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## MEDIA RELEASE

May 1, 2019

### St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport (PIE) Hosts Veterans Honor Flight Welcome Home Receptions –Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> & June 11<sup>th</sup>

On Tuesday, May 7th, PIE's 35th Honor Flight with 68 Veterans will depart St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport on an Allegiant charter for a day long visit to Washington D.C. and the war memorials. Another Honor Flight is scheduled for June 11<sup>th</sup>.

Honor Flight of West Central Florida® President April Dennis Currie states, "As we begin our spring flights for 2019, we are grateful to be honoring Veterans with our 37<sup>th</sup> FREE flight to Washington, D.C. to visit the memorials built in their honor. Thanks to the St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport for your graciousness in making the Welcome Home a true celebration. We appreciate the partnership with Allegiant for the safe transportation of our treasured Veterans. Put on your patriotic garb and join us in giving these Veterans a true hero's Welcome Home!"

St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport's roots began as a WWII Army Training Base, and after the war the property was given to the County in 1946 to develop as an airport. Airport Director Tom Jewsbury states, "We are honored to host our Veterans to thank them for their dedicated service. Join us for this community celebration to welcome our Veterans home to PIE from their day of honor."

**The Veterans return to St. Pete-Clearwater at approximately 8:30 pm.** The Welcome Home celebration is open to the public and various groups, military, and government leaders will be at the airport to greet the veterans. Free parking will be available to attend the welcome home event (note free parking will only be granted when no other passenger flights are arriving). Please be aware that there is construction on roadways in and around the airport. Short-term parking is closed due to construction and parking in long-term is limited; a shuttle runs continuously between the terminal and our Economy #1 Lot across Roosevelt Blvd. We advise guests to allow ample travel time and advise extra caution.

Media trucks with identification may park curbside adjacent to Baggage Claim for the Veterans arrival with advance clearance only.

**For more information about the Honor Flight, CONTACT**

Honor Flight of West Central Florida at: [info@honorflightwcf.org](mailto:info@honorflightwcf.org)  
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