SOUTH CAROLINA STATE GUARD REGULATION 672-1

1 APRIL 2019

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS South Carolina State Guard



SCSG HQ Olympia Armory 551 Granby Lane Columbia, SC 29201 STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA MILITARY DEPARTMENT

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE GUARD

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DECORATIONS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

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DECORATIONS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

GENERAL:

1-1. <u>Purpose</u>: The purpose of this regulation is to establish an awards program in order to provide tangible evidence of public recognition by the State of South Carolina.

1-2. Policy:

a. Decorations are awarded on a restricted and individual basis in recognition of heroic, extraordinary, outstanding and meritorious acts, achievements and services.

b. No more than one decoration will be awarded for the same act, achievement or period of meritorious service. A decoration may be awarded for an act of heroism performed within the same period for which a meritorious service award has been made or recommended.

c. No decoration shall be awarded for Non-Honorable service.

d. Special consideration shall be given recognition of outstanding SCSG Personnel whose achievements and service have met the prescribed criteria herein.

e. Services ribbons are awarded in recognition of loyal and faithful performance of duty during designated periods of service. Authority has been delegated to **Brigade Commander** to approve award of the Commendation Medal, the Individual Achievement Ribbon, the Good Conduct Ribbon, the Federal Service School Ribbon, the SCSG Service Ribbon, the Emergency Service Training Ribbon, the Volunteer Service Ribbon, the Military Readiness Ribbon, the Recruiting Achievement Ribbon, the Military Proficiency Ribbon the Longevity Service Ribbon and the Honor Detail Service Ribbon. Authority has been delegated to the **Battalion Commanders** to approve the Individual Achievement Ribbon, the Good Conduct Ribbon, the Federal Service School Ribbon, the SCSG Service Ribbon, the Emergency Service Training Ribbon, the Volunteer Service Ribbon, the Military Readiness Ribbon, the Recruiting Achievement Ribbon, the Military Proficiency Ribbon the Longevity Service Training Ribbon, the Volunteer Service Ribbon, the Military Readiness Ribbon, the Recruiting Achievement Ribbon, the Military Proficiency Ribbon the Longevity Service Ribbon and the Honor Detail Service Ribbon.

f. All subsequent awards of the SCSG Commendation Medal, SCSG Individual Achievement Ribbon, and the Humanitarian Service Ribbon will be indicated by a bronze oak leaf cluster. When more than one appurtenance is authorized, they will be arranged in a horizontal row centered in the middle of the ribbon. In lieu of five (5) bronze appurtenances, a silver appurtenance is worn to the wearer's right of any bronze appurtenance. In lieu of five (5) silver appurtenances, a gold appurtenance is worn to

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the wearer's right of any silver or bronze appurtenances. All oak leaf clusters are worn with the oak stems to the wearer's right. Service stars are worn with the point of the star at the top.

g. While no time limitations on awards are prescribed, the award should be made as soon as possible after it is earned.

h. An appropriate certificate with citation will be presented as a part of each decoration. Certificates and citations are not awarded with service ribbons, except for the Certificate of Proficiency that is presented with the initial award of the Service Ribbon and the Military Proficiency Ribbon.

1-3. Definitions:

a. Heroism: Specific acts of courageous conduct at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty.

b. Distinguished by: A person distinguished by praiseworthy accomplishment and set apart from other persons in the same or similar circumstances.

c. Duty of great responsibility: Duty which, by virtue of the position held, carries a high degree of the responsibility for the successful operation of a major command.

d. Key individual: A person who is occupying a position that is indispensable to any organization, activity or project.

e. Meritorious achievement: A praiseworthy accomplishment. The length of time is not a consideration, but speed of accomplishment may be a factor in determining the worth of the enterprise.

f. Meritorious service: Praiseworthy execution of duties. Service differs from achievement, but it's not necessarily connected with a specific period of time.

g. Anniversary year: A period of time commencing with the Date of Entry (DOE) into the South Carolina State Guard (SCSG) and ending one year later.

1-4. Qualifications:

a. Any active SCSG personnel.

b. Any questions relating to qualifications for any decorations or awards should be directed to the (G-1) Personnel and Administration, Headquarters, SCSG.

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c. The criteria for SCSG awards and decorations specified in this chapter are not in conflict with AGR 672-1. In certain instance, an individual may be recognized for distinguished service in accordance with the provisions of AGR 672-1.

1-5. Authorized Individual Decorations and Awards:

The following SCSG Individual Decorations and Awards are authorized for award to wear by members in the following order of precedence:

Decorations: All require Form 59

Medal of Valor	MV
Distinguished Service Medal	DSM
Medal of Merit	MM
Meritorious Service Medal	MSM
Commendation Medal	СМ
Homeland Defense Achievement Medal	HDAM

Awards: Form 58, ones with an asterisk* require Form 59

Individual Achievement Ribbon	IAR [*]
Good Conduct Ribbon	GCR
Longevity Service Ribbon	LSM
Federal Service School Ribbon	FSSR
Humanitarian Service Ribbon	HSR [*]
Service Ribbon	SR
Emergency Training Service Ribbon	ESTR
Volunteer Service Ribbon	VSR
Honors Detail Service Ribbon	HDSR
Military Readiness Ribbon	MRR
Recruiting Achievement Ribbon	RAR
Military Proficiency Ribbon	MPR

1-6. Authorized Unit Decorations and Awards:

The following State and State Guard Unit Decorations and Awards have been authorized for award to and wear by members of the SC State Guard:

Governor's Unit Citation	GUC
Outstanding Unit Citation Ribbon	OUCR
Unit Achievement Award	UAA

CRITERIA FOR DECORATIONS AND AWARDS

2-1. Individual Decorations/Awards:

a. Medal of Valor. The Medal of Valor may be presented to any member who distinguishes himself/herself by courageous conduct at the risk of his/her life, above and beyond the call of duty while in the service of the State or the service of the United States. This award shall be made only upon clear, convincing and incontestable proof by an affidavit of at least one eyewitness having personal knowledge of the act, deed, or series of acts. Any subsequent award(s) will be indicated by bronze oak leaf cluster(s).

b. Distinguished Service Medal. The Distinguished Service Medal may be presented to any member of the State Guard, active or reserve components of the Armed Forces of the United States, State Guard of another state or territory of the United States. The armed forces of another nation who has distinguished himself/herself through significant contributions of a military or military/civil nature to the freedom and security of the State of South Carolina, the United States of America, or the free world. Any subsequent award(s) will be indicated by bronze oak leaf cluster(s).

c. Medal of Merit. The Medal of Merit may be presented to any member who distinguishes himself/herself by exceptional meritorious service to the State in any duty great responsibility or to any person who, by unselfish and tireless activities in connection with the South Carolina State Guard, has rendered a distinct service in furthering the interest of and in promoting the security and welfare of the State. Any subsequent award(s) will be indicated by bronze oak leaf cluster(s).

d. Meritorious Service Medal. The Meritorious Service Medal may be presented to any member who distinguishes himself/herself by superior meritorious service to the State in a duty of high responsibility or to any person who, through sustained and dedicated service, has furthered the interest of and promoted the welfare of the South Carolina State Guard. Any subsequent award(s) will be indicated by bronze oak leaf cluster(s).

e. Commendation Medal. The Commendation Medal may be awarded to any SCSG personnel whom has distinguished himself/herself by meritorious achievement or service of distinction. It will be awarded for exemplary behavior, efficiency, and fidelity while serving as a member of the SCSG. The Commander's recommendation must be based on his/her own personal knowledge of the individual and his/her official record of military achievement or civilian mission support. Any subsequent award(s) will be indicated by bronze oak leaf cluster(s).

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f. Homeland Defense Achievement Medal. The Homeland Defense Achievement Medal is awarded upon recommendation of the Commanding General of the State Guard.

The Homeland Defense Achievement Medal may be awarded to any member for the successful completion of a course or school that results in the attainment of a state commission or licensure which will aid the training or mission of the SCSG. Courses of study involving 200 or more hours of training such as law enforcement officer, reserve law enforcement officer, state constable, firefighter or emergency medical technician would qualify. A copy certifying the completion of the course, a copy of the state commission or licensure and a citation must accompany the award request. Training will be accomplished as a resident student of a state police academy, fire academy or at an accredited resident or non- resident training facility or school. **To qualify for this award, requirements must be met after becoming a member of the SCSG.**

(1) There is no provision for subsequent awards.

g. Individual Achievement Ribbon. The Individual Achievement Ribbon may be awarded to any SCSG member who has distinguished himself/herself by outstanding achievement or superior service. It will be awarded for notably superior behavior, efficiency and devotion to duty while serving as a member of the SCSG. The supervisor or commander at the lowest level having direct knowledge of the individual and his activities should prepare recommendations. Award of the Individual Achievement Ribbon may be approved by the Brigade Commander and Battalion Commanders and may be used to provide timely recognition of outstanding achievement or superior service. Any subsequent award(s) will be indicated by bronze oak leaf cluster(s).

h. Good Conduct Ribbon. The Good Conduct Ribbon may be presented to any enlisted person who has demonstrated fidelity through faithful performance of duty, efficiency to produce desired results, and behavior that deserves emulation. The minimum period of service for consideration for this award is not less than three (3) years of continuous active enlisted service. After the initial award, each subsequent period of not less than three years continuous enlisted service will be recognized with a bronze knot worn on the ribbon. EXCEPTION: The Good Conduct Ribbon may be awarded to an individual who has been commissioned directly after a minimum of twelve (12) months enlisted service.

i. Longevity Service Medal. The Longevity Service Medal may be awarded to any member for honorable and satisfactory service in the SCSG for a continuous period of five (5) years. The years will be on an anniversary (not calendar) year basis subsequent to 13 October 1981. Each additional five (5) years of service will be represented by a bronze oak leaf cluster.

j. Federal Service School Ribbon.

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(1) The Federal Service School Ribbon may be awarded to any member for the successful completion of any course or school which will aid the training or mission of the SCSG. The course should be related to the individual's grade and duty assignment. Training will be accomplished as a resident student of at least three (3) days at any active U.S. Armed Forces, Armed Forces Reserve or National Guard Service Schools, or an equivalent non-resident course or school. To qualify for this award, requirements must be met after becoming a member of the SCSG. There is no provision for subsequent awards.

(2) Evidence of completion of qualifying course is mandatory and it must be in the form of an official diploma or certificate from the service school.

k. Humanitarian Service Ribbon.

(1) The Humanitarian Service Ribbon may be awarded to member for significant assistance to state and/or local governmental agencies in the event of a

disaster, natural or man-made, such as a hurricane, flood, tornado, earthquake, conflagration or an act of civil disobedience. The service should provide significant relief of human suffering and/or an amelioration of the effects of a natural disaster. Such acts might be assisting in clearing storm damage, providing or coordinating relief efforts, providing security to people or property, etc.

(2) The Commander, SCSG, will specify in writing those operations that qualify for award of the Humanitarian Service Ribbon.

(3) Headquarters, SCSG, will review all recommendations to assure that only those individuals who contributed to the successful outcome of the mission receive the Humanitarian Service Ribbon.

(a) Command Post personnel may be considered if they are in direct control of operations in the field and are present for a signification portion of the mission.

(b) Headquarters personnel at any level should not be considered eligible for this award unless their service qualifies under provision (3) above.

(4) Subsequent award(s) will be represented by oak leaf cluster(s).

(5) Award of the Humanitarian Service Ribbon will NOT be retroactive.

I. Service Ribbon. The Service Ribbon will be awarded to any member for one (1) year service, with attendance at 80% of scheduled drills/assemblies or equivalent

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time made up through compensatory services (work details; recruiting service; administrative or logistics support). The years of service will be based on the individual's anniversary year. A bronze star, to be placed on the ribbon, will be awarded for each additional year's service meeting the same criteria for participation.

m. Emergency Service Training Ribbon. The Emergency Service Training Ribbon may be awarded to any SCSG member who has satisfactorily completed any course or series of courses of instruction of at least forty (40) hours duration dealing with military or civil emergencies which results in a certificate of completion. Training may be accomplished by correspondence or as a resident student at any active U.S. Armed Forces, Armed Forces Reserve, National Guard, or civilian school program. This includes, but is not limited to, areas of planning, coordination, management, or execution and, includes such areas as CPR courses, American Red Cross First Aid courses, FEMA Home Study Courses, or Riot Control. Evidence of completion of such courses is mandatory and must be in the form of an official diploma, certificate or letter from an officer or instructor of the institution or organization providing the course. There is no provision for subsequent awards.

n. Volunteer Service Ribbon. The Volunteer Service Ribbon may be awarded to any SCSG member who has completed a minimum of 200 hours of volunteer service o the SCSG during his anniversary year. All SCSG volunteer hours are credible toward this award, except Drill or Drill equivalent, (Drill equivalent is defined as an alternative activity on a normal Drill day). For personnel who achieve a minimum of 500 hours, the Volunteer Service Ribbon will have a gold oak leaf cluster affixed. All recommendations for award of this ribbon will be supported by logs, registers, or statements of hours, dates and places of service. Awards for completion of 200 hours in any subsequent anniversary year, a gold oak leaf cluster will be added. It is possible that two ribbons will have to be worn to display all service credit.

o. Honor Detail Service Ribbon. The Honor Detail Service Ribbon is to recognize the service of those personnel who have trained and voluntarily participate in providing military honors to deceased Federal and State veterans.

(1) Basic award requires participation in a minimum of five (5) funerals. Individual must have been acting under orders published by Headquarters, SC State Guard.

(2) The Chief of Staff, the Chief of Chaplains, and Brigade Commander or their designee may request issuance of the Honors Detail Service Ribbon. Request must include the dates of service and the order number that supported that service. Headquarters, SCSG will verify service with the permanent copy of orders maintained at that level.

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(3) The Honors Detail Service Ribbon will NOT be retroactive.

(4) Subsequent award(s) will be represented by bronze star device(s) to be placed on the ribbon.

p. Military Readiness Ribbon. The Military Readiness Ribbon may be awarded to any SCSG member for 100% participation in all mandatory SCSG training or equivalent time made up through compensatory services (work detail, recruiting service, administrative or logistics support, etc.) during any anniversary year. Commanders must verify attendance records or logs that support the recommendation for this award.

q. Recruiting Achievement Ribbon. The Recruiting Achievement Ribbon may be awarded to any SCSG member who recruits three (3) new enlistees or officers within any twelve (12) month period. Certification of the enlistees and appointments will accompany recommendations for the award and a roster indicating names and dates of those enlisted or appointed is required. Re-enlistments DO NOT qualify in meeting the criteria for this award. Awards for subsequent years will be indicated by numerals affixed on the ribbon.

r. Military Proficiency Ribbon. The Military Proficiency Ribbon is awarded to any SCSG member who has attained basic proficiency as a State Guardsman, as defined in the Training Program. All persons awarded the Military Proficiency Ribbon under these revised criteria will wear a distinguishing insignia on the ribbon as follows:

(1) Company level personnel who have completed basic proficiency training are considered fully qualified - crossed pistols in bronze.

(2) Staff personnel at higher headquarters level who have completed appropriate training and are considered fully qualified:

- (a) Battalion bronze torch device.
- (b) Brigade silver torch device.
- (c) SCSG Headquarters gold torch device.
- (3) Chaplains, at all levels: silver chaplain's emblem.
- (4) Communicators (only licensed radio operators) crossed signal flags.
- (5) Medical personnel:
 - (a) Company and Battalion bronze Maltese cross.
 - (b) Brigade silver Maltese cross.
 - (c) SCSG Headquarters gold Maltese cross.

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(6) No more than three (3) of the distinguishing insignia or appurtenance will be worn on the Military Proficiency Ribbon at any time.

2-2. Unit Decorations and Awards:

a. Governor's Unit Citation. The Governor's Unit Citation is a State decoration described in AGR 672-1 and covered herein because of its award to all State Guard units in 1990. It is awarded to units and organization for exceptionally meritorious performance while serving in any military capacity. This unit must display such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions and under similar circumstances.

b. Outstanding Unit Citation Ribbon. The Outstanding Unit Citation Ribbon is intended to foster unit morale and to provide incentive and esprit de corps by recognizing those units which meet either of the following criteria:

(1) Service: Maintain an average unit training assembly attendance of 90% or better for nine (9) or more of the twelve (12) months of the training year and to have achieved a rating of excellent or higher on the last IG report with no unsatisfactory rating in any sub-areas thereof.

(2) Achievement: Any unit that has distinguished itself through performance of a specific act, the performance of which must have been accomplished in a manner that clearly exceeds that which is normally expected.

c. Unit Achievement Award. This award is intended to foster unit morale and to provide incentive and esprit de corps by recognizing those units which meet either of the following criteria:

(1) Service: Maintain an average unit training assembly attendance of 60% or better for nine (9) or more of the twelve (12) months of the training year; achieve at least 80% of recruiting goal assigned; 90% of unit members complete basic proficiency training within two years of joining.

(2) Achievement: Any unit which has distinguished itself through superior performance of routine duties or through a specific act or series of acts, the accomplishment of which must have been achieved in a manner clearly exceeding that which is normally expected.

d. Subsequent awards will be represented by oak leaf cluster.

e. Unit citation awards may be worn by all individuals assigned to the unit receiving the award. Individuals assigned to the unit at the time the award was

presented may wear the award permanently. However, individuals who were not a member of the unit at the time the award was issued, may NOT continue to wear the citation when transferred to another unit.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND APPROVAL AUTHORITY

3-1. General:

a. It is the responsibility and privilege of every individual having personal knowledge of an act, achievement, or service believed to warrant a decoration or an award to submit a formal recommendation for appropriate consideration.

b. The Adjutant General of South Carolina or his designated representative is the approving authority for all awards and decorations, except those based upon the member's service record.

c. Recommendations for all decorations will be on SCSG Form 58 or Form 59 (See Section 1-5) (Recommendation/Request for Decorations and Awards) and forwarded through command channels to Headquarters, SCSG, where it will be presented to an Awards and Decorations Board for appropriate processing. Each intermediate command will either recommend "approval" or "disapproval", however, Headquarter, SCSG is the approving authority for the Medal of Valor, Distinguished Service Medal, Medal of Merit and the Meritorious Service Medal. The action(s) qualifying individual(s) for all decorations must be set for in a narrative and accompany the SCSG Form 59.

d. An approved SCSG Form 58 will be submitted to HQ, SCSG, for issue of orders and ribbons. For award of the Commendation Medal, Individual Achievement Ribbon, or Unit Awards, a short citation, not exceeding seven (7) lines, will accompany the SCSG Form 59.

(1) A separate SCSG Form 58 will be submitted for each proposed award (ribbon) of subsequent award (appurtenance) of the same ribbon. More than one recipient for the same ribbon or subsequent award may be named on the same SCSG Form 58 may be used to list several persons eligible for award of the Service Ribbon for one (1) year service, but a separate form would be required to list one (1) service, and so forth.

(2) A copy of the personnel action will be placed in the individual's personnel records jacket.

(3) In order to avoid conflicts of interest, recommendations for award of the Individual Achievement Ribbon, Commendation Medal, and all higher awards to a Brigade Commander will be sent directly to the Attention of Deputy Commander, Headquarters, SCSG. The Deputy Commander will review these requests and, whenever necessary, send the request to the Awards Board for appropriate action. The

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Deputy Commander will discuss all approved request with the Commander, SCSG, and will coordinate an appropriate presentation.

3-2. <u>Announcement</u>: Permanent Orders will be published by Headquarters, SCSG, for all Decorations and Awards. A copy of the order announcing the decoration or award and a copy of the citation and/or certificate, if applicable, will be placed in the individual's personnel records jacket.

3-3. <u>Certificates</u>: Certificates for all decorations, the Commendation Medal, the Individual Achievement Ribbon and the Certificate of Proficiency will be prepared by Headquarters, SCSG, and will be made available for presentation at the appropriate ceremony.

3-4. <u>Awards and Decorations Board</u>: An Awards and Decorations Board at the brigade level, comprised of field grade officers, will review recommendation for decorations prior to the recommendation being forwarded to Headquarters, SCSG, for the final approval process. While the orders appointing such may contain a number of officers, a quorum shall require only three (3) officers. In unusual circumstances, the Board may summon individuals, including the recipient, to appear in person before the Board. The oral deliberation of the Awards and Decorations are confidential and except for the written "approval" or "disapproval", will not be in writing or disclosed.

3-5. <u>Presentation of Awards and Decorations</u>: The Medal of Valor, the Distinguished Service Medal, and Medal of Merit may be presented by the Governor, the Adjutant General or a General Officer designated by him in the name of the Governor. All other awards or decorations may be presented by the Commander or by the Deputy Commander, the SCSG Chief of Staff, Brigade Commanders or Battalion Commanders in the name of the Commander, SCSG. Exceptions listed above in each medal or ribbons narrative.

ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

4-1. <u>General</u>: SCSG members are authorized to wear all awards and decorations listed below. This includes Federal (US), Foreign Nations, and other State Guards. Exceptions listed in Chapter 3.

4-2. <u>Individual Awards and Decorations</u>: Individual awards and decorations are worn on ribbon bars above the left pocket on the Army Service Uniform (ASU) or the class B white shirt in the following order:

Medal of Valor	MV
Distinguished Service Medal	DSM
Medal of Merit	MM
Meritorious Service Medal	MSM
Commendation Medal	CM
Individual Achievement Ribbon	IAR
Homeland Defense Achievement Medal	HDAM
Good Conduct Ribbon	GCR
Longevity Service Ribbon	LSM
Federal Service School Ribbon	FSSR
Humanitarian Service Ribbon	HSR
Service Ribbon	SR
Emergency Training Service Ribbon	ESTR
Volunteer Service Ribbon	VSR
Honors Detail Service Ribbon	HDSR
Military Readiness Ribbon	MRR
Recruiting Achievement Ribbon	RAR
	RAR MPR

Authorized Awards not listed above. Approved by HQ, SCSG

State Guard or Other State Awards/Decorations. Military Societies/Organizations Awards/Decorations. State Guard Association of the US.

4-3. Unit Awards/Decorations: Unit awards/decorations are worn above the right pocket of the uniforms described above.

Governor's Unit Citation	GUC
Outstanding Unit Citation Ribbon	OUCR
Unit Achievement Award	UAA

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4-4. Wearing Awards, Decorations, Badges and Appurtenances.

a. Only awards, decorations, and badges awarded by the United States Armed Forces (Active and Reserve), National Guard, the Armed Forces of allied or friendly nations, State of South Carolina, South Carolina State Guard, other US states and territories, and Chartered military societies and organizations may be worn on the uniform by members of the SCSG. State Guard Association of the United States (SGAUS) awards and decorations are authorized on SCSG uniform.

b. The following order of precedence will apply: US Armed Forces (Active and Reserve), National Guard, Foreign Allied Military Forces, State of South Carolina, SCSG, other State Guards and territories, and State Guard Association of the United States (SGAUS). Review AR 672-1 and AGR 672-1 for National Guard awards.

1. All unit decorations/awards will be worn on the right side of the dress uniform. Maximum of three (3) ribbons per row.

2. Appurtenances are devices affixed to service or suspension ribbons. They are worn to denote additional awards, participation in specific event, or other distinguished characteristics of the award. These include:

Oak leaf cluster Stars Knots Numerals

These Appurtenances are used to identify level and area of proficiency:

The Maltese cross device Crossed pistols Torches Branch insignia

c. No foreign military decorations, awards or foreign badges may be worn on the uniform unless at least one U.S. decoration or service ribbon is worn at the same time.

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1 April 2019

BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR:

OFFICIAL:

R. VAN MCCARTY Major General, SCARNG The Adjutant General

LEON L. LOTT Brigadier General, SCSG Commander

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