



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**NATIONAL SEPTEMBER 11 MEMORIAL & MUSEUM LAUNCHES
INTERACTIVE TIMELINE OF 9/11 RESCUE AND RECOVERY
EFFORTS AT THE WORLD TRADE CENTER SITE**

Timeline Commemorates 10th Anniversary of Official End of Recovery Effort

(New York) May 30, 2012 – The National September 11 Memorial & Museum today launched a web-based interactive timeline of the rescue, recovery and rebuilding efforts that followed the attacks of 9/11. Unprecedented rescue and recovery efforts began immediately after the September 11 attacks in New York City, at the Pentagon, and at the crash site of Flight 93 in Somerset County, Pa. Those efforts continued for nearly nine months at the World Trade Center site.

The [Ground Zero Recovery Timeline](#), which spans from September 12, 2001 to May 30, 2002, creates a multimedia landscape using images, oral histories and video chronicling the heroic rescue, recovery and relief efforts at the World Trade Center site. The timeline launch coincides with the 10th anniversary of the official end of the recovery efforts at Ground Zero. Recovery operations formally ended on May 30, 2002, marked by a ceremony in which the iconic “Last Column,” was removed from the site.

“The Ground Zero Recovery Timeline pays tribute to the tremendous service of the men and women who participated in the rescue, recovery and relief efforts after September 11,” 9/11 Memorial President Joe Daniels said. “They were the first to lead the transformation of the World Trade Center site from a place of tragedy to one of remembrance and rebuilding, and the 10-year anniversary of May 30, 2002 is an important chance to thank them for their dedication.”

The 9/11 Memorial Museum is also developing a Recovery and Relief Workers Registry and Scroll of Honor. This lasting tribute will be a permanent installation near the “Last Column” in the Museum. The Museum’s exhibitions will include the history of the recovery efforts.

“We are proud to honor our first responders, construction workers, relief workers, engineers, contractors and all those who participated—with devotion and determination—in the rescue and recovery efforts following the attacks of September 11. The Scroll of Honor and interactive timeline will be innovative tools for teaching that the story of 9/11 is not just about that one day, but also about the way people came together in the days, weeks, months and years after 9/11 to contribute to the recovery and revitalization of lower Manhattan,” 9/11 Memorial Museum Director Alice Greenwald said.

The interactive timeline features original materials—some never before seen. Content includes video of firefighters putting out a fire within a massive pile of debris,

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recordings of strangers coming together in comfort to sing “Amazing Grace” and oral histories from Ground Zero recovery workers. It aims to help people understand the full extent of the rescue, recovery and rebuilding efforts through the eyes of witnesses.

Some statistics and milestones present on the timeline:

- 1.8 million tons of materials were removed from the World Trade Center site over a nine-month period.
- October 8, 2001: Construction workers discovered a crack in the subterranean “slurry wall” encircling the World Trade Center site. It was fortified over the following weeks.
- October 31, 2001: The “Survivor Tree,” a charred callery pear tree recovered in the debris field of the former World Trade Center plaza was transported to Van Cortlandt Park Nursery in the Bronx, where it was cared for by the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation.
- May 28, 2002: Construction workers cut down the “Last Column,” the final standing column of the World Trade Center. On May 30, 2002, the column was removed from the site in a public event attended by thousands, ceremonially marking the end of the recovery and cleanup operations.

Explore the Ground Zero Recovery Timeline [here](#).

In 2011, the National September 11 Memorial & Museum launched a similar web-based interactive timeline that documents the events of September 11 as they unfolded. Both timelines are available at timeline.national911memorial.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 at the World Trade Center. The Memorial and Museum are located on eight of the 16 acres of the World Trade Center site. The Memorial was dedicated on the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks and is now open to the public.

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 will display 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 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.

For more information or to reserve a free visitor pass to the 9/11 Memorial, go to 911memorial.org.

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