

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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**NATIONAL SEPTEMBER 11 MEMORIAL & MUSEUM REACHES 25th CITY ON
NATIONAL TOUR**
Tour Culminates in Tampa, Florida after 14 Weeks Traveling to 25 States

The National September 11 Memorial & Museum today will open a tribute exhibition in Tampa, Florida, on the 25th stop on its national tour. The traveling exhibition, which honors the nearly 3,000 men, women and children who lost their lives on September 11, is intended to raise funds and awareness in support of building the National Memorial & Museum at Ground Zero. In a ceremony at Legends Field, the New York Yankees spring training facility, later this morning local first responders, 9/11 family members and first responders, and Tampa Mayor Pam Iorio will be among those signing a steel beam that will be used in the construction of the Memorial & Museum. The exhibition was brought to Tampa with the support Gerda Ameristeel, whose executive offices are based in Tampa.

The exhibition tells the story of September 11 through photographs, artifacts and a short film from the point of view of families, responders, survivors, volunteers and everyday people who came together in the aftermath of the attacks. People from across the country are invited to come together again to pay tribute to the victims and to sign a steel beam that will be used in the construction of the Memorial & Museum. The tour was launched in Columbia, South Carolina on September 10, 2007.

"In every city we have stopped in along the 7,800 miles we have traveled, we have seen literally tens of thousands of people from every walk of life coming together in support of America's 9/11 Memorial & Museum," said Joe Daniels, President and CEO, National September 11 Memorial & Museum. Although six years have passed since the attacks, our obligation to remember what happened is no less. The support we have seen in each of the 25 cities we have visited this year speaks to the fact that the impact of 9/11 is still felt deeply regardless of proximity to New York, Pennsylvania, or Virginia. The participation of Americans across the country is what will make this a truly national tribute."

The ceremony is expected to include remarks from Tampa Mayor Pam Iorio; Tampa Fire Chief Dennis W. Jones; Gerda Ameristeel CEO Mario Longhi; National Memorial & Museum President and CEO Joe Daniels; Voices of September 11 Founding Director Mary Fetchet, who lost her son Brad Fetchet on 9/11; National Memorial & Museum Board Member Lee Ielpi, who lost his son Jonathan Ielpi on 9/11 and participated in the rescue and recovery efforts; and Port Authority of New York & New Jersey Police Department Deputy Chief Anthony Whitaker.

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"Gerda Ameristeel is proud to have played a major part in bringing this September 11 tribute exhibition to the Tampa Bay area," said Mario Longhi, CEO,

Gerdau Ameristeel. "It is an honor to have contributed the steel beams that now bear the signatures of tens of thousands of Americans in support of the Memorial. These steel beams will serve as a permanent tribute to the innocent victims of the September 11, 2001 attacks."

On behalf of the National September 11 Memorial & Museum, Chief Whitaker will present Tampa and its first responders, represented by Fire Chief Jones and Police Chief Stephen Hogue, with an American flag that was flown over Ground Zero.

Bishop DeGrando Franks will help open the ceremony with an invocation, and an honor guard will present the colors. Tampa Police Department representative Sonja Wise will sing the National Anthem and students from Christ the King Elementary School and Pinellas Prep Academy will lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Representatives for Senator Mel Martinez are also expected to participate.

After the ceremony, participants will be invited to sign a steel beam that will be used in the construction of the Memorial & Museum. The beam is approximately 37 feet in length, and weighs about four tons. The event will conclude with a tour of the exhibition, which includes a detailed timeline of the events of September 11, photographs, artifacts and a short film.

The free exhibition will be open Friday, December 14 and Saturday, December 15 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Legends Fields, 1 Steinbrenner Drive. In addition, the public will be invited to sign the steel beam on Sunday, December 16 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm. at Raymond James Stadium before the Tampa Bay Buccaneers game. For more information on the tour, visit the Memorial & Museum's website, www.national911memorial.org.

On September 23, Mayor Michael Bloomberg announced that the Memorial & Museum has raised more than \$325 million towards its private fundraising goal of \$350 million from donors in all 50 states and 30 foreign countries. This figure includes funds to support capital and planning costs, as well as an initial endowment to support operations once the Memorial & Museum opens. In less than one year, nearly \$190 million of funds were raised.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL SEPTEMBER 11 MEMORIAL & MUSEUM

The National September 11 Memorial & Museum is the not-for-profit corporation created to realize the Memorial quadrant at the World Trade Center site. The organization is responsible for raising the funds and overseeing the design for the project and will program and operate the Memorial & Museum located on 8 of the 16 acres of the site.

The Memorial will remember and honor the thousands of people who died in the horrific attacks of February 26, 1993, and September 11, 2001. The design, created by Michael Arad and Peter Walker, consists of two pools that reside in the footprints of the original Twin Towers, surrounded by a plaza of oak trees. The Arad/Walker design was selected from a design competition that included more than 5,000 entrants from 63 nations.

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The Museum will display monumental artifacts associated with the events of September 11, while presenting intimate stories of loss, compassion, reckoning and recovery that are central to telling the story of September 11 and its aftermath. It will communicate key messages that embrace both the specificity and the universal implications of the events of 9/11; document the impact of those events on individual

lives, as well as on local, national, and international communities; and explore the continuing significance of these events for our global community.

Donations can be made through and more information can be found at the Memorial & Museum's website, www.national911memorial.org, or by calling 1-877-WTC-GIVE.

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