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## FRIENDS OF FLIGHT 93 NATIONAL MEMORIAL SELECTS STEVE AARON TO MANAGE 9/11 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

**SOMERSET, PA** – The Board of Directors of the Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial, the official nonprofit partner of Flight 93 National Memorial, today announced it has selected Mr. Steve Aaron, Founder and President of SRA Communications, to lead and manage its 9/11 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary public awareness campaign.

"The approaching 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11 will be a time of introspection and reflection for all Americans," said Board President Donna Gibson. "It's also a unique moment in time to recall and honor the remarkable heroism of the citizens aboard Flight 93, whose actions likely saved the lives of thousands in the U.S. Capitol building on September 11, 2001. We are dedicating this year to a 20<sup>th</sup> Commemoration Campaign that will tell that story to new and different audiences, and we are pleased to have a seasoned communications professional like Steve Aaron on our team to manage our efforts."

Following stints at two Pennsylvania NBC affiliates as a news reporter and anchor, Steve Aaron served as deputy communications director to former Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge and joined Gov. Ridge at the Flight 93 crash site in Shanksville on September 11, 2001. Gov. Ridge would later go on to serve as the nation's first U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security. Mr. Aaron's oral history associated with Flight 93 was captured in, *The Only Plane In the Sky – An Oral History of 9/11* by Garrett M. Graff. Today, Mr. Aaron is the Founder and President of SRA Communications, a public relations firm in Harrisburg. For this special assignment, SRA Communications is partnering with longtime state capitol journalist and public relations professional Jeanette Krebs, President of Krebs Communications & Public Engagement.

"It is a special privilege to have been selected by the Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial to assist them in their efforts to educate all Americans about the extraordinary self-sacrifice and heroism shown by the 40 passengers and crew members in the skies over Pennsylvania," said Mr. Aaron. "The haunting images from that day will forever be with me as they will be with so many Americans. The story of Flight 93 must be told again and again so that it is never forgotten. I look forward to working with the Friends of Flight 93 and its partners as we launch this new national awareness campaign in the weeks ahead."

## ABOUT THE FRIENDS OF FLIGHT 93 NATIONAL MEMORIAL

Established in 2009, the Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial is the official 501(c)3 non-profit partner of Flight 93 National Memorial. The Friends focus on awareness, education, volunteer support, preservation and stewardship to ensure that Flight 93 National Memorial will remain accessible, relevant and inspirational to present and future generations. To learn more about the Friends, or make a donation to support the Friends, visit <a href="https://www.Flight93Friends.org">www.Flight93Friends.org</a>.

For information on the Friends 9/11 Public Awareness Campaign or media questions please contact:

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