



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Pensacola Area USO Centers Receive Over \$22,000 in Donations**

*Armed Forces Families Foundation/Taco Bell have provided funding for the Two Centers*

**Pensacola, FL** – Great news for military service men and women and their families stationed in or traveling through the Pensacola area. The NAS Pensacola USO Center and the Northwest Florida Regional Airport USO Center have received donations totaling over \$22,000. The dollars have been used to renovate and upgrade both of the heavily trafficked centers.

Funds were donated by the charitable organization, the Armed Forces Families Foundation. Funds for the donation were raised in local Taco Bell restaurants during their annual “Freedom Bells” fundraiser in an effort to help serve those who serve us.

To celebrate the grand re-opening of the newly updated USO Centers, and thank all those involved, two separate ribbon cutting ceremonies will be held on Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. All media personnel are welcome to attend these worthy events dedicated to our local military. Details for each ceremony are as follows:

1. 11 am at the USO Center located at NAS Pensacola. Taco Bell will provide lunch for all those in attendance.
2. 3:30 pm at the USO Center located inside the Northwest Florida Regional Airport.

The NAS Pensacola USO Center receives an average of 12,000 visits per month. This space has become a very popular meeting space for our local military and their families and therefore a second floor with 5,000 square feet of space has recently been added. Funding was needed to complete the renovation and furnish the space. The Armed Forces Families Foundation was able to provide over \$17,000 to provide furniture, flooring, two flat screen TVs, a gaming system, and games for the use of our troops.

The USO Center within the Northwest Florida Regional Airport currently serves more than 2,500 troops and their families on a monthly basis. Due to the high amount of traffic, the center has had a great deal of wear and tear. Approximately \$5,745 has been donated by the Armed Forces Families Foundation to provide new furniture including chairs, a table, barstools, and a custom book shelf. Additionally this center has received a new 50” screen TV for the use of our local service men and women.

The Armed Forces Families Foundation and Taco Bell are proud to support our Pensacola area military and their families. “Our troops’ loved ones are their first line of support. Taco Bell is honored and privileged to have the opportunity to give something back to those who give so much for the rest of us.” said Thaddeus Foster, Chief Operations Officer and Taco Bell franchisee for Southeast QSR Inc.

## **About the Armed Forces Families Foundation**

The Armed Forces Families Foundation (AFFF), in conjunction with participating Taco Bell restaurants, has completed numerous projects for military and their families all across the Southeast. Their most recent Fundraiser in December led them over the ONE MILLION DOLLAR MARK! 100% of every dollar donated goes toward projects to help those who protect us.

For more information, please visit the following Web site: <http://www.armedforcesfamilies.org/>

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