

Blinded Veterans Association and Witkop Foundation Golf Event Monday, August 19, 2019

Dear Guests and Sponsors,

The Blinded Veterans Association, (BVA), is the only nonprofit congressionally chartered Veterans Service Organization exclusively dedicated to serving the needs of our nation's blind veterans and their families for more than 74 years. In partnership with the Witkop Foundation on Monday, August 19, 2019 we will host a benefit golf event. <u>https://www.witkopfoundation.org/blinded-veteran-association-golf-tournament.html</u>

Your involvement as sponsor or golfer will benefit our BVA - Witkop programs that support our disabled veterans and first responders with a wide variety of programs and services. Please join us at the Golf Club of Oklahoma <u>www.golfcluboklahoma.com</u> where you will meet our blinded veterans during the event and at the awards luncheon. They will share firsthand the wide variety of vision injuries that have affected returnees of various wars or conflicts, their recovery, rehabilitation, and other steps forward. Post 9/11 some 4,790 service members have sustained penetrating eye injuries and 76,790 have enrolled in the VA with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) visual system dysfunction as a result of blast exposures.

Funds from our activities today will be used for BVA's services that bring together veterans who have recently experienced vision loss with those who have experienced it in earlier conflicts. BVA will have our 74th national convention August 12- August 16th at the Tulsa Marriott. Our objective is to provide opportunities to interact with blinded veterans who have led productive and independent lives, despite their blindness, and who serve as role models and mentors. The cornerstone of these efforts is to build cooperation in support of our service members and fellow veterans in the transition from the military into veteran status. BVA appreciates the support and donations that have made us successful. For more information, visit www.BVA.org.

BVA seeks to provide these visually impaired veterans and their families with all of the tools they need to make this transition as smooth as possible. Your contributions help bring together growing numbers of these veterans to BVA's national conventions. During BVA national convention members and their families attend seminars related to rehabilitation, education, employment, caregiving support, adaptive technology, and VA benefits. BVA members share unique common bond as blind veterans and they resolve to help one another understand both the adjustments they must make and benefits earned through their service and sacrifice. BVA's outreach and services to legally blind veterans come free of charge.