



## OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY

November 14, 2005

George L. Johansen  
Deputy Superintendent  
The Port Authority of NY & NJ  
225 Park Avenue South  
New York, NY 10003

Dear Mr. Johansen:

My name is Erroll Southers and I am the Deputy Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security for the State of California. I write to you in support of the efforts of Ms. Kathleen Tonnesen and the World Memorial Tour commemorating the brave police officers, firefighters and emergency services personnel who lost their lives during the September 11 terrorist attack.

I was fortunate to be approached by Ms. Tonnesen during the early days of my tenure, and asked if I would serve as the Master of Ceremonies for their first Release of Souls World Memorial North America Tour in 2004. The event was held in Pasadena and was a resounding success. The program consisted of songs and testimonies by many who were personally affected by the terrorist attack, highlighted by Ms. Tonnesen's breathtaking sculpture of the World Trade Center façade on display at the venue.

The tour moved to San Diego for the anniversary event, held on September 11, in Balboa Park. The participation and support by the police, sheriffs and fire departments was an incredible spectacle of unity and brotherhood, kicked off by a helicopter flyover in the "Missing Man" formation. Several retired NYPD and NYFD personnel also participated in the event.

Obviously, a great deal of effort and energy has been put forth to ensure the continuing success of this tribute. I have been honored to be able to participate as a representative of the Governor's Office, a former law enforcement officer and someone who lost two comrades in that cowardly attack.

I humbly offer this letter of support in continuation of Ms. Tonnesen's efforts and the Release of Souls Memorial Tour.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Erroll G. Southers  
Deputy Director