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On June 7, 2011, Commissioner Raymond Kelly, New York Police Department in this historic and unprecedented press conference will donate 800 crushed illicit weapons for the creation of *New York Peace Angel* to be sited at One Police Plaza. Lin Evola, founder of the Art of Peace Charitable Trust, will receive the weapons and transform them into this iconic symbol of peace sculpture.

The event will be hosted by Sims Metal Management. It marks the continuance of an unprecedented collaboration between the New York Police Department, the Art of Peace Charitable Trust and Sims Metal Management, accomplishing the goal, as Lin Evola stated, "... of interrupting the cycle of violence within our neighborhoods, our nations and our world, by supporting the removal of illicit weapons and transforming them into inspirational Peace Angels. "

The first *New York Peace Angel* will be donated to the City of New York by the Art of Peace Charitable Trust, and will be installed in the lobby of New York Police Department Headquarters at One Police Plaza in downtown Manhattan. It will stand close to five feet tall and will be made from a mix of melted-down street weapons (confiscated by law enforcement) and non-radioactive nuclear missile casings. Ultimately, additional New York City locations will be selected for placement of thirteen-foot and thirty-foot *New York Peace Angels*.

About the Art of Peace Charitable Trust

The Art of Peace Charitable Trust (AOPCT) evolved from the Peace Angels Project, which was founded in 1992. AOPCT is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to serving the public interest by interrupting the cycle of violence and actualizing change through peace building endeavors through art, youth leadership programs, job training and career placements. Each Peace Angel will stand as a highly visible symbol of success, proof of how local government can encourage its people to embrace their responsibility to become involved in the healing and rebuilding of their communities.

In addition to the hearty endorsement by many New York officials, the Art of Peace Charitable Trust has from the beginning received endorsements from international figures such as former President Bill Clinton, Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, Mr. Sergio Duarte (United Nations Chief of Disarmament Affairs), and many other prominent individuals worldwide.

In Los Angeles County, the design and placement of the *California Peace Angel* was formally approved in the fall of 2010 by the Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department. Subsequently, on November 15, 2010, under the leadership of Sheriff Leroy Baca (Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department) and Chief Charles Beck (Los Angeles Police Department), the crushed, illicit weapons, which were confiscated by law enforcement agencies from within the State of California, were donated to AOPCT for the *California Peace Angel*.

For more information on the Art of Peace Charitable Trust and the New York Peace Angel please click on the following link: <http://goo.gl/15O57>.

To learn more about the Art of Peace Charitable Trust please visit our website at www.aopct.org. We can also be found on Facebook at www.facebook.com/aopct and Twitter at <http://twitter.com/aopct>.
