



Media Contacts:

Alan English (703) 838-8105
Molly Wyman (703) 838-8148
pr@moaa.org

**Military Officers Association of America Presenting:
2018 Distinguished Service Award to Vantage Mobility International**

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (February 28, 2018) — [Military Officers Association of America \(MOAA\)](http://www.moaa.org) will present its 2018 Distinguished Service Award to **Tim Barone**, president and CEO of Arizona-based **Vantage Mobility International**, in recognition of the company's outstanding contributions in support of the military community. The award will be presented at an April event on Capitol Hill; all awardees are expected to attend.

The award recognizes organizations or individuals who are not in Congress but who have greatly aided people who served in the U.S. armed forces. Barone is being recognized for the company's work helping thousands of disabled veterans achieve independence and mobility.

"Tim Barone and Vantage Mobility International are helping wounded service members reclaim independence," said MOAA President and CEO retired Air Force Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins. "That impacts every aspect of their lives."

The awards ceremony will also recognize Kevin Johnson, president and CEO of Starbucks Coffee Company, for Starbucks' continued support in the hiring of veterans and military spouses.

Additionally, MOAA will present its 2018 Arthur T. Marix Congressional Leadership Award to U.S. Reps. Martha McSally (R) and Kyrsten Sinema (D), both of Arizona. Jorge Rueda, formerly with the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, and Samantha Gonzalez, with the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, will receive MOAA's 2018 Colonel Paul W. Arcari Meritorious Service Award.

MOAA has awarded the Marix and Distinguished Service awards since 1997. Past recipients of the Marix Award include Sens. Lindsay Graham, John McCain, and Jim Webb; past recipients of the Distinguished Service Award include Tom Brokaw, Toby Keith, and retired Army Gen. Colin Powell. The Arcari award recognizing congressional staff members was first awarded in 2000. For more information about MOAA, please visit www.moaa.org.

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About MOAA:

Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the nation's largest military officers' association with more than 350,000 members from every branch of uniformed service, including active duty, retired, National Guard, Reserve, and former officers and their families and survivors. MOAA is a nonprofit and politically nonpartisan organization and an influential force in promoting a strong national defense. MOAA represents the interests of service members and their families in every stage of their lives and careers, and for those who are not eligible to join MOAA, Voices for America's Troops is a nonprofit MOAA affiliate that supports a strong national defense. For more information, visit www.moaa.org or www.voicesfortroops.org/.

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