



Illinois National Guard Recognized for Sexual Assault Prevention

Staff Sgt. Robert R. Adams, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois – The Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault (ICASA) presented Maj. Gen. Daniel Krumrei, Lt. Col. Maurice Rochelle, Deputy of Manpower and Personnel for the Illinois National Guard (ILNG), and Sergeant Maj. Diane Rogers, the Joint Force Headquarters Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, the “Moxie” Award at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel and Conference Center on May 14 in Springfield, Illinois.



Members of the Illinois National Guard, the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault, and civilian advocatess pose for a photo after the award ceremony during the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault’s Conference at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel and Conference Center on May 14 in Springfield, Illinois. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Robert Adams, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs)

The Moxie award is presented to individuals who have done extraordinary work for survivors of sexual assault. This year’s focus was on those who put “survivors first” to improve services, support and advocacy within our nation’s institutions.

“It is not only rape crisis centers that are doing the work,” said Polly Poskin, the executive director of the ICASA.

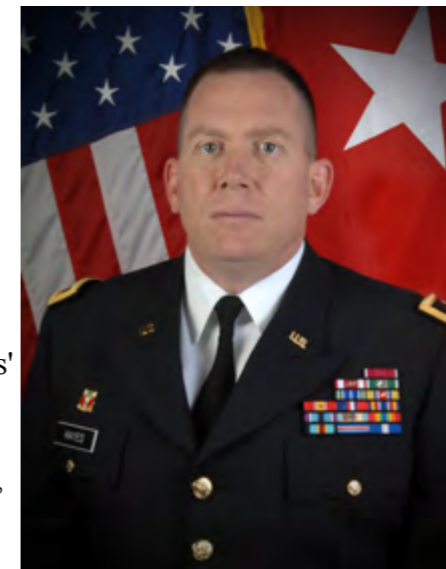
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Governor appoints Brig. Gen. Richard Hayes as Illinois’ next Adjutant General

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois – Brig. Gen. Richard J. Hayes Jr. has been named the Adjutant General of the Illinois National Guard. Hayes was the Deputy Adjutant General/Assistant Adjutant General for the Illinois Army National Guard. His experience spans 30 years in the U.S. Army and National Guard, as well as the private sector.

Hayes joined the Illinois National Guard full-time as Deputy Adjutant General/Assistant Adjutant General in June 2013. As the Adjutant General, he is responsible for developing and coordinating all policies, programs and plans that affect Illinois’ more than 13,000 Army and Air National Guard members; the overall readiness, operation, training, maintenance and logistical support; as well as the management, welfare, morale, discipline and safety of the Soldiers and Airmen of the Illinois Army and Air National Guard.

Hayes has been deployed both here in the United States and abroad. He led a battalion-sized relief task force in New Orleans after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. He also served in Kosovo, Serbia as Deputy Commander – Maneuver of a NATO task force. His joint experience includes assignments working with all U.S. military services as well as operational deployments and training with the armed forces of Poland, Ukraine, Greece, Romania, Lithuania, Germany, Singapore and Japan.



Brig. Gen. Richard Hayes, of Chatham, Illinois, the 39th Adjutant General of the Illinois National Guard. (Command Photo)

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ILNG Unit Deploys to Guantanamo Bay

Cdt. Paul Wissmiller, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs

Springfield, Illinois – The Illinois National Guard’s 139th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment (MPAD) based in Springfield, Illinois conducted a deployment ceremony on June 7 at Camp Lincoln, Springfield, Illinois.

The unit deployed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba as military journalists, whose mission is to inform the public about training exercises and events, conduct media engagements and community outreach, and generally report on the U.S. military in Cuba.

These actions are adding support to a recently reestablished diplomacy between the two countries.

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ILNG participates in Lincoln Remembrance

Staff Sgt. Robert R. Adams, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois – Governor Bruce Rauner, Maj. Gen. Daniel Krumrei, and members from the Illinois Air National Guard, Illinois Army National Guard and the Lincoln’s Challenge Academy played a role in the Abraham Lincoln Funeral Re-Enactment events May 2 in Springfield, Illinois.

Two Airmen from the 183rd Air Refueling Wing and two Soldiers from the 233rd Military Police Company, both units based in Springfield, provided a color guard detail posting the colors during the opening ceremony.

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Illinois Exercises with Jordanian Military

Staff Sgt. Michael Camacho, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois – Approximately 25 Illinois Army National Guard Soldiers were among the service members and civilians who participated in exercise Eager Lion 2015 May 1 to 20 at the Jordanian Armed Forces’ Joint Training Center in Amman, Jordan.

Hosted by the Jordanian Armed Forces for the last five years, Eager Lion is a multinational training event involving servicemembers and civilians with military branches, ministries, security agencies, government and nongovernment organizations from nearly 20 countries.

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VISION:

The Premier State Joint Force within the National Guard

MISSION:

The Illinois National Guard is a Joint Team of Citizen Soldiers and Airmen Ready to Help our Neighbors, Protect our State and Defend our Nation.

KEY TENETS:

Personal -- Professional -- Organizational -- Ready -- Responsive -- Accountable Resilient -- Relevant

Camp Lincoln Recognized for Environmental Award

Cdt. Paul Wissmiller, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois – The Illinois National Guard headquarters at Camp Lincoln has been named a Tree City USA for 2015 by the Arbor Day Foundation.

Camp Lincoln, in Springfield, Illinois, was the first National Guard installation to be recognized as a Tree City USA when it earned the title in 1998.

To become a Tree City USA, the military base had to meet four requirements as outlined on the Arbor Day Foundation's website.

The camp must have a tree board or department, a tree care ordinance, a community forestry program, and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.



Camp Lincoln, The Illinois National Guard headquarters has been named a Tree City USA for 2015 by the Arbor Day Foundation. Camp Lincoln, In Springfield, Illinois, was the first National Guard installation to be recognized as a Tree City USA when it earned the title in 1998. (Photo by CDT Paul Wissmiller, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs)

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Chicago Police Officer Assumes Responsibility of 65th TC

Staff Sgt. Robert R. Adams, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois. – Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph Cistaro of Chicago, a 28-year military veteran and 22-year veteran of the Chicago Police Department, assumed responsibility of the 65th Troop Command in Springfield, Illinois during a ceremony May 2.

A change of responsibility ceremony is held when the senior enlisted leader of a unit changes.

Cistaro will be the senior noncommissioned officer (NCO) for the 65th and will advise 65th Troop Command Commander, Col. Michael Glisson of Festus, Missouri, on all matters related to the brigade's enlisted Soldiers.

Cistaro took the reins from Command Sgt. Maj. John Cycotte who recently retired from the Illinois Army National Guard after more than 30 years of service and moved to Florida.



Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph E. Cistaro of Chicago, incoming sergeant major for the 65th Troop Command Brigade in Springfield, Illinois, accepts the saber from Lt. Col. George Pohlmann of Lockport, Illinois, Executive Officer for the 65th. (Illinois National Guard photo by Sgt. Dan LoGrasso, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs.)

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Soldiers come together at Camp Lincoln for Multicultural Day

Staff Sgt. Robert R. Adams, Illinois Army National Guard Public Affairs

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois – Soldiers on Camp Lincoln in Springfield, Illinois, came together May 6 to celebrate cultural diversity during the Multicultural Day Festival.

“The Illinois National Guard's Multicultural Fest provides a great opportunity for us to learn more about other cultures, traditions and lifestyles,” said Capt. Kira Crocker, Equal Employment Manager for the Illinois National Guard. “Individuals and groups from our local community come together to make this a celebration of diversity.”

Capt. Alana Wood, victim advocate coordinator for the Illinois National Guard Sexual Assault Response and Prevention Program, said it's important to have events like this because the Illinois National Guard is such a diverse organization.



Bill Rogers with the Saint Andrews Society of Central Illinois tells Lt. Col. Michael Hough, Labor Relations Specialist for the Illinois National Guard some history about Scotland's culture at the Multicultural Fest May 6 at Camp Lincoln in Springfield, Illinois. The Illinois National Guard's Multicultural Fest provided an opportunity for Guardsmen to learn more about other cultures, traditions and lifestyles while enjoying foods from different cultures. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Robert Adams, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs)

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AASF 1 Recognized at ESGR “Breakfast with the Boss”

Staff Sgt. Bryan Spreitzer, Illinois National Guard, Public Affairs

DECATUR, Illinois – Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) of Illinois recognized the Illinois Army National Guard's Army Aviation Support Facility 1 in Decatur, Illinois, during “Breakfast with the Boss” May 28.

Lt. Col. Christopher McIntyre of Cantrall, Illinois, commander of AASF 1, accepted the ESGR's Seven Seals award on behalf of the facility. The award is given in recognition of significant individual or organizational achievement, initiative, or support that promotes and supports the ESGR mission.

The Illinois ESGR also recognized the Navy Operations Support Center in Decatur with a Seven Seals Award.



Lt. Col. Christopher McIntyre of Cantrall, Illinois, commander of Army Aviation Support Facility 1, stands with Michael Ayers, the Employer Outreach Director for Illinois' Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) and Laurie Silvie, the Awards Director for Illinois' ESGR after receiving the Seven Seals Award. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Bryan Spreitzer, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs)

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National Guard Aviator Takes Last Flight

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Herbert Stevens, Instructor Pilot, Army Aviation Support Facility 1

DECATUR, Illinois – Chief Warrant Officer 2 Nick Booker of Decatur, Illinois, a UH-60 Blackhawk pilot with Company A., 1st Battalion, 106th Aviation Regiment based in Decatur, Illinois, took his last flight in an Illinois Army National Guard aircraft May 4.

During his 20-year tenure with the Illinois Army National Guard, he served in many different positions.



Chief Warrant Officer 2 Nick Booker of Decatur, Illinois stands with family members after receiving a “wash down” from Army Aviation Support Facility 1's fire vehicles to commemorate his last flight as an Illinois Army National Guard Aviator May 4. Booker retired with 20 years in the military after his employer, Caterpillar Inc., transferred him to Thailand. (Courtesy photo)

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High School Student's Project Supports ILNG

Chaplain (Cpt.) Chase Wilhelm, Illinois National Guard Service Member Support

CARBONDALE, Illinois – Angela Wright, a graduating senior at Duquoin High School, in Duquoin, Illinois, was inspired by her English teacher, Lisa Coleman, to create a senior project based on the question of how people can “change the world.”

Wright decided to show support for Soldiers in the Illinois Army National Guard who are deployed or serving outside of the continental United States by putting together care packages for them. Wright reached out to her local community to raise support and awareness and to collect reading materials, toiletries, and sundry items to package and send.

Coleman said she was moved by Wright's initiative and surprised by the support her classmates gave her.

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Loami Soldier promoted to Major

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois – Jeffrey Hicks of Loami, Illinois, was promoted to the rank of major July 31 at Camp Lincoln in Springfield, Illinois.

Hicks serves as the full-time deputy supervisory logistics management specialist for the Illinois Army National Guard.

Hicks began his military career in 2002 as an enlisted Soldier in the Illinois Army National Guard assigned as an Indirect Fire Infantryman to Company C, 2nd Battalion, 130th Infantry Regiment based in Litchfield, Illinois.

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Command Sgt. Maj. visits visits artillery battalion during key AT

Staff Sgt. Bryan Spreitzer, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs

SPARTA, Wisconsin – Illinois Army National Guard Land Component Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Bowman, of Plainfield, Illinois, visited with Soldiers from the Illinois Army National Guard's 2nd Battalion, 122nd Field Artillery at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin July 15 to speak with them about their new equipment and new company.

Recently, the 122nd Field Artillery stood up a new C Battery based in Crestwood, Illinois, during a reorganization in the Illinois Army National Guard. Along with the new personnel, the battalion was designated as a composite field artillery battalion. With the restructure, the 122nd was fielded new M777, 152mm Howitzers, new counter-fire radar, and upgrades to their existing M119A2, 105mm Howitzers.

Maj. Jason Carter of Chicago, commander of the 122nd Field Artillery Battalion, based in Chicago, said the designation doesn't change the battalion's mission, but increases their capability and firepower.

"Getting the new M777s, standing up C. Battery, and getting the upgrades on our existing guns provides more firepower for the battalion and expands our fires capabilities," said Carter. "The digital upgrades to the M119s allow us to set up and fire faster, becoming more efficient, and adding the triple sevens gives us the ability to fire precision guided munitions."

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Staff Sgt. Kenneth Vasser of Chicago, a section chief with A Battery, 2nd Battalion 122nd Field Artillery based in Chicago, gives Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Bowman of Plainfield, Illinois, Illinois' State Command Sergeant Major, an overview of the M1115 Enhanced Portable Inductive Artillery Fuze Setter, or "Thor's Hammer" as it is commonly referred to because of its shape. Vasser explained that with the new technology, adjustments at the gun line can come straight from the Fire Direction Control, greatly reducing the amount of human error. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Bryan Spreitzer, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs)

ILARNG Warrant Officers extend invitation to Sr. Enlisted Soldiers

Spc. Dan LoGrasso, 139th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois – Senior noncommissioned officers from across the state met on July 11 at the Illinois Military Academy on Camp Lincoln, Springfield, Illinois for the 2015 Warrant Officer (WO) Selection Event. The WO Selection Event is an annual recruitment event held in July at Camp Lincoln and in August at the North Riverside Armory in Chicago.

Brig. Gen. Richard J. Hayes Jr., The Adjutant General of the Illinois National Guard, visited the event and said after years of partial vacancies, getting Illinois' warrant officer program up to full strength was a top priority.

"Everyone here has been identified and selected by their leadership for warrant officer consideration," said Hayes. "Commissioned officers are generalists, but warrants bring highly technical expertise to critical areas, and we are committed to supporting them, their Families, and their employers."

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Brig. Gen. Richard J. Hayes Jr., The Adjutant General of the Illinois National Guard, speaks to senior noncommissioned officers considering the transition to warrant officer at the Warrant Officer Selection Event July 11 on Camp Lincoln in Springfield, Illinois. (U.S. Army National Guard Photo by Spc. Dan LoGrasso, 139th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment)

Command Sgt. Maj. visits medical battalion at Fort McCoy

Staff Sgt. Bryan Spreitzer, Illinois National Guard, Public Affairs

SPARTA, Wisconsin – Illinois Army National Guard Land Component Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Bowman, of Plainfield, Illinois, visited with Soldiers from the Illinois Army National Guard's 108th Medical Battalion during the unit's annual training at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin July 15.

Bowman first visited with Soldiers of the 709th and 710th Area Support Medical Companies (ASMC) during their International Trauma Life Support Course (ITLS) at Fort McCoy's Medical Simulation Training Center (MSTC).



Illinois Army National Guard Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Bowman of Plainfield, Illinois, the Illinois Land Component Sergeant Major, addresses Soldiers of the 108th Medical Battalion before they step on the range to qualify at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin July 15. Bowman was visiting the unit during their annual training period. (U.S. Army National Guard Photo by Staff Sgt. Bryan Spreitzer, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs)

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Civilians get a glimpse of the life of a Soldier

Staff Sgt. Robert R. Adams, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs

MARSEILLES, Illinois – Members of Illinois Joining Forces and Illinois communities participated in "Military Immersion" training, July 17 at Marseilles Training Center, Marseilles, Illinois.

The participants stayed overnight at a MTC and experienced military life, interacted with service members and learned about the military.

They were also shown military equipment, military vehicles and given new insight into how to best help and support service members, veterans, and their families.

"We wanted to give the civilians a chance to actually stay in military barracks and get to do the training that Soldiers go through," said Lt. Col. Maurice Rochelle of Chatham, Illinois with Joint Force Headquarters based in Springfield, Illinois, Deputy of Manpower and Personnel for the Illinois National Guard. "Normally training events only allow for observing, but with this one we wanted to give our participants a chance to 'walk in a Soldier's boots' for the day."

Twenty-seven civilians in professions ranging from lawyers to health care providers along with Kenneth Barber, Executive Director of Illinois Joining Forces, Erica Jeffries, Director of Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs and Ron Bacci, Chair of Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve participated in the two day event.

"This is the second year we have had a successful event, and it looks like it will continue," said Rochelle.

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Sgt. 1st Class Joshua Nickels of Montgomery, Illinois, shows an improvised explosive device in the back of pickup truck on the training IED lane to civilians during "Military Immersion" training, July 17 at Marseilles Training Center, Marseilles, Illinois. (U.S. Army National Guard Photo by Staff Sgt. Robert R. Adams, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs)

404th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade welcomes new commander

Staff Sgt. Bryan Spreitzer, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs



Col. Troy Phillips of Petersburg, Illinois, outgoing commander of the 404th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade (MEB), addresses the Soldiers of the MEB during their change of command ceremony June 14 at the Corn Crib Stadium in Normal, Illinois. Phillips told his Soldiers that it had been an honor being their commander and knows that the brigade will be in good hands with its new commander. (U.S. Army National Guard Photo by Staff Sgt. Bryan Spreitzer, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs)

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Illinois National Guard ensures safety at NFL Draft with civilian partners

Staff Sgt. Bryan Spreitzer, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs

CHICAGO – Thousands of people gathered at Grant Park in downtown Chicago for the 2015 National Football League Draft from April 30 to May 2. Behind the lights, the vendors, and the regalia of the draft, the Illinois National Guard's 5th Civil Support Team in Bartonville, Illinois, and their partners were on duty, silently protecting the masses from threats.

Working events like this is what the 5th CST does. They are a 22-person, full-time team comprised of highly trained Soldiers and Airmen who specialize in all aspects of chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and high-yield explosives and weapons of mass destruction threats. The team is broken into six specialized teams that identify and respond to those threats; a command and control team, a science team, a medical team, a decontamination team, a survey team, and a communications team.

For this event, the CST brought personnel to conduct joint hazard assessment team, or JHAT, patrols. The JHAT teams are comprised of Illinois National Guardsmen and civilian partners.

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Hanging up their boots after more than 20 years:

■ **Col. Michael Haerr**
Joint Forces Headquarters

■ **Master Sgt. Christopher Tipton**
Joint Forces Headquarters

■ **Sgt. 1st Class Benjamin Sleaford**
HHT 2nd Battalion 106th Cavalry Regiment

■ **Sgt. Johand Cruse**
Det. 1, C. Co. 1st Battalion 178th Infantry Regiment

■ **Sgt. Sherry Dace**
108th Medical Battalion

■ **Sgt. Benjamin King**
HHC 766th Engineer Battalion

An advertisement for the ILNG Psychological Health Program. The text reads: "ILNG PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH PROGRAM FREE - CONFIDENTIAL - PROFESSIONAL". It lists three providers: Juliann Steinbeigle, MA, LCPC (North Riverside: 217.622.4583), Maggie Rosol, MSED, LCPC (Camp Lincoln: 217.720.2275), and Michael Jay, MA, LCPC (Machesney Park: 217.720.2462). The background shows silhouettes of soldiers in a field at sunset. At the bottom, it says "YOU ARE NOT ALONE IT TAKES COURAGE TO SEEK HELP".

Specialized team mobilizes for Afghanistan

Staff Sgt. Bryan Spreitzer, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois – Five Soldiers with Illinois Joint Forces Headquarters' Bilateral Embedded Staff Team (BEST) A15 were recognized during a mobilization ceremony May 15 at the Illinois Military Academy on Camp Lincoln in Springfield, Illinois.

The Soldiers will train for a brief time at Fort Bliss, Texas, before deploying to Afghanistan. The unique mission allows Illinois Army National Guard Soldiers to train and deploy side-by-side with their Polish counterparts. The Soldiers are from various parts of Illinois and were selected for the mission based on their training and skills.

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Additional Headlines

Gold Star Families honored at ceremony on Camp Lincoln

Four Soldiers receive Meritorious Service Medal

Illinois Military Intelligence Soldiers Nationally Recognized

Soldiers Graduate from Motor Transport Operator School

Chicago Aviation unit mobilizes for Kuwait

Chatham Soldier takes command of Chicago-based unit

Former Chief of Staff receives Legion of Merit

ILNG Soldiers nominated for top transportation Officer and NCO

Five Illinois Soldiers become food service specialists

108th SB Soldiers Return after consecutive deployments

Six Soldiers become motor transport specialists

Springfield Soldier promoted to lieutenant colonel

Airman promoted to the rank of master sergeant

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The Railsplitter is the official newsletter of the Illinois National Guard authorized by the Adjutant General.

DEADLINES:

Story and photo submissions are due the 1st of each month to ng.il.ilarnng.list.staff-pao@mail.mil

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