



MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release
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Newport Beach to Dedicate Memorial to Marines of 1/1 Monday, May 26, 1 p.m.

- WHAT:** First Battalion, First Marines Memorial Dedication Ceremony
The Battalion's Color Guard, two ceremonial platoons, and the First Marine Division Band will participate in a program highlighted by the unveiling of a bronze sculpture of a Marine designed by artist Benjamin Victor. The memorial is located on a bluff overlooking the bay and Pacific Ocean.
- WHEN:** Monday, May 26, 1 p.m.
- WHY:** Newport Beach "adopted" 1/1 in 2003 to support the Marines and their families. The community has provided financial assistance for special medical devices, travel expenses for families of injured Marines, special Battalion events, and support for the families of casualties of the war. 1/1 is a decorated Marine unit that first saw action in World War II and recently returned from its third deployment to Iraq. The memorial will be a place for citizens to remember these brave men & women and all who have served our country.
- WHERE:** Castaways Park, Castaways Lane & Dover Drive, Newport Beach.
- WHO:** Approximately 80 current active duty members of 1/1 will participate in the program and other members may also attend. They will be joined by veterans, elected officials, Benjamin Victor (artist), city officials and community members.
- OTHER:** The memorial includes the life-sized bronze sculpture and a granite base. It stands approximately nine-feet tall. The sculpture depicts a Marine in battle dress, walking forward while looking back. Victor meticulously studied and then sculpted each detail of the Marine's uniform. Donations from local residents and businesses toward the cost of the memorial totaled more than \$135,000.