



Contact:
Phone:
Email: action@justiceforcaptives.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: 12 May 2017

MEMORIAL SERVICE AT SEA WORLD AUSTRALIA

THE ACTION:

At 10:45am on Saturday 13 May, Justice for Captives plan to visit Sea World on the Gold Coast to pay their respects to the 8-day old Polar Bear cub that passed away exactly one week ago.

Dressed in solemn black and laying flowers down by a 'body' and 'gravestone', at the entrance to the theme park, Justice for Captives wants Sea World and the public to recognise that this innocent soul won't be forgotten. Hence, we will name her 'Elsa', and we will remember her.

Chelsea Hannah, an activist speaking on behalf of Justice for Captives says: "With over half of all captive-bred polar bears not surviving longer than a month, and as Liya tragically lost one of her twins in 2013 under similar circumstances, perhaps this death shouldn't be a surprise. What happens within the confinement of an enclosure does not represent a natural environment in which a mother can adequately care for her newborns. There is nothing 'natural' or 'happy' about a lifetime in captivity and we feel the surviving twin isn't the lucky one"

Sev Mieg, another Justice for Captives activist further adds: "Whilst the death of a polar bear cub is forever a tragedy, the reality of the circumstances in captivity are undeniable. We do recognise Sea World's efforts in attempting to save Elsa's life using their 'state of the art monitoring system', however; no matter how wealthy or 'good willed' an organisation such as Sea World may be, replicating the natural environment of a polar bear is perpetually unrealistic - particularly in a small enclosure held in the sub-tropical state of Queensland in the Southern Hemisphere."

Justice for Captives are calling for Sea World to acknowledge the risks involved in captive breeding, the unethical trade of wild-born polar bear cubs and the inhumane ideologies of keeping animals in concrete prisons. Today, we want justice for polar bears.