

## MEMORANDUM

July 18, 2003

TO: Lee Ann

FROM: John

CC: Boyd, Shannon, Courtney

RE: Celebrate America press conference

The press conference is scheduled for Thursday, July 24, at 12:15 p.m., in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor rotunda of the Capitol. The only speakers should be GRM and David Waide from Farm Bureau. GRM would open and close the press conference.

We should use the usual set-up, with the podium at the base of the stairs. We can borrow flags from Earnestine and Nan (be sure they go back!). Standing behind GRM and Waide on the stairs should be Howard Ballou, MG (Ret.) Luke Goodwin, Melinda Hood, Dedra Luke, Paul Ott, Jimmy Porter, Lt. Col. Tim Powell, MG Lipscomb, Ilene Sumrall, Homer Wilkes, and Boyd.

We need to have as many of our people on hand as possible for the press conference, especially National Guard personnel and state troopers in uniform.

I am working on remarks (they will be in the 2003 speech folder). We will also need a release for distribution (Shannon or Courtney: Can you work on this).

I have continued to try reaching Melinda Hood but with no luck. Her voicemail says she's in the office, but she hasn't returned my calls. I think she needs to be the one to push the story with the media. As we've discussed, this doesn't need to be our show.

If I don't hear back from her today, Boyd may want to try and reach her Monday.