

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*Okaloosa Board of County Commissioners*

08/15/18



Widow, Children of Air Force Combat Controller to Fly From VPS to Washington DC for Medal of Honor Ceremony

**Destin-Fort Walton Beach Airport** – Mrs. Valerie Nessels and her two children will arrive under USAF and OCSO procession escort from their home to VPS **next Monday Morning, August 20 at 0845.** Mrs. Nessels, the Widow of TSgt. John Chapman, and their two daughters will travel to DC from VPS direct to accept the Congressional Medal of Honor from the President of the United States on behalf of her late husband for his heroic and ultimate sacrifice actions during the battle of Robert's Ridge in Afghanistan in 2002.

In order to participate in the ceremony, The Okaloosa County Public Information Office asks you RSVP as soon as possible. You will be allowed in two zones, one unrestricted (the main lobby before the TSA zone) and one restricted (the Terminal.) When you are in the restricted zone, **you must** be accompanied by a SIDA badge (airport badge holder). Your escort for the entirety of the ceremony will be Public Information Officer Christopher Saul. Please arrive to the airport by 0845 in order to participate fully.

The widow of TSgt. Chapman and her daughters will not be made available to the media so they can prepare for what will be a very emotional time at the White House however, you will gain full escorted access to a very patriotic send off.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT CHRISTOPHER SAUL 585-7059 OR AT  
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