

**National Guard Fact Sheet**  
**Criteria for Usage of the National Guard in Emergency Operations and**  
**Procedure for Requests**

**The National Guard provides ready units and personnel to the state to protect life and property, and preserve peace, order and public safety.**

**National Guard Assistance may be provided when:**

- The situation is beyond the capacity of tribal, local and state government to control and resources have been exhausted.
- Required resources are not available from commercial resources.
- When public service is lost or withdrawn and an immediate substantial threat to public health, safety or welfare is evident.
- Assistance is limited to tasks that the National Guard can perform more efficiently and effectively than any other agency.

**Typical State Active Duty Missions**

Security	Traffic Control	Evacuation
Search and Rescue	Civil Disturbance Control	Fire Protection / Fighting
Natural Disaster Relief	Emergency Debris Clearance	

**Some important Considerations:**

- The National Guard is not a first responder.
- Local authorities remain in charge of the incident.
- MN Guard Soldiers remain under the charge of their military chain of command.
- Mission closure occurs when the protection of life and property, and preservation of peace, order and public safety is restored.

**State Active Duty Mobilization Procedures**

- County Sheriff, Mayor of a city of the first class, requests National Guard Assistance from the Minnesota Duty Officer who contacts the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) to process the request.
- Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) coordinates with the National Guard and Governor on all requests.
- Governor approves/disapproves requests for National Guard support.
- National Guard contacts local Sheriff/Police Chief/tribal leader to coordinate mission requirements.

**National Guard / Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) Relationship:**

- All approved missions are coordinated through HSEM.
- Division of Homeland Security is not part of the Department of Military Affairs / National Guard
- National Guard and HSEM are in close coordination during all aspects of the response.
- The National Guard provides logistical planning & staffing to the State Emergency Operations Center upon activation.
- The National Guard and HSEM are partners in emergency management.