Media Advisory

***For Immediate Release: Contact:***

**August 27, 2013 (REPLACE with local)**

**(Cell)**

**(Email)**

**@Islam\_Press**

**“Muslims for Life” blood drives honor 9/11 & Boston Bombing victims**

***Annual nationwide interfaith campaign commemorates the lives lost on 9/11 by collecting over 12,000 units of blood to save 36,000 lives***

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA will be holding the third annual nationwide “Muslims for Life” blood drives between August 11, 2013 and October 11, 2013. This two-month interfaith campaign honors the victims of 9/11 and the Boston Marathon bombing. The Muslims for Life blood drive campaign emphasizes the sanctity of life, a teaching inherent in all religious traditions. Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA has set a goal to collect 12,000 pints of blood, which will help save up to 36,000 lives.

Members of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA will also travel door-to-door to promote and bring awareness to this humanitarian campaign. Nationwide, various mosques, churches, synagogues, libraries, universities, and other public locations are scheduled to set up blood donation centers. Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA invites all Americans unite to commemorate 9/11 and Boston victims by giving the gift of life.

**Event:** “Muslims for Life” blood drive

**When:** DATE OF BLOOD DRIVE

**Where:** DONOR CENTER ADDRESS

**Media Opportunity:** Muslim and interfaith leaders will be available for statements and/or interviews during blood drives and “Muslims for Life” flyer distributions.

**Background:** Founders of the “Muslims for Peace” and “Muslims for Loyalty” campaigns, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA invites Americans of all backgrounds to join the "Muslims for Life" campaign. To date, Muslims for Life has collected over 25,000 blood donations to save up to 75,000 lives.

**About Ahmadiyya Muslim Community:**

*Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is a dynamic, reformist and fast-growing international movement within Islam. Founded in 1889, the Community spans more than 200 countries with membership exceeding tens of millions. Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA, established in 1920, is the first American-Muslim organization.

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is the only Islamic organization to believe that the long- awaited messiah has come in the person of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (1835-1908) of Qadian, India. Ahmad claimed to be the metaphorical second coming of Jesus of Nazareth and the divine guide, whose advent was foretold by the Prophet of Islam, Muhammad. The Community believes that God sent Ahmad, like Jesus, to end religious wars, condemn bloodshed and reinstitute morality, justice and peace. Ahmad’s advent has brought about an unprecedented era of Islamic revival and moderation. He divested Muslims of fanatical beliefs and practices by vigorously championing Islam’s true and essential teachings.*

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