



# Command Message

## COLORADO ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

April 2019

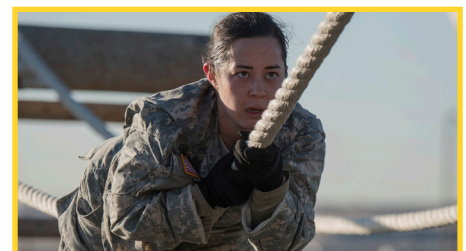


Every day, great things are happening throughout the Colorado Army National Guard. Our team members are accomplishing the mission with real dedication, while also reaching professional development and education goals, and serving our Colorado community. We want to highlight the people of our Guard with you in this month's command message.

In April we have multiple events to highlight the Soldiers of our Colorado Army National Guard:

On Saturday, April 6, we will say farewell to CSM Russell Hamilton who is retiring after 33 years of dedicated service. **Thank you, CSM Hamilton**, for the leadership and guidance you have given all of us throughout your career. We wish you the best in your retirement!

Thursday, April 11, marks the beginning of this year's **Colorado National Guard Best Warrior Competition!** This event will bring together the very best from Colorado's Army and Air National Guard in a grueling test of military knowledge, fitness and mental agility. To all the competitors, good luck – we look forward to seeing your best!



Sgt. Lauren Pazuus of the 100th Missile Defense Brigade competes in the 2017 CONG Best Warrior Competition.

April is recognized throughout the Department of Defense as **Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month**. In the Colorado Army National Guard, we remain committed to eliminating sexual assault from our ranks, and will implement any measures necessary to build a climate that respects and protects the dignity of every team member.

April also kicks off the **Summer Safety Campaign**. Historically, April through September includes some of the most deadly months for the Army, with notable increases in off-duty mishaps. Collectively, at every echelon among our formation, we can continue building a culture where safety and risk management are not afterthoughts, but a way of doing business.

Common risks that Soldiers encounter include: alcohol use, vehicle operation, water-related activities, privately owned weapons handling, sports-related activities, and home hazards. Mishap prevention does not happen by chance – we ask that all Soldiers practice what is preached in training, and remain disciplined in your planning and execution of a task or mission, both on and off duty.

The **greatest asset of the Colorado Army National Guard is our people** – intelligent, adaptable and professional Soldiers who are the face of our nation and state. The Soldiers and veterans of our National Guard proudly live the Army Values and inspire others with your professionalism and honorable service. Thank you for your commitment and service, we are honored to serve alongside you!

**The new Army Combat Fitness Test is coming in October 2020. The new ACFT handbook is available on the CONG app under Fitness. Start preparing now!**



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