



Media Contact: Terri Dixon
LAGRANT COMMUNICATIONS
323.469.8680, ext. 232
Terridixon@lagrant.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**RODNEY KING AND CIVIL RIGHTS ATTORNEY, CONNIE RICE TO DISCUSS THE
STATE OF SOUTH LOS ANGELES 20 YEARS AFTER SOUTH L.A. WAS SET
ABLAZE**

Los Angeles (May 22, 2012) – Rodney King, Civil Rights attorney and author Connie Rice, and the California African American Museum’s (CAAM) Executive Director, Charmaine Jefferson will be among the many panelists at *The Urban Issues Breakfast Forum of Greater Los Angeles* program “What Hasn’t Changed, What Has Changed and What Needs to Change? A Public Critique of Urban Unrest Recovery, 20 Years After the Los Angeles Riot.” *The Urban Issues Breakfast Forum* will be held Friday, May 25, 2012, from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at CAAM.

Discussions will provide firsthand accounts of what caused the riots, why and how Los Angeles became a breeding ground for civil unrest that not only ravished South Los Angeles but also spilled into other communities of Los Angeles County. For six days, the nation watched as South Los Angeles went up in flames. The discussion will examine whether the city, particularly South Los Angeles has fully recovered 20 years later.

Panelists Include:

- Rodney King, Author and Cause Célèbre of the L.A. Riots
- Attorney Connie Rice, Author and Civil Rights Attorney
- CAAM’s Executive Director, Charmaine Jefferson, Cultural Curator and Social Observer
- “General Jeff”, Skid Row Activist and Social Observer
- Linda Jay, Author and South L.A. Activist
- Hyepin Im, Korean Activist and Coalition Builder

A full breakfast will be served promptly at 7:30 a.m. This event is free and open to the public.

--more--

CAAM is located at 600 State Drive, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, CA 90037. Parking in the adjacent lot is \$10.00 all day at Figueroa and 39th Streets. For more information on the California African American Museum visit www.caamuseum.org.

Current Exhibitions in the CAAM Galleries:

Justice Balance and Achievement: African Americans and the California Courts, ongoing through May 27, 2012

Women Game Changers, Less Known, Here Celebrated through June 10, 2012

Visual Rhythms through July 1, 2012

Promises of Freedom: Selections from the Arthur Primas Collection through September 2, 2012

The Legacy of the Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company: More Than a Business, through March 3, 2013

Gallery of Discovery ongoing

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 6,000 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 Docents* program, and hosts in-house curated exhibitions and traveling shows on a regular basis. The museum also tours CAAM exhibitions throughout California and the nation.

###