



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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***** MEDIA ALERT *****

Shark Day to be hosted at the National Museum of Crime & Punishment

WHAT: While the recent oil spill has drawn much attention to the health of our oceans and marine wildlife, there have long been a variety of injustices occurring in our nation's waters. To highlight some of these crimes more specific to sharks, the National Museum of Crime & Punishment (NMCP) welcomes area guests and residents to Shark Day, in partnership with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Aquarium, Washington DC. To complement the "Crimes Against Marine Life" temporary exhibit current featured at the museum, the three organizations are coming together for a fun yet educational day of learning a bit more about sharks and the crimes committed against them. The day will feature a children's coloring contest (with winners receiving annual passes to the NMCP and an aquarium gift basket), photos with McGruff the Crime Dog and Sherman the Shark, marine life trivia (with winners receiving tickets to the Aquariums and the museum), and a special guest lecture by Jay Bradley, shark expert and general curator at the National Aquarium, Washington DC.

WHEN: **Saturday, August 7, 2010, 11am-2pm**
11am-2pm: Crimes against Marine Life Trivia, Photos with Sherman the Shark and McGruff the Crime Dog, and Children's Coloring Contest
12pm: Guest Speaker - Jay Bradley (Shark Expert and General Curator at the National Aquarium, Washington DC)

WHERE: National Museum of Crime & Punishment
575 7th Street NW (between E and F Streets), Washington, D.C.
Gallery Place/Chinatown Metro (Arena exit).

About the National Aquarium, Washington DC

Serving visitors since 1931 from the Department of Commerce building, the National Aquarium, Washington, DC is home to America's Aquatic Treasures™, over 250 species including sharks, eels, alligators, amphibians, and two “head start” loggerhead turtles. Special exhibits highlight the animals and habitats of the National Marine Sanctuaries Program and freshwater ecosystems of the United States and our territories. The National Aquarium, Washington, DC is located in the Commerce Building on 14th Street between Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues in NW Washington, DC, 20230. Visit nationalaquarium.org for more information.

About NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement

NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement enforces laws and regulations to protect fish stocks from overfishing, marine mammals from depletion, and endangered species from extinction. Formed in 1970, NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement has 225 employees including Special Agents and Enforcement Officers working throughout the United States and U.S. territories. NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement also operates joint enforcement agreements with 27 coastal states and U.S. territories and partners with other agencies such as the U.S. Coast Guard. NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement investigated more than 4,800 incidents in 2008 alone.

About the National Museum of Crime & Punishment

The NMCP's mission is to provide guests of all ages with a memorable insight into the history of crime, crime fighting and solving, and the consequences of committing a crime in America through a captivating interactive, entertaining, and educational experience. Some of the attractions include a CSI Experience, a high-speed chase simulator and FBI shooting range, Americas Most Wanted studio, and a room where visitors can try to hack into a computer, crack a safe and test their Wild West shooting range. The museum is located on 7th Street NW between E and F Streets in downtown Washington, D.C. at the Gallery Place/Chinatown Metro (Arena exit). Learn more at www.crimemuseum.org.

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