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For Immediate Release

National Guard Participates in the Great Utah ShakeOut

Salt Lake City, Utah — The Utah National Guard, along with more than 800,000 other Utahns, will drop, cover, and hold at exactly 10:15 a.m. on Tuesday, April 17. The Great Utah ShakeOut 2012 will have commenced and following the statewide, earthquake drill the Guard will simulate a full call-up by the Governor. Approximately 700 of the Guard's nearly 7,000 members will dedicate April 17-19 to exercising Utah's earthquake plan — a crucial first step in earthquake preparedness.

The Utah National Guard's objectives during this exercise will be focused on the Guards Emergency Communication Plan in conjunction with the command and control of military forces in a domestic response to Utah and location Incident Commanders. Most of the Guard units will be notional; however there will be live play within the following locations:

204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade - 6237 Butterfield Park Way, Herriman (Herriman Park)

65th Fires Brigade - 1000 South 200 West, Sandy City

300th Military Intelligence - 5600 W 3100 S, WVC

19th Special Forces Group - 2100 S 1300 East, SLC (Sugarhouse Park)

For the National Guard the value of this exercise lies in the fluid deployment of troops and communication assets in support of state requirements. Actual movement of resources will be limited to delivery of picnic supplies (simulating critical food and water) at Herriman Park and Sandy City locations, and a few flights out of West Jordan practicing damage assessment and key staff movement.

Media Notes: *There will be a public affairs representative at each of the listed locations and the West Jordan aviation facility to facilitate media requests. They will be made available to the media once the exercise starts. Best opportunities to get B-roll of the National Guard setting-up will be Sunday around noon (April 15) at the Herriman and Sandy locations and Monday at 10 a.m. at Sugarhouse. For more information contact Maj. Bruce Roberts at 801-432-4407 or 801-716-9052.*