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April 12, 2024

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**Representative Valdés Issues Statement Ahead of National Borinqueneers Day**

“This Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024, is National Borinqueneers Day, designated by Congress to pay tribute to the heroic service and sacrifices of the 65<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment of Puerto Rican soldiers nicknamed ‘The Borinqueneers.’ It is important to me to recognize our veterans who have selflessly served our nation. The Borinqueneers fought to defend our nation, even when they faced prejudice.

“I had planned to host an event this past Thursday to honor a Borinqueneer veteran and Tampa resident, Mr. Carmelin Aponte. Unfortunately, the event had to be cancelled for reasons beyond my control. I encourage everyone to take time this weekend and educate themselves on the history of the Borinqueneers. Their courage and bravery have left a lasting impact on our country that we can’t forget.”

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