



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, February 26, 2016

**23RD ANNIVERSARY OF 1993 WORLD TRADE CENTER BOMBING
COMMEMORATED IN SOLEMN CEREMONY**

Terror Attack Killed Six People, Injured More Than 1,000

(New York) February 26, 2016 – The National September 11 Memorial & Museum and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey today recognized the 23rd anniversary of the 1993 World Trade Center bombing in a ceremony at the 9/11 Memorial.

A moment of silence was observed at 12:18 p.m., the time of the terror attack that killed John DiGiovanni, Robert Kirkpatrick, Stephen Knapp, William Macko, Wilfredo Mercado and Monica Rodriguez Smith and her unborn child. Their names were read aloud as part of the ceremony attended by victims' relatives, survivors, friends, Port Authority officials and others.

The annual tribute took place near where the six victims' names are etched in bronze on the Memorial. As part of the ceremony, roses were placed by the victims' names that are inscribed alongside those of the victims of the 9/11 attacks.

“So much history has happened here at this site that still bears on us today,” 9/11 Memorial President Joe Daniels said. “It continues to be important that the lives of those six innocent people killed in this attack are not forgotten. Every day, people come from all over the world to honor and remember them and all who were lost in the World Trade Center attacks.”

“We will forever remember the six people, including four members of the Port Authority family and an unborn child, who were tragically taken from us 23 years ago by a murderous act of terror,” Port Authority Executive Director Pat Foye said. “That horrific day was a precursor to 9/11, when worldwide acts of terrorism were elevated to a global concern and made homeland security this country's most pressing issue.”

Terrorists detonated about 1,200 pounds of explosives in a rental van in the underground parking garage at the World Trade Center on February 26, 1993. Of the victims, Kirkpatrick, Knapp, Macko and Smith were Port Authority employees. Mercado worked for Windows on the World restaurant and was checking in food deliveries, while DiGiovanni was a dental supply salesman visiting the building at the time of the blast.

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Some Port Authority personnel with specialized knowledge of the building remained in the towers to help first responders with the evacuation and rescue. About 50,000 people were safely evacuated.

More information about the 1993 attack can be found online at 911memorial.org. To learn more about the names arrangement of the 9/11 Memorial, please visit the [Memorial Guide](#).

ABOUT THE NATIONAL SEPTEMBER 11 MEMORIAL & MUSEUM

The National September 11 Memorial & Museum is the nonprofit organization that oversees operations for the 9/11 Memorial and 9/11 Memorial Museum. Located on eight of the 16 acres of the World Trade Center site, the Memorial and Museum remember and honor the 2,983 people who were killed in the horrific attacks of September 11, 2001 and February 26, 1993. The Memorial plaza design consists of two reflecting pools formed in the footprints of the original Twin Towers surrounded by white oak trees. The Museum displays more than 10,000 personal and monumental objects 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 attacks and aftermath. It also explores the global impact of 9/11 and its continuing significance through education programs, public programs, live talks and film features that cover relevant and contemporary topics for diverse audiences. For more information or to reserve a ticket to the 9/11 Memorial Museum, please visit www.911memorial.org.

MEDIA INQUIRIES

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