

# Media Advisory



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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Fort to stand down for suicide prevention Sept. 27

**Who:** U.S. Army, Fort Leonard Wood

**What:** Reporters are invited to attend opening remarks and a training session from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Sept. 27 at the Main Post Chapel in conjunction with the Army-wide Suicide Prevention Stand Down Day. Following the session, a 30-minute media conference with Fort Leonard Wood's commanding general and command sergeant major is planned.

**Where:** Main post chapel

**When:** Sept. 27, 8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.

**Significance:** In combination with the Army-wide Suicide Prevention Stand Down Sept. 27, a unique session of Fort Leonard Wood's stand down provides training adapted from the Military Police Special Victims Unit for senior leaders. In this session, participants will address how life-changing situations, such as being a victim or an assailant of sexual assault could lead to more risky behaviors and possible thoughts of suicide. According to Russell Strand, a retired U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division special agent and the current chief of the Family Advocacy Law Enforcement Training Division at the U.S. Army Military Police School, the training is scheduled to include an informative review about the impact of sexual assault and how leaders may either aggravate or mitigate this impact by their response.

The stand down is being held to improve the health and discipline of the force; reduce stigma; and increase resilience.

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Reporters who would like to cover this event should contact the Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs office by calling 573-563-4145.