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U.S. Army North continues operations in support of the whole-of-America COVID-19 response

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas - U.S. Army North, as U.S. Northern Command's Joint Force Land Component Command, continues to support public hospitals in New York City and Baton Rouge, La. responding to COVID-19.

Military support includes more than 400 Army, Navy and Air Force medical personnel working in Bellevue, Elmhurst, Jacobi, and Lincoln Hospitals in New York City and the Baton Rouge Mid-City General Hospital in Louisiana.

“Throughout this mission, we’ve worked hand-in-hand with National Guard Dual Status Commanders and federal, state, and local officials to respond to this pandemic and save lives. It is truly an honor to work with medical professionals and emergency managers to help people in communities around the country,” said Lt. Gen. Laura Richardson, the DoD’s COVID-19 response JFLCC commander, and commander of U.S. Army North. “As we see the need for federal military forces decreasing in areas, we are working hard to plan for what may be coming next. As our motto states, we are the “Strength of the Nation” and stand ready to support our fellow Americans in their time of need,” she said.

Over the past nine weeks, the JFLCC employed approximately 3,100 medical personnel to support 133 FEMA-approved mission assignments with 14 Army Urban Augmentation Medical Task Forces, two Navy Expeditionary Medical Facilities, and 325 Air Force and Navy individual augmentees in nine alternate care facilities and 24 civilian hospitals in nine states across the nation. In addition, approximately 70 mortuary affairs Soldiers supported the New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner at four locations in the city.

As the demand for federal military support decreases, units and individuals working in alternate care facilities and hospitals in New Jersey, New York City, Connecticut, and Massachusetts, as well as the military mortuary affairs mission in New York City, have recently concluded operations and begun redeployment procedures to return to their home stations, in addition to previously announced drawdowns in Pennsylvania, New York and Detroit.

The JFLCC is also adjusting its command and control and logistics support structure. The 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade from Camp Lejeune, N.C., and the 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) from Fort Bragg, N.C., have completed their missions and redeployed to their home stations. Task Force 46, from the 46th Military Police Command, Lansing, Mich.; Joint

Task Force-Civil Support from Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va.; and the 9th Air Force from Shaw Air Force Base, S.C., remain on mission to coordinate military support for the JFLCC.

As mission assignments expire and the demand for federal medical capability diminishes, we will continue to assess need and perform a phased withdrawal of military forces to reset for future missions as directed by the Defense Department.

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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.
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