Navy SEAL Museum Announces 2019 Memorial Day Ceremony Keynote Speaker

Fort Pierce, Fla. – May 7, 2019 – The Navy SEAL Museum will host its annual Memorial Day Ceremony, honoring those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for country. As part of the special ceremony, the Museum welcomes Vice Admiral Tim Szymanski as the keynote speaker.

Vice Admiral Tim Szymanski, Deputy Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command, attended the U.S. Naval Academy Preparatory School and graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1985. He completed a Master of Joint Campaign Planning and Strategy at Joint Advanced Warfighting School.

Szymanski's previous Naval Special Warfare and operational assignments include platoon and task unit commander at SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team 2. He served as troop and squadron commander and as operations officer and deputy commanding officer at Naval Special Warfare Development Group. He commanded Special Boat Unit 26, SEAL Team 2, 06-level Joint Task Force in Afghanistan and Naval Special Warfare Group 2. He served as deputy commanding general sustainment to Special Operations Joint Task Force-Afghanistan/NATO Special Operations Component Command-Afghanistan.

Szymanski served as assistant commanding general to Joint Special Operations Command prior to assuming command of Naval Special Warfare Command. His previous staff assignments include officer community Manager for NSW and enlisted community manager for SEALs, Navy Divers, EOD Technicians and Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen. He served on the Joint Staff as the J3 deputy directorate for Special Operations as the Global War on Terror branch chief and as chief staff officer of Pakistan-Afghanistan Coordination Cell.

“The Museum is grateful for the opportunity to host upstanding role models from our military community, such as Vice Admiral Szymanski,” said Museum Executive Director, Rick Kaiser. “Our Memorial Day Ceremony remains one of the most important annual traditions at the Navy SEAL Museum, as it should be for all Americans, to honor the sacrifice of those who have died in defense of country.”

The official commemorative ceremony will begin at 9:00 AM at the Museum’s Memorial Wall, following a flag retirement ceremony at 8:00 AM. Rick Kaiser will present opening statements, followed by an invocation and the unveiling of the names of the Navy SEALs who have died in combat or training this year. Admiral Szymanski will then give the keynote address.
Guests are welcome to attend a special ribbon cutting ceremony for the Museum’s renovated O-Course immediately following the main service. Additionally, the name for the newest working dog to be donated to a veteran of the Special Operations community, as taken from votes cast online, will be announced at 10:30 AM.

Open to the public and free of charge, the Memorial Day Ceremony and accompanying activities will take place outdoors. Early arrival is encouraged, as a capacity crowd is anticipated. The Museum offers complimentary admission into the building on Memorial Day, with hours of 9:00 AM until 12:00 noon. For more information, please visit www.navysealmuseum.org/memorialday.

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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The Navy SEAL Museum
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