

## VFW Sponsors 28th Annual Bataan Memorial Death March

'We are honored to be a part of such a humbling event to help ensure these heroes' stories are never forgotten'

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**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – For the seventh consecutive year, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. is proud to announce its support as a presenting sponsor for the 28th annual Bataan Memorial Death March.



## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Held at White Sands Missile Range, N.M., the Bataan Memorial Death March is an extremely challenging trek through 26.2 miles of high desert terrain conducted in honor of the heroic service members who defended the Philippine Islands during World War II, sacrificing their freedom, health, and in many cases, their very lives.

The March 19 event is expected to have the largest registrant turnout in the march's 28-year history, with 7,000 military and civilian individuals and teams participating. Dozens of VFW and VFW Auxiliary members will also participate, as well as line the route to encourage hikers and runners on, and operate an information booth so that participants can learn more about the essential assistance and support programs the VFW provides at no charge to veterans, service members and their families.

Proudly representing the VFW during this year's march will be VFW National Commander Brian Duffy, who is the first Operation Desert Storm veteran to lead America's oldest and largest war veterans' organization.

"The VFW is all about recognition and support to those who serve and our families who support us," he said. "As we commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Bataan Death March, we are honored to be a part of such a humbling event to help ensure these heroes' stories are never forgotten."

The VFW will keep you up-to-date on Commander Duffy's progress by sharing video checkins from along the grueling route on <u>Facebook</u>, but you can also search **#VFWBataan** on Twitter or Facebook to monitor our movement. Learn more about the Bataan Death March.