



For Immediate Release:
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Tribute Center Reaches 500,000 in Attendance **Thursday, May 22**

WHAT: The **Tribute WTC Visitor Center** in Lower Manhattan welcomed its 500,000th visitor on Thursday, May 22nd. LT Jeremy E. Vellón, USN, 31, is an Assistant Air Officer on the USS Kearsarge. Stationed in Virginia but originally from Brooklyn, Vellón along with five of his family members came to the Tribute center to pay their respects.

“I have no words to properly describe what this opportunity to visit meant for me and my family,” said LT Vellón. “From losing my friend and classmate Darin Pontell at the Pentagon to deploying that week onboard USS BATAAN for OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM to leaving my wife Jeanie behind to wait patiently, I was affected. Thankfully, I was able to participate last November in OPERATION SEA ANGEL II providing humanitarian assistance to the Bangladeshi victims of Cyclone Sidr along with the ‘Mighty Kearsarge.’ Thanks for this honor on behalf of the sailors, marines and coastguardsmen visiting for Fleet Week 2008. I hope to serve my country as long as she’ll let me.”

WHERE: The Tribute WTC Visitor Center
120 Liberty Street (between Greenwich and Vesey Streets)
MANHATTAN

About the Tribute WTC Visitor Center

The Tribute WTC Visitor Center is located at 120 Liberty Street along the south side of the World Trade Center site. The center was created by the September 11th Families’ Association to share the personal stories of victims, survivors, rescue and recovery workers, volunteers, and residents of Lower Manhattan. By engaging visitors in the authentic experiences of those most affected by the events of February 26, 1993 and September 11, 2001, the center’s five galleries and its walking tour program convey the courage, loss, heroism, and grief of those who responded to the tragedy.

The Tribute WTC Visitor Center is open seven days a week: Mondays, and Wednesdays through Saturdays, from 10AM to 6 PM; Tuesdays from noon until 6 PM; and Sundays from noon to 5 PM. Walking tours around the perimeter of Ground Zero are also conducted daily. For further information please visit our website, www.tributewtc.org. For school or group reservations of 10 or more people, please contact Tribute Visitor Services at (866) 737-1184.