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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Registration Open for Tee Off for Blindness Golf Tournament at Falcon Dunes

West Valley (August 22, 2019) – Golf tournament season is in full swing and Arizona Industries for the Blind (AIB) will host its Richard J. Monaco Tee Off for Blindness Golf Tournament fundraiser on Friday, September 13, at the Falcon Dunes Golf Course in Waddell, AZ.

Celebrating its 15<sup>th</sup> year, the golf tournament is AIB's largest annual fundraising event. All of the funds raised from this year's tournament benefit AIB and go directly toward job training, professional and personal development training and the provision of the latest innovations in capability-enhancing assistive technologies for blind employees.

"The Tee Off for Blindness tournament is more than a great opportunity for civilian golfers to play on an outstanding private military course," said Arizona Industries for the Blind Chief Executive Officer Chris LaFollette. "It's an opportunity to bring attention to an alarming Bureau of Labor Statistics finding which estimates that nearly 70-percent of Arizona's 48,000 working-age residents who are blind are also unemployed. And even more importantly, it's our opportunity to spotlight AlB's continuing efforts to successfully help cut this statistic through the creation of dignified employment opportunities for blind and visually-impaired individuals across AlB's business operations statewide."

The Best Ball Scramble includes 18 holes of golf, use of the driving range, golf cart, contests, prizes and an award ceremony luncheon. Registration is open to foursomes and single players – \$260 per foursome, \$75 single player, \$220 military foursome and \$65 military single. All single players will be matched up with a team.

The tournament roster is limited to 25 foursome teams for the 18-hole, par 71 championship layout course, known as one of the top military golf courses in the world. Home of AlB's tournament fundraiser each year, Falcon Dunes Golf Course is located north of Luke Air Force Base, where AlB operates and staffs a Base Service Center in support of base operations and military personnel as part of the organization's diverse business operations.

Team check-in begins at 6:30 a.m. Tee times begin at 7 a.m., with lunch being served at approximately 12 noon. The day includes contests for longest drive, longest putt, closest to the pin, a Chippo Contest hole and chances to win a 50/50 cash jackpot raffle.

Major tournament sponsors include Essendant, Inc., ADS, Inc., Western State Bank, Massif, Scottsdale Sunrise Rotary Club, Vision Care Foundation and SPS+ Architects.

For more information about sponsorship opportunities or participating in the 2019 Tee Off for Blindness Golf Tournament, contact April Lange at 602-620-5837 or email her at <a href="mailto:alange@azifb.com">alange@azifb.com</a>. Additional information can be found by visiting <a href="mailto:www.azifb.com">www.azifb.com</a>.

Arizona Industries for the Blind (AIB) is a nonprofit 501(C) (3) agency whose mission is "to inspire individuals who are blind to pursue their maximum potential through creating, sustaining and improving employment while providing the highest possible quality products and services". Proceeds from the tournament will support employment opportunities throughout Arizona.