News Release

WISCONSIN ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Homeland Defense Update

More than 7,800 National Guard soldiers and airmen available in Wisconsin

Even with recent mobilizations, the Wisconsin National Guard currently has about 7,860 soldiers and airmen available to provide effective military capability on short notice anywhere in Wisconsin.

The Wisconsin Guard has been actively involved in the global war on terror since the morning of September 11, 2001. Since that time, just over 54 percent of the Guard's soldiers and airmen have served on active duty either at home or overseas. Most of these 5,370 soldiers and airmen have completed their active duty missions and are back in Wisconsin serving with their Army and Air National Guard units.

Wisconsin's available resources include the National Guard's 500-soldier Rapid Reaction Force, which is capable of responding on short notice anywhere in Wisconsin with an initial force of 125 soldiers, and 375 additional soldiers who are available within 24 hours to sustain operations as long as required.

Of the Wisconsin National Guard's approximately 9,900 members, there are about 1,930 serving on active duty. Among those, approximately 1,520 are currently deployed overseas.

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