



**MEDIA ADVISORY  
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**Alaska Army Guard welcomes new aircraft during unveiling ceremony**

**JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska** — The Alaska Army National Guard will unveil two UH-72 Lakota helicopters during an Oct. 29 ceremony at Hangar 4 on Bryant Army Airfield here.

The UH-72 Lakota performs logistics and support missions within the US and the National Guard for homeland security, disaster response missions, and search and rescues.

The light utility helicopter operates in permissive, non-hostile environments, performing air movement, aerial sustainment, civil search and rescue, command and control, reconnaissance, casualty evacuation and medical evacuation.

The two UH-72 Lakotas are part of a force structure exchange that will add more capability and capacity to the current aviation force structure to execute state and federal missions.

The two newest helicopters joined the current fleet of UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters, which are currently stationed at JBER, Bethel, Juneau and Nome. Six CH-47 Chinook heavy-lift helicopters and an additional C-12 Huron transport aircraft will bring the fleet of Alaska Army National Guard aircraft to 24.

Alaska Army Guard aviators will be made available for interviews immediately following the ceremony.

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**Details:**

**What:** Unveiling two UH-72 Lakota helicopters

**When:** Monday, Oct. 29

**Where:** Hangar 4, Bryant Army Airfield

**Note:** Media interested in attending the unveiling should contact Candis Olmstead at (907) 428-6030. Please leave a voice message with name of news organization and reporter. Plan to meet at the Fort Richardson gate visitor's center at 10:15 a.m. for escort to the event.