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Contact:

Chad Peterek, Founder & Tournament Director | Saltwater Legend Series
info@saltwaterlegendseries.com | 361-920-3474

SALTWATER LEGEND SERIES™ TO INDUCT THE LATE WALTER WILLIAM FONDREN III AS THE 2ND HALL OF FAME RECIPIENT

**THE SECOND STOP OF THE SERIES IS SET HAPPENS FEB. 25TH AT
THE SANCTUARY IN PORT O'CONNOR, TX**

Port O'Connor, TX - The Saltwater Legend Series™ continues the 2017 series with its second stop in Port O'Connor, TX, Feb. 24th and Feb. 25th at The Sanctuary. Friday's event will be held 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Port O'Connor Community Center (open to the general public) and will include the Hall of Fame Enshrinement ceremony for the late coastal conservationist Walter William Fondren III, the second Saltwater Hall of Fame recipient of 2017.

Walter W. Fondren III has been a staunch proponent of marine resource conservation for more than a quarter century. Born into a Houston family that played a prominent role in the development of the petroleum industry, Fondren spent his weekends hunting and fishing along the Texas coast. As his knowledge and skills grew, he noticed his angling opportunities dwindling due to commercial overfishing.

In 1976, Fondren was one of 43 concerned recreational anglers who met in a Houston sporting goods store to discuss what they could do about the continued abuse of marine resources along the Texas coast. The result of that meeting was the creation of the Gulf Coast Conservation Association (GCCA). The Texas chapter was officially founded on March 17, 1977. Walter Fondren became chairman of the fledgling organization, which focused its early efforts on redfish with the launch of the "Save the Redfish" campaign.

GCCA's grassroots efforts helped secure passage of the Texas Red Drum Conservation Act,

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which imposed commercial bag limits, quotas and mandatory reporting for individual sales of redfish, as well as bag limits for anglers. In 1981, thanks largely to GCCA, red drum and spotted sea trout were designated “game fish” in Texas, effectively prohibiting their sale throughout the state. The Fondren family will be honored and will receive the recognition on his behalf.

Saturday, Feb. 25th the event will be held from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Sanctuary in Port O’Connor, TX. Saturday’s event welcomes the general public to a fun-filled day with vendors, music, weigh-in, awards ceremony and much more.

All admission to the events on both days is free of charge. Food & beverage will be available at the Hall of Fame Ceremony on Friday night. Meal tickets can be purchased at the event for \$12. Parking for the Hall of Fame ceremony & weigh-in will be limited.

The Saltwater Legend Series™ is an organization whose sole purpose is to:

Honor the heroes of the sport of Saltwater fishing, preserve the history of the sport & its anglers, promote its values & celebrate excellence everywhere. For more information and details regarding each event for the 2017 series, please visit www.saltwaterlegendseries.com or @SWLegendseries on Twitter & Facebook.