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For Immediate Release

Change of Command for Utah Guard Ground Forces Commander

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah – The Utah National Guard will conduct a change of command for its Land Component Command Saturday, Oct. 13, at 2 :30 p.m. at the Camp Williams Readiness Center auditorium.

At the ceremony Brig. Gen. Michael R. Liechty will formally transfer command to Col. Val L. Peterson, where Peterson will assume oversight of the six Utah Army National Guard major commands to include Engineers, Special Forces, Aviation, Artillery, Military Intelligence and Troop Command units.

A change-of-responsibility ceremony for the senior enlisted leader for Land Component Command will also take place in conjunction with the change of command. At that ceremony, Command Sgt. Maj. Stephan Vogl will transfer responsibility to Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Brown.

Liechty, of Providence, has served as commander of Land Component Command since 2008. He will be retiring from the Utah National Guard after 42 years of service, but will continue his full-time civilian employment with Cache County School District in North Logan, where he is deputy superintendent.

An Orem resident, Peterson is full-time vice president for finance and administration at Utah Valley University. He is also a member of the Utah State House of Representatives, District 59. In his 28-year military career he has served as a company commander, battalion commander and brigade commander.

A retirement ceremony for Brig. Gen. Liechty will follow at 3 p.m.

Media Notes: Camp Williams is located at 17800 S. Camp Williams (Redwood) Road in Bluffdale at the Salt Lake-Utah County line. For more information, please contact Lt. Col. Hank McIntire at (801) 420-4778.