



**Release # 20-04-002**  
U.S. Army North  
Public Affairs Office  
Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234  
Phone (210) 221-0229

**April 9, 2020**

## **Update on Army North response to COVID-19**

**FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas** – U.S. Army North, as U.S. Northern Command’s Joint Force Land Component Command, continues to provide flexible and agile support to FEMA as part of the Department of Defense’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Approximately 5,700 service members in the JFLCC are assisting state and local governments in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This number includes 1,100 medical providers from the U.S. Army Reserve, U.S. Navy Reserve and U.S. Air Force Reserve who recently arrived in New York City to expand the medical capacity in the area. This support breaks out to 775 personnel to the Javits New York Medical Facility and 325 personnel to augment staff at 11 public hospitals in New York City.

Urban Augmentation Medical Task Forces began deploying in support of the JFLCC response April 7. Each team consists of 85 medical personnel. Four UAMTF teams have deployed to New York City, three are deploying to New Jersey, and one has deployed to Connecticut.

Other locations are being planned across the country based on the operational need determined by the lead federal agency and state and local governments. Each UAMTF has medical providers, nurses, and respiratory therapists. UAMTF personnel will use equipment provided by other federal agencies and our state and local partners to conduct their operations.

“The JFLCC is committed to increasing medical capacity and collaboration for medical assistance and disaster relief in areas of our country that have seen a tremendous impact from the coronavirus pandemic,” said Lt. Gen. Laura Richardson, JFLCC and Army North Commanding General.

The JFLCC has aligned its operations regionally with task forces established in the Northeast, Southeast, Central, and Western United States.

### **Northeast Region**

- The 531st and 9th Army Hospital Centers have established operations at the Javits New York Medical Facility, under the command of the 44th Medical Brigade, and are working together with the USNS Comfort as parts of a broader medical system in the city.
- Four Urban Augmentation Medical Task Forces have deployed to New York City, three will deploy to New Jersey and one has deployed to Connecticut.

- More than 225 patients have been treated at the JNYMF, as of 6:00 a.m., April 9. There are currently 172 patients in the facility.
- Approximately 70 mortuary affairs Soldiers from the 54th Quartermaster Company are augmenting the New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner and working in Manhattan, Queens and Brooklyn.

#### Southeast Region

- We continue to work closely with FEMA to determine where DoD capability can be placed in the event that assistance is requested by FEMA.

#### Central Region

- The Central Region began initial operations in New Orleans April 6 with the arrival of medical staffing and support personnel and will continue to build capacity to treat approximately 265 patients in New Orleans by April 10.
- As of April 9, there are 55 trailers on site in New Orleans which comprise 265 personal housing units, each designed to house patients who are unable to return to their residence for self-quarantine. DoD medical professionals are treating 5 patients there now.
- Planning and coordination is underway to provide medical support in Dallas, Texas in the coming week. Medical personnel are on ground and are working closely with federal, state and local officials to begin treating patients.

#### Western Region

- The 627th Hospital Center, the 47th Combat Support Hospital, and the 520th Medical Company, currently deployed to the Seattle Event Center, are prepared to accept new assignments as announced yesterday by Washington state leaders. We continue to work closely with FEMA to determine where these assets may be employed for the national response.

Led by Lt. Gen. Laura Richardson and headquartered at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, Texas, U.S. Army North is U.S. Northern Command's theater Army and serves as the Joint Forces Land Component Command for all federal ground troops in the United States operating as part of the DOD's COVID-19 response. Army North is Northern Command's designated lead component to work with FEMA to align federal military support to validated requests for assistance.

-30-

#### **Editor's Notes:**

1. The U.S. Army North Public Affairs Office can be reached by phone at 210-221-0229 or by email at [usarmy.jbsa.arnorth.mbx.pao-media-operations@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.jbsa.arnorth.mbx.pao-media-operations@mail.mil)
2. Follow the U.S. Army North Facebook Page @usarmynorth or on Twitter @USArmyNorth
3. Imagery link: [www.dvidshub.net/units/dsfc19](http://www.dvidshub.net/units/dsfc19)