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**WTC MEMORIAL FOUNDATION NAMES JOAN GERNER EXECUTIVE VICE
PRESIDENT OF DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND CAPITAL PLANNING**

*Design, Construction, and Preservation Expert with Extensive New York-based Project Background
to Oversee Construction*

The World Trade Center Memorial Foundation today announced naming Joan Gerner as Executive Vice President for Design, Construction and Capital Planning. In this role, Ms. Gerner will be responsible for managing the design and construction for the Memorial, Museum, and Museum Pavilion, working with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which is overseeing construction on behalf of the Foundation. Ms. Gerner is a trained architect, construction manager and historic preservationist with extensive years of experience managing New York-based projects.

Foundation President & CEO Joe Daniels said, "Joan brings extensive design and construction experience to this role, and we are pleased to welcome her to the team. Her in-depth knowledge of building culturally-important projects is a tremendous resource to the Memorial and Museum."

Gerner has a breadth of preservation and new construction expertise, managing renovation, restoration and new construction for a variety of projects, including educational institutions, museums and cultural, corporate, transportation, medical, commercial and residential facilities. She worked at Bovis Lend Lease for 14 years as Senior Vice President, where she was the Founder and Director of both Bovis Lend Lease's Campus Services Division, which provides support to universities and focuses on campus planning and construction, and their Preservation Division, which provides preservation technology support to their clients.

Previously, she worked at Tishman Construction Corporation of New York for 11 years as Project Manager and Vice President, where she was responsible for building a number of high-rise buildings in New York City. Prior to that, she worked for the General Services Administration and was responsible for preservation and restoration projects, including federal courthouses, office buildings and FDR's Hyde Park home.

Gerner's New York-based project management experience includes preconstruction services for the \$175 million Grand Central Terminal revitalization, the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian on the Mall in Washington D.C, the \$50 million renovation of the Brooklyn Museum of Art, and the \$85 million renovation of the Tweed Courthouse, among many others. The Tweed Courthouse renovation received numerous awards, including the New York Construction News "Best of 2001 NYC Landmarks Preservation 2001 Recognition Award" and "Landmarks Conservancy Award." In addition, she served as Officer in Charge over the last seven years for extensive projects at Columbia University, including their most recent Manhattanville project.

Joan Gerner said, "It is a personal privilege to be able to participate in the building of the World Trade Center Memorial and Museum - an effort of such extraordinary historic significance to our nation, which will honor the lives of those who were lost on September 11, 2001, and February 26, 1993. It was heart-warming to learn how many people are giving their support to the Foundation, which is yet another example of how the World Trade Center tragedy continues to bring out the best in people. I am excited to have joined the Foundation team and look forward to working with the Port Authority in order to ensure the successful completion of this important project."

Gerner is active in multiple organizations. She is Commissioner with the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission, a member of the Board of Advisors for Columbia University's Construction Engineering and Management Program, the Board Advisors for Columbia University's School of Engineering, and WX, New York Women Executives in Real Estate, among others. She also conducts Highlights tours at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. In 2000, she was named one of Real Estate Weekly's 100 Women Real Estate Leaders for the 21st Century.

Gerner earned two degrees in Architecture from the City University of New York; Bachelor of Science of Architecture and Bachelor of Architecture. In addition, she earned a Master's of Science in Historic Preservation from Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, and she completed an Executive Education program in Leadership Development from Columbia University's Graduate School of Business.

Gerner will assume the role of EVP, Design, Construction and Capital Planning from William Goldstein.

Construction of the Memorial began in March 2006 with preliminary work to cover the original box beam columns that outline the perimeters of the Twin Towers. In August 2006, heavy construction work began to build the footings that will hold up the Memorial, Museum, and Museum Pavilion. Work on the footings is expected to be completed in the third quarter of 2007. On May 8, 2007, the Foundation and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey selected Owen Steel Company, Inc. to supply, fabricate, and erect the steel for the Memorial project. Fabrication will begin later this year, and the first pieces of steel are expected to be erected at the World Trade Center site in December 2007.

ABOUT THE WORLD TRADE CENTER MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

The World Trade Center Memorial Foundation, Inc. is the not-for-profit corporation, established in 2003 to realize the Memorial quadrant at the World Trade Center site. The Foundation will raise the funds, oversee the design, and operate the Memorial and Museum located on 8 of the 16 acres of the site.

The Memorial will remember and honor the thousands of people who died in the horrific attacks of February 26, 1993, and September 11, 2001. The design, "Reflecting Absence," created by Michael Arad and Peter Walker, consists of two pools that reside in the footprints of the original Twin Towers surrounded by a plaza of oak trees. The Arad/Walker design was selected from a design competition, which included more than 5,000 entrants from 63 nations.

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The Museum will communicate key messages that embrace both the specificity and the universal implications of the events of 9/11; document the impact of those events on individual lives, as well as on local, national, and international communities; and explore the legacy of 9/11 for a world increasingly defined by global interdependency.

Donations can be made through the Foundation's website, and more information on the Foundation can be found at, www.buildthememorial.org, or by calling 1-877-WTC-GIVE.

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