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Another 'Probie' Class Begins



The new Probationary Firefighters took the Oath of Office on Dec. 29.

A new class of 320 FDNY Probationary Firefighters was sworn in at the Fire Academy on Dec. 29, marking the start of their rigorous 18 weeks of training.

"The Department you are joining is not only the best in world- but it keeps getting better," Mayor Bill de Blasio said during the ceremony on Randall's Island.

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“What is our secret? Why is the FDNY so good? Answer is right here today: enormous talent, unrelenting work ethic and remarkable backgrounds entering classes bring us every year.”

Women and people of color comprise nearly half of the class, with 17 percent identifying as Black, 24 percent as Hispanic and four percent as Asian. The class also includes three women.

This past decade, the Fire Department has doubled the number of Firefighters from underrepresented backgrounds serving in New York City.

“When you leave this Academy, you must be ready to safely respond, fight a fire - and quite possibly - save a life,” Fire Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro said. “That’s the sacred mission you’re accepting today when you raise your right hand in just a few moments.”

At the Academy, classes are extensively trained in all aspects of their job, including fire suppression and medical response, hazardous materials, collapse and confined space rescue training, and auto

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Another 'Probie' Class Begins

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The new class of Probationary Firefighters will train for 18 weeks at the Fire Academy on Randall's Island.

extrication, as well as building inspections and procedures for engine and ladder operations.

“It’s your turn now to commit,” Chief of Department James E. Leonard said. “Work hard and become a New York City Firefighter.” ■

#FDNYfit

FDNY to Celebrate 150th Anniversary



The new logo marking the FDNY's 150th anniversary, designed by NYC & Co., left, and the 150th anniversary collector patch, designed by Firefighter Richard Miranda from Rescue 1.

Mayor Bill de Blasio and Fire Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro announced on Dec. 16, details for the city's year-long celebration of the FDNY's 150th anniversary in 2015.

The FDNY, established as a paid professional organization in 1865, will host a series of events throughout the year, including multiple community-based events. They will be designed both as a celebration of the Department's history of service and to encourage young men and women to pursue the extraordinary public service careers available in the Department as firefighters, paramedics and EMTs.

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FDNY to Celebrate 150th Anniversary

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FDNY will also be participating in several prominent New York City events in 2015, including the NBA All-Star Game and the 110th Annual Progressive Insurance New York Boat Show.

During the announcement, Mayor de Blasio and Commissioner Nigro unveiled a new logo for the 150th celebration, created by NYC & Company. The logo features axes and the Star of Life - universal symbols of firefighters, paramedics and EMTs - as well New York City landmarks, including the Statue of Liberty and One World Trade Center. NYC & Company also created a special video to mark the occasion.

In addition, a limited edition collector patch, designed by Firefighter Richard I. Miranda of Rescue 1, was unveiled. The patch features the Tribute in Light - the memorial art installation displayed each year on the anniversary of Sept. 11 - shining over the New York City skyline.

FDNY's 150th anniversary events will be funded by the FDNY Foundation. Funds raised by the FDNY Foundation during this year-long celebration will support free fire safety education and CPR classes for all New Yorkers, as well as important training initiatives for FDNY members. ■

#FDNY150

Two 'Probies' Save a Man from a Fire



Probationary Firefighters Leonardo Williams, left, and Johnpatrick Wylie

They each of less than 18 months on the job, but Probationary Firefighters Leonardo Williams, Engine 8 (assigned to Ladder 2), and Johnpatrick Wylie, Engine 65 (assigned to Ladder 7), saved a man trapped by a 2-alarm fire in Midtown Manhattan on Dec. 9.

“This is the result of a lot of training; it doesn't happen by accident,” Chief Peter Archer, Battalion 9, said. “[The firefighters] thought on their feet and they're really brave.”

The first-floor apartment fire on East 37th Street was reported just before midnight on Dec. 8. When firefighters arrived, flames were blowing out two windows, and there was high heat and heavy smoke inside. The apartment's residents attempted to extinguish the fire themselves, to no avail, so they fled, leaving the apartment door open behind them.

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“An open door gives a pathway for the fire, smoke and heat to enter the interior of the building,” Chief Archer said. “It endangers everyone else in the entire building.”

Another resident on the same floor tried to exit his apartment into the shared hallway, and encountered the high heat and smoke. He then retreated to a window in his apartment, leaving his door open, as well.

He had an unlocked gate on the window, which he tried to open, but due to exhaustion and the disorienting effects of carbon monoxide (CO), he was unable to do so before passing out.

Members from Engine 65 and Engine 16 forced open the gate. Firefighter Wylie said he could hear the man inside trying to get out before he collapsed, but never saw him due to the heavy smoke.

After the gate was opened, firefighters boosted Firefighter Wylie inside the window and he began to search for the victim.

“I couldn't see my hand in front of my face,” he said, so he kept his foot along the wall to keep track of where he was.

About 15 feet in, he found the victim and began dragging him toward the window.

Firefighter Williams then joined him, and the pair safely pulled the man out the window, which Chief Archer said is difficult to do without further injuring the victim.

“It was incredibly physically demanding

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and they did an outstanding job," Chief Archer said.

Firefighter Michael Eddy then performed CPR on the victim before handing him off to EMS members, who transported him to Bellevue Hospital in serious condition.

The fire was put under control just after 1 a.m. Seven civilians and one firefighter also sustained minor injuries.

Fire marshals determined the fire was caused by an unattended candle and no smoke alarms were present.

Firefighter Williams, who graduated from the Fire Academy in December 2013, said, "My adrenaline was high, but I relied on my training and to help facilitate the rescue. It felt wonderful to be able to help."

Firefighter Wylie said it was his first rescue since graduating in June 2014.

"I was nervous and my heart was racing, because I knew this guy was inside and only had a few minutes before the CO took his life," he said. ■

FOLLOW JOIN FDNY



UWF to Host Training for Candidates

The United Women Firefighters (UWF) is scheduled to host physical fitness training for women firefighter candidates in January 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 womenrecruitfdny-subscribe@yahoogroup.com.

January 2014 UWF Training Schedule

Jan. 8, 15, 22 and 29 at 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 11, 18 and 25 at 12 p.m.

A Tale of a Mentor and His Four Mentees



From left are FDNY Mentor Lieutenant Michael Drennan, his Mentees Nicholas Spano, Steven Tuthill, Anthony Murino and Anthony Giannone, as well as his Senior Mentor Lieutenant Anthony Ferraro.

During their journey to joining the FDNY, Probationary Firefighters Nicholas Spano, Steven Tuthill, Anthony Murino and Anthony Giannone were connected in many ways. They each had no previous firefighting experience and they each shared the desire to train as hard as possible to become one of New York's Bravest. Even more special is that they shared the same Mentor: FDNY Lieutenant Michael Drennan.

As Firefighter Candidate Mentorship Program (FFCMP)

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A Tale of a Mentor and His Four Mentees

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Mentees, the “Probies” emphasized that Drennan was able to assist them whenever they needed help. The program, which is currently gearing up for its fifth round, pairs Firefighter candidates with experienced Firefighters who serve as their Mentors. The Mentees are provided with guidance during the Firefighter hiring process, and if they become Probationary Firefighters, throughout the Fire Academy.

“It was really great having someone who I could call and text if I had a question, because the hiring process and Academy isn’t easy,” Spano explained. “I had some trouble with the residency and Lieutenant ‘Mike’ stepped up and gave me the information that I needed, so I could get everything completed.”

“The support from your Mentor helps a lot during the Academy, because it’s a lot of hard work and many days at the Academy are really tough,” Tuthill added. “Having a Mentor also helped me get through some of tough evolutions at the Academy, because I was able to call Lieutenant ‘Mike’ and ask him questions and get a lot of helpful tips.”

Drennan also said he made it a priority to bring each of his Mentees to his firehouse, Ladder 84 in Staten Island, to help them learn more about what it’s like to serve as a New York

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City Firefighter. During the visits, they were able to tour the firehouse, suit up in bunker gear, use the Firefighter apparatus and discuss Firefighter culture with the Firefighters who work there.

“When I visited Lieutenant ‘Mike’s’ firehouse, I was able to put on the bunker gear and it motivated me to get in even better shape,” Murino recalled. “For me, being in the program really helped to shed light on different aspects of the job before I entered the Academy and that was really important.”

“I’ve never been inside a firehouse before, so it was a great experience for me to visit Lieutenant ‘Mike’s’ house and learn so much about the job that day,” Giannone added. “Before I worked here, I didn’t know any Firefighters, so to have someone like Lieutenant ‘Mike,’ who has a lot of experience on the job, as a Mentor during this whole process was really great.”

And when the Lieutenant watched all four of his Mentees graduate from the Fire Academy at the Christian Cultural Center in Brooklyn on Nov. 18, he said he was filled with joy.

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A Tale of a Mentor and His Four Mentees

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“I felt like a proud papa,” he said jokingly about seeing them graduate. “I kept in contact with my Mentees every week, helped them study and really stayed involved in what was happening with them. They all worked very hard to get this job and I’m very proud of them.”

In addition, Drennan noted that he worked closely with his Senior Mentor Lieutenant Anthony Ferraro to ensure that his Mentees were given the most timely and accurate information.

“We have a great chain of command in the Mentorship Program that works really well,” Ferraro said. “I help my Mentors get the information that they need and they in turn help their Mentees. It’s really a great example of teamwork.”

Spano, Tuthill, Murino and Giannone are currently serving as one of New York’s Bravest at Engine 152 in Staten Island, Engine 325 in Queens, Ladder 11 in New York City and Ladder 7 in New York City, respectively.

If you’re a Firefighter Candidate, don’t forget to join the FFCMP after your list number is called. #FFCMP ■

Firefighter 101: Emergencies

All Firefighter Candidates should remember that New York City Firefighters do not just respond to fires only. In fact, FDNY Firefighters are present at every type of emergency situation that occurs in New York City. These emergencies include:

- Water Conditions
- Steam Conditions
- Electrical Emergencies
- Natural Gas Emergencies
- Oil Burner Emergencies
- Vehicular Accidents
- Subway Emergencies
- Miscellaneous Emergencies (e.g. Ice Rescue, Ring Removal)

Check Out Our Firefighter Candidate Prep Corner

Visit our Firefighter Candidate Resources page on the FDNY website. The page features detailed videos, training tips, study guides, the Probie Manual and other information that will help all Firefighter Candidates prepare for the Fire Academy.

Get READY!

RECRUITMENT CORNER

FDNY Explorers Tackle Firefighter Training



The FDNY Fire and Emergency Medical Service Explorers experienced first-hand what it would be like to train as one of New York's Bravest at the Fire Academy on Dec. 14.

During the visit, the teens completed physical/circuit training, search and rescue, standpipe operations, hose roll/hook up and other events to learn more about serving as a New York City Firefighter. In addition, they were able to work one-on-one with veteran FDNY Firefighters, which included demonstrations

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RECRUITMENT CORNER

FDNY Explorers Tackle Firefighter Training

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about how to properly save lives during emergencies.

The program educates students ages 14 to 20 about the fire and emergency medical services careers, while also enhancing their leadership, life and service skills. As an FDNY Explorer, students participate in weekly meetings, community service projects, field trips to firehouses and EMS stations and other important activities. ■

#FutureFDNYFirefighters