

**U. S. ARMY**  
**SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND**  
**PARACHUTE DEMONSTRATION TEAM**



**2010**  
**SUPPORT MANUAL**

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND  
FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA 28310-5000

United States Army Special Operations Command Parachute Demonstration Team

Dear Sponsor:

Thank you for choosing the U. S. Army Special Operations Command (USASOC) Parachute Demonstration Team, the Black Daggers to support your event. We are very honored and want to thank you for giving us this opportunity to demonstrate the professionalism and dedication of special operations forces! We will do everything we can to make your event successful by delivering the best performance possible. Prior planning is absolutely necessary to reach this goal..

There is a one-time fee of \$1500 to perform at your event. Once your show has been approved, you will be notified where to mail the check.

You, the show sponsor, will also pay for a round-trip ticket for an advance representative to arrive at your location two days prior to the rest of the team's arrival. The advance representative finalizes coordination and prepares for the team's arrival and has the authority to make decisions on my behalf.

Again, thank you for requesting the U. S. Army Special Operations Command Parachute Demonstration Team to perform at your event. We look forward to performing at your event and providing the spectators a firsthand look at their U.S. Army in action. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or the team show coordinator, SFC Jessica Riggins, by phone or e-mail. Call either of us at the team phone (910) 907-2370 or via cell. My cell number is (910) 574-4343; Sergeant Riggins' cell number is (910) 580 – 4384. My e-mail address is [Blackdaggerstl@yahoo.com](mailto:Blackdaggerstl@yahoo.com); Sergeant Riggins' is [blackdaggers@yahoo.com](mailto:blackdaggers@yahoo.com). The Black Daggers Fax number is (910) 907-2368.

Lastly, take a look at the Black Daggers site on the U.S. Army Special Operations Command public server at <http://news.soc.mil/blkdgrslg/daggerhome.htm>. You will find a wealth of information there including sponsor instructions, scheduled performances, team profiles, biographies and photos.

David L. Rose  
SFC, USA  
Team Leader

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## Section I: Support Requirements

### COORDINATION

Once your 2535 and overhead photos have been processed you will be contacted by the USASOC Public Affairs Office, Community Relations Division to confirm whether or not your request will be supported. The Community Relations Division can address any questions or concerns regarding support eligibility. You may contact them at (910) 432-6005.

Once approved all other coordination of your event should be directed to the USASOC parachute team coordinator SFC Jessica Riggins at (910) 580-4384.

### ADVANCE REPRESENTATIVE

You, the show sponsor, will pay travel costs for an advance representative to get to your location two days prior to the rest of the team's arrival. This representative is an integral part of the demonstration team that will perform at your event. Upon arrival he/she must be met at the airport by the event point of contact (POC) assigned to assist the team. This POC must be designated to act as a liaison between the parachute team and your staff and as such should have decision-making authority to facilitate the planning process and should be dedicated to the team during the entire event. Additionally, the parachute team's advance representative must be provided, at no cost to the team, with hotel accommodations as well as a vehicle to travel to the show site. This is included in the total support requirements for the team, not an addition to it.

### ON-SITE COORDINATION MEETING

Our advance representative is responsible for identifying potential on-site issues such as Federal Aviation Administration clearances, a final review of the drop zone(s) and other requirements that might interfere with our participation in your event.

### SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS

The event sponsor is required to provide two mini-vans or one mini-van and one 15-passenger van or large SUV to transport personnel and equipment. In addition to the vehicles, the sponsor must provide rooms for the team. The team travels with no less than five and no more than 10 members. The sponsor must also provide an aircraft for the team to utilize for the demonstrations. Any questions about the type or where to locate a suitable jump aircraft should be referred to the parachute team coordinator. The sponsor provides these requirements at no cost to the parachute team members or the U.S. government.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

Reservations should be made under the name "USASOC Parachute Team". Accommodations for the team advance representative should also be reserved under the name of "USASOC Parachute Team." Upon request, the advance representative will provide the names of the team members to the hotel. Rooms should be located adjacent to one another as much as possible to facilitate coordination among the team members. All rooms must be single occupancy, non-smoking and have telephones. The total number of rooms required is dependent on the number of personnel supporting the event. On military installations, all team members will be housed in the same facility in the event of an official meeting.

## TRANSPORTATION

Sponsors will provide transportation at no expense to the parachute team. The vehicle requirement of two mini vans or one mini-van and one 15-passenger van or large SUV reflects the minimum support capable of transporting our personnel and equipment. One of these vehicles must be available to the advance representative upon arrival. We cannot accept tactical military vehicles or GOV's. The sponsor must provide assurances that vehicles are covered under insurance provided by rental agencies, the show sponsor, or by other means. All vehicles must have no restrictions and have access to the flight line area.

## AIRCRAFT

The USASOC Parachute Demonstration Team is not assigned aircraft support. It is the event sponsor's responsibility to furnish the team suitable aircraft for the demonstrations. The type of aircraft required depends on the number of demonstrators. The smallest aircraft the team would operate from is a 2-seat Cessna-182. Preferred jump aircraft includes Air Force cargo airplanes such as a C-130, C-141 or C-17; however, U.S. Army, National Guard, Coast Guard or Navy UH-60, UH-1H and CH-47 helicopters or similar helicopters will suffice. If you cannot locate an aircraft, please contact the team as soon as possible for advice on how to locate an aircraft through a civilian skydiving operation. If using U.S. Air Force aircraft, coordination may be arranged to pick the team up at Pope Air Force Base, Fort Bragg, or within a reasonable distance of Fort Bragg (within 35 miles). In addition to transportation to and from the show site, the aircraft may also serve as the jump platform.

## WEATHER CONSIDERATIONS

Weather conditions must be within the limitations of Federal Aviation Administration regulations and other requirements set forth by the U.S. Parachuting Association and other governmental organizations. The team's minimum parachute-opening altitude is 2,000 feet above ground level (AGL). Surface winds cannot be excessive. Limitations to jump demonstrations may vary based upon ground hazards and turbulence. The team leader will make the determination if a demonstration may proceed or be canceled, and his decision is final.

## NARRATION

All of our demonstrations are narrated by one of our demonstrators. The sponsor is required to provide an adequate public address system that is capable of broadcasting to the entire audience. The system must have the capability of playing a compact disc to allow the use of our background music. A microphone must be in a location that provides an unobstructed view of the entire drop zone. A cordless microphone is preferred.

## MEDICAL SUPPORT

Medical support must be available at the demonstration site. An emergency response vehicle with a paramedic or emergency medical technician must be on location and a licensed physician or physician's assistant must be on site before the demonstrators will be allowed to exit the aircraft. The rescue vehicle must be equipped with a backboard, cervical collar and oxygen.

## GROUND SUPPORT

If there is a body of water within one mile of the drop zone, a rescue boat and two-person crew will be required to be located at the body of water for personnel recovery. Additionally, a mobile firefighting, crash unit and ground-to-air communications equipment must be on the drop zone for the duration of the demonstration. Adequate crowd control measures will also be required on the drop zone. We require that the sponsor provide a vehicle and a person to recover any canopy that may be jettisoned during any of our performances. The cutaway recovery person will be required to retrieve a jettisoned main parachute should one of the jumpers have an actual parachute malfunction during one of the shows. Two tables and eight chairs will be supplied for the team to hand out brochures after the jump has been completed.

## SOCIAL ENGAGEMENTS

The members of the USASOC Parachute Team are pleased to be involved in your event and will make every attempt to attend any social functions you have planned. Should you desire the team to attend your gathering, please inform the parachute team of the date, time, location and appropriate attire, as well as any special requests associated with the engagement. We are also able to make a presentation if you so desire.

## Section II: Demonstration Jumps

### NARRATOR

At the beginning of each performance, a single demonstrator will exit and free fall to a designated opening altitude. After the main parachute opens, the jumper will deploy a flag. That flag will either be the U.S. or POW/MIA flag.

### MASS EXIT

During the Mass Exit all demonstrators exit the aircraft at the same time, and based upon exit altitude, join together while in free fall to form a large formation in the sky. At a predetermined altitude the jumpers will separate, creating a bomb burst in the sky. Demonstrators will jump with smoke canisters so that spectators can track their movements during the jump. The Mass Exit normally takes 20 minutes to perform. (*NOTE: If the team travels to the performance site via commercial air; smoke canisters cannot be carried on commercial airlines.*)

### STACK OUT/CRW (Canopy Relative Work) SHOW

The Stack Out / CRW (Canopy Relative Work) Show consists of the demonstrators normally exiting at 4,500 feet above ground level and flying their parachutes together to form multiple types of canopy formations such as the Three-Stack, Bi-plane, down-plane and famous Tri-Bi-Side formation. The other demonstrators fly their parachutes in to the target area for precise accuracy landings. This show normally takes 15 minutes.

### MILITARY COMBAT EQUIPMENT SHOW

The Combat Equipment show consists of illustrating one of the many ways that Special Operations Forces soldiers may be inserted into a hostile environment, demonstrated by a High-Altitude, Low-Opening, called HALO. All the demonstrators will simultaneously exit the aircraft wearing camouflaged clothing, oxygen masks, rucksacks (back packs) and rubber M-16's, they will then fall to a predetermined altitude and open their main parachutes; a minimum clearance of 3,500 feet above ground level (AGL) is necessary to jump with combat equipment. The demonstrators will land at the same time in one general location. Once the demonstrators are all in one location they will then precede to the line-up and presentation mark. In some cases at the sponsors' request, the team can land up and down the show line approximately 50 feet from the spectators. After landing, the demonstrators will move into the crowd to pack their main parachutes. This show normally takes 20 minutes.

### SPECIAL DEMONSTRATIONS / STADIUM JUMPS

Special Demonstrations are conducted for high visibility events when one of the previous three demonstrations would not be suitable. The Special Demonstration can be tailored to fit the occasion. The type of show we do is dependent upon the event, time available, and the sponsor's desires. A stadium jump is usually performed from 4,000 feet AGL. The length of this show depends on the sponsor and time constraints.

### NIGHT PYROTECHNICS SHOW

The Night Pyrotechnics Show consists of the demonstrators normally exiting at 12,500 to 4,500 feet ABL, igniting cold burning pyrotechnics and opening their parachutes at a predetermined altitude continuing to ignite pyrotechnics until they land in the target area. This show normally takes 15 minutes.

## Section III: Advertising and Public Affairs

### ADVERTISING AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The U.S. Army Special Operations Command, Public Affairs Office has a PR kit that contains a pre-event press release you may use to announce the team participation in your event, a video of the team in action, a fact sheet, a USASOC brochure, a team photograph and poster. This packet is available, once your show has been approved for support. For more information regarding the press packet, please contact the Public Affairs Office at (910) 432-6005, or e-mail [riddleyb@soc.mil](mailto:riddleyb@soc.mil). Ms. Bonita Riddley is your point of contact.

At the end of each scheduled show, time permitting, the demonstrators will spend time with the spectators and give out information about the U.S. Army Special Operations Command. Team members will be available for pictures and to sign autographs.

## Section IV: Support Documents

### SPONSOR CHECKLIST

1. Contact with USASOC Public Affairs Office \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Contact with USASOC Parachute Team \_\_\_\_\_.
3. FAA Coordination:
  - a. Point of Contact \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. FAA Form 7711-2 sent to FAA FSDO/GADO \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. Copy of Form 7711-1 sent to USASOC Parachute Team 21 days in advance of the Teams arrival \_\_\_\_\_. Aerial photograph / drawing sent to Parachute Team \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d. NOTAMS filed with FAA Flight Service Station no later than 12 hours prior to jump \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Accommodations:
  - a. Hotel / Motel \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. Rooms \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. Length of stay determined \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Transportation:
  - a. Two Mini Vans \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. Flight line parking passes for vehicles \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. Local maps provided \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Demonstration Coordination:
  - a. Location of jump site determined \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. Location of tandem site determined \_\_\_\_\_ N/A \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. Location of tandem preparation room \_\_\_\_\_ N/A \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d. Type / types of Demonstrations determined \_\_\_\_\_.
  - e. Air shows schedule \_\_\_\_\_.
  - f. Take off and Wind Drift indicator included in the show itinerary \_\_\_\_\_.
  - g. Cutaway recovery person identified \_\_\_\_\_.
  - h. Medical coverage (Physician/physician assistant) \_\_\_\_\_.
  - i. Emergency response vehicle and crew \_\_\_\_\_.
  - j. Rescue boat and crew (if body of water within one mile of DZ) \_\_\_\_\_.
  - k. Mobile firefighting, crash unit \_\_\_\_\_.
  - l. Crowd control \_\_\_\_\_.
  - m. Canopy recovery vehicle and crew \_\_\_\_\_.
  - n. Bathrooms accessible and near Aircraft \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Social Engagements:
  - a. Date / Time / Location \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. USASOC Parachute Team informed \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. Appropriate attire determined \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d. Inform Advance representative \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Funding \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. DD 448 (MIPR) sent to USASOC Parachute Team (military sponsors only) \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Arrival and pick up time of Advance Representative \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Arrival time of Team \_\_\_\_\_.