

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 8, 2008



**FLORIDA BLOOD SERVICES HOSTS
PATRIOT DAY OF REMEMBRANCE ON 9/11**

(St. Petersburg, FL: 09/08/08) Florida Blood Services (FBS) remembers the hundreds of donors who waited in line for many hours on September 11, 2001 to give blood following the terrorist attacks. In remembrance of that day and in honor of those who suffered, FBS is hosting a "Patriot Day of Remembrance" on September 11, 2008.

The event will begin at 8 am with a continental breakfast, followed by a Remembrance Service at 8:30 am at FBS Corporate Offices at 10100 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St. N. in St. Petersburg, just north of Gandy Blvd. All FBS donors and staff members are invited to attend, as well as the general public. US Flag pins will be given to all attendees, as well as a 9/11 commemorative poster while supplies last.

Deputy Chief Craig Maciuba of Palm Harbor Fire Rescue, who led a local contingent to aid at Ground Zero, will offer his reflections. Cameron Creveling, an Eagle Scout will close the program with Taps.

Florida Blood Services was one of the first U.S. Blood Centers following the tragedy to receive clearance to fly emergency blood supplies to New York Blood Center in anticipation of high patient demand.

FBS provides for the blood needs of patients at 37 hospitals in Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas and Polk Counties, through the generosity of volunteer blood donors. Over 800 donations are required daily, due to the high quality of medical care in Tampa Bay that serves the most critically ill patients throughout west central Florida.

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