

**NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** February 11, 2019 **CONTACT:** Jill Etter, Director of Communications **PHONE:** (210) 508-9953 **EMAIL:** jill.etter@ndswm.org

## Kentucky Lt Gov to Speak at The National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial Site Dedication Ceremony

Operation Desert Storm combat veteran Lt Gov Jenean Hampton to attend Memorial consecration

Washington, D.C. – The National Desert Storm War Memorial Association is pleased to announce that Kentucky's Lieutenant Governor, The Honorable Jenean M. Hampton, has agreed to speak during the Memorial's site dedication ceremony in Washington, D.C.

CPT Hampton served in the U.S. Air Force from 1985 to 1992 as a Computer Systems-Communications Officer. Assigned to the 552d Airborne Warning and Control Wing at Tinker AFB, she deployed to Riyadh Saudi Arabia during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. In-theater she was responsible for E-3 Sentry aircraft software, replaying radar missions to help locate downed pilots and track enemy aircraft. Today, Hampton is a member of the Kentucky Veterans Hall of Fame and is actively working on projects that address the needs of both veterans and active military in Kentucky.

Lieutenant Governor Hampton stated, "The Desert Storm Memorial continues the tradition of honoring the men and women who sacrificed their lives for our great nation. It will also educate future generations about the impact and significance of this short, successful conflict to liberate Kuwait."

## **CEREMONY IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**LOCATION:** Southwest corner of Constitution Avenue and 23<sup>rd</sup> Street Northwest, Washington, D.C. **DATE:** Tuesday, February 26, 2019, at 10:30 AM ET

In 1991, the United States of America sent a powerful message of international unity and cooperation to Saddam Hussein by opposing and ejecting Iraqi'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.

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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.