

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 24, 2016

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## South Dakota Salutes our First Responders

**Harrisburg**, **SD** – Hundreds of South Dakotans are coming together to show appreciation for the brave women and men who put their lives on the line every day to keep us safe, and protect our freedoms.

**South Dakota Salutes** will host events to say thank you to first responders of all kinds, as well as raise money to support the families of those heroes who gave their lives in the line of duty.

"Thousands of our family members, friends and neighbors selflessly put themselves in harm's way each and every day to keep us safe. We want to make sure they know how much we appreciate their service," said Tony Bour, organization founder. "**South Dakota Salutes** will give us the honor of meeting our heroes face to face to say thank you, as well as ensure the sons and daughters of those who have fallen have bright futures."

The premier kickoff for **South Dakota Salutes** is a two-day appreciation event which will be held at <u>Hunters Pointe Shooting Complex</u> in Humboldt, SD on Monday & Tuesday, September 26 & 27, 2016 beginning at 9am each day.

"We've invited first responders, including law enforcement, fire and rescue personnel, EMTs, and paramedics, as well as all active and retired military," said Bour. "These heroes will participate in a host of marksmanship competitions, free of charge, through grateful donors. Proceeds raised in excess of event expenses will go towards scholarships for kids who have been left behind by folks who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect us."

There is still room for first responders, military and military veterans to attend and participate in sporting clays, rifle, and pistol marksmanship competitions. Interested first responders and military are invited to register at <a href="www.SDsalutes.org">www.SDsalutes.org</a>; walk-ons will also be welcome the day of events.

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**PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES:** We expect participation to be heaviest across all events between 10am and noon on Monday, September 26<sup>th</sup>.

## **About South Dakota Salutes:**

**South Dakota Salutes** (SDS) is statewide entity of volunteers formed to show appreciation to those "First Responders" who are always there to serve and protect the citizens of South Dakota 24/7. As a way to show appreciation to those who serve and protect us, **SDS** events are free of charge to all South Dakota First Responders including the following groups:

Law Enforcement – Including: city & town police; county sheriffs & deputy sheriffs; highway patrol officers; Game, Fish & Parks Officers; DCI etc.

Fire & Rescue including EMT's (full-time & volunteer)

Military personnel – including: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, Reserve Units, Guard Units (active duty & retired)

**SDS** is funded through statewide sponsorships and donations. All monies received will be deposited with the <u>Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation</u>. Funds received overand-above the cost of hosting SDS events will be placed in a special trust fund at the <u>Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation</u> designated to fund scholarships for children of South Dakota first responders who have died in the line of duty. **SDS** has no paid employees; the events will be hosted entirely by volunteers and sponsors.

The Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization. Contributions are deductible to the maximum extent allowable for federal income tax purposes.

**2016 Co-Chairs:** Tony Bour, Showplace Wood Products, Harrisburg, SD

Paul Muth, Muth Electric, Mitchell, SD

**South Dakota Salutes** Web site: http://www.SDsalutes.org

Facebook: <a href="http://www.Facebook.com/sdsalutes">http://www.Facebook.com/sdsalutes</a>
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