

News Release



Ilene Shapiro – Summit County Executive
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: January 18, 2019

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County of Summit Partners with Ohio National Guard for Hazardous Materials Training

On January 14 to January 17, 2019, members of the Summit County Special Operations Response Team (SORT), Hazardous Materials Branch, trained alongside members of the Ohio National Guard's 52nd Civil Support Team (Weapons of Mass Destruction) at various locations throughout Summit County. The training exercises primarily involved tactical training on hazardous material response, using specialized detection equipment and sharing common operational practices between the Ohio National Guard's 52nd CST (WMD) and the Summit County SORT Hazardous Materials Branch.

The Summit County SORT Hazardous Materials Branch is a team of highly-trained hazardous materials technicians that specialize in the response and mitigation of any hazardous material, including weapons of mass destruction. The Ohio National Guard's 52nd CST (WMD) is fully ready to assist civil authorities' response to a domestic weapon of mass destruction incident, and possesses the necessary skills, training and equipment to be proficient in all mission requirements.

“While we always hope there is no need for the Special Operations Response Team to respond to a hazardous materials emergency, the community can be confident that our team is prepared in such an instance,” said Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro. “Trainings such as this ensure our first responders are up to date on the latest tactics, practices and equipment.”

The training exercises between Summit County SORT and the Ohio National Guard's 52nd CST (WMD) also serve to develop a strong homeland security partnership. Nationwide, civil support teams play an active part in the United States National Response Framework, working to develop emergency response procedures and training doctrines for emergency different scenarios.



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