



NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 12, 2026

CONTACT: Jill Etter
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS
PHONE: (210) 508 9953
EMAIL: jill.etter@ndswm.org

DEDICATION CEREMONY CONFIRMED FOR THE DESERT SHIELD AND DESERT STORM MEMORIAL IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Washington, D.C. – The National Desert Storm Memorial Association has confirmed the date for the Dedication Ceremony. The public ceremony will be Saturday, October 24, 2026 at **11:00 a.m. EDT**. The memorial is under construction at the southwest corner of Constitution Avenue and 23rd Street NW, Washington, D.C.

Scott C. Stump, President/CEO of the National Desert Storm Memorial Association, said, “It has now been more than 15 years since I first conceptualized and began the work of making the Desert Shield and Desert Storm Memorial a reality. As we enter the home-stretch in 2026, I am deeply gratified to know that this vision will soon be realized on the National Mall. I am profoundly thankful to those who embraced and supported this initiative through the years, and who stood with us throughout this arduous journey.”

On August 2, 1990, Iraq invaded Kuwait, fully occupying the land within 24 hours. In response, President George H.W. Bush launched Operation Desert Shield on August 7, 1990, to deter and contain potential Iraqi attacks on neighboring countries.

As the deployment of hundreds of thousands of American combat forces into the Middle East grew, President Bush issued a mandate to Iraq, stating that all Iraqi troops must leave Kuwait by January 15, 1991. The deadline passed, with Kuwait still occupied by Iraqi forces. On January 17, 1991, the United States led an international coalition against

Iraqi forces, a campaign known as Operation Desert Storm. President Bush declared a cease fire on February 28, 1991, and proclaimed the successful liberation of Kuwait.

Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm were remarkable examples of American leadership, values, and sacrifice in the pursuit of freedom.

In December 2014, President Obama signed the memorial's enabling legislation. In March 2017, President Trump signed the law authorizing the Desert Shield and Desert Storm Memorial to be built near the National Mall in an Area 1 location. In June 2018, the site located in close proximity to the Lincoln Memorial and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial received approval.

More information on the Desert Shield and Desert Storm Memorial can be located at www.ndswm.org.

###

Since 2011, the NDSMA has worked to achieve its singular mission: construction of the Desert Shield and Desert Storm Memorial. The NDSMA is a federally recognized, tax-exempt 501(c)3 structure led by an all-veteran board of directors.