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## MEDIA RELEASE

October 19, 2017

### St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport (PIE) Hosts War Era Veterans Honor Flight Welcome Home Reception and Food/Supply Drive for Hurricane Evacuee Families – Tuesday, October 24

On Tuesday, October 24th, our 30th Honor Flight with 77 World War II, Korean, and Vietnam 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. **We will also host a food/supply donation drive from 5 PM- 8PM to assist Hurricane Evacuee Families** from Puerto Rico in partnership with the Hispanic Outreach Centers and Allegiant Travel Company (Media Release included).

Honor Flight of West Central Florida® President Beverly Frey states, “We are happy to continue this tradition of honoring our veterans with the Honor Flight and the welcome home celebration at St. Pete-Clearwater Int’l Airport. Allegiant Air has been a great partner in making each flight a successful mission. Please join us in welcoming home our veterans and their volunteer guardians. We love the varied guests who attend in red, white, and blue. Please join in the fun and help make their homecoming memorable!”

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 and the community in welcoming them home. Each celebration is as special as the last! We hope to see the many organizations and individuals continue to come out and celebrate our veterans at PIE.”

**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 after arriving flights depart).

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

**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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