



# FDNY MEDAL DAY 2015

*Honoring Members of the Fire Department*  
— June 3, 2015 —

# MEDAL DAY 2015

**Daniel A. Nigro**  
*Fire Commissioner*

**James E. Leonard**  
*Chief of Department*

**Francis X. Gribbon**  
*Deputy Commissioner*  
*Office of Public Information*



## MEDAL DAY STAFF

### PUBLICATIONS DIRECTOR

Joseph D. Malvasio

### EDITOR

Janet Kimmerly

### GRAPHICS/PRODUCTION

Thomas Ittycheria

### WRITERS

Deputy Chief Christopher Boyle  
Deputy Chief Philip Burns (retired)  
Assistant Chief Edward C. Butler (retired)

Lieutenant Kirk Candan  
Lieutenant Thomas Carrera  
Captain John Ceriello  
Lieutenant Brendan Corrigan

Melissa J. Diaz  
Captain Michael Doda  
Captain Christopher Flatley  
Captain John Flynn (retired)

Barry D. Gintel  
Firefighter Nick Graziano  
David Joseph Harney  
Firefighter Stephen Interdonati

Maria T. Lamberti  
EMS Captain Matthew Lindner  
Lieutenant Ralph Longo

Assistant Chief Fire Marshal John David Lynn  
Captain Stephen Marsar  
Cathy A. McCrorie

Battalion Chief Frank C. Montagna (retired)  
Firefighter Thomas Morrison  
Captain Sean Newman

Captain Anthony J. Pascoello, Jr.  
Lizette Perez

Battalion Chief John J. Salka, Jr. (retired)  
EMS Lieutenant Evan Suchecki  
Firefighter Jack Thompson (retired)

Captain John T. Vigiano (retired)  
Captain Thomas Woods  
Elisheva Zakheim

### MEDAL DESK

Captain Raymond Arcos  
EMT Arzu Aydogdu  
EMT Edgar Pitre  
Firefighter Robert Hart

### PHOTOS BY FDNY PHOTO UNIT

Supervising Fire Marshal Ralph Bernard  
Randy Barron, David Warren

**Special thanks to Chief Fire Marshal Robert Byrnes and his staff for their assistance.**

**Also, thanks to Firefighter Greg Piotrowski and EMT Dulce McCorvey for their contributions to this book.**

Publication of this 2015 edition of the FDNY Medal Day Book was made possible by several grants. The FDNY gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the following contributors:

### *The FDNY Honorary Fire Officers Association*

Jack Lerch, President

### *Dorothy Marks*

Honorary Fire Commissioner

### *The FDNY Foundation*

Stephen L. Ruzow, Chairman

Jean O'Shea, Executive Director



## Proudly Serving Since 1865

### *Photo Credits*

#### *Cover*

**Brooklyn Box 75-0583, March 16, 2014,**  
the incident for which  
FF Bryan Kelly, Squad Company 1,  
received the Arthur J. Laufer Memorial Medal.

#### *Opposite*

**Manhattan Box 55-1406, March 12, 2014,**  
the incident for which

FF (now Lieutenant, assigned to Battalion 50) Donald P. Mayerhofer, Ladder Company 26, is awarded the Bella Stiefel Medal and FF Michael A. Mider, Ladder Company 26, is awarded the Vincent J. Kane Medal. Also, Engine Company 58--Captain Christopher S. Reginella (Ladder 13) and FFs Christopher Brennan (Ladder 26), Robert G. Canale, Thomas M. Long, Jr., and Christopher N. Spagnola--are presented with the Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal and Rescue 1--Captain Robert R. Morris, Jr., and FFs James R. Feeley, Michael G. Geidel, Daniel P. Hyland, Richard I. Miranda and Christopher Morgan--are presented with the Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal. Additionally, the following Fire Companies were presented with Unit Citations: Engine Company 58, Engine Company 35, Ladder Company 26, Ladder Company 14, Ladder Company 23, Squad Company 41 and Rescue Company 1. Finally, Supervising Fire Marshal James C. Kelly and Fire Marshal Joseph B. Sullivan, both Citywide North, received Service Rating As for their efforts at this incident. And, the BFI Park Avenue Gas Explosion group was awarded a Unit Citation.

*photo by Steve Spak*

#### *Back Cover*

**Brooklyn Box 0255, January 21, 2015.**  
Fire and EMS members operate at a trench rescue.





**M  
E  
D  
A  
L  
  
D  
A  
Y  
  
2  
0  
1  
5**



**MEDAL BOARD**



**Fire**  
**John Sudnik**  
*Chief of Operations*

**Daniel A. Nigro**  
*Commissioner*  
**James E. Leonard**  
*Chief of Department*

**EMS**  
**James P. Booth**  
*Chief*  
*Bureau of EMS*



## Index of Medals

Dr. Harry M. Archer Medal	.11
James Gordon Bennett Medal/NYS Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal	.13
Brooklyn Citizens Medal/ FF Louis Valentino Award	.14
Christopher J. Prescott Medal	.15
Hugh Bonner Medal/Honor Legion Medal	.16
Emily Trevor/Mary B. Warren Medal	.17
Thomas E. Crimmins Medal	.18
Thomas A. Kenny Memorial Medal	.19
Walter Scott Medal	.20
John H. Prentice Medal	.21
Henry D. Brookman Medal	.22
Chief Ulyses Grant Leadership Medal	.23
M.J. Delehanty Medal	.24
William F. Conran Medal	.25
Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia Medal	.26
Chief John J. McElligott Medal/ FFs Fitzpatrick and Frisby Award	.27
Thomas F. Dougherty Medal	.28
Albert S. Johnston Medal	.29
Bella Stiefel Medal	.30
Tracy Allen-Lee Medal	.31
23rd Street Fire Memorial Medal	.32
Vincent J. Kane Medal	.33
Pulaski Association Medal	.34
Comm. Edward Thompson Medal	.35
Columbia Association Medal	.36
Susan Wagner Medal	.41
Steuben Association Medal	.42
Chief James Scullion Medal	.43
Dr. J.W. Goldenkranz Medal	.44
Uniformed Fire Officers Association Medal	.45
Edith B. Goldman Medal	.46
American Legion Fire Department Post 930/ Mark M. Wohlfeld Memorial Medal	.47
Arthur J. Laufer Memorial Medal	.48
Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Medal	.49
Company Officers Association Medal	.50
Lt. Kirby McElhearn Medal	.51
Chief Joseph B. Martin Medal	.52
Police Honor Legion Medal	.53
Firefighter David J. DeFranco Medal	.54
Lt. James E. Zahn/Lt. Peter L. Troiano Memorial Medal	.55
Deputy Commissioner Christine R. Godek Medal	.56
William Friedberg Medal	.57
Probationary Firefighter Thomas A. Wylie Medal	.58
Shelly Rothman Memorial Medal	.59
Jack Pintchik Medal	.60
Lt. James Curran/NYFFs Burn Center Foundation Medal/Father Julian F. Deeken Memorial Medal	.61
Lt. James Curran/NYFFs Burn Center Foundation Medal	.62
Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal	.63
World Trade Center Memorial Medal	.64

## Index of Medal Recipients

Alexander, EMT Shaun; Hall, EMT Khadijah (Christopher J. Prescott Medal)	.15
Bean, FF Bryan T. (Walter Scott Medal)	.20
Bishop, FF Adam C. (Pulaski Association Medal)	.34
Brady, FF James (23rd Street Fire Memorial Medal)	.32
Browne, FF Brian T. (Firefighter David J. DeFranco Medal)	.54
Burlison, FF Adam M. (Thomas A. Kenny Memorial Medal)	.19
Cahill, Lt. Steven M. (Edith B. Goldman Medal)	.46
Calderon, FF William P. (Chief John J. McElligott Medal/ FFs Fitzpatrick and Frisby Award)	.27
Cashin, Lt. James P. (Police Honor Legion Medal)	.53
Christensen, FF Thomas J. (John H. Prentice Medal)	.21
Cooper, Lt. Robert E. (Lt. James E. Zahn/Lt. Peter L. Troiano Memorial Medal)	.55
Cox, FM Robert J. (Deputy Commissioner Christine R. Godek Medal)	.56
DeMeo, Lt. Michael J. (Albert S. Johnston Medal)	.29
DiGiulio, FF Christopher J. (Company Officers Association Medal)	.50
Engine Company 58: Reginella, Capt. Christopher S. (L-13); Brennan, FF Christopher (L-26); Canale, FF Robert G.; Long, Jr., FF Thomas M.; Spagnola, FF Christopher N.(Lt. James Curran/NYFFs Burn Center Foundation Medal)	.62
Engine Company 201: McCaffrey, Lt. Michael J.; Bennici, FF Jerry; Calacanis, FF Joshua I. (L-114); Cornejo, FF Jorge J.; O'Mallon, FF Sean M. (Lt. James Curran/ NYFFs Burn Center Foundation/Father Julian F. Deeken Memorial Medal)	.61
Florenco, Capt. Daniel C. (Dr. J.W. Goldenkranz Medal)	.44
Grant, Capt. William J. (James Gordon Bennett Medal/ NYS Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal)	.13
Guardiola, EMT Samuel (Lt. Kirby McElhearn Medal)	.51
Hogah, FF Kevin J. (Dr. Harry M. Archer Medal)	.11
Irish, Capt. Peter M. (Uniformed Fire Officers Association Medal)	.45
Jensen, Lt. John V. (Thomas E. Crimmins Medal)	.18
Johnson, FF William P. (Columbia Association Medal)	.36
Julien, EMT-P Winsley J.; Michel, EMT Kirvens (Tracy Allen-Lee Medal)	.31
Kelly, FF Bryan (Arthur J. Laufer Memorial Medal)	.48
Ladder Company 157: Sacco, Lt. Angelo (Bn-33); Brunton, FF Timothy J.; Guerrero, FF Michael B.; McNicholas, FF Brian T.; Muschello, FF Dominick M.; Ryszetynek, FF Michael (World Trade Center Memorial Medal)	.64
Lynch, FF Kevin J. (Chief Joseph B. Martin Medal)	.52
Magenheim, FF Andrew F. (Shelly Rothman Memorial Medal)	.59
Mayerhofer, FF Donald P. (Bella Stiefel Medal)	.30
Miano, EMS Capt. Paul A.; Taylor, EMT-P Christopher M.; Guzman, EMT-P Richard (Jack Pintchik Medal)	.60
Mider, FF Michael A. (Vincent J. Kane Medal)	.33
Mohr, FF Kevin C. (Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Medal)	.49
Mueller, FF Clint K. (William F. Conran Medal)	.25
Muschello, FF Dominick M. (Brooklyn Citizens Medal/ FF Louis Valentino Award)	.14
Ober, FF Michael R. (American Legion Fire Department Post 930/ Mark M. Wohlfeld Memorial Medal)	.47
Rescue Company 1: Morris, Jr., Capt. Robert R.; Feeley, FF James R.; Geidel, FF Michael G.; Hyland, FF Daniel P.; Miranda, FF Richard I.; Morgan, FF Christopher (Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal)	.63
Reynolds, FF Anthony (Susan Wagner Medal)	.41
Ritchie, FF David (William Friedberg Medal)	.57
Rufh, FF Robert R. (Comm. Edward Thompson Medal)	.35
Russo, Lt. Michael J. (Thomas F. Dougherty Medal)	.28
Sahai, FF Marlon Q. (Probationary Firefighter Thomas A. Wylie Medal)	.58
Savarese, Capt. Richard P. (Emily Trevor/Mary B. Warren Medal)	.17
Schulz, EMS Lt. Thomas; Uzcategui, EMT-P Silvana (Chief James Scullion Medal)	.43
Sullivan, EMS Deputy Chief John Q. (Chief Ulyses Grant Leadership Medal)	.23
Sullivan, FF Jordan C. (Hugh Bonner Medal/Honor Legion Medal)	.16
Tallett, FF Justin L. (M.J. Delehanty Medal)	.24
Varmon, Jr., FF John J. (Steuben Association Medal)	.42
Whelan, Lt. Robert T. (Henry D. Brookman Medal)	.22
Zam, Lt. Christopher E. (Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia Medal)	.26







THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
NEW YORK, NY 10007

June 3, 2015

Dear Friends:

It is a great pleasure to welcome everyone as the New York City Fire Department celebrates Medal Day 2015.

This is a special year for the FDNY as its members, both past and present, come together to mark the 150th anniversary of the greatest fire department in the world. Since 1865, brave men and women have stepped up and taken on the incredible challenge of protecting the safety of our residents and putting themselves in harm's way when danger strikes. Their hard work and dedication have helped New York become the safest big city in the world. Together with Commissioner Nigro, my administration and I are committed to helping our Bravest maintain this title by providing the support our great Department needs, including continuing all of our efforts to make it a Department that draws on the full diversity of talent in our City. Today, we honor the sacrifices and the courage of the firefighters and EMTs who serve our city and celebrate the FDNY and all those associated with it for their dedication to the communities of the five boroughs.

On behalf of the City of New York, congratulations to all of the distinguished members of the FDNY being recognized this year. Please accept my best wishes for a meaningful ceremony and continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill de Blasio".

Bill de Blasio  
Mayor





**Daniel A. Nigro**  
*Fire Commissioner*

**D**uring this historic year for the Department--as we mark 150 years of brave and dedicated service to our City--we remember and celebrate the hard work and sacrifice of generations of people who built the incredible foundation on which we all stand today.

Medal Day 2015 serves as yet another chapter in our history and each of the 70 people whose actions and achievements we honor now become part of that legacy. Fittingly, in this year of celebrating FDNY history, we return to a renovated City Hall, where the local firehouse, Engine Company 1, the first unit that went into service as paid professionals, then was situated a block from our City's iconic seat of government. Since then and every day for 150 years, members of the Department have answered innumerable calls for help, no matter the danger nor the personal cost.

While the first medal for bravery was not issued until 1869, the acts of heroism--and of sacrifice--began soon after that first day of emergency response. Since then, countless lives have been saved in our City from fires, medical emergencies and other dangerous situations. The cost to our Department has been great. But that has not stopped men and women such as those we honor at Medal Day from serving and writing new chapters of heroism and bravery. And as certain I am of our glorious history, I am equally confident in our future. A quick look at some of our medal winners this year provides ample evidence.

Three Probationary Firefighters will receive medals for heroism: Firefighter Jordan C. Sullivan of Ladder 105, recipient of the Hugh Bonner Medal/Honor Legion Medal; Firefighter Justin L. Tallett of Ladder 107, recipient of the M.J. Delehanty Medal; and Firefighter Marlon Q. Sahai of Ladder 9, recipient of the Probationary Firefighter Thomas A. Wylie Medal. These newly minted Firefighters demonstrated ability and tenacity well beyond their years. Their heroic acts are a result of their tremendous commitment to duty, as well as the countless hours of training and support they received at our Fire Academy and in their firehouses. As with each medal we bestow, their individual success is the product of a strong team standing alongside them.

Teamwork is a hallmark of our Department and it is fully on display throughout the pages of this book. Paramedic Winsley J. Julien and EMT Kirvens Michel, recipients of the Tracy Allen-Lee Medal, bravely responded to what would become New York City's first--and, to date, only--confirmed case of the deadly Ebola virus. Working together with additional HazTac and Haz-Mat units, they safely treated and transported their patient, ensuring he quickly received the advanced care needed to make a full recovery. The Department's planning and preparation for this incident--and the flawless execution by so many FDNY members--illustrate the critical importance that training and coordination across the entire Department play in our shared success.

To all our medal recipients--Firefighters, EMTs, Paramedics, Fire Marshals and Officers--thank you for the great work you've done and will continue to do for our Department and our City. And thank you for continuing the great traditions of service and bravery our Department started a century and a half ago.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniel A. Nigro". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.







**James E. Leonard**  
*Chief of Department*

**W**hen you wear the FDNY uniform, you make a solemn commitment to go into harm's way to help others. But that oath extends even to when you are not wearing the uniform. This year, two of the highest medals we present go to FDNY members who, while off-duty, did not hesitate to go forward into dangerous conditions to perform their sworn duty.

The James Gordon Bennett Medal is awarded to Captain William J. Grant of Staten Island who was awakened in the middle of the night by a fire in his neighbor's home. Without concern for his own safety and with no personal protective equipment, Captain Grant effected an extraordinary rescue of a fellow New Yorker in a life-threatening situation.

The Christopher J. Prescott Medal is awarded to Emergency Medical Technicians Shaun Alexander and Khadijah Hall for their work off-duty to aid an NYPD Officer who had been shot in the line of duty. Despite the chaotic scene still unfolding and unsure if the shooting had subsided, these veteran EMTs remained calm and administered care to an injured Police Officer, as they have done to countless individuals throughout their outstanding careers.

Beyond these unique off-duty incidents, FDNY members proved again and again why this is the greatest Fire Department in the world. Throughout the year at fires, medical calls and countless other emergencies, the men and women we honor saved lives in communities across the City. Perhaps most notably, when an explosion in East Harlem shook our City, it was FDNY members who responded to fight the fire and rescue survivors. For their outstanding work that day, two companies--Engine 58 and Rescue 1--are awarded company medals.

These incidents--and every heroic response we celebrate today--confirm what we all know to be true: being a member of this Department is not what we do, it is who we are. For 150 years, generations of FDNY members have served with pride and distinction, bravely protecting life and property. This year's medal recipients join the long line of heroes whose noble work is a lasting part of the FDNY's legacy. Congratulations to every 2015 medal winner and thank you for your steadfast commitment to our lifesaving mission.

*James E. Leonard*



**FIRST  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER**



**ROBERT R. TURNER, II**

**CHIEF OF STAFF**



**ROBERT F. SWEENEY**

**SPECIAL COUNSEL  
TO THE FIRE COMMISSIONER**



**JOSE MALDONADO**

**DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS**



**JOHN A. BENANTI**  
Technology &  
Support Services



**TERRYL L. BROWN**  
Legal Affairs



**EDWARD M. DOLAN**  
Strategic Initiatives &  
Policy



**FRANCIS X. GRIBBON**  
Public Information



**PAMELA M. LASSITER**  
Chief Diversity &  
Inclusion Officer



**DOUGLAS H. WHITE**  
Administration

**ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS**

**MARK C. ARONBERG**  
Fleet/Technical Services

**LAURA R. KAVANAGH**  
External Affairs

**MICHELE J. MAGLIONE**  
Recruitment & Diversity

**JOSEPH MASTROPIETRO**  
Facilities

**DONAY J. QUEENAN**  
Human Resources

**STEPHEN G. RUSH**  
Budget and Finance

**SUZANNE SEBERT**  
Family Assistance

**DONALD E. STANTON**  
Communications

**KAT S. THOMSON**  
Management Analysis & Planning

**BENNY M. THOTTAM**  
Technology  
Development & Systems

**ROBERT A. WALLACE**  
Investigations & Trials

**BUREAU OF  
HEALTH SERVICES**



**Dr. Kerry J. Kelly**  
CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER

**SPECIAL ADVISOR  
FOR HEALTH POLICY**



**Dr. David J. Prezant**  
CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER

**OFFICE OF  
MEDICAL AFFAIRS**



**Dr. Glenn H. Asaeda**  
CHIEF MEDICAL DIRECTOR

**FDNY CHAPLAINS**

- Monsignor John Delendick**
- Monsignor Marc Filacchione**
- Reverend Stephen Harding**
- Father Joseph Hoffman**
- Reverend Ann Kansfield**
- Father Christopher Keenan**
- Rabbi Joseph Potasnik**
- Reverend V. Simpson Turner, Jr.**





# FDNY STAFF CHIEFS



**John Sudnik**  
*Chief of Operations*



**Stephen A. Raynis**  
*Chief of Training*



**Ronald R. Spadafora**  
*Chief of Fire Prevention*



**James P. Booth**  
*Chief*  
*Bureau of EMS*



**Joseph W. Pfeifer**  
*Assistant Chief,*  
*Counterterrorism &*  
*Emergency Preparedness*



**Robert J. Boyce, Jr.**  
*Assistant Chief,*  
*Chief of Logistics*



**William C. Seelig**  
*Assistant Chief,*  
*Chief of*  
*Special Operations Command*



**James D. Daly, Jr.**  
*Assistant Chief*  
*of Operations*



**Michael J. Fitton**  
*Assistant Chief*  
*EMS Operations*



**James C. Hodgens**  
*Deputy Assistant Chief*  
*Chief of the*  
*Fire Academy*



**Paul Cresci**  
*Deputy Assistant Chief*  
*Chief of Safety and Inspection*  
*Services Command*



**Thomas E. McKavanagh**  
*Deputy Assistant Chief,*  
*Assistant Chief of*  
*Fire Prevention*



**Robert J. Strong**  
*Deputy Assistant Chief,*  
*Chief of Administration*



**Edward T. Ferrier**  
*Deputy Assistant Chief*  
*of Fire Prevention*



**Andrew DiPadova**  
*Deputy Assistant Chief,*  
*Chief of Fire Dispatch*  
*Operations*



**Anthony V. Napoli**  
*Deputy Assistant Chief*  
*Emergency Medical*  
*Dispatch*



**Anthony W. DeVita, Jr.**  
*Deputy Assistant Chief*  
*Chief of Planning*



## FDNY STAFF CHIEFS



**Robert G. Byrnes**  
*Chief Fire Marshal*



**J. David Lynn**  
*Assistant Chief  
Fire Marshal*



**Michael F. Gala, Jr.**  
*Deputy Chief,  
Chief of  
Uniformed Personnel*

## BOROUGH COMMANDERS



**Joseph M. Woznica**  
*Deputy Assistant Chief  
Bronx*



**Wayne T. Cartwright**  
*Deputy Assistant Chief  
Brooklyn*



**Daniel F. Donoghue, Jr.**  
*Deputy Assistant Chief  
Manhattan*



**Roger W. Sakowich**  
*Deputy Assistant Chief  
Deputy Manhattan Borough  
Commander*



**Edward J. Baggott**  
*Assistant Chief  
Queens*



**Richard J. Howe**  
*Deputy Assistant Chief  
Staten Island*

## CHIEF OFFICERS



**Roger J. Ahee**  
*Division Chief  
BOT--EMS Division*



**Marylou Aurrichio**  
*Division Chief  
EMS Operations*



**Sophia Kwok**  
*Division Chief  
EMS Operations*



**Janice Olszewski**  
*Division Chief  
EMS Operations*



**Fredrick V. Villani**  
*Division Chief  
Planning & Strategy*

## SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND



*Battalion Chief*  
**Stephen J. Geraghty**  
*Rescue Operations*



*Battalion Chief*  
**Michael J. Buckheit**  
*Marine Operations*



*Deputy Chief*  
**Nicholas Del Re**  
*Haz-Mat Operations*





## DIVISION COMMANDERS



*Deputy Chief*  
**John W. Bley**  
*Division 1*



**Roberto Colon**  
*Chief EMS Division 1*



*Deputy Chief*  
**Joseph N. Carlsen**  
*Division 3*



*Deputy Chief*  
**James J. Donlevy**  
*Division 6*



*Deputy Chief*  
**Joseph C. Saccente**  
*Division 7*



**Rosario Terranova**  
*Chief EMS Division 2*



*Deputy Chief*  
**John J. Hodgins**  
*Division 8*



**Jonathan P. Pistilli**  
*Chief EMS Division 5*



*Deputy Chief*  
**James E. Campbell**  
*Division 11*



**Steven J. Morelli**  
*Chief EMS Division 3*



*Deputy Chief*  
**James A. DiDomenico**  
*Division 13*



*Deputy Chief*  
**Mark A. Ferran**  
*Division 14*



**Robert A. Hannafey**  
*Chief EMS Division 4*



*Deputy Chief*  
**Michael Ajello**  
*Division 15*



## THE DR. HARRY M. ARCHER MEDAL

Special Order No. 180, which was dated October 4, 1920, reads as follows: “A medal, to be known as the ‘Harry M. Archer Medal’ has been donated by Dr. Herman L. Reis and is to be awarded every third year to such member of the uniformed force of the Fire Department as may have, during the three years preceding such award, been the recipient of one or more medals, which are now given or may hereafter be given, to the members of the uniformed force. Such award shall be made by selection from among said medal winners during the said three years preceding such award for the performance in the judgment of the Fire Commissioner and the Chief of Department of the most meritorious service or act of heroism or bravery.”

Legends in the Fire Department of New York begin with members who win medals. Theirs are the stories of danger, fear, courage, honor and the greatest degree of self-satisfaction.

Firefighters are brave, dedicated and loyal. Respect comes in many ways to those who fight fires. The highest honor that can be bestowed on a New York City Firefighter is to be awarded the Doctor Harry M. Archer Medal. It’s reserved for the truly bravest of the brave!

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1921 — Firefighter 1st Grade John Walsh<br>(Hook & Ladder Company 1)          | 1963 — Firefighter 1st Grade Joseph E. Almon<br>(Ladder Company 35)                                |
| 1924 — Captain Edwin A.A. Quinn (Engine Company 14)                           | 1966 — Lieutenant David Crowley<br>(37 Battalion; Formerly Firefighter in Ladder Company 14)       |
| 1927 — Firefighter 1st Grade William G.R. Mitchell<br>(Engine Company 18)     | 1969 — Firefighter 1st Grade Gene P. Dowling<br>(Ladder Company 25)                                |
| 1930 — Firefighter 1st Grade Michael McInerney<br>(Hook & Ladder Company 12)  | 1972 — Lieutenant Richard R. Hamilton (Rescue Company 2)   |
| 1933 — Captain Albert B. Carlson (Engine Company 66)                          | 1975 — Firefighter 1st Grade Raymond G. McCann<br>(Ladder Company 40)                              |
| 1936 — Firefighter 1st Grade Rudolph F. Musil<br>(Hook & Ladder Company 12)   | 1978 — Captain Frederick W. Gallagher (Rescue Company 2)   |
| 1939 — Firefighter 1st Grade James P. Nevin<br>(Engine Company 201)           | 1981 — Lieutenant Howard R. Kennedy (Ladder Company 154)   |
| 1942 — Firefighter 1st Grade Charles A. Merz<br>(Hook & Ladder Company 168)   | 1984 — Firefighter 1st Grade Kenneth Connelly<br>(Ladder Company 111)                              |
| 1945 — Acting Deputy Chief John W. Heaney<br>(Headquarters Staff)             | 1987 — Captain James F. McDonnell (Ladder Company 42)  |
| 1948 — Firefighter 1st Grade Anthony L. Riccardi<br>(Hook & Ladder Company 1) | 1990 — Lieutenant William F. Maloney (Ladder Company 34)   |
| 1951 — Lieutenant Wilbur J. O’Donnell<br>(Hook & Ladder Company 1)            | 1993 — Firefighter Michael M. Dugan (Ladder Company 43)  |
| 1954 — Firefighter 1st Grade Victor F. Rossi<br>(Ladder Company 120)          | 1996 — Lieutenant Albert J. Gonzalez, Jr. (Ladder Company 18)                                      |
| 1957 — Firefighter 2nd Grade Michael J. O’Driscoll<br>(Ladder Company 28)     | 1999 — Firefighter Gerard J. Triglia (Ladder Company 132)  |
| 1960 — Firefighter 3rd Grade William V. Russo<br>(Ladder Company 25)          | 2003 — Battalion Chief John J. Pritchard<br>(41 Battalion; Formerly Captain of Engine Company 255) |
|   | 2006 — Firefighter James F. Mills (Ladder Company 176)   |
|   | 2009 — Firefighter James T. Byrne (Ladder Company 121)   |
|   | 2012--Firefighter Peter G. Demontreux (Ladder Company 132)   |





# Dr. Harry M. Archer Medal

## FIREFIGHTER KEVIN J. HOGAN (2)

### *Ladder Company 114*

March 13, 2011, 0512 hours, Box 33-2637, Brooklyn

*Appointed to the FDNY on October 23, 1994. Previously assigned to Ladder 104. Brother-in-law, FF Pat Sullivan, is retired from Engine 162 and cousins, FFs Mike Guidera is assigned to Ladder 109; Tim Guidera is assigned to Ladder 124; and Pat Smith is assigned to Engine 158; and Lieutenant Richie Smith is assigned to Ladder 87. Member of the Emerald Society. Resides on Staten Island with his wife, AnnMarie, and their daughter, Chelsea, and son, Thomas.*



**B**eing in the right place at the right time is crucial to effecting a rescue. An outstanding Firefighter can go through an entire career without making a single rescue. When a Firefighter plays a leading role in making double-digit rescues, that is an extraordinary act. FF Kevin J. Hogan, Ladder 114, played this part at Brooklyn Box 33-2637.

An arson fire in the stairway of a multiple dwelling is an extremely dangerous and potentially deadly event. The impact on firefighting operations is dramatic. The main avenue for escaping occupants and attacking the fire is compromised, conditions deteriorate rapidly and force decisions to be made under the worst of conditions. FF Hogan and the other members of Tower Ladder 114 faced just these conditions on the morning of March 13, 2011.

Ladder 114 was assigned to Box 2637 for a report of fire and, while responding, additional information reported numerous people trapped throughout the building. This information proved to be accurate and a second alarm was transmitted on arrival. The entire run of the interior stairs was consumed in fire with fire already blowing out of the bulkhead on the top floor of the four-story, old law tenement-type building.

The fire escapes were filled with people self-evacuating and victims were appearing at numerous windows. Lieutenant Daniel Keane, Ladder 114, directed his irons Firefighter, Kevin Hogan, to address the daunting number of people desperately in need of help. FF Hogan immediately ascended the fire escape and before the first line was stretched, he already was bringing a small boy and a woman out of a window onto the third-floor fire escape. However, the Firefighter wasn't done yet.

Conditions were deteriorating rapidly. Fire was entering the apartments on numerous floors and the heat perme-

ating the structure was severe. FF Hogan re-entered the window and crawled deep into the apartment. He opened the bedroom door to cross the hall to the other rooms as the heat in the hallway pushed him onto his belly. At that moment, a *mayday* was transmitted for the collapse of the interior stairs, but FF Hogan pressed on with his search.

FF Hogan's instincts and experience told him that others were trapped in the other room across the hall. When he entered the room, he found two unconscious toddlers. One at a time, in zero visibility, the Firefighter carried them out of the room, across the hall, into the first room and then out onto the fire escape.

FF Hogan now entered the apartment for the fourth time and continued his methodical search. His grit and persistence paid off; he found another unconscious victim, a woman. FF Hogan learned later that he actually saved two people; she gave birth less than a month later, while still in the burn unit.

FF Hogan went back in and past the fire for a fifth time and found a male victim, slumped under the window. Although his efforts thus far were herculean, there was no time to rest. FF Hogan then worked with FF Dunn, Ladder 114, in the tower ladder bucket to assist him in removing six more victims from the top floor.

Deputy Chief Richard Howe, Division 8, stated, "FF Hogan...demonstrated remarkable initiative and capability despite the danger." This historic operation, with 31 civilians rescued and aided, taxed all of the on-scene units to the limit. FF Hogan went past the fire many times to save others, undaunted by the fact that the building was crumbling around him. For his acts of bravery, FF Kevin Hogan is awarded the Dr. Harry M. Archer Medal.--MD



**FFs Kevin J. Hogan and Joseph J. Dunn, both Ladder 114, beam with pride, following their heroic actions at Brooklyn Box 33-2637, which resulted in the rescue of 11 people.** photo by John Taggart, New York Daily News



# THE JAMES GORDON BENNETT MEDAL WINNERS

*The James Gordon Bennett Medal was established in 1869 and, for years, it was the sole decoration awarded for valor in the Fire Department of the City of New York. As a result of its seniority among medals, it is awarded annually for the most outstanding act of heroism after the consideration and deliberate judgment of the members of the Medal Board of the NYC Fire Department.*

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1869--Lieutenant Minthorne D. Tompkins (L-1)<br>Captain Benjamin A. Gicquel (E-9)                                  | 1913--Engineer of Steamer Seneca Larke (E-20)<br>1914--Firefighter John F. Mooney (1) (L-4) | 1964--Firefighter David Crowley (L-14)<br>1965--Firefighter James E. Bowler (R-2)     |
| 1870--Lieutenant Charles L. Kelly (E-9)  | 1915--Captain Thomas W. Smith (E-2)   | 1966--Firefighter Robert E. Farrell (L-31)  |
| 1871--Firefighter Ambrose L. Austin (E-15)   | 1916--Firefighter James T. Daniels (L-26)   | 1967--Firefighter Thomas D. Ferraiuolo (L-28)   |
| 1872--Lieutenant Thomas Henry (L-6)<br>Firefighter Thomas Hutchinson (L-1)   | 1917--Firefighter John Walsh (1) (L-1)  | 1968--Firefighter Gene P. Dowling (L-25)  |
| 1873--Battalion Chief William H. Nash (Bn-7)<br>Firefighter Alfred Conner (L-10)<br>Lieutenant Henry Schuck (E-34) | 1918--Firefighter Patrick R. O'Connor (L-14)<br>1919--Lieutenant Francis Blessing (R-1)     | 1969--Firefighter James N. Temprow (E-217)<br>1970--Firefighter Charles Varner (L-55) |
| 1874--Captain William Mitchell (E-10)  | 1920--Firefighter Timothy F. O'Leary, Jr. (E-15)  | 1971--Lieutenant Richard R. Hamilton (R-2)  |
| 1875--Lieutenant James Horn (E-11)   | 1921--Firefighter Frank J. Costello (L-12)  | 1972--Firefighter Steven C. DeRosa (L-102)  |
| 1876--Firefighter Joseph McGowan (E-6)   | 1922--Firefighter Jacob F. Ferber (E-239)   | 1973--Firefighter Raymond G. McCann (L-40)  |
| 1877--Firefighter Thomas J. Dougherty (L-1)  | 1923--Captain Edwin A.A. Quinn (E-14)   | 1974--Firefighter Gilbert J. Murtha (L-108)   |
| 1878--Captain Daniel J. Meagher (L-3)  | 1924--Hon. Medical Off. Harry M. Archer, MD   | 1975--Firefighter Thomas J. Neary (L-31)  |
| 1879--Firefighter Paul Bauer (L-4)   | 1925--Captain Thomas J. O'Toole (E-27)  | 1976--Firefighter Martin McGovern (L-114)   |
| 1880--Firefighter John Levins (L-2)  | 1926--Firefighter William G.R. Mitchell (E-18)  | 1977--Captain Frederick W. Gallagher (R-2)  |
| 1881--Firefighter Michael Connerford (E-12)  | 1927--Firefighter Michael McInerney (L-12)  | 1978--Firefighter James H. Battillo (L-152)   |
| 1882--Firefighter John L. Rooney (L-10)  | 1928--Captain James A. Walsh (1) (E-234)  | 1979--Firefighter John J. Pritchard (R-2)   |
| 1883--Firefighter William B. Kirchner (E-11)   | 1929--Firefighter George W. Reilly (L-19)   | 1980--Lieutenant Thomas J. Neary (L-28)   |
| 1884--Firefighter John Binns (E-32)  | 1930--Firefighter Edward V. Conroy (L-1)  | 1981--Lieutenant Howard R. Kennedy (L-154)  |
| 1885--Captain Peter H. Short (L-1)   | 1931--Captain Albert B. Carlson (E-66)  | 1982--Firefighter Joseph H. Dirks (L-103)   |
| 1886--Firefighter Michael Brady (E-34)   | 1932--Firefighter Vincent J. Hyde (R-3)   | 1983--Firefighter Kenneth L. Connelly (L-111)   |
| 1887--Lieutenant Samuel Banta (L-10)   | 1933--Captain Cornell M. Garety (R-1)   | 1984--Firefighter Robert Merkel (L-42)  |
| 1888--Lieutenant William Quirk (E-22)  | 1934--Firefighter Rudolph F. Musil (L-12)   | 1985--Firefighter James A. Sollami (E-62)   |
| 1889--Firefighter William Reilly (L-12)  | 1935--Firefighter George J. Wolken (E-60)   | 1986--Captain James F. McDonnell (L-42)   |
| 1890--Captain Thomas J. Ahern (E-5)  | 1936--Firefighter Joseph E. Smith (2) (E-211)   | 1987--Lieutenant William F. Maloney (L-34)  |
| 1891--Firefighter Patrick F. Lucas (E-30)  | 1937--Firefighter James P. Nevin (E-201)  | 1988--Firefighter John J. McDonnell (L-28)  |
| 1892--Firefighter Patrick H. Aspell (L-4)  | 1938--Firefighter Charles G. Roscher (L-1)  | 1989--Captain Richard Jacquin (L-59)  |
| 1893--Firefighter John Walker (L-6)  | 1939--Firefighter Daniel J. Sullivan (L-3)  | 1990--Lieutenant Gerard M. Murtha (R-3)   |
| 1894--Firefighter Denis Ryer (L-15)  | 1940--Firefighter Charles A. Merz (L-168)   | 1991--Firefighter William E. Jutt (L-22)  |
| 1895--Firefighter William H. Behler (E-35)   | 1941--Firefighter Thomas F. Brennan (L-111)   | 1992--Firefighter Michael M. Dugan (L-43)   |
| 1896--Firefighter Martin M. Coleman (L-3)  | 1942--Captain John W. Heaney (Hdq.)   | 1993--Firefighter Albert J. Gonzalez, Jr. (L-18)                                      |
| 1898--Firefighter James Pearl (L-7)  | 1943--Firefighter John Colgan (L-2)   | 1994--Lieutenant John M. Fox (SQ-1)   |
| 1899--Firefighter John Hughes (1) (L-14)   | 1944--Firefighter Harvey W. Crook (R-3)   | 1995--Firefighter Gregory J. Smith, Jr. (L-108)                                       |
| 1900--Firefighter William Clark (L-14)   | 1945--Captain George H. Winter (L-3)  | 1996--Firefighter Gerard J. Triglia (L-132)   |
| 1901--Firefighter Thomas J. McArthur (E-29)  | 1946--Firefighter Arthur L. Speyer (L-24)   | 1997--Firefighter John K. Duddy (L-28)  |
| 1902--Firefighter Richard Nitsch (E-35)  | 1947--Firefighter Anthony J. Riccardi (L-26)  | 1998--Firefighter Stan J. Sussina (R-1)   |
| 1903--Firefighter Charles F. Douth (L-3)   | 1948--Captain Patrick T. Green (R-1)  | 1999--Captain John J. Pritchard (E-255)   |
| 1904--Firefighter James R. McAvoy (L-4)  | 1949--Firefighter James S. Norton (L-163)   | 2000--Firefighter Stephen P. Fenley (L-78)  |
| 1905--Firefighter Michael J. Stevens (L-4)   | 1950--Firefighter Wilbur J. O'Donnell (L-111)   | 2001--Firefighter John F. South (L-44)  |
| 1906--Firefighter Cassimer C. Wodzicki (E-17)  | 1951--Firefighter Victor F. Rossi (L-120)   | 2003--Battalion Chief James Marketti (Bn-48)  |
| 1907--Firefighter Michael Nicklaus (L-4)   | 1952--Lieutenant John F. McGlynn (L-10)   | 2004--Firefighter James F. Mills (L-176)  |
| 1908--Firefighter John T. Oakley (L-11)  | 1953--Firefighter Angelo Michellini (E-97)  | 2005--Firefighter Victor J. Rosa, Jr. (L-138)   |
| 1909--Battalion Chief George L. Ross (Bn-7)  | 1954--Deputy Chief John T. Oakley (2) (Hdq.)  | 2006--Captain Christopher J. Joyce (E-318)  |
| 1910--Firefighter John R. Harcke (L-12)<br>Firefighter Frank C. Clarke (L-24)                                      | 1955--Firefighter Bernard F. Curran (E-92)  | 2007--Firefighter James T. Byrne (L-121)  |
| 1911--Firefighter Richard J. Condon (2) (E-12)   | 1956--Firefighter Michael J. O'Driscoll (L-28)  | 2008--Lieutenant James F. Congema (Bn-19)   |
| 1912--Firefighter Robert J. Boyle (L-10)   | 1957--Firefighter William Von Diezelski (L-4)   | 2009--Firefighter Anthony M. Romano (L-142)   |
|  | 1958--Firefighter Nicholas Sharko (L-11)  | 2010--Firefighter Michael A. Czech, Jr. (L-142)                                       |
|  | 1959--Captain Arthur J. O'Connor (SQ-4)   | 2011--Firefighter Peter G. Demontreux (L-132)   |
|  | 1960--Firefighter William V. Russo (E-254)  | 2012--Firefighter Kevin J. Hogan (L-114)  |
|  | 1961--Firefighter Joseph G. Peragine (L-14)   | 2013--Lieutenant Thomas G. Woods (L-154)  |
|  | 1962--Firefighter Joseph E. Almon (L-35)  | 2014--Lieutenant Robert E. Lee (L-47)   |
|  | 1963--Firefighter Lawrence F. Duenas (E-59)   |   |





# James Gordon Bennett Medal NYS Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal CAPTAIN WILLIAM J. GRANT

## ENGINE COMPANY 168

July 7, 2014, 1025 hours, Box 75-4625, Staten Island

*Appointed to the FDNY on February 17, 1987. Previously assigned to Ladders 170 as a Lieutenant and 156 as a Firefighter. Father, FF John F. Grant, is retired from the Bureau of Operations and now is deceased; Brother, Supervising Fire Inspector James Grant, is assigned to the Public Safety Unit; great-grandfather, Captain James Grant, was retired from Engine 238 and now is deceased; grandfather, FF Joseph F. Grant, was retired from Ladder 131 and now is deceased; and uncle, FF James Grant, is retired from Engine 279 and now is deceased. Member of the Emerald and Holy Name Societies, Company Officers Association and the Family Transport Foundation. Studied Political Science at Brooklyn College. A Corporal in the Marine Corps Reserves, he served for six years. Resides on Staten Island with his wife, Ann Marie, and their sons, Billy and Brian, and daughter, Amanda.*



**R**ushing into a burning building is always dangerous, which is why the FDNY spends so much time, training and money equipping its members to be prepared for any emergency. When you don't have the right equipment available, the right training is even more important. Captain William Grant had worked in many burning buildings during his Fire Department career, but always with the right safety equipment and plenty of other Firefighters to complement him.

On the morning of July 7, 2014, Captain Grant was jolted from sleep by screams from his wife, alerting him that there had been an explosion in the house next door. As he ran outside to assess the situation, he saw flames engulfing the rear of the house and heavy, acrid smoke emanating from all the windows. He could hear his neighbor screaming inside.

Racing to the front door, he found that it was locked. Without forcible entry tools, Captain Grant proceeded to kick his way into the inferno. The high heat and heavy, biting smoke he encountered immediately forced him to the floor, but he made a daring attempt to try to reach the victim. Crawling a few feet inside the front door, the Captain made voice contact with the victim and realized that she was trapped on the second floor by the flames that now were lapping up the interior stairs and blocking his advance.

Forced to retreat out the front door, Captain Grant quickly decided on an alternative. Remembering that another neighbor had a ladder in his yard, he ran and grabbed it, swiftly returning to the burning building. By this time, he was joined by his son, an off-duty police officer, who helped him raise the ladder to the burning structure.

Father and son raised the ladder to a roof setback that allowed access to a front bedroom window. Captain Grant climbed the ladder and prepared to enter the inferno to search. He was met by harsh,

black smoke and high heat as he entered the window. The flames that now fully engulfed the stairs were creating a high heat condition in the bedroom. The victim no longer was responding to Captain Grant's shouts. The Captain used his years of training to make a right-hand search of the bedroom, in hopes of reaching the victim before it was too late. About 20 feet into the search, he felt the bed and, reaching up, discovered his 60-year-old neighbor, semi-conscious and incoherent.

He was able to remove the woman from the bed and drag her to the window. Exiting the window, Captain Grant reached back in and was able to pull her out and onto the roof. Because fire units had not yet arrived on-scene, he attempted to carry her down the ladder. Captain Grant was able to stand the strain of the extra weight, but the ladder could not.

About halfway down to the ground, the ladder collapsed, dropping both rescuer and victim six feet to the sidewalk. As arriving FDNY units began to contain the inferno, Captain Grant and the victim were both treated by EMTs and transported to the hospital.

The Captain was treated for smoke inhalation and bruises to his back and ribs incurred during the fall and was released later that night. The woman's smoke inhalation was more severe and her injuries were serious enough to require three days of hospitalization. Were it not for Captain Grant's quick thinking and daring efforts in removing the victim from this rapidly spreading inferno, the outcome could have been far different.

For displaying great courage finding and saving this victim without the aid of any fire protection equipment and no other Firefighters on the scene, the Fire Department is proud to present the James Gordon Bennett Medal/NYS Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal to Captain William J. Grant.--JT



**Captain William J. Grant directs his members on hose-line at Staten Island Box 44-3732, 134 Hampton Place/Wirt Avenue, March 16, 2015.**

*photo by Staten Island Dispatcher, Steve White (retired)*







# Brooklyn Citizens Medal/ FF Louis Valentino Award

## FIREFIGHTER DOMINICK M. MUSCHELLO LADDER COMPANY 157

November 19, 2014, 0038 hours, Box 22-2446, Brooklyn

*Appointed to the FDNY on May 9, 1993. Previously assigned to Rescue 5 and Ladder 119. Father, FF Michael Muschello, is retired from Engine 9 and uncle, FF Anthony D'Angelo, is retired from Engine 91. Member of the Columbia Association, the Emerald Society and FDNY Vikings. Resides on Staten Island with his sons, Michael and Dominick, Jr.*

In the early-morning hours of November 19, 2014, after responding to a previous 10-75 earlier on that tour, FF Dominick Muschello was in the process of getting the apparatus back in service, fully aware that as a member of a busy truck company in the Borough of Fire, the next call can come at anytime. It was no mistake that he, the senior Firefighter in the company that night, was assigned the all-important position of ladder company chauffeur.

It did not take long for the company to be thrust into service. At 0038 hours, a young man came screaming into the firehouse, reporting a fire diagonally across the street on Flatbush Avenue. A verbal alarm was transmitted and the companies were turned out. On arrival, both Engine 255 and Ladder 157 were met with heavy fire lapping out all windows on the second floor of a three-story, Class 4, non-fireproof multiple dwelling, with numerous civilians screaming that people were trapped inside the building.

Performing a rapid size-up and ventilation profile of a fully involved second floor with smoke under pressure venting from the third floor, FF Muschello knew that time would be critical. The companies would be operating alone for some time due to the proximity of the fire building to the firehouse. This allowed for a perfect truck positioning of the tower ladder to access the top floor, the floor above the fire. With the confirmation of a known life hazard from credible witnesses on the fireground, FF Muschello knew that risk was necessary for the possible rescue of trapped civilians.

Fully understanding the operation that would be required to reach the top floor, the bucket would have to pass through the flames emanating from the second-floor windows. FF Muschello made sure he donned his PPE correctly to afford him the maximum protection possible to achieve the mission of venting for search into the most severely exposed location of the fire building.

In zero visibility and a high heat condition, FF Muschello used his knowledge of these buildings and where victims possibly might be located, made a move immediately toward the victim's room.

The search was negative in that room, however. From there, he made a quick check of the interior hallway and was met by a wall of flame. With the savvy of a senior man and knowledge of the consequences of uncontrolled flow paths, door control of the hallway door was critical to extend his search time.

His search for victims toward the rear would have to be from the connected rooms on the interior. Entering the larger room, he came across the unconscious body of an elderly woman. He transmitted a 10-45 to Command and began moving her toward the window from which he had entered, toward the front of the building. Fire now was beginning to communicate to the floor above through the floor decking and heat was increasing to a point that FF Muschello knew flashover was imminent.

Mustering all his available strength, which was diminishing in the intense heat, FF Muschello dragged the victim toward the window and survivability. Using his body to shield the victim from the heat, he was met by the second-due ladder company chauffeur, FF Brian Clifford, Ladder 147, for the final push and lift into the waiting tower ladder bucket. Just then, the room flashed over!

As the bucket was lowered to the ground, FF Muschello immediately began CPR and handed off the victim to EMS. He then returned to the bucket, knowing his job was not completed until all searches of the floor above were complete. Exhausted, but determined, he maneuvered the bucket back to the floor above where he assisted in another removal of an unconscious 10-45 victim; this time, a teenager. Once again, the Firefighter found himself performing CPR as the bucket was lowered to the street. FF Muschello's heroic efforts were successful in reviving both unconscious victims.

It is without question due to FF Dominick M. Muschello's determination, strength and bravery that these two family members are alive today. His actions that night put him at risk and were in the highest traditions of the FDNY. For these reasons, he is presented with the Brooklyn Citizens Medal/FF Louis Valentino Award.--JC



The incident for which FF Dominick M. Muschello is awarded the Brooklyn Citizens Medal/FF Louis Valentino Award.





## Christopher J. Prescott Medal

February 26, 2014, 1700 hours,  
Crown Heights, Brooklyn



### EMT SHAUN ALEXANDER STATION 58

*Appointed to EMS as an Emergency Medical Technician on May 9, 1988. Previously assigned to Stations 50 and 04. Attended Queens College. Resides in Rosedale, Queens, with her children, Shanika, Chelsea'Ann, Ariela and Jonathan Sutherland.*

Even while off-duty, FDNY EMTs and Paramedics often spring into action to provide medical treatment and assist the residents and visitors of New York City in their time of need. When this happens to be a fellow member of service, regardless of the uniform he/she is wearing, it becomes an even more stressful situation for both the victim and those providing the assistance.

Such was the case on February 26, 2014. EMTs Khadijah Hall and Shaun Alexander, both assigned to EMS Station 58 in Brooklyn, were off-duty, sitting in EMT Hall's personal vehicle, discussing an upcoming retirement party for supervisors. Suddenly, gunshots rang out on Utica Avenue and Empire Boulevard in the Crown Heights neighborhood of Brooklyn. They observed a male running down the street at this busy intersection during rush hour. He turned and fired his weapon on two uniformed NYPD police officers.

During an exchange of gunfire between the police officers and the perpetrator, the EMTs observed one of the police officers fall to the ground, while the other police officer continued to pursue the shooter. After witnessing this dangerous incident and not knowing if

### EMT KHADIJAH HALL STATION 58

*Appointed to EMS as an Emergency Medical Technician on May 26, 1992. Resides in Brooklyn with her daughter, Khalilah.*

there were other perpetrators or the shooter would return, the pair of EMTs sprang into action.

Without hesitation and potentially putting themselves in harm's way, EMTs Hall and Alexander retrieved a technician kit from the trunk of EMT Hall's vehicle and ran to assist the fallen officer. The police officer had been shot in both legs. With the limited equipment available on-scene, EMTs Hall and Alexander provided immediate and essential lifesaving medical treatment to the police officer. Care was continued until additional on-duty EMS resources arrived and transported the wounded officer to the hospital.

EMTs Hall and Alexander found themselves suddenly and unexpectedly immersed in a dangerous incident. The pair acted instinctively and used their extensive training. Their quick actions and professional medical treatment played a key roll in the positive outcome for the fallen police officer.

For their courageous and unselfish actions, EMTs Khadijah Hall and Shaun Alexander officially are recognized and presented with the Christopher J. Prescott Medal.--ML



EMTs Khadijah Hall and Shaun Alexander are joined by the two police officers to whom they provided aid during a February 26, 2014, shootout.







# Hugh Bonner Medal Honor Legion Medal

## FIREFIGHTER JORDAN C. SULLIVAN LADDER COMPANY 105

March 16, 2014, 0215 hours, Box 75-583, Brooklyn

*Appointed to the FDNY on July 29, 2013. Member of the Vulcan Society. Holds a BA degree in English from St. Francis College. Resides in Brooklyn.*

When Jordan Sullivan graduated from Probie School, he was assigned to Tower Ladder 105 in Brooklyn. As he soon learned, this firehouse has a long history of excellence and tradition. Members of Engine 219 and Ladder 105, on Dean Street, live up to their motto: *The Tradition Continues*. The Probie arrived at the firehouse motivated and ready to learn more. Drills were conducted, tools cleaned and assignments made...more preparation for *that* moment as FF Sullivan and the members of Tower Ladder 105 were confronted with FF Sullivan's maiden first-due fire.

On the evening of March 15, 2014, Probationary FF Sullivan began a tour he would never forget. The company had gone 10-8 from a previous emergency when Ladder 105 received an alarm via the MDT for Box 583. The run was for a report of fire at 3rd Avenue in Boerum Hill. After acknowledgement, the dispatcher called Ladder 105 on the air to update them with reports of children trapped in the fire apartment.

They arrived at the Box location in fewer than two minutes. Grabbing their tools, the team ran up the stairs to the fifth floor, was met by a civilian at the door to the public hall and told that there was a fire in the apartment down the hallway. After donning their SCBA facepieces, the team of Lieutenant John LaBarbera, FF John Crowley and Probationary FF Jordan Sullivan entered the smoke-filled hallway and made their way down to the fire apartment door.

At this time, a highly agitated woman's voice could be heard through the smoke, screaming that there were children trapped in the apartment. Lieutenant LaBarbera informed the LCC, FF Michael Kehoe, to transmit a 10-75 to the Brooklyn dispatcher. The door to the fire apartment was closed, but unlocked. When they opened the door, the members were confronted with punishing conditions and zero visibility. Entering, they searched behind the entrance door, a baby carriage and then were confronted with fire in the hall.

Door control immediately was transferred to Lieutenant James Long, Engine 226, as the team advanced. FF Sullivan was directed to control the fire in the hallway with the can. After

doing so and knowing there was a known life hazard present, the trio quickly searched past this area without the protection of a hose-line. Searches were continued and they found and entered the bedroom where the main body of fire was located. Knowing he had to pass the fire, FF Sullivan crawled in and emptied what was left of his extinguisher to hold back some fire.

The inside team continued past and went deeper into the room. Relying on his search techniques, which he had drilled on many times before, FF Sullivan pushed ahead and continued to search the area within this fire room until he found a crib. He searched it and then indicated that he had found a baby in the crib. The 10-45 was given. He scooped the baby boy up and was directed to protect the infant and take him out of the fire room and out of the apartment.

Again passing the fire, he made his way out of the occupancy to the public hall and handed the baby off safely to Ladder 110 members. The baby was quickly carried down the five floors of stairs to waiting EMS personnel. The baby was rapidly triaged and transported to the hospital. FF Sullivan operated as ordered and then crawled back into the fire apartment to rejoin his team. Another 10-45 was discovered; an adolescent girl. FF Sullivan and the members of Ladder 105 continued to operate until relieved by Command.

This was FF Sullivan's first working fire as a member of a company assigned first-due, which adds to the magnitude of his actions. He operated swiftly and admirably under great duress. He followed given orders and relied on all that he was taught at the Academy that prepared him for *that* moment: Rescuing a child from a deadly, fiery atmosphere, all without the protection of a charged hose-line. The rescued baby boy was released from

the hospital a few days later, directly attributable to the heroic actions of FF Sullivan. He put himself at risk and a life was saved because of his actions.

It is for this display of courage that the City of New York, the FDNY and the Officers and members of Engine 219 and Ladder 105 are proud to see FF Jordan C. Sullivan presented with the Hugh Bonner Medal/Honor Legion Medal.--TW



On June 20, 2014, Probationary FF Jordan Sullivan, Ladder 105 (center, holding plaque), received the Liberty Mutual Firemark Award for the incident described here. He is surrounded by members from Engine 219/Ladder 105/Battalion 57/Division 11, as well as associates from Liberty Mutual Insurance.  
*photo by Dave Warren, FDNY Photo Unit*





**Emily Trevor/  
Mary B. Warren Medal  
CAPTAIN RICHARD P. SAVARESE  
DIVISION 8 (ASSIGNED)  
LADDER COMPANY 149 (DETAILED)**

**August 1, 2014, 0432 hours, Box 75-1184, Brooklyn**



*Appointed to the FDNY on January 16, 1994. Prior assignments include Engines 206 and 310 and Ladders 174 and 5. Brothers, Lieutenant Robert Savarese is retired from Ladder 22, FF Peter Savarese is retired from Ladder 121 and FF James Savarese is assigned to Ladder 170; and nephews FF Robert Savarese and Lieutenant Bryan Bean are assigned to Ladder 40 and Battalion 54, respectively. Studied Liberal Arts at Kingsborough Community College. Resides in Brooklyn.*

While no New Yorker would admit this City ever slows down, as the calendar moves from July to August, many residents of the “City that never sleeps” take vacations or simply long weekends. Additionally, there are many times in August where issues are simply put on hold until September so the last month of summer can be enjoyed. However, the Fire Department’s work never slows down, as it stands, ever vigilant, to protect life and property. Such was the case in the early-morning hours of August 1, 2014, when the phone alarm went off at 0432 hours in the quarters of Engine 284/Ladder 149, “The Castle on the Hill.”

Commanding Ladder 149 that morning was Captain Richard Savarese and they were being sent first-due to a reported fire on the fifth floor of a six-story, 204- by 138-foot, Class 3, multiple dwelling (Brooklyn Box 1184) in Bay Ridge. Arriving on-scene five minutes later, Captain Savarese found Captain Paul Brincat, Engine 242, had made his way to the fifth floor to locate the fire apartment, which proved difficult due to the building’s large and unusual shape.

By the time Captain Savarese and the forcible entry team reached the floor, Engine 242 had transmitted a 10-75 code for a fire in a fifth-floor apartment. As the team reached the apartment, Battalion Chief Robert Belovin, Battalion 42, transmitted an *urgent* message, stating water would be severely delayed due to the extremely long (16 lengths) and difficult hose-line stretch.

With no time to waste, Captain Savarese and the team entered the apartment and were met by a heavy smoke and heat condition. Captain Savarese ordered the forcible entry Firefighter, Claudio F. Papalia, to maintain door control while he and the can Firefighter, Philip A. Sorrentino, proceeded into the apartment to search. Moving down a long, narrow hallway,

the Captain directed the can Firefighter to search a room to the right, while he proceeded down the hallway toward the main body of fire. Moving forward and under deteriorating conditions, Chief Belovin repeated the message that water still was unavailable.

As the fire began to roll into the hallway, Captain Savarese heard moans from a room beyond the fire. With no way to isolate the growing blaze and without the benefit of a charged hose-line, Captain Savarese crawled past the fire toward what was the rear bedroom. Working with zero visibility and in a high heat condition, Captain Savarese closed the bedroom door and began to search.

Working quickly and with determination, the rescuer located a female victim on the floor between the bed and the wall. Captain Savarese transmitted a 10-45 code and then dragged the woman past the fire where the can Firefighter was positioned to hold back the still unchecked fire. The irons Firefighter then moved forward and assisted Captain Savarese with removal of the victim from the apartment. Upon exiting the apartment, Captain Savarese requested a CFR-D engine respond, while he and other members on the floor provided the victim with air from their SCBAs.

In his report of the incident, Chief Belovin noted, “Captain Savarese went above and beyond the call of duty by placing himself at risk and made this rescue all the time knowing the engine was still at the front door waiting for water due to an extremely long stretch.” He concluded his report by noting that the woman would have lost her life if not for the Captain’s heroic actions. Therefore, in recognition of this selfless act, the Fire Department is proud to honor Captain Richard P. Savarese today with the Emily Trevor/Mary B. Warren Medal.--DH



**Ladder 149 members in action at Brooklyn Box 1199, 100th Street/4th Avenue, Bay Ridge, November 23, 2012.**



# Thomas E. Crimmins Medal

## LIEUTENANT JOHN V. JENSEN *ENGINE COMPANY 167*

November 28, 2014, 0855 hours, Box 75-2930, Staten Island

*Appointed to the FDNY on October 2, 2000. Previously assigned to Engine 310. Member of the Holy Name Society and the FDNY Vikings. Studied Liberal Arts at Staten Island College. Resides on Staten Island with his wife, Gianna, and their children, Briana, John and Angela.*



On the morning of November 28, 2014, there was a collapse at a construction site on Staten Island. So many FDNY companies were involved with the collapse, that when Box 2930 was transmitted at 0855 hours for a fire on Richmond Hill Road, the first- and second-due engines and trucks were working and the companies assigned to re-locate were still en route.

Lieutenant John V. Jensen was in command of Engine 167, normally third-due on the Box. On this day, the company was arriving first and the Lieutenant could see heavy smoke filling the air above the seven-story multiple dwelling. As members pulled up in front of the fire building, Lieutenant Jensen directed them to stretch a line, while he raced inside the building and entered the smoke-filled hallway. In spite of the limited visibility in the hall, he was able to locate the fire apartment, because high heat and smoke were billowing out into the hallway.

The apartment should have been empty and the door was left open, but Lieutenant Jensen decided to check the area near the door, while waiting for the line to be stretched. Positioning himself as low as possible in the doorway, the Lieutenant moved about three feet into the apartment, holding the door open with his foot, as the flames lapped across the ceiling overhead. The acrid, black smoke that filled the apartment made it impossible to see anything, so he had to rely on his sense of touch. Sweeping his hand in a right to left motion, Lieutenant Jensen thought he detected a hand in the smoke enveloping him. Then, he heard moans and knew that the victim was close by.

Crawling three feet deeper into the inferno, Lieutenant Jensen located a female victim who was barely breathing and unable to move. In the smoke-filled hallway, she had become disoriented while seeking the exit, entered the wrong door and quickly was overcome.

As the flames overhead intensified, the rescuer was able to get a grip on the woman and drag her back toward the apartment

door. He had to stay as close to the floor as possible, because of the flames stinging them from above. When he reached the door to the hallway, Lieutenant Jensen rolled the victim around in front of him to protect her from the fire that now was following them into the hallway. He tried to close the door and limit the spread of the fire into the public hallway, but the intense heat had warped the door, making it impossible to close. The Lieutenant then dragged the woman five feet further down the hall to a position of relative safety.

Lieutenant Jensen caught his breath and transmitted a signal 10-45 to FF John Bartlett, the engine company chauffeur, requesting EMS to respond. Hearing the members of Engine 167 stretching the line down the hall toward him, the Officer waved his flashlight to get their attention in the pitch-black smoke. He ordered FF George McCormick, the control Firefighter, to remove the victim to the street, while he led FFs James Lang, nozzleman, and Nolan Epshteyn, back-up, back to the fire apartment. The ECC had warned that they were on booster water only, so they concentrated on containing the fire to the apartment and protecting the hallway. Once they were assured they were on hydrant water, they quickly moved in and worked to extinguish the blaze.

The woman was transported by EMS to the hospital where she was treated for her injuries. Her condition required a lengthy hospital stay, attesting to how close she came to death. After leading his company to finish fighting the fire, Lieutenant Jensen also was treated for injuries he suffered during the rescue.

The victim probably would not have survived had Lieutenant Jensen not made this daring rescue before a charged line was in place. Because of the great courage and tenacity in carrying out this rescue, the Fire Department is proud to award the Thomas E. Crimmins Medal to Lieutenant John V. Jensen.--JT



Lieutenant John Jensen (left) at March 2014, five-alarm fire in Port Richmond, Staten Island.





# Thomas A. Kenny Memorial Medal

## FIREFIGHTER ADAM M. BURLISON

### LADDER COMPANY 26

January 5, 2014, 1103 hours, Box 33-798, Manhattan

*Appointed to the FDNY on March 8, 2005. Recipient of a unit citation. Holds a BS degree in Marketing from Roger Williams University. Resides in Manhattan.*



Typically, firefighting operations are a team effort, whether advancing a hose-line down a burning hallway, rescuing someone from a building collapse or investigating alarm activation. However, there are occasions when circumstances are such that a Firefighter must operate alone. Just such a case occurred on the morning of January 5, 2014.

Ladder 26 was away from its Harlem firehouse, directed to stand by in the quarters of Ladder 2 in midtown east. Shortly after 1100 hours, the company was assigned as the only truck to a residential high-rise fire on the west side of Manhattan. FF Adam Burlison, the chauffeur, quickly proceeded toward the reported location and deftly maneuvered the rig through traffic from east to west. His sense of urgency increased when he heard a radio transmission from Battalion 7 announcing that fire was showing through the 20th floor skin of a 42-story, 100- by 100-foot, multiple dwelling.

On arrival, FF Burlison positioned the apparatus, donned his protective equipment and proceeded to make an outside survey of the structure. During this time, reports were being received from Ladder 26's inside team that heavy smoke and high heat were present on the 20th floor. This situation occurred because both the apartment and stairway doors were left open. The doors ultimately were controlled by Lieutenant Edward Poli and his team as they were aware that FF Burlison would be operating above the fire floor.

FF Burlison knew that he was tasked with reaching the roof via the "A" stairwell. He started his ascent and searched not only the staircase, but each floor as well. He was mindful that many reports were transmitted to Battalion Chief John Buckheit, Battalion 7, that residents were trapped and immediate life hazards existed. Additionally, the staircase itself was contaminated with

heavy smoke.

When FF Burlison reached the 30th-floor landing, he encountered an unconscious male who was bleeding severely, lying face down and having difficulty breathing. FF Burlison transmitted this information to the Command Post and dragged the victim out of the staircase, into the public hallway and then located an apartment to use as a place of refuge. Shortly after he started treating the victim, members of Engine 5 arrived to assume patient care.

FF Burlison displayed exceptional situational awareness as he realized that the potential for additional victims was very high. Therefore, he re-entered the stairwell and resumed his search. As he reached the next floor landing, he was confronted with another male in distress. This man was unconscious and not breathing. FF Burlison dragged the victim into an apartment and commenced CPR until a CFR Engine (Engine 8) arrived. The victim was removed immediately.

After rescuing two people, FF Burlison once again entered the staircase and resumed his ascent toward the roof. Only the ringing of his SCBA vibralert as he reached the 36th floor, letting him know that he was running out of air, stopped his upward progress. At this point, he was forced to cease his efforts.

At the outset, FF Burlison made a decision to enter the attack staircase. His initiative allowed the victims to be removed to areas of refuge while he kept his Officers informed of the ongoing situation. His brave actions, while operating alone, saved the life of one of two victims. Time and again throughout this operation, FF Burlison exhibited outstanding initiative and great courage. Today, it is with the greatest of pleasure that the FDNY recognizes FF Adam M. Burlison for his efforts by awarding him the Thomas A. Kenny Memorial Medal.--BDG



The day of the fire, members of Ladder 26 are shown, left to right--FF Scott Worontzoff (Engine 58), FF Brian Lavelle, Lieutenant Edward Poli, FF Adam Burlison, FF Jimmy Lee and FF John Cazillis.







## Walter Scott Medal

### FIREFIGHTER BRYAN T. BEAN LADDER COMPANY 174

August 3, 2014, 0411 hours, Box 75-2308, Brooklyn

*Appointed to the FDNY on March 8, 2005. Now a Lieutenant, assigned to Battalion 54. Prior assignments include Engine 310 and Ladder 174. Father, FF Joe Bean, is retired from Engine 217; brother, FF Joe Bean, Jr., is assigned to Engine 248; grandfather, FF Phil Ruvolo, is retired from Engine 254; and uncles Captain Richard Savarese is UFO in Ladder 149, FF Jimmy Savarese is assigned to Ladder 170 and Captain Phil Ruvolo is retired from Rescue 2. Recipient of two unit citations. Resides in Belle Harbor, NY, with his wife, Stephanie, and their son, Brody.*

During the early-morning hours on this warm summer night, Ladder 174 and Engine 310 were assigned first-due at Box 2308. The fire building was a three-story, Class 3, multiple dwelling (two apartments per floor), with a commercial occupancy on the first floor. The building was 60 by 20 feet with a one-story setback on the exposure #2 side. A heavy smoke condition was showing at the top-floor window across the entire front of the building and the crowd in the street told Firefighters that people were trapped inside the building.

The companies immediately went to work, stretching a line and teams covering their assignments. What seemed like a normal dwellings over a store operation proved to be quite different and very challenging for the seasoned members of these units.

With the inside team making their way up the interior, FF Bryan T. Bean, Ladder 174, was on his own to find access to the upper floors where the main body of fire appeared to be. With the aerial to the roof, his choices of access were limited to a single fire escape in the front of the building or a portable ladder.

To this veteran Firefighter, he realized access through the fire escape would not happen until water was on the fire. He still lowered the drop ladder, but knew he needed another way into the top floor. It would have to be via a portable ladder.

As FF Bean made his way to his position on the exposure #2 side, people were showing from the top-floor windows with a heavy smoke condition all around them. Radio reports from the inside team told him that reaching these people via the interior would be delayed due to the Collyers' mansion-type conditions. Time was critical.

Setting his ladder, FF Bean climbed to the setback, then, pulled the ladder up to the roof of the setback. He raised it again to the top-floor window...this action was taken without anyone "butting" the ladder. What had started out as a vent/entry operation now was a removal operation.

At this point, fire vented itself from the front windows on the top floor. The fire was moving toward the victims and FF Bean had to react. No sooner had he positioned the ladder to the window and started his ascent, then one of the victims dove out the window head-first onto the ladder. Fortunately, FF Bean was in position to catch the woman and carried her down to the setback roof.

Remembering seeing other victims, FF Bean knew he had to enter this apartment to find and remove them. He climbed the ladder and entered the charged room, where he found two victims on the floor, just below the window. Grabbing the second victim (a 69-year-old woman), he supported and dragged her to the window. Getting her up on the sill and still protecting her from the heat that was banking down on them was no simple task. With all the strength he could muster, the rescuer maneuvered the woman onto the ladder and carried her down to the setback.

FF Bean made a third trip up the ladder and back into this apartment to remove the next victim (an 87-year-old woman), who was unconscious on the floor. Once again, drawing on all his strength, he dragged and carried this frail woman to the ladder, trying to protect her from the intense heat that was banking down on them. Because she was so small and frail, FF Bean was able to lift and carry her onto the ladder and down to the setback. While removing these three victims, reports over the radio kept repeating the difficulty the engine was having making it to the rear rooms.

FF Bean made a fourth trip up and into this room to make another search for additional victims. With the fire now rolling across the ceiling, FF Bean forced the door closed to buy himself some precious seconds. Behind the door, he found a fourth victim, a 44-year-old man.

He was significantly larger than the other victims and FF Bean knew he did not have the strength to carry this man across the floor and then pick him up and over the sill to the ladder. However, he did the next best thing. He dragged the man to the window to get him some precious air and, hopefully, buy some time until someone could help them.

Help came via the interior. The engine had moved in and extinguished much of the fire, which allowed the inside team to enter this rear bedroom. With the assistance of FF William Duffy, Ladder 174, they were able to remove the man to the landing where help was waiting. Regrettably, the victim ultimately expired.

Today, we honor FF Bryan T. Bean, Ladder 174, for his bravery and strength in his extraordinary efforts to save these four lives. In recognition of his courage, he is presented with the Walter Scott Medal.--JTV



Ladder 174 apparatus.

photo by Joe Pinto



# John H. Prentice Medal

## FIREFIGHTER

### THOMAS J. CHRISTENSEN

#### LADDER COMPANY 80

May 26, 2014, 0940 hours, Box 75-756, Staten Island

*Appointed to the FDNY on August 5, 2007. Member of the FDNY Vikings and Emerald Society. Holds an AA degree in Liberal Arts from Kingsborough Community College. Eight-year veteran of the Coast Guard Reserve as a Petty Officer, Third Class. Resides on Staten Island with his wife, Christine, and their son, Colin, and daughter, Kelly.*



The morning tour was still young at the quarters of Ladder 80 in Port Richmond, Staten Island, on May 26, 2014, and members were participating in a lifesaving rope drill when the alarm rang for Box 756 at 0940 hours. The computer reported a fire in a multiple dwelling on Port Richmond Avenue. While Ladder 80 and Engine 157 were responding, the dispatcher corrected the address and also reported numerous calls for a fire at the new address on the same street.

Battalion Chief Joseph Harris, Battalion 22, was the first to arrive and immediately transmitted a 10-75 signal for a working fire. Simultaneously, he reported that there was a jumper with serious injuries, down in the front of the building.

FF Thomas Christensen had the irons position in Ladder 80 that day and as the members arrived on-scene, he saw numerous panicked residents scrambling to safety. There was heavy fire blowing out of two windows on the second floor of the three-story multiple dwelling that held eight families. There was heavy, acrid, black smoke enveloping the upper floors. The numerous burns on the victim who was forced to leap from the inferno were evidence of the intensity of the blaze.

The members of Ladder 80 knew that they had very little time to rescue anyone still inside. FF Christensen, along with FF Christopher Carrier (detailed from Engine 156), the can Firefighter, followed Lieutenant David Gonzalez, Ladder 80, as they entered the building and began making their way up the interior stairs past numerous frightened residents who were running for safety.

Once on the fire floor, they began the search for the fire apartment, but it didn't take long to find it. Smoke pushing out under the door was a clue and the heat they felt on the door told them they had located it. As the rescuers began to force the door, a fleeing tenant told them someone was still trapped inside. The forcible entry team made quick work of gaining access to the apartment.

The high heat and deadly smoke that billowed out as they opened the door forced FF Christensen to grab the door and control it, to prevent the fire from escaping into the hallway. It would be a few more minutes before a line could be stretched. Realizing that no one could survive long under such extreme conditions, they prepared for a swift and arduous search.

Lieutenant Gonzalez directed FF Carrier to remain at the door for control, while he and FF Christensen searched for the victim. The high heat forced them to crawl as they started their search. To complete a search more quickly, they split up, with Lieutenant Gonzalez going left and FF Christensen going right. With fire rolling overhead, they crawled in pitch-black smoke, feeling their way around the rooms.

The Firefighter encountered numerous obstacles as he made a search of the kitchen and worked his way into the living room. Finally, his search was rewarded when he felt the body of a man and transmitted a 10-45 signal. FF Christensen reported that the victim was in the path of the rapidly spreading fire.

Using his own body to protect the victim from the fire rolling overhead, the rescuer began to drag the victim back to the apartment door. After traveling about 20 feet, he met and was assisted by FF Carrier and Lieutenant Gonzalez in the removal of the victim to the street.

Once the trio removed the victim to safety, EMTs treated and removed the man to the hospital where he was treated for severe smoke inhalation. If FF Christensen had not found and removed the victim in time, his injuries most certainly would have been more severe and possibly fatal.

For the great courage and perseverance that he displayed in making this daring rescue, the Fire Department of the City of New York is proud to present the John H. Prentice Medal to FF Thomas J. Christensen.--JT



Staten Island Box 75-756, the incident for which FF Thomas J. Christensen is presented with the John H. Prentice Medal.





# Henry D. Brookman Medal

## LIEUTENANT ROBERT T. WHELAN

*BATTALION 41 (ASSIGNED)*

*ENGINE COMPANY 257 (DETAILED)*

**November 25, 2014, 1438 hours, Box 75-2120, Brooklyn**

*Assigned to the FDNY on October 28, 2001. Previously assigned to Ladder 154. Brother, FF Eugene Whelan, was killed at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. Member of the FDNY Volleyball Team. Recipient of three unit citations and the Brooklyn Borough President Hero of the Month award. Holds a BA degree in Finance from Pace University. Resides in Rockaway Park, Queens.*



As the calendar reaches the last week of November and the holiday season begins in earnest, most New Yorkers intensify their normal, albeit hectic, pace to almost frantic levels. And while cooking, shopping and holiday travel also increase to a feverish pitch, at that time of year, people always should be thankful for the simple gift of life, while being mindful of those who willingly go into harm's way to preserve and protect it. Such ideals could not be better demonstrated than by the actions of Lieutenant Robert T. Whelan when a fire broke out on the afternoon of November 25, 2014, at Brooklyn Box 2120, in the Brownsville section of Brooklyn.

Detailed to Engine 257 from his normal assignment with Battalion 41 that day, Lieutenant Whelan received a call at 1438 hours for a reported fire at a two-story, 25- by 100-foot, class 3, private dwelling. Lieutenant Whelan and the members of "Canarsie's Bravest" responded quickly and arrived on-scene in three minutes and 22 seconds.

On arrival, Lieutenant Whelan saw Engine 283 stretching a hose-line into the building. However, the first-due truck was delayed, while the second-due truck was still en route. Lieutenant Whelan also found heavy fire emanating from the second floor of exposure #1 and civilians were screaming that a child was still inside.

Lieutenant Whelan directed the members of Engine 257 to assist in the hose stretch, while he entered the building and made his way upstairs. Reaching the landing just below the second floor, Lieutenant Whelan found Engine 283's Officer at the door of the burning apartment. Lieutenant Whelan moved back to the first floor to conduct a quick search for another entry to the second floor.

Finding no alternate access point, Lieutenant Whelan

then confirmed that Engine 283 had a positive water source and returned upstairs. At the landing, Lieutenant Whelan found Engine 283's hose team advancing into the apartment and moving toward the front of the building. Ladder 174 also had arrived and their inside team had entered behind Engine 283 to search the front bedrooms and living room due to reports from the child's mother (via Battalion Chief Daniel Mundy, Battalion 58) that the child was still in the apartment.

Realizing the rear of the apartment had not been searched, Lieutenant Whelan entered the apartment through a secondary door on the landing, which led into the kitchen. The Lieutenant found this room on fire and, because Engine 283 was advancing toward the front of the building, members did not realize there was fire behind them. Lieutenant Whelan transmitted this information via handie-talkie to Engine 283 and then moved past the unchecked fire to continue his search.

Moving steadily under a high heat and heavy smoke condition, Lieutenant Whelan first searched the rear left bedroom. Finding the space clear, he moved back toward the fire in the kitchen and turned right into another bedroom. At this point, his tenacity paid off as he found the unconscious child on the floor and quickly transmitted a 10-45 signal. With the child in his arms, Lieutenant Whelan crawled out of the apartment and went down the stairs to Lieutenant Paul Somin, Rescue 2, who

carried the child outside to EMS personnel.

The incident report noted that Lieutenant Whelan moved past an unchecked fire in the presence of high heat and zero visibility to save this youngster. Therefore, in recognition of his bravery and initiative, the Fire Department of the City of New York is proud to honor Lieutenant Robert T. Whelan today with the Henry D. Brookman Medal.--DJH



Lieutenant Robert T. Whelan (center right) with the members of Engine 257/Ladder 170.





# Chief Ulyses Grant Leadership Medal

## EMS DEPUTY CHIEF

### JOHN Q. SULLIVAN

#### DIVISION 2

May 2, 2014, 1027 hours, train derailment in Jackson Heights, Queens  
October 23, 2014, 1152 hours, Harlem, Manhattan

*Appointed to EMS as an Emergency Medical Technician on October 6, 1986. Previously assigned to Stations 13, 20, 15, 26 and Division 1. Brother-in-law, EMS Lieutenant Tim Lindblom, is assigned to Station 15; cousin, FF Daniel Knoblich, is assigned to Ladder 23; and uncle, Lieutenant Jim Knoblich, is retired from Engine 73. Recipient of an Excellent Duty award and cited for multiple pre-hospital saves. Studied Business Management at Westchester Community College and St. John's University. Served in the Navy for 12 years, leaving with the rank of Second Class Petty Officer. Resides in Yorktown Heights, NY.*



The Chief Ulyses Grant Leadership Medal is awarded to an EMS Officer who has the ability to influence others to accomplish the mission.

Furthermore, the medal is presented to an EMS Officer who, in leading members under his/her command, has performed an outstanding act of heroism and bravery in the line of duty.

Typically, this award focuses on one heroic act performed during the past year. Even so, many in emergency services can go through a whole, fulfilling career without making a rescue or save or being singled out for heroism. This year, the recipient, EMS Deputy Chief John Quinn Sullivan, in most unusual and adverse circumstances and under close scrutiny, is being recognized for two outstanding acts.

On May 2, 2014, members of EMS responded to a confirmed train derailment in Queens. Working together with Firefighters on-scene, the EMTs and Paramedics triaged, treated and transported patients. Chief Sullivan led tunnel operations and coordinated communications between those who entered the train and units awaiting patients outside. Approximately 1000

people were evacuated safely from the train within the tunnel and 20 patients were treated by units on-scene, transporting 12 of them to hospitals.

Later that year on October 23, 2014, Chief Sullivan demonstrated extraordinary leadership, despite adversity, as he oversaw the successful treatment and transport of New York City's only Ebola patient. As a result of successful coordination between Fire and EMS units throughout the process, no FDNY members were infected with the disease nor were any additional civilians.

It bears repeating: Some first responders experience a rewarding and satisfying career without participating in a rescue or lifesaving incident. That is why to be singled out twice in one year for excellence is notable.

In these two specific instances and at many incidents throughout the year, Chief Sullivan has exemplified FDNY's virtues of respect, leadership, integrity, imagination, compassion and dedication. For his actions, EMS Deputy Chief John Quinn Sullivan is honored with the Chief Ulyses Grant Leadership Medal.--EZ



Scene from the May 2, 2014, Queens train derailment, from which approximately 1000 people were evacuated. This is one of the incidents for which EMS Deputy Chief John Sullivan is being presented with the Chief Ulyses Grant Leadership Medal.



# M.J. Delehanty Medal

## FIREFIGHTER JUSTIN L. TALLETT *LADDER COMPANY 107*

July 29, 2014, 1114 hours, Box 75-1873, Brooklyn

*Appointed to the FDNY on January 27, 2014. Served as an Army Combat Medic for eight years (including in Afghanistan in 2012), reaching the rank of SPC. Resides in Astoria, Queens.*



Being in the right place at the right time can make all the difference in a rescue--for both the victim and the rescuer. Fortunately for a young boy, Probie FF Justin L. Tallett--supported by his training and courage--was in the right place at the right time.

On July 29, 2014, at 1114 hours, Ladder 107 was assigned first-due for a reported fire. The dispatcher notified them en route of several phone calls reporting children trapped.

The building was an eight-story, Class 1, multiple dwelling, measuring 200 by 60 feet. On arrival, heavy smoke was issuing from several windows on the fourth floor. Lieutenant Christopher Bedard transmitted a 10-75 signal and observed two children on the fourth floor behind child safety gates in the window. The outside vent Firefighter removed these children with the tower ladder bucket.

The children said their brother and sister were still inside. This information was relayed to the inside team. The inside team was driven to the floor by the thick, black, acrid smoke and heat. When they entered the apartment, they found a heavy fire condition in the living room.

Probationary FF Tallett attempted to hold back the fire with the water can, but to no avail. It is impressive to see a Probie rely on his training and bring his extinguisher into an obviously working fire. Frequently, the extinguisher can be very effective in a number of ways, among them, holding back fire to give both rescuer and victim a few extra--and maybe lifesaving--seconds.

Realizing that Engine 225 had a long and arduous hose stretch, FF Tallett crawled past the expanding fire with no hose-line in place. The inside team was forced to split up to search the three bedrooms, bathroom and kitchen. FF Tallett made his way into the deepest bedroom. He encountered a crib and bunk

bed. Under the blankets on the bed, he found the motionless body of a small child. Without hesitation, he wrapped the child in his arms and headed out of the apartment.

FF Tallett passed Lieutenant Bedard and told him he found an unconscious child. The Officer transmitted a 10-45 signal and told the Probie to take the child to the floor below. FF Tallett crawled back past the fire, shielding the child from the searing heat with his own body. On his way out of the apartment, FF Tallett passed Engine 225's nozzle team, who were about to enter the apartment.

The child was in cardiac arrest. He was revived in the ambulance on the way to the hospital. Later, it was determined that the other child was not in the apartment at the time of the fire.

FF Tallett found himself in harm's way without the protection of a charged hose-line when he rescued the child from a terrible fate. For a probationary Firefighter to conduct himself with the courage and savvy of a veteran Firefighter is a strong testament to our great Department. With great pride, the FDNY presents FF Justin Tallett with the M.J. Delehanty Medal.--PB



FF Justin Tallett (left) takes a break after rescuing a child, for which he is being awarded the M.J. Delehanty medal.





# William F. Conran Medal

## FIREFIGHTER CLINT K. MUELLER *LADDER COMPANY 47*

February 13, 2014, 0926 hours, Box 44-4155, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on July 5, 1984. Brother, Lieutenant Tom Dunphy, is retired from Engine 299 and nephew, FF Mike Dunphy, is retired from Engine 289. Resides in the Bronx with his wife, Karen, and their son, Cliff, and daughter, Lauren.*



On February 13, 2014, as a powerful nor'easter was pummeling New York City, the members of Ladder 47 were anticipating a busy day. Just after the day tour started, the teleprinter sprang to life, directing the *Castle Hill Knights* to respond second-due to the Throgs Neck section of the Bronx. As the chauffeur carefully manipulated the apparatus through the snow-covered streets, Engine 89 transmitted a 10-75, alerting the responding units they had a job.

On arrival, Ladder 47 was confronted with a three-story private dwelling with heavy smoke issuing from all floors. As the inside team headed toward the front door of this 35- by 60-foot, Class 3 structure, FF Clint K. Mueller, the outside vent Firefighter, heard screams from the third-floor balcony.

With heavy smoke pushing under pressure from the third floor, FF Mueller could not see the victims. It was at this time that the engine company chauffeur of Engine 89 transmitted a 10-70 for a frozen hydrant. FF Mueller recognized the danger for the people on the balcony. Realizing they didn't have much time and the apparatus would have to be repositioned due to overhead wires, FF Mueller, along with the help of FF Anthony Reynolds, Ladder 47's roof Firefighter, grabbed the 35-foot ladder from the apparatus and raised it to the side of the third-floor balcony.

Ascending the ladder, FF Mueller encountered three very frightened adults and two children clinging to life in the rapidly deteriorating conditions of the balcony. The fire, now impacted by severe wind, had driven

members off the fire floor. Sensing the extreme urgency of the situation with no charged hose-line in place, FF Mueller knew the best way to remove the victims was with an aerial ladder.

In conjunction with the skillful apparatus placement through overhead wires in zero visibility by FF Michael J. Sudol, Ladder 47's chauffeur, FF Mueller guided the tip of the aerial via handie-talkie to the balcony. FF Mueller remained in the punishing conditions and began handing victims to Firefighters on the aerial.

FF Mueller then lifted an elderly woman onto the aerial to FF Reynolds with the stokes basket. He climbed onto the aerial to help FF Reynolds secure the victim into the stokes. Once she was secured, FF Mueller again returned to the balcony and lifted another adult woman onto the aerial to be removed. Cleverly using the stokes basket as a makeshift elevator facilitated the rescue of these civilians in a safe manner. Once all victims were removed, FF Mueller continued the primary search, ventilation and eventual overhaul of the fire building.

In his report, Deputy Chief Joseph C. Saccente, Division 7 Commander, said, "FF Mueller's actions were instrumental

in saving multiple lives. He operated under direct attack by extreme flame and smoke exposure." Because of his selfless actions in keeping with the great traditions of the Fire Department of the City of New York, FF Clint K. Mueller, Ladder 47, is honored today with the William F. Conran Medal.--TM



Ladder 47 apparatus.

photo by Joe Pinto





## Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia Medal

### LIEUTENANT CHRISTOPHER E. ZAM *ENGINE COMPANY 242*

January 7, 2014, 0822 hours, Box 75-1187, Brooklyn

*Appointed to the FDNY on July 28, 2002. Previously assigned to Tower Ladder 121. Uncle, Battalion Chief Frank Ross, is retired from Battalion 28. Recipient of the Bay Ridge Community Council Award in 2014. Studied Business, Management and Finance at Brooklyn College. Resides in Neponsit, NY, with his wife, Gabrielle, and their children, Finn, Tristan and twins--Ellie and Ben.*

Engine Company 242, affectionately referred to as *The Guardian of the Narrows*, is a single engine located near the base of the Verrazano Bridge. This section of Bay Ridge juts out into New York Bay, near the mouth of the harbor. Engine 242 provides emergency and fire protection to this somewhat isolated area. This topography puts the nearest ladder company, Ladder 109, approximately 1.5 miles away.

When a serious fire breaks out, Engine 242 is forced to operate alone during those first few critical moments. It was during those first few pivotal minutes that Lieutenant Christopher Zam saved the life of an elderly Bay Ridge resident in the bitterly cold, early-morning hours of January 7, 2014.

Lieutenant Zam had just enough time to glance at the Critical Information Dispatch System (CIDS), providing vital information about the building transmitted via his computer terminal, prior to transmitting his arrival to the Brooklyn dispatcher. The building, a large, multiple dwelling, had numerous apartments per floor. When the Lieutenant arrived at Box 1187 shortly after receiving the call at 0822 hours, he performed his initial size-up and since nothing was visible from the street, he directed apparatus placement and entered the lobby.

During his ascent, it was clear by the second-floor landing that there was a fire somewhere in the building due to the number of fleeing occupants and the distinct odor of a working structural fire. When he reached the third floor, a frantic woman met Lieutenant Zam in the hall. She was able to clearly tell the Lieutenant that her spouse was trapped in the apartment.

Lieutenant Zam's experience allowed him to quickly transmit the working fire radio code 10-75 via his chauffeur, order his Firefighters to stretch the hose-line to the fire apartment and quickly don his facepiece. He entered the apartment to search for the confirmed life hazard. Immediately upon entering the apartment, Lieutenant Zam encountered high heat and zero visibility. He began his systematic search by checking behind the door and then continuing down

the hall to the back bedrooms.

The unchecked fire had grown and now extended out of the kitchen toward the dining room. Lieutenant Zam had to crawl below the fire and withstand the punishing heat to get to the rear bedroom. The search of this room proved negative. Undaunted, he left this room to continue his search and passed the fire for a second time, still without a hose-line for protection.

Lieutenant Zam located a second bedroom alongside the kitchen and at this location, found the missing occupant on the bed. He began the arduous task of removing the male victim from the room. First, he had to lift and lower the man to the floor. The victim's size required that Lieutenant Zam wrap his arms around the man's chest and drag him below the heat and smoke, through the bedroom, across the hall, through the dining room and, finally, to the apartment entrance. In the entrance hallway, FF Michael Guidera, Ladder 109, assisted with the removal and transported the fire victim to the care of Engine 243 and then on to EMS personnel.

While Lieutenant Zam was making his aggressive search and subsequent rescue, Engine 242 members simultaneously stretched and flaked out the hose-line and were ready to go. Keenly aware of his position as the first-due engine Officer, Lieutenant Zam entered the apartment again, this time supervising his Firefighters in the extinguishment of the fire.

Members had much to overcome at this incident: bitter wind, icy roads and sidewalks and a long hose stretch. Additionally, the engine company chauffeur, FF John Marsh, fell on the ice-covered streets, but continued to operate, securing water from a nearly frozen hydrant (slush poured out when it was tested).

Lieutenant Zam's professionalism, even after such a herculean personal effort, is truly outstanding. He demonstrated remarkable initiative and placed himself at risk in order to save a life at this fire. For his heroic efforts, Lieutenant Christopher E. Zam is honored with the Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia Medal.--MD



Shown, left to right, are FF Mike Basile, FF Jason Delnicki (the nozzle Firefighter during the rescue), Lieutenant Christopher Zam (recipient of the Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia Medal), FF Mike Billotto (Engine 242's senior Firefighter), FF Ralph Bavaro and FF Rich Lutz (control Firefighter at the rescue).





# Chief John J. McElligott Medal/ FFs Fitzpatrick and Frisby Award

## FIREFIGHTER WILLIAM P. CALDERON *LADDER COMPANY 81*

June 5, 2014, 0110 hours, Box 55-0469, Staten Island

*Appointed to the FDNY on April 11, 2006. Cousin, FF Luis Quevedo, is assigned to Engine 161. Resides on Staten Island.*



Firefighter William Calderon, Ladder 81, quartered in the South Beach section of Staten Island, was working the night tour on June 4, 2014, and was assigned the roof position. At 0110 hours, the company received a phone alarm reporting a fire in the backyard of a private dwelling in nearby Rosebank.

Ladder 81 was assigned second-due to the Box, but while responding, the dispatcher reported that there were people trapped on the second floor of a house fire at the address. The urgency of a rapid response was intensified by Engine 152's transmission of a signal 10-75 at that location. (Before Ladder 81 arrived, two children were dropped safely from a second-floor window by their parents to neighbors.)

As FF Calderon and the other members of Ladder 81 arrived at the two-story, semi-attached, private dwelling, they realized that the first-due truck was not in sight. They quickly adapted to responding as the first-due truck and the chauffeur, FF Edward Morri, placed the apparatus in front of the fire building. Seeing two victims trapped on the second floor behind child gates, FF Calderon assisted FF Thomas Verderosa, the outside vent Firefighter, in positioning a 24-foot portable ladder over a fence and bushes in rough terrain in a heavy smoke condition. FF Calderon ascended the ladder, while FF Verderosa assisted the chauffeur in positioning the aerial ladder.

Reaching the window, FF Calderon wasted no time in removing the gates to reach the victims, managing the difficult task from the portable ladder with his Halligan tool. Just as he removed the gates, the aerial ladder reached the window and FF Verderosa quickly arrived and starting dragging a male victim out of the window and onto the ladder.

FF Calderon watched in horror as the second victim disappeared from the window into the acrid, black smoke billowing out the window. Knowing he had to act quickly as the fire began to intensify, the Firefighter donned his mask and climbed into

the inferno to search for the victim. Thankfully, his search was quickly rewarded when he found a female victim, unconscious on the floor, a short distance from the window.

FF Calderon dragged her back to the window as conditions rapidly began to deteriorate. The rescuer managed to get the victim up to the windowsill and onto the ladder with the assistance of FF Morri, who ascended the ladder after helping FF Verderosa remove the male victim.

Before they could remove the victim down the ladder, the entire room lit up behind FF Calderon and he was forced to jump onto the ladder and cover the victim to protect her from the flames. FF Morri hurried down the ladder to the turntable and rotated the ladder away from the flames, just in time to avoid the electric service wires that were dropping near them.

When the ladder was positioned to a high front stoop, other Firefighters and EMS personnel were able to assume care of the woman. Once she was removed from the ladder, it was repositioned to the roof. FF Calderon ascended the aerial ladder with the power saw to handle his roof duties of cutting a hole over the still-roaring blaze.

EMS personnel removed both victims to the hospital, where they were treated for severe smoke inhalation and high levels of carbon monoxide. However, the victims now were safe, thanks to the courageous efforts of FF Calderon and his

Brother Firefighters. There was still plenty of fire to fight. The blaze continued to roar and consumed the structure. It also severely damaged the dwelling next door. The five-alarm blaze required a long night to subdue.

Were it not for the bravery and tenacity exhibited by FF Calderon in the swift removal of these victims, they would not have survived. The Fire Department is proud to present the Chief John J. McElligott Medal/FFs Fitzpatrick and Frisby Award to Firefighter William P. Calderon.--JT



FF William Calderon (second from top) ascends the ladder following the rescue that earned him the Chief John J. McElligott Medal/FFs Fitzpatrick and Frisby Award.

*photo by Ryan Lavis, SILive.com/Staten Island Advance*



# Thomas F. Dougherty Medal

## LIEUTENANT MICHAEL J. RUSSO

### LADDER COMPANY 168

April 28, 2014, 0603 hours, Box 75-3860, Brooklyn

*Appointed to the FDNY on February 4, 2001. Previously assigned to Engine 219 and Tower Ladder 105. Father, FF Joseph Russo, is retired from Engine 309 and cousin, FF Chris Adisano, is assigned to Engine 249. Recipient of a unit citation. Holds a BS degree in Education from St. Francis College. Resides on Staten Island with his wife, Mary Beth, and their children--Michael, Meghan, Mary Kate and Matthew.*



Countless hours can be spent training for any sort of unexpected situation that might arise, but when an alarm box is transmitted and lives are on the line, Lieutenant Michael Russo has the instinct to act quickly and use impeccable judgment.

In the early morning of April 28, 2014, Hook & Ladder 168 received a telephone alarm for Box 3860, reporting a fire in Bensonhurst, Brooklyn. It took only seconds after arriving at the location for the Lieutenant to formulate and execute a plan--seconds that ultimately turned out to be lifesaving.

Arriving at the seven-story residential building on fire, Lieutenant Russo, along with his team from Ladder 168--FFs Jeremy Boggio with the water can and James Weinert with the irons--knew, without hesitation, what had to be done. These members were faced with distressed civilians crowding the streets and shouting that multiple victims were still trapped inside. Residents descended a fire escape as toxic, black smoke pumped through a window nearby. To make matters even more challenging, Engine 243 encountered a defective hydrant. Time is critical on the fireground and such a condition, if left unresolved, can prove deadly.

Able to defy the tunnel vision that easily could predominate in this kind of scenario, Lieutenant Russo remained focused. He and his team proceeded methodically to address the situation with one goal in mind: Save lives. As anxious civilians continued to frantically evacuate the building, the team ascended the constricted building stairwell up to the second-floor landing. Two NYPD officers, visibly shaken, attempting to enter the public hallway, met the Lieutenant on the landing. They informed him that the hallway was extremely hot with an unbearable smoke condition. But where was it all coming from?

Lieutenant Russo quickly realized that an apartment door was left open. In the blink of an eye, conditions deteriorat-

ed even more, producing zero visibility. Again, with that one goal in mind, he and FF Boggio entered the hallway to initiate their primary search for victims. Acting quickly, the Lieutenant used his thermal imaging camera to guide their path to the apartment on fire.

If a window failed in the fire apartment, the conditions in the hallway could intensify, causing them to also become trapped. With this in mind, Lieutenant Russo rapidly crawled approximately 45 feet down the long hallway. At the doorway of the fire apartment, he saw an unconscious, female victim, but the fire itself now extended into the hallway, undeniably gaining control of the rescuer's surroundings. Though conditions worsened by the second, using his instincts, Lieutenant Russo gained control of the door to limit the flow path of the fire. Concentration then immediately shifted to the rescue of the female. He dragged the woman down the hallway, protecting her from further danger.

There is always the possibility of additional trapped victims. With this in mind, Lieutenant Russo transferred care of the victim to FFs Weinert and Boggio, who then brought the woman down the stairs to safety. With no hose-line yet in place (the engine had encountered a bad hydrant and the stretch would be a long one), Lieutenant Russo crawled back down the hallway and re-entered the fire apartment to complete his search. After the search was over--which proved negative--he instructed Engine 243 regarding the fire location.

This size-up, rescue and removal all took place within minutes. And, it is within these minutes where courage and extraordinary efforts brought to life the core principles and highest traditions of the New York City Fire Department. Lieutenant Russo not only saved a life, he displayed what it means to be a New York City Firefighter. For his courageous actions, Lieutenant Michael J. Russo is presented with the Thomas F. Dougherty Medal.--TC



Lieutenant Michael Russo (center) with two members from Ladder 168. The Lieutenant is the recipient of the Thomas F. Dougherty Medal.





# Albert S. Johnston Medal

## LIEUTENANT MICHAEL J. DEMEO

*BATTALION 2 (ASSIGNED)*

*LADDER COMPANY 9 (DETAILED)*

August 17, 2014, 0752 hours, Box 75-0445, Manhattan



*Appointed to the FDNY on September 12, 2004. Previously assigned to Ladder 149. Uncle, Lieutenant Andrew Borgese, was retired from Engine 326 and now is deceased. Holds a Bachelor's degree in Finance from Pace University. Resides in Brooklyn.*

When Firefighters enter a fire building, one of the first things they look for is a secondary means of escape if things turn bad. Most times, when fighting a fire on the first floor of a building, there is some sense of security in the knowledge that all one needs to do is get to a window and there is a way out. But what if the room where Firefighters have been told people are trapped also has heavy bars on the window? Their secondary means of escape is gone. Potential rescuers must exit in the same way they got in. Just such a circumstance faced Lieutenant Michael DeMeo and the members of Ladder 9 in the morning hours of August 17, 2014.

At 0752 hours on August 17, 2014, Ladder 9 responded first-due to a reported fire in an occupied multiple dwelling in lower Manhattan. En route, the dispatcher advised units that they were receiving numerous calls that there was a fire in apartment #1 on the first floor, with multiple people trapped.

On arrival, heavy smoke was observed pulsating from the first floor, front barred windows. As Ladder 9 was heading into the building, a fleeing occupant shouted to the Ladder 9 Officer that there were people trapped in the fire apartment bedroom. Lieutenant DeMeo, accompanied by the Ladder 9 inside team--FFs Marlon Sahai with the water can and John Rocchio with the irons--proceeded to the fire apartment.

The forcible entry team popped the front door and immediately was confronted with high heat and a heavy smoke condition. Engine 33 was still in the process of stretching the hose-line, but Lieutenant DeMeo knew that an immediate search was necessary. The Officer ordered FF Rocchio to remain at the apartment door and secure it in a closed position and ordered no ventilation of the fire apartment so as not to feed the fire.

As Lieutenant DeMeo crawled into the apartment, he saw fire extending from the living room toward the front door. He notified the Engine 33 Officer of the location of the fire. Lieutenant DeMeo knew that it was imperative that the room with the bars on the window be searched immediately since very soon, the extending fire would block the front door, the only means of escape.

Lieutenant DeMeo ordered FF Sahai to use his extinguisher to hold back the fire. The Officer then continued down the hall to the front bedroom. In zero visibility, the Lieutenant searched for the occupants. Time was critical; the line wasn't in place yet and the extending fire soon would cut off Lieutenant DeMeo's only means of escape.

In short order, Lieutenant DeMeo came upon an unconscious female occupant lying on the floor. He immediately transmitted a 10-45. Hearing the 10-45 transmission, FF Rocchio proceeded to the front bedroom to assist in the rescue. Lieutenant DeMeo and FF Rocchio then retraced their steps back toward the front door. Passing the now fully involved living room, they shielded the victim with their bodies to prevent additional injury.

The rescuers brought the woman out to the front of the fire building and turned her care over to EMS personnel. The Ladder 9 forcible entry team then regrouped to re-enter the fire apartment and complete the primary search.

Lieutenant DeMeo's courageous actions and leadership exemplify the finest traditions of the FDNY. It is only through his swift actions that the female victim is alive today. It is for this reason that Lieutenant Michael J. DeMeo is being recognized today with the Albert S. Johnston Medal.--CB



Lieutenant Michael J. DeMeo with his inside team--FFs Marlon Sahai and John Rocchio. For his heroic efforts, he was presented with the Albert S. Johnston Medal. FF Marlon Sahai received the Probationary Firefighter Thomas A. Wylie Medal for his rescue at the same incident.

*photo by Daniel Glover, NY Post*



# Bella Stiefel Medal

## FIREFIGHTER

### DONALD P. MAYERHOFER

#### LADDER COMPANY 26

March 12, 2014, 0930 hours, Box 55-1406, Manhattan

*Appointed to the FDNY on December 5, 2004. Now a Lieutenant, assigned to Battalion 50. Prior assignments include Engine 58 and Ladder 26 as a Firefighter. Grandfather, FF George Mayerhofer, is retired from Ladder 142 and uncles, Lieutenant John Dougherty and Captain George Mayerhofer, are retired from Engine 44 and Engine 40, respectively. Holds a Bachelor's degree in Marketing from Penn State University. Resides in Rockville Centre, Long Island, with his wife, Coreen, and their three children--Benjamin, Olivia and Julia.*

On March 12, 2014, at approximately 0930 hours, the quarters of Engine 58 and Ladder 26 was rocked by a nearby explosion. Members surveying the area saw a plume of smoke rise from the vicinity of Park Avenue. The companies turned out as the tone alarm sounded and Engine 58 and Ladder 26 were on the scene within two minutes.

On arrival, Ladder 26 members found two five-story, old law tenements collapsed and burning. The Officer of Ladder 26, Lieutenant Edward Poli, initiated the collapse rescue plan and began the search and removal of surface victims.

Lieutenant Poli directed his outside team--FFs Donald P. Mayerhofer (outside vent) and Michael Mider (roof)--to the rear of the fire/collapse site. As they entered the rear yard from the adjoining building, they saw a male in a window in a tiny section of the collapsed building that remained standing. The victim had survived the blast and collapse and now was in a position to be caught in the secondary collapse of the unstable section to which he had escaped.

FFs Mayerhofer and Mider, recognizing the urgency of the situation,

climbed the smoldering debris pile to reach the fire escape that provided access to the victim. Reaching the man, the pair of Firefighters determined that he was disoriented and suffering from an unknown number of blast-related injuries.

The Firefighters removed the victim from his precarious position and assisted him over the debris. The rescuers brought the man to the street to be treated by waiting EMS resources.

Manhattan Box 55-1406 was a major collapse incident with fire that dictated response of the FDNY Incident Management Team (IMT). More than 200 FDNY units responded before the incident was declared *under control* six days later, March 18. Eight people lost their lives, 48 individuals suffered injuries and two buildings were destroyed. The magnitude of this incident reflects the conditions under which FF Mayerhofer operated.

For FF Donald P. Mayerhofer's courageous actions, removing a victim from a still-unstable collapse scene and imminent peril, he is awarded the Bella Stiefel Medal.--CF



FF Donald Mayerhofer (in the forefront and now a Lieutenant) at the Harlem fire/collapse scene where he removed a victim and is presented with the Bella Stiefel Medal for his efforts.







## Paramedic Winsley J. Julien Station 14

*Appointed to the Emergency Medical Service as an EMT on October 15, 1999. Holds an AAS degree in Applied Science from Manhattan Community College. Resides in the Bronx with his wife, Pamela, and their daughter, Lissette.*

The morning of Thursday, October 23, 2014, began just like any other. However, for a few members of the Emergency Medical Service HazTac unit, this day quickly became one that would test all the members.

Members of the HazTac unit are trained in wearing chemical protective clothing while facilitating the effective treatment and transportation of patients. Ultimately, these members place themselves on the front lines of patient care for a highly contagious patient.

With the Ebola crisis in full swing in West Africa and the United States on high alert, a notification was received by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. A medical doctor who had been in West Africa now was sick and showing symptoms of the Ebola virus. Previously, he was volunteering his time and expertise to offer treatment and assistance to patients infected with the Ebola Virus Disease.

10 Henry was the initial unit dispatched to the call. Responders included HazTac EMTs Kirvens Michel and Akwone Kunle. After immediate notification by Lieutenant Jonathan Negrón, HazTac Battalion, EMT Michel began donning his chemical protective clothing and powered air-purifying respirator on arrival at the doctor's location.

Since only the on-scene EMT Michel was trained in the appropriate use of this equipment, additional resources were requested. HazTac Paramedics Winsley Julien and Michael Sullivan, 14 Zebra, responded to assist in the treatment of the doctor. Paramedic Winsley began donning his chemical protective clothing to assist EMT Kirvens in the proper treatment, extrication and transportation of the patient.

While the members prepared to

## Tracy Allen-Lee Medal

October 23, 2014, 1152 hours,  
Harlem, Manhattan



## EMT Kirvens Michel HazTac Battalion

*Appointed to the Emergency Medical Service as an EMT on January 14, 2014. Previously assigned to Stations 8 and 10. Resides in Yonkers, NY.*

enter the physician's apartment, EMS Deputy Chief John Sullivan made telephone contact with the Ebola patient to soothe him and assure him that help was on the way. The crew made entry with all the medical equipment needed, as well as equipment required to prevent contamination to the citizens of New York. The remaining members on-scene prepared the transport vehicle for what would be a stressful and intense move.

Approximately 15 minutes later, the crew members exited the building with the doctor, seated on a stair chair, while safely preventing the spread of Ebola. Transport immediately was initiated to the hospital with the assistance of NYPD.

On arrival, patient care was transferred to the emergency room staff and the long decontamination process began. With the assistance of the FDNY decontamination team, the members were safely decontaminated and doffed their chemical protective clothing without any breaches in the suit. All the members involved remained calm under pressure.

Specifically, EMT Michel and Paramedic Julien operated with the safety of all members, the patient and the general public as their main priority. Mayor de Blasio praised the members

and stated that they were "pretty cool in the saddle." There was no hesitation by the responding HazTac units and all members allowed their training and instincts to take over.

For their calm under tremendous pressure and commitment to the safety of others, EMT Kirvens Michel and Paramedic Winsley J. Julien are presented with the Tracy Allen-Lee Medal.--ES



Press conference at which Mayor de Blasio praised EMT Kirvens Michel and Paramedic Winsley Julien for being "pretty cool in the saddle," as they transported New York City's first Ebola patient. For their actions under great stress, they are presented with the Tracy Allen-Lee Medal.



# 23rd Street Fire Memorial Medal

## Firefighter JAMES BRADY *Rescue Company 2*

November 19, 2014, 0038 hours, Box 22-2466, Brooklyn

*Appointed to the FDNY on January 27, 2002. Previously assigned to Squad 270 and Ladder 161. Brothers, FF Patrick Brady, is assigned to Engine 227 and Lieutenant Brian Brady is assigned to Division 1; uncles, Lieutenant Michael Brady is assigned to SOC, FF Pete Brady is retired from Ladder 147 and FF Kenneth Brady is retired from Ladder 137; and cousin, FF Pete Brady, is assigned to Ladder 174. Member of the Emerald and Holy Name Societies, as well as the FDNY Triathlon and Rugby Teams. Resides in Belle Harbor, Queens, with his wife, Colleen, and their children, Fiona, Donovan and Raelyn.*



Just a week before Thanksgiving, FF James Brady arrived for his shift at Rescue 2 on the evening of November 18, 2014. As orange and crimson maple leaves skimmed the streets of Brooklyn, children settled into bed for the last day of school before break. FF Brady also prepared for what the evening might bring. As they slept, he waited.

Shortly after midnight on November 19, the call came in. A residential building on Flatbush Avenue was aflame and there were people trapped in the building. Multiple injured civilians already had been removed from the three-story, wooden building, but there were still more in danger. When the members of Rescue 2 arrived on-scene, the fire had escalated to a second alarm. Heavy fire possessed the front rooms of the second and third floors, including the interior stairs. The members of Rescue 2 took their positions, with FF Brady heading up to the roof.

As 10-45s continued being reported on the radio, FF Brady reached the roof and began to survey conditions at the rear of the building. Observing the absence of a rear fire escape, the Firefighter continued surveying the building when he spotted a setback he could use. The setback gave access to an intact window on the third floor of the building. Heavy smoke billowed from the edges of the window, which remained closed. He knew time was critical, but he also knew that this area of the building had not been accessed from the interior. The setback, however, would give him access to that window.

In full firefighting gear, FF Brady gripped the gutter with one hand, a Halligan tool in the other, and climbed over the edge of the building. The setback was 12 feet below him, but he landed nimbly on his feet. He did this without hesitation, despite the fact that it left him no immediate egress if conditions worsened. Landing on the small setback, FF Brady made his way to the window and completely cleared the glass. Lacking the protection of a hand-line, FF Brady donned his face-

piece and entered the window. He was alone--on the other side of a perilous, multiple-floor fire.

Immediately, the thick, black smoke and oppressive heat knocked him to the floor, but he quickly regained his bearings. As he began a systematic search of the room, he reached out through the smoke to discover an unconscious woman. FF Brady transmitted the 10-45 code to the Command Post. With flames reaching the interior stairs, he knew he had no other option but to take the victim back to the window he entered, to shelter in place on the setback. Moving her toward the window, it was that moment when FF Brady discovered a second victim, a young unconscious female. He transmitted this information to the Command Post and heard the familiar sound of a hand-line operating in the stairwell area. He knew the fire attack now was progressing in his favor.

Making his way toward the stairs, FF Brady met with the inside team of Ladder 147 and handed them the young woman. He then returned for the first woman and was met by FF Andrew Braun, Rescue 2, who had entered through a rear window. Together, they carried the victim down three stories and handed her to EMS personnel. Regrettably, one young man did perish in this fire.

This fire might have had a different result without FF Brady's creative solution to use the setback and window on the third floor. "FF Brady's act to lower himself from the roof to the setback showed great initiative and courage. It was a 12-foot drop to that setback and his goal was to gain access to a window that could not have been accessed in any other way," said Deputy Chief Dean Koester, Division 15 (detailed from Division 14).

In recognition of his bold initiative and unwavering courage, the Fire Department is proud to honor FF James Brady with the 23rd Street Fire Memorial Medal (formerly the Hispanic Society Memorial Medal).--MJD



FF James Brady (center right) is the recipient of the 23rd Street Fire Memorial Medal. He is shown with members of Rescue 2 following a job.





# Vincent J. Kane Medal

## FIREFIGHTER MICHAEL A. MIDER

### LADDER COMPANY 26

March 12, 2014, 0930 hours, Box 55-1406, Manhattan

*Appointed to the FDNY on April 11, 2006. Member of the Fire Bell Club. Studied Fire Science at John Jay College. Resides in Manhattan.*



Most calls to respond reach quarters via the fire dispatch system or, occasionally, a knock on the door, but on this Wednesday morning, the members of Engine 58 and Ladder 26, known as the “Fire Factory” in Harlem, were alerted by a loud boom as two buildings had just exploded about a thousand feet from the firehouse.

The members, startled by the sound, called in a “verbal” (a self-generated ticket) and then walked out of the firehouse to investigate what they believed to be a car accident. However, the large plume of smoke rising in the northeast direction indicated that this was no car accident. The members raced back to the firehouse, jumped on the apparatus and turned out in the direction of the smoke.

When the companies reached Park Avenue and 116th Street, they witnessed the immediate aftermath of the total collapse of two tenement buildings due to a natural gas explosion. The Firefighters saw heavy fire from the rubble and a large debris field on the front sidewalk and in the street. Members would have to move quickly if they were going to reach anyone in need.

The Officer of Ladder 26, Lieutenant Edward Poli, transmitted the signal for a major collapse, triggering the response of additional resources, including many specialty units. With help on the way, the members of Ladder 26 quickly settled on a strategy to maximize their search effectiveness. Initially, they searched the front of the buildings as a cohesive unit for victims who might be on the surface or trapped in nearby vehicles, consistent with Department collapse protocols.

With the rapid search in front of the buildings completed, the truck members entered an adjacent building (to the north) for search and evacuation as the fire from the initial collapse now was spreading into that structure. Ladder 26 members performed a floor-by-floor search of the building and even

managed to shut off the utilities in the basement before exiting themselves, with the threat of a secondary collapse ever constant.

By this time, the Ladder 26 chauffeur had made his way to the roof of another building and reported that conditions in the rear of the collapsed buildings were quite severe. Based on this information, Lieutenant Poli split the company into two search teams: he doubled back to the front with his inside team (FFs Brian Murphy and John Cazilas), while two members of the outside team (FFs Michael A. Mider and Donald P. Mayerhofer), made their way to the back. The pair reached the rear, through the building they had just searched, and reported conditions to the Incident Commander.

The only part of the building that remained intact was a vertical line of rooms against the rear wall. The first floor was occupied by a piano shop and one of its workers lived on the second floor, directly above the store. The man survived the initial explosion and managed to lift himself onto the ledge of a second-floor window. When FFs Mider and Mayerhofer saw the man, who was injured and disorientated, they immediately made their way toward him, despite heavy smoke and fire and the very real possibility that the remaining line of rooms could collapse at any moment.

The two members traversed the uneven debris pile to a fire escape, where they then climbed the drop ladder to the victim’s location. FFs Mider and Mayerhofer brought the man down the fire escape and then around to the opposite building (on the south side) and out to EMS, but not before they questioned him on the whereabouts of any more people inside the destroyed building. The victim stated that he was alone in the building at the time.

In the finest traditions of the FDNY, FF Mider performed his duties with speed and intelligence, under chaotic conditions and at risk to himself, while ensuring the safety of a victim. For his actions, FF Michael A. Mider is awarded the Vincent J. Kane Medal.--SN



FF Michael Mider (foreground) takes up from a job.

*Firstscenephotos*



# Pulaski Association Medal

## FIREFIGHTER ADAM C. BISHOP

*LADDER 170 (ASSIGNED)*

*LADDER COMPANY 110 (DETAILED)*

April 12, 2014, 1008 hours, Box 75-0627, Brooklyn

*Appointed to the FDNY on July 1, 2008. Member of the Emerald Society. Studied Psychology at Florida State University. Resides in Breezy Point, NY, with his wife, Elizabeth, and their four sons--Adam, Riley, Peyton and Mack.*



**F**irefighter Adam C. Bishop, a six-and-a-half year veteran of the Department, is assigned to Ladder 170. On April 12, 2014, he found himself working a day tour as outside vent Firefighter in Ladder 110 on a balmy, 70-degree spring day. At 1008 hours, on his first run of the day, FF Bishop encountered a situation far more memorable than the nice weather.

The alarm was for a structural fire on Lafayette Avenue. A signal 10-75 was transmitted by Engine 210 for a working fire in a five-story brownstone building without a rear fire escape. First-due Ladder 105 was setting up their bucket in front of the building on Lafayette Avenue, as second-due Ladder 110 arrived via Vanderbilt Avenue, on the exposure #2 side of the fire building.

FF Bishop and Ladder 110's chauffeur, FF Robert Ruggirello, saw a man hanging from a fifth-floor window at the rear of the third building in from the corner. Heavy smoke was boiling from his fifth-floor window and from windows on the floor below him as he hung by his fingertips. The man had opened his hallway door in an attempt to escape from the building, inadvertently providing a flow path for the intensely hot fire gases into his apartment, forcing him into his current precarious location. FF Bishop knew that the man would not be able to maintain his position for long.

Racing against time, FFs Bishop and Ruggirello set up the truck to facilitate a ladder rescue. Due to the presence of a large tree and street obstructions, optimal positioning was not possible. To effect the rescue, FF Bishop had to operate on a ladder that was unsupported at the tip and reached only the fourth floor. Despite being aware of the dangerous strains placed on the ladder, FF Bishop, who is 6'8" and 280 lbs. without his gear, climbed the lad-

der up through tree branches, breaking large branches in his way to clear a path to the top rung of the ladder.

Standing on the top rung, FF Bishop braced himself against the building, but was unable to grasp the victim. He had to lean out, over the ladder's tip and away from the building to reach the victim. Leaning out and no longer braced against the building, FF Bishop reached for and grasped the man and pulled him back and safely down onto the ladder.

FF Bishop began calming the distraught man who, panic-stricken, was frozen to the ladder rungs. Speaking quietly to the victim, the Firefighter reassured him that he was safe and encouraged him to start backing down the ladder. As he spoke, broken window glass began to rain down upon them and the rescuer shielded the victim with his body until it stopped. FF Bishop's efforts to calm the man were successful and they both proceeded down the ladder. After ensuring that the victim was safely on the ground, FF Bishop continued to operate as Ladder 110's outside vent Firefighter.

FF Bishop's composed resourcefulness, his willingness to put himself in such an unstable position on the tip of a cantilever ladder and then to reach out over a four-story drop to retrieve the victim, demonstrates the bravery, initiative and capability deserving of this medal. The victim certainly would have, in a few short minutes, lost his tenuous grip on the window ledge and plummeted to his death, had it not been for FF Bishop's

extraordinary effort. FF Adam C. Bishop, well aware of the risks involved in his actions, performed professionally and is truly a credit to the Department. For these reasons, he is presented with the Pulaski Association Medal.--  
FCM



Ladder 170 apparatus.

*photo courtesy of the Mand Library*





# Commissioner Edward Thompson Medal

## FIREFIGHTER ROBERT R. RUFH

### LADDER COMPANY 32

May 13, 2014, 1730 hours, Box 75-3493, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on July 16, 1989. Previously assigned to Ladders 54 and 30. Recipient of the Chief Wesley Williams Medal. Resides in Port Jervis, NY, with his wife, Charmaine.*



Ask any Firefighter what gets the heart pumping more than anything. Almost to the member, you'll hear it's when the dispatcher says, "people trapped." Another component serves to increase the intensity to dire proportions: "children trapped." Every Firefighter will do whatever it takes to get to those children. In the evening hours of May 13, 2014, FF Robert Rufh, Ladder 32, was confronted with just such a situation.

On this date at 1730 hours, Engine 62 and Ladder 32 responded first-due to a phone alarm for a structural fire in the Williamsbridge section of the Bronx. En route, the dispatcher notified responding units of numerous calls for smoke throughout the building and children were trapped.

Engine 62 arrived first and transmitted a 10-75 for heavy fire and smoke coming from windows on the third floor. FF Rufh was assigned as the outside vent Firefighter (OV). The first ladder OV's primary responsibility is to access the fire apartment via the fire escape or aerial ladder. While FF Rufh was assisting in aerial ladder placement, he thought he saw a head in the apartment above the fire floor. He immediately notified his Officer, Lieutenant Sean Mannion, regarding what he saw and stated that he was going to the floor above via the aerial.

FF Rufh knew that the second-due truck, Ladder 37, would be delayed due to the distance they had to travel, as well as rush hour traffic, so he had to get to the floor above the fire. FF Rufh climbed the aerial as soon as it was placed to the window on the fourth floor. Heavy smoke was pushing out of all the windows and fire was rolling up the outside of the building from the floor below.

Without hesitation, FF Rufh removed the child guard gates and entered the apartment. Immediately upon entering the window, the Firefighter found a young boy lying on the floor. FF Rufh transmitted a 10-45 to Battalion Chief John Sullivan, Battalion 27, and also called for a line to the floor above, due to fire extending into the apartment he was in.

Instinctively, FF John Wrobel, Ladder 32, already had climbed to the top of the aerial and FF Rufh passed the child to him. FF Wrobel carried the boy down the aerial. FF Rufh then re-entered the apartment to continue his search.

FF Rufh crawled into the adjoining living room where he came upon an unconscious young girl. Again, FF Rufh transmitted a 10-45 and retraced his steps back to the window. Fire now was growing unabated due to water problems caused by two dead hydrants at the scene. In fact, Engine 62 had water relayed by Engine 79. FF Rufh shielded his precious cargo from the intensifying heat and passed the youngster out to FF Wrobel, who again was at the tip of the ladder and carried the girl down the aerial.

Assured that the two children were safe, FF Rufh once again re-entered the apartment and continued his search. Fortunately, no other children were found.

FF Rufh carried out his duties under extreme conditions without protection of a charged hose-line. His actions undoubtedly saved the lives of these two young children. For these reasons, FF Robert R. Rufh is honored today with the Commissioner Edward Thompson Medal.--CB



**(Photo right) FF Robert Rufh, shown at top of ladder, working at Bronx Box 75-3493. He saved two young children at this incident and was presented with the Commissioner Edward Thompson Medal for his heroic actions on May 13, 2014. (Photo above) FF Rufh (second from left) is joined by the members of Ladder 32.**

*photo by Michael Dick*



## Columbia Association Medal

### FIREFIGHTER WILLIAM P. JOHNSON LADDER COMPANY 147

November 19, 2014, 0038 hours, Box 22-2446, Brooklyn

*Appointed to the FDNY on September 25, 2005. Previously assigned to Engine 281. Father, FF Bill Johnson, is retired from Ladder 147. Resides in Brooklyn with his wife, Samantha.*



**E**verybody goes! Third-due engine and second-due truck for a phone alarm. Fire from windows, second floor of multiple dwelling on Flatbush Avenue. Upon receipt of the alarm, Lieutenant Robert Cooper and the members of Ladder 147 knew they were going to work in a very difficult and dangerous building. The CIDS card read: "SRO VACATED IRREG ALT, STRONG POSSIBILITY OF COLLAPSE UNDER FIRE CONDITIONS, INTERIOR OPERATIONS ONLY WITH EXTREME CAUTION."

Engine 255 and Ladder 157 initially received this run as a verbal and immediately gave the 10-75. Ladder 147 members knew they would be operating above the fire to search for life.

Arriving at 0042 hours, Ladder 147 was confronted with a three-story building with heavy fire issuing from three windows on the second floor, auto-exposing to the third floor. While ascending the interior stairs, the inside team--Lieutenant Cooper and irons FF William Johnson and can FF Kyle McGoff (detailed from Engine 281)--were told by a self-evacuating victim that additional people were trapped.

Simultaneously, a transmission was made by the first-due engine, requesting more line. Searches would have to begin without the protection of a hose-line. Given the time of night, information from the victim and radio transmissions from the engine, the members of Ladder 147 knew this would be a high risk/high reward operation.

Arriving on the third floor, the inside team saw that fire had extended and the third floor quickly was becoming involved. FF McGoff attempted to hold the extending fire with the extinguisher to facilitate a search. Taking the initiative, FF Johnson aggressively made his way down the hall in zero visibility. He heard snoring and agonal breathing from a bedroom on his left. He immediately entered the room and discovered the body of an unconscious male. The rescuer transmitted the 10-45 and began removal.

Acting alone, FF Johnson dragged the

victim back to the hallway stairs. There, he met up with Lieutenant Cooper and FF McGoff, who assisted in the removal. FF Johnson, now aware that the front rooms of the third floor were quickly becoming involved in fire and that a hose-line still was not present, resumed his search.

At this time, Lieutenant Cooper transmitted a 10-45 for a second victim found on the third floor. FF Johnson assisted his Officer with this removal and again returned to his search. FF Johnson, for a third time, returned to the floor above the fire to probe even deeper into the apartment. Moving approximately 40 feet down the hallway, under increasingly arduous heat conditions, he found an unconscious female in the next bedroom. He immediately transmitted another 10-45 and removed the victim to the floor below. Now low on air and exhausted from multiple removals, FF Johnson returned again to the floor above to rejoin his team and complete the primary search.

In all, Ladder 147's inside team removed three victims from the floor above the fire. Unfortunately, one of the male victims died. FF Johnson passed the fire multiple times, going up and down the stairs with unconscious victims and operated only with the protection of his personal protective equipment. If not for his selfless, determined and aggressive actions, these people surely would have perished.

His personal courage and actions that day will always be a proud reflection of the well-deserved reputation of Engine 281/Ladder 147, "Da Pride A Flatbush." FF William Johnson officially is recognized with the Columbia Association Medal.--BC



Ladder 147 apparatus.

photo by Michael Martinelli





# The Tradition of the Medals

by Lieutenant Edward Sere, Engine 292 (retired)

**I** have no ambition in this world but one and that is to be a Fireman. The position may, in the eyes of some, appear to be a lowly one, but we who know the work that a Fireman has to do believe that his is a noble calling. Our proudest moment is to save...lives. Under the impulse of such thoughts, the nobility of the occupation thrills us and stimulates us to deeds of daring, even of Supreme Sacrifice.--Edward F. Croker, Chief of Department, 1899-1911.

Firefighting may be sponsored by government and guided by the insurance industry, but it is the Firefighters themselves and the people they serve, who have recognized their mission as the "noble calling" it truly is.

In 1867, two years after New York State, under pressure from the insurance companies, created the paid Metropolitan Fire Department, John Stephenson, the owner of a lumberyard that had been saved from fire by the newly created Department, endowed a medal to be presented to the Commander, now Captain, of the company that attained "the highest standard of efficiency and discipline." The first awards were not actually presented until 16 years later, in 1883, when the recipients for the years 1883, 1884 and 1885 were named. The medals continued to be awarded for 72 years, until 1955, when the original \$250 endowment was exhausted. That year, the Stephenson Medal was awarded for a Class II act of valor by FF Charles Sadera, Rescue 1, on December 28, 1954.

Because of the unexplained lapse in awarding the Stephenson Medals, the James Gordon Bennett Medal is known as the senior medal of the Department. Endowed in 1869 by the publisher of the *New York*

*Tribune*, it was intended to be "an additional competition to the members of the Metropolitan Fire Department in discipline, courage and honesty with which their duties now are performed" and became the first and highest symbol of recognition for deeds of valor by New York's *Bravest*.

Indeed, it was the only medal for valor that the Department bestowed for 27 years. The first presentation was made in 1870 to Assistant Foreman Minthorne D. Tompkins, Hook and Ladder No. 1, for an act of bravery on November 14, 1868, when at a fire at "Nos. 476 and 480 Broadway, tenants--14 in number-- were cut off from escape, at great personal risk and in spite of injuries sustained, [he] rescued six persons, one of whom, a woman, he carried from the fourth floor to the street."

The endowment of medals and, occasionally, their demise, continued to be an important part of the history of this great Fire Department. Some, such as the Pulitzer Medal--which was awarded only in 1895 to three Firefighters--and the Strong, Wertheim, Brooklyn Eagle, Hurley, Heukelom, Fire College, Commerce and Industry and the O'Dwyer Medals no longer are awarded, yet each represented the respect that New York's citizens have for the dangers their Firefighters faced.

At the same time, the Department started to recognize meritorious acts by creating a system of recording them in 1868. A resolution dated November 22 of that year directed that "the secretary be instructed to open and keep under his personal supervision, a book of record, which shall be called 'the Roll of Merit M. F. D.', in which shall be entered names of such Officers and members of the Department as may have, in

(continued on page 40)

## The Bronze Bennett Medal

by FF Paul Hashagen, Rescue 1 (retired)

**S**ince its inception, the James Gordon Bennett Medal has been the highest award of valor presented by the New York City Fire Department. Endowed in 1869, the medal, designed by Messrs. Tiffany & Co., was to be struck in gold on an annual basis and awarded to the member of the Department best entitled to the award. In 1870, two medals were struck and presented for rescues made in that and the previous year. This annual awarding would continue uninterrupted until 2002. No Department medals were presented that year due to the events of September 11, 2001.

In the early days of the paid Department, a very unusual occurrence took place when the Bennett Medal for the year 1872 was decided upon. During the previous years, several spectacular rescues had been made and the committee's choice was a difficult one.

For the year 1871, the first of two medals awarded was for the actions of Assistant Foreman Charles L. Kelly, Engine 9, during a fire at Division and Forsyth Streets on February 9th. He literally climbed the awnings and shutters of the adjacent building, then broke through a top-floor window of the fire building to rescue an unconscious family of three. The second medal recognized the heroics of Fireman Ambrose L. Austin, Engine 3, when he responded to a blaze at 33 Bowery on April 24, 1871. FF Austin entered a heavily charged cellar and rescued a trapped woman from the flames. He suffered burns about the face and neck.

Under consideration for the year 1872 was Fireman Thomas Hutchinson for his rescue at 63 Baxter Street on December 20th when he pushed into extremely heavy smoke on the second floor. Seeing he could continue no further, he made his way to the rear of the building where he exited onto the fire escape. As the smoke cleared for a brief moment, Fireman Hutchinson saw a boy dangling precariously from the third-floor balcony above. FF Hutchinson was able to convince the boy to let go. The Fireman caught the child as he dropped through the heavy smoke from the floor above.

Another rescue under consideration occurred on February 15, 1872, at 23 Suffolk Street, a dwelling house. A number of tenants were trapped on the second floor as fire units rolled in and ladders were immediately raised. Assistant Foreman Thomas Henry, Hook & Ladder 6, climbed a ladder and dove into the smoke-charged room. He was able to search in the blinding smoke and locate the desperate family. One by one, under dangerous conditions, he handed out a woman and seven children to other Firemen on the ladder.

A third rescue was made on December 30th by William H. Nash, Chief of the Fourth Battalion. Chief Nash responded to 223 Division Street where he was informed children were trapped in a rear bedroom. Without protection of a hose-line, the Chief made his way toward the rear room, which was quickly

being cut off by fire roaring from an adjacent open door. Chief Nash dove through the fire and into the back room. Searching under extreme conditions, the Chief located both children and crawled back toward the fire.

For a second time, now with the children tucked under his arms, Chief Nash dove through flames. Rolling to a stop, his precious cargo in arm, he crawled along a hallway with flames extending overhead. He burst onto the front stoop with the children cradled in his arms as their mother raced to his side. For his heroic actions, Chief Nash was placed on the Roll of Merit.

So Medal Day 1873 became unique by Department standards for several reasons. For the first time, the medals would be awarded during a ceremony in the auditorium of the Medical College of Bellevue Hospital on January 31, 1873. Awards that evening were being presented for meritorious acts in 1871 and 1872. With two medals being awarded for 1871 and three for 1872, a total of five members would be receiving the Bennett Medals. With a limited amount of money available in the endowment fund, only four of the five medals could be struck in gold. The fifth medal would be made of bronze.

In true form, Battalion Chief Nash requested that the other members be given the gold medals; he would take the bronze medal. To the applause of the packed house, each of the four Firefighters came forward and received their award. The last award of the night was to Chief Nash. The Chief came forward to a thunderous ovation and was presented the only bronze Bennett Medal ever presented by the New York City Fire Department.

No stranger to heroic actions, the six-foot-tall Battalion Chief, who sported a large handlebar mustache, was famous for his fearless rescues using ladders. Prior to joining the Fire Department, Chief Nash had served with distinction in the Union Army during the Civil War. As a member of the 1st United States Sharpshooters, a special unit that wore dark-green uniforms (the camouflage of the day) and used high-powered target and Sharp's rifles, Chief Nash was cited for heroism several times and promoted to Lieutenant Colonel by war's end.

In 1868, Chief Nash joined the FDNY and was appointed to Engine 7 on Chambers Street. In 1869, he became one of the first members of the Department placed on the Roll of Merit for the rescue of five people from a fifth-floor window while perched on the top-most rung of a ladder during a fire on East 14th Street. He was cited again in 1873 and 1874 for his rescue work.

The fearless Chief was killed in the line of duty during the exhibition of the Scott-Uda aerial ladder on September 14, 1875. As the ladder was run up to its full extension, several members climbed into position with Chief Nash on the topmost fly of the wooden aerial ladder. Suddenly, a loud crack echoed across the square as the device failed. Six members of the Department were thrown from the collapsing ladder onto the cobble below. Three members--Firemen Philip J. Maus, Ladder 6, and William Hughes, Engine 9, and Battalion Chief William H. Nash were killed.





SUPREME SACRIFICE MEDAL



SUPREME SACRIFICE MEDAL

# FDNY



DR. HARRY M. ARCHER 1917

JAMES GORDON BENNETT 1869

BROOKLYN CITIZENS 1896

CHRISTOPHER J. PRESCOTT 1907

CHIEF HUGH BONNER 1897

EMILY TREVOR MARY B. WARREN 1899

JOHN T. AGNEW MEMORIAL 1908

THOMAS E. GRAMMIS 1913

THOMAS A. KENNY MEMORIAL 1919

WALTER SCOTT 1921

JOHN H. PRENTICE 1921



THIRD ALARM ASSOCIATION 1950

VINCENT J. KANE 1952

GRUMMER MEDAL 1962

PULASKI ASSOCIATION 1962

FRANK W. KRIDEL 1962

COMMISSIONER EDWARD THOMPSON 1964

EMERALD SOCIETY 1965

CHIEF WESLEY WILLIAMS VULCAN SOCIETY 1966

COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION 1966

SUSAN WAGNER 1966

HOLY NAME SOCIETY BROOKLYN/QUEENS 1966



FIRE MARSHALS BENEVOLENT ASSOC. 1980

CHIEF ARTHUR J. LAUFER MEMORIAL 1980

COMMUNITY MAYORS INC. LT. ROBERT R. DOLNEY 1981

EMERALD SOCIETY PIPES AND DRUMS 1981

BN. CHIEF FRANK T. TUTTLEMONDO 1982

COMPANY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION 1982

LT. KIRBY McELHEARN 1987

DR. JOHN F. CONNELL 1983

CHIEF JOSEPH B. MARTIN 1984

N.Y. STATE HONORARY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOC. 1984

F.D.N.Y. HONOR LEGION 1984



WILLIAM FRIEDBERG MEMORIAL 1995

FF & L. FITZPATRICK G. FRISBY AWARD 1996

FF LOUIS VALENTINO 1998

NYS FIRE CHIEFS ASSOC. SHELLY ROTHMAN MEM. 2004

PINTCHUK LIFE SAVING 1983

WORLD TRADE CENTER MEMORIAL 2009





# MEDALS



DEPARTMENT MEDAL



HENRY D. BROOKMAN 1921  
 CHIEF ULYSES GRANT 2012  
 MICHAEL J. DELEHANTY 1937  
 WILLIAM F. CONRAN 1937  
 MAYOR FIORELLO H. LAGUARDIA 1937  
 CHIEF JOHN J. MCELIGOTT 1937  
 THOMAS F. DOUGHERTY 1938  
 ALBERT S. JOHNSTON 1938  
 NAER TORMD SOCIETY FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT 1946  
 BELLA STIEFEL 1947  
 TRACY ALLEN LEE 2004



STEBUEN ASSOCIATION 1966  
 CHIEF JAMES SCULLION 1967  
 2ND STREET FIRE MEMORIAL 1969  
 DR. J.W. GOLDENKRANZ 1975  
 CAPTAIN DEMIS W. LANE MEMORIAL 1976  
 UNIFORMED FIRE OFFICERS ASSOC. 1977  
 DR. ALBERT A. CINELLI 1978  
 EDITH B. GOLDMAN 1978  
 FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION 1979  
 AMERICAN LEGION POST 930 MARK M. WOHLFELD MEM. 1979  
 SIGNAL 7.7 CLUB 1980



FIRE BELL CLUB 1984  
 POLICE HONOR LEGION 1984  
 FF DAVID J. DE FRANCO 1988  
 LT. JAMES E. ZAHN PETER L. TROIANO 1986  
 LT. JAMES CURRAN NY FFs BURN CENTER 1987  
 FF THOMAS R. ELSASSER MEMORIAL 1991  
 FATHER JULIAN DEEKEN MEMORIAL 1993  
 DEP. COMMISSIONER CHRISTINE R. GODEK 1995  
 FF KEVIN C. KANE 1995  
 PROFF THOMAS A. WYLIE MEMORIAL 1995  
 CAPTAIN JOHN J. DRENNAN MEMORIAL 1995



9-11 CAMPAIGN SERVICE



CLASSIFICATION OF ACTS OF VALOR CHEST INSIGNIA  
 CLASS "1" ...VALOR INVOLVING "EXTREME PERSONAL RISK"  
 CLASS "2" ...VALOR INVOLVING "GREAT PERSONAL RISK"  
 CLASS "3" ...VALOR INVOLVING "UNUSUAL PERSONAL RISK"



SERVICE RATINGS CHEST INSIGNIA  
 9-11 SURVIVOR (2) STARS  
 9-11 RESCUER (1) STAR  
 9-11 CAMPAIGN (0) STARS  
 SERVICE RATING "A" BRAVERY, INITIATIVE AND CAPABILITY  
 SERVICE RATING "B" BRAVERY OR INITIATIVE AND CAPABILITY



9-11 CAMPAIGN SERVICE (R)

## UNIT CITATIONS



ENGINE COMPANY  
 LADDER COMPANY  
 RESCUE COMPANY  
 HAZ-MAT COMPANY  
 FIRE MARSHALS  
 MARINE COMPANY  
 SQUAD COMPANY  
 CHIEF OF OPERATIONS  
 PRE-HOSPITAL SAVE INSIGNIA  
 ACCOMPLISHMENT WITH MERIT-SILVER STAR ACCOMPLISHMENT  
 VICE-PRESIDENT  
 EXCELLENT DUTY WITH HONORS-GOLD STAR  
 EXCELLENT DUTY WITH MERIT-SILVER STAR  
 EXCELLENT DUTY  
 MERITORIOUS SERVICE  
 UNIT CITATION  
 UNIT CITATION INSIGNIA



(Sere, continued from page 37)

the judgment of the Board of Commissioners, distinguished themselves in the discharge of their duties, with a full record of the act by which they have become entitled to the honor of being enrolled." Minthorne Tompkins was the first entered on the list, along with three other men who worked that fire on Broadway in 1868.

The Bennett Medal was the only medal for valor that was awarded until 1897 when the Hugh Bonner Medal, named for the fifth Chief of Department and endowed by perhaps the first Department Chaplain, the Reverend James Johnson of Grace Church, was awarded to Lieutenant John P. Howe for an act of valor on January 2, 1897. However, a conflict exists in this presentation being the first medal recipient because some data concerning the Mayor Strong Medal list the first presentation to Assistant Foreman Thomas Larkin, Hook and Ladder 9, for an act of valor dated February 3 1896. Further research of the conflicting data seems to support that the Mayor Strong Medal wasn't endowed until 1903 and the first awards may have been pushed back.

By 1915, the number of medals increased and continued to do so throughout the years. By including medals for the Emergency Medical Service (Fire and EMS ceremonies were combined in 2008), as many as 75 medals can be bestowed in a year.

Today, the number of medals awarded each year is based on a bi-yearly presentation with the original medals for valor based on seniority distributed every year and the subsequent medals given, as needed, on

## Origins of *The Bravest*

by Paul Hashagen, *Rescue 1* (retired)

*The bravest are those who have the clearest vision of what is before them, glory and danger alike, and yet notwithstanding go out and meet it.* So said Pericles, the most prominent and influential Greek statesman, orator and general of Athens during the Golden Age--specifically, the time between the Persian and Peloponnesian Wars. History records that this is the first time (during the summer of 400 BC) the word, "Bravest," was used to honor those individuals in the Greek army who went above and beyond the call of duty to save lives.

Historically, the members of the New York City Fire Department have been referred to as *The Bravest*. This term pre-dates the organization of the paid Fire Department in 1865. The first actual mentioning of this term in print is found in a *New York Times* article, published on August 27, 1862. The story covered a reception in honor of Captain John "Jack" Downey, a returning Civil War veteran. Downey, a Fireman in Engine 34, was toasted by those assembled: "Our guest, the bravest of the brave. May the country always find as firm a supporter and the Fire Department as illustrious a representative as Captain Downey." These remarks echo the military heroes of the Napoleonic era, namely Michel Ney, who was dubbed "bravest of the brave" by the emperor himself.

Another early New York City reference occurred in June 1886, when a play called *One of the Bravest*, written by E.E. Price, opened. The show featured a red-shirted Fireman rescuing a damsel from a burning building. Various appliances used by the Life Savings Corps were featured in the play. (The Life Saving Corps was introduced in the FDNY in 1883 and trained members in the use of ropes, scaling ladders, life nets and other tools.)

At the 1902 Medal Day ceremony in the rear of the Fire Headquarters on East 67th Street in Manhattan, Mayor Seth Low remarked to the medal recipients, "The citizens of New York know that honoring you, they are honoring also every man in the Fire Department, for the words 'bravest of the brave' are aptly descriptive and truthful in your case."

The term, *Bravest*, now was becoming the acknowledged nickname for the members of the FDNY. So much so, that newspaper coverage of the charity baseball game between the Police and Fire Departments in 1914 provided the headline: "Finest beat Bravest." While the outcome of the game was not what the "smoke eaters" hoped for, the term had stuck.

In 1965, the FDNY celebrated 100 years of paid service to the City of New York. In his Centennial Day address, Mayor Robert Wagner remarked: "I express on behalf of eight million people of New York City the gratitude, the respect, the esteem and the affection that we have for the bravest of the brave--the New York City Fire Department."

Early in the 20th century, a newspaper reporter asked Chief of Department John Kenlon (1911-1931) who was the bravest Fireman. The Chief thoughtfully replied, "Who can say bravest where all are brave."

He was right then; he is right now.

*Thanks to Lieutenant Frank Cull, who retired from FDNY as the Press Secretary, for providing the Pericles quote.*

alternate years. The only exception is the Dr. Harry M. Archer Medal, which is awarded every three years, and presented to one of the three recipients of the James Gordon Bennett Medal, whose act of valor was deemed to be the most valorous of the three.

It could be said today that the original medal system that has evolved since the creation of the paid Fire Department is a unique system in that it was born out of love and respect of its citizenry for their Fire Department and its Firefighters. The medals bestowed are gifts from thankful citizens, organizations, associations and other private groups. It would not exist today had it not been for their generosity. The Fire Department itself neither issues or presents on their behalf, a medal for personal valor and merely acts as the custodian in the recording administration and presentation of these citizen medals of valor.

The record is unclear regarding what role meritorious acts played in Departmental recognition in the early days. The Annual Report of 1898 quotes John J. Scannell, the first Commissioner of this Department, "I regret that under the law at present I have not the power to promote those who perform great acts of bravery without having them undergo a civil service examination. Acts of bravery and strict attention to their duty as Firemen would surely outweigh with me any percentage that a lad fresh from the school of minds at any college could get before a civil service examiner...Acts of single courage performed in the line of duty in this corps should be rewarded, as they would be on the fields of battle, by promotion."

Yet, the 1897 Report of the Brooklyn Fire Department records that Commissioner William C. Bryant decreed on March 5, 1896, that "By virtue of the power conferred on me by Chapter 578 of the laws of 1893, and with the consent of your honor, I promoted Henry P. Kirk, Fireman of Hook and Ladder Co. No. 3, for gallant and meritorious deeds in the discharge of his duty." FF Kirk, however, was not awarded a medal.

At the same time, the report goes on to say, "it was decided to establish a medal fund to be designated The Brooklyn Fire Department Medal Fund" and a committee of 30 prominent citizens was formed. By 1903, the committee "reported that it had accumulated interest from the Fund that would allow for the purchasing of four medals for this year. The medals," the report goes on, "were presented by the Honorary Seth Low, Mayor of the City of New York, at the reviewing stand at Fifth Avenue and 60th Street, borough of Manhattan, immediately after the parade of the Department on June 6, 1903." Fireman first grade Rudolph J. Uster, Engine Company 117, received the Brooklyn Citizens Medal for the earliest of the rescues, a Tarzan-like rope rescue of two children at 888 Myrtle Avenue on the morning of March 10, 1900.

The one exception to the practice of citizens endowing medals was the Department Medal of Valor, which was awarded from 1912 to 1960 for acts of Class I valor. In 1947, it was amended to include Class I valor and members killed in the line of duty and posthumous awards. In 1960, it became the Department's Supreme Sacrifice Medal. On some occasions, this medal was presented under special orders and given to civilians.

## Medal Day

It was not until 1948 that the words, "Medal Day," were used publicly. Prior to that time, there were "Presentations of Awards" ceremonies, more often than not including the Police Department and, sometimes, the Sanitation Department, the Division of Street Cleaners, according to a 1929 program. What has remained constant, with some exceptions, is the timing, with most such ceremonies scheduled in early June, although one was held as early as May 16 and several were held in October.

A parade was usually a feature of the ceremony. In recent years, the Mayor has played a prominent role, personally making presentations, although City Hall was not always the site. Around the turn of the century, Union Square was midtown and a favored central location. Throngs of admiring citizens would turn out to see the medals to be awarded and the newspapers would publish extensive reports.

Medals are tangible things that symbolize the Firefighters' skill, courage and determination brought to bear at one particular moment. Yet, they represent the intangible: appreciation for preserving the gift of life and thanks for a job well-done.





# Susan Wagner Medal

## FIREFIGHTER ANTHONY REYNOLDS

### LADDER COMPANY 47

February 13, 2014, 0926 hours, Box 44-4155, Bronx



*Appointed to the FDNY on July 1, 2008. Served as the Valedictorian for his Probie class. Recipient of a Service Rating A. Holds a BS degree in Mathematics and a Masters degree in the Art of Teaching from Sacred Heart University. Member of the Coast Guard Reserves. Resides in Mamaroneck, NY, with his wife, Katie.*

**F**irefighting, as everyone knows, is a very dangerous, but rewarding profession. Many Firefighters can have a long, outstanding career without ever making a successful rescue. Timing and being in the right place are critical to many rescues. Such was the case for a fire in the Throgs Neck area of the Bronx when FF Anthony Reynolds was in position to attempt a rescue of several victims, but faced a tough challenge.

On February 13, 2014, at 0926 hours, the Bronx Communication Office received a phone alarm for an occupied building fire. This information was transmitted to local firehouses, including Ladder 47. Combining a fast turnout, quick response and heroic action would be necessary to lessen the severity of injuries, if, in fact, occupants of this building were trapped. Through training and experience, the members of Ladder 47 were up to this task.

The fire building was a three-story, 35- by 60-foot, Class 3, brick, semi-attached, occupied private dwelling. On arrival, Ladder 47 members were confronted with a fire on the first floor with extension to the upper floors, with a very heavy smoke condition issuing from all floors. On this morning, there were blizzard conditions and high winds. To make matters even worse, the aerial apparatus had to be re-positioned because of the overhead utility lines.

FF Reynolds had been assigned the roof position. He immediately removed a 35-foot portable extension ladder and raised it to the third-floor balcony. He ascended the ladder and arrived at the third-floor balcony, where he was confronted with a panicky adult and two very frightened children on the balcony.

The adult informed FF Reynolds that two people were still in the apartment on the third floor. He entered the hot and smoke-filled apartment with FF John Varmon, Engine 89, but working in Ladder 50 on this tour, to search for the two victims. A female adult was located and escorted to the balcony by FF Varmon, but she informed FF

Reynolds that her young son had left the apartment via the front door to seek refuge in the stairwell.

Conditions were deteriorating in the apartment, but FF Reynolds still continued his search until he found the apartment door leading to the stairwell. As he descended the stairs in search of a child, he was driven back by the intense heat. The rescuer radioed the information to operating forces below that a child was missing and then he found his way back to the exterior balcony.

At this time, Ladder 47's aerial was re-positioned to the third-floor balcony. Responding with urgency, FF Reynolds climbed onto the tip of the aerial ladder. The wind-impacted fire during this blizzard and the high winds made conditions on the aerial and the balcony a severe, life-threatening hazard.

A member of Ladder 47 passed the child to FF Reynolds. He descended the ladder with the young victim, brought him to safety and then returned to the top of the aerial ladder. Conditions deteriorated for the rescuers because fire had vented out the second-floor window. Without much time to spare, FF Reynolds assisted in removing an elderly female victim onto the ladder and with the use of a stokes basket, slid her down the ladder to waiting EMS personnel.

FF Reynolds' job still was not finished; he made one more trip up the aerial and guided another female onto the top of the ladder. He carried this victim partially down the aerial ladder until he received assistance from other members.

FF Anthony Reynolds entered the occupancy directly above the fire to search for missing occupants in a wind-impacted fire that extended to a fourth alarm. He was instrumental in removing three occupants--who were in a dangerous position on a balcony directly above the heat and flames--to safety. For his initiative and bravery, the Fire Department is proud to honor him with the Susan Wagner Medal.--ECB



Ladder 47 apparatus at The Rock.

*photo courtesy of the Mand Library*



# Steuben Association Medal

## FIREFIGHTER JOHN J. VARMON, JR.

*ENGINE COMPANY 89 (ASSIGNED)*

*LADDER COMPANY 50 (DETAILED)*

February 13, 2014, 0926 hours, Box 44-4155, Bronx



*Appointed to the FDNY on January 14, 2013. Had served with EMS since July 1, 2008. Member of the Holy Name Society. Recipient of several EMS pre-hospital saves. Resides in Harrison, NY.*

On the morning of February 13, 2014, Engine 89 and Ladder 50 responded to a report of a fire in a three-story multiple dwelling. The City was in the midst of a serious winter storm, with the cold, snow and very strong winds making an already job even more difficult and dangerous. Engine 89 arrived and transmitted a 10-75 for a fire on the first floor of a building in the Country Club section of the Bronx. Ladder 50 arrived and the crew dismounted the apparatus and went to work.

FF John Varmon, assigned to Engine 89, but detailed to Ladder 50 for this tour, performed an outside survey with FF Alfredo Dumont and quickly returned to the front of the building. Through the smoke and driving snow, the pair could see civilians outside on the front balcony, exposed to fire and smoke from the fire below.

The two rescuers quickly transported a 35-foot portable ladder to the front of the building and positioned it to the balcony. In spite of the fact that the fire below was venting in proximity to the ladder, they climbed it to the balcony above. Once they got onto the balcony, the duo attempted to get the panicked civilians onto the ladder they had just ascended.

Due to the now-heavy fire exposing the ladder, this route became impassable. Ladder 47's chauffeur placed his company's ladder to the opposite side of the balcony, which allowed FFs Varmon and Dumont to get the civilians onto and down that ladder.

At this point, FF Varmon was told that other people were trapped above the fire. He entered the apartment and began a search for these trapped civilians. With the heavy fire still exposing his position and without the protection of a hose-line, FF Varmon searched for and located a woman inside the apartment. She was frightened and panicky. He

removed her to the balcony where she was placed into a stokes basket and transported to the street via Ladder 47's aerial.

This incident had it all: wind-impacted fire during a snow-storm; treacherous driving conditions; multiple frozen hydrants; *maydays*; numerous people trapped; and several members burned. However, the end result was zero fatalities. In the Report of Meritorious Act, Division 7 Commander, Deputy Chief Joseph Saccente, wrote, "FF Varmon not only assisted in rescues from the balcony, he entered the building against the force of the wind-blown fire to perform a rescue and save a life."

This woman is alive today because of the quick thinking, competence and bravery of FF John J. Varmon, Jr. He put himself in danger, entered the floor above the fire without the protection of a hose-line and performed in the highest traditions of the New York City Fire Department. For all of these reasons, he is presented with the Steuben Association Medal.--JJS



FF John Varmon is shown at the incident for which he was awarded the Steuben Association Medal. He is at the front of the ladder.







## Chief James Scullion Medal

December 31, 2014, 2350 hours, Box 22-9206, Lefrak City, Queens



### EMS Lieutenant Thomas Schulz *HazTac Battalion*

Appointed to the Emergency Medical Service as an EMT on May 9, 1988. Previously assigned to Stations 10, 17, 37 and 55. Recipient of the Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn Medal, two unit citations and numerous pre-hospital saves. Resides in East Setauket, Long Island, with his wife, Bonnie, and their daughter, Samantha.

Being part of the emergency service means sacrifice in one's personal life. Holidays and special occasions often take a back seat to the needs of the citizens of the City of New York, who they serve so selflessly. Difficult as it may be, it's a commitment made, fully knowing that they are there to save lives. But on this particular day, New Year's Eve, when a first responder leaves his/her home and loved ones, the rescuer somehow departs with a different approach and outlook regarding the upcoming tour.

So, on December 31, 2014, at 2350 hours, responding to Queens Box 9206, Lieutenant Thomas Schulz and Paramedic Silvana Uzcategui relied on their experience in anticipation of a busy night. They had left their loved ones to work Tour 3 at Haz-Tac 2. It was New Year's Eve and there would be many people out celebrating, which portends many potential job assignments.

From the moment Fire dispatchers transmitted the job over the fire radio, the EMS Officers and crews responded. C461, Lieutenant Edward Keenan notified the Queens West dispatcher to start sending units and an additional EMS Officer. With that, Captain Eric McNeice, as well as the units monitoring the radio, went into action and prepared to respond. This assignment presented numerous challenges that demanded true professionalism.

On arrival, EMS crew HazTac 2--Lieutenant Schulz and Paramedic Uzcategui--proceeded to the seventh floor via the elevator to assist in the removal of a civilian in cardiac arrest. After removing the patient from the fire floor (with the help of Ladder 136 members) into the elevator, the elevator mal-

### Paramedic Silvana Uzcategui *Station 35*

Appointed to the Emergency Medical Service as an EMT on December 7, 1992. Previously assigned to Stations 57, 49 and 46. Recipient of EMT of the Year in 1999 and Medic Award in 2012. Resides in Woodside, Queens.

functioned and all were trapped. During this time, the crew was under extreme stress.

Both the EMS crew and members from Ladder 136 and Engine 287 could not immediately identify their location to request help. They were unsure if they were even still on the fire floor. As they worked together, the EMS crew and Fire members continued with patient care and CPR for approximately 25 minutes as they waited for their location to be identified so they could be rescued.

Being proactive and assigning EMS units at the very beginning of this job proved to be extremely relevant. The fire turned out to be a large incident with several red tag patients, as well as a confirmed *mayday*. Although the patient outcome was not what rescuers hope for, this patient was given the best opportunity for survival, even under the extreme circumstances.

These kinds of assignments are exactly what Lieutenant Schulz and Paramedic Uzcategui are trained for and encounter every day. All the Officers, Firefighters, EMTs and Paramedics--especially Lieutenant Schulz and Paramedic Uzcategui--who operated on the scene of Queens Box 9206 should be acknowledged and praised for their efforts.

EMS Deputy Chief Nancy Gilligan personally observed these two EMS members at this incident and recognized the merit of their actions. Now, at Medal Day 2015, both Lieutenant Thomas Schulz and Paramedic Silvana Uzcategui officially are recognized throughout the Department and the City as they are presented with the Chief James Scullion Medal.--CAMcC



The incident for which Lieutenant Thomas Schulz and Paramedic Silvana Uzcategui are presented with the Chief James Scullion Medal.





## Dr. J.W. Goldenkranz Medal

### CAPTAIN DANIEL C. FLORENCO

*DIVISION 15 (ASSIGNED)*

*LADDER COMPANY 103 (DETAILED)*

**June 2, 2014, 0309 hours, Box 75-2004, Brooklyn**

*Appointed to the FDNY on February 8, 1998. Now assigned to Ladder 103. Prior assignments include Ladder 112 as a Lieutenant and Engine 48 as a Firefighter. Father, Lieutenant Carl Florenco, is retired from Ladder 31. Member of the Uniformed Fire Officers Association. Recipient of five unit citations and a Service Rating B. Holds a BA degree in Management from the University of Tampa. Resides in Ronkonkoma, Long Island, with his wife, Lisa, and their daughter, Amanda.*

The night tour started as many of them do for the members of Ladder 103--roll call, check the rig, ready all equipment, power up communications systems and maybe a quick workout if time permitted. There was a well-tested crew on-duty this night: FFs Antanas Banys, chauffeur; Ed DeMaio, outside vent; Tim Engelke, roof; and making up the inside team working forcible entry were FFs Jonathan Nielsen with the irons and Eric Surbito with the can. In charge this night was Captain Daniel C. Florenco.

The dispatch alert came at 0309 hours. The housewatch Firefighter called out the details for the incoming "run," a building that was well-known to Ladder 103 members and would present many challenges. As members boarded the apparatus and pulled out of quarters, all listened intently to the radio as Brooklyn Dispatch came on the air with an updated report of "second source, fill out the alarm, report of people trapped, we're getting numerous phone calls."

As they pulled into the block, Captain Florenco observed panicked occupants pouring into the street, fleeing the fire. He transmitted the 10-75 for a working fire in a multiple dwelling. As the Captain led the inside team into the building, he checked his radio for a conditions report. The radio response from FF DeMaio confirmed a "jumper" down in the street and in need of immediate medical attention.

Within moments, the rescuers were at the fire apartment door, sizing up forcible entry options. The door was heavily fortified with angle iron. Without delay, the team skillfully forced the door and was immediately driven to the floor by a high heat condition with thick, black smoke pushing from within the apartment.

The Captain initiated an immediate search for trapped occupants. He led the inside team into the fire apartment and determined the location of the fire to be toward the right. In a tactical effort to control the hallway egress and monitor the fire's advancement, he positioned FF Surbito at that point, then moved to the left with FF Nielsen to begin a search of the bedrooms along the hallway, running toward the rear of the apartment.

Captain Florenco entered the first bedroom, located a semi-conscious adult female on the floor and then transmitted a signal 10-45. With

fire rolling overhead, the rescuer maneuvered the victim into the public hallway. He then re-entered the apartment to continue a search for additional victims.

At this point, the Captain received a radio report from the outside vent Firefighter regarding an elderly female trapped behind a steel-barred bedroom window. Immediately, Captain Florenco and his inside team moved deeper into the apartment, to a third bedroom, in search of the trapped victim. Removing this victim to safety proved challenging. Conditions in the apartment were deteriorating rapidly. Advancement of the hose-line stalled when the ceiling collapsed and injured the Engine 290 nozzle Firefighter. This collapse created a solid wall of fire that cut off the interior evacuation route for the members of Ladder 103 as they worked to remove the victim trapped at the window.

Making a tactical decision based on the change in conditions, Captain Florenco and the inside team struggled to relocate the unconscious victim (who ultimately expired) to an area where they could establish a position that would protect the victim as the fire advanced. The Captain directed the team to move the victim deeper into the fire apartment to seek shelter in a fourth bedroom. Monitoring ongoing radio transmissions, Captain Florenco noted that the hose-line was back in place, making way for the evacuation of the victim via the interior route to the public hallway. Once there, he provided the victim with clean air from his SCBA as members of Ladder 103 performed CPR.

Battalion Chief James McNally, Battalion 44, then reported that two children still were unaccounted for. Captain Florenco immediately re-entered the fire apartment for the third time to search for the missing children. It was determined that the children had self-evacuated with their father during the early stages of the fire.

Captain Daniel Florenco operated under extreme and challenging fire conditions, without the benefit of a protective hose-line, in rapidly deteriorating fire conditions. He demonstrated initiative, unwavering courage and professionalism in the performance of his duty. Additionally, his leadership and decisive actions directly resulted in the lifesaving rescue of occupants of the fire building. For all of these reasons, he is honored with the Dr. J.W. Goldenkranz Medal.--JDL



**Captain Daniel Florenco, following a job.**





# Uniformed Fire Officers Association Medal

## CAPTAIN PETER M. IRISH

*DIVISION 3 (ASSIGNED)*

*LADDER COMPANY 35 (DETAILED)*

**December 2, 2013, 1914 hours, Box 22-1137, Manhattan**



*Appointed to the FDNY on February 4, 2001. Previously assigned to Engine 293 as a Lieutenant and Ladder 124 as a Firefighter. Recipient of two pre-hospital saves. Holds a BS degree in Engineering from Cornell University. Resides in Williston Park, Long Island, with his wife, Shawna, and their daughter, Madeline, and sons, Peter, Jr., and Frederick.*

A second alarm in a five-story, non-fireproof, multiple dwelling usually speaks for itself on the magnitude of fire involvement faced by members of the FDNY. However, with one such fire--as occurred on December 2, 2013--there is much more to tell.

At 1914 hours, the members of Ladder 35 on Manhattan's upper west side responded second-due to a fire on the fourth floor of a multiple dwelling with heavy smoke showing from the fourth- and fifth-floor windows. Ladder 35's inside team--Captain Peter Irish and FFs Jeremiah Linhart (irons) and Pedro Aristy (can, detailed from Engine 40)--ascended the stairs and briefly conferred with the first-due ladder company's (Ladder 25's) interior team at the fire apartment door. Ladder 25 members were maintaining control of the apartment door while waiting for the arrival of the first hose-line.

Ladder 35's team members continued on to their assigned position--the apartment directly above the fire--via the unenclosed interior stair. On arrival, they found the door to that apartment slightly ajar. Beginning their primary search, which was hampered by zero visibility and a large amount of debris and furnishings, Captain Irish, using a thermal imaging camera, noted what appeared to be a body at the front of the apartment. He crawled toward the image.

Making contact with the form, the semi-conscious male victim grabbed the Captain by the arm and began to moan. Captain Irish immediately transmitted a 10-45 and radioed that due to narrow casement windows, he would remove the victim through the interior. Taking hold of the now-unconscious victim, Captain Irish began the difficult task of crawling and dragging the victim back toward the apartment door. While performing this task, the Captain noted that fire had extended through



The incident for which Captain Peter Irish is receiving the Uniformed Fire Officers Association Medal for his display of valor. That is his company's tower ladder bucket--Ladder 35--at the window, with some Ladder 35 members on the fire escape.

*photo by Joseph John Ramos*

the floor from below and had control of a closet, while rapidly moving along the wall toward the apartment door.

Time was becoming critical. As FF Aristy attempted to control the extending fire with his extinguisher, Captain Irish heard his outside vent Firefighter, FF Jeffrey Mark, shouting from Ladder 35's Tower Ladder bucket that there was a larger adjacent window that could be used for removal.

Changing direction, Captain Irish began dragging the victim back toward that front window where he was joined by FF Linhart. At the window, Captain Irish and FF Linhart lifted the victim to Ladder 25's outside vent Firefighter, FF Maureen O'Neill, on the fire escape who, in turn, helped remove the victim to Ladder 35's outside vent Firefighter, FF Jeff Mark, in the bucket.

While the victim was being lowered to the street, Ladder 35's team attempted to continue their search, but was forced to retreat to the hallway where they maintained door control and awaited the arrival of a hose-line.

Throughout the difficult search, recovery and removal, Captain Irish maintained voice contact and immediate supervision of his inside team. Additionally, he deployed thermal imaging technology to quickly locate the victim and made an informed, intelligent decision to change his path of removal, while orchestrating the coordinated effort of the exterior

Firefighters to deliver the victim to the street where he was ultimately revived by FDNY EMS.

For demonstrating personal bravery and initiative, coordinating a team rescue effort and quick thinking under arduous conditions, Captain Peter M. Irish is issued the Uniformed Fire Officers Association Medal for bravery.--SM



# Edith B. Goldman Medal

## LIEUTENANT STEVEN M. CAHILL LADDER COMPANY 24

November 30, 2013, 0403 Hours, Box 75-0738, Manhattan

*Appointed to the FDNY on July 15, 2001. Previously assigned to Engines 75 and 1 and Ladders 33 and 104. Member of the Company Officers Association. Holds a BS degree in Accounting from SUNY at New Paltz. Resides in Montgomery, NY, with his wife, Rosemarie, and their daughters--Bellarose and Lillian.*



**D**uring the early-morning hours of November 30, 2013, the always busy Ladder 24 was dispatched to a phone alarm as the first-due ladder for a fire in a multiple dwelling. The Officer working this 6 by 9 tour was Lieutenant Steven M. Cahill. Arriving at the proper address on Lexington Avenue, he received information that there was a fire on the seventh floor of a 15-story multiple dwelling. Netting that covered the front of the building prevented use of the aerial to the seventh-floor window.

After entering the lobby, Lieutenant Cahill and his inside team of FFs Joseph Abbondondelo with the irons and Ian Seagriff, Ladder 3, detailed with the can and the outside vent member, FF Mike Wasielesky, ascended the B stairwell to the seventh floor. When they arrived on the seventh floor, conditions in the hallway were favorable, so they began to search for the fire apartment.

They quickly found smoke pushing from around the door frame of the fire apartment. The door was locked, so Lieutenant Cahill ordered FFs Abbondondelo and Seagriff to force the door. This turned out to be an arduous task, but the members ultimately succeeded. Despite the heavy smoke that they encountered, Lieutenant Cahill was able to determine that they were entering a kitchen and that this was not the primary entrance used by the occupants since there were shelving and furniture blocking their path. Nevertheless, they cleared the area for egress and began their search for possible victims, without the protection of a hose-line.

Lieutenant Cahill and his team searched the kitchen area and then crawled along a hallway into dense, hot smoke and high heat conditions. As he pressed on, Lieutenant Cahill heard a moan from somewhere in the apartment. Making his way into the living room, the Officer saw a couch that was burning, with fire extending up the wall and rolling along the ceiling. Crawling deeper into the living room, Lieutenant Cahill believed this was where the moaning was coming from.

As he came upon the burning couch,

the rescuer found a man lying face up on the floor. Lieutenant Cahill positioned himself to shield the injured man from the intense heat and began to drag him away from the encroaching fire. The Officer then transmitted a signal *10-45* over his handie-talkie and ordered FF Seagriff to use his extinguisher to hold the fire at bay while he attempted to remove the victim.

Needing assistance, Lieutenant Cahill called FF Abbondondelo to help with removing the man. As they began dragging him away together, Lieutenant Cahill realized that dragging the victim back through the cluttered kitchen with shelving and furniture strewn about would hamper and delay their efforts. The fire was intensifying and the hose-line still was not in place. The Lieutenant ordered FF Abbondondelo to find the primary entrance to the apartment, the quickest and easiest way to get the victim to safety.

FF Abbondondelo was successful in accessing the main entrance door to the apartment. Lieutenant Cahill dragged the victim through the open doorway and into the public hallway. He then called for FF Wasielesky to help assist in removing the victim to the floor below where an elevator waited. FFs Wasielesky and Abbondondelo removed the victim to safety while Lieutenant Cahill returned to the fire apartment to continue the primary search for any other victims. The victim was brought down to the lobby where FF Abbondondelo performed rescue breathing on him until relieved by EMS personnel. The man was transported to the hospital where he received treatment for his injuries.

Lieutenant Cahill successfully rescued an injured man from a rapidly extending fire without the protection of a hose-line. There is no doubt that if he had not acted with such bravery, the victim would have received more severe injuries or even perished. It is with honor that Lieutenant Steven M. Cahill is awarded the Edith B. Goldman Medal for his actions.--AP



Lieutenant Steven Cahill with his crew from Ladder 24.





# American Legion Fire Dept. Post 930/ Mark M. Wohlfeld Memorial Medal

## FIREFIGHTER MICHAEL R. OBER LADDER COMPANY 124

March 3, 2014, 1029 hours, Box 75-4039, Queens

*Appointed to the FDNY on March 8, 2005. Member of the Steuben Association. Recipient of two unit citations, two Service Rating As and the Lieutenant James E. Zahn/Lieutenant Peter L. Troiano Memorial Medal. Holds a BS degree in Nursing from Molloy College. Resides in Wantagh, Long Island, with his wife, Merrie, and their sons, Daniel and John.*



**O**n the morning of March 3, 2014, at 1029 hours, an alarm was received reporting a kitchen fire in a two-story house in the Ridgewood section of Queens, on the Queens/Brooklyn border. A 10-75 was transmitted by Ladder 124 for heavy fire blowing out the first-floor kitchen window on the exposure #2 side. The fire building was a non-fireproof dwelling with two apartments.

As Ladder 124, "The Tonka Truck," arrived at the scene, the members were informed by the son of an elderly occupant that she was trapped in a first-floor rear bedroom. FF Michael R. Ober, Ladder 124, was assigned the outside vent position for the tour. He made his way down the exposure #2 side to enter the building near the fire area on the exposure #2/3 corner and conduct a search for the reportedly trapped woman.

At this time, there was a high heat and heavy smoke condition as the fire fully involved the kitchen and was rapidly extending into the rest of the apartment. The first-due engine, Engine 271, was out of service and the second-due engine, Engine 291, transmitted a 10-70 because of a frozen hydrant. Engine 291 supplied the first hand-line with booster water until Engine 277 located a working hydrant and relayed water.

FF Ober asked his Officer, Lieutenant Christopher Oleaga, for permission to vent for life before entering the dwelling to conduct a search. The Officer granted permission and FF Ober entered a window at the exposure #2/3 corner, where he was met with blinding smoke and zero visibility as he searched the rear bedroom. After searching the bedroom, FF Ober continued his search into the living room, where he encoun-

tered high heat because the fire was rolling above his head and coming in his direction. FF Ober made a quick search of the living room and crawled past the furniture, looking for the other bedroom.

He located the other bedroom and, while searching, located the elderly victim laying in a supine position on the bed. FF Ober transmitted a 10-45 and realized that the fire was blocking his path to the front of the apartment. Without a hose-line for protection, his only option was to remove the victim via the secondary means of egress at the rear of the apartment.

Once he located the victim, FF Ober closed the door to the bedroom to isolate the room and cleared out the window. When he got the victim to the window, he was assisted by members of Ladders 140 and 135 in removing her down a portable ladder and to safety, approximately six feet from the window to the ground below. The victim then was moved to the front of the building where members of Engine 237 performed CPR and provided other care before she was transported to the hospital by EMS personnel. Once the rescue was complete, FF Ober re-entered the building to continue his search and operate with the other members of Ladder 124.

Regrettably, the victim did not survive her injuries. However, FF Ober did all that was humanly possible to give her a chance at survival. His bravery is officially recognized by the FDNY today as FF Michael R. Ober is presented with the American Legion Fire Department Post 930/Mark M. Wohlfeld Memorial Medal.--NG



Shown, top photo, is the actual incident for which FF Michael R. Ober is presented with the American Legion Fire Department Post 930/Mark M. Wohlfeld Memorial Medal. He is shown, in the above photo, facing the camera, following the job.

*photos by Allen Epstein*



# Arthur J. Laufer Memorial Medal

## FIREFIGHTER BRYAN KELLY

### SQUAD COMPANY 1

March 16, 2014, 0217 hours, Box 75-0583, Brooklyn

*Appointed to the FDNY on March 8, 2005. Previously assigned to Tower Ladder 23. Holds a BA degree in Political Science and History from York College of Pennsylvania. Resides in East Moriches, Long Island, with his daughter, Kaitlin, and son, Sean.*



The Borough of Brooklyn often is associated with low-rise buildings with limited occupancies. The truth of the matter is that Brooklyn Firefighters respond to more than their share of fires in high-rise buildings that often are teeming with people. Such was the case on the night of March 16, 2014, when FF Bryan Kelly--enabled by the balance of the members of Squad 1--distinguished himself in the rapid response and timely rescue of a young girl trapped in a fire-engulfed apartment.

Squad 1 was backing into quarters at 0217 hours when they were special-called to respond to a fire on the fifth floor of a 21-story, residential, fireproof building. The wheels reversed direction and carried the company to a large-area structure housing more than 200 apartments. En route to the address, the dispatcher notified responding units of multiple calls reporting children trapped in the fire apartment on the fifth floor.

On arrival, Lieutenant Sean Parker, Squad 1, realized that he and his members had arrived prior to Ladder 110, the second-due truck. The Lieutenant led his inside team (FFs Kelly with the can and Patrick Degen with the irons) to the third floor. FF Kelly rapidly surveyed the layout of the D-line apartment in preparation for a difficult search on the fifth-floor level.

Lieutenant Parker and the inside team then progressed to the fire apartment and made a rapid entry, despite zero visibility conditions and the absence of a hose-line. FF Kelly immediately searched the kitchen area and the apartment hallway when he heard Lieutenant John LaBarbera, Ladder 105, transmit a signal 10-45 for an infant located in one

of two bedrooms in the apartment.

Acutely aware that another child was unaccounted for, FF Kelly pressed his search, now concentrating on the single remaining bedroom at the rear. The bedroom location required FF Kelly to pass the fire-involved room where Ladder 105 members were operating. Recognizing the deteriorating fire conditions, FF Kelly quickly located a crib within the bedroom area. His search of the crib proved negative. Undaunted, he continued to search the floor around the perimeter of the bedroom. His diligence was rewarded when he grasped the leg of a young girl, who was unconscious and prone on the floor.

FF Kelly then notified Lieutenant LaBarbera, who transmitted a second 10-45, while the Firefighter carried the unresponsive girl to the door of the apartment, out into the hallway and into the stairwell. Recognizing distinct signs of respiratory distress and now free of the IDLH environment, FF Kelly cleared the victim's airway. Set for a constant discharge of air, he affixed his personal facepiece on the youngster. The Firefighter then carried the victim down the stairs to the street where he handed her off to waiting EMS personnel.

FF Kelly acted with decisiveness, determination and forethought in his efforts to locate and remove the distressed young victim. His unhesitating willingness to pass the fire room in the absence of a hose-line to conduct this rescue resulted in a life being saved. FF Bryan Kelly acted in concert with the highest of traditions within the FDNY and is fully deserving of the Arthur J. Laufer Memorial Medal for 2014.--JF



Scene from the actual incident for which FF Bryan Kelly, Squad 1, is being presented with the Arthur J. Laufer Memorial Medal. He is shown with the youngster he rescued.





# Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Medal

## FIREFIGHTER KEVIN C. MOHR LADDER COMPANY 138

October 12, 2014, 0710 hours, Box 8389, Queens

*Appointed to the FDNY on April 11, 2006. Father, FF Donald Mohr, is retired from Ladder 125. Holds a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Manhattanville College. Resides in Fresh Meadows, Queens.*



According to the legendary WW II Fleet Admiral William Frederick "Bull" Halsey, Jr., "There are no extraordinary men...just extraordinary circumstances that ordinary men are forced to deal with." There is no doubt that the members of the New York City Fire Department constantly rise to these circumstances and challenges. Whether it be on- or off-duty, FDNY members answer the call for help no matter what the risk is to themselves.

On the morning of October 12, 2014, FF Kevin Mohr, Ladder 138, the Corona Tigers, was driving to work for the 9 by 6 tour on the Clearview Expressway in Bayside, Queens, when he noticed a car overturned in flames. After pulling over to investigate, it became apparent to FF Mohr that the driver was trapped in the vehicle and the fire from the engine compartment quickly was spreading to the passenger compartment.

FF Mohr immediately alerted emergency services via 911. He returned to the victim to assist. Trying to remove the victim from the vehicle, it became obvious to the rescuer that the victim had sustained grave injuries, including two broken arms

and head trauma.

At this point, FF Mohr realized that in order to successfully extricate the victim from the vehicle, it would have to be repositioned from the guardrail onto its side. With the blaze beginning to impinge on the victim, under the direction of FF Mohr, off-duty FFs John Riha, Engine 222, and Hector Rivera, Engine 316 (retired), used all their might to move the vehicle into position to facilitate extrication.

Without any personal protective gear or a charged hose-line in place, FF Mohr extended his entire body into the involved vehicle, unstrapped the victim's seat belt and lifted him up and out of the car. The Firefighter then passed the victim to the other off-duty members. The Firefighters proceeded to administer first aid to the victim.

If it were not for FF Mohr's quick and decisive actions, this victim might not be alive today. In recognition of his bravery and in keeping with the finest traditions of this Department, FF Kevin C. Mohr is presented with the Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Medal.--SI



Ladder 138 apparatus.

photo by Joe Pinto





## Company Officers Association Medal

### FIREFIGHTER

## CHRISTOPHER J. DIGIULIO

### LADDER COMPANY 18

August 13, 2014, 1620 hours, Box 75-0244, Manhattan

*Appointed to the FDNY on June 11, 2006. Previously assigned to Ladder 85 and EMS Station 4. Brother, FF Matthew DiGiulio, is assigned to Engine 69. Resides in Pearl River, NY, with his wife, Dawn, and their daughter, Grace.*

When each tour begins, Firefighters gather in the kitchen or on the apparatus floor to receive their riding positions and any specific instructions from their Officer. In truck companies, the positions are broken down by the “inside team”-- Officer, forcible entry (irons) and extinguisher (can) and the “outside team”--outside vent, roof and chauffeur. While the chauffeur position is just as essential in saving lives as the irons or can Firefighters, there are occasions when the chauffeur, acting in a search capacity, makes a difference at a critical moment. This was the case in the late afternoon on August 13, 2014, when a fire broke out at Box 0244, a six-story, 60- by 80-foot, Class 1, multiple dwelling.

Working the chauffeur position at Ladder 18 that summer afternoon was FF Christopher DiGiulio. The Firefighter could be forgiven if his mind was elsewhere, as he had just learned that his wife was pregnant. However, his focus was on the job at hand when at 1620 hours, the tones went off at the “Fort Pitt” firehouse and the company was assigned to respond as the first-due truck for a reported fire in a fifth-floor apartment on Manhattan’s lower east side. Approximately three minutes later, both Engine 15 and Ladder 18 arrived on-scene and a 10-75 signal was transmitted by Engine 15.

While the inside team was moving toward the building, FF DiGiulio and the company’s outside vent Firefighter conducted a survey and determined apparatus and portable ladders were of little use at this operation. FF DiGiulio then was ordered by the Incident Commander to join up with his company’s inside team and assist in search and rescue operations.

FF DiGiulio quickly regrouped with the team members who were slightly delayed in gaining access to the apartment. When the door finally was breached, the members were met

with high heat and zero visibility. The unchecked fire was quickly consuming the apartment’s furniture and materials in the dining room/office next to the kitchen.

FF DiGiulio was ordered to search left, while the irons Firefighter moved right to search the living room. While conditions worsened and Engine 15 struggled to stretch the 10 lengths of 1¼-inch hose needed to fight the still-growing blaze, Ladder 18’s Officer and can Firefighter moved forward to hold back the fire and conduct search operations.

FF DiGiulio continued left and searched down a side hallway. At this point, he heard low moans from behind a slightly ajar door. Because the victim was blocking the door, the rescuer quickly removed the door on the hinge side and was able to gain access. He found an unconscious, burned female victim, who was in respiratory distress. FF DiGiulio transmitted a 10-45 signal and single-handedly removed the victim from the fire apartment and into the hallway. He was assisted by FF Maxwell Weber, Engine 9, who aided him in bringing the victim to the floor below and starting patient care.

In his incident report, Battalion Chief John Rail, Battalion 4, noted: “Firefighter DiGiulio entered the fire apartment under punishing conditions and initiated a search. He located the unconscious victim and removed her to safety without the protection of a charged hose-line.” This sentiment was reinforced by Deputy Chief John Bley, Division 1, who noted that he exhibited bravery in passing an active fire, as well as initiative and capability in forcing open a blocked door on the hinge side to gain access to an unconscious woman.

Therefore, in recognition of his personal bravery and quick thinking, the New York City Fire Department is proud to honor FF Christopher J. DiGiulio today with the Company Officers Association Medal.--DH



Shown, left to right, are Ladder 18 FFs Matt Marin and Harry Antonopoulos, Lieutenant Mike Cantwell and FFs John Manning, James Trainor and Chris DiGiulio, following the August 13, 2014, incident, for which FF DiGiulio was honored with the Company Officers Association Medal.





# Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn Medal

## EMT Samuel Guardiola

### *Emergency Medical Dispatching/ Bureau of Communications*

December 12, 2014, 0959 hours, central Manhattan

*Appointed to EMS as an Emergency Medical Technician on August 29, 2003. Previously assigned to Stations 18 and 20. Studied Computer Networking at Westchester Community College. Resides in Chester, NY.*



Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn probably is best remembered for his knowledge of and interest in the communications field. During his tenure as an EMS Communications Tour Supervisor, Lieutenant McElhearn was instrumental in assisting in the research and development and subsequent implementation and operation of one of the first EMS Bureau Field Communications Units. The Field Communications Unit (FieldComm) responds directly to the scenes of multiple casualty incidents and special events and coordinates EMS Bureau resources via dedicated radio frequencies, freeing up the borough dispatch radio frequencies for routine 911 operation. Through Lieutenant McElhearn's insight, this particular Field Communications Unit quickly became the flagship FieldComm in the City and, today, is assigned to the Mayor's Office of Operations. In honor of Lieutenant McElhearn's commitment to the service and his dedication to bringing the FieldComm to fruition, the FieldComm proudly bears Lieutenant McElhearn's shield number as its vehicle number.

This medal history is pertinent because as an Emergency Medical Technician, Samuel Guardiola is trained to assess, diagnose and treat medical and traumatic emergencies. As an EMT, he also is trained to expect the unexpected, so all decisive actions can help save the life of a victim and, in this case, the lives of a mother and her unborn infant.

While working at Emergency Medical Dispatching on the morning of December 12, 2014, EMT Guardiola received a 911 call from a woman who was 41 weeks pregnant. As the call progressed and EMT Guardiola questioned her, he realized the female was in labor and upgraded the call from OBLAB (**O**bstetrics **L**abor--female in labor; having contractions, but did not deliver yet) to OBOUT (**O**bstetrics **O**ut--baby out or imminent birth, patient is delivering or delivered). He immediately dispatched an EMS ambulance.

EMT Guardiola began to provide

the woman with instructions for obstetrics delivery. Upon delivery, the woman stated the newborn was presented with an umbilical cord around its neck.

In a cool and calm manner, EMT Guardiola was successful in guiding the mother with removing the umbilical cord from around her newborn's neck. He then encouraged tapping on the bottom of the newborn's foot to make the infant cry and breathe on its own.

As medical professionals, EMS personnel are taught to "do no harm." EMT Guardiola remained on the telephone with the patient following the delivery until the ambulance and EMS personnel arrived to assist with patient care and transport patient and baby to the hospital.

Although 911 calls may seem routine for EMT dispatchers, they still have to be prepared for unexpected emergencies. More importantly, they must always remain calm, understand the circumstances and provide the best patient care until help arrives. For these reasons, it is crucial for an EMS dispatcher to always be prepared when reporting for duty.

On December 12, 2014, EMT instructor Guardiola not only reported to work, but was prepared to assist a patient during a difficult obstetrics medical situation. His exceptional professional assistance will be remembered forever by this baby's family.

Clearly, saving the life of another human being while upholding the best medical care is instrumental during crucial obstetrics delivery. This patient did not panic because of EMT Guardiola's expertise and manner. His measured and intelligent actions reflected an abundance of experience, persistence and professionalism. Therefore, for his determination and tireless efforts under highly emotional conditions, the Fire Department is proud to recognize EMT Samuel Guardiola with the Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn Medal.--LP



The Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn Medal is awarded this year to EMT Samuel Guardiola.





# Chief Joseph B. Martin Medal

## FIREFIGHTER KEVIN J. LYNCH LADDER COMPANY 14

July 4, 2014, 2253 hours, Box 75-1067, Manhattan

*Appointed to the FDNY on January 15, 2006. Previously assigned to Engine 35. Member of the Emerald and Holy Name Societies. Recipient of a Service Rating A. Attended Iona College. Retired from the Army as a Sergeant and served in the Iraq war. Resides in Fleetwood, NY.*

When additional coverage was required for the July 4th fireworks display in downtown Manhattan, Ladder 25 was one of the assigned companies. Consequently, it was necessary to relocate Ladder 14 from Harlem to 77th Street on the west side in order to provide the necessary protection to that part of Manhattan. On this Fourth of July, FF Kevin Lynch, Ladder 14, was thinking about his training for the upcoming Ironman Triathlon.

Just before 2300 hours, an alarm of fire was received and Ladder 14 responded to West 76th Street between Central Park West and Columbus Avenue. The Manhattan dispatcher provided three different addresses and the company had to determine the exact building location. This proved to be a difficult task inasmuch as there was nothing obvious showing when Ladder 14 arrived in the block. There was, however, the smell of smoke and a slight haze in the area. The truck chauffeur reported via handie-talkie from outside that he observed smoke emanating from the fourth floor of a building and directed FF Lynch, who was assigned as part of the inside team, accordingly.

After entering the building, FF Lynch and the rest of the inside team immediately started ascending the staircase. Reaching the third floor, FF Lynch encountered heavy smoke and donned his mask. At the fourth-floor level, the smoke was pushing from the fire apartment front door, which had been left open.

The hallway sprinkler had been activated and was spewing water outside the flat. At this point, conditions were rapidly deteriorating and visibility was compromised.

Through the open door, which led directly into the kitchen, it was possible to observe heavy fire. FF Lynch entered the burning kitchen, dropped to his knees and commenced searching for possible victims. He crawled under the flames, turned right and went through the living room, toward the bedroom, where he encountered an unconscious man.

The victim was limp and hard to maneuver as FF Lynch dragged him to the safety of the public hallway. As this point, FF Lynch called FF James Lee, Ladder 26, but detailed to Ladder 14 for the tour, to assist him. Once the Firefighters reached the hallway, they were assisted by the members of Engine 76. Subsequently, the victim was removed from the building and transported to the hospital.

FF Lynch took decisive and rapid action to save a life. It is obvious that had he not acted unhesitatingly, in the courageous fashion that he did, the survival of the victim would have been compromised. For demonstrating his bravery and upholding the finest traditions of the FDNY, the Chief Joseph B. Martin Medal is proudly awarded to Firefighter Kevin J. Lynch.--BDG



FF Kevin Lynch, in the bucket, operates at a fire in 2013. He is presented with the Chief Joseph B. Martin Medal this year for rescuing an unconscious man.





# Police Honor Legion Medal

## LIEUTENANT JAMES P. CASHIN LADDER COMPANY 121

July 4, 2014, 0327 hours, Box 75-1239, Queens



*Appointed to the FDNY on January 21, 1990. Previously assigned to Engines 241 and 235 and Ladder 120. Father, Battalion Chief John Cashin, was retired from Battalion 40 and now is deceased and brothers, Deputy Assistant Chief Thomas Cashin is retired from Operations and Battalion Chief Terence Cashin is assigned to Battalion 51. Member of the Emerald Society. Recipient of four unit citations. Resides in Belle Harbor, NY, with his wife, Gerianne, and their children, Ellen, Peter and Patrick.*

On July 4, 2014, at 0327 hours, the tones went off in the quarters of Engine 265/Ladder 121/Battalion 47, reporting fire on the second floor of a high-rise residential building. While responding, the Officer of Ladder 121, Lieutenant James Cashin, was notified by the Queens dispatchers that two people were reported trapped in the fire apartment. On arrival as the first-due truck, building security personnel frantically stated that heavy smoke was enveloping the second-floor hallway.

Lieutenant Cashin and the inside team--FFs Stephen Barongi and Brian Levings, both detailed from Engine 265--were met with a smoke condition in the hallway of the second floor and immediately donned their facepieces. Lieutenant Cashin transmitted a 10-77 to the 47 Battalion, signaling a confirmed fire in a high-rise multiple dwelling.

A smoke condition in the hallway is indicative of an open apartment door, which can hamper fire operations. The chauffeur and outside vent Firefighter of Ladder 121 both transmitted to Lieutenant Cashin that there was heavy, black smoke issuing from the second-floor windows. The fire was not wind-impacted at this time.

The inside team began to search for the fire apartment door. As they made a push down the hallway, smoke increased to such a degree that visibility was zero. The members' methodical and diligent search, along with their knowledge of the building layout from previous fires, proved to be paramount in ultimately finding and controlling the apartment door.

As Lieutenant Cashin called for the line to his location, he was notified that the hose-line would be delayed. The fire was on the second floor, so Engine 265 stretched off their apparatus. The hand stretch, coupled with the long hallways, forced Lieutenant Cashin to leave one of his members at the apartment door. This member's job was to monitor fire conditions in the apartment and maintain door control, as well as act as a beacon in case deteriorating

conditions required a quick escape by members inside.

Fire was located in the kitchen area and observed through the thermal imaging camera to be rapidly spreading to other areas of the apartment. Lieutenant Cashin ordered his can Firefighter, FF Barongi, to operate the stream of the extinguisher above his head as he continued his search. The Lieutenant was forced to lay on his stomach as he entered the kitchen area where he heard faint moans. Following those faint moans and sweeping with his hand, he made contact with an unconscious female on the floor and gave a 10-45 signal for a fire victim.

Lieutenant Cashin grabbed the woman and began to drag her to the apartment door while his can Firefighter kept the growing fire at bay. FF Barongi then was summoned when assistance was needed at the apartment door. The members of the inside team dragged the unconscious woman down the long, smoke-filled hallway to the lobby of the first floor. Lieutenant Cashin again entered the apartment to continue his search until met by Engine 265 members and directed them to the seat of the fire.

When FFs Barongi and Levings removed the victim to the lobby of the building, they handed patient care over to Engine 266 and EMS personnel. The victim no longer was breathing on her own, so rescue breathing was begun. The victim was immediately transported to the hospital. Regrettably, the woman died. The inside team then returned to the fire apartment and continued an aggressive search.

This fire proved challenging for all on-scene units--especially the first-due engine and truck--overcoming long stretches and zero visibility conditions, working as a team. Lieutenant James P. Cashin's experience in high-rise multiple dwellings and methodical search tactics made the difference in giving this victim her best chance of surviving, while upholding the greatest traditions of the New York City Fire Department. For his bravery, he is presented with the Police Honor Legion Medal.--RL



**Lieutenant James P. Cashin (left) at his Probie graduation, January 1990. Joining him are the family Cashin--brother, Battalion Chief Terence Cashin, is assigned to Battalion 51, their dad, Battalion Chief John Cashin, who was appointed to the FDNY in 1938 and retired from Battalion 40 (now deceased), and brother, Deputy Assistant Chief Tom Cashin, retired from Operations.**





# Firefighter David J. DeFranco Medal

## FIREFIGHTER BRIAN T. BROWNE RESCUE COMPANY 3

April 4, 2014, 2236 hours, Box 7603, Queens

*Appointed to the FDNY on October 23, 1994. Previously assigned to Ladder 56. Father, Lieutenant James Browne, is retired from Engine 47 and uncle, Captain Mike Browne, is retired from Ladder 163. Member of the Emerald Society. Recipient of the Emerald Society, Steuben Association and Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medals, as well as four unit citations. Holds a BA degree in Landscape Architecture from Rutgers University. Resides in Warwick, NY, with his wife, Pamela, and their daughters--Julia, Ciara and Ava.*

One of the duties of the FDNY Rescue Companies is SCUBA rescue. This duty is one of the most hazardous assignments for these Firefighters because it often involves diving in contaminated water, with no visibility, numerous entanglement issues, hypothermia and all while relying on a limited amount of supplied breathing air. However, the risks these Firefighters take and train for are the difference between life and death for those individuals who somehow end up in New York City's waterways.

On a foggy Saturday night, April 4, 2014, a car full of friends took a wrong detour and ended up overturned in a creek attached to the East River. Rescue 4 was on-scene and Rescue 3 was assigned as the second SCUBA rescue for this incident.

As Rescue 3 responded to the location, the members were monitoring the Department radio and gathering information so they could formulate their plans. FF Brian T. Browne was the primary diver for this night tour.

On Rescue 3's arrival, Lieutenant Chris Reynolds was appraised by Battalion Chief James Jacobs, Battalion 49, and Lieutenant Ray Strong, Rescue 4, that at the end of a 20-foot embankment was a vehicle with four people still trapped inside. The vehicle was approximately 25 to 30 feet from the shoreline and, most critical of all, it was upside down in about 12 to 15 feet of water.

Conditions were becoming less favorable because this body of water was extremely polluted as it was bordered by a sewage treatment plant and had an open-water overflow discharge at the base of dive operations. A partially submerged wooden barge, along with submerged metal shopping carts and other debris, littered the dive area. This information came courtesy of Rescue 4's divers as they had found the car and were in the process of gaining access to it.

Lieutenant Reynolds briefed FF Browne on the vehicle's location, report of four trapped victims and conditions. FF Browne's fellow Rescue 3 Firefighters were assisting him to get ready for his dive operation. FF Browne quickly, but with focus, navigated his way down the embankment and submerged. On his way to the car, he notified his tender, FF Chris Smith, that his tether line was hung up on what he believed was a shopping cart. This

assumption was based on his sense of feel as there was low visibility in the murky water.

FF Browne freed his tether line and continued his path to the submerged car. Soon, he felt the rear tire of the overturned car. He continued feeling along to the window opening of the driver's door. Reaching into the window, FF Browne felt the form of a victim. He notified his tender that he found a victim and was ascending to the surface. He was specific in his orders as he told the tender not to pull him and the victim to the shore until he broke the surface because he did not want to get caught up by the carts or other debris.

After being pulled to shore and handing the victim off to waiting members, FF Browne immediately re-submerged and went back to the car a second time. He reached back into the car from the driver's side and felt around. He found another victim, but had difficulty in removing the person because the sun visor had partially blocked the window opening. FF Browne had to push the victim back into the vehicle briefly and then remove the sun visor. After clearing the obstruction, the rescuer took possession of the second victim and again surfaced to be hauled into shore, delivering the victim to waiting members.

FF Browne then performed an air check to determine how much air remained in his cylinders. He had about 1200 psi of air remaining, so he notified his Officer that he would make another search of the car, since one victim remained. (Rescue 4's diver had removed a third victim by this time.) Making his third dive to the car, FF Browne had to almost completely enter the car for his search. While very dangerous to his safety, this maneuver paid off as FF Browne found the fourth and final victim. FF

Browne again notified his tender and re-traced his tactic of surfacing with the victim and then being hauled toward the shore.

Reaching the shore, FF Browne was exhausted and nearly out of air in his cylinders. Additional divers relieved him and performed the secondary searches. In spite of these heroics, regrettably, all four victims died.

FF Browne made three dives into a submerged vehicle in a very harsh environment and all three times, he made three rescues, finding and removing trapped victims. For his bravery, FF Brian T. Browne is awarded the Firefighter David J. DeFranco Medal.--AP



FF Brian Browne--recipient of the Firefighter David J. DeFranco Medal--with members of Rescue 3. photo by Michael Dick





# Lieutenant James E. Zahn/ Lieutenant Peter L. Troiano Memorial Medal

## LIEUTENANT ROBERT E. COOPER LADDER COMPANY 147

November 19, 2014, 0038 hours, Box 22-2446, Brooklyn

Appointed to the FDNY on February 4, 1996. Previously assigned to Engines 282 and 249 and Ladder 148. Resides on Staten Island with his wife, Mary, and their son, Jonah.



On November 19, 2014, as numerous roofs in Buffalo were collapsing under the weight of a dramatic “lake-effect blizzard,” Lieutenant Robert Cooper, Ladder 147, did not let a CIDS report of “strong possibility of collapse” impede his actions when a fire erupted at Brooklyn Box 2446.

At 0038 hours on that cold November morning, the members of Ladder 147, “Da Pride of Flatbush,” responded to a reported fire on the second floor of a three-story, Class 3, 32- by 80-foot, multiple dwelling on Flatbush Avenue. While en route, Lieutenant Cooper read the building’s CIDS information, which noted, “SRO VACATED IRREG ALT STRONG POSSIBILITY OF COLLAPSE UNDER FIRE CONDITIONS INTERIOR OPERATIONS ONLY WITH EXTREME CAUTION--CONSIDER EXTERIOR OPERATION.”

Arriving at the wood-framed building in approximately four minutes, the inside team rushed to the building’s entrance, while hearing over the handie-talkie, “we got a 45 coming down the stairs.” Moving into the narrow staircase and hallway, Lieutenant Cooper met this victim and inquired if more people were upstairs. The victim nodded yes and pointed upstairs.

With this information and while the first-due engine company was requesting more hose to complete their stretch, Lieutenant Cooper led his team up the stairs and above the unchecked fire. Moving up to the third floor, the team found the fire had advanced to the landing wall, banister and hallway rug. Lieutenant Cooper directed FF Kyle McGoff, Engine 281, to open the can to push back the fire and then check the rooms in the front of the building.

As conditions worsened, Lieutenant Cooper brought his thermal imaging camera into operation to start the search for other victims. Within seconds of initiating his search, he heard his irons Firefighter transmit a 10-45 signal. The Lieutenant assisted in the removal of this victim.

With this victim safely removed, Lieutenant Cooper moved back to the

third floor and continued to search. Moving toward the rear of the building and without the benefit of a charged hose-line, Lieutenant Cooper’s bravery was rewarded when he located another victim and immediately transmitted a 10-45 signal.

While Lieutenant Cooper worked under zero visibility and a high heat condition to save the victim, he quickly realized the man was too large to drag. Therefore, the rescuer took his webbing and tied a girth hitch around the victim’s ankles and, with the assistance of his irons Firefighter, was able to evacuate the man to the staircase. Reaching this point, Lieutenant Cooper ordered the other members of the inside team to continue the primary search while he, with the assistance of Engine 248 members, brought the victim out to the street.

Just then, Lieutenant Cooper heard his irons Firefighter key another 10-45 transmission and he raced back up the stairs to assist in removing this victim. Meanwhile, his outside vent Firefighter was in the process of packaging yet another victim. However, because the team’s vibra-lets had activated and Engine 281 was in position to control the floor, Lieutenant Cooper and the members of Ladder 147 moved to the street for relief.

Severity of this incident cannot be overstated. There were more than 20 10-45s and two floors of fire.

After the incident, Battalion Chief Daniel Krueger, Battalion 41 covering, noted that Lieutenant Cooper exhibited a keen sense of situational awareness, experience and good leadership. He took immediate action to access the severely threatened third floor in search of victims without hose-line protection and with a degree of personal danger that exemplify the highest traditions of honor in the FDNY. The Fire Department of the City of New York is proud to honor Lieutenant Robert E. Cooper today with the Lieutenant James E. Zahn/Lieutenant Peter L. Troiano Memorial Medal.--DH



Lieutenant Robert E. Cooper and his Ladder 147 crew following a job. Lieutenant Cooper is honored today with the Lieutenant James E. Zahn/Lieutenant Peter L. Troiano Memorial Medal.





## Deputy Commissioner Christine R. Godek Medal

### FIRE MARSHAL ROBERT J. COX *CITYWIDE SOUTH COMMAND (ASSIGNED)* *SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT (DETAILED)*

August 19, 2014, 1240 hours, Box 75-558, Manhattan

*Appointed to the FDNY on December 10, 2003. Previously assigned to Ladder 149. Recipient of one unit citation and two BFI unit citations. Attended Kingsborough Community College. Resides with his wife, Margaret, and their children, Jacqueline and Robert.*

There are many motives associated with the crime of arson. One motive that demonstrates a clear and depraved indifference to human life is crime concealment; the use of fire to cover or conceal a separate crime. Such fires often are planned carefully and cloaked in secrecy, making apprehension especially challenging.

On August 19, 2014, it was a fire in a trendy Manhattan condo that drew the attention of an alert team of Fire Marshals and launched a major case investigation into a \$100,000 arson/burglary. Firefighters from Squad 18, Ladders 3, 5 and 20, Engine 14 and Battalion 2 responded to an *All Hands* fire in a multiple dwelling on West 14th Street in Manhattan. A rapid response and aggressive interior attack quickly brought the fire under control. Firefighters searched for trapped occupants; EMS personnel established a tactical position in the street to ensure necessary medical attention.

The Bureau of Fire Investigation (BFI) dispatched Fire Marshals Robert J. Cox and Anthony Kotowicz from the Citywide South Command to conduct an investigation. FM Cox was assigned as the lead investigator. He conducted a forensic examination of the fire scene that uncovered evidence leading to a determination that the fire was the result of arson. Further evaluation of the fire scene led him to conclude that a burglary had taken place and the fire was set in an effort to cover up the burglary. FM Cox determined that the total value of property stolen was in excess of \$100,000.

FM Cox initiated an investigative canvass of the crime scene and surrounding area to identify factors that would need prompt attention and to evaluate potential leads requiring further development. When he downloaded digital images from area security cameras, several facts were uncovered. A nearby camera captured an unknown individual tampering with the building's entry lock in an unsuccessful attempt to gain access to the building a short time prior to the fire. Minutes later, firefighting units responded to the building to investigate a reported smoke condition. That report was determined to be a false alarm, but as Firefighters were exiting the building, the unknown individual who had attempted entry can be seen stepping into the

building lobby through the now-open building entrance doors. Follow-up investigation determined that the false alarm had been reported from a pay phone located less than a block away.

Although the security camera did provide a significant lead, it provided no assistance in identifying the burglar. During the next several months, FM Cox, working with members of BFI's Special Investigations Unit, continued to uncover leads, resulting in a convoluted trail that led to numerous addresses and associates in three different boroughs.

One of the locations was linked to a specific locker in a New York City storage facility. The locker and contents had been abandoned and auctioned long ago, but an e-mail address provided at registration remained on file. FM Cox, well-known for his resourcefulness, created a "pretext" e-mail address in a ruse to portray himself as the holder of the contents of that auctioned locker and then he e-mailed the suspect in an effort to lure him into making contact. The suspect responded quickly with the hope of recovering the locker contents.

On December 17, 2014, FM Cox and his team established surveillance at a pre-arranged location and apprehended the suspect when he appeared. The interrogation that followed resulted in a full confession that was used as powerful prosecutorial evidence, resulting in a conviction for arson, burglary, grand larceny and reckless endangerment.

This is a significant investigation brought to a successful conclusion by a highly valued member of the Fire Department. FM Cox, undoubtedly committed to excellence, has demonstrated the skill and resourcefulness found only in the most dedicated law enforcement professionals.

His actions in this investigation, collaborating with the Assistant District Attorney from Manhattan's District Attorney's office, represent the highest traditions of the Bureau of Fire Investigation and the FDNY.

The results of this investigation send forth a powerful message to those individuals whose depraved indifference for life bring great danger and peril to the citizens of New York, as well as to the members of the FDNY. With this in mind, FM Robert J. Cox is awarded the Deputy Commissioner Christine R. Godek Medal.--JDL



FM Robert J. Cox on the scene of an investigation; the March 12, 2014, gas explosion/collapse at Manhattan Box 55-1406. He is this year's recipient of the Deputy Commissioner Christine R. Godek Medal.





# William Friedberg Medal

## FIREFIGHTER DAVID RITCHIE LADDER COMPANY 27

October 10, 2014, 0150 hours, Box 22-2911, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on February 2, 2003. Member of the FDNY Emerald Society Pipes & Drums and the Honor Legion. Recipient of the Walter Scott Medal. Holds a BS degree in Public Administration from James Madison University. Resides in Eastchester, NY, with his wife, Tara, and their daughters, Fiona and Nora.*



Any time the tone alarm goes off between the hours of midnight and 6 a.m. for a phone alarm reporting a structural fire, the men and women of the FDNY know that there are much stronger odds of victims being at immediate risk. Size-up begins at the receipt of the alarm.

This was the case for Ladder 27, “The Cross Bronx Express,” in the early-morning hours on Saturday, October 10, 2014, when their tone alarm went off at 0150 hours for a reported structural fire in the Mount Hope section of the Bronx. Ladder 27 arrived on the scene, assigned as the first-due truck, and Lieutenant Michael Shanley immediately transmitted a second alarm for heavy fire emanating from every natural opening on the front of the structure.

After performing a quick size-up, Ladder 27 members realized that the occupied, three-story, wood-frame multiple dwelling located on the exposure #2 side also was on fire and the most severe exposure, as it stood only four feet away from the original fire building. Swiftly absorbing the situation, Lieutenant Shanley decided to split up his crew and have his inside team--FFs David Ritchie with the irons and Daniel Cavanaugh with the can--enter the severely threatened exposure, while his outside team was tasked with surveying the original fire building.

Before entering the exposure, Lieutenant Shanley and FFs Ritchie and Cavanaugh all witnessed heavy fire involving the exposure #4 exterior wall. Due to the wood-frame construction of the building, they knew they had to move quickly to evacuate residents in the exposure. Once inside, the members searched the first floor and helped numerous residents out of their apartments. They then ascended the stairs to the

second floor and located a bedroom in the front that was involved in fire. FF Cavanaugh used his water extinguisher to push back some fire and closed the bedroom door to contain it, while Lieutenant Shanley searched the rest of the second floor.

Simultaneously, FF Ritchie ascended the stairs to the third floor. Reaching the fully finished third floor, FF Ritchie immediately came across a locked door to his right. He knew that the chances of someone being behind the locked door were very high. Without hesitation, the Firefighter forced the door, entered the bedroom, performed a search and located a victim on the bed.

FF Ritchie transmitted a signal 10-45 to the Incident Commander and began to prep the victim for removal. Hearing the 10-45 transmission, FF Cavanaugh came to assist

FF Ritchie on the third floor, which now exhibited extension throughout, from fire burning on the exterior and extending from the second-floor bedroom.

No hose-line was in operation in the exposure at this time, so FFs Ritchie and Cavanaugh decided to shelter in place with the victim until they could evaluate the fire’s progression and safely make a move past the blaze and down the interior stairs. At this point, a hose-line began operating and knocking down the fire on the second floor. The victim, suffering from smoke inhalation, was safely removed from the building and transported to the hospital by EMS personnel.

Due to the heroic actions of FF Ritchie, a person is alive today. Acknowledging his courage, FF David Ritchie is awarded the William Friedberg Medal.--

KC



The actual incident for which FF David Ritchie is presented with the William Friedberg Medal.





## Probationary Firefighter Thomas A. Wylie Medal

### PROBATIONARY FIREFIGHTER MARLON Q. SAHAI LADDER COMPANY 9

August 17, 2014, 0752 hours, Box 75-445, Manhattan

*Appointed to the FDNY on July 29, 2013. He is currently enrolled at the American Military University, studying Emergency and Disaster Management. A Senior Airman, he served four years in the Air Force. Resides in Jamaica, Queens.*

**O**n a quiet August Sunday morning, Ladder 9 received an ERS Box reporting a fire on the first floor of a residential apartment building. As the Great Jones Street firehouse of Ladder 9 and Engine 33 responded, members received updated information from the dispatcher that numerous phone calls were being received for a fire in apartment #1 on the first floor of a building in the East Village. Additionally, they also were receiving information that people were trapped.

On arrival, the rescuers observed heavy smoke pulsating from the first-floor barred windows. A 10-75 was given. A fleeing occupant shouted to the Officer of Ladder 9 that people were still trapped inside the burning apartment.

Lieutenant Michael DeMeo and the inside team of Probationary FF Marlon Sahai with the can and FF John Rocchio with the irons ran into the building and made their way to the rear of the first floor. Finding the fire apartment, these members began their attack, using conventional forcible entry techniques and professionally and efficiently forced the apartment door. They controlled the door, donned their facepieces and entered.

Immediately, the trio was confronted with high heat and heavy smoke conditions. Knowing the hose-line was still being stretched, they continued to crawl in to begin the primary search for the people known to be trapped. Without the protection of a hose-line, FF Rocchio initially stayed at the apartment door, while Lieutenant DeMeo and FF Sahai began the search. They were immediately confronted by a rapidly escalating fire condition in the living room. FF Sahai, in a zero visibility environment, attempted to hold the fire back with the extinguisher, but was unsuccessful due to the intensity of the growing fire.

After expelling the contents of the extinguisher and hearing the Officer give a 10-45, FF Sahai

relied on his training and crawled past the fire. He went deeper into the apartment and into a bedroom to assist in the search and found a second 10-45, lying prone and still. With the fire still burning, FF Sahai knew he had to remove the victim from the apartment and get her to EMS. Using his body as a shield, he carried the victim out of the bedroom and ran past the still-burning fire. He removed the woman from the apartment and continued out of the fire building.

FF Sahai transferred the victim to a CFR-D engine, whose members immediately began lifesaving resuscitative efforts. The woman then was transferred to the care of EMS personnel, who transported her to the hospital. FF Sahai then returned to the fire apartment and reunited with his company, who had just removed the initial 10-45. Together, they completed their search of the fire apartment for any remaining trapped occupants, which proved negative.

Probationary FF Sahai performed with the professionalism and discipline of a veteran Firefighter. He employed all the firefighting skills taught to him at the Fire Academy, which were enhanced by continued training with the Officers and members of Ladder 9. The company arrived at this fire and in fewer than four minutes, FF Sahai and the members of Ladder 9 pulled the victims from the fire. If not for these quick actions, the victims likely would have perished.

This Probationary Firefighter learned his lessons well; teamwork is key. And, FF Sahai was most gracious in complimenting the members of Ladder 9 and all the other units that responded and did a great job. It is with great pride that the City of New York, the FDNY and--closer to home--the Officers and members of Great Jones Street, Ladder 9, proudly present Probationary FF Marlon Q. Sahai with the Probationary Firefighter Thomas A. Wylie Medal.--TW



Probationary FF Marlon Q. Sahai (right) is joined by his Lieutenant, Michael DeMeo (center), and FF John Rocchio (left). Both FF Sahai and Lieutenant DeMeo received medals for their heroic actions at Manhattan Box 75-445. FF Sahai was presented with the Probationary Firefighter Thomas A. Wylie Medal and Lieutenant DeMeo received the Albert S. Johnston Medal.





# Shelly Rothman Memorial Medal

## FIREFIGHTER ANDREW F. MAGENHEIM LADDER COMPANY 44

February 1, 2014, 0659 hours, Box 75-2309, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on March 25, 2007. Previously assigned to Engine 92. Cousins, Captain Ray Farrell and Lieutenant Kevin O'Hagan, are assigned to Ladder 43 and Engine 5, respectively. Holds a BS degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Cornell University. Resides in Pearl River, NY, with his wife, Blythe, and their son, Theodore.*



**I**t was just before sunrise on February 1, 2014, when the Bronx Communications Office received a phone call for a fire on the 16th floor of a multiple dwelling on Park Avenue. Tower Ladder 44 was taking up from a nearby Box and was directed to respond to the 150- by 100-foot, 23-story, Class 1 building first-due, replacing another unit.

On arrival, members could see smoke issuing from a window on the 16th floor. The inside team members, led by Captain Gregory J. Dennehy, Division 6, made their ascent, via elevator, to the 14th floor. When they reached the 16th floor, members could hear a smoke alarm ringing at the end of the hallway.

The forcible entry team--FFs Andrew F. Magenheim on the irons and Andrew W. Gabor, Engine 72, with the can, forced the door to the fire apartment. Entering, the members encountered Collyers' mansion conditions. Leaving FF Gabor at the door, Captain Dennehy and FF Magenheim entered the apartment,

without the protection of a hose-line, to search for life.

While searching the hallway, through searing heat and zero visibility, FF Magenheim heard a faint groan. Suspecting there was a victim somewhere in the apartment, he intensified his search. FF Magenheim rapidly, but thoroughly, searched two bedrooms before coming upon a bathroom. Lying unconscious on the bathroom floor was a male victim.

FF Magenheim transmitted the *10-45* to his Officer and immediately began the grueling task of dragging the man through the cluttered apartment. Despite deteriorating conditions, FF Magenheim dragged the unconscious victim through the very narrow hallway to the apartment door. From there, the victim was brought down to the safety of the floor below with the assistance of other Fire Department members. The man was handed off to EMS personnel, who quickly transported him to the hospital. Once the victim was in safe keeping, FF Magenheim returned to the fire apartment to complete his search and assist with overhaul of the apartment.

In his report, Deputy Chief James J. Donleavy, Division 6, wrote, "FF Magenheim passed the fire area, performed the search, and removed the victim without the protection of a hose-line...the victim is alive today due to his efforts." FF Magenheim, in turn, wanted to praise FF Andrew Gabor, who pushed the fire back at the door, while FF Magenheim brought the victim out. This was noteworthy because it was the Probie's first job and he handled it well.

Because of his extraordinary efforts and in keeping with the great traditions of the Fire Department of the City of New York, we honor FF Andrew F. Magenheim with the Shelly Rothman Memorial Medal.--TM



After a job, shown, left to right, are FFs Brian Smith, Jonathan Kappel and Andrew Magenheim (recipient of the Shelly Rothman Memorial Medal), Lieutenant Vincent McMahon and FFs Joel Gurrieri and Mike Hefner.



# Jack Pintchik Medal



**EMS Captain  
Paul A. Miano**  
*HazTac Battalion*



**Paramedic  
Christopher M. Taylor**  
*Station 45*



**Paramedic  
Richard Guzman**  
*Station 45*

**August 20, 2014, 1526 hours, Box 1143, upper east side, Manhattan**

**H**ighly trained Rescue Medics in the Fire Department of New York City are assigned to respond to complex calls and large-scale operations within the five boroughs. On the afternoon of August 20, 2014, EMS Captain Paul A. Miano and Paramedics Richard Guzman and Christopher M. Taylor--all Rescue Medics--were assigned to a multiple casualty incident (MCI) 34 (Construction Accident/Incident) at East 83rd Street and 2nd Avenue, Manhattan. The location is the site of the Second Avenue Subway construction project.

This was a significant day for all three rescuers: Paramedic Guzman was preparing for his upcoming wedding. Paramedic Taylor now was responding to his first rescue assignment (as was Paramedic Guzman) since they completed Rescue Medic School in February 2014. This was Captain Miano's fifth day as the Commanding Officer of the HazTac Battalion. As important and personal as all of these events were, once the call came in, the three rescuers focused only on their assignment.

As Captain Miano and Paramedics Guzman and Taylor rushed to the scene, they could hear all the radio transmissions. This would be a difficult call and a large-scale operation. That's when Captain Miano started devising a plan of action. It was reported that there was a construction worker who was pouring concrete from a huge pipe that broke off the mixer, crushing the worker's leg and trapping him under the massive pipe. The worker was reported to be conscious and breathing, but unable to move his lower extremities.

Once Paramedics Guzman and Taylor arrived at the scene, they were met by Captain Miano and the Incident Commander (IC). The IC advised Captain Miano and Paramedics Guzman and Taylor that the construction worker not only was 100 feet below ground, but 300 feet inside a tunnel.

Captain Miano presented his plan to the IC to go below ground with Paramedics Guzman and Taylor. The trio knew that the construction worker needed urgent medical care.

Captain Miano and Paramedics Guzman and Taylor began the 100-foot descent under the street, making their way

through the 300-foot tunnel. When they reached the bottom of the tunnel, they realized the wet concrete would make their job even more difficult. As Paramedics Guzman and Taylor made patient contact and began a rapid trauma assessment operating in the wet concrete and exposed reinforcement bar, the Firefighters operating on-scene worked rapidly to free the construction worker in the deteriorating conditions.

The construction worker had suffered a trauma injury to his lower extremity, as well as a minor head injury. Once Paramedics Guzman and Taylor stabilized the patient's cervical spine, they started an intravenous line to administer medication. They began to use the specialized equipment carried only by Rescue Medics to stabilize the construction worker's leg. Simultaneously and throughout the operation, Captain Miano maintained radio contact with the EMS Medical Control Doctor, advising of the patient's condition. Paramedics Guzman and Taylor were constantly monitoring the construction worker's vital signs for any changes to his medical condition.

The Firefighters freed the construction worker and rapidly secured him to a removal device for a safe transport back 100 feet up through the tunnel to the ground. Simultaneously, Paramedics Guzman and Taylor began their pain management protocol. Administering pain medication was an important intervention for the patient, not only to reduce pain, but to reduce his level of anxiety. This would facilitate a safe removal of the patient by a crane to the ground level. Once on the street, Paramedics Guzman and Taylor further stabilized the patient and transported the construction worker to the nearest hospital for additional treatment.

Captain Miano and Paramedics Guzman and Taylor put the safety of their patient before their own, providing life-saving treatment throughout this extremely complicated operation. For their extraordinary efforts, Captain Paul A. Miano and Paramedics Richard Guzman and Christopher M. Taylor are presented with the Jack Pintchik Medal.--MTL



The incident for which Captain Paul A. Miano and Paramedics Richard Guzman and Christopher M. Taylor were honored with the Jack Pintchik Medal.





# Lt. James Curran/NYFFs Burn Center Foundation Medal/Father Julian F. Deeken Memorial Medal

## ENGINE COMPANY 201

March 13, 2011, 0512 hours, Box 33-2637,  
Brooklyn

**LIEUTENANT MICHAEL J. MCCAFFREY**

**FF JERRY BENNICI**

**FF JOSHUA I. CALACANIS (LADDER 114)**

**FF JORGE J. CORNEJO**

**FF SEAN M. O'MALLON**



**E**arly-morning fires frequently trap sleeping tenants, who don't awaken in time to escape. However, when a fire rapidly makes the interior stairs impassable, even those people who do wake up are trapped and need to be rescued by New York's Bravest.

In the wee hours of March 13, 2011, a three-alarm fire swiftly spread up the stairs and into several apartments of a four-story, old law tenement in Brooklyn's Sunset Park section, trapping 31 sleepy souls in a real nightmare. At 0512 hours, the computer at the quarters of Engine 201 spit out a report of a fire in a multiple dwelling. As Lieutenant Michael J. McCaffrey and FFs Jerry Bennici, Joshua I. Calacanis (detailed from Ladder 114), Jorge J. Cornejo and Sean M. O'Mallon were responding, the dispatcher informed them and the other first-due units that there were numerous residents trapped.

As Engine 201 pulled up in front of the fire building, the blaze was pushing out the front door and all the windows on the stairway and into the bulkhead. Numerous men, women and children were crowding the fire escapes to flee the conflagration. As Engine 201 stretched a line to the front door, members were met by heavy fire. They began an aggressive attack that enabled them to reach the interior stairs. Knocking down fire as they advanced up the stairway, members received a warning of how badly the fire had damaged the stairs, just as the nozzle firefighter's foot went through a step. As FF O'Mallon quickly extricated himself, the company advanced to the second floor and then to the third, knocking down heavy fire on all sides as they progressed.

They had started to push onto the fourth floor when they received word from Lieutenant Daniel Keane, Ladder 114, that there was heavy fire in apartment 3R. Turning back to the third floor, they were met by heavy fire in the kitchen, which they quickly extinguished and advanced the line down the hallway to two more burning rooms. This fire was spreading rapidly.

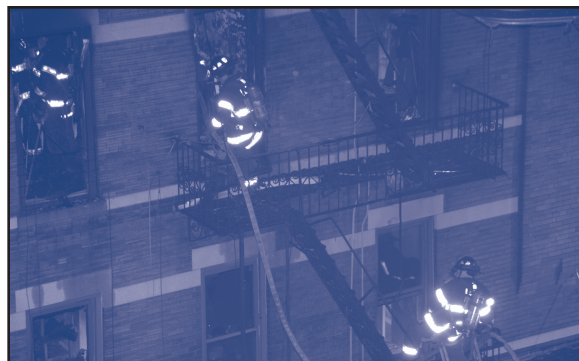
Engine 201 members made quick work of the bedroom fires, but still had so much more to do. Returning to the stairs, they started

to advance, when FF O'Mallon's foot again went through a step. This prompted Lieutenant McCaffrey to hold the nozzle team back while he ascended to the fourth floor, checking the stability of the stairs. There was still fire on the fourth floor and after passing the nozzle up to the Lieutenant, FF O'Mallon again started to ascend the stairs when a partial collapse left him trapped up to his chest.

As the other Firefighters grabbed him, Lieutenant Keane transmitted a *mayday* for a collapsed stairway and a trapped Firefighter. While the other Firefighters struggled to extricate FF O'Mallon from the hole without causing a further collapse, Lieutenant McCaffrey fought the heavy fire still engulfing the top floor and bulkhead. With help from Ladder 114 and Rescue 2 members, FF O'Mallon was safely removed, the *mayday* rescinded and a ladder called for, to cover the stairs and facilitate safe passage. Despite burns to both of his knees, FF O'Mallon insisted on finishing the job and ascended to the fourth floor to extinguish remaining fire.

As the fire in the hallway was being extinguished, a report came of fire in apartment 4L. Fire had burned through the apartment door and extended into the hallway. A swift and aggressive attack to knock the fire down allowed Captain Robert Rex Morris, Rescue 2, and Lieutenant Keane to make a search, find and carry an unconscious man to the fire escape for removal in the bucket. The engine members then returned to extinguish any remaining fire in the stairway and bulkhead.

If not for the determination, bravery and aggressive attack on this fire, lives could have been lost. Their teamwork and cooperation with other FDNY units in dangerous conditions enabled 31 people--eight of them in critical condition--to be rescued. The Fire Department is proud to present the Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal/Father Julian F. Deeken Memorial Medal to the members of Engine 201--Lieutenant Michael J. McCaffrey and FFs Jerry Bennici, Joshua I. Calacanis (Ladder 114), Jorge J. Cornejo and Sean M. O'Mallon.--JT



Hose-lines are stretched at Brooklyn Box 33-2637, March 13, 2011.  
photo by FDNY CTU



# Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal

## ENGINE COMPANY 58

March 12, 2014, 0931 hours, Box 55-1406, Manhattan

**CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER S. REGINELLA (L-13)**  
**FF CHRISTOPHER BRENNAN (L-26)**

**FF ROBERT G. CANALE**

**FF THOMAS M. LONG, JR.**

**FF CHRISTOPHER N. SPAGNOLA**



Every Firefighter knows that proper placement of the hose-line is essential at emergency operations. It is drilled into Probies from their first day at the Fire Academy and relied on daily by both Chiefs and company Officers. Also, when confronted by a major incident with multiple casualties and the possibility of secondary incidents, correct placement is vital. This edict could not have been better demonstrated by the actions of Engine 58 when they were directed to respond to an explosion and building collapse at Manhattan Box 1406 on March 12, 2014.

Working that overcast late winter morning at "The Fire Factory" were Captain Christopher S. Reginella and FFs Robert G. Canale, Christopher N. Spagnola, Christopher Brennan and Thomas M. Long, Jr. At 0931 hours, the alarms sounded in the 5th Avenue firehouse and the company was ordered to respond as first-due engine to a reported explosion and building collapse at Park Avenue and East 118th Street. The company arrived on-scene in approximately three and a half minutes and found an entire building had collapsed. Debris covered the street in front of exposure #1, with heavy fire along the side of exposure #2 and throughout the collapse area.

The members of Engine 58 immediately stretched a 1¾-inch line to the front of exposure #2 to protect Ladder 26 as they advanced on the collapse area. Within a few minutes, Ladder 26 exited the area and verbally informed Engine 58 that the primary search was negative and the damage was from an explosion. Engine 58 moved the hand-line to the front of exposure #1 to push back the fire (which showed signs of being gas-fed) that quickly was moving from front to rear of the collapse area. Simultaneously, a minor explosion occurred on the rubble pile, with fire extending upward. This information was transmitted to the Command Chief.

Because exposure #2 was heavily damaged by the explosion and heavy fire was consuming the north side of the building

and roof, Engine 58 performed a second search for fire extension and victims inside the building, which proved negative. So the company moved back and continued to operate its hand-line.

During this period, exposure #2 was constantly monitored for signs of collapse since this was a concern and all responding units would be operating within the overall collapse area. Engine 58 then communicated to Engine 35 to stretch a 2½-inch line from their apparatus, which was positioned and operated on the collapse rubble of exposure #1 to push back the fire from the street. The company's hand-line was repositioned several times to provide protection as fire continually erupted in pockets on the pile. During this period, a victim was found in the rubble near exposure #2. Engine 58's line was moved again to protect members working to remove this victim while the gas-fed fire continued to burn behind them.

Engine 58's apparatus was positioned outside the collapse zone and connected to a hydrant on the corner of 116th Street and Park Avenue. This allowed two hand-lines to be used during the initial operation. However, as operations continued, it was discovered that this hydrant was supplied from a water main that was leaking in front of the collapse area and might undermine the street. Therefore, the main was shut down. The company, working with Engine 79, worked to supply the satellite's manifold and brought down the lines separately in order to continually put water on the fire.

In his report of the incident, Deputy Chief Anthony De Vita, Division 3, noted, "...Engine 58 members risked life and limb to save any viable victims with aggressive hand-line operations and protection of exposures from the spread of fire." To honor their efforts, the Fire Department of the City of New York recognizes the members of Engine 58 today with the Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal.--DH



The incident for which the members of Engine 58 are presented with the Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal.

photo by Steve Spak





# Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal

## Rescue Company 1

March 12, 2014, 0931 hours,  
Box 55-1406, Manhattan

**CAPTAIN ROBERT R. MORRIS, JR.**

**FF JAMES R. FEELEY**

**FF MICHAEL G. GEIDEL**

**FF DANIEL P. HYLAND**

**FF RICHARD I. MIRANDA**

**FF CHRISTOPHER MORGAN**



**A**mong the many considerations for the Incident Commander at a major collapse with fire is the safety of the operating members. When Rescue 1 arrived on the scene, members observed two five-story tenements that had exploded and collapsed into a massive rubble pile approximately three stories in height, with dense smoke and heavy fire issuing from the pile.

Under orders of Battalion Chief James Goelz, Battalion 12, Rescue 1 split its team: The inside team of Captain Robert Morris, Jr., and FFs Richard Miranda and Christopher Morgan checked out exposure #4. The outside team of FFs Michael Geidel, James Feeley and Daniel Hyland went to the exposure #2 side and assisted other units in removing a victim. After their initial size-ups, both teams assembled in the rear courtyard (exposure #3) of the collapsed building.

Unlike the front of the building, the rear was not completely collapsed. From the beginning of the open-end shaft to the rear yard, a section of the five-story tenement was still intact. It was described as a “jagged cliff face approximately two to three stories in height, consisting of snapped floor joists, twisted and mangled fire escapes, pipe and other debris.” Adding to this was a dense, black smoke, pushing from the gas-fed fire that was burning below. At this point, no FDNY members were on the pile due because it was in the direct collapse zone.

From an adjoining rooftop, a radio transmission was given, stating they could see what appeared to be a victim in the collapse pile. Captain Morris quickly split his unit into two teams; one team with him to search the collapse and the other team to secure the appropriate tools and equipment for extrication/removal of the victim.

Captain Morris and his team climbed onto the collapse and quickly noticed just how bad the conditions were. Tower ladders operating in the front of the collapse drove the smoke and heat toward them, causing zero visibility. These conditions forced the team to crawl across and into the voids and crevasses as they searched for the victim. Compounding the danger of this operation was the fact that they were working in the immediate collapse zone.

FF Miranda located a severely injured

female, who was quickly removed by members of Squad 41. (Regrettably, she had expired.) Deeper into the pile, Captain Morris and FF Morgan found another female victim, an elderly woman who was wedged down in the rubble with severe trauma to her head, as well as multiple injuries throughout her body.

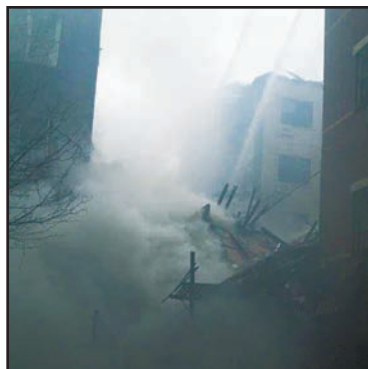
After notifying the Command Post of the 10-45, Captain Morris requested the tower ladder streams be re-positioned while they treated and removed this victim. As the necessary equipment was brought to the site, members of the team positioned themselves around the victim, protecting her from additional injury and debris. Due to the heavy smoke condition, FF Miranda placed his facepiece on the victim while they stabilized and packaged her for removal.

Once she was packaged and Captain Morris was assured there were no other victims with her, the team dragged and pulled the stokes basket to the edge of the pile where she was handed off to other units who formed a human chain down the slope to the rear yard. Once in the rear yard, Captain Morris gave his assessment to Chief Joseph Brosi, Battalion 10, and a hand-line was brought to the position to protect Rescue 1 members while they continued their search for more victims.

Rescue 1 continued to work in a very dangerous and unstable environment. All operations were conducted in the collapse zone of a highly unstable structure where a secondary collapse was a distinct possibility. The thick, acrid smoke, heat and gas-fed fire added to the level of complexity and risk.

It was under these conditions that Rescue 1 conducted primary searches and was able to locate and remove two victims. It is highly likely both victims would have died if it weren't for the actions of Rescue 1.

As then-Deputy Chief Anthony DeVita, Division 3, wrote in his endorsement, “These actions were performed in the finest traditions of the Department.” He recommended Rescue 1 for a medal and the FDNY agreed, honoring Rescue Company 1 members for their daring work under extremely hazardous conditions by presenting them with the Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal.--JTV



The area of the collapse/debris pile where two victims (the surviving woman is shown above) were found by Rescue 1 members following the March 12, 2014, Manhattan gas explosion/collapse.



# World Trade Center Memorial Medal

## LADDER COMPANY 157

November 19, 2014, 0038 hours, Box 22-2446, Brooklyn

**LIEUTENANT ANGELO SACCO (BN-33)**

**FF TIMOTHY J. BRUNTON**

**FF MICHAEL B. GUERRERO**

**FF BRIAN T. McNICHOLAS**

**FF DOMINICK M. MUSCHELLO**

**FF MICHAEL RYSZETNYK**



As the calendar moves into the third week of November, most New Yorkers are busy with Thanksgiving preparations. While the Thanksgiving meal in the firehouse varies in scope from company to company, the members of Ladder 157 gave several New Yorkers something to be thankful for as a fire broke out in the early-morning hours of November 19, 2014, at a three-story, 32- by 80-foot, class four, church/residential structure on Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn Box 2446.

Working in Ladder 157 that frigid night was Lieutenant Angelo Sacco (detailed from Battalion 33) and FFs Dominick M. Muschello (chauffeur), Timothy J. Brunton (irons), Brian T. McNicholas (can), Michael Ryszetyk (outside vent) and Michael B. Guerrero (roof). At 0038 hours, "The Jolly Rogers" housewatch was altered by a frantic civilian about a fire across the street.

The company immediately responded and as they exited from the firehouse, Lieutenant Sacco transmitted a 10-75 signal. Arriving in a little more than a minute, members found heavy, intense fire, blowing out all windows on the second floor and a chaotic scene on the street. Ladder 157 immediately went to work and the forcible entry team moved into the building without the benefit of a hose-line in place.

Moving up to the second floor, the team found the fire had control of the two front rooms and the hallway leading to the third floor. FF McNicholas opened the extinguisher, allowing the other members of the team to search the rear rooms and for Engine 255 to stretch a hose-line up the stairs. Several areas were searched and the members found the layout of the old law tenement had been modified into an SRO.

As conditions worsened, Lieutenant Sacco's search soon was rewarded when he found a semi-conscious victim and transmitted a 10-45 signal. He dragged the woman to the stairs and out to safety. He immediately moved back upstairs and continued to search and soon came across another victim, transmitted another 10-45 signal and brought this semi-conscious man to the stairs for a hand-off.

Meanwhile, FF McNicholas continued working the can to provide coverage. He held his position despite horrific conditions. Additionally, FF

Brunton, who was searching the rear of the apartment, found a victim in the bathroom and removed the young boy to the staircase for hand-off to other members. FF Brunton immediately turned back, continued his search and encountered another victim trying to self-evacuate from the rear bedroom. The Firefighter quickly brought the elderly male to the exit.

While intense efforts were occurring inside the building, FF Ryszetyk worked to gain access via the first floor. When this proved futile, he moved to the exposure #2 side of the building and was successful in forcing entry and moving a 24-foot portable ladder to the rear of the building, which was essential in removing victims from the third floor after the fire escape ladder broke off from the landing. Simultaneously, FF Guerrero gained access to the roof via the bulkhead of the corner building. Moving into position quickly, he successfully vented the skylight and cut a roof hole and provided vital transmissions on lack of the gooseneck ladder in the rear of the facility and the 30-foot extension of this structure.

Finally, FF Muschello positioned the apparatus, got in the bucket and moved it through and above the fire. He cleared and entered the building and began to search. Opening a door, he was confronted with a wall of fire. He closed the door, called for a hose-line and continued to search. His efforts paid off when he found a victim next to the bed and immediately transmitted a 10-45 signal.

With assistance from a Ladder 147 member, FF Muschello then moved the victim to the bucket. Despite hellish conditions, he got the victim out and directed the bucket be brought down. Once on the sidewalk, he began CPR on this victim, but knowing others could tend to this person, he returned to the bucket, had it brought back up to its former position, assisted in the removal of an unconscious young boy from the building and provided CPR until the bucket reached the ground and the victim was handed over to EMS.

Reporting on this incident, Deputy Chief Dean Koester, Division 15, noted, "The actions of Ladder 157 were exceptional...The teamwork and cooperation displayed by all the members directly led to saving lives that night." In recognition of Ladder 157's heroic efforts, the FDNY is proud to honor these members with the World Trade Center Memorial Medal.--DH



The incident for which Ladder 157 is presented with the World Trade Center Memorial Medal.





## Service Rating A

FF Kevin G. Baccari, L-140  
FF Gregory P. Beach, L-136  
FF Adam C. Bishop, L-170  
FF James Brady, R-2  
FF Brian T. Browne, R-3  
Lt. Steven M. Cahill, L-24  
Lt. James P. Cashin, L-121  
Lt. Robert E. Cooper, L-147  
Lt. Michael J. DeMeo, Bn-2  
FF Christopher J. DiGiulio, L-18  
Capt. Daniel C. Florenco, D-15  
Capt. Peter M. Irish, L-35  
FF William P. Johnson, L-147  
FF Bryan Kelly, SQ-1  
Capt. Richard M. Kirschner, E-88  
FF Sean W. Koellner, L-167  
FF Kevin J. Lynch, L-14

FF Andrew F. Magenheim, L-44  
FF Michael Marzano, L-116  
FF Donald P. Mayerhofer, L-26  
FF Michael A. Mider, L-26  
FF Kevin C. Mohr, L-138  
FF Michael R. Ober, L-124  
FF Anthony Reynolds, L-47  
FF David Ritchie, L-27  
FF Robert R. Ruffh, L-32  
FF Denis Rynne, L-40  
Prob. FF Marlon Q. Sahai, L-9  
FF Ryan C. Sullivan, L-25  
FF Herman J. Tyson, L-50  
Lt. John W. Vanderstar, L-44  
FF John J. Varmon, Jr., E-89  
FF Christopher J. Vesey, E-265

## Service Rating B

FF Ernie Acosta, L-10  
FF Marc Andruzzi, L-5  
FF Thomas J. Bradley, L-147  
Lt. Timothy J. Byrne, L-140  
FF Richard Carroll, L-9  
FF Jose G. Cruz, L-36  
FF Hugh Diamond, Jr., E-298 (2)  
FF Robert A. Diaz, L-166  
FF Peter B. Hespe, Jr., E-275  
FF Lawrence D. Hollingsworth, L-107  
FF Luke A. Jackson, E-3  
FF Ryan Jappell, L-170  
FF Keith F. Kern, L-175  
Capt. Glenn F. Radermacher, D-15

Capt. Michael J. Radicella, E-216  
FF Michael G. Reese, L-19  
FF James B. Reid, L-115  
FF John A. Rocchio, L-9  
FF Robert Ruggirello, L-110  
FF Paul W. Sarubbi, M-9  
FF James L. Savarese, L-170  
FF Gregorio A. Tajalle, L-113  
FF Thomas Verderosa, L-81  
FF Damion G. Waite, L-107  
FF Jason P. Warnken, L-39  
Prob. FF John Patrick Wylie, L-7

*Number in parentheses indicates multiple commendations.*



# **Bureau of Fire Investigation--BFI**

## **Service Rating A**

**March 12, 2014, SFM James C. Kelly, CWN**  
**March 12, 2014, FM Joseph B. Sullivan, CWN**  
**August 19, 2014, FM Robert J. Cox, CWS**

## **Service Rating B**

**January 17, 2014, FM Kenneth W. Hettwer, CWS**  
**April 6, 2014, FM Peter J. Fredriksen, CWN**  
**June 15, 2014, FM Charles S. Guttman, CWN**  
**July 30, 2014, FM Mark A. Fredrickson, AFS**  
**August 1, 2014, FM Anthony P. Torquato, CWN**  
**August 25, 2014, FM Justin C. Horigan, CWN**

## **Unit Citations**

### **Terroristic Threats**

May 7, 2013, Box 795

### **Major Case Task Force**

May 20, 2013, Box 7308

### **Midtown Serial Arson**

September 20, 2013, Box 782

### **Waldorf-Astoria Drug Lab**

January 2, 2014, Box 845

### **Queens Mall Arson**

February 23, 2014, Box 3327

### **Park Avenue Gas Explosion**

March 12, 2014, Box 1406

### **48th Precinct Fires**

April 7, 2014, Box 3303

### **Owner Give-Up**

July 30, 2014, Box 1978

### **300 MFA Task Force**

August 12, 2014, Box 1687

### **Arson Burglary**

August 19, 2014, Box 558

### **Renovation by Arson**

August 25, 2014, Box 9942

### **Third-Alarm Arson**

September 20, 2014, Box 829





# Unit Citations

**Engine Company 62**  
May 2, 2013, Box 55-3677

**Engine Company 63**  
May 2, 2013, Box 55-3677

**Ladder Company 39**  
May 2, 2013, Box 55-3677

**Ladder Company 32**  
May 2, 2013, Box 55-3677

**Engine Company 28**  
July 3, 2013, Box 417

**Engine Company 79**  
October 27, 2013, Box 44-3515

**Engine Company 75**  
October 27, 2013, Box 44-3515

**Ladder Company 37**  
October 27, 2013, Box 44-3515

**Engine Company 62**  
October 27, 2013, Box 44-3515

**Engine Company 48**  
October 27, 2013, Box 44-3515

**Engine Company 67**  
November 18, 2013, Box 44-1722

**Engine Company 93**  
November 18, 2013, Box 44-1722

**Ladder Company 34**  
November 18, 2013, Box 44-1722

**Ladder Company 45**  
November 18, 2013, Box 44-1722

**Squad Company 61**  
November 27, 2013, Box 3084

**Ladder Company 41**  
December 27, 2013, Box 22-3228

**Engine Company 92**  
January 3, 2014, Box 2709

**Ladder Company 26**  
January 5, 2014, Box 33-798

**Engine Company 47**  
January 5, 2014, Box 33-798

**Ladder Company 39**  
January 10, 2014, Box 75-3871

**Engine Company 88**  
January 13, 2014, Box 75-3324

**Ladder Company 169**  
January 14, 2014, Box 3642

**Engine Company 225**  
January 15, 2014, Box 1835

**Ladder Company 107**  
January 15, 2014, Box 1835

**Squad Company 41**  
January 20, 2014, Box 75-3115

**Ladder Company 33**  
January 20, 2014, Box 75-3115

**Engine Company 314**  
January 25, 2014, Box 22-5897

**Squad Company 61**  
February 13, 2014, Box 44-4155

**Engine Company 64**  
February 13, 2014, Box 44-4155

**Ladder Company 47**  
February 13, 2014, Box 44-4155

**Ladder Company 115**  
February 14, 2014, Box 7358

**Engine Company 63**  
March 1, 2014, Box 22-3864

**Engine Company 291**  
March 3, 2014, Box 75-4039

**Ladder Company 124**  
March 3, 2014, Box 75-4039

**Ladder Company 32**  
March 7, 2014, Box 22-3446

**Ladder Company 4**  
March 10, 2014, Box 786

**Engine Company 58**  
March 12, 2014, Box 55-1406

**Engine Company 35**  
March 12, 2014, Box 55-1406

**Ladder Company 26**  
March 12, 2014, Box 55-1406

**Ladder Company 14**  
March 12, 2014, Box 55-1406

**Ladder Company 23**  
March 12, 2014, Box 55-1406

**Squad Company 41**  
March 12, 2014, Box 55-1406

**Rescue Company 1**  
March 12, 2014, Box 55-1406

**Engine Company 226**  
March 16, 2014, Box 75-583

**Engine Company 74**  
March 20, 2014, Box 1067

**Ladder Company 25**  
March 20, 2014, Box 1067

**Rescue Company 3**  
April 4, 2014, Box 7603

**Rescue Company 4**  
April 4, 2014, Box 7603

**Ladder Company 117**  
April 4, 2014, Box 7603

**Ladder Company 169**  
April 6, 2014, Box 3542

**Ladder Company 105**  
April 12, 2014, Box 627

**Ladder Company 123**  
April 14, 2014, Box 75-1660

**Ladder Company 116**  
April 15, 2014, Box 7436

**Ladder Company 76**  
April 21, 2014, Box 4194

**Ladder Company 170**  
April 26, 2014, Box 2199

**Engine Company 160**  
April 29, 2014, Box 1059

**Ladder Company 154**  
May 2, 2014, Box 22-436

**Engine Company 307**  
May 2, 2014, Box 22-436

**Engine Company 211**  
May 8, 2014, Box 371

**Ladder Company 119**  
May 8, 2014, Box 371

**Rescue Company 2**  
May 8, 2014, Box 371

**Ladder Company 103**  
June 2, 2014, Box 75-2004

**Ladder Company 81**  
June 5, 2014, Box 55-469

**Engine Company 79**  
June 16, 2014, Box 33-3397

**Ladder Company 25**  
June 22, 2014, Box 995

**Ladder Company 113**  
June 23, 2014, Box 75-1571

**Ladder Company 10**  
July 23, 2014, Box 130

**Ladder Company 107**  
July 29, 2014, Box 77-1873

**Engine Company 225**  
July 29, 2014, Box 77-1873

**Engine Company 80**  
August 18, 2014, Box 44-1568

**Engine Company 59**  
August 18, 2014, Box 44-1568

**Ladder Company 115**  
August 25, 2014, Box 7119

**Engine Company 222**  
August 28, 2014, Box 75-855

**Engine Company 211**  
September 13, 2014, Box 75-8668

**Ladder Company 119**  
September 13, 2014, Box 75-8668

**Ladder Company 2**  
September 17, 2014, Box 33-825

**Engine Company 222**  
September 20, 2014, Box 33-829

**Engine Company 42**  
October 10, 2014, Box 22-2911

**Engine Company 44**  
October 23, 2014, Box 8158

**Rescue Company 1**  
November 12, 2014, Box 22-8084

**Squad Company 18**  
November 12, 2014, Box 22-8084

**Ladder Company 157**  
November 19, 2014, Box 22-2446

**Engine Company 255**  
November 19, 2014, Box 22-2446

**Engine Company 248**  
November 19, 2014, Box 22-2446

**Ladder Company 147**  
November 19, 2014, Box 22-2446

**Engine Company 281**  
November 19, 2014, Box 22-2446

**Ladder Company 163**  
November 19, 2014, Box 7322

**Ladder Company 34**  
November 29, 2014, Box 75-1651

**Engine Company 247**  
December 2, 2014, Box 2530

**Ladder Company 120**  
December 12, 2014, Box 44-1992

**Ladder Company 160**  
December 20, 2014, Box 9789



## CFR Pre-Hospital Save Commendations

### June 2013

Engine Company 9, June 9  
Engine Company 22, June 16  
Engine Company 43, June 17  
Engine Company 46, June 12  
Engine Company 48, June 30  
Engine Company 52, June 14  
Engine Company 64, June 4  
Engine Company 231, June 9  
Engine Company 255, June 27

### July 2013

Engine Company 5, July 30  
Engine Company 10, July 17  
Squad Company 18, July 8  
Engine Company 26, July 13  
Engine Company 38, July 10  
Engine Company 40, July 22  
Engine Company 52, July 25  
Engine Company 59, July 7  
Engine Company 63, July 29  
Engine Company 72, July 30  
Engine Company 83, July 16  
Engine Company 97, July 2 and 29  
Engine Company 216, July 11  
Engine Company 227, July 17  
Engine Company 231, July 9  
Engine Company 233, July 24  
Engine Company 240, July 2  
Engine Company 254, July 23  
Engine Company 257, July 6  
Engine Company 273, July 5  
Engine Company 274, July 10  
Engine Company 281, July 11  
Engine Company 292, July 26  
Engine Company 307, July 5  
Engine Company 317, July 3 and 17  
Engine Company 325, July 15  
Engine Company 331, July 26

### November 2013

Engine Company 5, November 28  
Engine Company 42, November 26  
Engine Company 242, November 26  
Engine Company 255, November 25  
Squad Company 270, November 24  
Engine Company 280, November 29  
Engine Company 285, November 26  
Engine Company 320, November 11

### December 2013

Engine Company 1, December 2 and 23  
Engine Company 4, December 10  
Engine Company 14, December 21  
Engine Company 16, December 13  
Engine Company 23, December 3  
Engine Company 40, December 22  
Engine Company 43,  
December 19 and 23  
Engine Company 81, December 22  
Engine Company 82, December 21  
Engine Company 84, December 9  
Engine Company 88, December 23  
Engine Company 214, December 13  
Engine Company 236,  
December 13 and 19  
Engine Company 245, December 1  
Engine Company 246, December 6  
Engine Company 248, December 11  
Engine Company 255, December 1  
Engine Company 257, December 20  
Engine Company 271, December 19  
Engine Company 273, December 14  
Engine Company 287, December 13  
Engine Company 290, December 22  
Engine Company 305, December 23  
Engine Company 318, December 22  
Engine Company 332, December 7

### January 2014

Engine Company 3, January 9  
Engine Company 9, January 27  
Engine Company 15, January 10  
Engine Company 62, January 4  
Engine Company 63, January 23  
Engine Company 64, January 24  
Engine Company 71, January 22  
Engine Company 73, January 10  
Engine Company 80, January 5 and 31  
Engine Company 96, January 3  
Engine Company 157, January 24  
Engine Company 164, January 12  
Engine Company 211, January 20  
Engine Company 230, January 24  
Engine Company 231, January 12  
Engine Company 241, January 30  
Engine Company 246, January 5  
Engine Company 249, January 17  
Engine Company 262, January 31  
Engine Company 289, January 19  
Engine Company 305, January 12  
Engine Company 308, January 20  
Engine Company 311, January 22  
Engine Company 312, January 21  
Engine Company 317, January 26  
Engine Company 320, January 29  
Engine Company 324, January 25





## CFR Pre-Hospital Save Commendations

### February 2014

Engine Company 7, February 18  
Engine Company 21, February 13  
Engine Company 26, February 15  
Engine Company 45, February 20  
Engine Company 92, February 27  
Engine Company 97, February 20  
Engine Company 221, February 27  
Engine Company 224, February 11  
Engine Company 237, February 11  
Engine Company 239, February 20  
Engine Company 249, February 23  
Engine Company 253, February 17  
Engine Company 263, February 13  
Engine Company 287, February 22  
Engine Company 289, February 7  
Engine Company 293,  
February 3 and 24  
Engine Company 297, February 22  
Engine Company 323,  
February 21 and 22  
Engine Company 330, February 7  
Squad Company 288, February 12

### March 2014

Engine Company 6, March 24  
Engine Company 8, March 12  
Engine Company 23, March 1  
Engine Company 67, March 31  
Engine Company 81, March 14  
Engine Company 82, March 2  
Engine Company 230, March 6  
Engine Company 235, March 24  
Engine Company 246, March 15  
Engine Company 248, March 19  
Engine Company 253, March 8 and 11  
Engine Company 273, March 16 and 18  
Engine Company 287, March 20  
Engine Company 294, March 15  
Engine Company 307, March 10 and 24  
Engine Company 308, March 22 and 27  
Engine Company 311, March 7  
Engine Company 315, March 15  
Squad Company 18, March 20

### April 2014

Engine Company 9, April 20  
Engine Company 23, April 30  
Engine Company 35, April 28  
Engine Company 39, April 15  
Engine Company 40, April 11 and 22  
Engine Company 45, April 23  
Engine Company 50, April 6  
Engine Company 54, April 30  
Engine Company 71, April 3  
Engine Company 72, April 14  
Engine Company 74, April 5  
Engine Company 75, April 29  
Engine Company 88, April 8  
Engine Company 95, April 2  
Engine Company 96, April 21  
Engine Company 155, April 21  
Engine Company 226, April 28  
Engine Company 230, April 8  
Engine Company 231, April 3 and 28  
Engine Company 233, April 7  
Engine Company 236, April 9  
Engine Company 265, April 4  
Engine Company 281, April 13  
Engine Company 301, April 28  
Engine Company 302, April 15  
Engine Company 307, April 28  
Engine Company 308, April 14  
Engine Company 309, April 13

### May 2014

Engine Company 4, May 12  
Engine Company 26, May 16  
Engine Company 35, May 23  
Engine Company 73, May 14  
Engine Company 90, May 4  
Engine Company 152, May 1  
Engine Company 162, May 23  
Engine Company 165, May 19  
Engine Company 166, May 17  
Engine Company 217, May 21  
Engine Company 226, May 31  
Engine Company 243, May 5  
Engine Company 246, May 13 and 26  
Engine Company 257, May 29  
Engine Company 290, May 15  
Engine Company 302, May 13  
Engine Company 307, May 15  
Engine Company 310, May 29  
Engine Company 318, May 19  
Engine Company 324, May 14

Engine Company 328, May 15  
Squad Company 270, May 18

### June 2014

Engine Company 5, June 19  
Engine Company 15, June 29  
Engine Company 62, June 23  
Engine Company 63, June 4 and 25  
Engine Company 93, June 16  
Engine Company 156, June 1  
Engine Company 166, June 25  
Engine Company 217, June 30  
Engine Company 235, June 27  
Engine Company 243, June 8  
Engine Company 257, June 3  
Engine Company 289, June 1  
Engine Company 302,  
June 10, 13, 24 and 29  
Engine Company 319, June 6  
Engine Company 320, June 4

### July 2014

Engine Company 7, July 30  
Engine Company 16, July 22  
Engine Company 35, July 21 and 30  
Engine Company 42, July 24  
Engine Company 53, July 25  
Engine Company 59, July 28  
Engine Company 66, July 15  
Engine Company 71, July 27  
Engine Company 92, July 2  
Engine Company 94, July 9  
Engine Company 97, July 18  
Engine Company 162, July 1  
Engine Company 166, July 11  
Engine Company 217, July 31  
Engine Company 222, July 20  
Engine Company 255, July 13  
Engine Company 276, July 9  
Engine Company 283, July 9  
Engine Company 285, July 12  
Engine Company 290, July 9  
Engine Company 298, July 13 and 24  
Engine Company 302, July 4  
Engine Company 323, July 28  
Engine Company 332, July 8



## CFR Pre-Hospital Save Commendations

### August 2014

Engine Company 1, August 8  
Engine Company 14, August 18  
Engine Company 74, August 10 and 20  
Engine Company 75, August 28  
Engine Company 93, August 11  
Engine Company 97, August 31  
Engine Company 158, August 25  
Engine Company 165, August 12  
Engine Company 207, August 28  
Engine Company 217, August 27  
Engine Company 218, August 6  
Engine Company 226, August 24  
Engine Company 234, August 7  
Engine Company 243, August 28  
Engine Company 253, August 29  
Engine Company 283, August 25  
Engine Company 297, August 2  
Engine Company 307, August 15  
Engine Company 312, August 10  
Engine Company 323, August 9  
Engine Company 325, August 16  
Engine Company 326, August 5  
Squad Company 61, August 14 and 22  
Squad Company 288, August 31

### September 2014

Engine Company 1, September 18  
Engine Company 5, September 26  
Engine Company 14, September 16  
Engine Company 35, September 26  
Engine Company 82, September 18  
Engine Company 96, September 7  
Engine Company 207, September 21  
Engine Company 221, September 25  
Engine Company 228, September 3  
Engine Company 229, September 14  
Engine Company 231,  
September 12 and 28  
Engine Company 233, September 26  
Engine Company 241, September 3  
Engine Company 260, September 12  
Engine Company 262, September 5  
Engine Company 277, September 19  
Engine Company 285, September 7  
Engine Company 286, September 9  
Engine Company 301, September 19  
Engine Company 308, September 20  
Engine Company 317, September 10  
Engine Company 325,  
September 9 and 25

### October 2014

Engine Company 8, October 15  
Engine Company 14, October 17  
Engine Company 21, October 3 and 15  
Engine Company 38, October 21  
Engine Company 40, October 29  
Engine Company 42, October 10  
Engine Company 52, October 26  
Engine Company 66, October 26  
Engine Company 68, October 19  
Engine Company 69, October 9  
Engine Company 95, October 21  
Engine Company 155, October 17  
Engine Company 164, October 31  
Engine Company 210, October 25  
Engine Company 220, October 6  
Engine Company 222, October 23  
Engine Company 240, October 17  
Engine Company 251, October 15  
Engine Company 254, October 12  
Engine Company 279, October 15  
Engine Company 280, October 13  
Engine Company 302, October 26  
Engine Company 305, October 14  
Engine Company 308, October 21  
Engine Company 311, October 9  
Engine Company 313, October 17  
Engine Company 323, October 11  
Engine Company 331, October 18  
Squad Company 270, October 29  
Squad Company 288, October 6

### November 2014

Engine Company 21, November 8  
Engine Company 38, November 1  
Engine Company 53, November 21  
Engine Company 73,  
November 2 and 26  
Engine Company 79, November 5  
Engine Company 92, November 4  
Engine Company 95, November 2  
Engine Company 97, November 16  
Engine Company 202, November 16  
Engine Company 247, November 8  
Engine Company 248, November 11  
Engine Company 249, November 1  
Engine Company 257, November 2  
Engine Company 277, November 8  
Engine Company 283, November 13  
Engine Company 285,  
November 12 and 16

Engine Company 290, November 15  
Engine Company 294, November 7  
Engine Company 295, November 27  
Engine Company 301, November 7  
Engine Company 305,  
November 9 and 22  
Engine Company 308, November 30  
Engine Company 315, November 28  
Engine Company 317, November 29  
Engine Company 318, November 29  
Engine Company 321, November 22  
Engine Company 324, November 12  
Engine Company 325, November 9

### December 2014

Engine Company 54, December 22  
Engine Company 55, December 16  
Engine Company 63, December 3  
Engine Company 65, December 28  
Engine Company 71, December 24  
Engine Company 75, December 13  
Engine Company 89, December 21  
Engine Company 151, December 17  
Engine Company 163, December 5  
Engine Company 168, December 3  
Engine Company 231, December 14  
Engine Company 246, December 21  
Engine Company 250, December 30  
Engine Company 257, December 23  
Engine Company 271, December 22  
Engine Company 275, December 24  
Engine Company 287, December 22  
Engine Company 293, December 4  
Engine Company 295, December 26  
Engine Company 297, December 21  
Engine Company 302, December 31  
Engine Company 308,  
December 4 and 21  
Engine Company 310, December 10  
Engine Company 316, December 19  
Engine Company 317, December 11  
Squad Company 61, December 21  
Squad Company 270, December 4





## 2014 Pre-Hospital Save Awards

*Number in parentheses indicates multiple saves.*

Lieutenant Paul E. Abate, Jr.	EMT Kenneth H. Barriteau (2)	EMT Keith A. Buccieri	EMT Maciej Cichosz
EMT Peter J. Abbondandolo	Paramedic Serreste Barton-	Paramedic Vincent Bui	EMT Nelson Cintron
EMT Jamilah Abdul Hakeem (3)	Hossanah	Paramedic Daniel Burgos	EMT Glenn C. Clapp
EMT Ralph J. Abegg	Lieutenant Mario Bastidas	Lieutenant David Burke	EMT Thomas J. Clark
Paramedic Iller Abramov	Lieutenant Moses O. Bastien (3)	EMT Thomas E. Burke	Paramedic Johana Clerge
Lieutenant Catherine L.	Lieutenant Andrew Bates (2)	EMT Jazmin D. Burrell (2)	EMT Craig D. Colamarino
Abramshe	Lieutenant James Becker (6)	Paramedic Peter L. Bushey	Paramedic Trevor M. Coleman (2)
EMT Annabell Abreu	EMT Claudine K. Beckford	EMT Evan K. Butt	EMT Andres F. Coll Martinez
Paramedic Roberto D. Abril	Paramedic Leonardo A. Bedoya	Lieutenant Keshica M. Byrd (3)	Paramedic Joseph Colon (2)
EMT Bernadette Acosta	Paramedic William H. Bedoya	Lieutenant Giovanni Caballero (2)	Paramedic Eric J. Colvil (2)
EMT Francesco Adamo (2)	EMT Michael Beilinson (2)	Lieutenant Ralph Cabello	Paramedic Weber Compere
EMT Denzel T. Adonis	EMT Someko K. Bellille	EMT Victor J. Cadicamo	Lieutenant Lorena I. Concepcion
Lieutenant Juan A. Aguirre	EMT Marcos R. Bencosme (2)	Paramedic David A. Cadogan	EMT Jeremy A. Condit
EMT Rafael E. Aguirre	Paramedic Jose O. Benitez (2)	Lieutenant Steven M. Caggiano	EMT Timothy P. Conlon
Paramedic Keith R. Ahrens	Lieutenant Sean Benjamin (2)	EMT Philip J. Cagnard (2)	EMT Joshua C. Contreras
Lieutenant Jeanne A. Aikins	Paramedic Kimberly N.	Lieutenant Giovanna M.	EMT Julio C. Contreras (3)
Paramedic Rene F. Alaby (4)	Benson (2)	Caldarella	EMT Lucy Z. Conway
Paramedic Joseph M. Albo (2)	EMT Brandon J. Bentley	Lieutenant Steven F. Cameron	Paramedic David J. Cook
Paramedic Ashley Alejo (2)	Paramedic Robert A. Berrios	EMT Michelle T. Campbell	Paramedic Henry Cordero
Lieutenant Rose M. Alibrandi	Paramedic Victor S. Berrios	EMT Oscar Canada (3)	Paramedic Nicholas C. Cordova
Paramedic Richard J. Alicea II (2)	Paramedic David K. Besemer	Paramedic Jerry Cange	Lieutenant Luis Corrales (3)
Lieutenant Jerard G. Allas (3)	EMT Michael F. Bifulco	EMT Kelly J. Canham	Paramedic Jason Costello
EMT Shanice D. Alleyne	Paramedic Peter J. Bilardello	EMT Terence J. Canham (2)	Paramedic Tamarah E. Coty
Paramedic Luis E. Alvarez (2)	Paramedic Jonathan R. Billian (2)	Paramedic Joy H. Canter (3)	Paramedic Jillian E. Cox
EMT Robert N. Ammiodola	Captain Christopher J. Bilz (2)	Lieutenant Mark R. Caplan (2)	EMT Cameron A. Crayton
Lieutenant Rae Ammirati	Paramedic Timothy J. Bittar	Paramedic Richard M. Cappock	EMT Fernando Crespo
Paramedic Antonio Amor (2)	EMT Brent W. Blake (2)	EMT Alberto C. Caraballo	Kouyoumdjian
EMT John J. Amore	Paramedic Kerrin M. Blika	EMT Erin M. Card (2)	Paramedic James V. Crispino
EMT Bryan Anderson	Paramedic Conor B. Bliss (2)	Lieutenant Linda Carlson (2)	EMT Keisha Crutchfield
EMT Nicholas P. Andryuk (2)	Paramedic Peter R. Bockwoldt	EMT Gerard P. Carney	EMT Edwin Cruz, Jr.
Paramedic Timothy J. Anson (4)	EMT Abdul M. Boddington	EMT Patrick Carney	Paramedic Gina Cruz
EMT Nicholas J. Appel	EMT John M. Bohl	Paramedic Stephen W.	Paramedic Jose L. Cruz (3)
EMT Stephen C. Aran (2)	Paramenter Adolfo E. Bonafoux (2)	Carpenter (2)	EMT Luis R. Cruz
Paramedic Paul A. Ardizzzone	EMT Jerry T. Bond	Paramedic Gerald J. Carr	Paramedic Rebecca M. Cruz
Paramedic Jose R. Arias (3)	Captain Mark A. Bonilla (6)	Paramedic Efrain F.	Paramedic Yeny F. Cruz
EMT Nathalie Arias	EMT Diana S. Boone (2)	Carrasquillo (2)	EMT Henry J. Cuba (2)
EMT Chris M. Arnaud	Paramedic Eric Borbee	EMT Damian W. Carrera	EMT Jane Cubilette
Paramedic Benzion Aron	EMT Thomas Bores	EMT Jaquan A. Carter (2)	EMT John A. Cuccio
Paramedic Marilyn L. Arroyo	Paramedic Peter R. Borriello (2)	Captain Elizabeth Cascio	Paramedic Michael A.
EMT Yadira Arroyo	EMT John A. Bottone	Paramedic Julian D. Castaneda	Cumberbatch
Lieutenant Lloyd C. Arscott	Lieutenant Kelly Boulter	EMT Joseph Castelli (3)	EMT Daniel E. Cummings
ARD Alejandro O. Arzeno	EMT Issac I. Bouskila	Lieutenant Andre Catapano (2)	EMT Ryan Cummings
EMT Franklin Ashton (2)	EMT Dominique N. Boyd (2)	EMT Keisha S. Cavanna	Paramedic Owen P.
Lieutenant Christopher Attanasio	Lieutenant Schyler C. Boyd	EMT Charles Cedeno (2)	Cunningham (3)
Lieutenant Peter G. Auricchio	EMT Ryan J. Boyle	EMT Vincent A. Celentano	EMT David A. Curling
Lieutenant Gilberto Aviles	Lieutenant Ian Bradshaw	Lieutenant Cemal Cengiz (3)	EMT William J. Curtin, Jr.
EMT Gillian M. Axtens (4)	Lieutenant Barbara Brady (2)	EMT Christopher L. Chalmers	Lieutenant Timothy B. Cusack (4)
Paramedic Angel D. Ayala	Lieutenant Gregg T. Brady (4)	Paramedic Sharita C. Chambers	EMT Amanda J. Czaja
Paramedic Miguel A. Ayala Florez	Paramedic Kevin W. Bratholt	Paramedic Chris L. Chan (2)	Lieutenant Michael C.
EMT Roxie Babb	EMT Sherwin H. Brathwaite	EMT Wilson Chan	Daddona (5)
EMT Ely Bach	EMT Kevin A. Bristol (2)	EMT George Chandler, Jr.	Paramedic Joseph A. Dagosto
Lieutenant Chantel Bacot (2)	Paramedic Andrew Brock	Paramedic Pierre C.	EMT Christopher W. Daley
EMT Robert F. Badalamenti, III	Paramedic Arthur G.	Charboneau (3)	EMT Joseph J. Daly
Lieutenant Edgar Baez (2)	Bronshiteyn (4)	EMT Michael J. Charles	Lieutenant Jonathan R.
Paramedic Anthony B. Bajnauth	EMT Jonathan Broome	EMT Stephanie Charles	Damato (2)
Paramedic Felicia Bangura (2)	EMT Stephen F. Brothers (2)	Paramedic Ruth E. Chavez	Paramedic Mary E. D'Angelo
EMT Kimberly M. Barba	EMT Brittany V. Brown	EMT Zhen Huan Chen	EMT Joseph J. Dantuono
Paramedic Mathew A. Barbella	Paramedic Madelyn V. Brown (2)	Paramedic Kenny Cheng	EMT Catarina J. Da Silva
Paramedic Maryann M. Barone	EMT Renee S. Brown (2)	Paramedic Stuart I. Chenkin (3)	EMT Brian M. Daur
Paramedic Dale T. Barrett	EMT Joshua Brownstein	Paramedic Cynthia A. Chin	



Lieutenant Christopher C. D'Auria  
 EMT Kerry A. David  
 EMT Scott Davila  
 EMT Dillon A. Davis  
 EMT Kenneth J. Davis, Jr.  
 Lieutenant James M. Dedonato  
 EMT Walter Dehaan  
 EMT Gonzalo De Jesus  
 EMT Felix W. Delacruz  
 Lieutenant Edwin Delapaz  
 Paramedic David A. Deleon  
 EMT Filomena F. Deleon (2)  
 Lieutenant Jose L. Delgado (2)  
 EMT Ted Delgado  
 EMT Diogenes De Los Santos, Jr.  
 Lieutenant Christopher Deluca  
 Lieutenant Michael A. Demarco  
 EMT Richard S. DeMola  
 Paramedic Christopher Demott  
 Paramedic Michael J. Dennehy  
 EMT Peyton F. Dennis (2)  
 Paramedic Anthony Desir  
 Lieutenant Louis Devino  
 EMT Michelle A. Devito  
 EMT Margaret Devlin  
 EMT Rocky O. Diaz (2)  
 Paramedic Kevin D. Difiore  
 EMT Artem Dikiy  
 Lieutenant Patrick J. Dillon  
 Lieutenant John P. Dimen (3)  
 Paramedic Trinh K. Dinh  
 EMT William J. Dipietra  
 EMT Snejana Dolgounova (2)  
 Paramedic Justin D. Donaldson (2)  
 EMT Shayne O. Donaldson  
 EMT Jarslow Dorman  
 EMT Michael R. Dorman  
 Lieutenant George H. Dorsey (2)  
 EMT Kevin F. Dougherty (2)  
 Lieutenant Erin P. Doyle (4)  
 Lieutenant Angela Dragotto (2)  
 EMT Yanina Drebskaya  
 EMT Douglas Drumgo, II  
 Paramedic Tholeme Dumay  
 Lieutenant Richard H. Dun  
 Lieutenant William Duncklee (3)  
 EMT Christopher J. Dunlavy  
 Lieutenant Andrew W. Dunn (3)  
 EMT Seleana D. Dunton-Muhammad (2)  
 Paramedic Susanne Duque (2)  
 EMT Bryan T. Easop  
 EMT Jason P. Easter  
 EMT Christopher Echevarria (2)  
 Paramedic Anthony J. Edrehi  
 Lieutenant Wa-il K. Eldahry (3)  
 Paramedic Alicia B. Elkadi  
 EMT Danny A. Elvy  
 EMT Sean P. Emanuel  
 Lieutenant Christopher R. Emhardt (3)  
 Paramedic John A. Emington  
 EMT George J. Encarnacion  
 Paramedic Andrew J. Enderes  
 EMT Matthew C. Epple (2)  
 Lieutenant Richard L. Erdey (3)  
 EMT Robinson Eric  
 Paramedic Julio E. Espinoza  
 EMT Kem Farmer  
 EMT Daniel J. Fazzino  
 Paramedic Joseph Fazzino (2)  
 EMT Aneury Fernandez  
 EMT Daniel Fernandez  
 Paramedic Phillip Ferrara  
 EMT Tamara N. Ferrer  
 Lieutenant Brett H. Fields  
 EMT Timothy S. Figaro  
 Paramedic Jerry A. Figueroa  
 Paramedic Andrew P. Fiorillo  
 Lieutenant Charles Fiske (3)  
 Paramedic Stanislav Flaksman (3)  
 Paramedic Lee J. Fleming  
 EMT Robert L. Fleming, Jr.  
 Lieutenant Ernest Floreal  
 Lieutenant Charles R. Flores  
 Paramedic Serafin Flores  
 Paramedic Richard G. Flower (2)  
 Paramedic Gregory K. Floyd  
 Paramedic Iisha Floyd  
 Lieutenant Ronald Floyd (3)  
 Lieutenant Patrick J. Flynn  
 Lieutenant Patricia M. Foley (5)  
 Paramedic Karen M. Ford (2)  
 Paramedic Joseph R. Fortis  
 EMT Timothy A. Fowler  
 Paramedic Oral L. Francis (4)  
 EMT Jewel A. Fraser  
 Paramedic Brian E. Frayne  
 Lieutenant Dorlan J. Freeman  
 Paramedic Michael P. Fregonese (2)  
 Paramedic Joshua L. Frumer  
 EMT Maxim Furman  
 Paramedic Kenshin Furuta (2)  
 Paramedic John P. Gagliano (4)  
 EMT Gregory L. Gagliardo  
 EMT Ryan R. Gale (2)  
 EMT Marisol Galloza  
 Paramedic Dwane O. Gamble  
 Paramedic Christian A. Garcia  
 Paramedic Miguel A. Garcia (2)  
 Paramedic Sonia Garcia (2)  
 Paramedic Joshua J. Gardiner (2)  
 EMT Janice Gardner  
 Lieutenant Rolando Gardon  
 EMT Kelcee A. Garneau  
 EMT Keisha M. Garrett  
 Lieutenant Immaculada Gattas  
 Paramedic Juan C. Gavilanes  
 Paramedic Alfredo C. Gaw (2)  
 EMT Edison N. Gbor  
 EMT Paul A. Gebhardt  
 Paramedic Bruce C. Geiser (4)  
 ARD Barbie Jo Geller  
 EMT Ronald C. Georgio, II  
 EMT Domenick R. Gerardi, II  
 Paramedic Lothaire Germain, Jr.  
 Paramedic William Gettens  
 EMT Allison O. Gibson  
 EMT Norman Gillard  
 Deputy Chief Nancy J. Gilligan (2)  
 Paramedic Tanika M. Gillison (2)  
 Paramedic Annemarie Girgenti (2)  
 Lieutenant Abraham B. Glatzer (8)  
 Lieutenant Michael J. Glenn  
 EMT Travis C. Gluck (2)  
 EMT Sheldon O. Goffe  
 Paramedic Erica A. Golino (2)  
 Lieutenant Alexander Gomez  
 EMT Awilda H. Gomez  
 Paramedic Christopher Gonzales  
 EMT Alex Gonzalez  
 Paramedic Daniel A. Gonzalez  
 Paramedic Edwin Gonzalez  
 Paramedic Enrique A. Gonzalez  
 EMT Justin M. Gonzalez (2)  
 EMT Luis Gonzalez  
 Paramedic Raymond Gonzalez  
 Lieutenant Sergio H. Gonzalez (3)  
 EMT David B. Goodman (2)  
 EMT Anthony S. Gordon (2)  
 Paramedic Bernard N. Gordon  
 Paramedic Michael S. Gordon  
 EMT Victor N. Gornecki  
 EMT Peter M. Gospodinov  
 EMT Devon E. Graham  
 Paramedic Kahlia D. Graham  
 EMT Jerry D. Granillo  
 Paramedic Marcio A. Grano De Oro  
 EMT Raz-Giem Graves (2)  
 EMT Jason N. Gray (2)  
 Paramedic Michael A. Greco (2)  
 Lieutenant Alan M. Greenberg  
 Paramedic David Greenidge  
 Lieutenant Kendra C. Gregory  
 Paramedic Jason T. Greibesland (2)  
 Paramedic Jeremy E. Griffel  
 Lieutenant Charles M. Gschlecht (2)  
 EMT Tiana Guglielmo  
 EMT Patrick J. Gustama  
 Paramedic Bryant Gutierrez  
 Lieutenant Luis F. Gutierrez (2)  
 EMT Shaya Gutleizer  
 Paramedic Lydia M. Gutnick (2)  
 Paramedic Richard Guzman (4)  
 Lieutenant Bruce Haas (4)  
 Lieutenant Andrew S. Haber (2)  
 Paramedic Michael Haggerty (2)  
 Paramedic Claude V. Hall  
 EMT Molly A. Hallinan (2)  
 EMT Nigel R. Hamilton  
 EMT Elizabeth N. Hamlet (2)  
 EMT Elizabeth D. Handley  
 EMT John T. Hanley III  
 Lieutenant Jennifer M. Hannafey  
 EMT Michael P. Hannan  
 EMT Chad W. Hannon  
 EMT Lorena C. Hanton  
 EMT Rajindra Harnarain  
 Paramedic Dindeyal T. Harricharan (2)  
 Paramedic Bevonnia A. Harrison (2)  
 Paramedic Nicholas V. Harrison  
 EMT Robert S. Hart  
 Paramedic Kimberly L. Hattan  
 Paramedic Richard Hawkins (2)  
 Paramedic William P. Heegan (2)  
 EMT Hopeton M. Hendricks  
 EMT Dana M. Henricksen  
 Paramedic Juan L. Henriquez (3)  
 Paramedic Howard Henry  
 Paramedic Walter G. Henry  
 EMT Dennis M. Hepworth  
 EMT Brendon Hernandez  
 EMT Edwin Hernandez  
 EMT Ezequiel Hernandez  
 EMT Henry Hernandez  
 EMT Samuel J. Hernandez  
 Paramedic Walter Hochbrueckner (2)  
 Paramedic Stephen M. Hoder  
 EMT Gregory H. Hodge  
 EMT Andrew L. Hodges  
 Paramedic Raquel Hogan  
 EMT Vincent D. Hogan, Jr.  
 EMT John F. Holmes (2)  
 Paramedic Simon A. Holyland  
 EMT Michael V. Hospedales  
 Paramedic Jasmin Howard  
 EMT Joshua D. Howard  
 Paramedic Natasha R. Howard  
 Paramedic Bryan D. Hoyos  
 Paramedic Joseph J. Hudak  
 EMT Dorothy E. Huertas (2)  
 Paramedic Mark Hunt  
 Paramedic Oneil Hunter (2)  
 EMT Alan C. Hurtado  
 EMT Garth B. Huxtable  
 Paramedic Bruce N. Hydock, Jr.  
 EMT David A. Ianelli  
 Paramedic Justin Imburgia  
 Paramedic Eric W. Ingram (3)  
 EMT Nadia J. Isles  
 EMT Anthony S. Italiano (2)  
 Paramedic Christopher W. Jacobs  
 Paramedic Dennis Jamieson  
 Paramedic Timothy S. Janis  
 EMT Ryan C. Jansen  
 EMT Kevin J. Jansen (2)  
 EMT Tony Jarani (2)  
 Paramedic Ra Jassir (2)  
 EMT Anthony J. Jean (2)  
 EMT Dominique B. Jean





Paramedic Dukens R. Jean Baptiste  
 Lieutenant Walter Jehle (2)  
 Paramedic Kevin W. Jennings  
 EMT Paul T. Jensen  
 Paramedic Jonathan Jesensky  
 Paramedic Joshua Jimenez (3)  
 Paramedic Ronald Jimenez (2)  
 Paramedic Chauncey L. Johnson  
 EMT Dexter P. Johnson  
 Paramedic Vincent J. Johnson  
 Lieutenant Andrew Johnston (2)  
 Paramedic Andre C. Jones (2)  
 Lieutenant Angela Jones  
 Paramedic Daniel Jones  
 EMT Robyn V. Jones  
 Paramedic Vanchella A. Jones  
 Lieutenant Wayne Jones (2)  
 Paramedic Willie K. Jones  
 Paramedic Ian Jordan  
 EMT Michael A. Jordan  
 Paramedic Fritz Joseph  
 Paramedic Henderson O. Joseph  
 Paramedic Ravivarman  
 Kailayanathan  
 Lieutenant Michael Kaiser (2)  
 EMT Michael P. Kalamaras  
 EMT Herbert Kammerman  
 EMT Kyle J. Kanzenberg  
 Paramedic Aleksandr Kaplan  
 EMT Edward Karasik  
 Lieutenant David S. Karic  
 Paramedic Laura Karol  
 EMT Abraham L. Kasner  
 Paramedic Daniel J. Keegan  
 Lieutenant Edward J. Keenan  
 Paramedic Matthew I. Keene  
 Lieutenant Kevin Kelleher (5)  
 EMT Althea O. Kelly  
 Paramedic Chante M. Kelly  
 EMT Michael P. Kelly  
 Paramedic Robert J. Kelly  
 Paramedic Sikina V. Kemp  
 EMT Ofir A. Keren  
 EMT Travis T. Kessel  
 Paramedic Alexander Khalef  
 Paramedic Steven Khan  
 Paramedic David Kher  
 Paramedic Gloria Kim  
 EMT Min Tae Kim  
 Paramedic Namwu Kim  
 Paramedic Michael A. King  
 Paramedic Roderick I. King (3)  
 EMT Justin H. Kinney  
 EMT Sergiy Kiseliuk  
 Lieutenant Moshe Klein (4)  
 Lieutenant Yonatan A. Klein  
 Paramedic Steven J. Kleinberg (2)  
 EMT Kerone D. Knowles  
 Paramedic Stanley G. Ko  
 Paramedic Christian L.  
 Komondorea (2)  
 Lieutenant Jing M. Kong (3)  
 Lieutenant Peter M. Koretzky (2)  
 Paramedic Ewa Koszowska  
 Paramedic Andrea R.  
 Kripalani  
 Lieutenant George Kroustallis  
 Lieutenant Jeff Krulfeifer (2)  
 Lieutenant David R.  
 Kruysman (2)  
 EMT Dylan J. Kuhl  
 EMT Alexander F. Kulick  
 Paramedic Tracey E. Labarbera  
 EMT Denzel T. Laborde  
 EMT Monique F. Lacroze  
 EMT Thomas A. Lagrega  
 Lieutenant Sean S. Lahey (3)  
 Paramedic Larry Lam  
 Lieutenant Karen E. Lamanna  
 Lieutenant George Lampon  
 Paramedic Yahki L. Langford  
 Lieutenant Joseph Lanzi  
 EMT Robert J. Lapre  
 Paramedic Paul J. Larow  
 Paramedic Kevin L. Laroy  
 EMT Laticia N. Larrier  
 Paramedic Terence Lau (2)  
 Lieutenant Giuseppe Lavore (2)  
 Paramedic Crystal A. Lawrence  
 Paramedic Jason M. Lazar (2)  
 Paramedic Pierre Lazarre  
 Captain Gaetano Lazzara  
 EMT Leonard L. Leap (2)  
 EMT Christopher C. Leath (3)  
 EMT Johnathon R. Leavy  
 Lieutenant Kevin Lebby  
 Paramedic Michael J. Lebowitz  
 EMT Shijae Lee  
 Lieutenant Katty R. Lejarde (2)  
 EMT William T. Leo  
 Paramedic Christopher Leon  
 EMT Jon Leonor  
 EMT Brett Levine  
 Paramedic Gary Lewis  
 EMT Danny Li (2)  
 EMT Justin M. Licari  
 Lieutenant Joseph E. Lichtman  
 EMT Zhangkai Lin  
 Lieutenant Timothy J. Lindblom  
 EMT Jonathan C. Lindie (2)  
 Paramedic Jesse D. Lipton (3)  
 EMT Josef Lisoski  
 EMT Mathew C. Liu  
 Paramedic Rostislav Livinsky  
 EMT Krystle A. Liz  
 Paramedic Carlos A. Lizcano  
 Lieutenant Alice Lomino (2)  
 EMT Harold B. Long  
 Lieutenant Carlos E. Lopez  
 Paramedic Hoover Lopez (2)  
 Paramedic Johnny J. Lopez  
 Paramedic Lisa Lopez (2)  
 Paramedic Luis E. Lopez (4)  
 EMT Shirley Lorquet  
 EMT Kelly M. Los  
 EMT Reginald Louis  
 EMT Edwin A. Lozada  
 Lieutenant Jordan Lucks (3)  
 EMT Grandison Luke  
 EMT Jessica O. Lunden  
 EMT Gary T. Luten  
 EMT Paul M. Lynch  
 EMT Crystal E. Macaulay  
 EMT Ronald C. Mack  
 EMT Ruthie E. Mack  
 Lieutenant Elizabeth J.  
 Mackiewicz  
 Paramedic Vashala R. Madho  
 EMT Robert W. Magnuson  
 Paramedic Nicholas A. Magro  
 Paramedic Sean P. Mahoney  
 Paramedic Ralph E.  
 Maisonneuve  
 Paramedic Valeri Makarets  
 Paramedic Oliver Makesi (3)  
 EMT Christopher Mallette (2)  
 Lieutenant Neil Mancuso (2)  
 Paramedic John Paul M. Mansour  
 EMT Nicole Maraio  
 EMT Daniel C. Marcano  
 EMT William F. Marchese (2)  
 EMT Andres Marin  
 EMT Anthony J. Marino  
 Paramedic David R. Mark  
 Lieutenant David Marks (3)  
 Lieutenant Julio C. Marrero (2)  
 EMT Dazmine D. Marshall  
 EMT Daniel A. Martin  
 Lieutenant Michael Martin (2)  
 EMT Richard Martin  
 EMT Emilo Martinez  
 EMT Jillian S. Martinez  
 Lieutenant Orlando Martinez  
 Paramedic Sylvia M. Martinez  
 EMT Robert C. Martucci  
 Lieutenant Anthony  
 Marullo, Jr. (2)  
 Lieutenant Renae T. Mascol (5)  
 EMT Jordan L. Matallana  
 Paramedic Daniel Mathieu (3)  
 Paramedic Michael M. Matonis  
 Paramedic Conrad F. Matos  
 EMT Peter J. Matura  
 Lieutenant Lori Mazzeo  
 Paramedic Christopher J.  
 Mazziotti  
 EMT Michael V. Mazziotti  
 EMT Michael J. Mazzola  
 Paramedic Daniel Mboh (2)  
 EMT Ebony C. McBride  
 EMT Lisa McCabe  
 Lieutenant Charles J.  
 McCarren, III  
 EMT Thomas J. McCarthy  
 Paramedic Angela M. McCray  
 EMT Kevin M. McDonald (2)  
 EMT Justin W. McGinn  
 EMT John McGlynn  
 EMT Joseph P. McGrath (2)  
 EMT M. Cullen McGraw  
 Paramedic James J. McGuire (5)  
 EMT Joseph T. McHugh  
 EMT Christina McKeen  
 Paramedic Barbara McKenzie (2)  
 Lieutenant Charles T.  
 McLaughlin  
 EMT Reginald Mclaurin  
 EMT David P. McMinn  
 Paramedic Treyvia S. McNeary  
 Lieutenant Joe McWilliams (2)  
 Paramedic Francisco A.  
 Medina (2)  
 EMT Rafael E. Medina  
 Captain Rudy Medina  
 EMT Christian P. Mele (2)  
 EMT Allan Melendez (2)  
 EMT Manuel A. Melendez  
 Paramedic Theodore Melnick  
 Paramedic Jason G. Mendelsohn  
 EMT Jonathan Mendez  
 EMT Kwame Mendez  
 EMT Moira D. Mercado  
 Paramedic Kerry D. Merkel (2)  
 Paramedic Kenny R. Metellus  
 Paramedic Leon A. Michel (2)  
 Paramedic Jennifer C. Millado (2)  
 EMT Priscilla I. Millan  
 Lieutenant Joanne Miller (2)  
 Paramedic Latisha R. Miller (2)  
 Lieutenant Jesse Minalgo  
 EMT Travis I. Mirchin  
 EMT Fritz Moise  
 EMT Gladimir Moise  
 Paramedic Syndie E. Molina  
 EMT Hector A. Montes  
 Lieutenant Kevin F.  
 Montgomery (5)  
 EMT Edith S. Moog  
 EMT Victor Mora  
 Paramedic Jose N. Morales  
 EMT Brian J. Moran (2)  
 EMT Charlene Morand  
 Paramedic Diego Morel (2)  
 Paramedic Melanie Moreno  
 EMT Jennifer L. Morgana  
 EMT Brian Morson  
 EMT Joel D. Motino  
 Paramedic Emily M. Moy  
 EMT Steven Q. Moy  
 EMT Kaamil Muhammad (2)  
 EMT Patrick J. Mullen  
 Paramedic Suzann Muller (2)  
 Paramedic Brendan P. Mulroy (3)  
 EMT Deborah A. Munch-Aberg  
 EMT John A. Muniz  
 Lieutenant Brian C. Murphy  
 Lieutenant Donald Murphy  
 EMT Ryan P. Murphy  
 Paramedic Said A. Mustafa  
 EMT Diana P. Muyudumbay  
 EMT Steven R. Myhand (2)  
 Lieutenant Daniel Napoletano (3)  
 Paramedic Jesus M. Naranjo (3)  
 Paramedic Adam N. Narkier  
 EMT James Narlis



Paramedic Kevin J. Nash  
 Lieutenant Alfred Navaro (2)  
 Paramedic Moses N. Nelson  
 Paramedic Samantha A. Neverson  
 EMT Jeannie H. Ng  
 Paramedic Jessica J. Nieves (3)  
 Paramedic Vladmir Nikulin  
 Paramedic Heather A. Norden (2)  
 EMT Stephen J. Northmore  
 EMT Andy E. Nunez (2)  
 EMT Eric Nunez  
 Lieutenant Jason C. Ochoa (5)  
 EMT Daniel P. O'Donoghue  
 EMT Justin P. O'Grady (2)  
 EMT Kevin J. O'Hara  
 EMT David M. O'Keefe  
 EMT Patrick E. Oleary  
 EMT Carlos C. Olivera  
 Paramedic Matthew C. Olton (2)  
 EMT Alexander R. Orive  
 Paramedic Christopher V. Orlik  
 Paramedic Joel M. Orr (3)  
 EMT Bruny Ortega-Garcia (2)  
 EMT Jasmin J. Ortiz  
 EMT Joel Ortiz  
 EMT John J. Ortiz  
 Paramedic Jose A. Ortiz  
 Captain Norman A. Ortiz  
 Paramedic Niall C. Oshaughnessy  
 Lieutenant Ricardo Otero (2)  
 Lieutenant Melissa E. Ovalle (3)  
 Paramedic Eric S. Ozechowski  
 Paramedic Edva Pace (2)  
 EMT Jose L. Pacheco (2)  
 EMT Janice A. Palencia  
 EMT John M. Palladino  
 EMT Daniel V. Panaro  
 EMT Joseph A. Pane  
 Paramedic Mccray L. Parchment (3)  
 EMT Nestor D. Paredes  
 EMT Dangelo B. Pariona  
 EMT Joseph R. Parisi  
 EMT Hanifa A. Parris  
 EMT Christopher Partida  
 EMT Diana M. Partyka  
 EMT Sharon Pasterak  
 Paramedic Anal A. Patel  
 EMT Eyisett Patino  
 Captain Oleg Patrikeyev  
 Lieutenant Raymond J. Patterson  
 EMT Michael Paulino  
 EMT Siul Paulino  
 Paramedic Larry W. Payne  
 EMT David P. Peak (2)  
 Lieutenant Carmen L. Pellot  
 Paramedic Amaury Pena  
 Lieutenant Esmerelda J. Pepper (3)  
 EMT Anthony R. Perez  
 EMT Johanna F. Perez  
 EMT Miguel A. Perez  
 EMT Raul Perez  
 Paramedic Tina M. Perez (2)  
 EMT Siewnarine Persad  
 Paramedic Andre Persaud  
 EMT Bridgemohan Persaud  
 Paramedic Robert Persaud (3)  
 Paramedic Kelly A. Peters (3)  
 Lieutenant Stephan Petras  
 EMT James Petrillo, Jr.  
 Lieutenant Ron Pfeffer  
 EMT Brian A. Philipps  
 EMT Christopher J. Pierce  
 Paramedic Andre F. Pierre-Louis (2)  
 EMT Jose Pimentel  
 EMT Luis Pineda Trinidad  
 Paramedic Ivan J. Placido (2)  
 Lieutenant Bernard Pogrebinsky (3)  
 EMT Karen E. Polanco  
 Lieutenant Natalia Polunin (2)  
 Lieutenant Lawrence Pontrelli  
 Paramedic James E. Porras (2)  
 EMT Robert M. Portela  
 Lieutenant Michael J. Potasso (5)  
 EMT Tony D. Presley  
 Paramedic Todd A. Pressler  
 Lieutenant Robin M. Printy (3)  
 EMT Andrew R. Prus  
 EMT Nicole M. Pucciarelli  
 Paramedic Sophia N. Quadri (2)  
 Lieutenant Jeffrey Quigley (3)  
 Lieutenant Kim Quigley (2)  
 EMT Michael L. Quinn  
 EMT Ashfaqr Rahman  
 Lieutenant Rezaur Rahman (2)  
 Lieutenant Kevin Ramdayal  
 Paramedic Ryan K. Ramjas (2)  
 EMT Jairo Ramos (2)  
 Paramedic Orlando Ramos (2)  
 Paramedic Vijay Rampersad  
 EMT Nigel K. Ramsook  
 Paramedic Sean Randazzo (2)  
 EMT Asraf C. Rashid  
 EMT Thomas J. Ratel (2)  
 Paramedic Ronald H. Ratz  
 EMT Christopher P. Rauseo  
 Lieutenant William F. Razenson (2)  
 EMT Andrew R. Redwood  
 Paramedic Dennis R. Rehberger (2)  
 Paramedic Andrew S. Reiner  
 EMT Christopher R. Relyea (2)  
 EMT Jhon S. Rengifo  
 EMT Scott I. Rest  
 Lieutenant Joann N. Restko (2)  
 Paramedic Pauline Restrepo  
 Paramedic Diana Reyes  
 Lieutenant William L. Rich (6)  
 EMT Kenneth D. Richards  
 EMT Mykka A. Richardson (2)  
 Lieutenant Wilbert Riera (3)  
 Paramedic Cesar Rios  
 Lieutenant Evelyn Rios  
 Paramedic Brian D. Rivera  
 EMT Jason F. Rivera  
 Paramedic Michael Rivera  
 Paramedic Pablo A. Rivera  
 Paramedic Rosa B. Rivera (2)  
 EMT Dujohn A. Roberts  
 EMT Gary A. Roberts  
 EMT Ahrayaahla P. Robinson  
 EMT Ashanti N. Robinson  
 EMT Eric T. Robinson  
 Paramedic Taisha N. Robinson  
 Paramedic Latoya Rock (2)  
 Paramedic John P. Roddy (3)  
 Lieutenant Brandon A. Rodriguez (5)  
 EMT Carmelo Rodriguez  
 EMT Daniel E. Rodriguez  
 EMT Ezequiel Rodriguez  
 Paramedic George A. Rodriguez  
 EMT Ruben Rodriguez (2)  
 EMT Samantha M. Rodriguez  
 Lieutenant Craig C. Roeder (3)  
 Paramedic Jose Rojas, Jr.  
 EMT Michael J. Rojas  
 Paramedic Lynwood G. Rollins (3)  
 Paramedic Lionel Roman (3)  
 EMT Marcelino A. Roman  
 EMT Victor Roman, Jr.  
 EMT Marisel A. Ronda Martinez  
 Lieutenant Douglas A. Rondon (2)  
 Paramedic Carin N. Rosado (2)  
 Lieutenant Edgar Rosales  
 Paramedic Carmen Rosas  
 EMT Ryan C. Rose  
 EMT Mitchell Rosenberg  
 Lieutenant Anthony T. Rosiello (2)  
 Paramedic Michael S. Rothfeld  
 EMT Jonathan S. Rothman  
 Lieutenant Scott E. Rothschild (4)  
 Lieutenant David Rudnitzky (2)  
 EMT John F. Rugen  
 EMT Kevin E. Rugg  
 Lieutenant Richard J. Ruhl  
 EMT Carletha Rushing  
 Paramedic Dean A. Russell  
 Lieutenant George M. Russo (5)  
 Paramedic Michael Russo  
 Deputy Chief Stephen A. Russo  
 Paramedic Alison Russo-Elling (4)  
 EMT Avia N. Rutherford  
 Paramedic Nicholas J. Ryan (2)  
 EMT Djohnny Saint Louis  
 EMT Stuart Saladin  
 EMT Angelo J. Saladino  
 Paramedic Elizabeth Salazar  
 EMT Michelle Sampson  
 EMT Frank J. Sanacore (2)  
 Paramedic Maritza Sanchez (2)  
 EMT Aura L. Sanclemente  
 EMT Matthew E. Sandvik  
 Paramedic Charles Santangelo  
 Paramedic Steven Santaniello  
 Lieutenant Jason E. Santiago  
 EMT Jennifer Santiago  
 Paramedic Michael S. Santiago  
 Paramedic Nicolas L. Santini (2)  
 EMT Tameca T. Santini  
 EMT John H. Santora  
 EMT Ricardo W. Santos  
 EMT Pedro R. Santos Dos  
 Paramedic Steven Scarinzi  
 EMT Brian Schafranick  
 Paramedic Jonathan E. Schecter  
 EMT Matthew J. Schneider  
 EMT Thomas F. Schroeter  
 EMT Crystal M. Scognamiglio  
 Lieutenant James E. Scordus (4)  
 Paramedic Dwight O. Scott  
 Lieutenant Jasmine Scott  
 EMT Lavell Scott  
 Lieutenant Linda Scott (2)  
 EMT Norman J. Scott (2)  
 EMT Kimoi A. Sealy-Brown  
 EMT Joseph J. Segot (2)  
 Paramedic Andre Segovia, Jr. (2)  
 EMT Domenico F. Seminelli (2)  
 Paramedic Donna Semple  
 Lieutenant Betzaida Serrano (2)  
 EMT Eric Serrano (2)  
 EMT Nelson Seto  
 Paramedic Olashawna Seymore  
 Paramedic Chunghin Sham  
 Paramedic Ajay K. Sharma  
 EMT Allison Shaughnessy  
 Paramedic Thomas J. Siciliano  
 Paramedic Ann Marie Sidtis  
 Paramedic Edmond J. Signer  
 Paramedic Roberto J. Silveira (2)  
 Paramedic Joshua Silver  
 Lieutenant Michael A. Silver  
 Paramedic Michael Silvestri  
 Lieutenant Wilfredo Silvestry  
 Lieutenant Derrick C. Simpkins (3)  
 EMT Rajbir Singh  
 EMT Robert J. Skarda (2)  
 EMT Erik Skolnik  
 EMT Ryan W. Slane  
 EMT Zachary A. Slantnick  
 EMT Margaret F. Slick  
 EMT Trent B. Small  
 Lieutenant Brian K. Smith  
 Lieutenant Brian M. Smith (2)  
 Paramedic Ceasha J. Smith  
 Paramedic H. Carlton Smith  
 Paramedic Hugh Smith, II  
 EMT John E. Smith (2)  
 Lieutenant Richard D. Smith (4)  
 Lieutenant Theresa Smith-Hawkins (2)  
 EMT Garfield Smythe (2)  
 Paramedic Ervin Sobiev  
 EMT William Sochor





EMT Joselyn M. Sola	EMT Lissette Toledo	EMT Christine Vincent	EMT Jennifer L. Wilson
EMT Teresa Soler	Paramedic Michael P. Toomey	Lieutenant Charles M. Vitale (2)	EMT Lance V. Winfield
Paramedic Jose O. Solis (2)	Paramedic Yehuda L. Topper	Paramedic Starsky T.	Lieutenant Craig M. Wing (2)
EMT Hector Soto	EMT Yelitza Torres	Von Prime (2)	Lieutenant Asher M. Winik (6)
Lieutenant Jose Soto	EMT Anthony C. Tortorici	Lieutenant Antonios Voxakis (2)	Paramedic Christopher P.
Lieutenant Robert L. Sottile	Paramedic Stephen J.	EMT Eric P. Wachter	Wischerth
Paramedic Jason K. Spandorf	Tortoriello (2)	Paramedic Jessica C. Wade (2)	EMT Tremaine A. Witter
Paramedic Christopher W. Specht	Lieutenant Debra Towers (2)	EMT Michael Waldon	Lieutenant Stewart Wolf (2)
Paramedic Bryan C. Spies	Lieutenant George V. Trager, Jr.	EMT Shamika Waldron	Lieutenant William M. Wolf (2)
Lieutenant Joseph R. Spinelli	Paramedic George Trail	EMT Nicholas E. Waldrop	EMT Ronald A. Wolfe
EMT Peter D. Spink	Paramedic Michael K. Travers (2)	Lieutenant Paul J. Wallace	Paramedic Amanda Wong
Lieutenant Philip H. Spiro	EMT Rafael Trinidad	Lieutenant Kathleen M. Walsh	EMT Dennis H. Wong
EMT Douglas Starace	Lieutenant Timothy M.	EMT Michael Walsh	Paramedic Derek R. Woodhead
EMT Gregory St Clair	Troeber (4)	Lieutenant Robert Walsh (2)	Paramedic Patrick A. Worms (2)
EMT Simon J. St Cyr	Paramedic William M.	EMT Leacroft Walters	Paramedic Colin G. Wright (2)
EMT Adam D. Stern	Truoccolo	Lieutenant Raymond Wang	Paramedic Sean A. Wright
Paramedic Cindy M. Stewart	EMT Salvatore Turturici	EMT Alexis Ward (2)	Paramedic Hilda Wu (2)
EMT David M. Stewart	EMT Hector B. Tyler	EMT Marcus C. Waring	Paramedic Mingze Wu
EMT Dwayne P. Stewart	Paramedic Michael W. Ullman	Captain Steven Warren	EMT Weikai Xiang
Lieutenant Robert W. Stock	EMT Michael F. Ulrich	Lieutenant Brandy E.	Paramedic Gedion Yagudayev
EMT Melvin A. Stokes	EMT Robert J. Urbielewicz (2)	Washington (3)	Paramedic Oleg Yagudayev (5)
EMT Michael J. Stuhler	EMT Vincent A. Urizzo	Lieutenant Charles C.	EMT Wen Da Ye (2)
EMT Junior St Vil	Paramedic Vitaly Usherenko	Washington	EMT Deanna M. Yearwood
EMT Henry M. Suazo	Paramedic Peter J. Vaccaro	Paramedic Andrew J.	Paramedic Aaron Young
Paramedic Michael P. Sullivan	Captain Andre J. Valdez (2)	Wasniewski	Paramedic Arthur D. Young (2)
Paramedic Jason K.	EMT Robert Vales (2)	Paramedic Raymond J. Wasyl	EMT Richard A. Young (2)
Sutherland (2)	Paramedic Charles J. Valicenti	Paramedic Maggi Weaver	Paramedic Wayne J. Young, Jr. (3)
Paramedic Seon A. Taitt	EMT Alex D. Vallejo Bayas	EMT Brandon Weber	Paramedic Kenny Yu
EMT Lynmarie Taormina	EMT Mary J. Vanicky	Paramedic Todd R. Weber	Paramedic Andrey Yuabov (2)
EMT Michael D. Tapia	Paramedic Kyle Van Nostrand	EMT Lauren Weeks	Lieutenant Paul J. Yunek (7)
EMT Eva E. Tashjian	EMT Tommy Vargas	Paramedic Stuart J. Weinstein	Physician-EMS Fellow
Paramedic Christopher M. Taylor	EMT Francisco M. Vasquez (3)	Paramedic Rebecca L. Weisman	Benjamin Zabar
Paramedic Glen G. Taylor (3)	EMT Leonides Vasquez	Paramedic Keith D. Werner, Jr.	Paramedic Camejo Zaith (2)
EMT Jonathan Taylor	Lieutenant Richard Vazquez	Lieutenant Darren R. Wetsell	Paramedic Mohammedris
Paramedic Mark A. Taylor	EMT Exsavier M. Vega	EMT Malaysia P. Wheeless (3)	Zanpawala (2)
Paramedic Timothy J. Taylor	EMT Johan S. Velasco	Paramedic Liana E. White (2)	EMT Ryan M. Zatoren
Paramedic Vanessa K. Tenorio	Paramedic Jason E. Verspoor	EMT Malcolm White	Paramedic Yong Zheng
Paramedic Alex Tepliy (2)	EMT Regina Victor	Lieutenant Robert J. White (2)	EMT John J. Ziegler
Paramedic Elwood L. Thomas	EMT Dylan C. Vidoli	EMT Frederick D. Whiteside	Physician-EMS Fellow Jason
Paramedic Kimera A. Thomas	Paramedic Ricky Vien	Lieutenant Kyle	Zimmerman
Lieutenant Thoywell T.	Paramedic Juan A. Villa (2)	Wigglesworth (4)	Paramedic Michael J. Zummo
Thomas (2)	Paramedic Philip Villafane	Paramedic Peter S. Wilken	EMT Roy G. Zuniga (2)
EMT Michael A. Thompson (2)	EMT Marilyn Villanueva	Paramedic Anthony M. Wilkey	
EMT Steven Thorsen	Paramedic David H. Villaruel (2)	Lieutenant Horace G. Williams	
Lieutenant Donna L. Tiberi (5)	Lieutenant Guillermo	Lieutenant Tawana I. Williams	
EMT Yasmine C. Tineo	Villaverde (2)	EMT Wayne Williams (2)	

## EMS Unit of the Month--2014

<b>Month</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Members</b>
January	38D3	Paramedic Ariel Rivera and EMTs Denzel Adonis and Alexander Kulick
February	13C3	EMTs Paul Demell, Glenn Lodigkeit, Christopher Ramos
March	49B1	EMTs Angela McCray, Michael Meyer, Jose Ortiz
April	48G3	EMTs James Byrne, Sheldon Goffe, Leonard Leap
May	35R2	Paramedics Brian Frayne, Joshua Frumer, Eddie Radovic
June	12Y2	Lieutenant Tyisah Burwell and Paramedics Namwu Kim and Chung Hing Sham
July	43C2	EMTs Trudy Bermudez, Min Tae Kim, Nariman Niyazov
August	16D2	EMTs Dustin Carter, Hemraj Persaud, Kevin Rugg
September	27D2	EMTs Cilla Miller-Richards, Charles Okai, Nicholas Vazquez
October	12A3	EMTs Jaroslaw Dorman, Jesse Gerhard, Jose Vargas
November	35E2	EMTs John Capunay, Steven Conboy, Ismail Etienne
December	37C2	EMTs Andy Le, Sade Noel, Javin Schaefer



# MEDAL AND AWARD DONORS

## Dr. Harry M. Archer Medal

This medal was endowed in 1917 by Herman L. Reis, FDNY Medical Officer. The deed of the gift states the medal shall be awarded every three years to a holder of a James Gordon Bennett Medal during the preceding three years. (Page 11)

## James Gordon Bennett Medal

Established in 1869 and, for years, it was the sole decoration awarded for valor in the Fire Department of the City of New York. As a result of its seniority among medals, it is awarded annually for the most outstanding act of heroism after the consideration and deliberate judgment of the member by the Medal Board of the New York City Fire Department. (Page 13)

## Brooklyn Citizens Medal/ FF Louis Valentino Award

In 1896, a committee of Brooklynites endowed this medal "to be given to the most deserving Firefighter in the Brooklyn Fire Department, as he/she shall be selected by the Fire Department of the City of New York." The recipient also is awarded the Firefighter Louis Valentino Award, a medal endowed since 1998 by Diane Valentino and the Valentino family. (Page 14)

## Christopher J. Prescott Medal

Named in honor of EMT Christopher Prescott, the first EMS member to make the Supreme Sacrifice in the line of duty in 1994, the Prescott Medal is the highest honor bestowed upon a member of the Bureau of EMS. Endowed by the Uniformed EMTs and Paramedics and Fire Inspectors Union. (Page 15)

## Hugh Bonner Medal

Named in honor of Chief Hugh Bonner, "a stalwart Chief of Department who preferred to rule by example." The medal first was awarded in 1897. (Page 16)

## Honor Legion Medal

The Honor Legion is open only to "the bravest of the Bravest," both active and retired. Prerequisites for membership are confined to Firefighters of all ranks who have received Department recognition and been granted a Class I, II or III award for deeds of valor performed at imminent risk to their lives. First awarded in 1984 and endowed by the Honor Legion. (Page 16)

## Emily Trevor/Mary B. Warren Medal

These sisters, in their deed of gift, wrote "...for the purpose of encouraging the members of the force in the exercise...of heroic endeavor under circumstances of special danger." Awarded for the first time in 1899. (Page 17)

## Thomas E. Crimmins Medal

First awarded in 1912. In memory of her father, Thomas E. Crimmins, contractor, builder, loyal New Yorker and son of a volunteer Fireman, Mrs. May M. Burke provided for the endowment of the Crimmins Memorial Medal. (Page 18)

## Thomas A. Kenny Memorial Medal

Honorary Deputy Chief William F. Kenny endowed this medal in memory of his father, a Battalion Chief who served in the Department, faithfully and conspicuously, from 1876 until 1903. It is given as a "perpetual token of zeal and enduring interest." First awarded in 1918. (Page 19)

## Walter Scott Medal

Colonel Walter Scott, a successful New York merchant, was intensely interested in the City's protective forces. In 1920, he

endowed a medal for valor bearing his name, to be awarded annually to a member of the FDNY. (Page 20)

## John H. Prentice Medal

This medal is endowed by Mrs. Marion Prentice Brookman in memory of her father. The medal is for "an act of intelligent bravery." First awarded in 1921. (Page 21)

## Henry D. Brookman Medal

Mrs. Marion Prentice Brookman, in endowing this award, wrote, "...to help the authorities in installing into the Department the fact that the service rendered by the Firefighters is of a character held in high esteem by the people and to perpetuate the old fealty and admiration held by the late Henry D. Brookman for the FDNY." First awarded in 1921. (Page 22)

## Chief Ulyses Grant Leadership Medal

Named in honor of Chief Ulyses Grant, a 30-year veteran of the Emergency Medical Service, who exemplified respect, leadership, integrity, imagination, compassion and dedication. The recipient of this medal is an EMS Officer who has the ability to influence others to accomplish the mission. The medal is awarded to an EMS Officer who, in leading members under his/her command, has performed an outstanding act of heroism and bravery in the line of duty. The award is endowed by Chief of EMS Operations Robert A. McCracken (retired) and EMS Division Chief Robert P. Browne (retired), who believe a man's experience and wisdom need not die with him, but become his legacy. (Page 23)

## M.J. Delehanty Medal

The founder and dean of civil service schools bearing his name endowed this medal in 1937, "to be awarded annually to a member of the Department whose distinguished service in the line of duty receives recognition by the Board of Merit of the Fire Department." (Page 24)

## William F. Conran Medal

Honorary Chief Conran endowed this medal in 1937. His profession of fire protection engineer enabled him to improve the efficiency of firefighting appliances. (Page 25)

## Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia Medal

The Honorable Fiorello H. LaGuardia, while the Mayor, frequently "turned out" at large fires. He had a keen interest in the problems of fire prevention and extinguishment. First awarded in 1937. (Page 26)

## Chief John J. McElligott Medal/ FFs Fitzpatrick and Frisby Award

Named in honor of the late Chief and Fire Commissioner, Chief McElligott. He joined the Department in 1905 and retired in 1941 after a long and fruitful career. This medal was endowed by William F. Conran and first was awarded in 1937. Recipient also is awarded the Fitzpatrick and Frisby Award, a medallion endowed by the Fitzpatrick and Frisby Foundation, in memory of these two Firefighters who made the Supreme Sacrifice. The UFA funds this award. (Page 27)

## Thomas F. Dougherty Medal

Chief Dougherty served with the Department from 1888 to 1933 with distinction and honor. In addition to inventing the nozzle that bears his name, he was a colorful member of the Fire College faculty, where he specialized in teaching the technique and efficacy of ventilation. First awarded in 1937. (Page 28)

## Albert S. Johnston Medal

Albert S. Johnston was a Captain in the New York Fire Patrol with a record of 50 years of faithful service. Ten years after his retirement in 1927, this medal was endowed by William F. Conran. (Page 29)

## Bella Stiefel Medal

In Mrs. Stiefel's 90 years, she came to admire the bravery displayed by Firefighters. Medal was first awarded in 1947. Endowed by Mrs. Stiefel and the Uniformed Firefighters Association. (Page 30)

## Tracy Allen-Lee Medal

EMT Allen-Lee is nationally recognized as the first EMS professional in the country to be awarded the Public Safety Officer's Benefit by the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, after dying from a communicable disease sustained in the line of duty. Endowed by the Uniformed EMTs and Paramedics and Fire Inspectors Union. (Page 31)

## 23rd Street Fire Memorial Medal

Endowed/funded by the Hispanic Society as "a memorial tribute to the 12 Brother Firefighters who made the Supreme Sacrifice at the East 23rd Street fire on October 17, 1966." First awarded in 1968 and formerly called the Hispanic Society Memorial Medal. (Page 32)

## Vincent J. Kane Medal

This medal is named in honor of the late Vincent J. Kane, labor leader and longtime President of the Uniformed Firefighters Association. Endowed by the UFA. (Page 33)

## Pulaski Association Medal

First awarded in 1962 and endowed by the Fire Department Pulaski Association in memory of Casimir Pulaski. General Pulaski organized American cavalry forces during the Revolutionary War. He died as a result of wounds received leading the charge at the Battle of Savannah. Presented to the recipient in recognition for upholding the Fire Department's tradition of valor and service to the citizens of the City of New York. (Page 34)

## Commissioner Edward Thompson Medal

This medal, in honor of Commissioner Edward Thompson, was endowed in 1964 by the late Bertram Brummer and his wife, Susie. It is to be awarded to a member exhibiting outstanding courage and fidelity. By endowing this, a second medal, they illustrate their high regard and affection for the Department. (Page 35)

## Columbia Association Medal

Endowed by the Columbia Association since 1966. Medal is awarded in memory of retired Fire Marshal Thomas J. Russo, Senior. (Page 36)

## Susan Wagner Medal

Endowed by the UFA to honor the memory of Mrs. Susan Wagner, wife of the former Mayor of the City of New York, and to perpetuate the high esteem in which she held the Firefighters of the City of New York. This medal is awarded to a member of the Department who has performed an outstanding act of valor. First awarded in 1966. The UFA also endows this medal in memory of the late assemblywoman Eileen Dugan, a prime sponsor of the Cancer Bill. (Page 41)

## Steuben Association Medal

Endowed by the Steuben Association in honor of General Frederick Wilhelm Von Steuben. First awarded in 1967. Endowed by the Fire Department Steuben Association Charities, Inc. (Page 42)





#### **Chief James Scullion Medal**

Recognized as a pioneer in his field, Chief James Scullion was instrumental in bringing both basic and advanced life support services into the modern-day emergency medical system in the City of New York in the early 1970s. His dedication and commitment to excellence are memorialized through this award. (Page 43)

#### **Dr. J.W. Goldenkranz Medal**

Endowed in 1975 by the late Dr. J.W. Goldenkranz, Honorary Assistant Chief, to honor "the heroic efforts of the Officers and Firemen, all of whom perform their duties at extreme personal risk." Dr. Goldenkranz was affiliated with the FDNY since 1913 and was president of the New York Firemen's Cycle Club. (Page 44)

#### **Uniformed Fire Officers Association Medal**

Endowed in 1977 by the Uniformed Fire Officers Association "for an act of heroism and bravery performed by a Fire Officer at a fire." (Page 45)

#### **Edith B. Goldman Medal**

Endowed by the many friends of the late Honorary Deputy Chief Barney Goldman to honor the memory of both his wife, Edith, and him and to illustrate the high regard and affection he held for FDNY members. First awarded in 1978. (Page 46)

#### **American Legion Fire Department Post 930/ Mark M. Wohlfeld Memorial Medal**

Endowed by American Legion Post 930, this medal is in memory of Mark M. Wohlfeld, a lifelong member of the Fire Department Post, a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves and a retired FDNY Firefighter. The history of this intrepid warrior's exploits is related graphically in the second and third issues of *WNYF* (1945). After his retirement from the FDNY, he continued to serve his country and his fellow man by working for the Veterans Administration. He died on May 24, 1978, and is interred in Arlington National Cemetery. First awarded in 1979. (Page 47)

#### **Arthur J. Laufer Memorial Medal**

The Laufer Medal, presented for the first time in 1980, is named in honor and memory of the late Deputy Chief Arthur J. "Artie" Laufer, who continually showed his love for Firefighters and his fellow man through his actions. Endowed by the UFA and the family of retired Deputy Director of Dispatch Operations, Joseph E. Higgins, Jr. (Page 48)

#### **Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Medal**

This medal, endowed by the members of the Pipes and Drums of the FDNY Emerald Society Bagpipe Band, is awarded to a member of the Department who performs an outstanding act of heroism in keeping with the FDNY's highest traditions. First awarded in 1981. (Page 49)

#### **Company Officers Association Medal**

Endowed by the Company Officers Association in memory of Company Officers in the FDNY who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty. Medal awarded for the first time in 1982. It is donated in memory of retired Captain Sy Berkowitz. (Page 50)

#### **Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn Medal**

A dedicated professional with a passion for communications, Lieutenant McElhearn is remembered for his instrumental involvement in the research and development of the first modern-day Field Communications Unit (FieldComm) for EMS. (Page 51)

#### **Chief Joseph B. Martin Medal**

The Martin Medal is endowed in honor of the legendary Assistant Chief Joseph B. "Smokey Joe" Martin, who served the FDNY with "fidelity and devotion" for 47 years. Awarded for the first time in

1984. Medal is presented in the memory of Firefighter Anthony D. Buccieri, Engine 75; in memory of Firefighter Mike Donnelly of Ladder 33, who died in 1983 after an heroic battle with cancer; by the Martin family in memory of Frances B. Martin (1905-1996), daughter of "Smokey Joe" Martin; in memory of Battalion Chief William C. Rinsdale, 19th Battalion, who died in the line of duty in 1971. (Page 52)

#### **Police Honor Legion Medal**

The Police Honor Legion Medal is endowed by the New York City Police Department Honor Legion. It was first awarded in 1984. (Page 53)

#### **New York State Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal**

The New York State Honorary Fire Chiefs Association, Inc., founded in 1950, is an independent, non-profit and tax-exempt organization, dedicated to promoting the interests of the Firefighters of the State of New York. The active Association is affiliated with the New York State Professional Fire Fighters Association and is celebrating 50 years of volunteer service to the Firefighters of New York and their families. The medal, endowed by the Association and first awarded in 1984, is presented every year to a Firefighter who has performed with valor. This medal is dedicated to honoring all Firefighters who have performed with valor. (Page 13)

#### **Firefighter David J. DeFranco Medal**

In honor of the memory of FF David J. DeFranco for his dedicated efforts on behalf of the FDNY. This medal, awarded for a water-related rescue, is in memory of David's father, FF Dan DeFranco. FF Dan DeFranco was assigned to Engine Co. 17 and Ladder Co. 18 on the lower east side for more than 33 years during a period of extremely heavy fire duty. FF Dan DeFranco also served on the executive board of the UFA for eight years at the post of sergeant at arms with honor, dedication and devotion to his Brother Firefighters. (Page 54)

#### **Lieutenant James E. Zahn/ Lieutenant Peter L. Troiano Memorial Medal**

The Lieutenant James E. Zahn/Lieutenant Peter L. Troiano Memorial Medal has been established in honor of these two beloved "Brothers," who laid down their lives for the people of the City of New York. This medal is awarded to a member of the Department who has performed an act of bravery in the protection of life and/or property, either while on- or off-duty. Endowed by the members of Engine 277 and Ladder 112. (Page 55)

#### **Deputy Commissioner Christine R. Godek Medal**

Established and endowed by Honorary Fire Commissioner Dorothy W. Marks and (now-deceased) Honorary First Deputy Commissioner Shelly Rothman in honor of Christine R. Godek, the first female Deputy Fire Commissioner of the FDNY. Presented annually to an outstanding New York City Fire Marshal for unusual display of initiative, improving techniques, resourcefulness and capability in the investigation of arson. (Page 56)

#### **William Friedberg Medal**

The William Friedberg Medal, presented for the first time in 1996, is named in honor and memory of the late William Friedberg. Bill was a respected and beloved elementary school principal, who spent 33 years working with the children of New York City and six years as a member of the New York State Industrial Board of Appeals. He believed that early education and instruction were key to fire prevention. Endowed by Mr. Friedberg's widow and family. (Page 57)

#### **Probationary Firefighter Thomas A. Wylie Medal**

This medal is endowed by the members of Ladder Company 18 in honor of their fallen Brother, Probationary Firefighter Thomas A. Wylie, who gave his life assisting in the rescue of more than 20 civilians at a fire in Chinatown. The medal is awarded to a Probationary Firefighter who distinguishes himself as Tom did in his brief career. The medal depicts his caricature of a "Can Man," the traditional position of a "Probic." (Page 58)

#### **Shelly Rothman Memorial Medal**

This medal is dedicated to honoring all Firefighters who have performed with valor. Awarded for the first time in 2005. Endowed by the members of the New York State Honorary Fire Chiefs Association, Inc., and the Fire Bell Club of New York, in memory of Shelly Rothman, a long-time member and Chairman of the Board of Directors. (Page 59)

#### **Jack Pintchik Medal**

Following successful resuscitation from cardiac arrest by EMS Paramedics, Jack Pintchik, founder of the Pintchik Home Improvement Stores, honored members of EMS by establishing the first formalized EMS Awards & Recognition ceremony. In his memory, the Pintchik family continues to show their respect and support of EMS professionals through the Jack Pintchik Medal. (Page 60)

#### **Lieutenant James Curran/ New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal/ Father Julian F. Deeken Memorial Medal**

Presented every three years to a unit that received the Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal during the previous three years. Endowed by Honorary Deputy Chief Peter Horowitz. (Page 61)

#### **Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal**

The New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation is an organization committed to the goals of quality burn care and fund-raising endeavors. Similarly, the FDNY is engaged in safeguarding and improving the quality of life for City residents. It is this semblance of purpose and collaborative spirit that is deserving of recognition. With this in mind, the New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation awards a medal to the most worthy of units in appreciation of "a concentrated, super effort based on teamwork." Endowed by the New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation and Dr. Marc Kramer, Honorary Assistant Chief and Consultant to the Medical Division. (Page 62)

#### **Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal**

Endowed by the Uniformed Firefighters Association, this medal is named in honor of Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser, a 20-year veteran of the FDNY, whose firefighting career was cut short in 1990 by his untimely death. Firefighter Elsasser was a major contributor to UFA charity sporting events. (Page 63)

#### **World Trade Center Memorial Medal**

Established to honor the bravery and courage of the 343 FDNY members who made the Supreme Sacrifice on September 11, 2001, at the World Trade Center. This Company of the Year Award is endowed by the 9/11 parents and families. (Page 64)







# New York's Bravest

*PROUDLY SERVING SINCE 1865*

FIRE DEPARTMENT, CITY OF NEW YORK

Bill de Blasio, *Mayor*

Daniel A. Nigro, *Fire Commissioner*

James E. Leonard, *Chief of Department*

9 MetroTech Center  
Brooklyn, New York 11201  
[www.nyc.gov/fdny](http://www.nyc.gov/fdny)