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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Veteran-Led Team Rubicon Launching New Recovery Operation in Puerto Rico

Dallas, TX (**May 16, 2018**) – <u>Team Rubicon</u>, a veteran-led global disaster response organization, is launching a new operation in the municipality of Florida, Puerto Rico to assist in on-going hurricane recovery efforts. Operations will begin on May 18 and are expected to last until June 6.

Team Rubicon volunteers will provide debris management, chainsaw services, house muck-outs and expedient home repairs (i.e. roof tarping) to affected communities in coordination with local and state authorities.

"At Team Rubicon, we have a bias for action and our mission is to prevent or alleviate human suffering in the wake of disasters. So, it's only natural that we continue finding opportunities to support Puerto Ricans in the wake of Hurricane Maria," said Dennis Clancey, Deputy Director of Field Operations for Team Rubicon. "From our initial response in September 2017 to our on-going roof rebuild program, our teams are eager to help Puerto Rico recover, rebuild and prepare for the up-coming hurricane season."

This latest recovery operation builds on Team Rubicon's continuous efforts to support Puerto Rico as they recover and rebuild in the wake of Hurricane Maria.

After Hurricane Maria devastated Puerto Rico in September of 2017, Team Rubicon launched an operation where our teams conducted hospital assessments, provided medical services and worked on high-impact infrastructure projects like clearing of aqueducts, removing downed trees around power lines, and clearing access points for emergency services and other responding agencies. This operation ran from September 30, 2017 to December 1, 2017.

Following that, Team Rubicon launched a unique recovery program aimed at repairing roofs for disaster survivors in Puerto Rico. With case management provided by Saint Vincent de Paul, Team Rubicon presently continues this roof repair program. To date,

we've rebuilt more than 70 reinforced roofs, helping over 200 people better weather the upcoming hurricane season.

Team Rubicon boasts an 80,000-strong, highly skilled volunteer force that helps communities stabilize and recover after a devastating natural disaster. Since its inception following the 2010 Haiti earthquake, Team Rubicon has responded to over 250 disasters, including Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria.

Through a strong communications infrastructure supported by our cutting-edge technological solutions, Team Rubicon volunteers efficiently and effectively respond to natural disasters and help families return to their homes as soon as possible. By giving military veteran volunteers the opportunity to continue their service through disaster response, Team Rubicon helps give them a renewed sense of purpose, community, and identity.

About Team Rubicon

Team Rubicon unites the skills and experiences of military veterans with first responders to rapidly deploy emergency response teams. Team Rubicon is a nonprofit organization offering veterans a chance to continue their service by helping those afflicted by disasters, and also themselves. Programs and services are made possible by the support of individual donors, corporate partners, and the dedication of volunteers across the country. To join or support Team Rubicon's mission, visit www.teamrubiconusa.org.