

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE No. 293 – July 15, 2020 For more information contact: <u>Andrew Layton</u> 517-940-0881

Michigan National Guard to Assist with No-Cost Community COVID-19 Testing in Munising

LANSING, MICH. The Michigan National Guard will continue its partnership with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Michigan State Police State Emergency Operations Center, and local health departments to offer drive-thru COVID-19 testing this week in Alger county.

Testing will be held in from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, July 18, at the Alger County Road Commission Garage, which is located at E9264 M-28 in Munising.

The Michigan National Guard has more than 25 trained testing teams ready to assist the State of Michigan with testing initiatives. These three-member teams include a certified medic to conduct the testing and two members to assist with paperwork, logistics, and non-medical tasks. All team members from the Michigan National Guard have tested negative for COVID-19 and have been following strict medical protocols to ensure health and safety and to protect Michigan communities.

"The Michigan National Guard remains a critical asset to our state as we continue the fight against COVID-19 as neighbors and community members," said Maj. Gen. Paul Rogers, Adjutant General and Director of the Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. "Working alongside public health professionals, we are striving to make COVID-19 testing easy, safe, and accessible for all Michiganders."

The Michigan National Guard has been actively engaged in the state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic through widespread testing and screening, distribution of personal protective equipment, and assistance at numerous food banks across the state since March 18. The community testing initiative is a continuation of those efforts.

Similar testing has been held in 31 other communities over the past two months.

Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at <u>Michigan.gov/Coronavirus</u> and <u>CDC.gov/Coronavirus</u>.

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