

JRTC AND FORT JOHNSON

JAN. 6 VOL. 52, NO. 1

GUARDIAN



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RESPONSIBILITY**

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COVER PHOTO

Col. CJ Lopez, garrison commander, passes the colors to Command Sgt. Maj. Antonio Paparella, as he assumes responsibility as Fort Johnson's senior enlisted leader Dec. 19. (U.S. Army photo by Antoine Aaron)



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JRTC AND FORT JOHNSON

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For additional information, please visit the @JRTCandFortJohnson Facebook page.



ON POST

Upcoming Events



Second Sunday Brunch

Jan. 12, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
at The Forge Bar and Grill

There's no better way to toast to 2025 than with a mimosa, or any choice of your favorite morning cocktail! Second Sunday Brunch returns for the new year at the Forge Bar and Grill, serving up delicious favorites such as French toast, shrimp and grits and more.

Federal Resume Workshop

Jan. 21, 5-6 p.m.
at Army Community Service

ACS's Federal Resume Workshop helps guide you through the USAJobs application process, gives you tips on mastering your resume and helps perfect your interviewing skills.

This workshop is free.
*Spots are limited. Call 337-531-1941 for more information.

MST Family Game Night

Jan. 24, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Building 744

Join the Middle School and Teen Center for a fun-filled family game night - we're bringing out the classics! Snacks and drinks will be provided.

*Youth must be registered with MST to participate. For more information call 337-531-1992.

2025



OUTSIDE THE GATES

OFF POST

EVENTS



9
Jan.

Fur and Wildlife Fest

CAMERON, LA.

[Click for more info](#)



11
Jan.

SWLA Gumbo Cookoff

LAKE CHARLES, LA.

[Click for more info](#)



14
Jan.

Job Fair

LEESVILLE, LA.

[Click for more info](#)



16
Jan.

UNTIL MARCH 22

History of Mardi Gras

LAKE CHARLES, LA.

[Click for more info](#)



17-20
Jan.

MLK Festival

LAKE CHARLES, LA.

[Click for more info](#)

NO ARMY OR FEDERAL ENDORSEMENT IMPLIED.

Discover Louisiana



MARDI GRAS WORLD



Mardi Gras 2025 is officially here! Jan. 5 (also known as Twelfth Night, the evening before Epiphany) marks the start of the Mardi Gras season, also known as Carnival. Known for its extravagant parades, glamorous costumes and exuberant atmosphere, Mardi Gras is a time of year many people around the world look forward to. However, parades aren't the only fun thing one can do inside (and outside) of Mardi Gras season. Do you ever wonder how those giant, extravagant floats are made? Well, look no further than Mardi Gras World!

Blaine Kern's Mardi Gras World, located in New Orleans, gives you an authentic Mardi Gras experience all year round, whether you're here for family vacation, team building activities, New Orleans corporate events, or just on your own to experience the magic of the Crescent City.

Taking a tour allows visitors to see firsthand what it takes to bring Mardi Gras to life year after year. Walk through the hard work and extensive planning that goes into this grand event when you tour Blaine Kern Studios, an operating workshop that has created breathtaking floats for Mardi Gras and other parades around the world since 1947.

This all-access opportunity winds you through the massive studio, where artists and architects build Mardi Gras floats from the ground up. You'll learn about the history of this unique and festive tradition, going beyond its reputation to get a deeper understanding of the real Mardi Gras. The whole family will love touring the space where our artisans create show-stopping floats for more than 40 parades each year.

This New Orleans tour is an experience you'll want to document. There are hundreds of photo opportunities in front of floats and props.

For more information visit: <https://mardigrasworld.com/>



Fort Johnson hosts Assumption of Responsibility



U.S. Army photos by KAREN SAMPSON



Paparella assumes role of garrison senior enlisted leadership

By Karen Sampson
Fort Johnson Public Affairs Office

FORT JOHNSON, La. – Command Sgt. Maj. Antonio Paparella assumed Fort Johnson's garrison senior enlisted leadership role during an assumption of responsibility ceremony, Dec. 19, 2024 at Warrior Field.

Soldiers, families and civilians witnessed Paparella receive the garrison command colors and formally welcomed the Paparella family to the installation community.

"I am proud of Command Sgt. Maj. Paparella and humbled to be his new teammate," said Col. CJ Lopez, garrison commander. "He is not new to

JRTC and Fort Johnson, having come from the operations group where he was a tactical and operational expert."

Paparella was the previous command sergeant major of 2nd Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, and the command sergeant major of Task Force 3 Operations Group here at JRTC and Fort Johnson.

Lopez said that in addition to the new challenges introduced with being a garrison command sergeant major, there will be a personal satisfaction that comes with leading the Fort Johnson team to a better version of itself.

"Consider the positive impact you will make at the enterprise level years from now," he said.

Paparella stood at the podium and expressed gratitude for the opportunity to lead and to the community for taking time to attend the ceremony.

"To the garrison team, I have been nothing but impressed since being onboarded," Paparella said. "If I could sum up everything in one word it would be 'professional.'"



Spouses can take professional licenses, certificates with each move

By Angie Thorne

Fort Johnson Public Affairs Office

FORT JOHNSON, La. – One of the more difficult things for military spouses to deal with is facing the many challenges of a permanent change of station every couple of years.

One of those challenges centers around employment, especially if they have a career based on a professional license or certificate.

Military spouses have reported difficulty transferring their professional licenses from one jurisdiction to another, hindering their ability to find jobs when moving due to military orders.

Making this part of the process easier is a top priority.

The **Department of Justice's** service members and Veterans initiative is committed to protecting those who serve and their families. The Civil Rights Division enforces the service members and their dependents with certain civil protections related to military service.

In January 2023, Congress added a new provision to the SCRA that allows service members and their spouses to use their professional licenses and certificates when they relocate due to military orders, in certain circumstances.

If a spouse does have to pay

for a license or certificate in a new state, they may be eligible for reimbursement.

Regular Army, Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserves are eligible.

They may be reimbursed up to \$1,000.

In addition, spouses with small businesses may be eligible for additional aid for a move.

You can find more information about licenses and certifications reimbursement eligibility at [Military One Source](#).

Stacey Delgado, Employment Readiness Program manager, encourages spouses, whether they need help with the license and certificate portability or reimbursement issues or any other aspect of spouse employment, to stop by and talk to her one on one.

"I really talk to each individual and try to gather the information I need to help them make a more informed and better decision," Delgado said.

For more information and career guidance, contact the Fort Johnson Employment Readiness Program, Army Community Service, 1591 Bell Richard, building 920, at 337-531-6922.

Information about this topic and other spouse employment information can be found on the

[Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Johnson website](#).



To qualify for professional license portability under the SCRA, you must:

1. Have moved to a location outside the jurisdiction of the licensing authority that issued the covered license or certificate because of orders for military service.
2. Provide a copy of the military orders to the licensing authority in the new jurisdiction.
3. Have actively used the license or certificate during the two years immediately preceding the move.
4. Remain in good standing with:
 - a. the licensing authority that issued the covered license or certificate; and
 - b. every other licensing authority that issued a license or certificate valid for a similar scope of practice and in the discipline applied for in the new jurisdiction.
5. Submit to the authority of the licensing authority in the new jurisdiction for the purposes of standards of practice, discipline and fulfillment of any continuing education requirements.

If these five criteria are met, the service member's or spouse's covered license or certificate shall be considered valid at a similar scope of practice and in the discipline applied for the new jurisdiction for the duration of the military orders.



Register your weapon today!



Firearms registration is mandatory on Fort Johnson. That includes pistols, shotguns, semi-automatic and automatic weapons.



You must fill out form 563 to register your weapon. You can pick up the form at the Visitor Center or use this link to print out [form 563](#).



For more information call the Visitor Center at 337-531-0380.

In case you missed it, BOSS took the holidays by storm

(Top photos) In the spirit of giving, Fort Johnson's Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers representatives and volunteers hold a toy drive pick up for JRTC and Fort Johnson Soldiers and families.

(Middle pictures) BOSS held a meeting at the Home of Heroes Recreation Center to prepare for the many tasks and events of the holiday season.

(Bottom right) They took a moment to celebrate Christmas at the BOSS White Elephant Gift Exchange at the Home of Heroes Recreation Center.

(Bottom left) The Natchitoches Convention and Visitors Bureau hosted BOSS Soldiers for the Natchitoches Lighted Boat Parade. (Photos courtesy BOSS)



Army trounces La Tech in Independence Bowl

By Chuck Cannon

Fort Johnson Public Affairs Office

SHREVEPORT, La. – The 19th-ranked Army Black Knights football team used a punishing ground attack and stingy defense to defeat the Louisiana Tech Bulldogs 27-6 and win the Radiance Technologies Independence Bowl in Shreveport Dec. 28.

With the win, Army finished the season 12-2, the most wins in the storied history of the Military Academy on the banks of the Hudson River in New York.

Senior quarterback Bryson Daily led the Black Knights in rushing with 127 yards on 27 carries and three touchdowns to garner the game's Offensive Most Valuable Player award. Daily, a soon-to-be Army Infantry second lieutenant, set a record for most touchdowns in a season by a college quarterback with 32, eclipsing the old mark of 31 set by former Naval Academy signal caller Keenan Reynolds who set the previous mark in 2013.

Running back Hayden Reed also topped the century mark on the ground gaining 114 yards on 20 carries. The Army offense totaled 386 yards on offense, with 325

coming on the ground. The Black Knights dominated the time of possession 40:08-19:52, and converted four-of-five fourth downs.

Daily put West Point on top 7-0 with a first quarter 15-yard touchdown run to cap an 80-yard drive. Army extended its lead to 14-0 following a 12-yard touchdown run by Reed.

Tech followed that Army 80-yard drive with a 27-yard field goal by kicker Drew Henderson that made the score 14-3. But Army responded with a 21-play, 75-yard drive to extend its lead to 21-3 at the half. Daily ended the drive with an 8-yard run. The 21-play drive set an Independence Bowl record for most plays in a drive and tied the longest drive in college football in 2024.

Early in the fourth quarter, Daily found the end zone for the third time on the night, his 32nd of the season. The score was set up on a 52-yard reception by TE David Crossan, the first reception of his career. On the play, Daily eclipsed 1,000 passing yards on the season, joining Kelvin Hopkins Jr., class of 2018, as the second Army QB to have 1,000 rushing and passing yards in a season. Daily's touchdown made the score 27-6, which is how the game ended.



The Army Black Knights quarterback, Bryson Daily (13), carries the ball as Louisiana Tech Bulldogs linebacker Zach Zimos (21) tries to bring him down during the first half of the Radiance Technologies Independence Bowl at Independence Stadium, Shreveport, La., Dec. 28. (Photo credit: Danny Wild/Imagn Images)



The Army Black Knights celebrate a 27-6 win against the Louisiana Tech Bulldogs to capture the 2024 Radiance Technologies Independence Bowl Dec. 28 at Independence Stadium, Shreveport, La. (Photo credit: Danny Wild/Imagn Images)

During the New Year, **consider these strategies to help prevent chronic disease.**



Get Your Flu Shot

There's still time to get your annual flu vaccine, the best way to help protect against flu.

Sleep

Adults need at least 7 hours of sleep per night.

DID YOU KNOW?
For a healthier sleep, be consistent. Go to bed at the same time each night and get up at the same time each morning, including on the weekends.



Eat Healthy

Reach for healthy options like fruits and vegetables instead of salty or sugary treats.



Move More, Sit Less

Adults need at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic activity every week, plus muscle-strengthening activities at least 2 days a week.



Rethink Your Drink

Substitute water for sugary or alcoholic drinks to reduce calories and stay safe.



Don't Use Tobacco

You can **quit** today!
Call **1-800-QUIT-NOW** for free support.



Be Sun Safe

Wear layered clothes and apply broad-spectrum sunscreen with at least SPF 15.

DID YOU KNOW?
Even in cold weather, the sun can damage your skin. UV rays, not the temperature, do the damage.



Brush Your Teeth

Brush twice a day with fluoride toothpaste.

For more ideas about how to prevent chronic disease and maintain a healthy lifestyle, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/>

“As we prepare for our future, we also reflect on our past. ‘This we’ll defend’ was first used as a battle cry by the Continental Army. Today, it reminds us that our Army’s purpose is clear: To fight and win the nation’s wars. We remain committed to honing our warfighting skills, enforcing standards and discipline, and living the values that have defined our Army culture for the past 250 years.”

– Gen. Randy A. George,
Chief of Staff of the Army



#Army250



The Joint Readiness
Training Center
and Fort Johnson
“Forging the Warrior Spirit”



New playgrounds enhance Fort Johnson military housing communities



By Corvias

Fort Johnson, La. — In October, a project to complete four new interactive playgrounds wrapped up in Corvias Property Management communities at Fort Johnson. Children of all ages can enjoy 14 playgrounds and 19 swing sets across three military housing neighborhoods on the installation.

Playgrounds are situated throughout the communities for convenient resident access. Some are located just outside the community centers with easy access to pools while others are located within a few short strides from families' front doors. Several also incorporate a covered picnic area to allow for open-air gatherings.

Modernized playgrounds in Fort Johnson military housing communities boast features like slides, climbing walls and jungle gyms.

In addition to playgrounds, outdoor recreation space includes pickleball courts, basketball courts, baseball fields, dog parks and resort-style swimming pools. Community amenities allow residents to engage with each other and stay active to improve well-being.

Amenities like these align with the intent of



Children play on a new playground in Palmetto Terrace. (U.S. Army photo by Porsha Auzenne)

Corvias' Wellness at Home Program, which commits to supporting the well-being, performance and resilience of soldiers and their families by boosting indoor living environments. While the portfolio-wide implementation of the Wellness at Home Program remains contingent upon available funding and Army ap-

proval, Corvias continues to focus on providing amenities that contribute to the best possible resident experience and holistically support military families living in on-post housing.

Find out more about living at Fort Johnson by visiting the community website at <https://johnson.corviaspm.com/>.

Corvias offers tips as below freezing temperatures hit Fort Johnson

By Corvias

FORT JOHNSON, La. – Due to the forecasted below freezing temperatures, Corvias asks residents to prepare their homes using the following tips to help prevent freezing water pipes, water leaks and other weather-related issues.

- Ensure your thermostat is functional and set between 65 or 70 degrees in heat mode. This is particularly important if you expect to be at work or away for an extended period of time.

- Keep indoor faucets flowing by setting your faucets to a slow drip. For maximum effectiveness, make sure both hot and cold lines are opened slightly.

- Disconnect hoses attached to outdoor plumbing fixtures and make sure they are turned off

- Open cabinet doors under the bathroom and kitchen sinks to let warm air from your home circulate around the pipes.

- If your water pressure decreases, open the cold water faucet nearest the frozen pipe to relieve the pressure of expanding ice that may cause a pipe to burst.

- Ensure you know where water shut-off valves are. This will help turn water off and will

assist the Corvias maintenance team in the event of an emergency.

- Close garage doors. This will help keep cold air out of your home and other appliances that might be located in the area.

- Bring potted plants and pets indoors.
- If freezing precipitation occurs with the cold weather, you should be prepared for possible power outages.

If residents experience a power outage and choose to utilize a portable generator or candles, please practice caution and safety.

- Never use a generator indoors or in enclosed spaces such as garages.

- Make sure a generator has 3 to 4 feet of clear space on all sides and above it to ensure adequate ventilation.

- Do not use a generator outdoors if its placement is near doors, windows and vents that could allow carbon monoxide to enter your home or a neighbor's home.

- Never leave a burning candle unattended.
- Keep burning candles out to the reach of children, pets or any flammable object.

If you experience a maintenance emergency such as a water leak, frozen pipes, power loss or if your heater is not working, please contact the Maintenance Hotline at: 337-537-5050 or



866-436-2047.

As a reminder, the Resident Portal is for routine requests only. Please do not use the Portal App for emergency requests to minimize delays in receiving and responding to your work order request.

If you are currently away from your home for an extended period of time, please contact your community office. A dedicated team member will visit your home to prepare for the freezing temperatures.

Corvias gifts a Christmas tree

Corvias gifted Chap. (Capt.) Jacob McCann's family a tree for Christmas. McCann is currently deployed, but his spouse, Andrea McCann and their children, Charlotte, 7, and Carson, 11, (below), said they enjoyed decorating their tree and thanked Corvias for a gift that brightened their spirits during the holiday season. Mike Josey (right), Corvias maintenance manager for Palmetto Terrace, delivered the tree. (Photo courtesy Corvias)



Recycle your Christmas tree!

From now until Jan. 31, Fort Johnson Environmental will be collecting discarded, live Christmas trees to improve wildlife habitat.

The recycling center will have a 24-hour drop-off container for those who are able to bring their trees. Environmental will also drive around housing periodically collecting any trees put out on the curb.

We ask that families please remove all tinsel, lights and ornaments from the trees.

For more information please contact amy.c.brennan3.ctr@army.mil.

Located on the corner of Georgia Street and Maine Street at building 3620



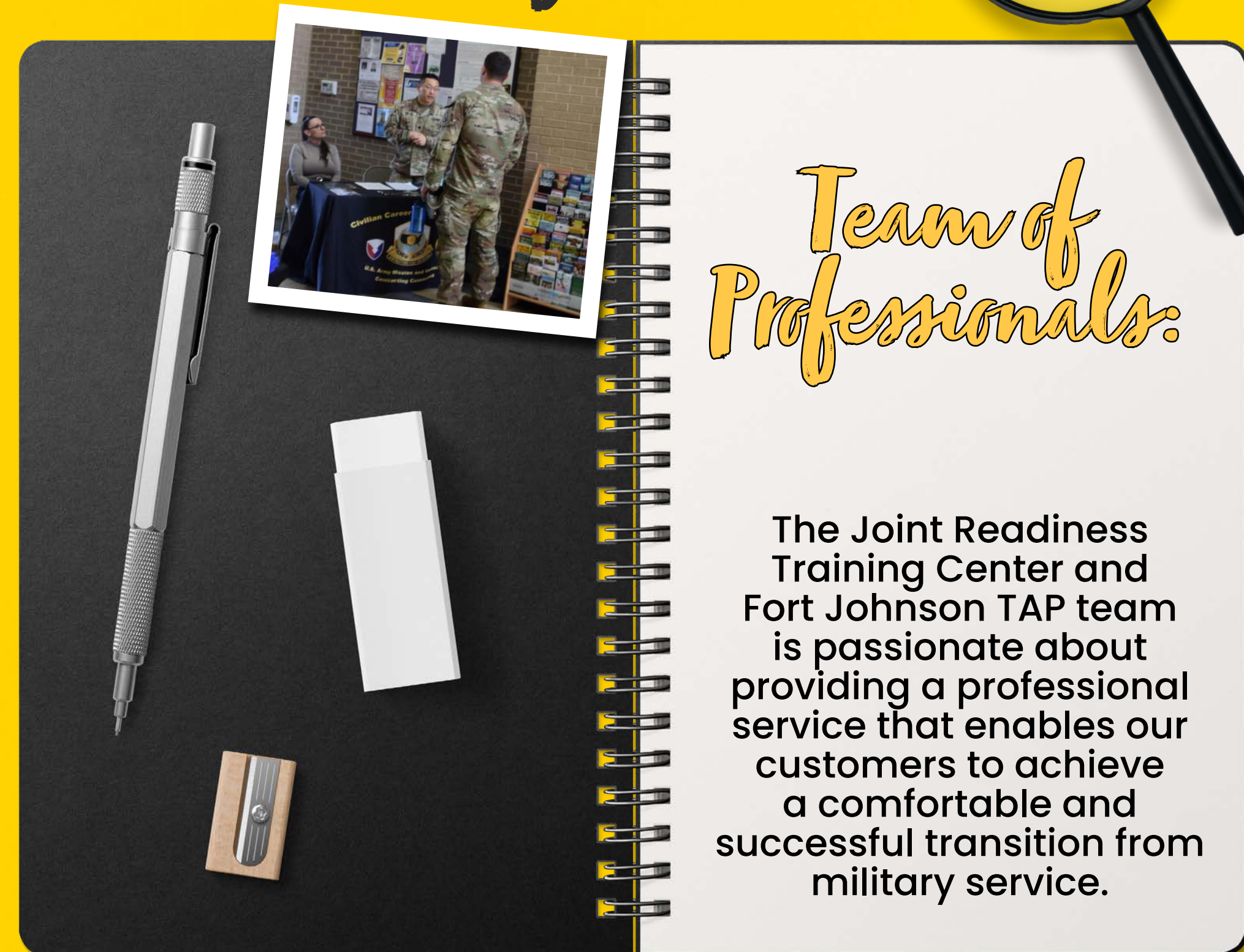
IT TAKES THE COURAGE AND STRENGTH OF A WARRIOR TO ASK FOR HELP



24/7 Chaplain: 337-208-2868
Crisis Line: (phone) 988, press 1 or text 838255
BJACH Emergency Room: (337) 531-3368/3369
Military Crisis Line/ National Suicide Prevention
Lifeline: (800) 273-8255, press 1; or text 838255
Combat Vets Call Center: (877) 927-8387

TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Talking Point #5



Find out more at
armytap.army.mil

Winter Storm Planning Timeline

A few days out

If the forecast calls for winter weather, start preparing now.

- Have emergency supplies for your home & car
- Check your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- Replenish fuel for your car and heating sources

The day before

Forecast accuracy continues to improve, so keep checking the latest.

- Adjust plans
- Have multiple ways to receive Warnings
- Bring pets indoors and ensure they have water

During & After

Remain vigilant and stay informed. Drive only if necessary.

- Check on neighbors and family
- Properly ventilate emergency heat sources
- Keep generators at least 20 feet from your home
- Take it easy when shoveling

weather.gov

NO MEANS NO.

Don't let the party get out of hand.

More sexual assaults occur between November and January than any other time of the year.

RESPECT your fellow Soldiers, **BE** an active bystander — **STEP IN** and **ACT** if you see inappropriate behavior.

LIVE YOUR ARMY VALUES.

Report sexual assault: 337-531-7272
DoD Safe Helpline: 1-877-995-5247
www.safehelpline.org

WINTER SAFETY TIPS

TIP #3

Follow these tips to winterize your facilities: leave heat on in office/building; leave water dripping in facilities with exposed piping; check outside faucets and submit DMOs in case of need for wrapping exposed pipes and report and heat related issues immediately.

EMERGENCY WORK ORDER SUBMISSIONS:

Corvias Housing:
866-436-2047

Garrison Facilities
Barracks, Motorpools, Admin, DFACs, COFs, etc:
337-531-1379

IF YOU'RE DRINKING AND DRIVING, YOU'RE ON THIN ICE.

DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER

Check VIN numbers

The Directorate of Emergency Services Traffic Division will release the following vehicles to MWR for disposal if they remain unclaimed. Vehicles are listed with the last four of their VIN number. If one of these vehicles belongs to you, please contact the Fort Johnson Police Traffic Division at 337-531-1806, 6675 or 2675.



2008	Yamaha	R6	5446
2016	Yamaha	R3	2153
UNK	UNK	Boat trailer	N/A
UNK	UNK	Kayak trailer	N/A
UNK	McClain	Boat trailer	N/A
UNK	UNK	M/C trailer	N/A
2001	Ford	F150	0450
2000	Ford	Ranger	3852
2006	Nissan	350Z	4586
2004	Cadillac	Escalade	5765
2003	Ford	Crown Victoria	2046
2011	Chevrolet	Cruz	6489
2018	Ford	Eco Sport	1215
2002	Ford	Mustang	6793
2004	Infinity	G35	5369
2016	Hyundai	SUV	7506
2015	Chevrolet	Camero	4295
2017	Lincoln	MK Z	9372

ALLEN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

TUESDAY - FRIDAY
11AM - 7PM

SATURDAY
9AM - 5PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL (337) 531-2665

PLAYTOWN & CAFÉ

INDOOR PLAYGROUND

GAMES

KIDS ZONE

RIDE-ON CARS

CALL 337-531-4057
FOR MORE INFORMATION

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The one-stop shop
for all of your leisure travel needs!

LOCATED INSIDE
PLAYTOWN & CAFÉ

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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THE PRUDENT PELICAN

Fort Johnson Safety Newsletter



FORT JOHNSON GARRISON SAFETY OFFICE – 337- 531-SAFE January 2025, VOL 2

From the Safety Manager's Desk

"As we move into the first quarter of 2025, Louisiana's winter months bring unique safety challenges. Though extreme cold is rare, humidity can make cold stress a concern, so dress in layers, stay hydrated and take breaks when working outside. Winter storms and ice can also pose risks, so prepare your home with emergency supplies and clear walkways to prevent slips. With Mardi Gras festivities soon underway, stay mindful of crowd safety, avoid alcohol-related accidents and follow local guidelines. Falls at home and work are more common during these months, so keep surfaces dry, clear of ice, and well-lit. Let's stay safe, prepared and look out for each other throughout the season." -Brian Elliott



Battling cold stress in humid Louisiana

In West Central Louisiana, cold and high humidity create harsh conditions for outdoor workers, increasing the risk of cold stress. Serious issues like hypothermia and frostbite can occur. Employers must monitor temperature and humidity, ensure proper clothing, frequent warm breaks, and hydration. Recognizing symptoms and taking preventive steps are crucial, especially for new or returning workers. Don't let the cold catch you off guard — learn how to protect yourself and your team.



COMBAT COLD



Winter storms: Prepare for Louisiana's icy threats

Even in Louisiana, severe winter weather can strike, often with ice storms that bring freezing rain, sleet and dangerously low temperatures. These "Deceptive Killers" can lead to traffic accidents and hypothermia. Preparation is key: Stock up on emergency supplies like high energy food, bottled water, rock salt, sand and warm clothing. Minimize travel, keep pets safe and never use gas-powered devices indoors. Familiarize yourself with winter storm terms and safety tips to stay protected.



COOL FRONT



Mardi Gras safety tips

In the 12-day period of February leading up to Mardi Gras, there are nearly 70 parades across Louisiana, so go enjoy Mardi Gras SAFELY: Stick with your group to avoid getting lost, designate a driver if you plan to drink and stay hydrated. Avoid glass bottles to prevent injuries and be on the lookout for pickpockets. Plan your route and know emergency contacts. Wear comfortable clothing and respect parade barriers. Following these tips ensures a fun and safe celebration for everyone!



SAFETY GRAS



Preventing deadly falls at home and work

March is ladder safety month. Falls are a leading cause of unintentional injury-related deaths, with 46,653 deaths in 2022. Falls at home and work are significant risks, especially in construction, but can occur in any industry. Simple precautions can prevent falls, like using proper equipment, scanning for hazards, and ensuring safe ladder use. At home, similar safety practices are crucial, especially for older adults. Falls are preventable with proper training, equipment and attention to safety measures.



SAFETY STEPS



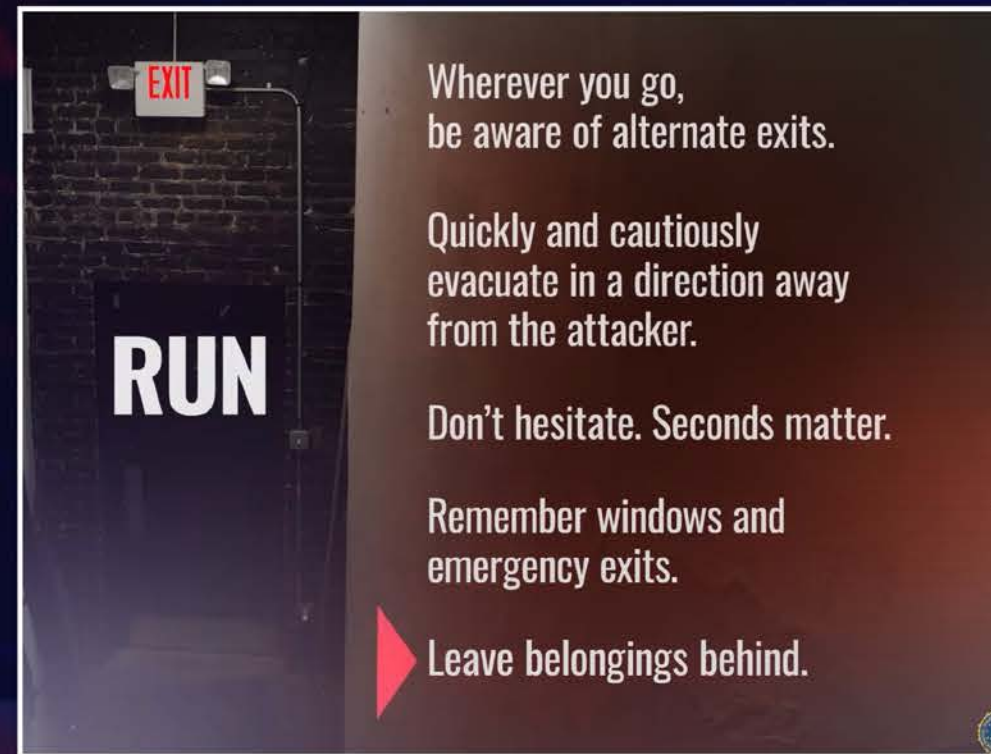
Check us out on Facebook or

Scan here to see consumer recalls that may affect YOU!



RUN HIDE FIGHT

In the event of an active shooter:



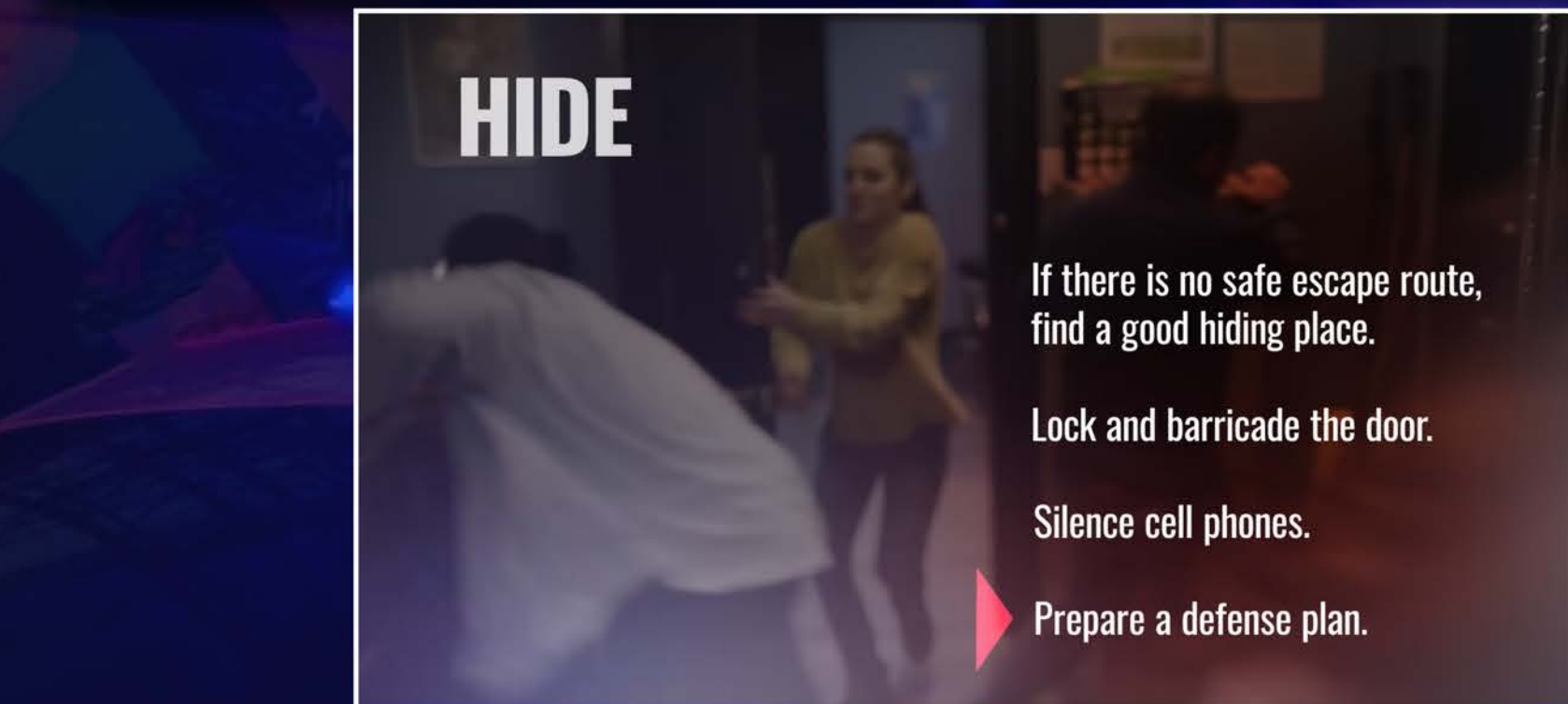
RUN

- Wherever you go, be aware of alternate exits.
- Quickly and cautiously evacuate in a direction away from the attacker.
- Don't hesitate. Seconds matter.
- Remember windows and emergency exits.
- Leave belongings behind.



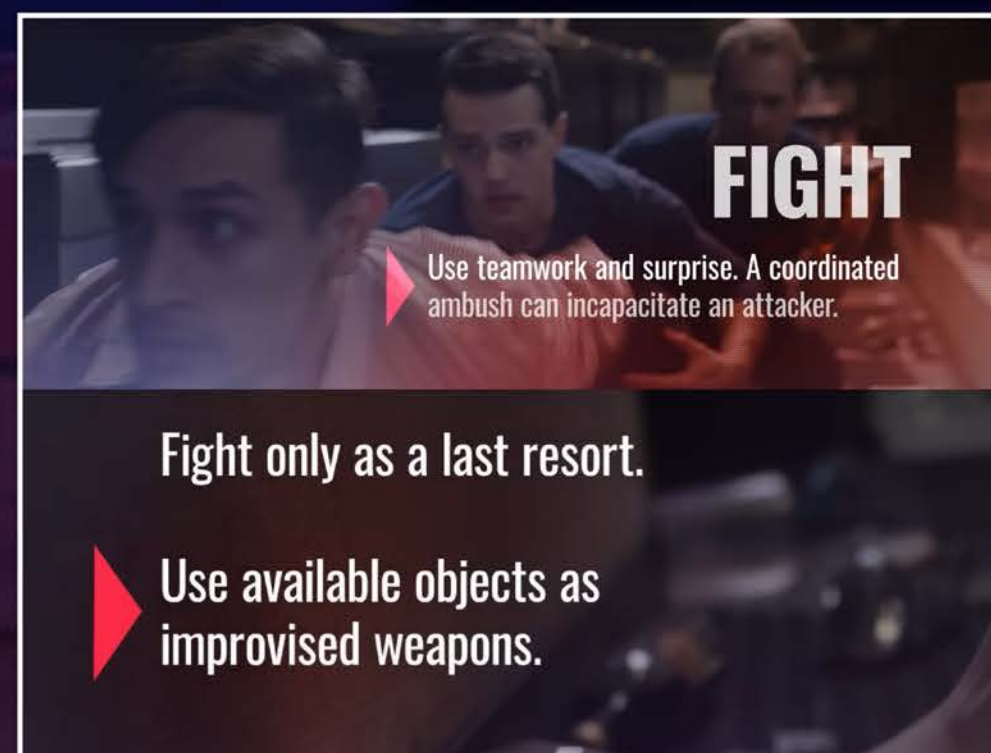
RUN

- Keep empty hands raised and clearly visible.
- Follow all instructions from the police.
- Don't stop until you are sure you have reached a safe location.



HIDE

- If there is no safe escape route, find a good hiding place.
- Lock and barricade the door.
- Silence cell phones.
- Prepare a defense plan.



FIGHT

- Use teamwork and surprise. A coordinated ambush can incapacitate an attacker.
- Fight only as a last resort.
- Use available objects as improvised weapons.



STOP THE BLEED

- A victim can die of uncontrolled blood loss in 5 minutes or less.
- Apply pressure or a tourniquet to control severe bleeding.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

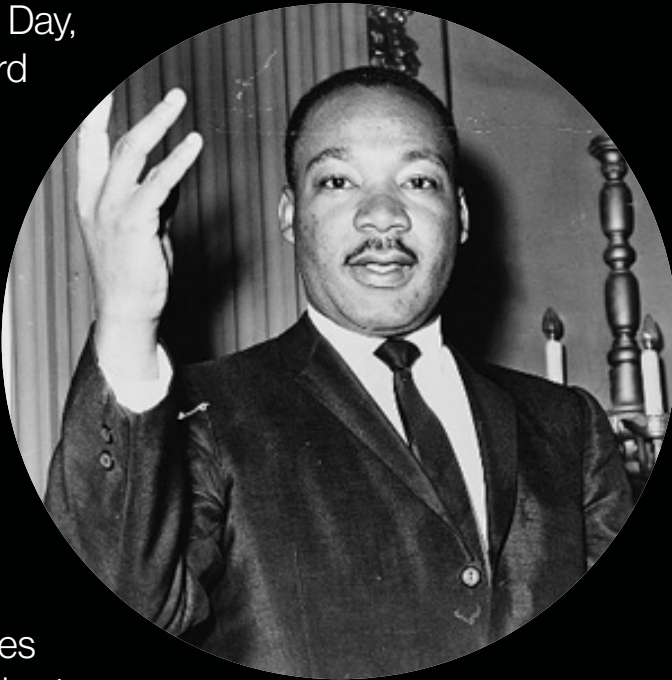
“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is: What are you doing for others?”

– Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Civil Rights activist



“A Day On, Not a Day Off.”

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, observed on the third Monday of January each year, marks the birthday of the civil rights leader and activist. In 1994, Congress designated Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as a national day of service, so this year is the 30th anniversary of this commemoration. The theme this year, “A Day On, Not a Day Off,” encourages individuals to dedicate the day to community service in remembrance of King’s remarkable legacy and to instill his principles of unity and equality throughout the world.



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. dedicated his life to a dream of equality and challenged the nation to not judge people by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.

The Army is committed to the ideals of King and on this national day of service, honors his dedication to equity and inclusion.

The Army welcomes any person who is qualified to serve, regardless of background.

Army Veteran Impact



“Keep them Rolling”; 82 Days on the Red Ball Express. (Photo courtesy of U.S. Army)

Black veterans like the ones who were members of the brave “Red Ball Express,” were crucial to Allied victory but were denied their rights as American citizens upon their return home.

The treatment of returning World War II veterans galvanized a young King and led to his 1946 letter to the Atlanta Constitution condemning the murder of Army Veteran George Dorsey, his wife, and two others, writing, “We want and are entitled to the basic rights and opportunities of American citizens.”

Army Commitment

The U.S. Army is dedicated to building high performing and cohesive teams in inclusive environments.

Diversity of experiences, values and talents help the Army maintain a viable advantage in the competition for talent.

EMPLOYER’S DAY EVENT

Jan. 14 from 9 a.m.-noon

Fort Johnson Library and Education Center,
Building 660, 2nd Floor



- Texas Department of Public Safety
- Travis County Sheriff’s Office
- Southwest Louisiana Regional Planning Commission
- ERA Solutions



Offering professional photos for all who attend.



No Army or federal endorsement implied.