

MEMORIAL DAY 2011: HONOR AMERICA'S DISABLED VETERANS

The American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial Serves to Honor Disabled Veterans – Past, Present and Future

U.S. Mint Commemorative Silver Dollar Helps Raise Funds To Build National Memorial



(DELRAY BEACH, FL) – May 1, 2011 – Memorial Day is a time of reflection, remembrance and gratitude for the brave soldiers who have risked their lives and livelihoods to defend our nation's freedom. When their duties are completed, many service men and women return home to life as it was. However, for more than three million veterans seriously injured in the line of duty, leaving the battlefield does not mark the end of conflict. These permanently disabled heroes often carry home life-altering disabilities, stern reminders of the price of freedom.

Soon, thanks to efforts led by the Disabled Veterans' Life Memorial Foundation, Inc., and supported by veterans as well as concerned and generous citizens and corporations, these disabled soldiers will have a permanent memorial in the nation's capital that will pay tribute to their sacrifices – **The American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial**. The Memorial will serve as a place of honor, solace and healing for disabled veterans of all wars, as well as their families and caretakers.

The Memorial will be situated between Washington Avenue SW, C Street SW and Second Street SW, in full view of the United States Capitol and the United States Botanic Garden. Situated on a 2.4 acre parcel of land, the focal point of the Memorial will be a star-shaped reflecting pool, its surface broken by a single ceremonial flame. A grove of trees will stand sentry beside the pool, signifying the persistence of hope.

The Memorial held a groundbreaking ceremony in November 2010 and is currently scheduled to be completed in late 2012. The Foundation has nearly reached the fundraising goal needed to design, build and permanently maintain the Memorial, but just under \$750,000 remains to be raised.

To help reach that fundraising milestone, the Foundation partnered with the United States Mint to release an **American Veterans Disabled for Life Silver Dollar**, an official limited-

edition commemorative coin. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of each coin will be donated to the Memorial to help achieve the final fundraising goal.

The main image on the coin's front side shows the legs and boots of three veterans, including an amputee. The design represents the service and sacrifice of the nation's disabled veterans across all service branches and times of conflict. The inscription in the upper rim, *THEY STOOD UP FOR US*, honors the brave service men and women who fight on behalf of the United States. Additional inscriptions include: *IN GOD WE TRUST, LIBERTY AND 2010*.



The reverse side features a forget-me-not flower, to commemorate the country's fallen heroes. The flower is tucked into a wreath that cradles a cluster of oak branches – a symbol of strength and power. Inscriptions include *Take This Moment to Honor Our Disabled Defenders of Freedom, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, E PLURIBUS UNUM* and *ONE DOLLAR*.

"While we pause to pay tribute to American veterans this Memorial Day, it's important to note the significance the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial will play in our nation's landscape," said Arthur H. Wilson, a Vietnam veteran who is the National Adjutant of the 1.2 million- member Disabled American Veterans, as well as the co-founder and president of The Disabled Veterans' Life Memorial Foundation. "This Memorial will hold a special place in the hearts of all Americans, and serve as a reminder that Americans should honor and be thankful for this country's veterans every day, not just on Memorial Day."

To make a tax-deductible donation or learn more about the Memorial, please visit www.avdlm.org. To order the commemorative coin, please visit The Disabled Veterans' Life Memorial Foundation website at www.avdlm.org/coin, or call toll-free 800-331-7590.

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About the Disabled Veterans' Life Memorial Foundation:

The Disabled Veterans' Life Memorial Foundation, Inc. was created in 1998 through the combined efforts of philanthropist Lois Pope, foundation chairman; Arthur Wilson, national adjutant of the Disabled American Veterans; and the late Jesse Brown, former secretary of Veteran Affairs. Formed as a 501(c)(3) non-profit, the Foundation's sole objective is to raise the estimated \$81.2 million in private funds needed to design, build and permanently maintain the nation's first memorial dedicated to living and deceased disabled veterans – **The American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial**. Soon, thanks for the efforts led by the Disabled Veterans' Life Memorial Foundation, Inc., and supported by veterans as well as concerned and generous citizens and corporations, these soldiers will have a permanent memorial in the nation's capital that will pay tribute to their sacrifices.

For more information, high resolution images of the Memorial, please contact The Murry Agency at 305-531-5720 or www.tma-pr.com.