

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT STATE OF CALIFORNIA

February 11, 2019

GOVERNOR'S GENERAL ORDER 2019-01

This order rescinds Governor General Orders Number 2018-01 and 2018-02, and directs an end to direct and indirect participation of California National Guard service members in tasks furthering immigration detention operations that are traditionally performed by the Department of Homeland Security;

You shall immediately begin to draw down California National Guard service members from the U.S.-Mexico border and order their return to their home stations to meet the current authorization level. This draw down shall be completed by March 31, 2019.

The California National Guard's new mission will prioritize real threats and emergencies facing California. The Guard will no longer perform, and thereby supplant, tasks traditionally performed by the Federal Government, and for which the President has committed a surge of federal troops. The President of the United States announced a surge of 3,750 U.S. troops to the southwestern border in February 2019. At the same time, the federal government has underinvested in federal land management in California.

California has faced an unprecedented number of natural disasters, and the California National Guard serves a critical role in emergency response including fire-prevention and fire-fighting capabilities, logistical and security support operations, and critical evacuation resources. Since 2016, 14,000 California National Guard service members have deployed around the State, providing a range of civil support capabilities. In light of California's most devastating wildfire and debris flows on state record in 2018, along with the continued reduction in federal funding streams for federal land management by the US. Forest Service, the state must be fully prepared to confront an equally challenging year in 2019. Therefore, I have authorized up to 110 service members to train and support CAL FIRE in fire prevention and fire suppression efforts in 2019.

The California National Guard also works to protect Californians from the efforts of transnational crime organizations engaged in the illegal trafficking of firearms and narcotics. Since 2018, National Guard service members have participated in the seizure of 71,488 pounds of illegal cannabis, 2,620 pounds of Methamphetamine, 19 pounds of Heroin, and 47 pounds of Cocaine, totaling \$292,400,000.

The recent increase in Central American migrants reflects a desire for refuge from unimaginable violence, repression and other economic and environmental devastation within their communities. The violence facing their communities is often fueled by transnational crime organizations engaged in the narcotics trade and smuggling firearms with U.S.-based transnational crime organizations. The use of California National Guard resources to address the challenges on the southern border are therefore better directed at tackling one of the root causes of asylum claims – specifically, transnational criminal organizations engaged in trafficking narcotics and firearms – rather than being directed at the consequential tasks that are traditionally conducted by the Department of Homeland Security.

It is therefore the policy of State of California to seek additional federal support for the California National Guard's statewide Counter-Drug Task Force in order to increase task force capabilities at California seaports, to allow for more continuous monitoring of California's coastline, and to support task forces throughout the state in combatting complex distribution networks of illegal narcotics.

In addition to the importance of meeting California's real threats and emergencies, the current mission also must be changed because continuation of the southern border mission negatively impacts the California Military Department's ability to meet federal contingency deployment readiness standards. National Guard Bureau Southwest Border Policy Guidance and Army Regulation 135-200 currently prohibit service members assigned to the southern border mission from training with their respective

units, negatively affecting units that are conducting collective training exercises in preparation for future deployment, mobilization, and contingencies. Service members assigned to the southern border mission would be unable to participate in upcoming major training events, individual medical readiness evaluations, weapons qualification, crew qualification, and squad qualification events unless they are relieved from the mission. Approximately one-third of the personnel assigned to the border mission are members of units currently scheduled for, or highly likely to, deploy in contingency operations abroad in 2019 and 2020 and must begin pre-deployment training.

Therefore, this General Order authorizes up to 100 service members with critical skills so that the California National Guard can focus vital and exclusive support on combating transnational criminal organizations while enhancing emergency response, and relinquishing all other border enforcement operations.

This order applies to all service members of the California National Guard called by The Adjutant General in support of this mission.

I issue the following General Order under sections 146 and 365 of the California Military and Veteran's Code and in accordance with article V, section 7 of the California Constitution as the Commander in Chief of the California National Guard.

General Order Number 2018-01, issued April 18, 2018, and extended by General Order Number 2018-02, issued September 28, 2018, are both hereby rescinded, with a reduction in force authorization from up to 400 service members.

You shall call into active service up to 100 service members that are trained and able to perform the following:

- Provide timely intelligence research and analysis, as well as source acquisition, processing and dissemination of intelligence on transnational criminal organizations, narcotics smuggling operations, and the cross-border movement of illegal firearms;
- Assist with Cargo Dock Support, Vehicle Control Officers, and secondary X-Ray searches on commercial trucks to interdict narcotics and firearms smuggling;

All other terms and conditions in Governor's General Order Number 2018-01 remain in full force and effect.

This General Order shall remain in effect until September 30, 2019 unless modified or rescinded in writing.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gavin Newsom', is written over a horizontal line.

Gavin Newsom

Commander-in-Chief