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New Temporary Exhibit Memorializes Nicole Brown Simpson, Highlights Domestic Violence

Alcatraz East Crime Museum will have a 25th murder anniversary memorial exhibit for Nicole Brown Simpson, beginning May 17, 2019

PIGEON FORGE, Tennessee (April 29, 2019) – Murdered 25 years ago this June, Nicole Brown Simpson would have celebrated her 60th birthday on May 19, 2019. In her memory, Alcatraz East Crime Museum is turning the focus on domestic violence, offering a temporary exhibit dedicated to who Nicole was as a daughter, sister, and mother, and the devastating impact of domestic violence. The exhibit will open on May 17, 2019 and will run for three months.

"Domestic violence is a major problem that doesn't get the attention it should," explains Rachael Penman, director of artifacts and exhibits at Alcatraz East Crime Museum. "We wanted to turn the focus back on Nicole's story, and how devastating the fear of domestic violence can be, as well as celebrate the special person she was to so many."

The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV), reports that 1 in every 4 women and 1 in every 9 men experience severe intimate partner physical violence. They also report that on a typical day there are more than 20,000 phone calls around the country that are placed to domestic violence hotlines.

"Passion for Life: Nicole Brown Simpson" will honor Nicole and through her help raise awareness about the warning signs of domestic violence. Some of the artifacts in the exhibit that belonged to Nicole include:

- A place setting of her china, reflecting her love of entertaining.
- Favorite pieces of clothing and Chanel jewelry.
- A handwritten poem that was read at her funeral by her sister Tanya.
- Photos from the Brown family, going back to Nicole's childhood.
- The exhibit will also feature the original song and music video *I Remember Nicole* by two-time Emmy Award winner Renee Sotile and Mary Jo Godges. Working as a video-journalist, Renee covered the trial of Nicole's ex-husband O.J. Simpson and never forgot the impact Nicole's death made on her. Renee

and Mary Jo wanted to find a way for the world to remember Nicole's story and all women who continue to suffer from domestic abuse.

"It's hard to believe that it has been 25 years since the world violently lost my sister, who was a beautiful soul," says Tanya Brown, Nicole's youngest sister. "I'm touched that there is a chance to honor her memory with this exhibit and I hope that it brings domestic violence as an issue to the forefront, so that we can bring it to an end."

Those in immediate danger from domestic violence should call 9-1-1. There is also anonymous and confidential help available 24/7 for those who need it. For help, call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 800-799-7233.

Many are familiar with the famous O.J. Simpson white Ford Bronco chase scene that played out on television. Yet, we tend to forget what he was running from, that he was wanted in connection with the murders of Nicole and Ronald Goldman. Nicole and Ron were found murdered outside of her home on June 12, 1994. Simpson, who Nicole had divorced in 1992, was found not guilty in the criminal trial. However, Simpson was found liable for both deaths in a civil suit and ordered to pay the families of the victims \$33.5 million. The white Bronco from the chase is also on display at the museum.

The museum is always adding to its collection and has a star-studded panel of experts who make up the Advisory Board, including those in law enforcement, collectors, a medical examiner, crime scene investigators, and others. The board includes Jim Willett, a retired prison warden, Anthony Rivera, a combat veteran and Navy SEAL chief, and Judge Belvin Perry, Jr., who is best known for the Casey Anthony trial. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit: <u>www.alcatrazeast.com</u>.

About Alcatraz East

Alcatraz East is the most arresting crime museum in the United States. Guests of all ages can encounter a unique journey into the history of American crime, crime solving, and our justice system. Through interactive exhibits and original artifacts, Alcatraz East is an entertaining and educational experience for all ages - so much fun it's a crime! This family attraction is located at the entrance of The Island, located at 2757 Parkway, Pigeon Forge, TN. General admission tickets are \$14.95 for children, \$24.95 for adults. Group ticket sales are available. The museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., with the last ticket sold 60 minutes before closing. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit: www.alcatrazeast.com.

About I Remember Nicole

The driving force behind *I Remember Nicole* are filmmakers/songwriters Renee Sotile and Mary Jo Godges, with a mission of creating art for activism. Nashville songwriters Pat and Pete Luboff joined Sotile and Godges in co-writing. *I Remember Nicole* is a 501(c)3 non-profit allowing for tax deductible donations. <u>www.IRememberNicole.com</u> #IRememberNicole #NoMoreNicoles Sources:

NCADV. Statistics. https://ncadv.org/statistics