Arkansas National Guard Speakers

The Arkansas National Guard can provide speakers for Veteran's Day, Armed Forces Day and Memorial Day public observances, and can also provide speakers for many other appropriate public events. National Guard personnel can speak on a wide variety of topics including: Military Support to Civil Authorities; Military Aviation; Leadership; Education Opportunities; Family Readiness and Support; Military Law; Military History; Military Medicine, Public Relations; and Journalism.

Requesters with other topics they feel the Arkansas National Guard may be able to speak on should contact the Arkansas National Guard State Public Affairs Office at (501) 212-5021 to discuss the possibilities.

Requests for speaker participation in public events should be made by completing and submitting an ARNG Speaker Request Form (Speaker Request).

All requests for community support must be submitted no more than 90 days and no less than 30 days in advance of the scheduled event on ARNG Speaker Request Form (for speaker requests).

Who is eligible for National Guard support?

There are a number of state and federal restrictions on how the Arkansas National Guard can support organizations and events. Organizations eligible for military support include: federal, state, and local governments; and certain private (non-profit) institutions, when the activity concerned is conducted for the betterment of the community and does not selectively benefit any one individual or organization.

Events must be open and accessible to the public. Federal laws and military regulations prohibit military agencies from competing with services available from commercial sources in the private sector.

Use of government equipment and/or personnel in support of a private enterprise, whether profit or non-profit, or for promotional events of a select organization's commercial activity or concern, is strictly prohibited by regulation.

Specific requirements for events include:

- **1.** The event or occasion is of general interest or benefit to the community as a whole.
- **2.** The sponsor is a broadly based civic organization, or an organization whose primary purpose is to stimulate patriotism, promote public understanding of the necessity of national security or foster public appreciation of our national heritage, and not promote the organization's private objectives. (Exception: an organization whose membership is

based on sex or national origin, or whose membership is otherwise narrowly defined, may be supported, if the program or event is open to the entire community. The program or event must not promote the partisan, fraternal, or commercial objectives of the organization itself).

- **3.** Requested support is specifically authorized by public law or executive order and is not restricted by other statutes or regulations.
- **4.** The command is able and willing to provide the same support to comparable events that meet the criteria of this section and are sponsored by similar non-federal entities.
- **5.** Community relations with the immediate community and/or other legitimate National Guard public affairs or military training interests are served by the support.
- **6.** No admission fee (beyond what will cover the reasonable costs of sponsoring the event) is charged for the event or charged for the portion of the event supported by the National Guard.

Restrictions:

The following general restrictions on Arkansas National Guard support to community relations support are established in NGB Pam 360-5:

- 1. Participation is prohibited unless admission, seating and all other accommodations and facilities connected with the event are available to all without regard to race, creed, color or national origin. Participation is also prohibited in public events when the sponsoring organization or group excludes any person from its membership or function because of sex, race, creed, color or national origin.
- **2.** National Guard participation in community relations programs must not interfere with military training or operations and must be at no additional expense to the U.S. Government. The sponsor may be required to reimburse additional cost such as meals, lodging and other travel expenses.
- **3.** Participation that supports commercial advertising, publicity, promotional activities or events so as to benefit or favor a commercial venture is prohibited.
- **4.** Participation is prohibited in any event in which the public is charged admission specifically to observe National Guard participation.
- **5.** Use of National Guard personnel as ushers, guards, parking lot attendants or messengers in support of community relations programs in the civilian domain is prohibited.

- **6.** Units and individuals participating in community relations programs may not be used in any manner to enforce local laws, statutes or ordinances (state active duty situations not included).
- **7.** Use of National Guard personnel in community relations programs will not compete with the civilian labor force or deny employment opportunities to civilians in their regular profession. Guard participation in the program should be coordinated with local elected officials and labor unions in order to preclude claims of unfair competition.
- **8.** Support will not directly or indirectly endorse or selectively benefit or favor any person, corporation, and whether profit or non-profit; religion, sect, quasi-religious or ideological movement; fraternal organization, political organization or commercial venture.
- **9.** Support will not be provided to candidates for political office or for any partisan political activity.

Examples of requests that cannot be accommodated

- Events that benefit a particular business or company
- Events for a narrow segment of the populace, e.g. a family reunion
- Events for or during a religious service (although on-post chaplaincy mission is supported)
- Events that are not open and free to the public
- Events that are Fundraisers
- Events during sectarian events or on church property when related to a religious activity
- Events that charge an entry fee or are closed to the public
- Events detrimental to the interests or values of the Armed Forces
- Events that directly or indirectly endorse, selectively benefit, or favor any private individual, sect, fraternal organization, political group, commercial venture, or is associated with solicitation of votes in a political election
- Events during which Army participation and support "interferes with the customary or regular employment of local civilians in their act, trade, or profession," per Title 10, US Code
- Events that restrict admission, seating and other accommodations or facilities with regard to race, creed, sex, or national origin

All requests for community support must be submitted no more than 90 days and no less than 30 days in advance of the scheduled event on ARNG Speaker Request Form (for speaker requests).

Requests received after this deadline will not be considered.

Requests may be submitted by Email, Fax or U.S. Postal Service.

Via Email:

ng.ar.ararng.mbx.daily-guard@mail.mil

Via Fax:

(501) 212-5019

Via U.S. Postal Service:

Arkansas National Guard Office of the Adjutant General Public Affairs Office, Box 30 Camp Joseph T. Robinson North Little Rock, AR 72199-9600