



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 28, 2019

CONNECTICUT MILITARY DEPARTMENT, COAST GUARD SIGN COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

Paves the way for Connecticut National Guard and U.S. Coast Guard Research and Development Center to explore mutually-beneficial partnerships

HARTFORD, Conn. - Maj. Gen. Fran Evon, the Adjutant General and commanding officer of the Connecticut National Guard, announced that the Connecticut Military Department and U.S. Coast Guard Research and Development Center have signed a Joint Memorandum of Understanding at the Gov. William A. O'Neill Armory in Hartford, Friday.

The agreement helps provide a clear path for the two organizations to collaborate on a number of different innovative endeavors in the realms of cyber, intelligence, Arctic operations and concept development.

“The Connecticut Military Department, specifically the Connecticut National Guard, has a long history of interagency cooperation to better serve the state and nation,” Evon said. “We are excited to work with the Coast Guard to share ideas and develop new, innovative methods that will help shape the future of our organizations.”

The Coast Guard Research and Development Center, commanded by U.S. Coast Guard Capt. Gregory C. Rothrock, is located in New London, Connecticut, and was, “established in 1968 to answer the service’s need to increase efforts to discover new concepts and develop technological improvements necessary to meet present and future mission requirements,” according to its website.

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The Coast Guard Research and Development Center has been part of the Connecticut community since 1974,” said Rothrock. Signing an MOU with our home state's National Guard leverages the capabilities of both organizations towards common interests. We are excited that by working together we increase our opportunities to impact our combined services and the citizens we support.”

The Connecticut Military Department consists of the Connecticut Army National Guard, Connecticut Air National Guard and the Governor’s Foot and Horse Guard Units of the State Militia. In total, the organization encompasses more than 5,000 Guardsmen, Militia Members and Employees.

“We are committed to providing state-of-the-art training and equipment to Connecticut’s Guardsmen in order to ensure we remain a ready, relevant force,” Evon said. “Partnering with an in-state entity like the Coast Guard’s Research and Development Center was a no-brainer, and we can’t wait to get to work.”

Connecticut is the second state National Guard to partner with the USCG R&D after an agreement was reached with the Ohio National Guard in 2018.

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