Las Positas College For Immediate Release

Media Contacts: Todd Steffan

(925) 424-1571

TSteffan@laspositascollege.edu laspositascollege.edu/veterans

Las Positas College To Honor 9.11 Remembrance

Featuring Lieutenant Colonel Robert J. Darling, United States Marine Corps. and Author of '24 Hours Inside the President's Bunker: 9-11-01: The White House'

(Livermore, CA) - Las Positas College (LPC) is proud to present its annual 9.11 Remembrance event with virtual presentations beginning at 11 a.m. on Friday, September 11th.

The event will commence with singing of the national anthem by Las Positas College student, Alejandra Quezada-Sermeno, with the Golden Gate Young Marines honor guard presenting colors, followed by remarks by Las Positas College President Dyrell Foster. The keynote speaker, Lieutenant Colonel Robert J. Darling is a public speaker on crisis leadership and decision making, and has addressed numerous academic, government, and military organizations to include Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and as a guest lecturer on the subject of Crisis Leadership and Counter-terrorism at the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

Lt. Col. Darling retired from the United States Marine Corps in 2007 with just over twenty years of active duty service. After an impressive early career piloting attack helicopters in Desert Shield, Desert Storm, and as a presidential pilot with Marine Helicopter Squadron One, he was handpicked in October 2000 to work for the White House Military Office, Airlift Operations Department. It was in this position that, during the attack of September 11, 2001, he supported the President, Vice President and National Security Advisor in the underground President's Emergency Operations Center (PEOC) and witnessed unprecedented leadership and decision making at the highest levels of our government.

Lt. Col. Darling chronicles these developments in his book, '24 Hours Inside the President's Bunker, 9/11/01: The White House,' and shares the principles of crisis leadership and decision making with his audiences with an "edge of your seat" presentation that will take you from the moment the attack was realized, to the courageous decisions made to stop it, to the safeguards and policies our country now has in-place in an attempt to prevent it from happening again. This presentation is designed to ensure we, as a nation, never forget the events of 9/11/01, and to inspire all leaders to take the necessary steps to protect and safeguard their employees, organizations and their communities.

"Even with all of the challenges we face today, we will never forget, 19 years ago when the tragic 9.11.01 event occurred and changed our lives forever," said Todd Steffan, LPC Veterans First Supervisor.

This free event, open to the public, is sponsored by the Las Positas College Veterans First Program, which helps veterans achieve their educational goals and the Safeway Foundation who support Veterans through their fund-raising efforts. To attend, sign up on Eventbrite to receive a livestream link. Those who RSVP will be entered into a free drawing for Mr. Darling's signed book. You must be present to be entered into the drawing.

The Las Positas College Veterans First Program provides veterans with services and resources to help them achieve their educational goals. Last academic year, more than 600 veterans, active duty military personnel, reservists/guard, and Veterans family members were enrolled at the college.

Veteran support services include a full-time support team, priority registration, Veterans scholarships, a text book loan program, work-study program, relief fund for Veterans, an active <u>Student Veterans Organization</u>, virtual Veterans Resource Center, and many other services and programs for all those who served, currently serving, and military family members.

For more information, please visit the website at www.laspositascollege.edu/veterans.

About Las Positas College

Las Positas College currently enrolls 8,000 students and offers curriculum for students seeking transfer to a four-year college or university, career preparation, or basic skills education. The College provides university transfer classes, retraining classes for those in need of employment or career advancement, a first-time educational opportunity for many adults, enrichment classes for those seeking a broader perspective, and career and technical training for those entering the technical and paraprofessional workforce.

Las Positas College is a learning-centered institution focused on excellence and student success. It is fully committed to supporting Tri-Valley residents in their quest for education and advancement. Las Positas College faculty and staff are distinguished by their energy, creativity, and commitment to making a difference in the lives of the students they serve and the future of the Tri-Valley region.