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HEROES: A CELEBRATION OF GREAT AMERICANS AT THE RONALD REAGAN PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM AUGUST 1, 2009 – FEBRUARY 1, 2010

(SIMI VALLEY, Calif.) – During his inaugural speech, President Reagan declared, "*Those who say that we're in a time when there are not heroes, just don't know where to look… Their patriotism is quiet, but deep. Their values sustain our national life.*" The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum is pleased to announce the opening of its latest temporary exhibit, *Heroes: A Celebration of Great Americans*, which serves to honor the heroes – soldiers, citizens and leaders – that make up the fabric of our country. From John Hancock to Rosa Parks, from the American Revolution to the attacks on 9/11 and the Miracle on the Hudson, this exhibit features dramatic stories and fascinating artifacts from historic figures and events.

"This exhibit brings to life the courage and sacrifice demonstrated by heroic Americans," said Duke Blackwood, director of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum. "This inspirational exhibit serves as a reminder for all who visit that in the words of President Reagan, 'It can be done'."

Assembled for the first time ever, most of the artifacts on display have rarely, if at all, been displayed publicly. These artifacts include the original 1898 Treaty of Paris that ended the Spanish American War, a handwritten letter by John Hancock written in Lexington three hours before Paul Revere's ride warning him and others of the British presence, the Executive Order signed by President Lincoln establishing the Medal of Honor, and original artifacts from the Revolutionary War, Civil War, and the Normandy invasion. To honor the firefighters who were the first responders during the attacks on 9/11, the megaphone President George W. Bush used at the World Trade Center will also be on display.

The Reagan Library is located at 40 Presidential Drive in Simi Valley, California. Public hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. The Museum admission fees are \$12.00 for general admission, \$9.00 for seniors 62 and over, \$6 for children 11-17 and free for children 10 years of age and under. For more information, call (800) 410.8354 or visit <u>www.reaganlibrary.com</u>.