



## UTAH NATIONAL GUARD PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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### For Immediate Release

## Utah Guard's 85<sup>th</sup> Civil Support Team Called to Assist with Response to North Logan Ricin Incident

DRAPER, Utah – At the request of local authorities, 17 members of the Utah National Guard's 85<sup>th</sup> Civil Support Team responded to a suspected ricin incident in North Logan this morning.

The mission of the 85<sup>th</sup> is to provide support to civil authorities at a domestic chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear or explosives (CBRNE) incident site by identifying CBRNE agents/substances, assessing current and projected consequences, advising on response measures and assisting with appropriate requests for additional resources.

The 85<sup>th</sup> consists of 22 highly skilled, full-time members of the Army and Air National Guard who have acquired 600-800 hours of initial training over and above their military occupational skill qualification. Team members have received training from several Department of Defense schools, along with other agencies to include the National Fire Academy, FEMA, EPA and Department of Energy.

Training regularly with local first responders, the 85<sup>th</sup> participates in city, county and regional hazmat-scenario exercises.

The unit deployed to the Gulf Coast region in 2008 for Hurricane Ike and in 2005 in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina to assist in relief efforts there. The 85<sup>th</sup> also responded to a suspected ricin incident at Utah Valley University in 2009 and helped to identify the lethal substances involved in the deaths of two Layton girls in 2010 after an exterminator treated the home for pests.

For questions, please contact Lt. Col. Hank McIntire at (801) 420-4778.