News Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Naval Aviation Museum Foundation to Host First Virtual Race Experience in Support of the Museum

October 1 – October 31, 2020

PENSACOLA, FLA. (Oct. 1, 2020) – The Naval Aviation Museum Foundation will host their first virtual race experience this fall. Open to participants nationwide, the Onward & Upward Virtual Race registration portal opens on October 1. The virtual race will take place between October 1 and October 31. The race is open to participants of all ages. Participants can register <u>online</u> for the 1 mile, 5K or 10K distance for a \$35 registration fee. All participants will receive an iconic 4" moving medal featuring an F-14 Tomcat launching from USS Enterprise (CVN 65), in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the first flight of the F-14 Tomcat, one of the most iconic aircraft in modern Naval Aviation history.

Part of every registration supports the Naval Aviation Museum Foundation which helps preserve the National Naval Aviation Museum's rare and unique collection of aircraft and exhibits. The virtual race includes the moving 4" F-14 Tomcat race medal, digital race bib and a charitable donation to the Naval Aviation Museum Foundation.

"During these critical times, we wanted to do something to encourage everyone to get out, get moving and stay healthy while supporting the Museum Foundation," said retired Rear Adm. Kyle Cozad, president and CEO of the Naval Aviation Museum Foundation. "Now more than ever we need the help of our supporters. We're adapting our fundraising efforts to meet the new norms we're facing going forward. We're excited to get moving together and I encourage everyone to join us."

The virtual race is to support Naval Aviation history and to honor our nation's heroes including servicemen and servicewomen. The Foundation is encouraging participants nationwide to use #OnwardUpward and @navalaviationmuseum on social media to share photos, running courses and stories of participation as well as those being honored.

A virtual race allows participants to choose the distance, time and place to complete the race. To register for the Onward and Upward Virtual Race, visit https://navalaviationfoundation.org/virtualrace/ or contact the Museum Foundation for more information at namfoffice@navalaviationmuseum.org.

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Media Note: For more information about the Naval Aviation Museum Foundation, contact Malerie Cates at (850) 585-2770 or mcates@navalaviationmuseum.org.

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About the Naval Aviation Museum Foundation

The Naval Aviation Museum Foundation is the nonprofit, 501(c)(3), sole benefactor to the National Naval Aviation Museum—and the fuel that allows the museum to take flight. The Foundation is responsible for funding all museum operation, expansion and activity. The Foundation works diligently to raise funding

through gifts and memberships. All funding, aside from Foundation staffing and operational costs, goes to the operation, maintenance and enhancement of the museum, including museum expansion, aircraft preservation, conservation and maintenance, development of new exhibits and support of day to day functions—including custodial services, marketing, operation of the Museum's various attractions (such as our Naval Aviation Memorial Giant Screen Theater, flight simulators, Blue Angels 4D Experience and Flight Deck gift shop), as well as the production of major events at the Museum. The Foundation also supports the advancement of STEM education through the National Flight Academy, a cutting edge, aviation-themed learning experience.

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