

**News Release**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Date**

Contact: Mahogany Waldon, 757/728-5316  
[mahogany.waldon@hamptoncvb.com](mailto:mahogany.waldon@hamptoncvb.com)  
Lieutenant Colonel Claude Vann III (retired)  
[lcvann@aol.com](mailto:lcvann@aol.com)

**Tuskegee Airmen Inc. seeks volunteers to assemble care packages for our  
Armed Services**

**Hampton, VA** - The Tidewater Chapter, Tuskegee Airmen Inc. in conjunction with Diageo North America will host a 'Purple Bag Packing Event' at the Rupert Sargent Building located at 1 Franklin Street, Hampton on November 9 from 3-6 p.m. The Purple Bag Packing Event is an annual event where volunteers assemble care packages for soldiers deployed overseas.

This year the Tidewater Chapter, Tuskegee Airmen Inc. graciously accepted the offer to pack the packages for the nation's deployed warriors. The Hampton site is one of five chosen in North America and has been requested to package 1,000 'Purple Bags.' Once the packages are completed, one of Diageo's external partners will collect and distribute the packages to locations overseas.

The national mission of the organization is to focus on honoring the accomplishments and perpetuating the history of African Americans who participated in air crew, ground crew and operations support training in the Army Air Corps during WWII. Additionally, the Tidewater Chapter's mission is to perpetuate the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen by inspiring youth to strive for excellence through educational opportunities.

Interested volunteers who would like to participate in this event to support our troops; please contact Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Claude, Vann, III at [Ltcvann@aol.com](mailto:Ltcvann@aol.com).

###

**Editor's note - Members of the media are invited to cover this event.**

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.