

329th RSG HQs recognized for federal active duty

Virginia National Guard Soldiers assigned to the Virginia Beach-based 329th Regional Support Group Headquarters received the Virginia Governor's National Service Medal Oct. 23, 2022, in Virginia Beach, Virginia, to recognize their federal active duty service in Iraq and Kuwait from Oct. 7, 2021, to June 6, 2022.

"My sincere thanks for the great work you did," Maj. Gen. Timothy P. Williams, the Adjutant General of Virginia, told the Soldiers of the 329th. "You were trained and ready to go, and you drew a tough mission that generated a lot of stress, but you did a phenomenal job."

He presented the medals during the ceremony concluding the unit's Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Weekend hosted by the Virginia National Guard Family Programs Office. He was joined by federal and state elected officials.

Williams talked about the importance of first reconnecting with family after a long deployment as well as reconnecting with jobs and professional relationships. He thanks all the family members present at the ceremony for their support which is so critical to mission success.

Read more: <https://ngpa.us/22437>



Maj. Gen. Timothy P. Williams, the Adjutant General of Virginia, presents the Governor's National Service Medal to a Soldier assigned to the 329th Regional Support Group Headquarters Oct. 23, 2022, in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Virginia National Guard News Headlines

Ceremony establishes partnership between DMA, SVCC

Representatives from the Virginia Department of Military Affairs and Southside Virginia Community College signed a memorandum of agreement establishing a partnership between the two organizations Oct. 27, 2022, at SVCC's Christanna campus in Alberta, Virginia.

Read more: <https://ngpa.us/22434>

Pak shares lessons in leadership for DMA mentoring program

Jason Pak, the Virginia Deputy Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs, shared his success story and lessons in leadership during a Department of Military Affairs event Oct. 20, 2022, at Fort Pickett, Virginia.

Read more: <https://ngpa.us/22435>

Mother, daughter duo deploy with VaARNG

For a mother, leaving her daughter behind when getting deployed is heartbreaking, but leaving for deployment and seeing your daughter leave for a separate deployment is even harder.

Read more: <https://ngpa.us/22433>

Whisler reflects on 40 years of military service

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Gregg K. Whisler, equal opportunity advisor, Kosovo Force Regional Command-East, will retire in April 2023, just months upon returning from his current deployment to the Western Balkans after nearly 40 years of service.

Read more: <https://ngpa.us/22432>

Join the Virginia Army National Guard, Virginia Air National Guard or the Virginia Defense Force

For information about joining the Virginia Army National Guard, the Virginia Air National Guard or Virginia Defense Force, visit the appropriate link below:

Va. Army National Guard

<http://nationalguard.com/va>

Va. Air National Guard

<https://go.usa.gov/xGmKG>

Va. Defense Force

<http://vdf.virginia.gov/joinvdf/>

Join the Virginia National Guard Alumni Network

<https://go.usa.gov/xzGT3>

VaARNG debuts jerseys at Liberty High School football game

Liberty High School's football team helped the Virginia Army National Guard debut their new football jerseys Oct. 28, 2022, at a home game against John Handley High School in Bealeton, Virginia.

Staff Sgt. Dakota Baughan, area Virginia Army National Guard recruiter and a 2006 graduate of Liberty High School, secured the camouflage-patterned, Army National Guard-branded jerseys for Liberty's use at their military appreciation game.

"I really enjoyed seeing my old high school being the first ones in the state to wear the Army National Guard jerseys," Baughan said. "It was great seeing how much the coaches and players liked the jerseys. Seeing them run onto the field out of the same tunnel I did, wearing our jerseys while I was on the sideline, it was amazing."

As a high school football player at Liberty, Baughan was coached by Tommy Buzzo, father to Liberty's current coach, Travis Buzzo. As a longtime member of the Liberty High community, Baughan was called to the field between the first and second quarters.

"They wanted to recognize me for having a good relationship with the school and being a big part of the military appreciation night," Baughan said.

For the past four years, he's recruited in the same area where he grew up and says the best part of his job is working with high school students."

"My favorite part about being a recruiter is being able to get to know kids and help them plan for their future," Baughan said. "I love being able to build relationships in my community."

The jerseys will next be worn by Lebanon High School's football team in Lebanon, Virginia, and are available for use across the state through local Army National Guard recruiters.

The Virginia National Guard recently launched a new program offering up to \$750 to Virginia citizens who help grow the force with qualified leads who successfully enlist into the Virginia Army or Air National Guard. The initiative, called the Referral Enlistment Program, or REP, kicked off Sept. 15, 2022.

"The new Referral Enlistment Program is an excellent opportunity for citizens of Virginia to help connect potential recruits with career opportunities in the Virginia National Guard," said Maj. Gen. Timothy P. Williams, the Adjutant General of Virginia. "Eligible citizens have the chance to make money while helping us meet our end strength goals and contribute to the overall readiness of the VNG. We appreciate the support of the Youngkin Administration and the Virginia General Assembly in providing the funding for the program."

The new incentive is open to any adult citizen of Virginia except those who work with a Virginia Army or Air National Guard recruiting element or who share a household with someone who does. Participation in the program requires interested individuals to fill out a few forms and become a Personnel Development Coordinator, or PDC. From there, PDCs may submit contact information for individuals eligible for and interested in service in



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the Virginia Army or Air National Guard. PDCs can receive \$250 for each eligible lead who successfully enlists into the Virginia Air or Army National Guard. Once that individual completes their training requirements, PDCs will receive an additional \$250. If a lead enlists into a select high-priority career field, PDCs will receive an additional \$250 kicker, for a potential total incentive of \$750.

Read more: <https://ngpa.us/22431>

MORE ON THE WEB

Photos: 116th IBCT HQs ends mission in Kosovo

<https://ngpa.us/22436/>

Photos: VNG aviation battalion returns to Virginia

<https://ngpa.us/22257/>

Photos: 34th CST conducts low light training exercise

<https://ngpa.us/22292/>

Photos: AG presents address at JF Staff College

<https://ngpa.us/22396/>

Photos: Fort Pickett ASP staff recognized for hard work

<https://ngpa.us/22397/>



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