



## Jimmy Carter Library & Museum News Release

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### **FREEDOM RIDERS AUTHOR COMING TO CARTER LIBRARY**

*RAYMOND ARSENAULT TO DISCUSS 1961 STRUGGLE FOR RACIAL JUSTICE & SIGN BOOKS*

**Atlanta, GA.** – Raymond Arsenault, the author of “Freedom Riders: 1961 and the Struggle for Racial Justice,” will read from his book on Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at the Carter Presidential Library. Co-sponsored by the Georgia Center for the Book, the lecture and book signing are free and open to the public. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the program begins at 7:00 p.m.

“Freedom Riders” has received wide praise.

"This is a thrilling book. It brings to life a crucial episode in the movement that ended racial brutality in the American south, giving us both the bloody drama of the Freedom Rides and the legal and political maneuvering behind the scenes."--Anthony Lewis

"Compelling.... A complex, vivid and sympathetic history of a civil-rights milestone."--David Cohen, Philadelphia Inquirer

"Authoritative, compelling history.... This is a story that only benefits from Mr. Arsenault's deliberately slowed-down narration. Moment by moment, he recreates the sense of crisis, and the terrifying threat of violence that haunted the first Freedom Riders, and their waves of successors, every mile of the way through the Deep South. He skillfully puts into order a bewildering series of events and leads the reader, painstakingly, through the political complexities of the time. Perhaps his greatest achievement is to show, through a wealth of detail, just how contested every inch of terrain was, and how uncertain the outcome, as the Freedom Riders pressed forward, hundreds of them filling Southern jails."--William Grimes, The New York Times

Don't miss the opportunity to hear Raymond Arsenault discuss “Freedom Riders” on Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. for more information, call 404-865-7100 or visit

[www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov](http://www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov).