FDNY
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The Recruiter

MAY 2016

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FDNY Graduates 310 'Probies'

On May 3, Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro and Chief of Department James E. Leonard presided over the graduation of 310 Probationary Firefighters. The class was the second graduating Probationary Firefighter class of 2015 and it included four legacy graduates. In addition, there were four women graduates, bringing the total number of female Firefighters in the FDNY to 52, an all-time high. This graduating class also represents the growing diversity of the Department, with 40 % of the graduates identifying as people of color.

Clara Lyde, one of three women to graduate that day, recalled growing up in Crown Heights in Brooklyn and wanting to emulate the Firefighters in her community.

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'Probies' Graduate from the Fire Academy

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FDNY Probationary Firefighters, from left, Clara Lyde, Wendy Tapia and Lauren Plagainos were three of 310 Fire Academy graduates on May 3. There are now 52 women Firefighters in the Department.

"They carried a positive attitude, and we knew that they would be the first ones to help us if something went wrong. Now that I'm graduating, I plan to carry that same positive attitude. I want everyone, especially young girls and women, to know that anything is possible, we can do anything we want. We're tough. And with the team at the FDNY, we can move mountains," Lyde said.

Two weeks prior to the graduation, the Probationary Firefighters also visited the National September 11th Memorial and Museum, which has become a tradition and rite of passage for members being inducted into the FDNY ranks.

"There, etched in the memorial, surrounding the reflecting pools where the towers once stood, you saw the names of 343 of the greatest people to ever wear an FDNY uniform" said Commissioner Nigro. "At that sacred site, their names live on, forever."

"Right after September 11th, the members from Engine 219 and Ladder 105 were incredibly supportive" said Firefighter Frank Palombo whose father, Firefighter Frank Palombo was killed at the World Trade Center attack. "They'd come to our

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'Probies' Graduate from the Fire Academy

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house with dinner and just hang out, spending quality time with us, playing football and video games. It meant so much to us. They took care of us. When I saw how much of a family they are, and how they embraced my family in the same way, I knew I wanted to be a part of the Department. I'm ready to learn everything that there is to learn about this job."

Palombo, as well as "Probies" Harry Ford, James Sullivan, and Joseph Herman represent the latest legacy graduates who are following in their fathers' footsteps by serving the City of New York.

"When I was a kid, I'd go to work with my father every chance that I'd get. I was around 5 years old when I knew I wanted to be a Firefighter," said Firefighter Harry Ford whose father, the late Firefighter Harry Ford Sr., was killed in an explosion at a fire in a hardware store in Queens on Father's Day in 2001. "I'm honored to keep the family legacy going, and I'm proud to have the chance to live up to my father's name. I know he would be proud of me today. I'm ready to do my part to keep this city safe."

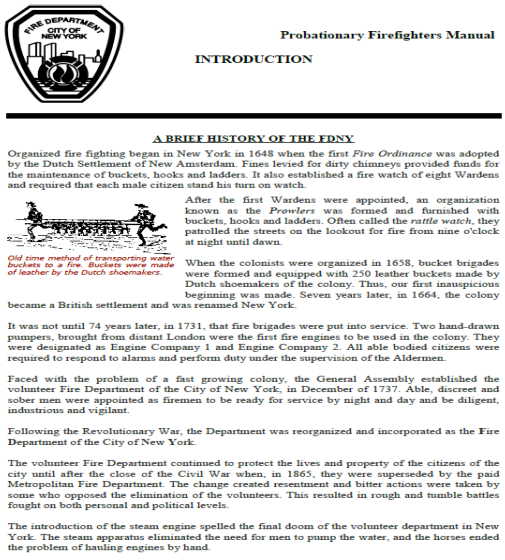
Forty percent of graduates in the latest Probationary Firefighter class identified as people of color.

"Each of you has made it through the most rigorous training Firefighters receive anywhere in the world," said Chief Leonard. "You should be proud of your accomplishment, because we are all proud of the work you've put in to reach this milestone in your young careers. You have been trained by the best, to be the best."

Junior Mentor Lends Helping Hand to 'Probie'

Shout out to Firefighter Candidate Mentorship Program (FFCMP) Junior Mentor Joseph Andres, right, for helping to tutor Probationary Firefighter Mark Lugo while he was completing the latest Fire Academy class. Andres, who served as the valedictorian of Probationary Firefighter Class 1 of 2014, was also previously a Mentee in the FFCMP. The two celebrated all of their hard work during Lugo's graduation on May 3. If you're a Firefighter Candidate who is completing processing and you have not registered for this free program, be sure to join today by calling (718) 999-FDNY (3369).

Check Out the New 'Probie' Manual



Probationary Firefighters Manual

INTRODUCTION

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE FDNY

Organized fire fighting began in New York in 1648 when the first *Fire Ordinance* was adopted by the Dutch Settlement of New Amsterdam. Fines levied for dirty chimneys provided funds for the maintenance of buckets, hooks and ladders. It also established a fire watch of eight Wardens and required that each male citizen stand his turn on watch.

Old time method of transporting water buckets to a fire. Buckets were made of leather by the Dutch shoemakers.

After the first Wardens were appointed, an organization known as the *Prowlers* was formed and furnished with buckets, hooks and ladders. Often called the *rattle watch*, they patrolled the streets on the lookout for fire from nine o'clock at night until dawn.

When the colonists were organized in 1658, bucket brigades were formed and equipped with 250 leather buckets made by Dutch shoemakers of the colony. Thus, our first inauspicious beginning was made. Seven years later, in 1664, the colony became a British settlement and was renamed New York.

It was not until 74 years later, in 1731, that fire brigades were put into service. Two hand-drawn pumpers, brought from distant London were the first fire engines to be used in the colony. They were designated as Engine Company 1 and Engine Company 2. All able bodied citizens were required to respond to alarms and perform duty under the supervision of the Aldermen.

Faced with the problem of a fast growing colony, the General Assembly established the volunteer Fire Department of the City of New York, in December of 1737. Able, discreet and sober men were appointed as firemen to be ready for service by night and day and be diligent, industrious and vigilant.

Following the Revolutionary War, the Department was reorganized and incorporated as the Fire Department of the City of New York.

The volunteer Fire Department continued to protect the lives and property of the citizens of the city until after the close of the Civil War when, in 1865, they were superseded by the paid Metropolitan Fire Department. The change created resentment and bitter actions were taken by some who opposed the elimination of the volunteers. This resulted in rough and tumble battles fought on both personal and political levels.

The introduction of the steam engine spelled the final doom of the volunteer department in New York. The steam apparatus eliminated the need for men to pump the water, and the horses ended the problem of hauling engines by hand.

Don't forget to check out the updated FDNY Probationary Firefighters Manual, which includes new chapters to help all Firefighter Candidates prepare for joining New York's Bravest. In addition, continue to visit the Firefighter Candidate Resources Page on our website for access to important Firefighter Candidate documents. http://on.nyc.gov/1QLQish

Follow Us!

UWF to Host Training for Candidates

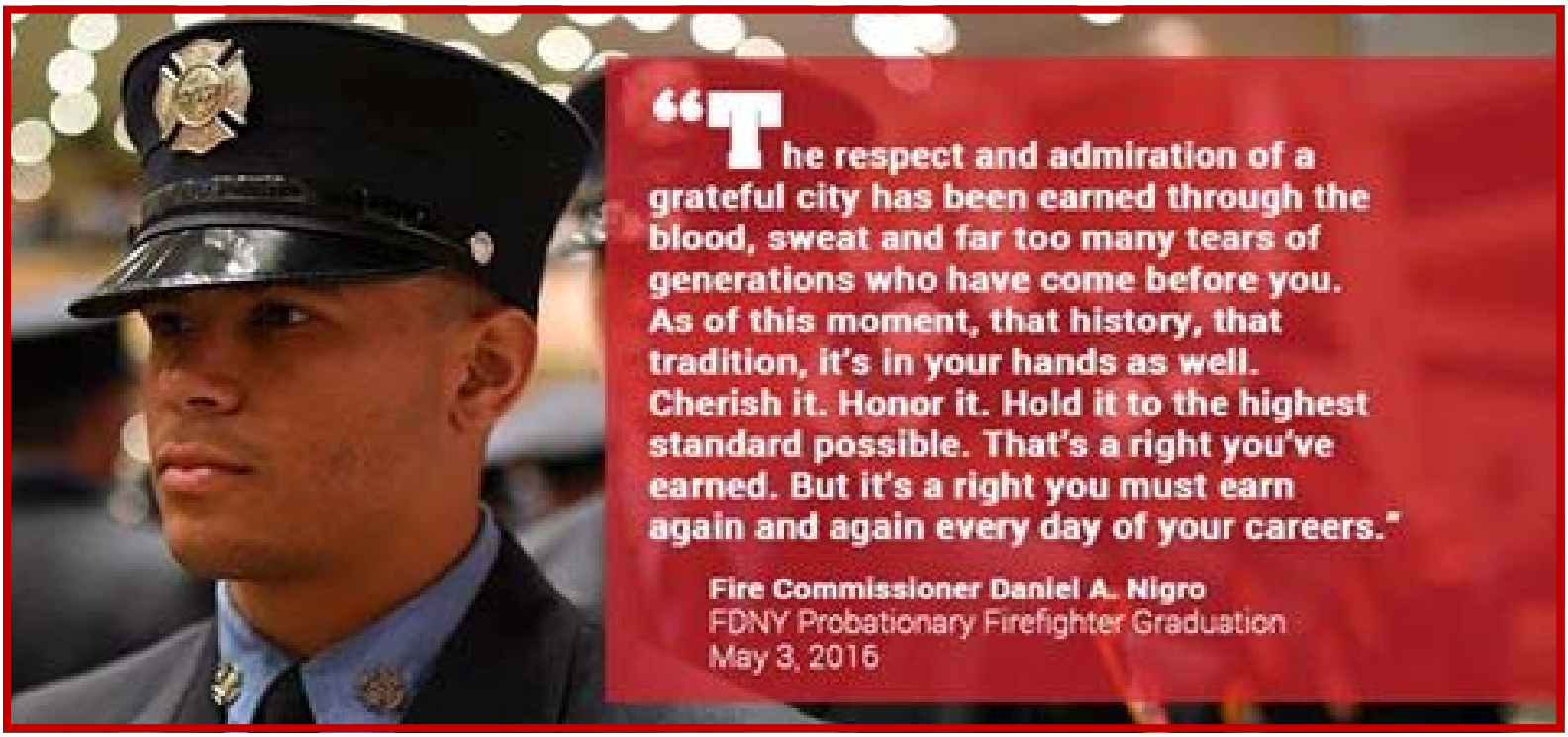
The United Women Firefighters (UWF) is scheduled to host physical fitness training for women Firefighter Candidates in June at the New York Sports Club on Wall Street in New York City. The club is located at 30 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005. To be eligible to participate, every candidate must bring a gym lock, at least a 50 pound vest, fitness clothes and sneakers, water and a medical waiver. In addition, every candidate should attend the training properly hydrated and fueled and ready for an intense workout. Please note that these workout sessions are designed to prepare candidates for the physical training at the Fire Academy. To register for the sessions, please e-mail women-recruitsfdny@yahoogroups.com.

June 2016 UWF Training Schedule

June 9,14, 16,21, 23 and 28 at 7:30 p.m.

June 12, 19 and 26 at 12 p.m.

Meet 'Probie' Edwin Rodriguez



When Join FDNY first met Probationary Firefighter Edwin Rodriguez in January 2015, he was training six times a week for the Fire Academy as a Firefighter Candidate. To recognize him for his efforts, we also featured him on our social media pages as part of our #FDNYfit series.

A little more than a year later, Rodriguez can now be found living out his childhood dream in his hometown borough of Queens. He proudly serves at Ladder 138 in Corona.

"This is a career that I wanted since I was kid and to be working here now is an honor," he said. "This is a dream come true for me."

To add to that special note, the 26-year-old earned the valedictorian award in his Fire Academy class. During his graduation on May 3 when he presented his address, he noted that he was elated to represent the 310 graduating "Probies" in Class 2 of 2015.

"It was just an amazing experience being on the podium that day and I

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Meet 'Probie' Edwin Rodriguez

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was just really happy and humbled," Rodriguez said. "We worked very hard in the Fire Academy, so it was great to celebrate that important day with everyone in my class."

In addition to his personal workout routine, his journey to the Fire Academy included participation in the FDNY's Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) Training Program, Firefighter Candidate Mentorship Program (FFCMP) and Fitness Awareness Program (FAP).

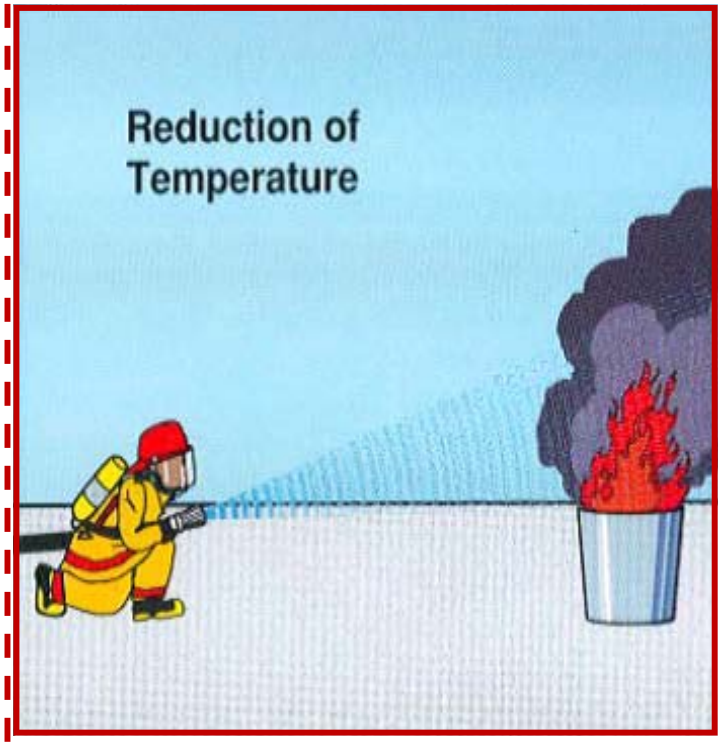
As an FDNY Mentee, he said the best part was learning about the job from his Mentor, Firefighter Thomas Roche, which helped him to properly prepare for the Academy.

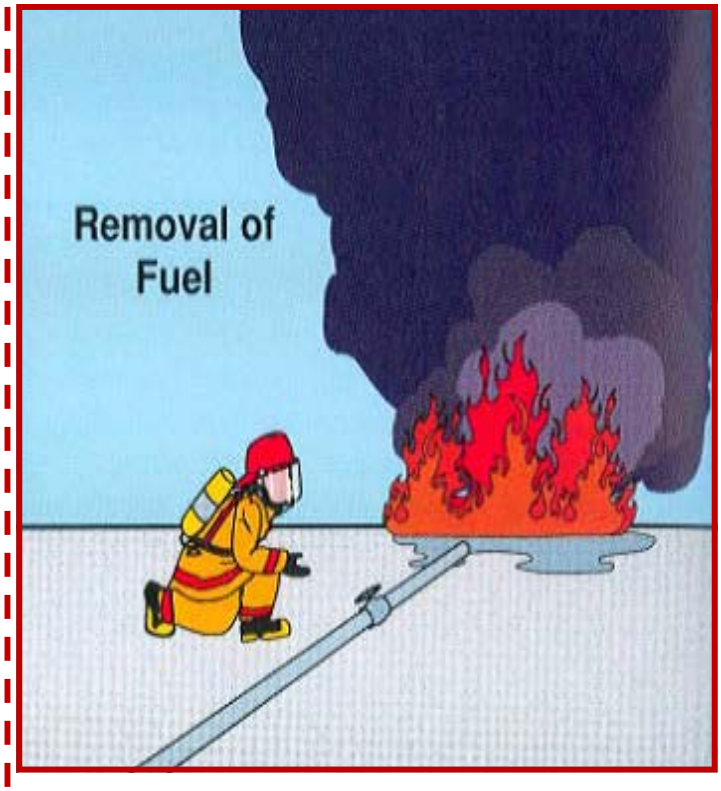
FDNY Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro, left, and Chief of Department James E. Leonard, right, presented Edwin Rodriguez with his Fire Academy completion certificate during the Class 2 of 2015 graduation on May 3.

"I think it's important for other Firefighter Candidates to know that even a little bit of information goes a long way when you're training for a job like this one," he explained. "My Mentor told me what I should be doing and what not to do during this whole process and I think small efforts like that really show that being in the FDNY is about helping people and being part of a family."

Firefighter 101:

Fire Extinguishment Theory





One of the most common methods of extinguishment is by cooling with water. This process of extinguishment is dependent on reducing the temperature of the fuel to a point where it does not produce sufficient vapor to burn. Solid fuels and liquid fuels with high flash points can be extinguished by cooling. Fires involving low flash point liquids and flammable gases cannot be extinguished by cooling with water, because vapor production cannot be sufficiently reduced. Reduction of temperature is dependent on the application of an adequate flow in proper form to establish a negative heat balance. In some cases, a fire is effectively extinguished by removing the fuel source. Removal of the fuel sources may be accomplished by stopping the flow of liquid or gaseous fuel or by removing solid fuel in the path of the fire. Another method of fuel removal is to allow the fire to burn until all fuel is consumed.

YOUTH SERVICES CORNER

FDNY High School Hosts 10th Annual EMS Games

As part of the FDNY's celebration of National EMS Week 2016, the FDNY High School for Fire and Life Safety also hosted its 10th Annual EMS Games at the EMS Academy in Queens on May 20. For the first time in the high school's history, the competition featured students in the school's Pre-EMT Basic Class and students in the FDNY Youth Workforce Development Program Winter EMS Academy Class.

During the event, which allows the students to showcase their academic, athletic and life-saving skills, three teams competed in the CPR Proficiency, EMS

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YOUTH SERVICES CORNER

FDNY High School Hosts 10th Annual EMS Games

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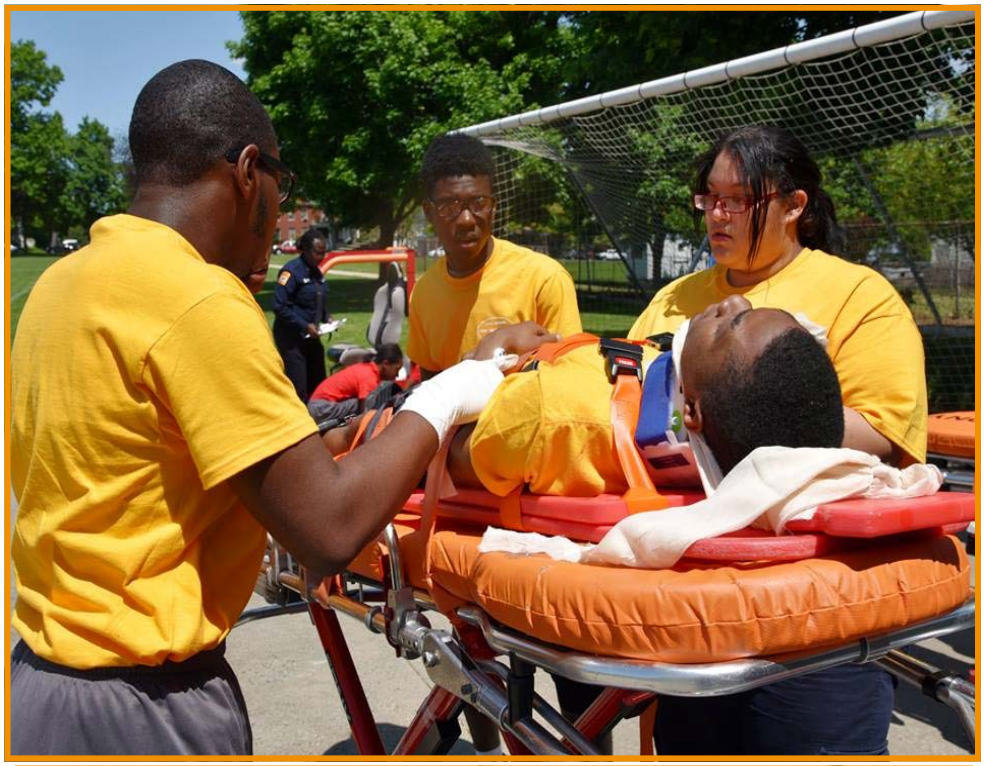
Jeopardy, EMS Tech Bag Relay, Extrication and Spelling Bee challenges. In the end, the Winter EMS Academy Class team took home the special first place trophy.



To date, there are 56 former Youth Workforce Development Program students working for the Department. The initiative is largely funded by the FDNY Foundation, the official non-profit organization of the Department.

Check out more photos from the competition: http://bit.ly/256MbAx. Learn more about the Department's Youth Workforce Development Program: http://on.nyc.gov/1raRksL.