

## MISSION

JTF-N supports federal law enforcement agencies in the conduct of counterdrug/counter transnational organized crime operations and facilitates DoD training in the USNORTHCOM area of responsibility to disrupt transnational criminal organizations and deter their freedom of action in order to protect the homeland and increase DoD unit readiness.



## HISTORY

For nearly 30 years, Joint Task Force North (JTF-N) has played an integral role in supporting law enforcement efforts in the nation's counterdrug campaign along the U.S. border.

Based on Fort Bliss, Texas, JTF-N serves as a joint service command comprised of active-duty and Reserve-component Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, Coast Guardsmen, Department of Defense (DoD) civilian employees, and contracted support personnel.

JTF-N is the DoD organization tasked to support U.S. law enforcement agencies in the identification and interdiction of suspected transnational criminal organizations' activities conducted within and along the nation's southwest border and entries into the United States.

As an element of U.S. Northern Command (NORTHCOM) and under operational control of U.S. Army North (ARNORTH), JTF-N operates within NORTHCOM's entire area of responsibility – encompassing North America and the Caribbean and including air, land and sea approaches.



"For nearly 30 years, Joint Task Force North has provided unique capabilities in support of our law enforcement partners in the homeland. We are steadfast in our commitment to countering transnational organized crime threats and the illicit drugs that they bring in our country. Military units that support our headquarters gain invaluable, mission-focused training against an adaptive adversary. These DOD units are better trained in their mission-required tasks, and law enforcement partners can better complete their tasks to secure the homeland."

*Army Maj. Gen. Kurt S. Crytzer  
Commander, Joint Task Force North*

## JOINT TASK FORCE NORTH "SERVICE TO THE NATION"

**Joint Task Force North  
Building 11603,  
Old Ironsides Drive  
Fort Bliss, Texas 79918-0058**

**To request support or to inquire  
about training opportunities,  
please contact:**

**JTF-N Joint Operations  
Coordination Center  
915.313.7777**

**Email:  
[n.nc.bliss.jtf.n.list-jocc-all-dl@mail.mil](mailto:n.nc.bliss.jtf.n.list-jocc-all-dl@mail.mil)**

**March 2017**



## JOINT TASK FORCE NORTH "SERVICE TO THE NATION"

## JOINT TASK FORCE NORTH-SUPPORTED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES INCLUDE:

### Department of Justice

- Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)
- El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC)

### High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) programs

### Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

- U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)
- Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
- United States Coast Guard (USCG)
- DHS Joint Task Force – West (JTF-W)
- DHS Joint Task Force – East (JTF-E)
- DHS Joint Task Force – Investigations (JTF-I)

### Regional Partnerships

- Caribbean Border Interagency Group (CBIG)
- Corpus Christi Regional Coordinating Mechanism (RECOM)
- New Mexico/West Texas Alliance to Combat Transnational Threats (ACTT)
- Arizona Alliance to Combat Transnational Threats (ACTT)
- California Coastal Regional Coordinating Mechanism (RECOM)
- San Diego Regional Coordination Mechanism (RECOM)

*NOTE: JTF-N can support any Department of Justice, Department of Homeland Security or High Intensity Drug Trafficking area organization or component.*

## MILITARY SUPPORT TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

JTF-N missions support drug law enforcement agencies. All military support for homeland security is based on support requests and threat assessments. Support requests are submitted to JTF-N by federal law enforcement agencies from the Department of Homeland Security, Department of Justice and High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) programs.

For support requests that are appropriate and in compliance with statutory guidelines for domestic employment of military forces, JTF-N will seek military units to volunteer the requested operational support. Once a unit volunteers to support the drug law enforcement agencies, JTF-N facilitates mission planning and execution with the unit and the supported agency.

JTF-N is an effects multiplier assisting law enforcement agencies to secure the homeland by providing supplemental and unique capabilities.

## MILITARY TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer units have repeatedly remarked in after-action reports that JTF-N homeland security support missions provided them with the best training they have ever received. Missions yield significant real-world training values that enhance the volunteer unit's combat effectiveness against dynamic transnational threats.

Volunteer units are able to exercise 90 percent of their wartime mission tasks in unique training environments, which may include desert or mountainous terrain. Military support operations to law enforcement closely mirror duties that units will perform in contingency deployments, to include military combat structures that support civilian authorities.



While executing JTF-N missions, units may also concurrently conduct additional training at some of the nation's best training ranges located near the mission sites. Moreover, flexibility in mission execution dates allows units to integrate JTF-N missions into their pre-deployment training cycle.

To maximize training value to the unit, JTF-N assigns field grade officers as mission planners to assist volunteer units throughout the entire mission planning and execution process.

To encourage volunteer units, JTF-N normally funds most mission-related costs to include transportation of personnel and equipment, billeting and rations, expendable supplies, and service support contracts required for mission accomplishment.

## JTF-N'S SUPPORT TO FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES FALLS INTO THE FOLLOWING SIX CATEGORIES:

### • Operational Support

Air, ground and maritime surveillance radar  
Aviation support missions  
Aviation reconnaissance  
Ground sensor operations  
Ground reconnaissance operations  
Ground transportation  
Unmanned aircraft systems

### • Engineering Support

#### (Southwest border only)

Road/bridge construction and improvement  
Border lights installation  
Personnel/vehicle barriers

### • Intelligence Support

Intelligence analytic support  
Intelligence preparation of the operational environment  
Geospatial intelligence support  
Reserve intelligence analyst support

### • General Support

Transportation  
Tunnel detection  
Sustainment  
Mobile Training Teams/Table Top Exercises

### • Interagency synchronization

Cooperative defense – facilitating bi-national information sharing  
Point of integration operations  
Support interagency planning process

### • Technology Integration

Biometrics  
Ground/air/maritime sensor integration  
Information efficiency and networks  
Leverage Department of Defense science and technology investment