

Subject: 3rd Annual National Wounded Warrior Tennis Camp

Date: Mon, 9 Jun 2014 10:52:17 -0700

From: Bruce Gillingham

To: Dave Haggerty, President, U.S. Tennis Association

Mr. Haggerty:

I wanted to write you and let you know what an outstanding job the USTA is doing to support our Wounded Warriors. I am the Commander of Navy Medicine West and also the Commander of the Naval Medical Center in San Diego. As such, I oversee medical care for the several hundred Wounded Warriors in the greater San Diego area, as well as the west coast and throughout the Pacific. I recently had the privilege of visiting the Wounded Warrior Tennis Camp put on by the Balboa Tennis Club. Steve Kappes, President, San Diego District Tennis Association, runs this clinic with great support from the staff at the Balboa Tennis Club. Over 50 Wounded Warriors from across the nation participated. I had the privilege of seeing the clinic, meeting with the Wounded Warriors and even had the opportunity to hit with a few of them (although it was immediately apparent that I would benefit from a tennis clinic myself)!

I want you to know what an impressive clinic this is and what a difference it is making in the lives of those who have sacrificed to serve our country. Our patients tell us that participation in recreational events like the Wounded Warrior Tennis camp decreases their need for pain medication. Undoubtedly, this is due to their focus on developing new skills in an environment of caring and enjoyment. The energy level and enthusiasm were very high. I saw smiles, camaraderie, and true happiness amongst the Wounded Warriors, all of whom have had life-changing injuries but are on the road to recovery with bright futures ahead because of outreach services like this. I was truly inspired by my visit and am truly thankful for the great work by Steve and his team.

Just thought you'd like to know what an impact your organization is having. Thank you for your caring, your support, and, most importantly, for the positive difference you are making in the lives of America's heroes.

Sincerely,

Bruce Gillingham

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