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**PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 4, 2019

**Celebrate Veterans Day on Miami Beach  
with a Parade & Community Festival**

*—Parade Kicks Off from Iconic Ocean Drive on Monday, November 11 at 11:11 a.m.—*

**Miami Beach, FL** – Join the City of Miami Beach for their 11<sup>th</sup> annual Veterans Day parade on Monday, November 11, 2019 at 11:11 a.m. presented by the Miami International Auto Show. Honoring our military men and women, the largest parade of the day in South Florida takes route on iconic Ocean Drive from Fifth to 13 streets. The red, white and blue brigade will then move into Lummus Park at noon for the closing festivities, which includes a family picnic, wreath laying ceremony and a high-flying all veterans parachute team that will top off the lively day with an exhilarating landing.

During WWII, the beaches and hotels in the City of Miami Beach served as a home base for military troops. For over 50 years, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion have organized this parade as a salute to the troops for all that they've sacrificed to defend our nation's freedom. For over a decade, the City of Miami Beach has continued this tradition.

Parade participation has grown ever since – multiplying from approximately 50 individuals to over 2,000 – including students, organizations, businesses, military groups and public officials. Continuing the patriotic tradition, there will be veteran and military groups, school marching bands, and cars and pageant queens as the whole community comes out to pay homage to our brave troops.

The program includes the Miami Beach Police and Fire Department Honor Guards' presentation of the colors; a recital of the Pledge of Allegiance, the National Anthem and a moment of silence in honor of our First World War Armistice Day tradition. There will also be addresses by top-level military officials from Southern Command and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. Other activities include MBPD Honor Guard's 21-gun salute and performance by a Taps bugler.

As a designated City of Kindness, Miami Beach has partnered with Operation Gratitude to invite attendees to write letters of gratitude and encouragement for deployed service members, new recruits, and first responders; as well as veterans who have fought for our nation's freedom. An organization that seeks to lift the spirits and meet the evolving

needs of the U.S. Military and First Responder communities through collection drives, letter writing campaigns, craft projects, and care package assembly events, Operation Gratitude will also be donating more than 200 care packages to be handed out during the event to our honored veterans.

T-Mobile will be sponsoring the elite parachute team. Additional partners include Coca-Cola, the exclusive beverage of the City of Miami Beach as well as the event's media partner Easy 93.1. Supporting sponsors include: FastCare Urgent Care, Atlantic Broadband, MB Suncare, KIND Snacks and South Beach Group.

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