**Portsmouth Peace Treaty Forum Celebrates 110th Anniversary of Theodore Roosevelt’s Nobel Peace Prize with Display of Medal and Russian Peace Conference Documents**

Portsmouth, New Hampshire (July 25, 2016) – History was made at the September 5, 2015 celebration of the 110th anniversary of the Portsmouth Peace Treaty when Russian diplomats joined Japanese diplomats at a reception at Wentworth By the Sea Hotel in the room where Russian and Japanese delegates to the peace conference had last met in 1905.

The Portsmouth Peace Treaty exhibit, “An Uncommon Commitment to Peace” open in the John Paul Jones House Museum through October, **contains several new displays celebrating the 110th anniversary of the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to President Theodore Roosevelt. New artifacts include an authentic replica of the Nobel Peace Prize from the mint authorized by the Nobel Peace Prize Institute in Norway, furniture from the 1905 Treaty conference rooms at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and documents from the Foreign Ministry archives of the Russian Federation, including June 1905 telegrams discussing the invitation to participate in a peace conference**. The museum is located at 43 Middle Street in downtown Portsmouth NH and is open 7 days, 11 am to 5 pm.

Alexander Kuznetsov, Head of History and Documentation Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, who attended the Treaty commemorations on September 5th presented a set of documents from those archives, “selected in honor of the people of Portsmouth who have collected the history of the Portsmouth Peace Treaty conference, to enrich those archives.”

When presenting the gift at Wentworth By the Sea in September, Mr. Kuznetsov observed, “Being a diplomat myself, I haven’t seen many places in the world where the peace-making efforts of diplomats are so honored and remembered as in this city. These annual ceremonies have become an important part of the common historic heritage of Russian, American and Japanese peoples.”

The Russian delegation to the Portsmouth Peace Treaty Day commemorations in 2015 also included Vladimir Vinokurov, Executive Director of Russia-U.S. Bilateral Presidential Commission, Ambassador-at-Large, who is working on creating a Russian presence at memorials and commemorations of US-Russian joint history. He participated in the 200th anniversary commemorations of US-Russian history at Fort Ross in California and is interested in raising awareness of the cultural and historical aspects of shared Russian and US history, including the Portsmouth Peace Treaty.

“The Portsmouth Peace Treaty Forum welcomed Russian and Japanese diplomats together for the first time since 1905 at the commemorations of the 110thanniversary of the Portsmouth Peace Treaty,” commented Charles B. Doleac, Portsmouth Peace Treaty Forum president and senior partner at Boynton Waldron Doleac Woodman & Scott PA of Portsmouth. “At the reception, the Consul General of the Russian Federation, Igor Golubovskiy underscored his commitment to people-to-people diplomacy and culture as a safety net between nations, which is the theme of citizen diplomacy we celebrate with ongoing Treaty exhibits and commemorations such as the Cherry Tree Living Memorial.”

**The Russian delegation presented five Russian brass bells that were rung at 3:47 pm on September 5th last year and will be among the bells rung at the Portsmouth Peace Treaty Day commemoration in Market Square on September 5, 2016.** Mr. Kuznetsov also read and presented a copy of a 1905 speech praising lead Japanese diplomat Baron Komura and the “experience and wise statesmanship he displayed so conspicuously during the negotiations” to Komura’s great grand niece, Kiriko Komura.

The commemoration of the Portsmouth Peace Treaty is supported by the Portsmouth Peace Treaty Forum. To learn more about the Treaty, scheduling an exhibit, NH Humanities Council lecture or other programs, visit [www.PortsmouthPeaceTreaty.com](http://www.portsmouthpeacetreaty.com/) or contact Charles Doleac, [cdoleac@nhlawfirm.com](mailto:cdoleac@nhlawfirm.com), 603-436-4010.

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