



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Candy Morse
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BROTHERHOOD RIDE 2018 - CYCLING FOR FALLEN HEROES

Our 2018 Ride will be dedicated to 20 Florida Fallen Heroes from Florida who died in the line of duty in 2017 while protecting their communities. Our team (35) riders and (24) support members will honor them by cycling through the state of Florida for 7 days, covering about 600 miles and average 80-100 miles a day. The ride will begin on September 9th from Naples, FL. We will travel up through the central part of the state and end on September 15th in Tallahassee, FL.

The Brotherhood Ride is a non-profit charity organization, which consists of Firefighters, Law Enforcement Officers and EMS personnel who ride bicycles to honor emergency first responders who have died in the line of duty. Our mission is to provide emotional and financial support to the families on or near the anniversary of their death.

The Brotherhood Ride continues the tradition of Honor, Dedication and Pride. Over the past ten years, we have honored the memory and sacrifice of 531 Emergency First Responders which includes; firefighters, law enforcement officers and emergency medical personnel. Our team has traveled on bicycles over 7,800 miles, through sixteen states and have been hosted by over 40 Elks Lodges nationwide and assisted by countless emergency first responders who have shown the true meaning of Brotherhood. Through year-round fundraising efforts, the Brotherhood Ride has been able to honor the memory of fallen heroes and provide emotional and financial support to their families. Past Brotherhood Rides, we have honored our fallen brothers and sisters from SC, TX, NY, FL, TN, PA, NJ, CT and MA and we are very proud to have donated over \$400,000.00 to the families left behind.

The Brotherhood Ride is a non-profit 501(c)(3) public charity organization. Other than the cost of conducting the rides, all donated proceeds go directly to the beneficiaries designated. No one is compensated for their time in order to maximize the impact of donations.

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The 2018 Ride will be dedicated to 20 Fallen Heroes

Engineer Jeffery Atkinson - Tallahassee Fire Department

Police Officer Matthew Scott Baxter - Kissimmee Police Department

Paramedic Paul Besaw - American Medical Response Ambulance

Master Sergeant William Trampas Bishop - Florida Highway Patrol

Deputy Sheriff Julie Bridges - Hardee County Sheriff's Office

Battalion Chief Michael Coenen - Fort Myers Beach Fire Department

Lieutenant James Franklin Dorminy - Reedy Creek Emergency Services

Paramedic Lahiri Garcia - American Medical Response Ambulance

Correctional Officer Joe William Heddy, Jr. - Escambia County Department of Corrections

Sergeant Richard Samuel Howard - Kissimmee Police Department

Captain James J. Jablonsky - Polk County Fire Rescue

Officer Joshua Sanchez Montaad - Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement

Special Agent Rickey O'Donald - US Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Investigation

Sergeant Joseph Ossman - Florida Department of Corrections

Deputy Michael David Ryan - Broward County Sheriff's Office

Captain Charles Frank Scavuzzo - St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office

Captain Garland F. Smith, Jr. - Palm Beach County Fire Rescue

Firefighter Steven Terry - Hernando County Fire Rescue

K9 Diesel - Sebastian Police Department

K9 Freckles - Florida Department of Corrections

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During the ride, 35 riders and their support team of 24: will average 80–100 miles a days, will meet with local fire departments and law enforcement agencies to show the spirit of Brotherhood. This year, the ride will make overnight stops in Arcadia, Lakeland, Kissimmee, Brooksville, Gainesville, Perry and Tallahassee.

Using “SPOT”, a Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) a link is established on the website (www.brotherhoodride.com) that is following the procession of cyclist in real time as they make their trek through Florida.

Send-off Ceremony will be held:

Sunday, September 9th beginning at 7:30 am - 9:00 am

North Collier Fire Station #45

1885 Veterans Park Drive

Naples, FL 34109

The riders and support team will depart immediately following the ceremony

Overnight Accommodations

Arrive 4:00pm - Sunday, September 9th

Arcadia Elks Lodge

1028 W Oak St.

Arcadia, FL 34266

Depart 8:00am – Monday, September 10th

Arrive 4:00pm - Monday, September 10th

Lakeland Elks Lodge

4529 Harden Blvd.

Lakeland, FL 33813

Depart 8:00am – Tuesday, September 11th

Arrive 4:00pm - Tuesday, September 11th

Kissimmee Elks Lodge

1655 Kings Hwy.

Kissimmee, FL 34744

Depart 8:00am – Wednesday, September 12th

Arrive 4:00pm - Wednesday, September 12th - Brooksville

Brooksville Elks Lodge

13383 County Line Rd.

Brooksville, FL 34609

Depart 8:00am – Thursday, September 13th

Arrive 4:00pm - Thursday, September 13th - Gainesville

Gainesville Elks Lodge

2424 NW 23rd Blvd.

Gainesville, FL 32605

Depart 8:00am – Friday, September 14th

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Arrive 4:00pm - Friday, September 14th – Perry

Perry Elks Lodge

305 Puckett Rd.

Perry, FL 32348

Depart 8:00am – Saturday, September 15th

Arrive 4:00pm - Saturday, September 15th – Tallahassee

Tallahassee Elks lodge

276 N Magnolia Dr.

Tallahassee, FL 32301

Rider & Support Participation Information: Representing the following

- Florida Fire Departments (31)
- Florida Police Departments (10)
- Florida Emergency Medical Service (1)
- Massachusetts Fire Departments (2)
- Connecticut Police Departments (3)
- New York Fire Departments (1)
- New York Police Departments (1)
- United States Coast Guard (1)
- Civilians with support (11)

To help support the loved ones who are left behind; they rely on donations, support, and sponsorship as the sole means of obtaining their goal. This year's proceeds will benefit the families of the fallen heroes.

To help the Brotherhood Ride reach their goal, you can visit their website to make a donation, purchase t-shirts or contact them if you would like more information on becoming a sponsor.

www.brotherhoodride.com

Follow them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/brotherhoodride

#BHR #BrotherhoodRide

Media Note: Images will be posted and can be used with attribution to the Brotherhood Ride.

Point of Contact for questions/interviews:

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