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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INYO COUNTY LAUNCHES OPERATION GREEN LIGHT

INDEPENDENCE - In advance of the upcoming Veterans Day holiday, the Inyo County Board of Supervisors announced today that county buildings would be illuminated green Nov. 7-13 as part of Operation Green Light, a new national collaborative initiative of the National Association of Counties (NACo) to support military veterans, as well as raise awareness about the unique challenges faced by many veterans and the resources that are available at the county, state, and federal level to assist veterans and their families.

In adopting a resolution of support for Operation Green Light, brought forward by Veteran Services Officer Gordon Greene, the Board of Supervisors also encouraged widespread participation among residents, businesses, and other governmental agencies. Residents and businesses can participate by simply changing one light bulb in their house or business to a green bulb. This can be an exterior light that neighbors and passersby see, or an interior light that sparks a conversation with friends.

Operation Green Light is spearheaded by NACo and the National Association of County Veteran Service Officers, building upon the successful efforts of the New York State Association of Counties and the NYS County Veteran Service Officers' Association in 2021.

"Since the tragedy of September 11, 2001, our nation's voluntary military force members, and their families, have made immense sacrifices for our safety and security over a two-decade period," said VSO Greene. "Similar to the sacrifices of previous generations of our armed forces, this service to country also often results in significant stress to many of the veterans who served in times of war and conflict. We want to make sure our veterans and their families know that their service mattered, that we are grateful for their sacrifices, and that it is now our turn to make sure they are served by their county government and our community."

In addition to lighting county buildings, residents and businesses are encouraged to participate by simply changing one light bulb in their house to a green bulb. This can be an exterior light that neighbors and passersby see, or an interior light that sparks a conversation with friends.

By shining a green light, the community can let veterans know that they are seen, appreciated, and supported. While this event is focused around the week of Veterans Day (Nov. 7-13), participants are encouraged to continue shining the light year-round. Residents can share their participation on social media using the hashtag #OperationGreenLight.

"Operation Green Light is a simple way to express our collective appreciation for the public service of our veterans," said NACo President Denise Winfrey. "We encourage everyone to join us in displaying a green light for our veterans and to also reflect on how we, as a nation and at the county level, assist our military service personal back into civilian life upon completion of their service to our country."
Visit naco.org/operationgreenlight or https://www.inyocounty.us/services/veteran-services for more information
and links to resources available to veterans.