**Annual Offshore Fishing Tournament Benefits Injured Service Members**

FORT MYERS BEACH, Fla. – (Aug. 8, 2016) – Dozens of anglers are gearing up to reel in the big one during the 4th Annual Grouper Grapple Offshore Fishing Tournament, Aug. 12 and 13. The event is open to the public and starts each day from the Fish Tale Marina located at 7225 Estero Blvd. The tournament serves as a fundraiser for Freedom Alliance, an organization supporting injured service members and their families.

“We are incredibly thankful to the organizers who have once again chosen to partner with us to support our nation’s bravest,” said President of Freedom Alliance, Tom Kilgannon. “Events such as the Grouper Grapple help us to reach the many injured service members and their families who need assistance, after sacrificing so much for our country.”

Last year, more than 300 people attended the Grouper Grapple and enjoyed food, live music and caught 35 teams’ weigh-in action. Winning teams received a payout of $32,500 in cash awards and a check for more than $6,000 was presented to Freedom Alliance. This year, Grouper Grapple Tournament officials hope to exceed the purse and the donation amount, encouraging businesses and anglers to get involved to show appreciation to our service members for their bravery.

In addition to the offshore fishing tournament that hosts both single- and twin-engine divisions, the Grouper Grapple will provide up to 20 combat veterans from across the country a day of freedom and fun on the water.  Veterans coming from afar receive complimentary air fare, and all veterans enjoy hotel accommodations, free meals, a day fishing on the Back Bay with a seasoned local captains and entry to the Grouper Grapple party.

For more information, please visit [www.groupergrapple.com](http://www.groupergrapple.com), or contact Brian Peachey at [info@groupergrapple.com](mailto:info@groupergrapple.com). Sponsorship opportunities are still available and registration can be viewed and completed online.

For media inquiries, please contact Althea Paul of Vistra Communications at 813.321.3310 or [AltheaP@ConsultVistra.com](mailto:AltheaP@ConsultVistra.com).

**About Freedom Alliance**

Freedom Alliance is a charitable organization which provides help and support to wounded troops and military families. Freedom Alliance has awarded more than $10 million in college scholarships to the children of military heroes killed or disabled in military service and spent millions more helping injured veterans and military families with outdoor recreational therapy trips, Heroes Vacations, care packages for deployed troops, mortgage-free homes, all-terrain wheel chairs and much more. You can learn more about Freedom Alliance at [www.FreedomAlliance.org](http://www.FreedomAlliance.org).

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