



AURORA FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

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Aurora Regional Fire Museum to Host Traveling 9/11 Exhibit

Aurora, IL – The Aurora Regional Fire Museum is honored to host *America United: The Days After 9/11*, a powerful traveling exhibit arriving Tuesday, June 3. Created by the Children's Museum in Oak Lawn, the exhibit explores the national response to the tragic events of September 11, 2001.

"As we approach the 24th anniversary of that tragic day, I hope this exhibit serves as a space for reflection and conversation across generations," said Brian Failing, Executive Director of the Aurora Regional Fire Museum. "For those who remember, it is a moment to honor and reflect; for those born since, it is a chance to learn and understand. We have a responsibility to ensure the memory of 9/11—and the stories of courage, loss, and unity—are never forgotten."

While the exhibit includes a timeline of the day's events, its focus is on what came after: the emotions, resilience, and acts of unity that followed. Two interactive tables prompt visitors to reflect on themes of compassion, community, and what it means to be American. The centerpiece includes two steel beams recovered from the World Trade Center. The exhibit is appropriate for all ages.

"The Aurora Regional Fire Museum continues to serve as a powerful place of remembrance and education," said Aurora Fire Chief David McCabe. "This exhibit honors the memory of those lost while inspiring new generations to reflect, learn, and lead with compassion."

The public is invited to a special welcome ceremony at 2 p.m. on Monday, June 2 at the Aurora Regional Fire Museum. Members of the Aurora Fire and Police Departments will escort the exhibit to the museum, where it will be received by the Aurora Fire Department Honor Guard. Brief remarks will follow.

America United will remain on display through Saturday, September 13. Additional artifacts and stories from the Museum's own 9/11 collection will also be featured.

For more information about *America United* or the Museum, contact Brian Failing at (630) 390-6735 or info@auroraregionalfiremuseum.org.

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