



## Virginia Beach Neptune Festival Hometown Heroes Call for Military Nominations

Founded in 1974, the Virginia Beach Neptune Festival is a private 501-c-3 organization that plans and delivers special events and activities to promote economic development, enhance our regional quality of life, and celebrate the greater Hampton Roads community. We partner with area businesses, civic and non-profit organizations, military and veterans' organizations, and individual volunteers to produce more than 40 events each year. The Neptune Festival has been named "The Official Celebration of the City of Virginia Beach," and our signature event- the three-day Boardwalk Weekend in late September- welcomes more than 400,000 locals and visitors to the oceanfront with an associated economic impact of \$23.5 million.

At the Virginia Beach Neptune Festival, we define a hero as a person who has earned great respect because of their achievements and noble qualities. They are the stewards of our community and protectors of our country: members of the armed forces, first responders, and those who teach our children. Many of them also commit their off-duty time to improving and enhancing our community through service to worthy organizations like youth sports, charitable and civic groups, and their houses of worship. They are our HOMETOWN HEROES.

Each year, the Neptune Festival is honored to recognize those Hometown Heroes whose performance on the job and dedication to the community demonstrate noteworthy servant leadership. Their actions have a direct and substantial impact on our community and our neighbors. We honor selected heroes with the following activities:

- Hometown Heroes will be featured on a float during *Neptune's Grand Parade* on September 30th, 2023, with an opportunity for the Hero to invite a guest to the parade reviewing stand.
- Heroes will be recognized with a presentation plaque during *Hometown Heroes: Neptune's Final Toast* breakfast event on October 1, 2023. The Hero may invite a guest, as well as a representative from the chain of command.
- Hometown Heroes' award citations will appear on the Neptune Festival Website ([www.neptunefestival.com/events/hometown-heroes-neptunes-final-toast](http://www.neptunefestival.com/events/hometown-heroes-neptunes-final-toast)).

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS:** We are pleased to call for nominations from military commands across Hampton Roads. Nominations will be accepted via email to [heroes@neptunefestival.com](mailto:heroes@neptunefestival.com) from June 10 through August 15, 2023. Forms are found at [www.neptunefestival.com/events/hometown-heroes-neptunes-final-toast](http://www.neptunefestival.com/events/hometown-heroes-neptunes-final-toast).

### CRITERIA:

1. Noteworthy operational experience **AND**
2. Record of impactful service to community organizations (e.g. youth sports, scouting, church, etc.) that enhances quality of life in Hampton Roads **AND**
3. Must be currently serving on Active Duty and stationed within Hampton Roads; ideal candidates will be in the paygrades E-5/6/7

Nominations will be evaluated on the scope and impact of the nominee's achievements and the extent to which their efforts benefit and provide inspiration to the community. Selectees and their commands will be notified by September 1, 2023. Please contact [heroes@neptunefestival.com](mailto:heroes@neptunefestival.com) for questions or additional information.



## Neptune Festival Hometown Hero Nomination Form

### **Nominee's Information**

Full Name

Rank/Rate

Unit/Organization

Mailing Address

Cell Phone

E-mail

### **Nominator**

Name/Rank/Title

Cell Phone

E-mail

Relationship to nominee?

Please provide summary of the nominee's service-related accomplishments and operational experiences as well as a description of their community involvement and activities. No more than 350 words please.

*Please use (Ctrl+Enter) to start a new paragraph.*