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CONTACT: Glenn Oswald/Leslie Pardo
Marx Layne & Company
313-418-1635

**HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL CENTER PRESENTS VIRTUAL PROGRAM “MENGELE:
UNMASKING THE ‘ANGEL OF DEATH’ WITH AUTHOR DAVID MARWELL” ON JULY 8**
Marwell to Discuss Mengele’s Role in Auschwitz, Post-War Escape and Eluding Justice

Farmington Hills, Mich., June 28, 2021 – The Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus presents “Mengele: Unmasking the ‘Angel of Death’ with Author David Marwell.” The program will take place online as a live Zoom webinar on Thurs., July 8 at 7:00 pm. To register, visit www.holocaustcenter.org/July. Registrants will receive a link to the program.

The virtual event will feature Marwell, a former Justice Department official, discussing his 2020 book that focuses on Josef Mengele, regarded as one of the most notorious war criminals of all time, his education as a physician and anthropologist, his role as a racial scientist in the Nazi state, and his activity as a camp physician at Auschwitz. Marwell will replace the frightening and familiar caricature of Mengele as a mad scientist with something perhaps more unsettling -- the human being that he was.

“Josef Mengele has come to symbolize the failure of justice that allowed countless Nazi murderers and their accomplices to escape retribution,” said Rabbi Eli Mayerfeld, CEO, Holocaust Memorial Center. “We are honored to have David Marwell discuss his book about Mengele’s twisted career, his escape to South America and the forensic investigation that produced evidence that Mengele had died—but still failed to convince many about his death.”

As chief of investigative research at the Justice Department’s Office of Special Investigations in the 1980s, Marwell worked on the Mengele case, interviewing his victims, visiting the scenes of his crimes, and ultimately holding his bones in his hands. Drawing on his own experience as well as new scholarship and sources, Marwell examines in detail Mengele’s life and career. He chronicles Mengele’s university studies; his wartime service both in frontline combat and at Auschwitz, where his “selections” sent numerous innocent individuals to their deaths and his “scientific” pursuits—including his studies of twins and eye color— that traumatized or killed countless more, and his postwar flight from Europe and refuge in South America.

Marwell spent nine years at the US Department of Justice, where, as Chief of Investigative Research, he conducted research in support of the investigation and prosecution of Nazi war criminals in the United States.

He later became the Associate Museum Director at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and was appointed Director & CEO of the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York City.

Marwell's book, "*Mengele: Unmasking the 'Angel of Death'*" has received enthusiastic reviews in such publications as *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*. To order a copy of *Mengele: Unmasking the 'Angel of Death'* by David Marwell, visit www.holocaustcenter.org/book

Community partners for this event are the Wayne State University School of Medicine and Wayne State University College of Nursing.

Program supporters are Robin & Leo Eisenberg and Karen and Richard Minkin.

About the Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus

The Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus is a 55,000 square foot museum and Library Archive in Farmington Hills that teaches about the senseless murder of millions and why each of us must respect and stand up for the rights of others if we are to prevent future genocide and hate crimes.

The lessons of history are used to create a call to action, teaching visitors through the examples of those who risked their lives to save others, and asking our guests to react to contemporary challenges such as racism and prejudice. Exhibits include artifacts such as an authentic WWII-era boxcar, video testimonies, films, paintings, and a sapling from the tree located outside Anne Frank's hiding place window that is described in her diary. Located on the second floor above the museum, the Library Archive is an important resource for academics, the media and families researching their heritage. A national leader in innovative genocide education, the HMC serves over 100,000 Michiganders each year.

Hours: Sunday through Thursday 9:30 am to 4:00 pm and Friday 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. The last admission is one hour before closing. Wheelchair accessible. Free parking. For additional information, visit www.holocaustcenter.org or call 248-553-2400.

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