



News Release

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Thomas W. Butch Appointed as New Board Chair at National World War I Museum

KANSAS CITY, Mo., (Dec. 3, 2013) – The National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial announced today the appointment of Thomas W. Butch of Waddell & Reed Financial, Inc., as the organization’s new Board of Trustees Chairman.

Butch, a member of the National World War I Museum board since 2009, will oversee the 25-person board during a pivotal time for the organization as plans are formulated for the 2014 Centennial Commemoration of World War I.

“We are extremely grateful and excited for Tom to assume the role of Board of Trustees Chairman,” said Dr. Matthew Naylor, President and CEO of the Museum. “Tom has been a tremendous asset to the organization since joining the board. His expertise and leadership will be absolutely invaluable as the Museum engages people from across the world in conjunction with the upcoming World War I Centennial Commemoration.”

Butch serves as the Executive Vice President at Waddell & Reed Financial, Inc., Chairman and President of Waddell & Reed, Inc., and President and Chief Executive Officer of Ivy Funds Distributor, Inc. In these roles, Butch is responsible for managing Waddell & Reed’s broker/dealer subsidiaries as well as for corporate and retail marketing, product management and strategic relationships.

“I am humbled and honored to be appointed chairman of the National World War I Museum,” said Butch. “This exceptional institution deserves the very best that the board, the staff, the volunteers and I can give. Together, we will work tirelessly to further enhance the museum’s importance and prominence locally, nationally and internationally.”

Butch will serve a two-year term as board chairman and he replaces Dr. Mary Davidson Cohen, who served as the board chairman since 2011 and as the Museum’s interim CEO from August 2012 through May 2013.

The National World War I Museum holds the most diverse collection of World War I objects and documents in the world and is the second-oldest public museum dedicated to preserving the objects, history and personal experiences of the war.

About the National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial

The National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial is the only American museum solely dedicated to preserving the objects, history and personal experiences of a war whose impact still echoes in the world today. The National World War I Museum holds the most diverse collection of World War I objects and documents in the world and is the second-oldest public museum dedicated to preserving the objects, history and personal experiences of the war. The Museum takes visitors on an epic journey through a transformative period and shares deeply personal stories of courage, honor, patriotism and sacrifice. Designated by Congress as America’s official World War I Museum and located in downtown Kansas City, Mo., the National World War I Museum inspires thought, dialogue and learning to make the experiences of the Great War era meaningful and relevant for present and future generations. To learn more, visit www.theworldwar.org.

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