



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**SUSSEX COUNTY MINERS AND ROLLING THUNDER®, INC  
TO HOLD SPECIAL "CHAIR OF HONOR" DEDICATION TO HONOR  
PRISONERS OF WAR/MISSING IN ACTION**

*Local Dignitaries to Attend Including Frankford Township Deputy Mayor Nicholas Civitan,  
Frankford Township Committeeman Christopher Carney and  
United States Congressman Joshua Gottheimer Representative Patrick Sheehan*

*Sussex County Miners Will be One of Four New Jersey Professional Baseball Teams  
That Have a POW/MIA Chair of Honor*

**Augusta, NJ** – The 2018 Can-Am League Champion Sussex County Miners and Rolling Thunder®, Inc. are paying tribute to all United States Armed Forces' Prisoners of War (POWs) and Missing in Action (MIA) by hosting a special POW/MIA Chair of Honor dedication ceremony. Taking place on Saturday, August 3 at 5:30pm, the POW/MIA Chair of Honor is an empty seat that serves as a symbol to remind everyone to never forget servicemen who made the ultimate sacrifice and there will always symbolically be a seat at Skylands Stadium for their return. The Miners will be one of four New Jersey professional baseball teams that have a POW/MIA Chair of Honor along with the Camden River Sharks, Somerset Patriots and Trenton Thunder.

"Our organization and our fans always strive to express our eternal gratitude and respect for the United States Armed Forces. We are honored to partner with Rolling Thunder®, Inc. and host this momentous ceremony to honor our soldiers who gave the ultimate sacrifice, held as a POW or listed MIA whose remains have not been returned." Sussex County Miners General Manager Justin Ferrarella said. "We hope this memorial will serve as an everlasting symbol of thanks and honor to servicemen and servicewomen for generations to come."

The commemoration will begin with a Rolling Thunder®, Inc. bike parade around the warning track. Following the National Anthem, including a color guard presentation by Retired Chief George Lott of Lt. Robert A. Madden VFW Post 10152, the POW/MIA Chair of Honor will be unveiled by Jim Langerbach, best friend of POW/IA SSGT Robert Scherdin who was wounded and left behind in Vietnam. Taps will then be played by bugler Peter Gasiewicz, Veteran US Marines, Vietnam. Elaine Martin, National Secretary for the POW/MIA Chair of Honor Committee will speak and present a letter written by United States Senators Corey Booker and Robert Menendez recognizing the dedication. Additional remarks will be made by Frankford Township Deputy Mayor Nicholas Civitan, Frankford Township Committeeman Christopher Carney Congressman and Joshua Gottheimer Representative Patrick Sheehan. The ceremony will conclude with bagpipe player Lance Evans, Veteran U.S. Army, Vietnam performing Amazing Grace.

To date, Rolling Thunder®, Inc. has placed over 375 POW/MIA Chairs of Honor across the country in state capitols, town halls, colleges, schools and parks. In fact, Rolling Thunder®, Inc. promoted legislation to have the POW/MIA Chair of Honor placed at the U.S. Capitol, Emancipation Hall which was dedicated on November 7, 2017. Plus several Major League Baseball and other professional sports venues have a Chair of Honor including Fenway Park (Boston Red Sox), Progressive Field (Cleveland Indians) and TD Garden (Boston Celtics & Boston Bruins). Gillette Stadium (New England Patriots) was the first sports stadium with “one empty seat” on Veterans Day, 2012. Since World War II, there are over 82,000 unaccounted servicemen.

#### **About the Sussex County Miners**

The 2018 Can-Am League Champion **Sussex County Miners** are New Jersey's newest professional baseball team. The Miners play a 95-game season from May through September. Their home games are played at **Skylands Stadium**, one of the premier sports and entertainment venues in North Jersey. The **Skylands Stadium Sports Complex** is conveniently located in the heart of Sussex County and includes a 4,200-seat stadium, the all-new 17,000-square foot indoor climate controlled **Champions Way Sports Academy**, 3-acre play and party area, 80-seat full-service restaurant – the only of its kind in all minor league baseball -- and a spacious parking lot. In addition to baseball, Skylands Stadium also hosts numerous events including food truck festivals, beer festivals, comedy nights, boat shows, light shows, and holiday extravaganzas, as well as private and corporate functions. For more information or tickets, please click **here** or call **973.383.7644**.

#### **About Rolling Thunder®, Inc.**

Incorporated in 1995, Rolling Thunder®, Inc. is a class 501(c) (4) non-profit organization with over 90 chartered chapters throughout the United States and members abroad. While many members of Rolling Thunder®, Inc. are veterans and many ride motorcycles, neither qualification is a prerequisite. Rolling Thunder®, Inc. members are old and young, men and women, veterans and non-veterans. All are united in the cause to bring full accountability for the Prisoners Of War-Missing In Action (POW/MIA) of all wars, reminding the government, the media and the public by our watchwords: “We Will Not Forget.”

#### **CONTACT:**

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