

HONOR BELL  
FOUNDATION



**Colorado Springs**  
**City Council**  
**Presentation**  
August 12th 10am

**FORGED FROM HONOR**

HONOR BELL  
FOUNDATION



**Larry Peterson**  
HBF Board Member

**Laurie Kuntz**  
HBF Executive Director

Our Guest: **Skyler Holmes**  
Director Pikes Peak  
National Cemetery

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My Normal presentation is 45 minutes. With time constraints I have given each of you a more detailed paper on the Honor Bell Foundation for your reference.

## **Intro:**

City Council President Helms and City Council members, thank you accepting Len Bentley's request for allowing us to address and present 'The Honor Bell Foundation' to the Colorado Springs City Council.

There are three elements I will present to you today:

Who we are:

What we do:

Why we are addressing you today:

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Who we are:

Honor Bell Foundation, Inc. is a Colorado nonprofit, 501(c)(3) corporation based in Denver. Its primary purpose is to provide a unique funeral honor, A Final Salute, for deceased military veterans who have Served & Sacrificed through the slow ringing, known as tolling, of a ceremonial bell. The foundation also provides veteran outreach and community education.

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Founded in 2014 by Louis Olivera, Alan Buckman and Michelle Malin

## **Our Team:**

Board Chair: Veteran Supporter Corrina Capotrio

Board Secretary: Veteran Supporter Heidi Olivera (wife of Louis Olivera)

Board members: US Army Major General (Retired) Steven Best

US Navy Captain (Retired) Marti Crockett

US Air Force SSgt Larry Peterson

Veteran Supporter Mike Wheaton United Veterans  
Committee of Colorado

Executive Director: Veteran Supporter Laurie Kuntz

Director of Bell Operations: USA (Retired) David Earp

Director of IT: Veteran Supporter Mark Yingling

Planning Committee Chair: USAF Veteran Scott Weyand

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## **Our Vision**

The vision of the Honor Bell Foundation is to unite veterans to honor their own and foster public appreciation for military service.

## **Our Mission:**

The Honor Bell Foundation's mission is to create a community of veterans to foster public appreciation of military service and honor their fellow veterans with a proper, final tribute.

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# What we do:

## **Saluting the Sacrifice**

The founding principle of the Honor Bell Foundation is to provide an opportunity for the rendering of a respectful, final honor at military funerals and memorial services. This is accomplished with the tolling of a bell — [The Honor Bell](#) — in a manner based in tradition and respect. This practice, known as rendering Bell Honors, is the last sound heard at a funeral and is tolled with an understated, solemn, and clear tone.

## **Bell Honors:**

Bell Honors are provided at no cost to the families of veterans as part of their loved one's interment or memorial service.

## **Purpose Of the Honor Bell**

The Honor Bell stands as the first tolling bell ever cast in U.S. history specifically crafted to pay a final honor to United States Service Members killed in action and Armed Forces Veterans. Solely veterans and active-duty service members toll this custom-designed, one-thousand-pound stationary bronze bell, measuring thirty-seven inches in diameter and forty inches in height.

Its motto, "Forged From Honor," epitomizes its significance. During the casting process, artifacts from twelve deceased Colorado servicemembers spanning from World War II to the Global War on Terror were infused into the molten bronze. These artifacts symbolize veterans of the past, present, and future, forever ingrained in the bell, solidifying its identity as "Forged From Honor"

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# DIGNITY, HONOR, RESPECT



## DIGNITY

**Veterans Outreach**

**Camaraderie**

A "Way to serve again."



## HONOR

**Bell Honors**

Sounding our respect &  
loss.



## RESPECT

**Education**

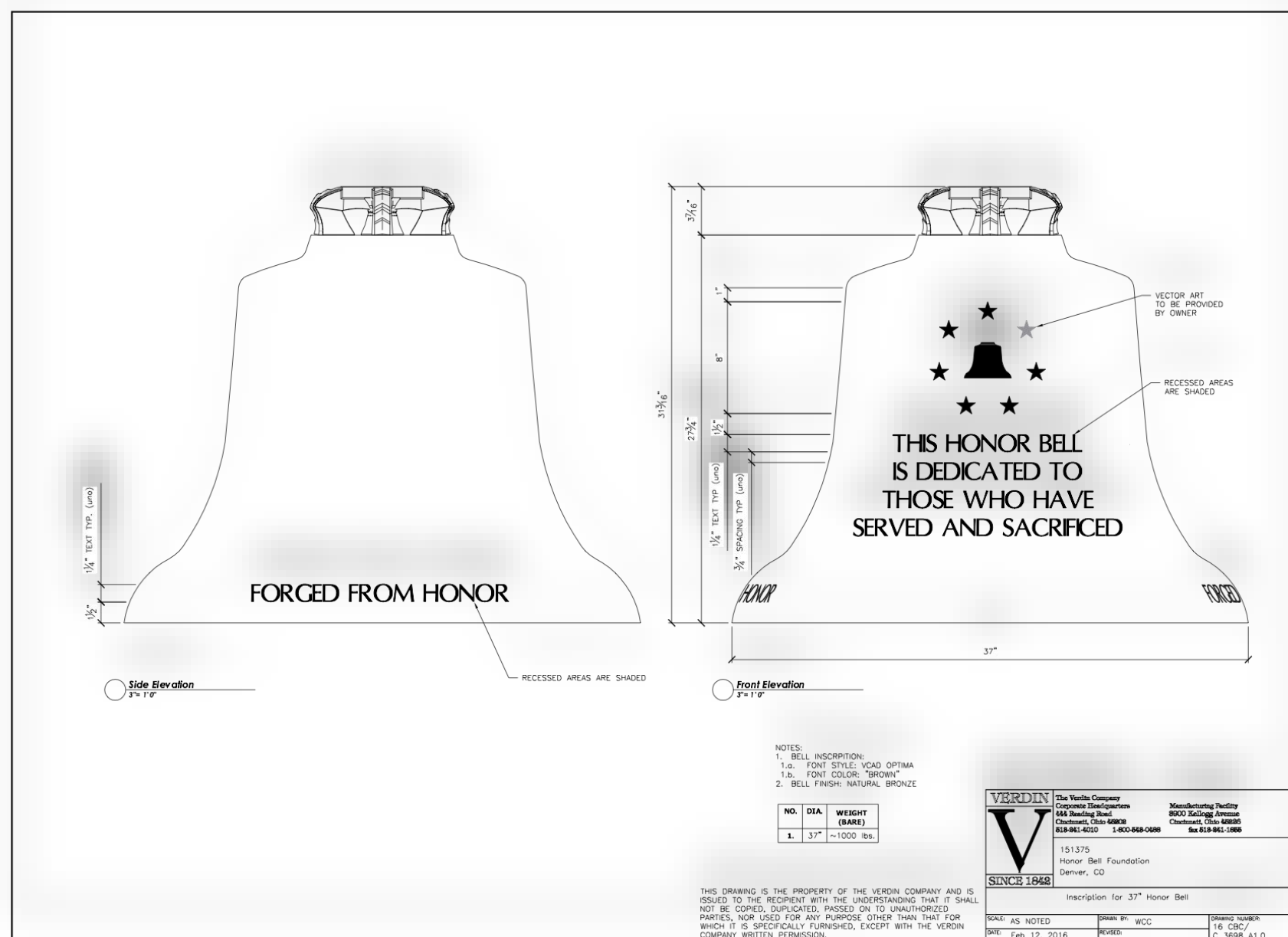
The meaning of "thank you  
for your service."

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# THE HONOR BELL

- Bronze Instrument tuned to mourning tone
- 37 inches dia.
- 40 inches tall
- 1000 pounds
- Stationary w/clapper 85 lbs
- The Verdin Company
- 99.99% Bronze



“Forged From Honor”



# Military Honors



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# Military Honors



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# BELL HONORS

## Rendering Bell Honors

- No cost service
- By request only
- 7 Tolls, 7 sec apart
- Musical note of A



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# The Meaning Of The Honor Bell's Seven Tolls

During every veteran's funeral or memorial service, the Bell Guard solemnly tolls the Honor Bell seven times, with seven seconds of silence between each toll. Each toll signifies a distinct stage in a veteran's life, conveying specific meanings:

## **Toll One: The Choice to Serve**

The Choice to Serve symbolizes the veteran's readiness to sacrifice their life for their country—a dedication that only a few are chosen for.

## **Toll Two: Camaraderie**

Camaraderie represents the bonds of friendship, family ties, and unity unite all service members.

## **Toll Three: Patriotism**

Patriotism symbolizes the veteran's pride in their country, a commitment to defend it, and the happiness in cherishing the freedoms protected by our Constitution.

## **Toll Four: Respect**

Respect embodies the reverence bestowed upon a veteran by their community, earned through their service and rightfully honored by us.

## **Toll Five: Dignity**

Dignity symbolizes the respectful treatment that a veteran's community accords to their fallen hero.

## **Toll Six: Honor**

Honor signifies the respect owed to a deceased veteran by their fellow service members and community.

## **Toll Seven: The Value of Life**

The Value of Life embodies the ultimate sacrifice made by the veteran. Whether lost in combat or after years of dedicated service, the worth of a veteran cannot be fully expressed in words.

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*Why we are addressing you today:*

COMING SOON!  
**PIKES PEAK**

**HONOR  
BELL**



**ENT Credit Union**

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Parade Configuration **FORGED FROM HONOR**



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[honorbell.org](http://honorbell.org)



# DISCUSSION

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