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**RUSH TRANSCRIPT: Q-AND-A WITH REPORTERS FOLLOWING SEPTEMBER 11
COMMEMORATION CEREMONY**

Question: [inaudible] a number of times before, but this is your first time at the site as mayor. How's that experience different at all for you?

Mayor: Well, it's – you know, it's sobering, because we've obviously been thinking about what that day meant ever since. And now I think about it with the additional responsibility to help make sure it never happens again, and, you know, it's very good that our Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson was here, and you know, our partners at Homeland Security, FBI was here. Obviously, I've been talking a lot to Commissioner Bratton about the new challenges we face. And you know, I think it's a moment to reflect on what it takes to keep us safe, and I think the good news is that there's a lot of vigilance and a lot of cooperation between all the people who have to work together to make it happen, and you know, so this is a day of course to think about the people we've lost, but also to think about our obligation to keep all of their families safe going forward.

Question: It seemed like while you were here, a number of family members seemed to come up to you – is there anything in particular, is a sentiment that they were trying to express, something really poignant that they said to you?

Mayor: I think, you know, they – in general – wanted to talk about their loved one, and just wanted to, in a sense, sort of testify what the person they lost was all about, and how much they missed their loved one, and just wanted say it. And, you know, I tried to spend the time with each family to give them the chance to do that, because obviously it's part of the process of coming to grips with – even 13 years later – just to talk about the person you've lost. And then for some, you know, they had something specific – one woman was, really wanted to see if something could named after her son in his home neighborhood, and we're going to see if we can help her do that. You know, but mainly I think it was just – to want to take a moment to talk about the person they lost.

Question: Do you have thoughts about what the president said last night, and what its impact might be on the way you approach keeping the city safe?

Mayor: Yeah. I mean, I think the – first of all, the president's basic formula I agree with, which is no boots on the ground, and using air strikes in a strategic manner. I think ISIS is obviously a profound threat that has to be confronted, so I think his core strategy makes sense. I think there are some urging a rush to war. You know, there are some out there calling for boots on the ground – I think very inappropriately and dangerously, and I think the president was right to resist that. And I think even as we go along with air strikes, there has to be a real debate in this country about how it's going. I don't think – even that is not a light action, and it has to be looked at very critically. There's a long history here of, unfortunately, you know, this country becoming involved militarily in ways that backfired, so I think there has to be a care given, and I think the president was right to be

deliberative, but I agree with his core principle, and I couldn't say strongly enough, you know, we should draw the line at boots on the ground. I think we will greatly regret it if we ever go in in that deeper way – in Syria in particular.

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