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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – MCC CONDEMNS THE KILLING OF PETER KASSIG

November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014

**The Muslim Community Center (MCC)** of Silver Spring, Maryland, one of the oldest Muslim faith based organizations in the Washington, DC area, STRONGLY CONDEMN the despicable and totally un-Islamic behavior by the terrorists who are abusing the name of our faith. Reported beheading of U.S. Aid worker PETER KASSIG and others is despicable act of barbarism.

ISIS actions against Christians, Yazidis, Shia Muslims, and American citizens violate Quranic teaching on Protecting Religious freedom and Protection of Life.

"Let there be no compulsion in religion" (Quran: Surah al-Baqra verse 256)

"Whoever kills a person, unless (as punishment through due process) for murder or mischief in the land, it is as though he has killed all mankind. And whoever saves a life, it is as though he had saved all mankind." (Quran Surah Al-Ma'idah verse 32).

These acts of terrorism and murder cannot be justified according to the faith practiced by over a billion people or of any other faith.

We, the American Muslim Community and Muslims worldwide extend our condolences and prayer for Mr. Kassig's family.

The Muslim Community Center completely rejects all violence and the extremist ideologies which leads to such a barbaric act.

MCC's mission is to promote brotherhood and human dignity among all by developing an environment of understanding, compassion, and justice in our personal and professional lives. We strive to serve the needs of the Muslim community and community at large in a manner that promotes its positive image and standing in a changing environment. We aim to represent the Muslim community in interfaith circles, government, public and media relations, and within our society at large.

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For more information, please email info@mccmd.org or call 301-384-3454