

News Release
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Saddle up for the National Association of Buffalo Soldiers & Troopers 2022 Convention in Hampton, VA

Hampton, VA - Grab your Western gear and saddle up for an exciting motorcycle exhibition coming to Hampton, Virginia! The National Association of Buffalo Soldiers & Troopers Motorcycle Club will hold its national convention on July 11-18 at the [Hampton Roads Convention Center](#). The gathering will consist of training courses, classes, bike games, vendors and much more. The theme for this year's convention is "The Harder We Ride."

Hampton is pleased to welcome NABSTMC. The organization hosted a national convention in the city in 2013.

NABSTMC is one of the world's largest African American motorcycle clubs. Founded in 1996 by retired Chicago police officer Ken "DreamMaker" Thomas, the organization was created with a focus on promoting a positive image of African Americans. With 120 chapters of the club throughout the U.S. including Hawaii as well as South Korea, members help to feed the homeless, build homes for families in need, mentor the youth and provide scholarships to graduating seniors. This year, the organization awarded KiMiyah Williams, a graduating senior from Meridian, Mississippi with the National NABSTMC Scholarship Award which totaled \$10,000.

Along with nightly hospitality gatherings, several community-focused events are planned for the convention. In partnership with the Virginia Peninsula Food Bank, the club will be distributing \$10,000 worth of food to local residents at Hampton's Bay Creek Apartments. NABSTMC will also donate 552 book bags filled with school supplies to children at the complex as well as various community centers in the city.

"We're always looking to make a difference in the community. When we saw a need in Hampton, we wanted to do something with it," said Nathan "Motown" Mack, National President, NABSTMC.

The club will also host a block party at the Hampton Roads Convention Center, a meet & greet in partnership with Oozlefinch Beers & Blending, a dinner & dance event, a motorcycle sound competition and a unity ride to Hampton Roads Harley Davidson. The club will also

share Buffalo Soldier history during their ice cream social planned for this year's convention in partnership with Hampton Parks & Recreation at local community centers.

“Hampton is a beautiful area. Our members give up their vacation time to be able to attend the national convention. We were looking for the perfect location for fellowship and togetherness and Hampton is a great place,” said Mack.

Through community initiatives, NABSTMC honors the history of the original Buffalo Soldiers who were African American servicemen enlisted in the 9th and 10th Horse Cavalry Regiment of the United States Army. These men served in various world events including the Mexican Expedition, the Indian Wars, the Spanish-American War, World War I, and more from 1866-1944. Additionally, members of the 9th Cavalry became some of the nation's first National Park Service rangers. NABSTMC continues to uphold their legacy by sharing Buffalo Soldier history with school-age children and by honoring African American military contributions from the post-Civil War era.

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***Editor's note: Please contact Mahogany Waldon
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Partially bordered by the Hampton Roads harbor and Chesapeake Bay, Hampton, with the 344,000 sq. ft. Hampton Roads Convention Center and the award-winning Hampton Coliseum, is located in the center of Coastal Virginia and the Hampton Roads metropolitan area. Hampton is the site of America's first continuous English-speaking settlement, the site of the first arrival of Africans in English North America, and is home to such visitor attractions as the Virginia Air & Space Science Center, Fort Monroe National Monument, Hampton History Museum, Hampton University Museum, The American Theatre, among others.