



Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund  
Wounded Warrior Center • Bldg H49 • Camp Pendleton, CA 92055  
Phone: 760-725-3680, Fax: 760-725-3685, Web: [www.semperfund.org](http://www.semperfund.org)

### **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**Released: September 7, 2011 Event: September 11, 2011**

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### **Riders gear up for Ride to the Flags to commemorate September 11**

**Point Mugu, CA** – They ride to remember. More than 1,500 riders will take part in the 2011 Ride to the Flag event on September 11<sup>th</sup>. The ride commemorates September 11th and those who lost their lives in the attacks.

Ride to the Flags will begin at the Naval Base Ventura County, Point Mugu and end at the Pepperdine University. Registration opens at 10:00 AM at Los Posas Road, South of the base entrance where riders receive wristbands to enter the Naval Base for a Celebration of Freedom. At 1:00 PM there will be three minutes of silence, a military color guard presentation and a flyover.

More than 1,500 riders will then begin their journey through some of California's most beautiful scenery to include the fields of Oxnard and Hidden Valley and the canyons of Malibu. The ride will end at approximately 3:30 PM at Pepperdine University's 9/11 Memorial Alumni Park where 2,977 full-size American and International flags are flown in remembrance of each innocent life taken on September 11th.

A procession of first responders led by bagpipes will start the closing ceremony where Deena Burnett Bailey, the widow of Flight 93 hero Tom Burnett will speak. The ceremony will finish with another military flyover and the song, Amazing Grace.

Ride to the Flags is an all-volunteer, charity ride with all of the rider's donations going to charity. Funds raised from this year's event will be donated to the Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund and Operation Gratitude.

**Please consider covering the Ride to the Flags event to September 11<sup>th</sup>.**

The Semper Fi Fund (SFF) (<http://www.semperfund.org>) is a non-profit organization that provides financial assistance and quality of life solutions for Marines and Sailors, as well as members of the Army, Air Force and Coast Guard who serve in support of Marine forces, when they become injured in post 9-11 combat or training operations, or they face life threatening illness or injury. Our fund provides relief to qualified Servicemembers and their families for immediate financial needs that arise during hospitalization and recovery, as well as perpetuating needs such as home modifications, customized transportation and specialized equipment.

**The Semper Fi Fund has awarded over 32,000 financial grants totaling more than \$52 million in grants given to our injured and ill service members and their families.**

The SFF was founded by Karen Guenther, a registered nurse and spouse of an active duty Marine who had first-hand knowledge of the challenges faced by wounded Marines and Sailors returning



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from Iraq and Afghanistan. She, along with a dedicated group of military spouses established Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund in May of 2004.

- **What:** 2011 Ride to the Flags
- **When:** September 11, 2011
- **Where:** US Naval Base, Pt Mugu (best time for interviews) to Pepperdine University, CA
- **Web:** <http://semperfund.org/updates/ride-to-the-flags-2011/>