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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FORMER LAPD OFFICER BRIAN S. BENTLEY TO SHARE HIS PERSONAL EXPERIENCES WITH THE LAPD DURING CONVERSATIONS AT CAAM

LOS ANGELES (July 12, 2013) - The California African American Museum (CAAM) presents its latest installation of Conversations at CAAM with former LAPD Officer Brian Bentley. On Saturday, July 20, 2013, from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m., CAAM's History Council Member Ruffin E. Patterson will sit down with Bentley for an in-depth discussion and examination of his career with the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD).

Bentley joined the Los Angeles Police Academy in 1989 and became one of 10 black recruits in 1991. Assigned to the West L.A. Division, Bentley's first assignment was with Mark Fuhrman, who was, at the time, the lead detective on the Nicole Simpson and Ronald Goldman murders.

Bentley, who lived in South Los Angeles during his employment with the LAPD, desired to make a difference in his own community. In doing so, he transferred to the Southwest Division and became one of the few officers who patrolled the community in which they lived.

Chronicling his violent and turbulent 10-year career with the LAPD, Bentley authored three books, which include "One Time: The Story of a South Central Los Angeles Police Officer," "Hit Me Once, Hit Me Twice," and "Honor Without Integrity." In addition, Bentley holds a Bachelor's Degree in Speech Communications, from California State University of Los Angeles, in which he obtained before becoming a law enforcement officer.

During conversations at CAAM, Bentley will discuss his time on the police force and his experiences with the L.A. Riots, Daryl Gates/Operation Hammer, gang violence, domestic violence and psychological effects of the job.

This event is free and open to the public. RSVP is encouraged at (213) 744-2024
Parking is \$10, in the lot adjacent to CAAM at 39th and Figueroa Streets.

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For more information visit www.caamuseum.org or call (213) 744-2024. Follow CAAM on Twitter @CAAMinLA and “Like” the CAAM Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/caaminla>

ABOUT THE CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM

The California African American Museum (CAAM) researches, collects, preserves and interprets for public enrichment the history, art and culture of African Americans. Chartered by the California State Legislature in 1977, CAAM is a state supported institution and a partner with the 501(c)(3) non-profit organization Friends, the Foundation of the California African American Museum. In addition to its permanent collection of over 3,000 objects of art, artifacts and historical documents, CAAM also houses a research library containing more than 20,000 volumes, employs and trains high school students through its *Young Docent* program, and hosts in-house curated exhibitions and traveling exhibitions on a regular basis. The museum also tours CAAM exhibitions throughout California and the nation.

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