

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contact:** Vernon Stewart, Public Information Officer  
(850) 435-1623

## **\*\* Cancelled\*\* Ready to Rock? We've got the Solos in the City**

In light of recent events, we regret to announce that the Blue Angels Solos in the City event scheduled for June 20th has been cancelled.

As a result of the fatal accident in Smyrna, Tennessee, the City of Pensacola has decided with deep sadness that it is not possible to proceed with the Solos in the City event which was planned for Monday, June 20.

"The recent events are very tragic and almost surreal. When you live here on the beautiful Gulf Coast we are fortunate to be the home of the Blue Angels," said Pensacola Mayor Ashton Hayward. "To hear this news is tragic and our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the Blue Angels. They are such a big part of the fabric of our community."

U.S. Marine Capt. Jeff Kuss, 32, was a Durango, Colo., native and the pilot of the No. 6 Blue Angels jet.

Kuss graduated from Durango High School in 2002 and from Fort Lewis College, a 3,800-student school in the southwest Colorado city, with a degree in economics in 2006. He was commissioned the same year as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Kuss joined the Blue Angels in September 2014 and had accumulated more than 1,400 flight hours. Kuss is survived by his wife, Christina, and two children. He received several decorations, including the Strike Flight Air Medal and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

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*The City of Pensacola and the Blue Angels Association are now inviting the public to get up close and personal with the solo pilots of the Navy's elite flight demonstration squadron.*

*The Blue Angels Association and the City of Pensacola are continuing their 70th anniversary season partnership with themed forums. These forums allow the public to interact with members of the team in a casual-conversational environment. The event begins with introductions and background information on the team and then opens up for questions.*

*The next forum will focus on the solos. The Lead and Opposing Solos (Blue Angels 5 and 6) showcase the high performance capabilities of their individual aircraft through the execution of high-speed passes, slow passes, fast rolls, slow rolls, and very tight turns. Most of the show alternates between maneuvers performed by the Diamond Formation and those performed by the Solos.*

*Special guest for the June 20th event will be former Naval Air Station Pensacola Commanding Officer, and former lead solo Keith Hoskins. Mr. Hoskins served with the Blue Angels from 1999 to 2001. A solo from the current 2016 Team will also be on the panel.*

***Who:*** Blue Angels

***What:*** Solos in the City Open Forum

***When:*** Monday, June 20th at 6:00 p.m.

***Where:*** Hunter Amphitheatre at Community Maritime Park, 300 W Main St, Pensacola, Florida 32502

*Forum goers should bring lawn chairs or blankets for seating on the lawn. The National Naval Aviation Museum will also be in attendance with historical Blue Angels items. There will be time for autographs, photos and Blue Angel takeaway materials.*

*To get more information and to stay updated with any changes, be sure to visit the [event page](#).*

# READY TO ROCK?



WE'VE GOT THE SOLOS IN THE CITY.



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