

Media Advisory

The U.S. Army Military District of Washington

Guardians of the Nation's Capital



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 17-09

DATE: March 20, 2017

National Medal of Honor Day 2017

Medal of Honor recipients to Lay Wreath at Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

WHO & WHAT: Medal of Honor recipients, will lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier to commemorate National Medal of Honor Day, Saturday, March 25.

Immediately following the wreath-laying ceremony, members of the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation will proceed to Brucker Hall where they will present awards to the 2017 Citizen Service Before Self Honorees: Mr. Jacob Ellis, Ms. Molly Hudgens, Mr. Travis Ellis, Ms. Katelyn Ibarra and Fisher House of Rockville, Maryland.

WHEN & WHERE: **2:15 p.m.** **Wreath-laying Ceremony:** Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia.

3 p.m. **Citizen Honors Ceremony:** Brucker Hall, 400 McNair Road, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Virginia.

REGISTRATION: Media interested in covering these ceremonies must register by **1 p.m., Friday, March 24.** To be placed on the credentialed list, send an email to usarmy.mcnair.mdw.mbx.mediadesk-omb@mail.mil with the following information:

- **Full Name (first, middle initial and last)**
- **Media Organization and Assignment (e.g. camera, still photographer)**
- **Contact Phone Number**
- **Email Address**

CONTACTS:

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Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall
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EDITOR'S NOTES:

- The U.S. Army Military District of Washington Public Affairs Office will contact media outlets with their credential status no later than **4 p.m., Friday, March 24.**
- Media interested in covering the events live are permitted to bring mobile broadcasting equipment capable of live feeds. Please provide this information when registering.
- **Interviews:** Media must express the desire for an interview during credentialing. Interviews with Medal of Honor recipients or the awardees must be requested and coordinated through the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation, eugenia@communispr.com.

The 2017 Citizen Service Before Self Honorees:

- **Jacob Ellis** of Columbia, Missouri and **Adam Brunk** of Holts Summit, Missouri, were selected for their courageous act on August 21, 2016, when they rescued two people injured in a traffic accident. Ellis and Brunk freed the accident victims just before their car was engulfed in fire.
- **Molly Hudgens** of Ashland City, Tennessee, was selected for her courageous act on September 29, 2016, when she prevented a 14-year old middle school student from shooting teachers and administrators at Sycamore Middle School. Hudgens spoke with the student for 45 minutes until he agreed to surrender. No shots were fired during the incident.
- **Travis Ellis** of Senoia, Georgia, was selected for his selfless service in support of veterans through his work with Shepard's Men, a non-profit organization that raises awareness and funds to support post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injuries among service members. Ellis' efforts support the patients at the SHARE Military Initiative at Shepard Center, a PTS and TBI rehab program.
- **Katelyn Ibarra** of Steamboat Springs, Colorado, was selected for her heroism in assisting several citizens injured in a traffic accident. Before emergency medical professional arrived, Ibarra provided critical first-aid assistance and removed injured passengers from the immediate accident scene. Ibarra was trained in first aid through the Girl Scouts of Colorado.
- **Fisher House of Rockville, Maryland**, was selected for its steadfast support of American service members and their families. Fisher House is best known for their extensive network of comfort homes where military and veteran's families can stay at no cost while a loved one receives critical medical treatment. Fisher Houses are located on 24 military installations and 29 VA medical centers around the world. Since its inception in 1990, Fisher House has supported more than 307,000 families.

For more information about the 2017 Citizen Honorees and finalists, visit the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation website at www.cmohfoundation.org.

The **Congressional Medal of Honor Society** was chartered by Congress in 1958 to create a brotherhood among the living Medal of Honor recipients; to protect and uphold the dignity and honor of the Medal; to promote patriotism and love of country; and to inspire our youth to become worthy and dedicated citizens of our nation.

For additional ceremonial details, send an email to the U.S. Army Military District of Washington Public Affairs Office at usarmy.mcnair.mdw.mbx.mediadesk-omb@mail.mil or call 202-685-4645.