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**NEWS
RELEASE**

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El Paso Zoo & Botanical Gardens: Baby Giraffe is Ready for Visitors

EL PASO, Texas—The El Paso Zoo and Botanical Gardens invite the community to visit and formally meet our newest addition to the giraffe family!

El Pasoans can come out say hello to Obi, the 3-month-old male giraffe; his mother, Gigi; and father, Juma.

Although Obi was born in April, he is finally comfortable enough to make his debut in the exhibit with his mom and dad. He has been exploring his new surroundings and is now ready to visit with the public.

The best chance for visitors to see Obi is between 9 a.m. and noon. Around noon he usually returns to the back area.

“This is the first giraffe born at the El Paso Zoo in the history of the Zoo and we are all very excited,” said El Paso Zoo Director Joe Montisano. “It is not only significant for El Paso but also a milestone in the ongoing conservation efforts for this endangered species.”

While at the zoo, visitors can see the new Meerkats on display. Visitors might even be able to catch one of the recently born babies that are on display with their parents.

Through the Giraffe Conservation Foundation, El Paso Zoo and its partners are working collectively to help save giraffes through education, scientific study, fieldwork, public awareness, and action. Giraffes face numerous threats in the wild, including habitat loss and poaching.

About the El Paso Zoo and Botanical Gardens

The El Paso Zoo is a 35-acre facility that houses animals representing over 220 species, including critically endangered species. Accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA), the El Paso Zoo celebrates the value of animals and natural resources and creates opportunities for people to rediscover their connection to nature.

To learn more about the El Paso Zoo, including educational programs and events, visit www.ElPasoZoo.org.

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Promoting **Transparent & Consistent Communication**
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