



News Release

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Subject: Montford Point Marines
Banquet
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Montford Point Marines to host 14th Annual National Heritage Military Banquet & Awards Ceremony June 23

(SOUTHFIELD, Mich.) – The Montford Point Marines will host their 14th Annual National Heritage Military Banquet & Awards Ceremony on June 23 from 3:30-6:30 p.m. at Burton Manor Events and Conference Center, 27777 Schoolcraft Road in Livonia.

The Montford Point Marines invites the community to attend one of America's most dynamic annual military events in honor of those who served in the Armed Forces. The event will honor the World War II Marines of Montford Point as they made an indelible mark in the pages of American History. The keynote speaker will be Major General Cornell Wilson (USMC-RET) who was appointed by the Secretary of Defense to serve as Director of Manpower & Reserve Affairs. He will assist in presenting four Congressional Gold Medals (Posthumously) to surviving family members on behalf of the World War II Montford Point Marines who died before receiving these honors initially conferred in 2012, by President Barack Obama and the 112th United States Congress, in Washington, D.C.

All branches of military services will be represented at this affair including the United States Marines, Army, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, and Coast Guard. This event will also be attended by guests from

all over the United States including government & public officials, military dignitaries, veteran's organizations, journalists, historians, students and faculty and the general public. Black tie, business dress, and military uniforms are welcomed.

Banquet tickets are \$65 per person in advance and tickets can be purchased at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/montford-point-marines-annual-heritage-military-banquet-awards-ceremony-tickets-857279154027>. Tickets can also be purchased by sending a check or money order to Robert B. Middleton, President, c/o Montford Point Marines of Michigan, 1 Lafayette Plaisance, Suite 912, Detroit, MI 48207.

The Montford Point Marines are the first African Americans to serve in the United States Marine Corps. Between 1942 and 1949, more than 20,000 African Americans trained at the segregated Montford Point in North Carolina. The Montford Point Camp No. 1 was the primary boot camp for the first African-American Marines during World War II, and was completed in August 1942. The Montford Point Marines were posthumously awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for their service during World War II.

The Montford Point Marines of America, Inc. is a 501 c Exempt nonprofit military veterans' organization that was founded to honor the legacy of the first African Americans to serve in the United States Marine Corps. The organization is one America's most prestigious military and veterans organizations, whose mission is to preserve the history and legacy of America's First Black United States Marines. It was founded by the late President-Emeritus, GySgt. Henry I. Baul, who was the fifth (5th) African-American to be inducted into the Marine Corps immediately after former President Franklin Delano Roosevelt passed Executive Order 8802, effectively abolishing discrimination in the defense industry during World War II. The Montford Point Marines confronted bitter racism and helped destroy Jim Crow laws in America, and were at the cutting edge of the civil rights struggle. The Montford Point Marines of America are advocates for social justice and equal rights. Despite being subject to racism and segregation, the

Montford Point Marines served in the highest tradition with excellence and distinction, becoming some of the finest to wear the Eagle Globe and Anchor.

For more information, contact Robert B. Middleton, president, Montford Point Marines of Michigan at (313) 300-0165 or visit www.montfordpointmarinesamerica.org.

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