



**Thomas M. McDermott, Jr.**  
Mayor

**CITY OF HAMMOND**

April 25, 2019

Dear Athletes, Participants, Friends and Hammond Residents!

Welcome to the 2019 Edition of Leon's World's Fastest Triathlon. As Mayor of the great city of Hammond, it is my honor to welcome you to spend the weekend with us. The hallmark of our recreational area at Wolf Lake is the Pavilion. There is no better place to hold this event. Over the past 10 years, we strived to make Wolf Lake the premier recreational venue in the Midwest, perhaps in all of North America. The City of Hammond invested over \$40 million in the venue, bike trails, boardwalks and bridges to improve the quality of life in Hammond and I hope you feel as much a beneficiary as I do spending time with us.

Many years ago, my father, Thomas M. McDermott, Sr. partnered with Leon Wolek to bring Leon's Triathlon to Hammond. Who knew at that time the event would become the regional qualifier for USA Triathlon in the Midwest. Leon's Triathlon and the City of Hammond have developed a great partnership over the past 25 years.

To the veterans and injured service personnel participating in the event, you have my respect of your courage and dedication to our country and to your ability to challenge yourself in this competition. As a submariner in the US Navy, I understand your commitment to our country and wish you well on your test of strength and stamina.

Please enjoy your stay in Hammond and good luck to everyone participating and volunteering in the race.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. McDermott, Jr.  
Mayor

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