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Join the Final Drive to Victory

Dear Supporter,

Is there anything in the world more exciting than watching your favorite football team drive from their own one-yard-line to the opponent's three-yard-line in the fourth quarter? No! Everyone cheers at the top of their lungs because they want to join in the celebration when the ball goes into the end-zone for a victory!

After 14 years of long, challenging work and fundraising, the United States Marshals Museum ("USMM") now has the ball on the three-yard-line, poised for the final victory of completing the Museum Experience and opening in 2023.

We ask you to join our victory celebration by making a donation to our Capital Campaign.

Thank you

In 2005, a few thousand citizens, supporters, descendants of marshals, and descendants of the people marshals chased in the Indian Territory - from Fort Smith, Van Buren, Greenwood, Oklahoma and beyond – cheered at the Convention Center and so impressed the United States Marshals Service ("USMS") that, in January 2007, we won the right to build the Museum on the banks of the Arkansas River. To date, more than 1,600 individuals, small businesses, large corporations, and foundations have donated money on pure faith that we would someday build a museum. They gave when there was nothing but an idea. They gave when there was no building.



Today, thanks to thoughtful donations, we have a beautiful, iconic museum building and by late spring or early summer 2023, we will open to the public with a complete Museum Experience featuring four main galleries: To Be a Marshal, Frontier Marshals, A Changing Nation and Modern Marshals.

The community's pure faith in this project is the reason that we have made it to the three-yard-line. With your additional support, you can make the dream of an operating USMM a reality!



Where the Project Stands

On September 24, 2019, the 230th anniversary of the creation of the USMS, over 700 Founding Donors and Museum supporters joined us in the Atrium of the Museum as the Museum building and Hall of Honor were dedicated. The Hall of Honor pays tribute to the 381 members of the service who were killed in the line of duty.



In November 2021, we signed an agreement with Thinkwell Group to design and build the Museum Experience and exhibits. Over the next several months, dozens of vendors across the United States will be fabricating over 40 interactive, state of the art museum experiences. We currently plan to install experiences and exhibits by late spring 2023.

When this work is substantially complete, we will announce an opening date. We will invite you to celebrate with us when we open.

Impact on the Community When We Open

When the Museum opens, we project that 125,000 to 150,000 people from the United States and around the world will come to Fort Smith to visit the Museum each year. They will stay in area motels, spend money in restaurants and retail stores and encourage their friends to visit Fort Smith. The Museum will be an anchor for economic development for the riverfront and downtown. The Museum visitors will bring tens of millions of dollars into our economy every year.

Completion of the Museum and opening to the public will create jobs, boost our economy and make Fort Smith, Arkansas a household name across the entire country.

Our Fundraising

When the USMS Director, John Clark, awarded Fort Smith the opportunity to build the Museum in January 2006, everyone in our area was thrilled. Then came the daunting reality - we had to raise \$50 million.

As of today, we have raised just over \$45 million - an extraordinary accomplishment considering that this was raised through periods of recession, inflation, and a pandemic. Individuals, foundations and companies alike trusted us and donated to our cause. We hope you agree that we have used these donations prudently and wisely. You will have a world-class museum because you gave to this project.

Our Current Need

We now have about \$5 million more to raise. While our Foundation and staff constantly cultivate new donors and have many outstanding donation requests in the works, we have an urgent need to raise about \$5 million for three purposes: (1) we need to prepare the vacant shell space where the Museum galleries will be so that the Experience can be installed(\$2.3 million); (2) we funded \$7.8 million to pay for the fabrication of the Museum experience but we need to raise \$1.7 million more for complete payment; and; (3) we need to purchase furniture, computers, office cubicles and equipment for the café/bistro (\$1 million).

While we have a “pipeline” of contributions in the works, we need these funds now to stay on track.

Our Request

Having raised \$45 million, we are 90% of the way to finish our Capital Campaign and open the Museum. As a Museum supporter, you have shown interest and pride in our success. All of us associated with the Museum appreciate you and are grateful for your support.

With the ball on the three-yard-line, we are positioned to run a final play and be victorious.

We ask that you participate in that final play by making a contribution to our Capital Campaign. We ask that you make an unconditional pledge or cash donation so we can cross that line. Donations may be made online at [Donate Here - Drive to Victory](#); by calling 479-242-1789; or, by mailing your gift to U.S. Marshals Museum Foundation, Inc., 789 Riverfront Drive, Fort Smith, AR 72901. Because the USMM is a 501(c)3 organization, your donation is tax-deductible.

Thank you for your kind consideration,

Douglas J. Babb
Chairman of the Board
United States Marshals Museum

