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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**United States Ambassador to the Republic of Korea
to Speak at National Underground Railroad Freedom Center**
Program in partnership with Greater Cincinnati World Affairs Council

CINCINNATI, OH (September 4, 2015) The National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, in partnership with the Greater Cincinnati World Affairs Council, announced today that they will host a program with Mark Lippert, United States Ambassador to the Republic of Korea, in the Harriet Tubman Theater on Saturday, October 3 from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Ambassador Mark Lippert, a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, has served as the United States' top diplomat to the Republic of Korea, since October 2014 and will speak about his work and U.S. foreign policy in Asia and the Pacific.

"I look forward to welcoming Ambassador Lippert home," says Dr. Michael Battle, executive vice president and provost of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. "As a former ambassador myself, I understand how precious home visits are. His commitment to foreign policy and education of the public make him a model public servant. This program is an excellent opportunity for Cincinnatians to learn about diplomacy abroad by one of their own."

Ambassador Lippert has advised on international security strategy and policy issues for a range of government bodies, including the Secretary of Defense from 2012 to 2014, the 2008 Obama for America Campaign, the Obama-Biden Transition Team, then-Senator Obama from 2005 to 2008, Senator Patrick Leahy from 2000 to 2005, and Senator Tom Daschle and the Senate Democratic Policy Committee from 1999 to 2000. He also served in the United States Navy as an Intelligence Officer in Iraq and Afghanistan, and received the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and the Basic Parachutist Badge. He is also the recipient of the Department of Defense's Distinguished Public Service Award and the Department of the Navy's Distinguished Public Service Award, both of which are the highest honors bestowed on civilians in these respective Departments.

"The Greater Cincinnati World Affairs Council is honored to partner with National Underground Railroad Freedom Center to welcome and introduce Ambassador Lippert to the Greater Cincinnati community at large," says Catharina Toltzis, PhD, board president. "His visit and presentation embody our mission: to promote international understanding, engagement, and cooperation in securing a more tolerant and peaceful world."

The program, *A Conversation with Mark Lippert, United States Ambassador to the Republic of Korea*, is free and open to the public. Seating is limited and RSVPs are required. To RSVP visit freedomcenter.org/AmbLippert. For more information visit freedomcenter.org.

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About the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center

The National Underground Railroad Freedom Center opened August 2004 on the banks of the Ohio River in downtown Cincinnati, Ohio. Since then, more than 1.3 million people have visited its permanent and changing exhibits and public programs, inspiring everyone to walk in courageous steps for freedom.

Two million people have utilized educational resources online at freedomcenter.org, working to connect the lessons of the Underground Railroad to inform and inspire today's global and local fight for freedom. Partnerships include Historians Against Slavery, Polaris Project, Free the Slaves, U.S. Department of State, and International Justice Mission. In 2014, the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center launched a new online resource in the fight against modern slavery, endslaverynow.org.

About the Greater Cincinnati World Affairs Council

The Greater Cincinnati World Affairs Council facilitates international linkages in business, academia, and the classroom, to help prepare the region to compete and be successful in today's global environment. We actively lead in the development of internationally focused activities that include education, international visitor leadership program, and a website globalcincinnati.org, which is a resource for community and international happenings of interest to the local populous.