



PRESS RELEASE

## Marine General Lori E. Reynolds to deliver keynote address at 2013 WBCA National Convention

ATLANTA (March 20, 2013) – United States Marine Corps Brigadier General Lori E. Reynolds will deliver the keynote address at the upcoming 2013 WBCA National Convention in New Orleans, the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) announced today.

Reynolds is the commanding general of Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C., and commanding general of the Eastern Recruiting Region. She is the first woman to command the Marines' historic training base at Parris Island. Reynolds was also the first female Marine to command battle space when she was deployed to Afghanistan in 2012 where she served as the commander of Camp Leatherneck and commanded the troops to provide security in the surrounding areas of the camp.

The 2013 WBCA National Convention will be held April 5–9 in conjunction with the 2013 NCAA® Women's Final Four® in New Orleans. Reynolds will address the WBCA membership during the convention's general session, which will be held at 8 a.m. CT Monday, April 8, in the New Orleans Marriott's Mardi Gras Salon A–E.

The general session will also feature a special presentation to the WBCA membership by NCAA Vice President for Women's Basketball Championships Anucha Browne and NCAA women's basketball consultant Val Ackerman on the current state and prospective future of the women's college game. WBCA President Charli Turner Thorne, head coach at Arizona State, will preside.

"We are honored to have General Reynolds as the keynote speaker for the 2013 WBCA National Convention," said WBCA CEO Beth Bass. "She has dedicated her life to the defense of our country and is one of the highest-ranking women in our nation's military. She is a tremendous role model, not only for young women, but for us all."

Reynolds, who is from Baltimore, was commissioned in the Marine Corps in May 1986 after graduating from the United States Naval Academy where she was a member of the women's basketball team.

Along with coaching legend Pat Summitt and tennis star Venus Williams, Reynolds was one of 40 influential women who played high school or college athletics to be honored last July in Washington, D.C., as part of an event celebrating the 40th anniversary of Title IX.

Reynolds' personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with gold star, and the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with gold star.

"General Reynolds is a proven leader and her experiences and words of wisdom will help us all to become better leaders ourselves," said Bass.

#### About the WBCA:

Founded in 1981, the Women's Basketball Coaches Association promotes women's basketball by unifying coaches at all levels to develop a reputable identity for the sport and to foster and promote the development of the game as a sport for women and girls. For more information on the WBCA, please visit [wbca.org](http://wbca.org).