

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DATE**: June 8, 2023 **PHONE**: (831) 646-1569

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PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY MUSEUM PRESENTS

EXTRAORDINARY VALOR: THE LOST HISTORY OF

THE BUFFALO SOLDIERS IN MONTEREY

Opening Day and Reception, Saturday, June 17, 2023

Monterey, CA. – A new exhibit, *Extraordinary Valor: The Lost History of the Buffalo Soldiers in Monterey* opens at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, June 17, 2023 at the Presidio of Monterey Museum. The community is invited to an opening day reception from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

This permanent exhibit honors the gallant history of the African American soldiers of the 9<sup>th</sup> Calvary during the Spanish American War at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Known as the Buffalo Soldiers, the 9th Cavalry, Troops A, B, C, D, arrived in Monterey in November 1902. During their two-year stay, they trained new recruits and unbroken horses. During the summer of 1904, the 9th Cavalry rode to Yosemite National Park where they created the first marked National Park trail. Despite being segregated from the white soldiers of the Presidio of Monterey, the Buffalo soldiers had opportunities to showcase their talents in training and sporting events. Locals enjoyed watching the Buffalo Soldiers as they participated in parades, improved their marksmanship, and competed in field days.

"The exhibit opening is relevant and timely in honor of Juneteenth, the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States," said Monterey Public Library and Museums Director Brian Edwards. "The story of the indomitable and courageous way the Buffalo Soldiers served their country is important to recognize and remember, and we are happy to share their story through this new exhibit and in celebration of Juneteenth."

(more)

The exhibition will consist of ten photographs, two mannequins, two uniforms, a map, a sword, and a facsimile of a newspaper article and more.

Artifact Specialist Jordan Leininger will be available for questions on June 17, and Monterey Public Library and Museums Director Brian Edwards will be at the reception for a meet and greet. The museum is located at the Lower Presidio Historic Park, 76th Artillery Street & Corporal Ewing Road, Building 113. Regular museum hours are Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

## Map of museum location:

