

Team Army Medicine,

LTG Dingle and I are pleased to announce the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY 2022 Army Medicine Wolf Pack Award to the US Army North (ARNORTH), Fifth Army, Office of the Command Surgeon (OCSURG) Staff, Fort Sam Houston, TX.

The ARNORTH OCSURG staff is comprised of 19 Army Active Duty military and Department of the Army Civilians. The ARNORTH OCSURG Staff's contributions resulted in providing exceptional support to the US Northern Command and the Nation during Conflict (Homeland Defense) and Defense Support to Civil Authorities Operation Allies Relief/Welcome (OAR/OAW) and the COVID-19 Operations.

The OCSURG staff planned, implemented, and set conditions for mission completion to deliver contracted comprehensive health care to over 3,200 Afghan guests in support of Operation Allies Welcome (OAW) Phase II at the National Convention Center (NCC), Leesburg, Virginia. This humanitarian medical mission was imperative in support of National Interests, ensuring public health and safety amid large-scale international refugee migration; and assured the health and wellness of Afghan Guests on their pathway to resettlement and American Citizenship. The OAW Phase II's National-level accomplishment is built upon the foundation of exceptional health care provided during the OAR/OAW Phase I in which the team operationally directed support of over 73,000 Afghan Guests to receive their first-ever medical examination, women's reproductive care, and public health immunization series (i.e., the complete Centers for Disease Control and Prevention formulary, resulting in nearly 500,000 vaccines administered). This was a holistic and eye-opening introduction to tens-of thousands of Afghan refugees to the American standard of care. While managing simultaneous large-scale health service support (HSS) operations during this period, the ARNORTH OCSURG staff continued its nearly two-year mission to oversee Federal COVID-19 Response across the United States and U.S. territories. The OCSURG staff vertically and horizontally synchronized across the interagency and across the joint services to find innovative ways to tailor Department of Defense hospital augmentation teams to meet the needs of the American people and private sector hospital systems facing the strain of COVID-19. This was crucial as the team balanced Presidential domestic priorities against global conflict/tension requirements in an operational environment of scarce resources. This oversight resulted in a culmination of a successful no-fail and protracted mission to save the lives of thousands of Americans in over 63 hospitals across the nation.

The extreme dedication to duty of the OCSURG staff, in its Defense Support to Civil Authorities (DSCA) role, prepared the HSS plan in support of the interagency All-Hazards Response. This prepared ARNORTH for sudden DSCA responses, to include the medical action plan for the 2022 Hurricane Season and the upcoming Wildland Firefighting season in partnership with National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC).

Please join us in congratulating the team for their exceptional teamwork and noteworthy outcomes. These efforts illustrate selfless service and dedication reflecting great credit on each team member and epitomizing the highest standards of The Army and Army Medicine.

Congratulations Team!

v/r,  
Chris

Chris Rheney  
Chief, AMEDD Civilian Corps