



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Wounded Heroes and First Responders, Honored with Humor

Line Up Includes “Real Life” Donnie Brasco

Jacksonville, NC, January 12, 2011 – Hope For The Warriors® is proud to announce **The Patriot Tour**, coming to the Jacksonville American Legion, 146 Broadhurst Road, on February 4, 2012. The Patriot Tour is a standup comedy program that showcases retired military and first responder comedians and their talent. The Patriot Tour might be filled with jokes and humor but there is nothing funny about the goals of this event; it honors those who serve with silent valor, and continues towards the mission of raising funds for the needs of first responders and veterans. This unique program of entertainment combines comedy and camaraderie to honor the sacrifices of our nation’s heroes. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Hope For The Warriors®, a national nonprofit organization that assists combat wounded service members, their families, and families of the fallen.

Doors open for general admission at 6:30 pm, with a 7:00 pm show start time. The VIP reception begins an hour prior to the show, at 6 pm. Performing in the show is a highly decorated line up of retired military, first responders and government agents. Hosting the Patriot Tour is John Ligato, whose valor is in good company on this entertaining traveling show. Ligato is a decorated former United States Marine as well as retired FBI agent. The lineup also includes CEO Tom Kozlowski; Undercover FBI agent Joe Pistone; Major General Ray L. Smith, USMC (Ret.); Learn more about the tour on the website: <http://thepatriottour.com>.

Former agent Joe Pistone is also known as the “Real” Donnie Brasco. Pistone volunteered as an undercover FBI agent to infiltrate the Bonnano family in 1976. Shortly thereafter his alias, Donnie Brasco, was born and history was made. After retiring from the agency in 1986, Pistone went on to host lectures, facilitate training sessions and author the book *Donnie Brasco: My Undercover Life* (1989). This book was adapted into a major motion picture, *Donnie Brasco* (1997) and included famous actors Johnny Depp and Robert De Nero.

General admission tickets are \$20 for the public and \$10 for all military ID holders, first responders, and retirees. VIP reception tickets are an additional \$10, and will include a meet and greet with Joe Pistone. Tickets can be purchased in advance, at www.patriottour.kintera.org/2012, at the Hope For The Warriors® Resource Center, and at the door the evening of the event.

For more information on the Patriot Tour, visit <http://thepatriottour.com> or contact Alexis Steele at astele@hopeforthewarriors.org.

“Hope For The Warriors® is excited to invite The Patriot Tour to bring humor and comedic relief to the service members and first responders of North Carolina,” Peggy Rochon, Hope For The Warriors® Southeast Regional Director said. “The mission of this tour is directly in line with our own, and we look forward to building camaraderie and strength within the community.”

The mission of Hope For The Warriors® (www.hopeforthewarriors.org) is to enhance quality of life for U.S. service members and their families nationwide who have been adversely affected by injuries or death in the line of duty. Hope For The Warriors® actively seeks to ensure that the sacrifices of wounded and fallen warriors and their families are never forgotten nor their needs unmet.

Hope For The Warriors® has earned a Four-Star rating from Charity Navigator (www.charitynavigator.org), an independent organization that evaluates fiscal responsibility and accountability of nonprofits.

Hope For The Warriors® (Federal Tax ID 20-5182295) is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charity as defined in sections 509(A)(1) and 170(B)(1)(A)(VI) of the Internal Revenue Code. Combined Federal Campaign, CFC #27800.

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