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REAGAN CENTENNIAL GOP PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY DEBATE TO MOVE TO FALL

REAGAN FOUNDATION CHANGES DEBATE DATE TO ACCOMMODATE CANDIDATES' ANNOUNCEMENT SCHEDULES

SIMI VALLEY, Calif. — The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation, in conjunction with its debate partners NBC News and POLITICO, announced today that the Reagan Centennial GOP Presidential Primary Candidates Debate will be moved to Sept. 14, 2011.

“The Reagan Foundation prides itself on sponsoring world-class debates in which all of the major candidates in contention can make their point of view known to the widest possible audience,” said John Heubusch, executive director for the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation. “Although there will be a long and impressive list of Republican candidates who eventually take the field, too few have made the commitment thus far for a debate to be worthwhile in early May. The Reagan Foundation’s first Republican presidential primary debate will move to the fall, allowing enough time for the full slate of candidates to participate.”

As announced in January, Brian Williams, anchor of the top-rated “NBC Nightly News,” will be co-moderator, along with POLITICO Editor-in-Chief John F. Harris, a presidential scholar and one of the nation's top political journalists. A Telemundo reporter will also join in the questioning.

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation still plans to host a second GOP debate on the eve of the Super Tuesday primaries. The media partners for the second, pre-Super Tuesday debate will be announced in the coming months.

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to the preservation and promotion of Ronald Reagan's legacy of inspired freedom and his timeless principles of individual liberty, economic opportunity, global democracy and national pride. It sustains the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum, the Reagan Center for Public Affairs, the Walter and Leonore Annenberg Presidential Learning Center and The Air Force One Pavilion. Located in Simi Valley, Calif., the library houses 63 million pages of gubernatorial, presidential and personal papers and over 60,000 gifts and artifacts chronicling the lives of Ronald and Nancy Reagan. It now also serves as the final resting place of America's 40th president. www.reaganfoundation.org

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