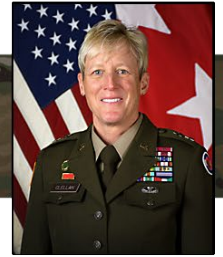




Personal Messages and Topics of Interest from The Adjutant General of Colorado



FEBRUARY 2024

CONG Members - As we are well into the new year, it is important that we are focused on our readiness to fight and win our nations wars. With so much uncertainty across the globe, the one thing that is certain is we have to be always ready to respond nationally and locally. What are you doing now to ensure that you are ready, your family is ready, and that your employer is ready?

PEOPLE



We say goodbye to a legend!

As we bid farewell to David Callahan, a dedicated public servant with over 35 years of federal and state service, including a notable 19 years combined in the Colorado National Guard and the Colorado Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, we celebrate his invaluable contributions. His journey from an enlisted Cavalry Scout to his multiple combat deployments and leadership roles, such as the Army SRAAG and State IG, has left a lasting legacy in the guard. In his downtime, Dave is committed to lifelong learning, having earned his PhD in Educational Leadership, Research, and Policy from the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs. "What the guard brings to the nation is unique. Citizen Soldiers are the strength of our nation and are critically important," Callahan said. Now, alongside his wife, Chrissy, and their beloved Colorado Mountain dog, Accalia, Callahan embarks on his next chapter and a well-deserved retirement in Birmingham, Alabama. Thank you, David, for your service. We wish you all the best. [Read David's bio](#)

READINESS

From the CSEL: "Train to the Edge of Failure"

These words came from CSM Rob Abernathy, EUCOM SEL, during the recent CONG Symposium. He used them to describe how we should prepare our Soldiers and Airmen for a Large-Scale Combat Operation. His answer was simple and clear: we need to train to the edge of failure...and then train even harder the next time if we want to build mental resilience. This means we need to ensure every member of our team can build confidence through being tested in a high-pressure training environment. Additionally, a strong body contributes to a strong mind; therefore, it is equally important for leaders to focus on maintaining the fitness levels of their teams.



169 FAB Command Staff in Action!

Featured above are members of the 169th Field Artillery Brigade who have successfully completed a 1st Army Tactical Operations Center validation exercise. I am grateful for the training and dedication this team has shown in preparing for their mission in the CENTCOM AOR. The National Guard continues to be a steady force that maintains stability in the region. I also want to thank the families, friends, and employers who support them.



Missile Loading at Checkered Flag

It was awesome to stop in and see the great work our airmen were doing during Checkered Flag. The largest live fire, air-to-air exercise that is designed to integrate 4th- and 5th-generation airframes to enhance mobility and employment capabilities of aviators and maintainers. Every shop and person there had a critical role in the mission success of the exercise.

We Want To Hear From You!

If you have story suggestions or have something you'd like to share please send us an email with specific details at: Ng.co.coarng.mbx.tag-talks@army.mil