



Media Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Wednesday, September 11, 2013
Loretta S. Neal, Director
Office of Public Affairs
(803) 896-9518
Cell: (803) 463-4293
LSNeal@scdjj.net

DJJ Youth Build Urns for Interment of Unclaimed Veterans

WHAT:

Columbia, SC – On Friday, September 13, 2013, in a military ceremony at the Fort Jackson National Cemetery, Chapin Legionnaires Post 193, under the Missing in America Project (MIAP), along with other veteran service organizations, will lay to rest the cremated remains of six veterans who have not been claimed, using urns built by youth at the Department of Juvenile Justice.

Building the urns is a project of carpentry students in DJJ's Youth Industries Program and it is their way of giving back to the state of South Carolina.

Several DJJ students will attend the service and one youth will accept an American Flag from Post 193 in honor of one of the veterans.

"Our young people may not ever know what it is to serve their country through military duty, but they have demonstrated the ability to give back in other ways, and building the urns is one example," said DJJ Director Margaret H. Barber. "Having one of our youth accept the American flag during a military service gives them an important memory that they will forever cherish."

When: Friday, September 13, 2013; 1:30 p.m.

Where: Fort Jackson National Cemetery
4170 Percival Road, Columbia, SC 29229

Ceremony Participants Providing Full Military Honors: Retired Army Colonel Tom Fincher, officiating Honor Guard from Fort Gordon, Georgia, the US Navy, the US Air Force, Chapin American Legion Post 193, and the North Augusta American Legion Post 71.

About DJJ

--- As the state agency responsible for providing rehabilitation and custodial care for the state's juveniles who are on probation, incarcerated, or on parole for a criminal or status offense, DJJ actively seeks partnerships that foster its mission. DJJ's mission is to protect the public and reclaim juveniles through prevention, community services, education, and rehabilitative services in the least restrictive environment.

###