graduated. In total, the battalion graduated 113 students this year.

The 3rd Battalion, 169th Regiment provides regionalized Basic Military Police 31B MOS-T to both the National Guard and Reserve Components. Basic Military Police Course (BMPC) consists of two phases that are two weeks each in duration. Phase One focuses on Law Enforcement skills that range from interpersonal skills, active shooter, and domestic violence investigations. Military Police Students are also immersed in an intensive military law class, which teaches what laws to apply to situations and who gives the authority to make an arrest. Phase Two focuses on skills that Military Police Soldiers would need on the battlefield, as a general support asset for a larger element. Military Police battlefield skills include convoy security, area security and cordon and search operations. BMPC is also a comparative course to Connecticut's Police Officer Standards and Training (POST). This means that a Soldier who graduates BMPC can apply to participating Police Departments in Connecticut and reduce the amount of time need to attend the police academy because they have completed this course. In total, the battalion has graduated 127 students this year.

CONNECTICUT AIR NATIONAL GUARD

The CTANG consists of a headquarters element and the 103d Airlift Wing (AW) known as the "Flying Yankees." Sub-organizations to the 103d AW include the 103d Maintenance Group, Medical Group, Mission Support Group and Operations Group, all located in East Granby, and the 103d Air Control Squadron (ACS), known as "Yankee Watch," based in the town of Orange.

The CTANG manages more than \$110.8 million in federal equipment and supplies, occupying and maintaining 41 facilities presently valued at \$401.4 million. The CTANG facilities are sited on 173 acres of state and federal land.

The CTANG continues to modernize and improve its installation in East Granby to best support the C-130H mission. Construction continues on the \$24.8 million-dollar Aerospace Support Equipment and Vehicle Maintenance facility, along with the design of a \$9 million dollar addition to the base fire station. Additionally planning continues for the construction of a new Wing Headquarters building and civil engineering complex, projects valued in excess of \$74 million dollars.

CTANG airmen continue in their dual-role mission of supporting both state and federal taskings with premier tactical airlift capabilities by expertly operating eight “H” variant C-130s. In its state role, the CTANG continues to maintain capabilities in support of homeland security and emergency response requirements. The 103d AW supports and trains EMS/fire, commodities distribution, power generation/lighting, and route clearing along with security/crowd control to perform these missions.

103rd Airlift Wing (AW)

The 103rd AW celebrated its 100th continuous year of aviation service in November of 2023. As the premier tactical airlift wing in the Air National Guard, The Wing was selected as a preferred basing location for the C-130J mission. Selection for this mission ensures the wing’s long-term viability in the airlift community. The wing continues to execute both state and federal missions supporting the protection of life, property, and public safety.

In its current mission, the wing executes tactical airlift missions in support of Department of Defense requirements. The aircraft is capable of operating from unimproved surfaces and is the legacy transport for airdropping paratroopers and equipment into hostile environments. The flexible design of the C-130 enables it to be configured for many different missions allowing one aircraft to perform the role of many. The aircraft and aircrews are certified for global and all-weather formation airdrop and airland operations. The unit’s C-130s, can be rapidly reconfigured for various types of cargo such as palletized equipment, floor-loaded material, airdrop platforms, container delivery system bundles, vehicles, or aeromedical evacuation.

103rd Air Control Squadron (ACS)

The 103d ACS, located is located in Orange, on 21 acres, with three primary buildings totaling over 40,000 square feet. Mission equipment available for state emergency activation includes 25 tactical vehicles, 11 diesel generators, 20 environmental control units, and a robust tactical communications suite, able to provide voice and data capabilities to military, state and local agencies.

The 103d ACS performs critical, Air Battle Management Command and Control functions using an advanced weapons system that utilizes a state of the art 2,500 sq. ft. facility. The unit has robust cyber capabilities embedded in its Air Battle Management functions, which can be employed at home and abroad.

ACS capabilities have been proven critical during multiple state-led disaster responses. The squadron provides tactical generator support teams for mobile power requirements, along

with tactical vehicle support teams in the event of high-water transportation and rescue operations.

THE ORGANIZED MILITIA

The Organized Militia consists of the four companies of the Governor's Guards, the Connecticut State Guard (CSG) and the CSG Reserve (CSGR.) The First Company Governor's Foot Guard was established in 1771 and is headquartered in Hartford, CT. The number of personnel currently assigned is totals 76 and is commanded by Major Raymond T. Hite. The Second Company Governor's Foot Guard was established in 1775 and is headquartered in Branford, Conn. The number of personnel currently assigned totals 64 and commanded by Major John Garcia. The First Company Governor's Horse Guard was established in 1778 and is headquartered in Avon, CT. The current personnel strength of the unit has 16 personnel with 8 horses and is commanded by Major Richard Zaczynski. The Second Company Governor's Horse Guard was established in 1808 and is headquartered in Newtown, CT. Its current personnel strength is 32 with 12 horses and is commanded by Major James Marrinan.

The mission of the Governor's Guards is serve as ceremonial military units at public and private civic events whenever and wherever ordered by the Governor or The Adjutant General. The Governor's Guard supports the Military Department during emergency response and community service activities. The Governor's Guards have been trained and certified to deploy the Department of Public Health Mobile Field Hospital. Organizations may request the services of the Governor's Guards in writing to TAG. The four units of the Governor's Guards participated in the inaugural activities of Governor Ned Lamont on January 4, 2023.

The CSG is authorized under CGS 27-9 and consists of those personnel eligible to be called into service by the Governor or TAG under the SAD program who are not currently members of the CTNG. Fourteen members of the CSG performed over 550 days of non-emergency SAD on a recurring basis supporting the New England Disaster Training Center, the Construction and Facilities Management Office, the National Guard's Distance Learning sites in Hartford, Middletown, Danbury and Camp Nett at Niantic, installation security and force protection programs, counter-drug operations, the CTNG Recruiting & Retention Battalion, and various other state military operations.

The CSGR is authorized under CGS 27-11 and consists of those personnel who are over the retirement age to be eligible for the CSG, yet are still available to provide valuable services to the Connecticut military community. As of June 30, 2023, there are 143 personnel assigned to the CSGR who are primarily active in the MFH program, in which they supported over 3,400 services to Connecticut Families during the past year. The CSGR also consists of those individuals who have retired from the Connecticut National Guard and have been promoted to the next higher grade IAW CGS 27-53.