



# PRESS RELEASE

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United States Veteran Reserve Corps.  
Public Affairs Office | 1<sup>st</sup> Indiana – Battalion  
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## **1<sup>ST</sup> Indiana Battalion Trains Up in Damage Assessment**

**Lafayette, IN** – The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) was on hand for 1<sup>st</sup> Indiana Battalion's drill weekend to train soldiers in conducting Damage Assessment on behalf of the State.

Damage assessments are the first step in having the President issue an Emergency Proclamation following a flood, tornado, or other natural disaster. When activated, 1<sup>st</sup> Indiana Battalion will be part of a robust response network that gauges the extend of damage to each individual property and business, and then compiles that data to the State.

Once received by the Governor's Office, the Governor will issue a letter to the President of the United States requesting a Stafford Act declaration.

The Stafford Act (1988) is the official Presidential declaration that opens financial and physical assistance programs to effected communities.

Last month, a small contingent of soldiers from 1<sup>st</sup> Indiana Battalion received a preliminary 8-hour training from IDHS at the Porter County Emergency Management Agency.

1<sup>st</sup> Indiana Battalion, additionally, is an Emergency Response unit that is trained to assist in disaster response.

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