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## **MEDIA ALERT –NOTICE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **ELKS HONOR 23rd ANNIVERSARY OF SEPTEMBER 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Chicago, IL** – On September 11, 2024, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will lead the nation in honoring Patriots Day with ceremonies and events across the United States, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, and the Panama Canal. As one of the nation’s foremost patriotic and charitable organizations, the Elks are dedicated to remembering the heroes and victims of 9/11 while reaffirming their commitment to service and community. Local Elks Lodges invite everyone to participate in these meaningful observances. For more information, please contact your nearest Elks Lodge.

For over 156 years, the Elks have exemplified the spirit of American patriotism and philanthropy, making a profound impact on communities nationwide. With a legacy of over \$12 billion in charitable donations, the Elks have continuously risen to meet the needs of our nation. In 2023 alone, the Elks donated approximately \$505 million in cash, gifts, and volunteer time, demonstrating our unwavering commitment to making America a better place for all.

As a premier organization dedicated to the future of our country, the Elks National Foundation has been empowering young leaders since 1931. Each year, we invest \$4 million in college scholarships, helping 800 outstanding high school seniors pursue their academic and service-oriented goals. Elks scholars are not just recipients of our aid; they become lifelong members of our Elks family.

Our dedication extends far beyond education. The Elks Community Investment Program will contribute nearly \$17 million this year to enrich local communities, funding projects that uplift and strengthen neighborhoods. Additionally, the Elks National Foundation has allocated \$12 million to state Elks associations through various grants, ensuring that charitable activities reach every corner of the nation.

In our steadfast support of those who have served our country, the Elks National Veterans Service Program will dedicate \$5.7 million to veterans and military members, focusing on those who need it most. Each month, Elks volunteers provide hands-on assistance in over 330 veterans’ facilities, reflecting our deep respect and gratitude for their sacrifices.

With nearly 1,800 Lodges and a proud membership of around 800,000, the Elks are a powerful force for good. Our organization is open to American citizens aged 21 and older who believe in God, and we welcome all who share our passion for patriotism and service. To learn more about the Elks and to join our mission of making a difference, visit [www.elks.org](http://www.elks.org). For membership details, visit [Join.Elks.org](http://Join.Elks.org).