

## **MEDIA ALERT**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** Friday, May 11, 2012 CONTACT: Scott Schoenike Executive Director Ford Center (812) 422-8000 Office Sschoenike@thefordcenter.com

**Evansville, Ind. -** Access to the Ford Center through the main entrance on Main Street has been temporarily restricted during events. Visitors tonight should enter the building through the Ticket Office lobby on Main Street and Gate Four on Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd.

The decision to temporarily restrict the entrance was made today by Ford Center management after careful consideration due to safety issues involving the glass curtain wall at the front of the building. On May 2nd, it was discovered that one of the glass units broke for unknown reasons. The section of damaged glass was removed. This week, while measuring for installation, it was determined the slope of the glass curtain wall possibly exceeds building code requirement.

"We are still in the evaluation stage, but the decision was made to restrict access through the main entrance for safety concerns," said Ford Center Executive Director Scott Schoenike. The Indiana State Fire Marshal office was contacted and has approved the use of the main entrance as an emergency exit-only.

Schoenike said barricades have been placed to keep visitors at a safe distance from the main entrance until long term decisions can be made.

The VenuWorks office located on Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd will continue as the main entrance during normal business hours.

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