

# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Vigilant Guard 17 exercise set for November

Carson City, Nev. – First responders, fire, law enforcement, and emergency medical services will be first on the scene in an emergency. When additional support is needed to manage an incident state resources are called in to assist. One of the resources ordered by a local jurisdiction may be the National Guard.

In November the State of Nevada will be participating in a simulated emergency disaster exercise, Vigilant Guard 17. The training exercise, hosted by the Nevada and California National Guard, are partnering with dozens of state, local and federal partners to test capabilities and procedures should a disaster occur in the two states.

The Vigilant Guard exercise will simulate disaster response to a powerful earthquake striking Nevada and theoretically causing casualties and widespread destruction, activating emergency response in the affected areas. A similar disaster will occur in California a few days later requiring both states to sort out the logistics of ensuring the citizens of both states are safe and secure. The weeklong exercise will demonstrate and evaluate various emergency response operations that could be expected to occur after such a large scale event.

Vigilant Guard was established as an annual exercise for National Guard and local and state government emergency resources to coordinate and practice response techniques. Emergency response teams from Nevada and California, such as Civil Support Teams, Homeland Response Force teams and Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High Yield Explosive Enhanced Response Force Package teams will be on hand to support the exercise.

The exercise will not disrupt the public, there will not be any damage to roads or highways, and there will not be any disruption to public service or infrastructure. Testing various

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simulated disasters and operational procedures will ensure that public safety officials are better prepared to protect and serve Nevadans should a disaster occur.

Other agencies participating in Vigilant Guard 17 include: Federal Emergency Management Agency, Nevada Division of Emergency Management, California Office of Emergency Services, Clark County Office of Emergency Management and other first-responders and emergency management agencies.

Vigilant Guard 17 is sponsored by U.S. North Command and the National Guard Bureau.