

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 16, 2017

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Emerald Coast Realtors Hosts Fishing Trip for Wounded Soldiers

Destin, FL – The Emerald Coast Association of Realtors® (ECAR), in conjunction with local charter boat captains and businesses, treated combat-wounded veterans to a day of fishing and feasting during the 5th Annual Soldiers on the Water event held on Saturday, Sept. 16.

Each year, ECAR treats combat-wounded veterans to a day of world-class fishing in recognition of their sacrifice and in the hopes of encouraging independence, fostering connections within the community and promoting healing and wellness through camaraderie and a shared passion for the outdoors, the Gulf waters and the sport of fishing.

This year's event, which was the largest to date, not only included entertainment for more than 125 combat-wounded veterans, but also featured activities for their families and caretakers while they were out on the boats.

After returning from the fishing expedition, veterans participated in a tournament, featuring awards for "biggest catch" and "most catches," as well as a dinner where they had the opportunity to cook their catches.

"The mission is simple - to get combat-wounded soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines out on the water for a day of fishing," said Joe Morgan, chair of ECAR's Soldiers on the Water Task Force. "This event often brings service members out of their home for the first time, to join in the community for something fun. For many, it's a much-needed first step."

The Emerald Coast Association of Realtors® is one of 1,500 local chapters of the National Association of REALTORS®. Officially, ECAR covers Okaloosa and Walton Counties and has more than 3,000 Realtor® members from across the Florida Panhandle. The term, REALTOR®, is a trademark for use exclusively by members of the National Association of REALTORS®, whose members subscribe to a strict Code of Ethics.

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