

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Author Alivia C. Tagliaferri to Host Literary Discussion on Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) at Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Martinsburg, WV Friday July 20th at 11am. Book Signing to Immediately Follow.

Author Alivia C. Tagliaferri will commence a literary discussion on post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in Room 1B114 at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Martinsburg, WV Friday July 20th 2007 at 11:00 am EST. The Martinsburg VAMC is located at 510 Butler Avenue Martinsburg, WV 25401. Tagliaferri will be discussing her debut novel *Still the Monkey, What Happens to Warriors after War*, real-life stories, and expert field research. A book signing will immediately follow the literary discussion.

Still the Monkey, What Happens to Warriors after War is a reality-based work of historical fiction that depicts the problems caused by post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among returning veterans. The first edition was released by Ironcutter Media, LLC, a boutique publishing company based in Northern Virginia, in March 2007. Tagliaferri recently wrote a follow-up article currently in print in the July edition of *The Veteran's Voice*, "What Every Veteran's Family and Friend Need to Know about Post-Traumatic Stress and PTSD" that will be presented at the discussion. She will discuss the most important things for families and friends of veterans to do and not to do if their loved one shows signs of post-traumatic stress.

Of the estimated 25 million veterans living in this country today, 30 percent of those who served in Vietnam have reported symptoms of PTSD, and an estimated one in six veterans returning home from Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom are reporting disabilities attributed to this anxiety-based disorder. Combatants who serve in multiple tours of duty have a 50 percent increased risk in developing PTSD.

"I began researching and writing on this topic after seeing casualties of the War on Terror first-hand while working with the USO of Metropolitan D.C. at the Walter Reed Medical Center on a corporate video project," says Tagliaferri. "I later interviewed a former Marine and Vietnam veteran who was still waging battle with PTSD. These powerful experiences changed and re-directed my life. As I share the insights that I have gained during the process of writing *Still the Monkey, What Happens to Warriors after War*, my goal of helping friends and families of veterans, current and future healthcare providers better understand how veterans may change physically, mentally, and spiritually after the traumatic experience of war and how to strategically cope with these changes."

A portion of book proceeds from this event will benefit charities such as The Golden Age Games, and other veteran's assistance programs.

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