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In Wake of Resolution, 9/11 Exhibit Offered to University of Minnesota

Memory of Terror Cannot be Erased by Decree

New York, NY - Today, the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation publically volunteered to bring the "9/11 Never Forget Mobile Exhibit," to the University of Minnesota, following news that the student government has "rejected a resolution for a moment of recognition on future anniversaries of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks."

To date, the campus has not established any form of commemoration for the tragic day. The measure, supported by the student body president, vice president, and the university president, was voted down by students who complained that it would create an "unsafe space" and fuel "islamophobia and racism."

In response, **John Hodge, Chief of Operations for the Tunnel to Towers Foundation** has written an open letter to the President of the University, Eric Kaler noting:

"The rejection of that resolution engenders a real question: Is the legacy of 9/11 retribution, hatred, and fear? Because the people who were actually there live a different legacy."

"Like many of the other victims' families, Stephen Siller's family was not mired in some dismal abyss where they were never able to move past feelings of anger and retaliation. Instead, Stephen's six brothers and sisters took the darkest moment of their lives and brought forth kindness, support and caring. They immediately began Tunnel to Towers with the expressed mission--taken from the teachings of St. Francis Assisi--of "Let Us do Good." In fact, New York Senator Chuck Schumer has applauded Tunnel to Towers as an organization that "Rather than curse the darkness, lit a candle which has now become a bonfire, a bonfire because of (Tunnel to Towers)." The full letter is available upon request.

The foundation maintains a 1,000 square-foot mobile exhibit, which contains artifacts from the World Trade Center, and tours led by FDNY battalion chiefs and firefighters who were on duty that day, and can offer those who tour the exhibit the perspective of eyewitnesses. The remarks they share with visitors to the exhibit are hero-centric--celebrating the courage of Stephen Siller, and the hundreds of other first responders who perished that day.

To schedule an interview, please contact Andrew Shirley with Shirley & Banister Public Affairs at (703) 73 9-5920 or Ashirley@sbpublicaffairs.com.

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