



**FOR August 5, 2016**

**16-059**

## **Alaska Army National Guard Airborne unit conducts last airborne operation**

**JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska** – Alaska Army National Guard members assigned to Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 143rd Infantry Regiment (Airborne) will participate in their last airborne operation at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Malamute drop zone, between 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on August 5. This event is for members of the Alaska National Guard and not open to the public.

The airborne event will include more than 25 paratroopers flown in iterations using a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter.

This will be the final airborne operation conducted by Alaska Army National Guard members, as their airborne status will be retired later this month.

Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 143rd Infantry Regiment (Airborne), is a Bethel-based unit comprised of more than 120 Soldiers from all over the state. The company is capable of worldwide deployment to engage enemy forces using fire, maneuver, and shock effect. The unit deployed in 2011 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Media is invited to attend the event from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m.

**###**

**Who:** Alaska Army National Guard, Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 143rd Infantry (Airborne)

**What:** Last airborne operation for unit

**Where:** Malamute Drop Zone, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson

**When:** Confirmed media will meet for media escort at the JBER-Richardson gate on Friday, August 5 at 9:15 a.m.

**Notes:** Media interested in attending the ceremony must call Lt. Col. Candis Olmstead at 428-6031 to RSVP no later than 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 4th. Please leave a message with name, affiliation, and cell number.