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National Guard Armory Closure Announcement To Come Today

Adjutant General spokesperson Sharon Watson said all regions of the state will be impacted with the announcement of the National Guard Armory closures. Authorities say they've tried to spread the closures and consolidations evenly across the state

Watson could not identify the specific armories, saying several officials still needed to be notified on this morning of the plans.

Maj. Gen. Tod Bunting, Kansas adjutant general, will announce the 18 locations during a 2 p.m. news conference today.

The Kansas Adjutant General's Department announced on Nov. 25 it would close 18 of its 56 National Guard armories and consolidate its operations into 38 existing armory facilities. The proposal was part of Gov. Mark Parkinson's budget reduction announcement earlier that week.

"This decision was a very difficult one and the result of many hours of careful consideration of the impact to communities and our Guard members," Bunting said.

"During the past two weeks, we notified a number of staff to begin working on an implementation plan for the movement of the impacted Army units and equipment from each of these 18 facilities," said Bunting. "We are working to ensure each unit has a smooth

Personnel in these armories will retain their jobs and be transferred to another location. The number of National Guard units in Kansas will not change due to these closures.

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