



Tickets Go on Sale for Second Annual Community-Military Ball

EL PASO, TX - The El Paso Chamber is proud to present the second Armed Forces Day Community Ball. Celebrate with us on May 18th at the El Paso Convention Center, where community meets military in a unique festivity that underscores our unity: El Paso and Fort Bliss are one.

"After last year's tremendous success, we're thrilled to host the second Armed Forces Day Community Ball," stated Andrea Hutchins, CEO of the El Paso Chamber. "This event is a testament to the deep bond between Fort Bliss and El Paso, reflecting our community's respect and appreciation for the military. As a military spouse and business leader, I've seen the unique cultures of both communities. This ball is our bridge, celebrating and uniting us in a shared experience that enriches both sides."

The El Paso Chamber's Military Affairs Committee has been instrumental in the promotion of events like this one. It plays a pivotal role in linking the chamber to the military by addressing military-related business and regional concerns, supporting the local military complex, and coordinating regional military efforts. This committee also works to build strong community partnerships, aiming to enhance the quality of life, educational opportunities, and job prospects for armed forces members, their families, and veterans, thereby contributing to regional economic prosperity and growth. "The City of El Paso and Fort Bliss share a strong bond through our shared culture," said Jonathan Bohannon, Director of Military and Veterans Services at Emergence Health Network and Chair for the committee. "This culture embodies Army values such as duty and respect, which are ingrained in our community. As an Army Veteran, I understand the challenges of transitioning from military to civilian life. As a member of the business community, I am aware of the power the community holds and the shared commitment with Fort Bliss in welcoming soldiers and their families to El Paso and assisting service members as they transition to civilian life. Join us at the Armed Forces Day Community Ball to experience our shared culture and be a part of our community."

The event, planned to be held each year on Armed Forces Day, will be an opportunity to raise awareness of military traditions and El Paso culture. Fort Bliss has recently undertaken efforts to further connect with the El Paso community, which can be seen through the "Bliss is Back!" campaign. This initiative invites El Paso residents to explore the base's many events and facilities. It also serves as a reminder that the military community, including service members and their families, plays an active role in our city's life.

The Chamber has engaged the Armed Forces Day Community Ball Committee to aid in the planning and organization of the event, ensuring their involvement in every step from inception to execution. "El Paso stands as a beacon of strength and

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 14, 2024



resilience, where the vibrancy of its civilian community intertwines with the fortitude of Fort Bliss. Together, they exemplify the symbiotic relationship between civilian and military life, underscoring the vital role each plays in shaping the fabric of our nation's security and prosperity," said Mark Meeks, Director of Sales and Business for Del Norte Masonry and AFDCB Committee member. "El Paso epitomizes the seamless transition from military to civilian life, offering a supportive environment where service members and their families seamlessly integrate into the vibrant civilian community. Here, the bonds forged in military life extend to the streets, as veterans find solace and purpose in the embrace of a city that honors their sacrifice. In El Paso, the journey from service to civilian life is not just a transition, but a transformation—a testament to the enduring spirit of resilience and camaraderie that defines this remarkable borderland."

In celebrating the commitment, service, and sacrifices of our armed forces, and acknowledging Fort Bliss Installation's significant role within our community, we envision El Pasoans across diverse backgrounds coming together with our military members in this cherished tradition. Our histories are deeply connected, and this gathering promises to further solidify our bond, serving as a pivotal moment to strengthen the ties that bind us. "The Armed Forces Day Community Ball will once again bring together our Fort Bliss and El Paso Communities for an evening honoring tradition, embracing culture and looking to what's possible," said Liz Reveles, Chair for the AFDCB Committee.

This Armed Forces Day event is open to active-duty military personnel, veterans, and community members. Ticket sales for the event opened today. Active and retired military personnel will benefit from discounted ticket prices. Early bird pricing starts today; buy your tickets now to get 20% off. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/3v9CMBQ>.

###

About the El Paso Chamber

Since 1899, the El Paso Chamber has driven connection and innovation in El Paso. Guided by our core pillars of leveraging data, fostering engagement, building relationships, and investing in partnerships, the El Paso Chamber works to move El Paso forward. Member-driven, the El Paso Chamber has been a part of every major business and social development in our region's history, and we are just getting started. Our brand is synonymous with business success. As it did more than a century ago, the El Paso Chamber keeps driving prosperity.

For more information, please contact Erin Solis at erin@elpaso.org.