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**MEDIA ADVISORY
FOR September 3, 2015**

Alaska National Guard

Alaska-Forget Me Not Coalition hosts community outreach event in Wasilla

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska – The Alaska-Forget Me Not Coalition will host an outreach event at the Alaska National Guard armory in Wasilla for organizations in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough that are interested in supporting service members, veterans and families, Sept. 3.

This event in the Mat-Su will offer an overview of the coalition, complimentary lunch and opportunity to network with like-minded community members.

“We'd like to introduce the coalition and what we've accomplished throughout Alaska over the last two years,” explained Lt. Col. Kay Spear-Budd, Alaska National Guard family program director. “Following the introduction, we hope to collaborate with agencies to conduct a needs analysis, identify gaps and duplication of current community efforts in support of the Mat-Su service members, veterans and families population.”

The mission of Alaska-Forget Me Not Coalition is to ensure that service members veterans and families are supported and cared for within their communities through a collaborative effort. The coalition focuses on statewide coordination, community outreach and education.

“Mat-Su is a well-organized community,” Spear-Budd said. “We would like to use their existing community collaborative efforts to enhance the support provided to Alaska's service members, veterans and families.”

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Details:

What: Alaska-Forget Me Not Coalition outreach event

When: Thursday, Sept. 3 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Where: Alcantra National Guard armory in Wasilla; 3401 East Bogard Road

Note: Media interested in attending must call 428-6034 to RSVP. Please leave a message with name, affiliation, and cell phone number so that you can be contacted if there are any changes.