



**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
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CONTACT: Jill Etter, Director of Communications
PHONE: (210) 508-9953
EMAIL: jill.etter@ndswm.org

VFW District to Host ‘Desert Thunder’ Motorcycle Ride in Support of National Desert Storm War Memorial Association

Motorcycle Run from McAllen to Port Isabel Proceeds will Help Build Memorial

Washington, D.C. – The National Desert Storm War Memorial Association is excited to announce that VFW District 18 in McAllen, Texas is hosting a motorcycle ride and events on Saturday, April 6, 2019 to raise funds to build the National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial in Washington, D.C.

The Desert Thunder Ride will run between McAllen, Texas to Port Isabel, Texas. Registration begins at 8 AM on Saturday, April 6, 2019 and Kick Stands Up will occur at 9:30 AM. The ride’s destination is VFW Post 12178 in Port Isabel, Texas. Events will continue at Pablo Pena Park in Weslaco, Texas with a music festival, food, raffles and vendor sales. A group hotel rate is available for participants.

Registration

VFW Post 8788
4321 Pecan Boulevard
McAllen, TX 78501

\$20 per bike
\$10 for each additional rider

Palm Aire Hotel

415 South International Boulevard
Weslaco, Texas 78596
956-969-2411
www.palmairhotel.com

Group Code: VFW
Group Rate: \$59 (Single or Double)

Points of Contact

Ruben Garcia
Texas State Development Leader
National Desert Storm War Memorial Association
210-379-7404
ruben.garcia@ndswm.org
www.ndswm.org

Lupita Perez
Commander
VFW District 18
956-292-8416

Schedule

8 AM – Registration
9:30 AM – Kick Stands Up
VFW Post 8788
McAllen, Texas
1 PM – Arrive at Mayor Pablo Pena Park
300 North Airport Drive
Weslaco, Texas 78596

In 1991, the United States of America sent a powerful message of international unity and cooperation to Saddam Hussein by opposing and ejecting Iraq’s occupying forces and liberating the peaceful

nation of Kuwait. The mission undertaken by the United States Armed Forces during Operation Desert Storm and Desert Shield was a remarkable example of American leadership, values, and sacrifice in the pursuit of freedom.

The Memorial's design will commemorate the historical significance of Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm while honoring the service and sacrifice of the United States of America and Coalition military personnel who liberated Kuwait from Iraq and defended Saudi Arabia. The Memorial is projected to be completed by 2021.

In December 2014, President Obama signed the Memorial's enabling legislation. In March 2017, President Trump signed the law authorizing the Memorial to be built near the National Mall in Washington, D.C., in an Area – 1 location. In June 2018, a site located in close proximity to the Lincoln Memorial and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial received approval.

Since 2011, the National Desert Storm War Memorial Association (NDSWM) has worked to achieve its singular mission, construction of the National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial. Our task is the completion and dedication of the memorial on Veterans Day, 2021. All efforts are backed exclusively by private sources, zero taxpayer funds are accepted. NDSWM is a federally recognized, tax-exempt, 501(c)3 structure led by an all-volunteer board of directors.

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