


From: [Noel Collins](#)
To: news@katctv.com
Cc: [Mike Steele](#); [Kate Kelly](#)
Subject: Re: GOHSEP Release- Louisiana Works to Support Texas" Border Security Efforts
Date: Monday, February 19, 2024 3:34:51 PM

Good Afternoon,

In response to the question about VA benefits and medical care, the Louisiana National Guard attests that any service member who may be injured or killed during the mobilization to the Texas border will receive benefits and medical care through the State of Louisiana.

Respectfully,

LTC Noel Collins
Commander, 165th CSSB
Public Affairs
Louisiana National Guard


From: KATC News <news@katctv.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 11:35 AM
To: Mike Steele <Mike.Steele@LA.GOV>
Subject: Re: GOHSEP Release- Louisiana Works to Support Texas' Border Security Efforts

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Hi Mike,
A local veteran tells us that any troops injured and/or killed as part of this deployment would not be eligible for VA benefits or medical care.
Would that be accurate?
Thanks in advance!

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news@katctv.com
337-236-6351

From: Media Contacts <GOHSEP-MEDIA@LISTSERV.DOA.LA.GOV> on behalf of Mike Steele <Mike.Steele@LA.GOV>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 11:20 AM

To: GOHSEP-MEDIA@LISTSERV.DOA.LA.GOV <GOHSEP-MEDIA@LISTSERV.DOA.LA.GOV>

Subject: GOHSEP Release- Louisiana Works to Support Texas' Border Security Efforts

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

February 19, 2024

MEDIA CONTACT:

Mike Steele

mike.steele@la.gov

225-788-0095

Louisiana Works to Support Texas' Border Security Efforts

BATON ROUGE (February 19, 2024) – The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) has officially received a request from Texas to help with security on the Southern Border. Governor Jeff Landry has approved sending Louisiana National Guard troops to Texas during a news conference on the border earlier this month. Several other governor's also pledged their support during the same event.

The request from Texas was submitted through a state to state assistance system called the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC.) EMAC offers assistance during an emergency or disaster through a responsive, straightforward system that allows states to send personnel, equipment and commodities to assist with response and recovery efforts in other states.

EMAC establishes a legal foundation for sharing resources. Once the conditions for providing assistance to a requesting state have been set, the terms constitute a legally binding agreement. The EMAC legislation solves the problems of liability and responsibilities of cost and allows for credentials, licenses and certifications to be

honored across state lines.

GOHSEP Director Jacques Thibodeaux said, "Texas has historically stood with Louisiana during any of our major emergencies. Governor Landry has made it clear that we will stand by Texas and offer support as they attempt to secure the Southern Border. The request has been forwarded to the governor as the deployment plans are ironed out."

"We're ready to provide trained and professional Soldiers to assist Texas with protecting the Southern Border of the United States," stated Brig. Gen. Thomas Friloux, adjutant general of Louisiana.

As part of the request, Texas officials say a secure international border with Mexico benefits the entire nation. Texas is asking the other states to absorb the costs associated with the troop deployment. Specifically, Texas seeks help with security points, roving patrols and engineer operations along its 1,250 miles of border. The request is for 50 personnel in platoon sized elements, including leadership and certain equipment.

Find more tips on emergency preparedness, response and recovery on GOHSEP's Facebook and Twitter accounts. Download and subscribe to The GOHSEP Get A Game Plan Podcast. The Get A Game Plan App is another resource available to help you and your family prepare for any type emergency. You can download the Louisiana Emergency Preparedness Guide and find other information at www.getagameplan.org [getagameplan.org].

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Mike Steele

Communications Director

Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP)

225-788-0095

mike.steele@la.gov