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ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF ORGANIZATION LAUNCHED TO SUPPORT LGBT MILITARY PARTNERS

Military Partners and Families Coalition (MPFC) Provides Resources, Support and Advocacy for Partners

WASHINGTON, DC, Memorial Day, May 31, 2012 – Today marks the one year anniversary of the official launch of Military Partners and Families Coalition (MPFC), an organization that provides support, resources, education and advocacy for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender military partners and their families.

Our country made huge strides this year as we saw the end of the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” era. Our troops are finally able to be honest about their lives and openly acknowledge their relationships. While this was a major success and an important step forward for the way our country supports our military, the LGBT partners and spouses of those serving are still not able to access the many benefits afforded to most military spouses.

“Today, we honor those who gave their lives for the freedoms we enjoy today. We also honor the families of the fallen for they too have made the greatest of sacrifices. It is because of these heroes that we are driven to do the work we do, in support of all of our servicemembers,” said MPFC President Ariana Bostian-Kentes.

“I am so proud of the work MPFC has done this past year - we have stepped out from the shadows to tell our stories to a national audience, we have honored our families and celebrated the repeal of DADT at a beautiful event at Arlington National Cemetery, our MPFC families were welcomed at the White House on several occasions, and we have brought national attention to the inequities that exist for many military families serving today,” she continued. “I am looking forward to the year ahead and to making even more progress. It remains all of our civic responsibility to support *all* military families and, alongside our many wonderful coalition partners, MPFC is happy to be at the forefront of this movement.”

Military Partners and Families Coalition (MPFC) is a private non-profit non-partisan organization based in Washington, D.C., was founded in 2011 by a group of partners of active duty U.S. Armed Forces service members stationed in the U.S. and overseas. MPFC provides support, resources, education and advocacy for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender military partners and their families. For more information, go to www.milpfc.org