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PRESS RELEASE

April 1, 2020

National Guard Deployed to Walla Walla County

We have learned the National Guard has been deployed to Walla Walla County. It is their mission to work at local food banks to re-stock and disseminate food goods. The reason behind this is due to the demographic of food bank volunteers being in the high-risk community for COVID-19 susceptibility and the critical demand to keep this resource functional.

The National Guard will not be conducting any law enforcement functions; they are trained with safety precautions and use of protective equipment to carry out their mission with the food banks. National Guard members working in Walla Walla will mostly be from our area and not coming into our community from the outside, bringing any unknown illness with them. In fact, every member will be medically screened prior to their duty at a food bank, or related task, making their efforts very high reward and low risk to us.

The activation of National Guard here is only to help our community to be better equipped and nothing else. You may see members in uniform driving in personally owned vehicles to and from their assigned duties. Please welcome them and thank them for their service and sacrifice to take care of us all.

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