



**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

Muriel Bowser

Mayor

Dr. Christopher Rodriguez

Director

December 31, 2020

District of Columbia National Guard
ATTN: General William Walker
2001 East Capitol Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003

Sent via email

Dear General Walker,

As you know, First Amendment demonstrations permitted by the National Park Service are scheduled to occur in the District of Columbia on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 and Wednesday, January 6, 2021. As a result, District Government requests DC National Guard (DCNG) support, as these demonstrations will follow similar events on November 14, 2020 and December 12, 2020, which resulted in a large influx of participants, violence, and criminal activity. I can confirm that the requesting DC agencies below have exhausted their organic capabilities in accordance with the Seven Step Call-Up process for DCNG support. This request is made on behalf of, and with concurrence from, The Honorable Muriel Bowser, Mayor of Washington, DC.

First, to support the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) security mission, it is requested that members of DCNG be activated to assist MPD. Due to the size of these events, all available MPD resources will be deployed and the assistance of DCNG will be essential in supporting the security plan. The mission of DCNG during this activation will primarily be crowd management and assistance with blocking vehicles at traffic posts. Specifically, DCNG is requested to provide:

- Six (6) crowd management teams to manage crowds at specified Metro stations and prevent overcrowding on Metro platforms;
- A team to assist at thirty (30) designated traffic posts.

DCNG should be prepared to staff these locations from 0730 hours until 2400 hours on both Tuesday, January 5, 2021 and Wednesday, January 6, 2021. In addition, it is requested that DCNG members be equipped with visibility vests and lighted traffic wands to assist with this mission. The availability of resources to assist MPD would greatly enhance our ability to successfully accomplish our mission of securing the safety of the residents and visitors of the District of Columbia.

Second, the DC Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department (FEMS) requests that members of the Civil Support Team (CST) conduct the following five (5) tasks on request: (1) Chemical, Biological, Radiation, Nuclear monitoring, and hazardous material on-site support; (2) provide liaisons at all required locations; (3) provide technical decontamination support; (4) provide Analytical Laboratory System support; and (5) provide CST Operations and Communications capability support. FEMS would like CST support to begin at 0700 hours on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 and conclude at 0700 hours on Thursday, January 7, 2021—or when released by FEMS. The CST will be partnered with FEMS throughout this mission, and DCNG will coordinate with FEMS to ensure support requirements are complete.

Prior to the commencement of any duties on January 5, 2021, the Mayor of the District will designate all DCNG personnel providing traffic control support to MPD as “Special Police” of MPD, empowering them with law enforcement authority commensurate with that of DC civilian police officers IAW D.C. Official Code (2001 ed.), Title 5, § 5-129.03. At all times, the DCNG military chain-of-command will remain intact for purposes of administrative and operational control.

No DCNG personnel will be armed during this mission. At no time will DCNG personnel or assets be engaged in domestic surveillance, searches, or seizures of US persons. If there are any questions about this request, please contact me. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Respectfully,



Dr. Christopher Rodriguez
Director, HSEMA