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The Recruiter

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On June 27, FDNY Fire Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro led the swearing in ceremony for 319 new Probationary Firefighters at the Fire Academy on Randall's Island. The ceremony marked the start of their rigorous 18-week training.

FDNY Hosts Mobile Academy Events

The FDNY hosted its second and third Mobile Academy Events in June to help educate aspiring New York City Firefighters about the best job in the world.

On June 9, more than 250 participants trained at Commodore Barry Park in Fort Greene, Brooklyn. Then, on June 26, more than 200 Firefighter hopefuls trained at the Breukelen Playgrounds in Canarsie, Brooklyn.

During each event, the aspiring Firefighters participated in different activities to learn more about the daily duties of a New

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Aspiring Firefighters Learn More About the FDNY

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York City Firefighter.

Want to attend the next event? Call (718) 999-FDNY (3369) and ask to complete a Firefighter Expression of Interest Form, which will enable you to be contacted about upcoming Firefighter outreach events. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to learn more about our amazing careers!

'Probies' Follow In Their Father's Footsteps

When they graduated from the Fire Academy on May 3, Probationary Firefighters, from left, Malcolm Totten, James Bryant, Joseph Brown and Eric Garcia made history in their families by becoming second generation New York City Firefighters. In addition, the four "Probies" are all sons of retired FDNY Firefighters. Check out what they shared with Join FDNY during graduation about their milestone career achievement.

"Probie" Malcolm Totten

"I really look up to my father in so many ways, because he's a great guy who's always helping people and I joined this Department to do what I can to help others too," said Totten, the son of retired FDNY Firefighter Michael Totten, second from left. "Training at the Fire Academy gives you the chance to meet a lot of great people from so many different places and going through the Academy was really an important life experience

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for me. It’s really an honor to be working here.”

“Probie” James Bryant

“I grew up around the firehouse as a kid because I was always with my dad and I learned so much about how New York City Firefighters help others and I wanted to pursue this career as a way for me to serve the community too,” said Bryant, the son of retired FDNY Firefighter Robert Bryant, fourth from left. “Going through the Academy was a rewarding experience, because it was all about learning, hard work, discipline and camaraderie and I’m just really happy to be following in my father’s footsteps with my new career.” James is also a veteran of the United States Military Academy.

“Probie” Joseph Brown

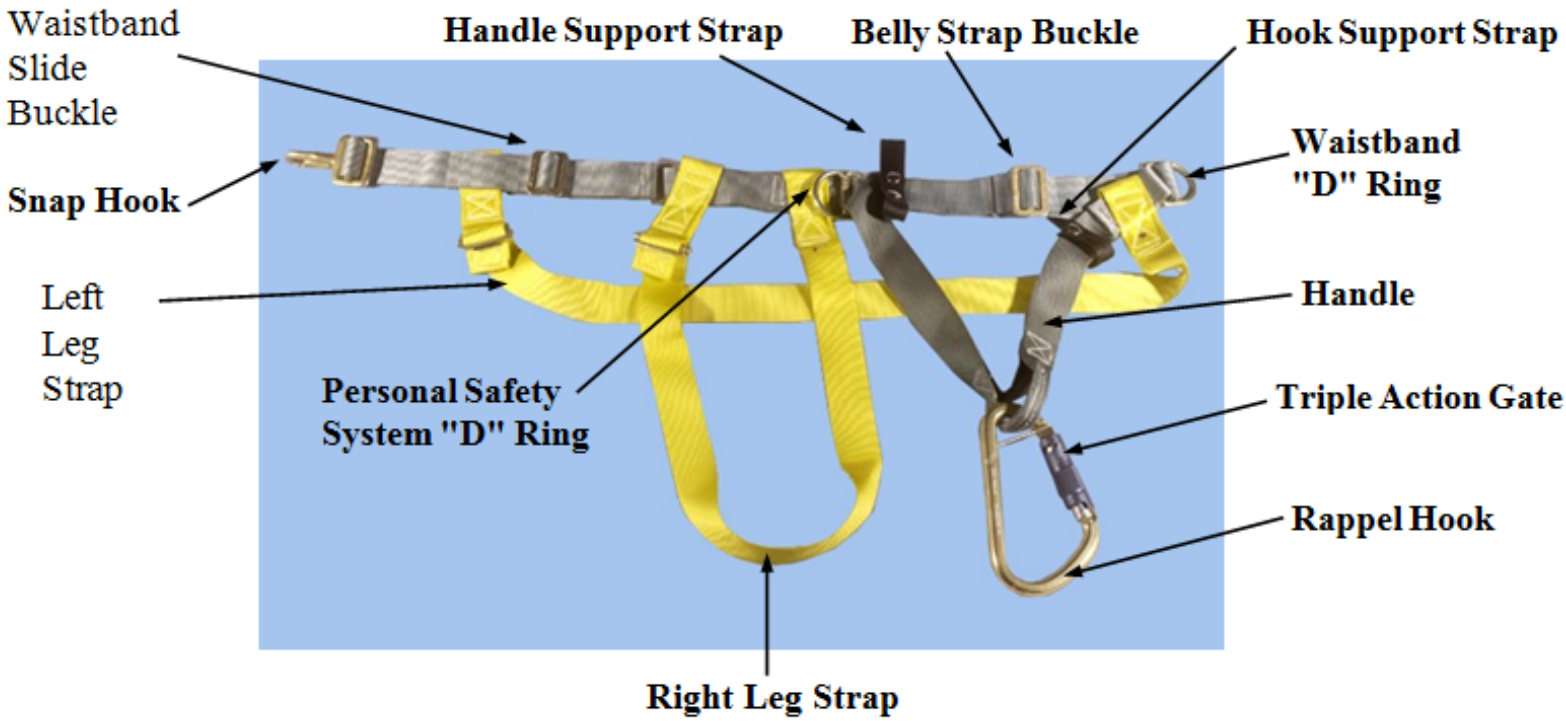
"My father retired from Ladder133 in Queens, and before that he was at Ladder 3 in Manhattan. He introduced me to the job, but he didn’t push it on me and he let me find this job for myself,” said Brown, the son of retired FDNY Firefighter Larry Brown, fourth from right. “This career is my calling, and I’ve known I wanted to be a Firefighter since I was six years old.”

“Probie” Eric Garcia

“When I was younger, I was able to see all of the family bonding that goes on in the firehouse and the great life that Firefighters can provide for their families, because this is such a rewarding career, and I decided to become a New York City Firefighter because I wanted my family to have that great experience as well,” said Garcia, the son of retired FDNY Lieutenant Jose Garcia, right. “My dad taught me a lot about serving the community and why that’s so important and I’m glad to be working in the same career as him.”

Firefighter 101:

The Personal Harness



The personal harness provides New York City Firefighters with a quick and safe means for life saving rope rescues and emergency escapes, as well as a safety belt for attachment to a tower, aerial or portable ladder. Training to use the personal harness is imperative and the harness must always be attached to the bunker pants. The personal harness is made of nylon webbing and has a minimum breaking strength of 6,000 pounds. The harness comes in three sizes, small, medium and extra large, and is adjustable to fit the various size requirements of individual Firefighters. In addition, the rappel hook has a gate with a triple action lock and all Firefighters must ensure the gate is in the closed and locked position prior to performing a slide or lowering operation. To check that the gate is locked, apply lateral pressure on the gate with your left hand. Want to learn more about this topic? Check out the Probationary Firefighters Manual on our website: http://on.nyc.gov/1q3oFVj.

YOUTH SERVICES CORNER

FDNY High School Renamed In Honor of 9/11 Hero

The high school that teaches the next generation of the FDNY was renamed on June 30 to honor FDNY Captain Vernon A. Richard of Ladder Company 7, one of the 343 FDNY members who made the Supreme Sacrifice on September 11th, 2001.

Fire Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro, Chief of Department James Leonard, representatives from the New York City Department of Education, and family, friends, and former colleagues of Captain Richard were on hand to celebrate the Captain Vernon A. Richard FDNY High School for Fire and Life Safety.

Captain Richard, who was 53 years old at the time of his death, grew up in the Marcy Houses in Bedford-Stuyvesant and served in the United States Army in Vietnam from 1967-1969 before later joining the Department in December, 1977. He first served in Ladder

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Company 17 in the Bronx. Promoted to Lieutenant in 1994, he was assigned to Engine Company 16/Ladder Company 7 in Manhattan. He was the officer in charge of Ladder Company 7 on September 11th and was posthumously promoted to Captain.

The ceremony was attended by many current and retired FDNY members, including more than 50 members of Captain Richard's firehouse, Engine Company 16 and Ladder Company 7. Captain Richard's son, Vernon A. Richard II, spoke about his father's passion for education.

"My father took education very seriously. He studied hours and hours for the tests he took and he recruited other young African Americans to join the Fire Department as well."