

## Marine Corps Demo Will Rock Downtown Nashville on Friday

NASHVILLE (Sept. 8, 2016) – From the air, land, sea ... and the Cumberland River! Please join the U.S. Marines as they demonstrate the Marine Corps Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF) in downtown Nashville's Riverfront Park.

The first of two Marine Air-Ground Task Force demonstrations will be held at Riverfront Park on Friday, Sept. 9, from 1:15–1:45 p.m. The demo will be followed by a high-energy concert from Marine Band San Diego's "Sound Strike" and the "Double Time Brass Band." The MAGTF demonstration may be loud; but it's going to be fun, and all demonstrations are free and open to the public.

The downtown core area of Nashville should expect increased noise and vibrations on Friday (as well as Sunday, Sept. 11, from 10:15–10:45 a.m.) from the Marine Air-Ground Task Force demonstrations, which feature low-flying aircraft and pyrotechnics. To ensure a safe event, Marine Week officials advise residents, workers and visitors in the downtown core area to adhere to signs and remain outside of the demonstration area. Clearly marked, designated viewing areas will be established for those wishing to see the demonstrations up close.

**About Marine Air-Ground Task Force:** When Marines fight, they fight from the air, land and sea with the ability to rapidly respond to crises and contingencies around the globe. Their forward-deployed, sea-based forces make the Marine Corps the force of choice to protect American interests overseas and serve as the nation's 9-1-1 force. The demonstration simulates military operations and will showcase Marine aircraft, military vehicles, and the men and women of the United States Marine Corps.

## Friday's other highlights include:

- Work Out With the Marines, 7–8 a.m., at Music City Walk of Fame Park
- Wreath-Laying Ceremony With Mayor Megan Barry and her father, a former Marine, 9–9:30 a.m., at John Seigenthaler Pedestrian Bridge
- Performance by the Silent Drill Platoon, Marine Corps Martial Arts Instructors, and Marine Corps Dog Handlers, 12:45–1:15 p.m., at Riverfront Park
- Marine Band San Diego Concert, 2:30–4:30 p.m., at Riverfront Park
- Night at the Opry, 7–9 p.m., at Grand Ole Opry House. The Marines will be special guests during a performance of the Grand Ole Opry with country favorites Billy Ray Cyrus and Crystal Gayle among those scheduled to appear.

• Marines at the Nashville Sounds Home Playoff Game, 7–10 p.m., at First Tennessee Park. The Marines will present the colors, and Marine Capt. Skye Martin will sing the national anthem.

For the full Marine Week schedule, please visit <u>usmarineweek.com/events</u>.

To view photos and video footage taken at today's events by the USMC, please visit the digital newsroom after 5 p.m. at <a href="http://usmarineweek.com/digital-newsroom/">http://usmarineweek.com/digital-newsroom/</a>.

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