



March 10, 2020

Dear Air Force Charity Ball Sponsors,

It is with regret we inform you of our decision to cancel the U.S. Air Force Charity Ball scheduled for March 21, 2020. Upon consideration of CDC guidelines and federal, state and local official recommendations regarding the current COVID-19 global health crisis, we have decided canceling the event is in the best interest and safety of all event attendees. Although the number of cases in our area is low, medical experts agree now is the time to take necessary precautionary measures to mitigate the spread of the novel coronavirus.

The 2020 Ball was sold out and on the way to raising a record amount for the Air Force Aid Society, but the health and safety of our supporters is our highest priority. We are unwilling to risk exposing you or our Air and Space Force senior leadership to this very contagious virus.

Although the Ball has been canceled, the needs of our Airmen and their families have not. In fact, this health crisis may result in an increased need for support so we ask you to consider allowing your 2020 sponsorship to remain as a donation to the Air Force Aid Society.

We will continue to work to earn your support for the 2021 Charity Ball and beyond! Please contact us or the U.S. Air Force Charity Ball Corporate Sponsorship team at <a href="mailto:corporatesponsors@airforcecharityball.org">corporatesponsors@airforcecharityball.org</a> with any concerns you may have. Thank you in advance for your commitment to our Airmen, their families and the entire Air Force community.

Sincerely,

John D. Hopper, Jr., LTG, USAF (Retired) Chief Executive Officer, Air Force Aid Society

john.hopper@afas-hq.org

John D. Hopper Jr.

Cheryl L. Roberson

Chair, 2020 USAF Charity Ball Committee chairman@airforcecharityball.org

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### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

## Will the U.S. Air Force Charity Ball be rescheduled?

Unfortunately, we will be unable to reschedule the Ball in 2020 but we look forward to seeing you at next year's Charity Ball scheduled for March 20, 2021.

#### Will sponsorship funds be refunded?

We are so grateful to our industry partners and the critical support they provide to our Airmen and families. This year's Charity Ball was sold out and on its way to raising a record amount for the Air Force Aid Society. As you can imagine, we have already incurred costs in the planning of the event. So we hope you will consider allowing your 2020 sponsorship to remain as a donation to the Air Force Aid Society. If left as a donation it will become a fully tax-deductible contribution. Please refer any refund requests to corporatesponsors@airforcecharityball.org

## What happens to the hotel and travel plans for those attending the Charity Ball?

Hotel reservations made at the Hyatt can be canceled up to 72 hours in advance and we're confident airlines will be honoring refunds or canceling change fees based on the current situation.

# Will there still be a Silent Auction?

There are plans to host the Silent Auction in an on-line format. Information on how to participate in the silent auction will be posted on the Charity Ball website, <u>airforcecharityball.org</u>, in the coming days.