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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**WOUNDED EOD WARRIOR FOUNDATION...OFFICIAL SEPTEMBER 2007**

**Fredericksburg, VA, September 2007.** With the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) underway, the San Diego military community was looking for ways to help wounded Service Member's returning to the area. So in August 2005, Dr. Cathrin Olsen started the "Post War Military Family Needs" organization with a mission to provide financial resources to wounded Service Member's families. In just a few short years, the organization collected over \$50,000.00 and provided nearly \$30,000.00 in grants to wounded members families. Due to a rapid expansion of Dr. Olsen's private practice, she reached out to her senior board member, Mr. Ken Falke CEO/President of A-T Solutions, Inc. Discussions ultimately led to Mr. and Mrs. Falke, along with Mr. Jeff Simons and Mrs. Sherri Beck forming the Wounded EOD Warrior Foundation™ (WEODWF) in September 2007. The WEODWF upholds a legacy of care for the wounded Dr. Olsen started two years ago.

The WEODWF is a non profit 501(c) (3) organization that will primarily focus on supporting wounded members of the Joint Service Explosive Ordnance Disposal (JSEOD) Community by providing funds and support to families caring for their loved ones at military medical facilities. The resources provided are above and beyond the budgetary constraints of the DoD and VA. Support may include plane fare, accommodations, food vouchers or other associated travel expenses. Eligible families can also use benefits for other necessities such as childcare, mortgage and rent relief while visiting service members.

The initial goals of the WEODWF are to raise \$250,000 by the end of 2007 and obtain grants for research on issues that will reduce combat related injuries. Efforts are well underway with the completion of two successful golf tournaments in San Diego, CA and Stafford, VA where over \$50,000.00 was raised. In addition, the foundation is raffling a customized motorcycle and trailer on December 14<sup>th</sup> 2007 with a goal of raising \$100K. The brand new Thunder Mountain Custom Cycle was created by Wisconsin Harley-Davidson and painter Will Christman. Tickets are available for \$100 and can be found at [www.woundedeodwarrior.org](http://www.woundedeodwarrior.org).

*"Part of being an EOD Technician is taking care of fellow EOD Technicians," Ken Falke said. "Our mission is a promise that the sacrifices of the wounded Joint Service EOD warriors will not be forgotten, nor their needs unmet."*

JSEOD warriors have made a great sacrifice for a relatively small community of approximately 4000 personnel. Since the start of the GWOT, 56 EOD heroes have died and well over 100 have been severely injured. The WEODWF is solely supported by the generosity of individuals and corporations. It is this generosity that will allow the WEODWF to offer compassionate solutions to our Wounded EOD Warriors and their families during the most difficult times. For further information on the WEODWF and how you can help, please visit <http://www.woundedeodwarrior.org/>.



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