



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Navy SEAL Museum Receives Donation From Wheels & Keels of Vero Beach**

**Vero Beach, Fla. – June 7, 2019** – The Navy SEAL Museum received a generous donation from the Seventh Annual Wheels & Keels Vero Beach event. Chosen as one of four local Treasure Coast nonprofits to benefit from the annual event, the Museum will use the \$21,450 gift to further the mission of the Trident House Charities Program.

“The Navy SEAL Museum is profoundly grateful for our neighbors at the Moorings,” said Rick Kasier, retired Navy SEAL Master Chief and Executive Director of the Navy SEAL Museum. “The Wheels and Keels committee members have become close friends and invaluable allies in support of our Special Operations Forces members through our Trident House Charities outreach.”

Wheels and Keels attendees enjoyed a cocktail party and gourmet dinner on Friday, April 12 at The Moorings Yacht and Country Club, which included a live auction. Guests strolled the green the next day in perfect Florida spring weather, admiring an impressive collection of show cars—vintage and contemporary—from various owners, as well as pristine boats moored at the club in support of the well-attended function. Saturday concluded with a Red Carpet award ceremony.

“The Wheels & Keels Foundation's donation to the Navy SEAL Museum's Trident House is part of our dedication to supporting local nonprofit organizations,” said Gavin Ruotolo, President of Wheels & Keels Foundation, Inc. “The Foundation has supported the Trident House for the last four years because of the Museum’s important work in support of Navy SEALs and their families. Being able to support such worthy causes by raising the monies is what makes the huge hours devoted by the Foundation and its many volunteers worthwhile.”

The funds donated will be used to directly benefit the Trident House, the Museum’s riverfront respite house for active duty, retired veterans, and Gold Star Families in need of retreat. The home is provided entirely complimentary to the Special Operations community because of the generous donations from benefactors desiring to make a difference in the lives of the military community.

### **About Wheels & Keels**

Based in Vero Beach, Florida, Wheels & Keels Foundation, Inc. provides funding to selected organizations whose activities strive to improve the lives of children and adults in the Treasure Coast

community. The Foundation concentrates on the support of those organizations that are less able to attract support from larger charitable organizations. For more information, please visit [www.wkvero.com](http://www.wkvero.com).

**About The Navy SEAL Museum**

The National Navy UDT-SEAL Museum is the only museum dedicated solely to preserving the history of the U.S. Navy SEALs and their predecessors. Located in Fort Pierce, Florida, the Museum resides on the training grounds of the original Navy combat divers, the Frogmen. Built to honor the men who served with fortitude and ingenuity, the Navy UDT-SEAL Museum first opened its doors on Veterans Day in 1985. From humble beginnings, the facility has experienced tremendous growth, achieving national stature in 2007. The main objective of the Museum remains the promotion of public education by providing the opportunity to explore the history of the Navy SEALs through interactive exhibits, while honoring the fallen at the SEAL Memorial and caring for those warriors' families through Trident House Charities.

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