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## **Documentary, *D.B. Cooper: The Real Story*, to Premiere July 14 in Cle Elum, Washington**

*Cle Elum resident will share details of meeting D.B. Cooper one hour after skyjacking*

**GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (June 22, 2018)** – All eyes will be on the Greater Seattle area on July 14 as Principia Media, a Grand Rapids, Michigan-based publisher and filmmaker, hosts the documentary premiere of *D.B. Cooper: The Real Story*. D.B. Cooper, now known as Walter Reza, is the infamous skyjacker who boarded a Boeing 727 in Portland bound for Sea-Tac airport in Seattle on Thanksgiving Eve, 1971. The documentary features never before seen or heard evidence, including audio taped confessions providing detailed information about the preparation, skyjacking, landing and escape, as well as an eyewitness account from a local Cle Elum resident.

Cle Elum, located 90 miles southwest of Seattle, is a popular fly-fishing and outdoor activity destination and will now be known as the town nearest to Reza's dropzone. After the jump, Reza made his way to a café outside of Cle Elum for a cup of coffee. While there, he met Cle Elum resident, Jeff Osiadacz. Osiadacz recalls seeing Reza on the side of the road the night of the skyjacking and later at the Teanaway Junction Café. Reza was soaked and freezing from the elements and did not know where he had landed. He asked Osiadacz to provide directions via phone to a friend. Osiadacz's recollection of that evening is a key piece of evidence in Principia Media's case.

The documentary premiere will celebrate Cle Elum and its newfound notoriety. It will be held Saturday, July 14, at 1:00PM at the Putnam Centennial Center. Dinner will follow, along with live music from Rusty Cage, a local band, who will also perform a new D.B. Cooper-inspired song, "Man and the Money," written by Osiadacz. The documentary filmmaker and producer will be in attendance, along with many individuals from the film: Reza's niece, Lisa Story, who also heard Reza's confession; Reza's best friend and the author of *D.B. Cooper & Me: A Criminal, A Spy, and My Best Friend*, Carl Laurin; and key local witness, Jeff Osiadacz. They will all participate in a one-hour Q&A, post-screening. Proceeds from the event will benefit local fire departments.

"D.B. Cooper has long been part of the folklore of the Pacific Northwest. In fact, we shot more than 200 hours of film for this project over a two-year period, including several scenes in Cle Elum," noted Principia Media filmmaker, Dirk Wierenga. "We intentionally chose the town as our premiere location and look forward to delivering a rare opportunity for everyone to view the documentary, meet those that participated in it, and support local heroes."

**Key footage included in the documentary:**

- Interviews with Lisa Story, Carl Laurin, and Jeff Osiadacz
- Details concerning how Reca spent the ransom money
- Interview with a banking expert explaining why the money was not tracked by authorities
- Theories concerning how the money at Tena Bar washed up
- Details on Reca's post-skyjacking life and his entrée into the intelligence world
- Interviews with a renowned forensic linguist explaining how recorded conversations between Reca, Laurin, Osiadacz, and Story are based in truth

**D.B. Cooper: The Real Story – Documentary Premiere**

**Date:** Saturday, July 14, 2018  
**Location:** Putnam Centennial Center  
719 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> St, Cle Elum, WA 98922  
**Documentary Screening:** 1:00PM – 4:00PM (PST)  
**Q & A:** 4:30PM – 5:30PM (PST)  
**Dinner:** 6:00PM (PST)  
**Live Music:** 7:00PM – Rusty Cage performs/debuts original D.B. Cooper song  
**Cost:** \$20 per person  
**Tickets Available:** Cle Elum and Ellensburg Visitor Centers, [TheRealDBCooper.com](http://TheRealDBCooper.com)  
and [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com)

For more information, please visit [www.TheRealDBCooper.com](http://www.TheRealDBCooper.com) or contact Julie Hurley at 616-460-5070, [media@principiamedia.com](mailto:media@principiamedia.com).

**About Principia Media:**

Principia Media is an independent publishing and documentary film company based in Grand Rapids, MI. With a focus on storytelling, they balance professional production and marketing skills with intimate client relationships. Their capabilities include publishing fiction and nonfiction and investigative storytelling through feature-length documentaries. To learn more about Principia Media, please visit [www.principiamedia.com](http://www.principiamedia.com).

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