

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 11, 2014

# THE NATIONAL SEPTEMBER 11 MEMORIAL & MUSEUM COMMEMORATES THE 13TH ANNIVERSARY OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

9/11 Memorial Museum Opens to Families as Part of Commemoration

(New York) September 11, 2014 - The National September 11 Memorial & Museum today observed the 13th anniversary of September 11 with the families of the nearly 3,000 men, women and children killed in the attacks at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, aboard Flight 93, and those who died in the February 26, 1993 WTC bombing.

9/11 families for the first time as part of the commemoration were invited to visit the 9/11 Memorial Museum, which opened in May.

The commemoration ceremony for victims' families began with a citywide moment of silence at 8:46 a.m. in observance of the time the first plane struck the North Tower. In all, the ceremony had six moments of silence, representing the times each tower was struck and fell, the moment of the attack on the Pentagon, and the crash of Flight 93 near Shanksville, Pa. Between the moments of silence, family members read the names of the victims.

The ceremony was held on the Memorial plaza between the acre-sized reflecting pools, which sit within the footprints of the twin towers. The pools are ringed with bronze that is inscribed with the names of those killed in the terrorist attacks of 2001 and 1993.

"We come together this day to honor and remember the innocent men, women and children whose lives were cut short, and to speak their names aloud to remind us all that these were our friends, our brothers, our sisters and our neighbors," 9/11 Memorial Board Chairman Michael R. Bloomberg said. "With the opening of the Memorial and the Museum, their stories and how we as a nation responded to the attacks will live on for generations and show the world that the best of humanity can overcome the worst hate."

"While today will recall painful memories, let us also fill the hours celebrating the lives of loved ones taken too soon," 9/11 Memorial President Joe Daniels said. "Let us relive the compassion felt on that day and the days that followed, and honor the courage and sacrifice of the men and women who risked their lives to save others. Today, let our thoughts and prayers be with the families, who with us all, are helping to make sure this country never forgets."

As part of the commemoration, the Memorial plaza opens to the general public at 6 p.m. so visitors may view the Tribute in Light, which is located just south

of the World Trade Center at West and Morris streets. This will be the first time the public will be able to access the plaza on the anniversary to observe this tribute and commemorate 9/11 at the World Trade Center.

Explore the Memorial names arrangement and learn more about each victim by visiting the Memorial Guide at names.911memorial.org.

#### ABOUT THE NATIONAL SEPTEMBER 11 MEMORIAL & MUSEUM

The National September 11 Memorial & Museum is the not-for-profit corporation created to oversee the design, fundraising, programming and operations of the Memorial and Museum. The Memorial and Museum are located on eight of the 16 acres of the World Trade Center site.

The Memorial remembers and honors the 2,983 people who were killed in the horrific attacks of September 11, 2001 and February 26, 1993. The design, created by Michael Arad and Peter Walker, consists of two reflecting pools formed in the footprints of the original Twin Towers and a plaza of trees. The Museum displays monumental artifacts linked to the events of 9/11, while presenting intimate stories of loss, compassion, reckoning and recovery that are central to telling the story of the 2001 and 1993 attacks and the aftermath. It also explores the global impact of 9/11 and its continuing significance. Davis Brody Bond are the architects of the belowground Museum and Snøhetta designed its entry pavilion. The Museum's exhibition designers include Thinc, Local Projects and Layman Design.

For more information or to reserve a ticket to the 9/11 Memorial Museum, go to 911memorial.org.

### **MEDIA INQUIRIES**

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