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PRESS RELEASE



The New York City Department of Correction

New York City Department of Correction Recognized at 9/11 Memorial & Museum 5K Run/Walk & Community Day

MANHATTAN, NY— The [New York City Department of Correction \(DOC\)](https://www.doc.nyc.gov/) participated in the formal ceremony surrounding the [9/11 Memorial & Museum 5K Run/Walk & Community Day](https://www.doc.nyc.gov/911-memorial-museum-5k-run-walk-community-day)— a recognition that honors more than 1,000 correction officers and department personnel who contributed to the rescue and recovery efforts following the attacks.

“We are incredibly proud of the officers and personnel who took part in rescue operations on September 11, and in the recovery efforts that went on for many months afterwards,” said DOC Commissioner Cynthia Brann. “They exposed themselves to dangers and health risks without hesitation or question, and they have never sought recognition. We are thrilled to be joining the other responding agencies at the run this year, and in the years to come.”



A member of DOC's Emergency Services Unit working recovery at Ground Zero.

DOC's participation in the rescue and recovery efforts is one of the lesser known histories of the time, but the agency played a critical role. On the day of the attacks, correction officers and non-uniformed personnel, just 8 blocks from Ground Zero, raced from their desks to help evacuate people from the danger zone, including children from a nearby grammar school. Boats from the Department's Harbor Unit evacuated people from the tip of Manhattan to Brooklyn, Staten Island, and New Jersey. In the days, weeks, and months afterwards, the Department worked The Pile at Ground Zero, set up and staffed the temporary morgue at Bellevue, sifted through debris trucked to the Fresh Kills landfill, and established and ran the city's emergency communications network at Ground Zero.

“We are truly grateful for the Department's service during the rescue and recovery operation, and its partnership in documenting this important part of the

ongoing 9/11 story. We are collaborating with the Department to deepen our understanding of its role on 9/11 and in the aftermath, which includes collecting stories of individuals who participated, as well as artifacts,” said Anthony Gardner, Senior Vice President of Government & Community Affairs for the 9/11 Memorial & Museum.

This is the Museum’s seventh annual 9/11 5K, and charity proceeds will help support construction of [the 9/11 Memorial Glade](#), an historic modification of the 9/11 Memorial that will honor all those who were injured, sickened, or died as a result of their work or exposure to contaminants during the recovery operations. DOC responders are among those who have suffered, and although no official numbers currently exist, the names of 15 DOC officers who have passed away from 9/11-related illnesses adorn the memorial wall at [Responders Remembered Park](#) in Lake Ronkonkoma, NY.



Click for video: CO Fernandez discusses his experiences as a 9/11 recovery worker

About the New York City Department of Correction

[The New York City Department of Correction \(DOC\)](#) provides for the care, custody, and control of persons accused of crimes or convicted and sentenced to one year or less of jail time. The Department manages 11 facilities, 8 of which are located on Rikers Island. In addition, the Department operates two hospital wards (Bellevue and Elmhurst hospitals) and court holding facilities in each borough. During Fiscal Year 2018, the Department handled over 49,000 admissions and managed an average daily in-custody population of approximately 8,900 individuals. Our dedicated workforce of both uniformed and non-uniformed staff members represent the city’s BOLDEST.