



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **Tennessee's 45th Civil Support Team Heads to WV to assist in Water Emergency**

**NASHVILLE** – The Tennessee National Guard's 45th Civil Support Team (WMD) has deployed to West Virginia to assist an interagency team with that state's water contamination crisis. The 45th deployed 15 personnel by air and ground on Sunday with a mobile laboratory and communications assets to assist West Virginia's 35th CST. They conduct environmental sampling and will remain in place for approximately one week or until their mission is complete.

National Guard Civil Support Teams were established to deploy rapidly to assist a local incident commander in determining the nature and extent of an attack or incident; provide expert technical advice on response operations; and help identify and support the arrival of follow-on state and federal military response assets.

The mission of the Civil Support Teams (WMD) is to support local and state authorities at domestic incident sites by identifying agents and substances, assessing current and projected consequences, advising on response measures, and assisting with requests for additional military support.

The 45th CST(WMD) is a joint 22 person unit and consists of both Army National Guard and Air National Guard personnel. It is commanded by Army Lt. Col. Jeff Brown. There are 55 CST's throughout the nation.

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**All Tennessee Army and Air National Guard press releases can be found at <http://www.tnmilitary.org>**