



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **U.S. Navy Blue Angel No. 7 & No. 8 Arrive in Columbus**

*The Blue Angels landed this afternoon for their winter visit to meet with air show officials in preparation for the 2023 air show*

**COLUMBUS, OH (November 28, 2022)** – Today, U.S. Navy Blue Angel No. 7, Lieutenant Commander Thomas Zimmerman and No. 8, Lieutenant Commander Brian Vaught landed in Columbus in one of the team’s Boeing F/A-18 Super Hornets.

They are meeting with show officials to begin preparations for the 2023 Columbus Air Show Presented by Scotts happening June 16-18, at Rickenbacker International Airport. Columbus is one of only 31 show sites selected by the Blue Angels for their upcoming 2023 Air Show Season.

The Blue Angels have been thrilling audiences for more than 70 years. Their last Columbus appearance was in 1995, in their Boeing F/A-18 Hornets. Now after a 28-year absence, the Blue Angels are returning to Columbus in their more powerful Boeing F/A-18 Super Hornets. Next year, the team will fly their six Super Hornets in a tightly choreographed, high-energy demonstration – sometimes flying as close as 18 inches apart.



Leading the 138-member squadron for the 2023 air show season as Blue Angel No. 1 is Commander Alexander Armatas from Skaneateles, New York. This is Cmdr. Armatas' first year leading the Blue Angels. This is also a historic year for the Blue Angels as they welcome their first female jet demonstration pilot, Lieutenant Amanda "Stalin" Lee from Mounds View, Minnesota.

"We are excited to be hosting the Blue Angels in Columbus for the first time in more than a quarter century," said Herb Gillen, President of Herb Gillen Airshows, the producers of the event. "The Blue Angels are headlining what will be one of the top air show lineups in North America in 2023."

Tickets for Columbus Air Show Presented by Scotts are currently available. Several premium seating options for Saturday's show have already sold out or are close to selling out. Additional information regarding tickets and sponsorship opportunities are available at [www.columbusairshow.com](http://www.columbusairshow.com)

Hi resolution photos and b-roll of the Blue Angels are available from Herb Gillen Agency 614.488.2828.

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*The Columbus Air Show Presented by Scotts is a newly formed show that will be held June 16- 18, 2023, at Rickenbacker International Airport with the U.S. Navy Blue Angels as the headline performers. The event is expected to attract more than 100,000 guests and will be marketed regionally to a marketing area including up to 10 million people. The air show will provide top-shelf hospitality experiences, excellent exhibitor and on-site partnership opportunities, and chances for brands to connect in a unique way with a high-value demographic*



through a cherished community event. Additional information is available at [www.ColumbusAirShow.com](http://www.ColumbusAirShow.com) and follow the show on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).