Publication of this 2017 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

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**Photo Credits**

**Cover**
Manhattan Box 66-1219, October 27, 2016, the incident for which FF James P. Lee, Jr., Rescue Company 1, received the James Gordon Bennett Medal/NYS Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal; FF Andrew E. Hawkins, Ladder Company 43, received the Emily Trevor/Mary B. Warren Medal; and FF William M. McGarry, Ladder Company 26, received the Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Medal. Additionally, Rescue Company 1, Ladder Companies 43 and 26 and Engine Companies 53, 76 and 91 received Unit Citations.
*Photo by Bill Tompkins*

**Opposite Page**
Bronx Box 33-2547, November 27, 2016, the incident for which Lieutenant Robert P. Meuser, Ladder Company 48, received the Albert S. Johnston Medal.
*Photo by FF Michael J. Fenick, Jr., Ladder 48*

**Back Cover**
Manhattan Box 0151, February 5, 2016, the incident for which Paramedics Niall C. O’Shaughnessy and Kimberly N. Sharpe received the Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn Medal.
*Photo by Steve Spak*
Medal Day 2017

MEDAL BOARD

FIRE
John Sudnik
Chief of Fire Operations

Daniel A. Nigro
Commissioner

James E. Leonard
Chief of Department

EMS
James P. Booth
Chief of EMS Operations
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June 7, 2017

Dear Friends:

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

The incredible men and women of the New York City Fire Department have made tremendous contributions to our city’s safety, and last year, we saw the largest decrease ever in the number of serious fires and fire-related fatalities across the five boroughs. This historic achievement is the result of true teamwork by all of the members of New York’s Bravest, who are consistently striving to raise the standards of fire safety in our neighborhoods.

FDNY personnel risk their lives every day to keep us safe, and we owe all of them a tremendous debt of gratitude for their work. Medal Day has long been one of the Department’s most cherished traditions, and it sets aside time for us to celebrate and thank all those who have demonstrated their commitment to protect our communities and keep our city moving forward. I am proud to join in commending all those being recognized for their heroic efforts and everything that they do for their fellow New Yorkers.

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

Sincerely,

Bill de Blasio
Mayor
FDNY members are rightly known as the Bravest, a reputation gained through unwavering dedication and service to the millions of people who live, work in and visit our City. And it has been hard-earned by the Supreme Sacrifice of 1,147 members in our history—including Deputy Chief Michael J. Fahy, Emergency Medical Technician Yadira Arroyo and Firefighter William N. Tolley in the past year.

It is at this annual celebration of our Department’s bravery, we hear the stories of times when our members exuded that strength needed to go toward danger, confront fear and perform difficult rescues of New Yorkers trapped by fire or in dire circumstances. The people of our City are grateful every day for our Department, but we set aside this special day to publicly thank so many of our members for showing why they are called the Bravest.

We celebrate Firefighter James P. Lee, Jr., Rescue Company 1, recipient of the James Gordon Bennett Medal and New York State Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal, for executing a dangerous roof rope rescue of an elderly man trapped by fire in a fully engulfed apartment building in Manhattan. This heroic rescue was successful, thanks to the work of many members, notably Firefighter Andrew E. Hawkins, Ladder Company 43, recipient of the Emily Trevor/Mary B. Warren Medal and Firefighter William M. McGarry, Ladder Company 26, recipient of the Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Medal. At great personal risk, each member contributed to save the lives of those trapped by flames in that massive six-alarm fire.

For our members, bravery often means acting quickly and without regard for oneself in unusual situations. Emergency Medical Technician Ryan J. Gref, Station 4, recipient of the Christopher J. Prescott Medal, experienced this firsthand when he subdued a knife-wielding individual who was attempting to stab another person.

Thousands of times a day, our members answer the call and display bravery in many forms. The medal recipients we honor in 2017 performed awesome acts of valor and, in doing so, represented the greatest traditions of the FDNY.

I am immensely proud of the men and women of our Department and feel privileged to lead an organization without equal. I thank you for all you do to protect our City, enhance the reputation of the world’s greatest Fire Department and demonstrate why we are—without question—the Bravest.
Medal Day is the one day of the year our Department sets aside to honor the brave work of our members. It is an opportunity to say thank you to our Firefighters, Paramedics, Emergency Medical Technicians, Officers and Fire Marshals who set the standard for Fire Departments around the world. Each day across our City, thousands of New Yorkers reach out to our Department for help—and our members always answer the call. The danger and uncertainty each call brings is never a deterrent. It is our sworn mission to protect life and property and to bring emergency medical care to those in need. On Medal Day, we recognize the most remarkable of those responses—stories of rescues and saves that will stand the test of time.

We honor our members who rescued trapped patients from certain death; Firefighters such as Peter J. Brady, Ladder Company 174, who receives the Brooklyn Citizens Medal/FF Louis Valentino Award for finding a patient trapped by fire and crawling past the flames not once, but twice, to rescue her.

We salute the teamwork that is essential for our Department. Look no further than the members of Ladder Company 28, whose combined search and evacuation efforts rescued four people from a high-rise fire that had filled multiple floors with smoke. These members are being recognized with the World Trade Center Memorial Medal.

We celebrate those who go above and beyond at great personal risk. EMT Monique M. Wilson, Station 43, is the recipient of the Chief James Scullion Medal for saving a drowning individual from the rough waters off Coney Island during a tropical storm warning. Lieutenant Craig C. Roeder, Station 45, is the recipient of the Chief Ulyses Grant Leadership Medal for helping to evacuate a family from their home as fire rapidly grew around them. We celebrate these particular members of our Bureau of EMS because their brave acts extended well beyond their extensive medical knowledge they use to save lives each day.

And, we commend the extraordinary investigative work of our Fire Marshals by honoring Fire Marshal Peter A. Lindell, Jr., Bureau of Fire Investigation’s Citywide South Command, with the Deputy Commissioner Christine R. Godek Medal. Fire Marshal Lindell removed a dangerous arsonist from the streets and sent a clear message that the Department will use every resource available to apprehend those who use fire as a weapon or to commit criminal acts.

Through their heroic efforts, every one of our Medal Day recipients represents the very best traditions of this Department. They join a long line of FDNY members—stretching back 152 years—whose brave deeds still inspire us all today.

We applaud every member being honored today. Your courage has made everyone in the Department proud and reflects the tradition of selfless dedication we all share in protecting and serving the people of our great City. We are extraordinarily proud to celebrate with you and to work with you in the world’s greatest Fire Department.
THE JAMES GORDON BENNETT MEDAL WINNERS

1869—Lieutenant Minthorne D. Tompkins (L-1)
   Captain Benjamin A. Gicquel (E-9)

1870—Lieutenant Charles L. Kelly (E-9)

1871—Firefighter Ambrose L. Austin (E-15)

1872—Lieutenant Thomas Henry (L-6)
   Firefighter Thomas Hutchinson (L-1)

1873—Battalion Chief William H. Nash (Bn-7)
   Firefighter Alfred Conner (L-10)
   Lieutenant Henry Schuck (E-34)

1874—Captain William Mitchell (E-10)

1875—Lieutenant James Horn (E-11)

1876—Firefighter Joseph McGowan (E-6)

1877—Firefighter Thomas J. Dougherty (L-1)

1878—Captain Daniel J. Meagher (L-3)

1879—Firefighter Paul Bauer (L-4)

1880—Firefighter John Levin (L-2)

1881—Firefighter Michael Connerford (E-12)

1882—Firefighter John L. Rooney (L-10)

1883—Firefighter William B. Kirchner (E-11)

1884—Firefighter John Binns (E-32)

1885—Captain Peter H. Short (L-1)

1886—Firefighter Michael Brady (E-34)

1887—Lieutenant Samuel Banto (L-10)

1888—Lieutenant William Quirk (E-22)

1889—Firefighter William Reilly (E-12)

1890—Captain Thomas J. Ahern (E-5)

1891—Firefighter Patrick F. Lucas (E-30)

1892—Firefighter Patrick H. Aspell (L-4)

1893—Firefighter John Walker (L-6)

1894—Firefighter Denis Ryer (L-15)

1895—Firefighter William H. Behler (E-35)

1896—Firefighter Martin M. Coleman (L-3)

1898—Firefighter James Pearl (L-7)

1899—Firefighter John Hughes (1) (L-14)

1900—Firefighter William Clark (L-14)

1901—Firefighter Thomas J. McArthur (E-29)

1902—Firefighter Richard Nitsch (E-35)

1903—Firefighter Charles F. Douth (L-3)

1904—Firefighter James R. McAvoy (L-4)

1905—Firefighter Michael J. Stevens (L-4)

1906—Firefighter Cassimer C. Wodzicki (E-17)

1907—Firefighter Michael Nicklaus (L-4)

1908—Firefighter John T. Oakley (L-11)

1909—Battalion Chief George L. Ross (Bn-7)

1910—Firefighter John R. Harcke (L-12)
   Firefighter Frank C. Clarke (L-24)

1911—Firefighter Richard J. Condon (2) (E-12)

1912—Firefighter Robert J. Boyle (L-10)

1913—Engineer of Steamer Seneca Larke (E-20)

1914—Firefighter John F. Mooney (1) (L-4)

1915—Captain Thomas W. Smith (E-2)

1916—Firefighter James T. Daniels (L-26)

1917—Firefighter John Walsh (1) (L-1)

1918—Firefighter Patrick R. O’Connor (L-14)

1919—Lieutenant Francis Blessing (R-1)

1920—Firefighter Timothy F. O’Leary, Jr. (E-15)

1921—Firefighter Frank J. Costello (L-12)

1922—Firefighter Jacob F. Ferber (E-239)

1923—Captain Edwin A.A. Quinn (E-14)

1924—Hon. Medical Off. Harry M. Archer, MD

1925—Captain Thomas J. O’Toole (E-27)

1926—Firefighter William G.R. Mitchell (E-18)

1927—Firefighter Michael McInerney (L-12)

1928—Captain James A. Walsh (1) (E-234)

1929—Firefighter George W. Reilly (L-19)

1930—Firefighter Edward V. Conroy (L-1)

1931—Captain Albert B. Carlson (E-66)

1932—Firefighter Vincent J. Hyde (R-3)

1933—Captain Cornell M. Garety (R-1)

1934—Firefighter Rudolph F. Musil (L-12)

1935—Firefighter George J. Wolken (E-60)

1936—Firefighter Joseph E. Smith (E-2) (E-211)

1937—Firefighter James P. Nevin (E-201)

1938—Firefighter Charles G. Roscher (L-1)

1939—Firefighter Daniel J. Sullivan (L-3)

1940—Firefighter Charles A. Merz (E-168)

1941—Firefighter Thomas F. Brennan (L-111)

1942—Captain John W. Heaney (Hdq.)

1943—Firefighter John Colgan (L-2)

1944—Firefighter Harvey W. Crook (R-3)

1945—Captain George H. Winter (L-3)

1946—Firefighter Arthur L. Speyer (L-24)

1947—Firefighter Anthony J. Riccardi (L-26)

1948—Captain Patrick T. Green (R-1)

1949—Firefighter James S. Norton (L-163)

1950—Firefighter Wilbur J. O’Donnell (L-111)

1951—Firefighter Victor F. Rossi (L-120)

1952—Lieutenant John F. McGlynn (L-10)

1953—Firefighter Angelo Michelini (E-97)

1954—Deputy Chief John T. Oakley (2) (Hdq.)

1955—Firefighter Bernard F. Curran (E-92)

1956—Firefighter Michael J. O’Driscoll (L-28)

1957—Firefighter William Von Diezelski (L-4)

1958—Firefighter Nicholas Sharko (L-11)

1959—Captain Arthur J. O’Connor (SQ-4)

1960—Firefighter William V. Russo (E-254)

1961—Firefighter Joseph G. Peragine (L-14)

1962—Firefighter Joseph E. Almon (L-35)

1963—Firefighter Lawrence F. Duenas (E-59)

1964—Firefighter David Crowley (L-14)

1965—Firefighter James E. Bowler (R-2)

1966—Firefighter Robert E. Farrell (L-31)

1967—Firefighter Thomas D. Ferraiuolo (L-28)

1968—Firefighter Gene P. Dowling (L-25)

1969—Firefighter James N. Tempro (E-217)

1970—Firefighter Charles Varner (L-55)

1971—Lieutenant Richard R. Hamilton (R-2)

1972—Firefighter Steven C. DeRosa (L-102)

1973—Firefighter Raymond G. McCann (L-40)

1974—Firefighter Gilbert J. Murtha (L-108)

1975—Firefighter Thomas J. Neary (L-31)

1976—Firefighter Martin McGovern (L-114)

1977—Captain Frederick W. Gallagher (R-2)

1978—Firefighter James H. Battilo (L-152)

1979—Firefighter John J. Pritchard (R-2)

1980—Lieutenant Thomas J. Neary (L-28)

1981—Lieutenant Howard R. Kennedy (L-154)

1982—Firefighter Joseph H. Dirks (L-103)

1983—Firefighter Kenneth L. Connelly (L-111)

1984—Firefighter Robert Merkel (L-42)

1985—Firefighter James A. Sollami (E-62)

1986—Captain James F. McDonnell (L-42)

1987—Lieutenant William F. Maloney (L-34)

1988—Firefighter John J. McDonnell (L-28)

1989—Captain Richard Jacquin (L-59)

1990—Lieutenant Gerard M. Murtha (R-3)

1991—Firefighter William E. Jutt (L-22)

1992—Firefighter Michael M. Dugan (L-43)

1993—Firefighter Albert J. Gonzalez, Jr. (L-18)

1994—Lieutenant John M. Fox (SQ-1)

1995—Firefighter Gregory J. Smith, Jr. (L-108)

1996—Firefighter Gerard J. Trigilia (L-132)

1997—Firefighter John K. Duddy (L-28)

1998—Firefighter Stan J. Sussina (R-1)

1999—Captain John J. Pritchard (E-255)

2000—Firefighter Stephen P. Fenley (L-78)

2001—Firefighter John F. South (L-44)

2002—Battalion Chief James Marketti (Bn-48)

2003—Firefighter James F. Mills (L-176)

2004—Firefighter James F. Mills (L-176)

2005—Firefighter Victor J. Rossa, Jr. (L-138)

2006—Captain Christopher J. Joyce (E-318)

2007—Firefighter James T. Byrne (L-121)

2008—Lieutenant James F. Congema (Bn-19)

2009—Firefighter Anthony M. Romano (L-142)

2010—Firefighter Michael A. Czech, Jr. (L-142)

2011—Firefighter Peter G. Demontreux (L-132)

2012—Firefighter Kevin J. Hogan (L-114)

2013—Lieutenant Thomas G. Woods (L-154)

2014—Lieutenant Robert E. Lee (L-47)

2015—Captain William J. Grant (E-168)

2016—Lieutenant Brian J. Colletti (L-174)
James Gordon Bennett Medal/
NYS Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal

Firefighter James P. Lee, Jr.
Rescue Company 1
October 27, 2016, 0326 hours, Box 66-1219, Manhattan


F

or the night tour of October 27, 2016, FF James P. Lee, Jr., Rescue 1, was assigned the roof position. At approximately 0330 hours, the company was assigned to a fire in a five-story multiple dwelling. FF Lee made his way to the roof via exposure #2 and observed fire blowing out of the shaft, with the roof and bulkhead of exposure #4 on fire.

Conditions were deteriorating when FF Lee heard a radio report from Rescue 1’s chauffeur, FF Francis Rush. A civilian had shown up at a top-floor window. FF Rush told the elderly male to stay in the window because help was on the way. FF Rush radioed FF Lee, gave him the location of the trapped man and said a lifesaving rope rescue (LSR) would be required.

FF Lee established contact with the victim, as heavy smoke vented out over the man’s head. He told him to stay at the window. He radiated Battalion Chief James W. Manning, Battalion 10, that there was a victim trapped and a LSR rescue was being set up. Inside the fire building, interior hose-lines could not make it past the second floor due to the extreme fire conditions, making any attempt to reach the victim from the interior impossible.

Moving in line with the victim, FF Lee dumped the LSR bag and handed the hook off to Ladder 43’s chauffeur, FF Andrew Hawkins, who tied the rope off to a short chimney. FF Lee ran the rope under the fence and back over the top where he attached it to his harness. Unbearable conditions forced the victim to disappear from the window a few times. Firefighter Rush told the man to stay at the window. The victim stated he was within seconds of jumping.

Once FF Hawkins was anchored to the chimney and took his four wraps on his rappel hook, FF Lee climbed over the fence and positioned himself to be lowered to the trapped victim. The victim’s yells served as a beacon for FF Lee, who operated in zero visibility. Firefighter Rush directed FF Lee to the victim’s window.

The man was crouched below the windowsill with fire lapping out over his head. Using all his strength, FF Lee reached into the window and got one arm around the victim’s back and one under his knees. The man could not hold onto FF Lee due to cuts and burns to his hands and arms. While not the conventional way in which a victim is removed when performing this evolution, FF Lee worked to save this victim from certain death.

Once the victim cleared the window, the momentum rotated FF Lee 180 degrees; his back was against the building. FF Rush ordered the resumption of lowering FF Lee and victim. The rescuer used his legs to kick off the building to avoid being hung up on parts of the rear wall, while cradling the weight of the man in his arms. The LSR began to burn as Firefighter and victim reached the third floor. When they reached the ground safely, the LSR burned through and fell to the ground. Firefighters Lee and Rush carried the man through exposure #4 to the front of the fire building where he was handed off to EMS personnel.

For his extraordinary efforts and under extreme personal risk, FF James P. Lee, Jr., is awarded the James Gordon Bennett Medal and NYS Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal.—AP

A fire on October 27, 2016, quickly tore through the upper floors of a five-story multiple dwelling in Manhattan. Photo by Bill Tompkins
Brooklyn Citizens Medal/
FF Louis Valentino Award

Firefighter Peter J. Brady
Ladder Company 174

October 14, 2016, 1234 hours, Box 75-1664, Brooklyn

Appointed to the FDNY on May 31, 2005. Father, FF Peter G. Brady, is retired from Ladder 147; uncles, Lieutenant Mike Brady, is assigned to SOC; Captain Matt Corrigan is assigned to Ladder 121; FF Kenny Brady is retired from Ladder 137 and Captain Ed Smith (now deceased) was retired from the UFOA and BKSC; cousins, Lieutenant Brian Brady is assigned to Engine 28; FF James Brady is assigned to Rescue 2 and FF Patrick Brady is assigned to Engine 227; and brother-in-law, FF Kevin Anderson, is assigned to Engine 235. Member of the Emerald Society. Recipient of two Unit Citations. Resides in Belle Harbor with his wife, Kerry, and their children, Mara, Peter and Jack.

October 14, 2016, was a particularly busy day for Ladder 174 members. With Ladder 120 out of service for the day, Ladder 174 was taking up from a Box in Brownsville, Brooklyn, when a Box was announced for a structure fire nearby. With Engine 231 still a few blocks away, Ladder 174 gave a 10-75 for a fire on the second floor of a three-story private dwelling. After consulting with two Fire Marshals reporting someone still was reported in the house and that the smoke and heat were too hot for them to enter, Lieutenant Christopher Ganci ordered an aggressive interior attack to search for the trapped occupant.

Firefighter Peter J. Brady, Ladder 174’s forcible entry Firefighter, Probationary FF Yahya Khatari (Engine 283), with the extinguisher, and Lieutenant Ganci forced their way into the home to the second floor where they were met with extremely high heat and blacked-out conditions. With the fire rapidly advancing over their heads, FF Brady made a left-handed search of the fire area.

While FF Khatari held back the flames with the extinguisher, the fire already had burnt the top of the door. Firefighter Brady got low and crawled under the flames to get into the back bedroom where the victim was reported. Lieutenant Christopher Ganci ordered an aggressive interior attack to search for the trapped occupant. Firefighter Peter J. Brady, Ladder 174’s forcible entry Firefighter, Probationary FF Yahya Khatari (Engine 283), with the extinguisher, and Lieutenant Ganci forced their way into the home to the second floor where they were met with extremely high heat and blacked-out conditions. With the fire rapidly advancing over their heads, FF Brady made a left-handed search of the fire area.

If not for the swift action of FF Brady, this woman certainly would have perished in this fire. The victim was found in the immediate area past the fire and if it wasn’t for the risk taken by FF Brady, coupled with the excellent teamwork of Engine 231 and Ladder 174 members, the woman would not be alive today.

To save a life, FF Brady crawled past fire twice to carry out this rescue operation without the protection of a hose-line. Firefighter Peter J. Brady’s heroics are recognized with the presentation of the Brooklyn Citizens Medal/FF Louis Valentino Award.—RB
The evening of October 5, 2016, started in the usual manner for the crew of 04H. EMTs Ryan J. Gref and Bruce Fonseca arrived at their work location, secured their equipment and logged on as they had done so many times before.

The evening changed quickly for them at approximately 40 minutes into their tour when they were assigned to what they thought would be a routine injury incident. Prior to their arrival, the pair of EMTs was flagged down for assistance by multiple bystanders for an altercation that was taking place inside a restaurant at the location.

The EMTs immediately entered the restaurant and were surprised to see a man with two large kitchen knives attempting to stab another man. Without hesitation, EMT Gref skillfully disarmed the man and restrained him on the floor, while his partner, EMT Fonseca, radioed for emergency assistance and began providing medical treatment.

EMT Gref believed the victim’s life was in grave danger and successfully restrained the man's attacker until police arrived. EMT Gref quickly intervened, acting heroically and without concern for the personal risk that he faced. If not for his selfless actions, this person might not be alive today. For his unselfish act of heroism to prevent another person from being harmed, EMT Ryan J. Gref, a 10-year veteran of the Department, is honored with the Christopher J. Prescott Medal.—ES
Hugh Bonner Medal/Honor Legion Medal

Firefighter Gerard P. McManus

Ladder Company 155

October 26, 2016, 1336 hours, Box 75-8903, Queens

Appointed to the FDNY on January 27, 2002. Recipient of a Unit Citation. Member of the Emerald Society and Columbia Association. Holds a BS degree in Geography (Urban & Regional Planning) from SUNY at Oneonta. Resides in South Huntington, Long Island, with his wife, Tracey, and their sons, Matthew and Patrick.

On the afternoon of October 26, 2016, “The Vipers Nest” responded to a report of fire in a private dwelling. Due to the heavy, visible smoke, the 10-75 was given from several blocks away by Engine 302. On arrival, Ladder 155 encountered heavy fire venting from both the first- and second-floor windows of a peaked roof, 2½-story private dwelling. Entry through the front door would be impossible without the protection and advancement of a hose-line.

Firefighter Gerard P. McManus, a 15-year veteran of Ladder 155, was assigned the roof position that day. As the inside team began to force the front door, the Queens dispatcher notified members of the possibility of a person still inside. Firefighter McManus performed his size-up and quickly realized that access to the rear would be arduous. Thus, he breached a fence and forced multiple reinforced doors to reach his position. The Firefighter was greeted at the back entrance with extremely high heat and heavy, black smoke pushing under pressure.

Fire quickly was extending throughout the house and had consumed all but the small kitchen area in the rear. Conditions rapidly were deteriorating and at this point, entry had not been made from the front and there was no hose-line in place yet. Firefighter McManus was aware of the possibility of a victim still inside and knew that under worsening conditions, survival time was limited.

Firefighter McManus began to operate alone in a highly volatile environment with little regard for his own safety to search for the reported life hazard. He began his left-hand search in the kitchen and was led into the dining room area. Conditions quickly became so extreme that FF McManus began to feel heat through his bunker gear and was forced to crawl on his belly to complete his search. He made entry into the dining area with heavy fire engulfing the room, placing himself in a position of personal risk.

Reaching the middle of the room, the Firefighter felt the foot of the victim and quickly identified the 10-45. Firefighter McManus notified Ladder 155’s Officer, Lieutenant Brendan Corrigan, and began a very difficult removal by himself, despite the severe fire conditions. With flashover imminent, FF McManus rapidly spun the victim and dragged him through high heat and fire conditions to the rear door. He then brought the victim down the exterior stairs and along the driveway to the street, approximately 60 feet.

Firefighter McManus noticed the patient was badly burned, unconscious and not breathing. He assisted Engine 308 members with resuscitation. He then re-entered the building to continue with operations.

Firefighter McManus acted alone and in the greatest traditions of the FDNY to save a life. If not for his quick thinking, aggressive and selfless actions, the victim certainly would have perished that day. For these reasons, FF Gerard P. McManus is recognized with the Hugh Bonner Medal/Honor Legion Medal. —BC

Aftermath of the fire that gutted a private dwelling on October 26, 2016, at Queens Box 75-8903.
Firefighting requires a coordinated team effort. And, while each member of the FDNY is trained in the lifesaving rope evolution—practicing it routinely—the dramatic and risky procedure rarely is enacted. When it is undertaken, the member lowered usually receives the accolades. That feat notwithstanding, the Department recognizes that acts of valor come in many different forms.

On October 27, 2016, at 0324 hours, Ladder 43 responded first-due to a fire in a multiple dwelling on East 93rd Street. On arrival, a 10-75 was transmitted for a heavy, first-floor fire, possessing the entire rear apartment and public hall and extending up the unenclosed interior staircase of a five-story building.

Firefighter Andrew E. Hawkins, Ladder 43’s chauffeur, set up the aerial. With a saw, he ascended to the roof. Noticing heavy fire venting above the roofline from an enclosed shaft on exposure #4, he assisted L-43’s roof Firefighter, Stephen Janicki, while monitoring the developing fire conditions as concerns over the roof’s integrity grew.

Maintaining situational awareness, FF Hawkins heard reports of a civilian—barely visible through the thick, heavy smoke and flames—trapped at a top-floor rear window. Without hesitation, FF Hawkins grabbed the lifesaving rope and attached it to the only available substantial object—a dilapidated chimney barely extending above the roof. Considering the chimney’s low height, FF Hawkins laid down to prevent the rope from slipping over its top. Making matters more complicated, the substantial object was not in line with the window of the trapped victim, testing FF Hawkins’ strength and skill. While other Firefighters held him down, FF Hawkins methodically lowered FF James Lee, Rescue 1, to the victim and then an additional five floors to safety. The victim later was admitted to the hospital.

There was no time to celebrate. Ladder 43’s inside team, running dangerously low on air, made their way through the punishing top floor to the front of the building and found themselves at a window off the fire escape. The Officer transmitted an Urgent message for assistance. Once again, FF Hawkins sprang into action. Simultaneously directing FF Janicki to visually landmark the inside crew and communicating via handie-talkie to Firefighters below on positioning the aerial, FF Hawkins prepared for yet another lifesaving rope evolution. Although Ladder 43’s crew ultimately maneuvered to the fire escape, FF Hawkins was prepared to help them be removed safely had the fire escape proved nonviable.

Firefighter Hawkins’ actions throughout this fire were exemplary. He repeatedly demonstrated the ability to evaluate issues and decisively direct, control and respond to rapidly deteriorating conditions. While putting himself in harm’s way and with determination and teamwork, FF Hawkins assisted in saving a trapped civilian and protected the life of the Firefighter on the rope. As Chief of Department James E. Leonard noted, “his actions probably saved both lives,” as well as others.

For displaying his training, dedication and determination during these dramatic events, FF Andrew E. Hawkins, Ladder 43, is awarded the Emily Trevor/Mary B. Warren Medal.—SM
On Saturday, February 13, 2016, at 1626 hours, Engine 58 and Ladder 26, the “Fire Factory,” were dispatched for a reported fire on the 11th floor of a 14-story, fireproof, NYCHA building in Harlem. When the companies arrived, they saw heavy smoke showing from the 11th floor of the K line of apartments.

The inside team of Ladder 26, which included FF Brian C. Lavelle with the extinguisher, located the K apartment on the ninth floor before proceeding to the 11th floor. Arriving on the 11th floor, the members encountered heavy smoke in the public hallway and zero visibility. They masked up in the stairwell and proceeded to the K apartment. When the inside team reached the fire apartment, the door was closed, but unlocked.

Firefighter Lavelle threw the deadbolt and maintained control of the door as Captain Brian Gill and FF Chris Conklin began to search and locate the fire. High heat and zero visibility permeated the apartment. Captain Gill immediately located the fire in the kitchen, about 10 feet into the apartment. Ladder 26’s roof Firefighter provided the layout of the apartment and Captain Gill realized that the heavy fire extending from the kitchen was blocking access to the hallway and two rear bedrooms. He called for FF Lavelle to bring the extinguisher to contain the fire while awaiting Engine 58’s hose-line.

Lieutenant Michael Magerele, Engine 58, took control of the door and FF Lavelle advanced to the seat of the fire. The Lieutenant watched to make sure that the fire did not cut off the truck members. At that time, Battalion Chief William Murphy, Battalion 12, reported that there was a confirmed life hazard. There were also reports that Engine 58’s hose-line would be delayed due to elevator malfunctions.

Captain Gill and FF Lavelle pushed past the fire to search the bedrooms; Captain Gill went left and FF Lavelle searched on the right. FF Lavelle searched the bathroom, continued down the hallway and then found a closed door that led him to the first bedroom. He searched the bed, found a woman, transmitted a 10-45, removed her from the bed and called for assistance.

After removing the woman, FF Lavelle heard a moan and found a male toddler. He left the woman with FF Conklin, the irons Firefighter. Firefighter Lavelle shielded the child in his arms and removed him from the apartment, which meant that he had to pass fire in the hallway again. Firefighter Lavelle brought the child to the ninth floor where Ladder 26’s outside vent Firefighter Daniel Jankowski was waiting with the elevator and CFR equipment. Captain Gill, FF Conklin and Ladder 26’s chauffeur Michael Corrigan removed the woman from the apartment. Both victims were transported to the hospital.

For his aggressive actions in locating a mother and child during an expanding fire without the protection of a hose-line, FF Brian C. Lavelle is being honored by the FDNY with the Thomas E. Crimmins Medal on Medal Day.

— NG
At approximately 1230 hours on February 7, 2016, Ladder 42 members were on their way back to quarters from a previous run. While stopped at a light, members noticed an alarmed woman waving her hands and pointing at the corner building. Firefighter Donal F. Finnegan alerted the Officer, Captain Joseph P. McConnell, of smoke issuing from a second-floor window at the building, a 200- by 150-foot, six-story, Class 1, occupied multiple dwelling.

As Captain McConnell attempted to contact the Bronx Communications Office, Ladder 42 received an alarm via MDT for a report of fire at the same address. Captain McConnell acknowledged the alarm and transmitted a 10-75 via the Department radio.

As FF Stephen W. Hopkins, the chauffeur, positioned the apparatus, Captain McConnell donned his personal protective equipment and entered the lobby of the fire building with his inside team—FFs Finnegan with the irons and Thomas E. Morrison with the extinguisher. Fleeing occupants reported the fire was in apartment 2J and that numerous people were trapped by fire. Based on his size-up, Captain McConnell determined that the “A” stairwell would provide the best access to the fire apartment.

Captain McConnell and his inside team quickly ascended the stairs to the second floor to find a heavy smoke condition, as both the apartment and stairwell doors had been left open. Donning their facepieces, the inside team entered the smoky public hallway to locate the fire apartment. They quickly encountered numerous fleeing civilians and directed them to the fresh air of the stairwell. Despite blackout conditions and searing heat, the threesome quickly located the fire apartment and began their search. While searching, FF Morrison found the main body of fire in a bedroom and tried to contain it by closing the door to the room. As the fire started to extend over his head into the hallway, he noticed the door had burned through and immediately notified Captain McConnell.

As Captain McConnell ordered FF Morrison to use the extinguisher to contain the fire, FF Sean M. Heater, the outside vent Firefighter, transmitted a 10-45 for a victim in a rear bedroom. Captain McConnell directed FF Finnegan to crawl past the barely contained fire to assist FF Heater with the rescue.

Crawling past the fire himself, Captain McConnell found a locked door. Due to the high heat, he remained low and kicked it open. Crawling on his stomach, Captain McConnell searched the bathroom and quickly came upon the unconscious form of a male youngster, located between the bathtub and sink. Transmitting his own 10-45, he removed the child to the apartment hallway where he was assisted by FF Morrison. The two shielded the victim from the now-uncontrolled fire, removed him through the public hallway and down the stairs to a waiting EMS unit. Captain McConnell then returned to the fire apartment to complete his duties until he was relieved after extinguishment and overhaul of the fire apartment.

With courage and determination, Captain Joseph P. McConnell acted in the highest traditions of the FDNY. He is presented with the Thomas A. Kenny Memorial Medal to recognize his brave actions. —TM
On June 29, 2016, at 0815 hours, Tower Ladder 162 responded to a fire in a multiple dwelling. While still several blocks away, Captain Gary A. Weinhofer observed heavy, black smoke in the sky. He informed the other members in Ladder 162 that it looked like they had “a job.” On arrival, members found heavy fire venting out a second-floor front window. The Captain radioed a 10-75 to the dispatcher and exited the rig. Wasting no time, the Captain and his inside team of FFs Mark Smith, with the irons, and Jordan Salvador, with the can, entered the burning building.

As Captain Weinhofer and his forcible entry team made their way to the public hall, they were met by a medium smoke condition with the fire apartment door closed. As he sized up the situation, the Captain felt the door and discovered it was unlocked, which indicated to him that someone was inside. He decided to search the apartment prior to a hose-line being in position. After entering the apartment, conditions drastically changed. Captain Weinhofer experienced zero visibility and a moderate amount of heat. He ordered FF Smith to remain at the door and control it, while he and FF Salvador proceeded to find the seat of the fire. The fire was located in the kitchen, 15 feet down the hallway from the entrance. As the fire intensified, flames were rolling over the heads of Captain Weinhofer and FF Salvador, forcing them to crawl along the floor. The Officer ordered FF Salvador to direct the stream from his extinguisher at the ceiling, knocking the flames back. A radio transmission was given by the first-due engine chauffeur, stating he did not have a working hydrant and needed a relay. The severity of the situation now had changed. The water in FF Salvador’s extinguisher was nearly depleted and a civilian still was believed to be trapped somewhere in the burning apartment. Captain Weinhofer decided to pass the fire room and continue his search of the rest of the apartment.

Advancing deeper into the apartment without the safety of a charged hose-line or extinguisher, Captain Weinhofer crawled along. The smoke was so thick, he no longer could see the thermal imaging camera’s screen. He could feel the high heat through his bunker coat. His perseverance paid off when Captain Weinhofer found a bedroom. He entered it and found an unconscious elderly woman lying on the floor. He radioed Battalion Chief James G. Coyne, Battalion 54, of the 10-45. Conditions in the fire apartment were so extreme that sheltering in place was not an option, so rising only a few inches off the floor, Captain Weinhofer began to move the woman a short distance. At this point, the situation changed again, as Engine 304 members began to push into the fire apartment with their charged hose-line. This gave Captain Weinhofer the break he needed, as he used his body to shield the injured woman and continued to remove her to the entrance door. Once there, he handed her off to FFs Salvador and James McHale, who removed her to the street and waiting EMS personnel. The Captain then rejoined FF Smith to continue searching for any additional occupants.

For his brave actions under extreme fire conditions, Captain Gary A. Weinhofer is honored with the Walter Scott Medal.
Ladder 44 pulled up to a reported fire in what the Department calls an “H”-type building, named for their overhead configuration and known for lengthy, complicated hose-line stretches, long public hallways and apartment clusters separated by “wings.” With every second counting, the Firefighters in Ladder 44 had to figure out exactly where the fire was in this particular H-type building one Saturday afternoon in the Claremont section of the Bronx.

When the Officer of Ladder 44 (covering) for the tour, Lieutenant Travis Boroden (Battalion 3), arrived on the fifth-floor public hallway with his inside team—FFs Mark Grillo with the water extinguisher and 10-year veteran Jonathan A. Kappel with the irons—they were met with heavy smoke and heat, an indication that the fire apartment door had been left open. Undeterred, they moved down the smoky hallway, where they came across a man fleeing the fire apartment. Lieutenant Boroden quickly questioned the occupant to learn if anyone else was inside, as FFs Grillo and Kappel began their search.

As they entered the apartment, the two Firefighters were hit by a wave of extreme heat and blinding smoke. FF Grillo sprayed water from his extinguisher on the flames, as FF Kappel began a right-hand search deeper into the apartment. Since the effectiveness of the extinguisher is limited, flames began to undulate at the ceiling level of the foyer, a sign that the blaze soon would consume the entire area.

FF Kappel passed under the most intense heat to the large entryway of the living room, where he heard the sound of a woman making an incoherent groaning noise; she was in trouble. FF Kappel discovered a bed, which he swept for the victim, but she was not there. Then, the victim moaned again, allowing FF Kappel to direct his search to the other side of the room. With the heat pressing down, FF Kappel crawled toward the sound that led him to another bed in the room, where he found a woman lying face-up. With no barriers between them and the fire, no alternate means of escape and no time to summon assistance from another Firefighter, FF Kappel did the only thing possible to save the unconscious woman’s life: He began dragging her back toward the main fire area.

To return back to the apartment door in complete blackness, FF Kappel had to use his spatial awareness as his only guide (he needed both hands to drag the victim). FF Kappel’s path out of the apartment brought him and the victim straight past the now-raging fire. After stretching hundreds of feet of hose, Engine 92 was just arriving with the line. Firefighter Kappel brought the woman to the public hallway, where she was passed to another company, whose members brought her down to the street for emergency medical care. Firefighter Kappel returned to the apartment to assist the engine company with their advance and complete Ladder 44’s primary search of the apartment.

For his extraordinary act of bravery under intense fire conditions, FF Jonathan A. Kappel is presented with the John H. Prentice Medal.—SN
s Lieutenant Vincent P. Cavalieri’s night tour drew to an end, he thought that there was no way one of the busiest days of the year could be this tranquil. Minutes later, the fire alarm sounded and the Officer slid the pole as he’s done hundreds of times before, but this slide proved to be a lifesaving one.

The Brooklyn dispatcher assigned Tower Ladder 172 to respond to a residential fire in Bensonhurst. While responding, Lieutenant Cavalieri received a crucial report that there were people trapped inside the residence. As Ladder 172 arrived at the six-story residential building, Lieutenant Cavalieri, accompanied by his team—FFs Ricky Dalcortivo, with the extinguisher, and Brian Duggan, with the irons—knew immediately what they needed to do.

At scene size-up, visibly distressed civilians crowded the streets, screaming that a victim was trapped inside the residence. As the occupants fled the building, the Ladder 172 chauffeur, FF William Ketelsen, reported noxious, black smoke pumping from a nearby window. Even more challenging, Engine 330 was faced with a delay in obtaining a positive water source. With this in mind, the Firefighters at the scene knew they had to act quickly to ensure that no one perished.

Before entering the building, a visibly shaken local resident approached Lieutenant Cavalieri, screaming about the woman trapped inside. Assuring her that he would do everything he could to save her, he quickly shifted his focus back to his mission. The team ascended the constricted stairwell inside the building and climbed to the fourth floor. They were met with fire and smoke, producing absolute darkness.

The difficult search began. Resisting tunnel vision during a lifesaving operation, the Lieutenant diligently monitored the rapidly developing scene, placing himself at risk. Due to Lieutenant Cavalieri’s staunch attention to detail and a focused, systematic search, he was able to locate the motionless body of a woman and removed her to safety, aided by FF Duggan. After Engine 253 members performed emergency medical care on the victim, she regained a pulse and was taken to the hospital.

Lieutenant Cavalieri’s courage and extraordinary determination bring to life the core principles and highest traditions of the New York City Fire Department. He flawlessly executed the necessary tasks to save a human life. Acknowledging his bravery, the FDNY presents Lieutenant Vincent P. Cavalieri with the Henry D. Brookman Medal.—TMC

Shown are FFs Ricky Dalcortivo (Engine 284), Mike Mancuso and Brian Duggan, Lieutenant Vincent Cavalieri (receiving the Henry D. Brookman Medal) and FFs Louis Demuth and Will Ketelsen.
April 19, 2016, quickly turned out to be a most unusual day for Lieutenant Craig C. Roeder. He was available within his response area in Western Queens when he saw a large plume of smoke. Initially thinking it was a car fire, he proceeded to the location to investigate, listening to the radio for any information en route.

The Lieutenant arrived at the location and discovered that it was a house fire. He encountered a woman, who was screaming, “There are people in the house!” The people were her mother and child.

Lieutenant Roeder notified the EMS dispatcher of the incident. With no other resources on-scene and no sounds of sirens to indicate that fire apparatus were on the way, without hesitation and placing his own safety in harm’s way, Lieutenant Roeder entered the fire building to attempt to search for and rescue anyone still inside.

On the first floor, in the rear of the smoke-filled home, near the main source of fire, the Lieutenant located a woman holding a baby. The woman appeared to be disoriented. She was trying to extinguish the fire. Lieutenant Roeder assisted both woman and baby out of the house. Once outside, he was advised that there might be more people on the second floor.

Once again, with no additional resources on-scene yet, Lieutenant Roeder proceeded back into the house and headed for the second floor to look for any signs of life. He noticed that the fire was getting much heavier in the rear of the house. He reached the second floor, which was engulfed in toxic smoke. The Lieutenant performed a search, looking for any trapped individuals.

During his search of the second floor, Lieutenant Roeder found the family dog, trapped behind a closed door. After freeing the friendly dog, the animal ran straight out of the house. As the fire was spreading and the heat increasing—even without respiratory protection—Lieutenant Roeder continued to search, but didn’t find anyone else. He made his way out of the house, through the smoke-filled environment.

When he got outside, he flagged down the incoming Fire company. Lieutenant Roeder established command as the Medical Branch Director until he was relieved. Then, he was transported to the hospital for evaluation.

Knowing that people needed help to evacuate a fire building, Lieutenant Roeder went above and beyond the call of duty. This is why the FDNY honors Lieutenant Craig C. Roeder with the Chief Ulyses Grant Leadership Medal today.—ML
In the early morning of February 6, 2016, Ladder 54 was dispatched to a location in the Bronx. On arrival, members were confronted with an advanced fire on the first floor that was venting from several windows in the front and the exposure #4 side. There were numerous reports of people trapped.

Firefighter Christian Charriez, Ladder 54’s outside vent Firefighter, quickly pulled a 24-foot extension ladder from the apparatus and made his way down a narrow alley under the venting fire to the rear. When he reached the rear, he found a man at a third-floor window, threatening to jump. Firefighter Charriez convinced the man to remain at the window as he raised the portable ladder to the windowsill.

Firefighter Charriez removed an elderly man from the window and brought him to the ground. Once safely on the ground, he questioned the man about other occupants in the apartment. He said his wife was still in the bedroom.

The Firefighter quickly re-ascended the ladder, donned his breathing apparatus and entered the window. The conditions were deteriorating as he began to search the room. The high heat and zero visibility made the search arduous.

As Firefighter Charriez made his way around the room, he found the female victim face-down, between the bed and the open bedroom door. He reported his discovery to Command and his intention to remove the woman via the interior.

Firefighter Thomas Brick, Ladder 58’s forcible entry Firefighter, arrived, and the two Firefighters began to move her down the hall toward the stairs. Feeling the heat venting up the stairs from the fire conditions in the basement and first floor, the Firefighters used their bodies to shield the woman as she was removed to the street.

Firefighter Charriez continued to care for her by performing respirations with a BVM until she could be turned over to EMS personnel. The Firefighter placed himself at personal risk in performing the search of the top-floor apartment in a wood-frame structure with an uncontrolled fire below.

For the dedication and determination that made the rescue of the two elderly occupants possible, FF Christian Charriez is recognized today with the Hispanic Society/23rd Street Fire Memorial Medal of Valor. —CF

Hispanic Society/23rd Street Fire Memorial Medal of Valor

Firefighter Christian Charriez

Ladder Company 54

February 6, 2016, 0317 hours, Box 75-3021, Bronx


Firefighter Christian Charriez (center), receiving the Hispanic Society/23rd Street Fire Memorial Medal of Valor, is shown with Ladder 54 members.
On January 21, 2015, at 0321 hours, the Queens Communication Office transmitted Box 5001, reported to be a fire in a private dwelling across from the reported address. On arrival, Engine 275 transmitted a 10-75, reporting a working fire in a private dwelling. Ladder 133 arrived right behind the engine and began the task of forcing entry into the dwelling. The irons Firefighter, Louis M. Piazza, was able to gain access on his initial attempt, setting up a smooth tempo for the remainder of his actions.

The inside team, led by Lieutenant Francis Cummins and FF Brian Mooney, assigned the extinguisher position, knew they had a well-advanced fire. Fire was venting out the first-floor windows of the front and left side of the house. The time of the alarm indicated there was a strong likelihood the house was occupied.

Prior to donning their facepieces and attempting to pass a fully involved room of fire to their left, FF Piazza was assigned to search to the right. The remaining members would search to the left and access the main body of fire, trying to apply water from the extinguisher until the engine was in proper position to apply water.

Firefighter Piazza made an aggressive interior search, which required him to lie on his stomach and crawl low, past the fire. The selfless and aggressive decisions made by FF Piazza proved to be wise. Approximately 20 feet past the main body of fire, FF Piazza felt what he thought was a pile of clothes. Due to high heat and zero visibility, he was forced to use his sense of touch to determine the object, which proved to be the motionless body of a man. FF Piazza verbally transmitted a 10-45 to Lieutenant Cummins, who subsequently transmitted the information via radio to the Incident Commander.

Firefighter Piazza summoned all of his strength and, unassisted, removed the victim back to the front door, once again passing the fire. As he passed the fire a second time, he was forced to shield the man with his body, while FF Mooney held the fire back with an almost-depleted extinguisher. Firefighter Piazza continued the arduous task of removing the victim to the front lawn.

Once outside, he made a quick assessment of the man, who was unresponsive. The Firefighter took his facepiece off and opened the purge valve, allowing the free flow of air over the victim’s face. At this time, FF Piazza was alone and provided emergency resuscitation to the victim until assisted by FF Kenneth Ahlers, Engine 275. This operation continued until EMS personnel arrived on-scene and transported the victim—now alert and conscious—to the hospital.

Firefighter Louis M. Piazza’s bravery directly led to a positive lifesaving outcome. His actions in the house, as well as on the front lawn, kept the victim from succumbing to his injuries. And, he performed successfully while operating in zero visibility under extreme conditions without the benefit of a charged hose-line for his protection. In recognition of his valor, FF Piazza is awarded the M.J. Delehanty Medal.—RL
At approximately 1230 hours on February 7, 2016, Ladder 42 was returning to quarters from a previous run. While stopped at a light at the corner of Prospect Avenue and East 163rd Street, members noticed an alarmed woman waving her hands and pointing at the corner building. Firefighter Donal F. Finnegan looked up to see smoke issuing from a second-floor window at a 200- by 150-foot, six-story, Class 1, occupied multiple dwelling.

Alerting the Officer of the condition, the members began to don their personal protective equipment. As Captain Joseph P. McConnell attempted to contact the Bronx Communications Office, Ladder 42 received an alarm via MDT for a report of a fire at the same address. Captain McConnell acknowledged the alarm and transmitted a 10-75 via the Department radio.

As FF Stephen W. Hopkins, the chauffeur, positioned the apparatus, FF Sean M. Heater, the outside vent Firefighter, made a visual size-up of the exposure #2 side of the building, noting the heavy smoke venting from the windows and the severe downward grade of the street. Firefighter Heater removed the 24-foot extension ladder and a step chock from the apparatus, placing the ladder at the window to the fire apartment with the step chock making up for the street's grade difference.

As FF Heater ascended the ladder, the upper portion of the window began to fail and visible fire could be seen through it. Knowing he would be unable to enter the fire room, FF Heater reported the failing window via handie-talkie and retreated down the ladder for another route into the apartment. He repositioned the ladder and step chock for best access to an adjacent window. After hearing radio transmissions of reports of missing occupants, FF Heater climbed the ladder and removed the window's child gate, in preparation for entry.

Firefighter Heater contacted Captain McConnell and was granted permission to perform vertical ventilation. Donning his facepiece, the Firefighter removed the window and entered the room. With conditions in the room rapidly deteriorating and no protection of a charged hose-line, FF Heater began his search quickly, starting with the bed. As FF Heater swept the mattress, he felt something wedged between the bed and wall. With visibility now at zero, FF Heater used his flashlight to verify that it was a motionless female. FF Heater transmitted a 10-45 and his location to Captain McConnell.

Knowing the precarious positioning of the ladder from which he entered the apartment, FF Heater decided the best way to remove the victim was through the apartment. Assisted by FFs Finnegan and Jeff Nevitt, Ladder 31, FF Heater maneuvered the victim through the smoke-filled apartment. With FF Thomas E. Morrison holding back the rapidly extending fire with the extinguisher, FF Heater pulled and shielded the woman through the apartment, out into the public hall and down the stairs toward the lobby. Once in the lobby, FF Heater assessed the woman's vitals. He began CPR until care was transferred to arriving EMS units.

In recognition of his extraordinary efforts in effecting this rescue, FDNY honors FF Sean M. Heater with the Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia Medal. — TM
At 0030 hours on July 28, 2016, Ladder 23 was assigned first-due to Box 1641. Members were told by the Manhattan dispatcher that multiple calls were being received with reports of people trapped by fire. This vital information always heightens the urgency of responding units to act with resolve and purpose, attributes that contributed to saving a life at this incident.

Arriving at the scene, Ladder 23 members made an initial exterior size-up of the front of the building, but there was no visible sign of smoke or fire. As they entered the building, Lieutenant Barry Annette and his inside team of FFs Carl Asaro, with the extinguisher, and William Gustavson, with the irons, encountered fleeing occupants, who stated that there was a smoke condition on the fourth floor. Ascending the stairs, a minor smoke condition worsened. However, they were unable to locate the fire on the fourth floor. Concerned that the fire may be below them, Lieutenant Annette notified Battalion Chief Thomas Fitzgerald, Battalion 16, and proceeded to the lower floor.

Meanwhile, FF Brady S. Wehrum, the outside vent Firefighter, performed an exterior size-up of the rear and sides of the building. There was an odor of smoke; however, nothing was showing. He then noticed something that looked out of place. It was after midnight and yet there was an unsecured roll-up gate—still in the up position—to the door of a law office. Using his forcible entry tool, the Firefighter pushed on the top half of the door. A plume of black smoke then issued from around the door frame. Firefighter Wehrum immediately notified Lieutenant Annette of this development and that he was attempting entry to investigate.

Forcing entry into the law office, FF Wehrum encountered heavy smoke and high heat. He realized that he had located the fire and transmitted this information. Lieutenant Annette acknowledged his message and informed him that Ladder 23’s members would be working their way to him. Firefighter Wehrum donned his mask and entered the building alone in an attempt to perform a search. While lying on the floor below the smoke, FF Wehrum used his flashlight to scan the floor. In so doing, he spotted a body to the rear of the office. Transmitting a 10-45, FF Wehrum radioed via handle-talkie that he was entering the fire area in an attempt to retrieve the victim. Heat and flames intensified overhead as FF Wehrum tried to protect the unconscious victim from the fire as he dragged him to the outer doorway, where he was met by Lieutenant Annette and Ladder 23’s inside team. They removed the badly burned victim to the street and treated him until the members of Engine 69 (the designated CFR engine) were able to successfully provide lifesaving treatment to the man. An EMS unit then transported the injured civilian to the hospital.

Firefighter Wehrum demonstrated both professionalism and initiative in this successful rescue. In recognition of his efforts, FF Brady S. Wehrum is presented with the William F. Conran Medal.—WS
Fire Department operations on active train/subway tracks are extremely hazardous. Unpredictable trains and high-voltage third rails or catenary wires are dangerous enough, but when coupled with adolescent boys playing on elevated tracks, the results can be downright deadly.

All of these factors came into play on the evening of October 2, 2016. At 2133 hours, Tower Ladder 14 received a run for three people stuck on the Amtrak Bridge located on Randall’s Island. As all FDNY Firefighters who have attended the Academy know, this is an extremely long elevated bridge that runs more than 1.5 miles without access points.

On Ladder 14’s arrival, the NYPD pointed toward an individual standing motionless near the track area of the Hell Gate Bridge. The portion of the bridge where he stood is over land and the track bed is approximately 70 feet off the ground.

 Immediately realizing the seriousness of this situation, Captain Lester Lightbourne directed Ladder 14 members to set up the tower ladder in order to make an immediate rescue. The forcible entry team of FFs Ryan McFadden with the irons and James Ogle with the extinguisher, helped ladder company chauffeur (LCC) Jean-Paul Petit position and lower the jacks and tormentors, while FFs Richard Smith, outside vent, and Erik T. Roslund, roof, climbed into the bucket.

When the Firefighters in the bucket reached the male teenager, they found him frozen in fear. The youth stood in the direct path of any oncoming eastbound train. The members made repeated, unsuccessful attempts to coax the teenager to walk toward them and get into the tower ladder bucket. Suddenly, a train appeared, bearing down on the eastbound tracks. Unable to establish a secure grip on the young man from the bucket and fearing that he would be struck and killed, FF Roslund exited the bucket and climbed onto the elevated train tracks. From his position in the bucket, FF Smith used his hand light to warn the oncoming train of people on the train tracks. Without hesitation, FF Roslund forced the teenager to the outside edge of the 38-inch catwalk. He pressed his own body against the teenager, assuring him that both of them were out of the path of the train. After an unsuccessful attempt by FF Smith to signal the oncoming train to stop, the train thundered by at a high rate of speed.

Firefighters Roslund and Smith assisted the youth into the bucket and the trio returned to the ground where the boy’s parents waited, startled, but relieved. Had FF Roslund not taken the initiative and acted so selflessly by putting himself at risk, the outcome most certainly would have been grave. For these reasons, FDNY honors FF Erik T. Roslund’s actions with the Chief John J. McElligott Medal/FFs Fitzpatrick and Frisby Award.—JB

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

**Firefighter Erik T. Roslund**

**Ladder Company 14**

**October 2, 2016, 2133 hours, Box 8334, Manhattan**


Shown are FFs Richard Smith and Ryan McFadden, Captain Lester Lightbourne and FFs Erik T. Roslund (receiving the Chief John J. McElligott Medal/FFs Fitzpatrick and Frisby Award), Jean-Paul Petit and James Ogle.
On March 1, 2016, at 0224 hours, Ladder 23 was assigned second-due to Manhattan Box 1677, for a report of fire on the eighth floor. The building, an imposing, eight-story, triangular-shaped structure, was built in 1910. Typical of pre-war construction with large, spacious rooms, this building spans an entire block. Alterations to apartments resulted in vastly dissimilar floor layouts, many with maze-like conditions, which proved to be major factors at this incident.

As Ladder 23 members approached, Lieutenant Barry J. Annette immediately transmitted a 10-75 for fire issuing from two windows on the top floor. Knowing that Ladder 34’s approach would prevent them from getting an accurate view of the fire, Lieutenant Annette contacted Ladder 34’s Officer to coordinate operations. Much of Washington Heights is notorious for narrow and congested streets. These conditions, plus the height of the fire floor, impeded optimum placement of ladder apparatus. Any rescue would have to be through the interior of the building.

Ladder 23’s inside team—Lieutenant Annette and FFs Mike Mullarkey (Engine 80) with the extinguisher and Joe Calandra with the irons, ascended the stairs to the top floor. What had been a medium smoke condition in the public hallway deteriorated into a high heat situation with zero visibility. Lieutenant Annette heard a radio transmission from Ladder 23’s chauffeur that a civilian was hanging out of the rear window of the fire apartment with heavy smoke pushing over her head.

To find the victim from the exterior, Lieutenant Annette went to the adjoining apartment window and tried to pinpoint her location. Heavy fire and smoke obstructed visibility. However, the Lieutenant finally located her and immediately notified Battalion Chief Christopher J. Lennon, Battalion 16, that the victim was in a window to the left of the main body of fire. Fire was still venting out the rear windows.

Ladder 34 radioed Chief Lennon that they were encountering dense smoke, heavy fire and high heat. Additional radio transmissions from the roof indicated that a roof rope rescue would be impossible due to an unstable metal parapet that protruded over the roof and a water tank perched directly over the fire apartment.

Lieutenant Annette observed the woman’s agonized attempts to breathe through the thick smoke. Knowing he was her best chance of being rescued, the Officer notified Battalion 13 on the fire floor that he was entering the fire apartment to assist in locating the victim.

Engine 84 was attempting to control several rooms of fire as Lieutenant Annette crawled his way toward a rear bedroom. Fire was lapping out from an adjoining bedroom. To limit the spread of flame, he closed the doors to the room and made his way to the window, finding the victim beneath the windowsill. Shielding her body with his own, Lieutenant Annette notified Deputy Chief Paul Mannix, Division 6, that he had located the woman and they were sheltering in place until Engine 84 extinguished the fire. The Lieutenant assisted the victim with her breathing and remained with her until relieved by members of Ladder 34. The survivor was taken to the hospital for treatment.

The extreme difficulty in locating the person in distress led to an extraordinary sequence of events that Lieutenant Annette had to overcome to effect this rescue. Lieutenant Barry J. Annette’s persistence and professionalism are recognized with the Thomas F. Dougherty Medal.—WS
Ladder 48 members began the Sunday night tour of November 27, 2016, as they often do in the Hunts Point section of the Bronx—roll call, ready the gear, check the rig and maybe a quick workout if there’s time. The members are well-trained and seasoned, which ensures a tight working group. Working that night were FFs Michael Fenick (chauffeur); Kevin Gildea (outside vent); Brett Burmester (roof); Matthew DeMatteis (irons); and Bryon Appleholm (extinguisher). Lieutenant Robert P. Meuser was in charge.

At 2016 hours, housewatch alerted members to an incoming “run.” Bronx Dispatch directed them to Southern Boulevard. The building was well-known to members, who had responded there frequently. Moving out of quarters, Ladder 48 members listened intently to the radio report with additional information: “fire on the fifth floor.” Moments later, “we’re getting numerous phone calls with reports of people trapped.”

The members anticipated a working fire, but FDNY Firefighters are highly trained in situational awareness and response strategy. As they arrived at the building, panicked residents poured into the street with reports that an elderly woman was trapped in the fifth-floor fire apartment.

Lieutenant Meuser led his forcible entry team into the building. Within moments, they were sizing up forcible entry options at the locked door of the fire apartment. Smoke under pressure pushed from around the door frame. Without delay, the team forced the door and immediately members were driven to the floor by high heat with thick, black smoke pushing from within.

The Lieutenant recognized this as a clear indication of a rapidly evolving fire. With more than 10 years on the job, he knew that such fire conditions are truly unforgiving. Additionally, the building size-up predicted a long, time-consuming stretch of the hose-line. To Lieutenant Meuser, this meant they would be pushing the limits, working without benefit of a protective hose-line as the search for the trapped occupant began.

Faced with zero visibility, Lieutenant Meuser moved to a prone position, scanned the long hallway with a flashlight and spotted the feet of an occupant lying on the floor. Without hesitation, moving quickly and low, the Officer pushed through the heat and smoke, eventually reaching the elderly occupant. The victim was unconscious and appeared not to be breathing. As he maneuvered toward safety, Lieutenant Meuser used his body to shield the victim from the fire overhead. Firefighter DeMatteis assisted from behind the victim. Firefighter Appleholm helped facilitate her removal to the safety of the fifth-floor landing.

As Lieutenant Meuser transmitted the need for “EMS forthwith,” FF DeMatteis picked up the victim and carried her down five flights to arriving EMS units. The Lieutenant and FF DeMatteis then re-entered the fire apartment to complete the primary search.

Lieutenant Meuser operated under challenging fire conditions, without the benefit of a charged, protective hose-line. He demonstrated tactical skill, unwavering courage and professionalism in the performance of his duty. His leadership and decisive actions resulted in the lifesaving rescue of the trapped victim. For his bravery, Lieutenant Robert P. Meuser is honored with the Albert S. Johnston Medal. —JDL
It was the morning of December 4, 2016, and Ladder 51 members were finishing operations on I-95, after a busy Saturday night tour. At 0749 hours, the Bronx dispatcher transmitted Box 4421, reporting a fire in two attached private dwellings. Knowing this was their normally assigned first-due Box, Ladder 51 immediately became available and quickly responded.

The apparatus was maneuvered expertly through the streets of the Bronx and entered the block first-due. No other units were on-scene. Lieutenant Daniel J. Sullivan transmitted a 10-75 for fire in one dwelling, with heavy smoke pushing from the attic of both the fire building and the attached dwelling. Exiting the apparatus, the Lieutenant was notified by neighbors of a person possibly trapped inside the fire building.

Lieutenant Sullivan headed for the front door, where FF Terence Lorino began to use his irons to force the wrought-iron security door, along with the main entrance door. After entering the foyer, the members were faced with another door secured by multiple dead bolts and a slide bar. Again, FF Lorino, along with detailed FF Ameer Blair (Engine 66), with the extinguisher, rose to the challenge and skillfully forced the door.

Lieutenant Sullivan and his inside team gained access to the interior stairs and ascended to the top floor where the conditions were brutal. With zero visibility, the Officer was forced to use his thermal imaging camera to see that there was high heat and fire extending from the front bedroom. Lieutenant Sullivan knew they would be operating without the protection of a hose-line, so he sent FF Lorino to search a rear bedroom. In dense smoke, he and FF Blair proceeded down the hallway toward the front, with fire rolling over their heads from the partially opened door.

Arriving at the door, Lieutenant Sullivan noticed that it was partially jammed open due to a heavy clutter condition. Forced to operate in this extreme environment, he instructed FF Blair to try to control the fire while he tried to open the door. Knowing he needed a rapid search of the room, his only option was to remove the door from the hinges; a calculated move without the protection of a hose-line. The Lieutenant used his Officer’s tool to remove the door and entered the cluttered room to begin his search.

With conditions rapidly worsening, Lieutenant Sullivan was forced to the floor by the high heat. He was rewarded for his efforts when he located the unconscious male victim, lying on the floor next to the bed. Quickly transmitting a 10-45, Lieutenant Sullivan and FF Lorino transported the victim to the street. The man suffered burns and received lifesaving treatment at the scene before being transported to the hospital by EMS personnel.

Lieutenant Sullivan’s actions were in the highest traditions of the Department. This feat was performed despite heavy fire conditions and zero visibility and without the protection of a hose-line. For his bravery and fortitude, Lieutenant Daniel J. Sullivan is honored today with the Bella Stiefel Medal.—PB

Shown, left to right, are FFs Raymond M. Courtney, Terence M. Lorino and Kevin M. Kirrane, Lieutenant Daniel J. Sullivan (receiving the Bella Stiefel Medal) and FFs Garfield A. Boston and Christopher M. Morvillo.
Being an Emergency Medical Technician is a challenging career. EMTs are trained to be prepared for anything to happen, while thinking and acting on their feet. Additionally, EMTs respond to a variety of call types on a daily basis.

On the warm summer afternoon of August 20, 2016, EMT Sean P. Emanuel and his partner were sitting in their vehicle, while monitoring the radio for their next assignment. At 1750 hours, they were dispatched to “Drug,” a call type that can mean any variety of incidents.

When EMT Emanuel and his partner arrived at the multiple dwelling, they took the elevator to the 27th floor. The pair was greeted by a female who stated that her friend had a few drinks and locked herself outside on the balcony of the apartment. The EMTs approached the rear of the apartment and saw the female on the balcony. She appeared to be in an altered state of mind. Her feet were covered in blood and glass was shattered across the floor of the balcony. She was dancing on the outside edge of the balcony behind a locked glass door. She started yelling, “I want to die.”

EMT Emanuel’s extensive training kicked in and he immediately started to develop a rapport with the patient, while a building maintenance worker proceeded to open the locked balcony door. Once open, EMT Emanuel, without hesitation, ran out to the balcony. Just as the patient let go of the railing, he was able to pull her back to safety.

Without EMT Emanuel’s quick thinking and reflexive actions, the patient most likely would have lost her life. The bravery and decisive actions of EMT Sean P. Emanuel exemplify the highest FDNY traditions of courage, dedication and service, all of which make him a worthy recipient of the Tracy Allen-Lee Medal. — RA
On the morning of August 22, 2016, Engine 302 received a run for a reported house fire. Box 8724 came in for a reported location at an intersection. While Engine 302 was responding, the address information was updated. As members arrived at the Box location, they saw the first-due units multiple blocks away. Lieutenant Gregory S. Damato noticed heavy smoke pushing from a structure halfway down the block. Seeing civilians frantically waving them in, Engine 302 turned into the block and arrived at the given address.

Lieutenant Damato quickly called the Queens dispatcher and transmitted the 10-75, with particulars to follow. He advised his members that Engine 302 would be operating as the first-due engine. As they got off the rig, they sized up the building and saw heavy, black smoke coming from the front door and windows of the two-story, Class 4, peaked-roof private dwelling. The Lieutenant ordered his members to stretch a 1¾-inch hand-line to the front of the building.

As Lieutenant Damato made his way to the front of the building, the same civilians who waved him in to the fire, now were screaming for him to hurry. There were still people inside the fire building. Looking around and seeing that no other units were on-scene and due to the confirmed life hazard, Lieutenant Damato realized that he would have to conduct the initial search for life.

As he approached the front door, there were two police officers attempting to make entry. Due to the high heat and thick, black smoke, they were driven back and unable to make it into the burning house. Lieutenant Damato made his way past the two officers, entered the building and started to make a rapid, but thorough, search. He noted that the fire was quickly advancing, both in the cellar and on the first floor. There was no protective hose-line in place.

Enduring the high heat, the Officer went deeper into the first floor and continued his search. He found an unconscious female lying on her back in the living room. He immediately gave a 10-45. Since the conditions were deteriorating rapidly, Lieutenant Damato began victim removal. Alone and under high heat and zero visibility conditions, he dragged the limp woman out toward the front door and the front stoop. There, the police officers now were able to assist. The trio carried the unconscious woman down the stoop and placed her in the front yard to receive medical attention from Engine 311 members. Subsequently, EMS personnel administered additional medical care.

Immediately after the rescue, the Officer and members of Engine 302 refocused their attention on extinguishing the fire, which now gained control of the entire building. The line was in place and water was called for. Due to reports of people still inside and heavy fire in the cellar, Engine 302 began an aggressive interior attack.

As a result of Lieutenant Gregory S. Damato’s actions under serious fire conditions, a life was saved. He upheld all the proud traditions of the FDNY and is recognized with the Vincent J. Kane Medal.—TW
At 1519 hours, Ladder 147, under the command of Lieutenant Christopher Tighe, received a phone alarm for a fire in a private dwelling. FF Andrew Kelly was assigned the irons position and FF Dave Maglathlin was assigned with the extinguisher. With heavy smoke showing, Ladder 147’s inside team began forcing multiple doors to gain access to the fire building.

Immediately after forcing the fire apartment door, the conditions changed and the trio was confronted with high heat and zero visibility. The fire was advancing rapidly to their right in the living room. FF Kelly made an aggressive search of the fire area, while FF Maglathlin held back the flames with the extinguisher.

As FF Kelly made his way to the back of the apartment, he heard a faint noise in the kitchen. With conditions worsening and the protective hose-line not yet in place, FF Kelly crawled past fire toward the noise to reach the trapped occupant. He made his way through the kitchen to the eating area and found an unconscious female, wedged between the table and the wall on the far side of the apartment.

Firefighter Kelly immediately notified Lieutenant Tighe of the 10-45 and requested help in removing the woman. With conditions worsening, FF Kelly started removal of the elderly female to the public hallway by himself. As he made his way through the kitchen and into the living room, he was met by the now-advancing and most welcome hose-line into the fire area. With FF Maglathlin’s help, the pair of Firefighters carried the victim outside of the fire building to EMS personnel for medical treatment and transportation to the hospital.

Firefighter Kelly exhibited exceptional bravery in conjunction with a driving personal initiative in passing fire and aggressively searching a fire apartment without the protection of a hose-line. His skill and determination led to the survival of this elderly woman. His rescue actions were in the highest traditions of the FDNY. It is with great pride that the Fire Department bestows the Pulaski Association Medal on FF Andrew Kelly in recognition of his valor.—RB
When a fire occurs during the overnight hours in an occupied multiple dwelling, there is a strong possibility that people may be trapped by the fire and in need of removal. On October 7, 2016, at 0451 hours, Engine 325 and Ladder 163, “the Woodside Warriors,” were assigned first-due to a reported fire in a six-story, H-type, non-fireproof multiple dwelling in Sunnyside, Queens. While en route, the dispatcher informed the companies that the dispatch office was receiving multiple calls for a fire.

When the companies arrived, civilians informed members that the fire was on the top floor. When the inside team of Ladder 163 reached the sixth floor, FF Sean T. Cosgrove, the extinguisher Firefighter, located the fire apartment by feeling the high heat radiating and observing the smoke seeping from the door to the fire apartment.

Captain Thomas F. Regan, who was covering in Ladder 163, transmitted the 10-75 and the truck members began to force the apartment door, which was locked and fully closed. Once the door was fully opened, the inside team was met with the main body of fire, which was located in the living room and vestibule.

Since Engine 325 was in the process of stretching the hose-line, FF Cosgrove used the extinguisher on the fire, which enabled him and Captain Regan to crawl past the fire and begin their search. Firefighter Michael Paglino, the irons Firefighter, was ordered to maintain door control and monitor the conditions. After passing the fire extending from the living room and rolling over him, FF Cosgrove conducted a left-handed search that led him down a long hallway to the rear of the apartment. While searching in high heat and zero visibility, the Firefighter located an unconscious woman on the floor, between the bedroom and bathroom. He transmitted a 10-45 and requested assistance and began to remove the victim by dragging her.

Captain Regan and FF Paglino met up with FF Cosgrove as Engine 325 was beginning to extinguish the fire. The two Firefighters removed the victim from the apartment and into the public hallway. Firefighter Cosgrove began to perform CPR on the unresponsive woman. He and Captain Regan continued to perform CPR as they moved the victim to the elevator. Once in the lobby, FF Cosgrove placed the victim into a stokes basket. She was taken to an ambulance and transported to the hospital. FF Cosgrove then returned to the fire apartment to complete his duties.

Thanks to the actions of FF Cosgrove, the victim is alive today. In recognition of his bravery in passing fire, locating a victim and assisting in the woman’s removal, FF Sean T. Cosgrove, Ladder 163, is honored by the FDNY with the Commissioner Edward Thompson Medal.—NG
On a brisk December 8, 2016, morning, FF Sean W. Koellner, Ladder 167, once again proved that FDNY members truly are New York’s Bravest. At 0440 hours, Ladder 167 was dispatched to a report of a fire in a multiple dwelling in the Flushing section of Queens. When Ladder 167 arrived at the building, the members observed not only fire from the fourth-floor windows of this six-story structure, but also an overcrowding of the fire escapes with occupants attempting to evacuate.

Firefighter Koellner, assigned the forcible entry position, knew that as the second-due truck on-scene, he would have the arduous task of operating directly above this already advanced fire. With the overwhelming number of self-evacuating occupants and the heavy smoke condition found on the floor below the fire, the Ladder 167 members knew this was not going to be a routine alarm.

When the inside team of Ladder 167 arrived at the apartment directly above the fire, FF Koellner checked the door for heat. Under the guidance of Lieutenant Felix Valentin (Battalion 46), FF Koellner began forcing the fortified apartment door.

Once Ladder 167 entered the apartment, members were met by extreme heat emanating from the kitchen and living room directly to their left. Lieutenant Valentin, using his thermal imaging camera, confirmed that the fire had auto-exposed to the kitchen and living room. Firefighter Alvin Chambers (Engine 206) began discharging water from his 2½-gallon extinguisher.

Firefighter Koellner was familiar with the layout of this type apartment. From his nine years of serving this City, he instinctively knew that the wall on his right side would lead directly to a rear bedroom. With the quick-thinking actions of FF Chambers and confirmation that Engine 320 was entering the apartment with a hose-line, FF Koellner began his search. The time of day and the difficulty of forcing the apartment door led FF Koellner to believe that someone needed help.

The fire and smoke made it difficult to access the rear bedroom. Complicating the situation, FF Koellner encountered heavy clutter in the apartment. The three-foot-wide hallway was barely large enough for FF Koellner to maneuver. With furniture and boxes stacked precariously throughout, he made it almost 30 feet to the rear bedroom. FF Koellner felt the foot of the occupant. After moving boxes and papers in the cluttered room, he vaguely deciphered the body of an elderly woman. The Firefighter quickly transmitted the 10-45 and advised the Command Post that he was removing his victim down the interior stairs.

Firefighter Koellner lifted the victim and carefully carried her over the threshold. He removed the woman past the fire and down three flights to the second-floor landing, where he was met by another Firefighter. The two members brought the occupant to the street and FDNY Paramedics assumed patient care. The consummate Firefighter, FF Koellner returned to the apartment to rejoin Ladder 167 with the continuation of their duties.

In recognition of his determination and courage, FF Sean W. Koellner is honored today with the Columbia Association Medal.—SR
Late in the evening of April 5, 2016, Ladder 58 received the ticket for a first-due phone alarm to Bronx Box 2971 for a report of fire. On arrival at this five-story multiple dwelling, the urgency was magnified by numerous frantically waving civilians who informed Lieutenant Andrew B. Bowman that a disabled occupant was trapped in apartment N1 on the first floor. The inside team of Lieutenant Bowman and FFs Thomas J. Wutz, with the extinguisher, and Christopher J. Reilly, forcible entry, entered the building.

A banked-down smoke condition was encountered in the first-floor public hallway. The source quickly was found to be the open door to apartment N1. Closing the door to contain the fire, Lieutenant Bowman transmitted the 10-75 and informed Battalion Chief Michael Sturgis, Battalion 18, regarding the report about a person trapped in the rear bedroom. With their facepieces donned, the inside team entered the apartment.

Although visibility was nearly zero, the extreme difficulty members would have in searching this apartment was apparent immediately. Enormous amounts of debris were stacked and piled everywhere, creating a clutter condition.

Despite this challenge, the inside team members were able to make their way to the closed door of the rear bedroom. Opening this door, they were hit instantly with a wave of high heat and saw the unmistakable glow of fire to the left. Firefighter Wutz fought the extending fire with his extinguisher, as Lieutenant Bowman searched to the left and FF Reilly searched to the right and into the bedroom. Although debris was piled everywhere and visibility was down to zero, the pair found and searched the now-burning bed. But the disabled occupant was not there.

With a sweeping and expanding search through the obstacles of burning debris, FF Wutz informed Lieutenant Bowman that his water can was depleted. Simultaneously, FF Reilly located the missing occupant, squeezed into the tight space between the bed and wall. Calling out that he’d found the 10-45, FF Reilly fought to remove the victim, who was entangled with a bicycle and a walker.

With the hose-line not yet in place and the extinguisher depleted, the fire was expanding unchecked. Nonetheless, FF Reilly was able to drag the unconscious occupant, along with some of the clutter, through flame and chugging black smoke toward the bedroom door. Here, Lieutenant Bowman and FF Wutz assisted with extrication of the victim from the debris.

As Lieutenant Bowman cleared a path through the apartment, FFs Reilly and Wutz followed, carrying the victim. With expanding fire rolling over their heads, the two Firefighters shielded the unconscious man’s body with their own, navigating the debris-filled apartment and out to the public hallway. They then brought the victim to the street where EMS personnel took over.

Were it not for the aggressiveness and tenacity that FF Reilly showed in searching for, finding and then removing this victim, the outcome certainly would have been much different. For his brave actions under extreme conditions, FF Christopher J. Reilly is awarded the Susan Wagner Medal.—RN

**Susan Wagner Medal**

**Firefighter Christopher J. Reilly**

**Ladder Company 58**

**April 5, 2016, 2100 hours, Box 75-2971, Bronx**

_Appointed to the FDNY on September 14, 2003. Since promoted to Lieutenant and assigned to Battalion 41. Previously assigned to Engine 45. Father, Battalion Chief William Reilly is retired from Battalion 21, and brothers, FF Devin Reilly is assigned to Engine 69, and FM Justin Reilly is assigned to Brooklyn Base. Member of the Emerald and Holy Name Societies. Resides on Staten Island with his wife, Alison, and their daughter, Hannah, and son, Bodie._
Ladder Company 44 was assigned second-due truck to a reported fire in a multiple dwelling on November 28, 2016. On arrival, Captain Steven Luisi observed heavy smoke pulsating from two windows on the second floor front of the building. Firefighter Christian Daley radioed Captain Luisi that fire was blowtorching out of one large window in the rear and threatening to auto-expose into the third floor.

As Ladder 44 was waiting for Ladder 49 to force entry into the lobby entrance, bystanders were reporting possible victims trapped in the fire building. Once the front door was opened, heavy smoke appeared on the first floor, the floor below the fire apartment. Ladder 44 members donned their facepieces and began crawling up the stairwell to the fire floor, where they were met by high heat and blinding smoke. They continued their ascent to the third floor and found multiple pieces of furniture in the public hall and the apartment door wide open.

Entering the apartment in blackout conditions, FF Michael J. Pattwell, with the extinguisher, made his way toward the rear of the apartment. In his search, he discovered the motionless body of an adult male. Firefighter Pattwell immediately transmitted a 10-45 via radio. Captain Luisi and FF Justin Bolnik, the forcible entry Firefighter, started making their way to FF Pattwell to assist him, but they were stymied due to furniture and other items blocking their movement.

Firefighter Pattwell knew time was running out for his victim, who had to be removed from the hot and toxic environment. With a super-human effort, FF Pattwell removed the victim from the bed and onto the floor. He then began the arduous task of moving the unconscious victim down two more flights of stairs while in severe pain from his fall. Faced with this daunting task, FF Pattwell, nevertheless, maintained his grip on the victim, moving him past the fire apartment door and down to the lobby. EMS personnel assisted FF Pattwell with the victim, placed him on a stretcher and treated him for his injuries.

Faced with a high heat condition due to both the fire and victim’s apartment doors left open, FF Pattwell passed the fire apartment and crawled deep into the victim’s premises to search.

The Firefighter’s perseverance paid off as he saved a trapped man from certain death. For his actions, FF Michael J. Pattwell is issued the Steuben Association Medal.
During the 2016 Atlantic hurricane season, the City of New York was threatened with tropical storm warnings and watches. Five states already had declared a state of emergency and sustained millions of dollars in damage due to the wrath of Hurricane Hermine. New York City and the surrounding area beaches were closed due to rough surf, strong waves and coastal flooding.

On the evening of September 4, 2016, in Coney Island, EMTs Monique M. Wilson and Maxim Furman were on duty, ready to brave the brunt of the storm. They responded to a call on the beach. When they arrived, they noticed that no lifeguards were on duty and the entire beach was cordoned off with rope, tied from each lifeguard tower to another. The rope was placed to warn people of the perilous conditions, keep them off the beach and out of the rough surf.

Carrying all of their lifesaving equipment, EMTs Wilson and Furman trekked through the windswept sand toward the waterfront. They came within several feet of the surf, when they heard bystanders screaming and motioning toward the ocean. They saw two men exit the water while yelling, “My brother is in the water.” That’s when they spotted a single hand rise out of the unrelenting waves, then go back down under the water, as the man floated farther and farther out to sea.

Recognizing that the man faced imminent danger, EMT Wilson sprang into action. She immediately slipped off her boots, ran into the water, dove in and swam to the victim. With monumental strength, she grabbed the victim and maneuvered the panicked person’s body so she could hold and keep his head above water. While remaining calm and focused, EMT Wilson carefully gauged the tide, using each wave to assist her in moving the near-drowning victim toward safety.

Meanwhile, EMT Furman cut one of the ropes from a leg of the lifeguard tower, walked knee-deep into the water and threw the rope in the direction of his partner. EMT Wilson grabbed the rope and EMT Furman pulled both rescuer and victim closer until he was able to grab the victim’s arm and assist both onto land. The pair of EMTs quickly assessed their patient, who was found to be in stable condition. He was transported to the hospital for continued observation.

With her actions, EMT Wilson defined selfless heroism and bravery. She put another human being’s life before her own when she dove into the water and rescued a potential drowning victim from the unforgiving waters off Coney Island Beach. For her extraordinary efforts and courage, EMT Monique M. Wilson is awarded the Chief James Scullion Medal. —SG
In the early hours of September 30, 2016, Firefighters of 30 Truck, led by Lieutenant Michael Urso, were crawling down a smoky hallway on the third floor of a multiple dwelling. They had to make their way down the 100-foot hallway, as the smoke thickened, to the fire apartment, where all indications pointed to heavy fire.

While donning his facepiece, the Lieutenant could not have anticipated the great lengths he would go through to save a life. At that moment, he was focused on giving orders to FFs Rafael Holguin and Richard Mekeel to force the door and communicating with his other Firefighters on-scene to gather information. In short, he was demonstrating all the skills and qualities of an experienced and knowledgeable FDNY Officer while preparing for the firefight.

Once the door was opened, the inside team was met with high heat and zero visibility. Lieutenant Urso conferred with Lieutenant Christopher Fenyo, Engine 59, and was advised that due to the long stretch, members were hooking up and connecting their lengths. Lieutenant Urso’s experience told him that a locked door at this time of day and in this type of occupancy meant a possible victim inside. They entered to find the fire and search for life.

Lieutenant Urso and his Firefighters began to systematically search the fire apartment without the protection of a hose-line. Searching to the left, Lieutenant Urso continued on in zero visibility, with the heat intensifying, deeper into the apartment. Pressing on, he came across the bedroom door in which the main body of fire was located. He checked behind the door and then, putting himself at risk, entered the immediate fire area for a quick search. The heat was quickly becoming unbearable, but a moment later, approximately eight to 10 feet into the room, he felt in the darkness and located an unconscious, elderly female. She was twisted up in the bed sheets and a blanket.

Time was critical if she was to survive. He communicated the fire location to Engine 59 and began removal with FF Mekeel. The pair rapidly brought the victim to the public hallway where she was passed off to other Firefighters to provide emergency care. Lieutenant Urso and FF Mekeel then re-entered the apartment to assist in guiding Engine 59 to the fire location and complete the primary search.

Lieutenant Urso’s actions, continuing deep into the fire apartment and entering the immediate fire area, without the protection of a hose-line, was an act of bravery under the worst of fire conditions. He pushed himself to the limits to pull the victim from danger. The woman had no chance of survival without Lieutenant Urso. His exemplary actions are consistent with the finest traditions of the FDNY and Ladder 30. For these reasons, Lieutenant Michael Urso is awarded the Dr. J.W. Goldenkranz Medal.
Just after 2000 hours on the night tour of January 18, 2016, Bronx Fire Communications assigned units to Box 3467, located in the Allerton section of the Bronx. Engine 62 and Ladder 32, “The Gun Hill Gang,” were assigned first-due and advised that they were responding to a reported fire in a multiple dwelling. From half a block away, Engine 62 transmitted a 10-75 for fire blowing out the third-floor windows of the six-story, occupied multiple dwelling.

Entering the building, Ladder 32’s inside team—Lieutenant Sean L. Mannion and FFs Sean Doyle with the irons and Darren Taylor with the extinguisher—were directed by civilians fleeing the building to apartment 3C on the third floor. When asked, the civilians stated that they were unsure if anyone was inside the apartment.

Once at the apartment door, Lieutenant Mannion observed smoke seeping from around the doorframe. After confirming the location of the fire apartment, he instructed his inside team to force the door. The apartment door was forced quickly and after maintaining control, Lieutenant Mannion entered the fire apartment and immediately was met with high heat and zero visibility. With fire rolling above his head, the Lieutenant crawled down the apartment’s hallway toward the main body of fire, which was located in a back bedroom.

In the doorway of the bedroom, Lieutenant Mannion came across a motionless body and immediately transmitted a 10-45. He attempted to pull the victim out of the room, which was fully involved in fire, but they were caught on the doorframe. Realizing that the victim was getting seriously burnt by the intense flames and that he needed to close the door to the bedroom, the Officer climbed over the woman in order to free her for removal. With his back toward the fire, he was able to remove the victim from the doorway and began moving her down the hallway toward the apartment door.

While moving the woman, Lieutenant Mannion was met by his inside team, who assisted with the victim’s removal. At this time, the fire was burning through the bedroom door and extending into the main foyer of the apartment, so Lieutenant Mannion directed FF Taylor to hold back the fire with his water can so he and FF Doyle could finish removing the woman to the public hallway.

As noted by Battalion Chief Christopher Rearer, Battalion 27, in his report, “His aggressive actions to quickly advance to the fire room under high heat and zero visibility, without the protection of a hand-line, undoubtedly saved the victim’s life.”

Due to his bravery that evening, a resident of New York City is alive today and that is why Lieutenant Sean L. Mannion is awarded the Uniformed Fire Officers Association Medal.—KC
Firefighter Justin J. Banasz
Engine Company 46 (assigned); Ladder Company 55 (detailed)

November 10, 2015, 0435 hours, Box 75-2342, Bronx


Fi refighter Justin J. Banasz had fewer than two years on the job when he found himself on November 10, 2015, assigned to Engine 46, detailed for the night tour to Ladder 55, where Lieutenant William Olson assigned him the extinguisher position.

At 0435 hours, Ladder 55 was assigned first-due with Engine 50 to Bronx Box 2342, for a reported fire on the third floor of a multiple dwelling. As the responding Firefighters were pulling mask straps tight, the Bronx dispatcher informed all arriving units of the report of possible people trapped, increasing their urgency as they arrived at the assigned location.

Lieutenant Olson, with Ladder 55’s inside team of FFs Banasz and Timothy Caffrey, entered the building and climbed the stairwell to the third floor, where a smoke condition was encountered in the public hallway. This information immediately was radioed to Engine 50. The 10-75 was transmitted and Engine 50 members stretched an 1¾-inch hose-line into the building.

Ladder 55’s inside team masked up and searched down the hallway, finding smoke pushing out under pressure around the locked door to the fire apartment. Relaying this information to the engine, the members forced entry to the apartment. Even low to the floor, there was nearly zero visibility. Although the hose-line was not yet to the apartment, the report of people trapped, as well as the time of night, created the strong possibility of life hazard and prompted the decision to enter the apartment and search without the hose-line’s protection.

FF Caffrey controlled the door and waited for the hose-line, while Lieutenant Olson and FF Banasz began a search of the burning apartment. With embers falling around them in the thick, gray smoke, they made their way along the wall, searching from hall to bathroom, to a rear bedroom. As Lieutenant Olson entered the bedroom, FF Banasz heard a gurgling noise. Disregarding his own safety, he moved into an adjacent bedroom, toward the sound. With fire behind him, FF Banasz listened closely and searched through zero visibility, finding an unresponsive victim wedged between a bed and wall. Muscling the victim out from behind the bed, FF Banasz called out to Lieutenant Olson, “10-45!”

The hose-line reached the apartment door at this time and Lieutenant Olson guided members to the seat of the fire, as FF Banasz used his muscle and adrenaline to remove the unconscious victim through the apartment and out. Together with FF Caffrey, FF Banasz carried the unconscious man down the stairs and to the street where a CFR-D engine continued lifesaving care.

Firefighter Banasz kept his head and acted courageously under dangerous circumstances. Otherwise, as reported at the scene, the victim would not have survived in the apartment even for a few seconds longer. For his bravery, FF Justin J. Banasz is presented with the Edith B. Goldman Medal.—RN
On May 2, 2016, the Brooklyn Communications Office transmitted Box 3286 at approximately 0130 hours for fire reported in a three-story mixed occupancy. Ladder 153 was assigned as the second-due truck. While responding, the first-arriving companies gave a 10-75 for heavy fire with possible extension to the exposure.

When Ladder 153 arrived, FF Gregory G. Santangelo, the chauffeur, noticed heavy fire issuing from the rear of the original fire building and heavy, black smoke issuing from all three floors of the fire building and the exposure to the left. After initially positioning the apparatus, FF Santangelo got off the rig to size up the overall operation on the floors above when he thought he saw an article of clothing through the smoke. He walked a few feet away and confirmed his initial size-up. Subsequently, he radioed to the outside vent Firefighter, FF Gregory Hansen, of a confirmed life hazard in the front of the exposure on the top floor.

Firefighter Santangelo tried to reposition the apparatus to use the bucket to remove the victim from the window. He was unable to do so because of the numerous primary and secondary wires blocking the building. As members communicated with the person at the window to remain low in the windowsill, they noticed he was becoming more agitated and starting to panic. Firefighters Santangelo and Hansen had no choice but to use the 24-foot extension ladder due to its maneuverability and speed of operation. They were forced to fully extend the ladder in a near vertical position as the tip of the ladder barely reached the third floor.

Firefighter Hansen began climbing the ladder to the third floor, with FF Santangelo butting the ladder. As he ascended, the fire began to lap out of the exterior wall between the first and second floor of the original fire building, creating a less than desirable work environment. When FF Hansen arrived at the window, he noticed two people trapped there.

When FF Hansen reached the ground with the first victim, FF Santangelo sprang into action and raced up the ladder, passing fire that was in a free-burning state. He began to feel the heat through the smoke and knew time was critical. As conditions were rapidly changing and with limited visibility, FF Santangelo removed the victim from the window, holding onto the windowsill with one hand. As victim and rescuer began the descent down the ladder, the victim became increasingly agitated, able to breathe only when the wind shifted and blew the smoke away from his face. Using assertive commands to make a safe and rapid descent, FF Santangelo used his body to pin the man against the ladder.

Firefighter Santangelo acted in the finest traditions of the New York City Fire Department. He successfully operated under extreme conditions without the benefit of a protective, charged hose-line. To honor his heroism, the FDNY presents FF Gregory G. Santangelo with the American Legion Fire Dept. Post 930/Mark M. Wohlfeld Memorial Medal.—RL

Members of Ladder 153 battle a fire at Brooklyn Box 33-3286 on May 2, 2016.
Fire and rescue operations are dangerous and difficult. The difficulty increases in summer when temperatures and humidity climb to strength-sapping levels. In these situations, firefighters rely on training, experience, and judgment to maximize effectiveness. This was the situation shortly before 0100 hours when the tone alarm rang at Engine 75/Ladder 33 for a fire at Bronx Box 3152.

Firefighter Kevin J. Lavelle, working with the forcible entry (FE) team that hot and muggy evening with Captain Christopher P. Coppola (Engine 75) and FF John Viragh (Engine 81), arrived on-scene within four minutes. On arrival, the members found a three-story, 20- by 60-foot, vacant private dwelling. Civilians were shouting that someone was trapped inside. FF Lavelle forced the building’s main entrance door, which was showing heavy smoke pushing out from “HUD windows”—plywood coverings over the window and bolted to two- by-four-inch cross beams inside the building (to secure the structure). While these “windows” are effective in securing a building, they are problematic for venting operations during a fire.

Firefighter Lavelle found heavy fire had taken complete possession of the second floor and was spreading to the staircase leading to the third floor. As Engine 75 members began their hose stretch, FF Lavelle was able to move past the fire and complete a search of the second floor. With this completed, the forcible entry team was ordered to move up the fire-damaged stairs and search the third floor. Moving quickly under heavy heat and smoke conditions due to the HUD windows and without the protection of a charged hose-line, FF Lavelle reached the top floor. He went to work, searching the space and ventilating the building to give any potential victim a better chance at survival.

While conducting his search, FF Lavelle found an unconscious male in the front bedroom. The Firefighter notified Captain Coppola and transmitted a 10-45 code. Knowing other members were working to knock down the fire below him, FF Lavelle knew that moving this victim, due to a mostly unventilated building, would be extremely dangerous. Therefore, FF Lavelle removed a HUD window and then called for Ladder 33’s bucket to be re-positioned. As the bucket was being moved, FF Lavelle carried the victim over debris and to the now-open window. He then moved the victim into the bucket with the assistance of the forcible entry team. FF Lavelle then completed a search of the remaining area until relieved by members of Ladder 27.

In the Report of Meritorious Act, Battalion Chief Michael G. Woods, Battalion 19, noted, “FF Lavelle performed this act of bravery at personal risk.” This was echoed by Deputy Chief Joseph Saccente, Division 7, who noted, “This fire occurred during a heat wave, making operations very difficult. This vacant building was sealed by HUD windows, causing difficult access, difficulties in venting and increased heat and smoke.”

Using damaged stairs, FF Lavelle went above the fire to save a man’s life. He used studied judgment in removing the victim via a tower ladder instead of the interior stairs. Firefighter Kevin J. Lavelle is honored today with the Arthur J. Laufer Memorial Medal. —DJH
While a roof rope operation at a structural fire is always a last resort because of its high level of risk, it is crucial for all FDNY members to be prepared. The operation’s success is contingent on many components. In the early-morning hours of October 27, 2016, FF William M. McGarry was one such component of an extremely dangerous, but very successful, lifesaving roof rope operation.

Arriving at Manhattan Box 1219, FF McGarry, Ladder 26, assigned the roof position, made his way to the roof by way of the attached exposure #2 building. From the street, visible fire was coming from the roof, so the Firefighter carried a roof saw, in addition to his regular complement of tools. Weighted down as he was, FF McGarry still made great haste, arriving to a scene of heavy fire rising from the enclosed shaft between the fire building and the attached building on exposure #4.

With the initial ladder companies performing roof operations on the fire building, FF McGarry made his way across to the exposure #4 building. The fire in the shaft presented a significant possibility of fire entering this building, trapping occupants inside.

Down the fire escape of exposure #4, FF McGarry, indeed, met two trapped occupants at a top-floor window. Discovering that they could not escape the apartment due to fire and smoke coming from the floor below, he assisted both occupants out to the fire escape and down to the ground.

Firefighter McGarry returned to the top floor via the same fire escape to continue his search and became aware of a trapped occupant in the rear of the original fire building. This building had no rear fire escape and the occupant was threatening to jump, due to the spreading fire and high heat in his apartment. Unable to contact Command due to heavy radio traffic, FF McGarry called across to the occupant, calming him and telling him to remain where he was. He then assured the trapped occupant that help was on the way. The Firefighter immediately returned to the roof and crossed back to the original fire building to communicate face to face with members, informing them of the need for an immediate roof rope operation.

Back down the rear fire escape of exposure #4, FF McGarry maintained contact with the trapped occupant as he helped direct lowering the member on the rope. FF McGarry’s view was crucial, since visibility from above was nearly impossible due to the amount of smoke coming from the rear.

The roof rope operation was a resounding success, with the member on the rope reaching the occupant at the window. Both were lowered safely to the ground.

After completion of the roof rope operation, FF McGarry entered the top floor of exposure #4 and conducted a systematic search of each floor on the way down. Finding an apartment heavily involved with fire, he directed a hose-line to extinguish it.

For his quick thinking, bravery and crucial role as a component in making this dangerous, lifesaving rope rescue operation a success, FF William M. McGarry is honored with the Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Medal.—RN
Courage was displayed once again on the morning of April 24, 2016. Lieutenant Thomas G. Dalgish was the Officer in charge of Engine 312 for the 6x9 tour. At 0021 hours, the members of Engine 312 turned out for a residential phone alarm at Box 7563, Astoria, reporting a fire in a private dwelling. While en route, the Queens Fire Communications Office reported receiving numerous calls reporting a fire in a private dwelling. On arrival, the members of Engine 312 observed a trapped occupant at the front window on the third floor of a brownstone-like private dwelling. Lieutenant Dalgish told the occupant to remain calm and that they would arrive shortly to rescue him. Realizing that the normally assigned first-due truck and second-due engine companies were on another Box, he knew he would have to act quickly and decisively.

After arriving on the second floor, Lieutenant Dalgish encountered a light smoke condition and a disoriented elderly man, who informed him that his son was trapped in the front bedroom and his wife was trapped in the rear bedroom. The Lieutenant led the man to safety and made his way to the third floor, where he encountered heavy fire in the hallway toward the front of the apartment, which had cut off egress from the front and rear.

Without the protection of a charged hand-line, Lieutenant Dalgish passed the fire to search the rear of the apartment. When he reached the rear bedroom, he discovered an elderly, disoriented woman, panicked and ready to jump out the third-floor bedroom window. He promptly pulled her back inside, leading her to the exit past the rapidly expanding fire, while shielding her from the flames. After bringing the victim to safety, Lieutenant Dalgish ordered a hand-line stretched to the third floor to extinguish the fire. This facilitated the safe removal of the third victim from the fire building. During the course of the above-mentioned actions, Engine 312 was the only unit on-scene.

On not for the bravery and decisive actions of Lieutenant Dalgish, the victims may have succumbed to the fire. The Lieutenant’s extraordinary efforts demonstrated precisely how FDNY’s constant training guide members’ actions with purpose and direction. The FDNY recognizes Lieutenant Thomas G. Dalgish’s brave, lifesaving efforts with the Company Officers Association Medal.—SI
Construction is a common sight throughout the City, as are gargantuan cranes and equipment. On Friday, February 5, 2016, New York City prepared for another round of cold weather, snow and unusually high winds.

At 0825 hours, strong winter winds caused a 565-foot crane to fall around the Tribeca area. The destruction spanned several City blocks. Calls flooded 911 with concerns for injured citizens and people trapped in their debris-covered vehicles.

Paramedics Niall C. O’Shaughnessy and Kimberly N. Sharpe were the first-arriving EMS personnel to this devastating scene. Within minutes of their arrival, they provided notification that triaging already was underway and a triage post was established.

Paramedics O’Shaughnessy and Sharpe quickly began coordination with members from Engine 7. Firefighter Patrick Bouman identified a critically injured victim stuck in a vehicle covered in debris. Firefighter Bouman and Paramedic O’Shaughnessy worked expeditiously to extricate and treat this individual.

Paramedic Sharpe continued providing on-scene triage and coordination with the additional arriving units to assure prompt transport of this critically injured person.

Thanks to the coordination, communication and organization exhibited by Paramedics O’Shaughnessy and Sharpe—while under great mental pressure—this patient was promptly identified, treated and transported with family to the hospital.

For excellence in field communications and their swift actions to remove a victim from a debris-covered vehicle, Paramedics Niall C. O’Shaughnessy and Kimberly N. Sharpe are awarded the Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn Medal.—BR
On August 13, 2016, Firefighter William P. Felten, Engine 310, “Snyder Island” in Brooklyn, was relaxing and enjoying the last few days of summer with his family at Rockaway Beach. Little did he know that he would be called upon to put his training and bravery to the ultimate test.

At approximately 1750 hours, FF Felten was alerted by Battalion Chief Michael McGrath, Battalion 47, who also was off-duty, that four victims were in distress in the Atlantic Ocean near the rock jetties of the Gateway Federal beach, Queens Box 1480. Chief McGrath instructed FF Felton to notify the on-duty lifeguard. Because he was off-duty and did not have a Department radio, the Firefighter ran more than 250 yards down the rock jetty and across the beach until he saw the first lifeguard and was able to sound the alarm.

With the on-duty lifeguard notified, FF Felten ran back to the scene. Due to the rough surf conditions and a strong rip tide, the victims were in desperate need of help. In his report of the incident, Deputy Chief James DiDomenico, Division 13 Commander, wrote, “The wind that day contributed to very bouncy, choppy water conditions, with two- to four-foot swells that were pushing toward the sharp jetty rocks.”

Knowing these conditions would cause serious injury and possibly death, FF Felten, disregarding his personal safety, sprang to action and dove into the ocean. He swam toward the victims before rough conditions pulled one of them farther out into the sea or onto the rocks.

After a few tense minutes, FF Felten reached the first victim and, without any water rescue equipment, pulled the victim to safety. He then returned back to the uncertain waters, again ignoring his personal safety, to rescue the other three victims. Soon after, Engine 329 arrived on-scene and members assisted in the safe removal of all the victims.

Fire Department Commanding Officers, as well as witnesses to the rescue, all reported that FF Felten’s actions reflected initiative, capability and a selfless act of bravery, as he placed himself at risk each and every time he went back into the rough sea to rescue a victim.

For his heroism, the Fire Department recognizes Firefighter William P. Felten for his noble efforts. He is awarded the Chief Joseph B. Martin Medal.—JC
On May 30, 2016, at 0631 hours, a deep-seated fire in a first-floor commercial occupancy quickly escalated to a second alarm. The Firefighters of the 16th Battalion responded to the fire in just three minutes. On arrival, members found heavy fire venting through the first-floor, roll-down gates and auto-exposing up the outside of the six-story, non-fireproof building. Engine 80 arrived third-due on the initial alarm.

The Incident Commander, Battalion Chief Gennaro Bonfiglio, Battalion 16, ordered Engine 80 to stretch a hose-line to the most severely exposed area—the second floor, above the main body of fire. Engine 80’s Officer, Captain Matthew R. Hagan, ordered his members (FF Thomas Long, with the nozzle; FF Kamar Malone, backup; and FF William Sullivan, control position) to stretch an 1¾-inch hand-line to that location. Captain Hagan donned his SCBA facepiece and proceeded to the floor above the fire.

Confronted with heavy smoke and high heat on the second floor, he heard the inside team of Ladder 30 entering an apartment to conduct a primary search. While waiting for his members to stretch the line to this location, Captain Hagan proceeded to check the second apartment. It was during this cursory examination that he heard moans from behind the locked door.

Recognizing that this known life hazard required immediate action, Captain Hagan forced open the apartment door with only his Officer’s tool. The apartment he entered was directly above the main body of fire and was filled with heavier smoke and more heat than encountered in the hallway. In zero visibility, the Captain began a blind search and found the semi-conscious and burned female occupant on the floor.

After transmitting a 10-45 via handle-talkie, Captain Hagan dragged the victim back through the apartment to the front door where he met FFs Long and Malone stretching their hose-line. The Officer ordered FF Malone to remove the victim to the street where she subsequently was transferred to EMS personnel. Captain Hagan then returned to supervising his company’s attack on the progressing fire.

If not for the quick actions and aggressive maneuvers of Captain Hagan and the ensuing fire extinguishment operations of Engine 80’s members, the outcome would have been much different. In the Meritorious Act endorsement, Chief Bonfiglio wrote, “The elderly victim may have perished if not for the swift access, locating and removal of her by Captain Hagan.” Furthermore, the investigation of Deputy Chief James Nichols, Division 6, concluded that “...in removing the distressed civilian, Captain Hagan displayed personal bravery, in conjunction with initiative and capability.”

For his demonstrated decisive actions and firefighting skills, performing in the truest traditions of this Department, Captain Matthew R. Hagan is presented with the Police Honor Legion Medal.—SM
Marine 8 was patrolling the Lower Bay near Hoffman Island, south of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge, on July 2, 2016, when they picked up a mayday signal at 1045 hours from a boat whose passengers were attempting to assist eight people aboard a sinking vessel near Romer Shoal (located in an area nearly dead center among Staten Island, Brooklyn and New Jersey). The 34-foot fishing vessel, Karen Ann, was rapidly taking on water and those on board were forced into the water.

As Marine 8 set an immediate course toward Romer Shoal—five nautical miles away—FF Craig S. Arancio donned a Mustang survival water suit. This would keep him afloat should he be assigned as a rescue swimmer.

Approximately seven minutes after receiving the mayday, Marine 8 arrived to find the Karen Ann capsized and completely submerged, as well as a large area of debris and multiple people in the water. Those on the fishing vessel who had transmitted the mayday were assisting six people—all wearing life jackets—onto the deck of their boat. Surveying the area, Marine 8 members saw that 200 yards away, there were two more victims in the water, each separated from the other by approximately 50 yards.

Determining that the six people being helped aboard the fishing vessel were in good hands, Marine 8 concentrated efforts on the two separated victims. The shoaling in the area of these two men was causing waves to swell up and break close together, creating a perilous approach for Marine 8. With this in mind, Lieutenant Michael Borchick made a decision: He would deploy a rescue swimmer. FF Arancio entered the water without hesitation or delay.

The sea that FF Arancio swam through had waves in excess of four feet, with an unpredictable current and choppy water caused by winds gusting to 20+ mph. Nonetheless, with great determination, he fought through and reached the first of the two visibly exhausted victims. Securing the man with a rescue torpedo, FF Arancio swam back to Marine 8 with the victim in tow.

Once again, he fought through the same perilous waters and reached this second exhausted man. With the second victim secure, FF Arancio swam back with him to Marine 8. It was only after both of these victims of the sunken fishing boat were safely aboard Marine 8 that FF Arancio himself exited the water.

With the victims now safely accounted for, all were brought to the dock in Sheepshead Bay where waiting EMS personnel continued care with any necessary medical treatment.

While operating under grueling and dangerous conditions, FF Arancio demonstrated expertise and bravery while acting in the finest traditions of the FDNY. In recognition of his actions, FF Craig S. Arancio is presented with the Firefighter David J. DeFranco Medal.

Firefighter Craig S. Arancio, receiving the Firefighter David J. DeFranco Medal, was detailed to Marine 8 when he rescued two men who were floundering in the water after their fishing vessel sunk.
On the evening of August 30, 2016, the members of Engine 16 arrived at Manhattan Box 8473, where they were met by multiple people waving and pointing toward the East River. Although Engine 16 was assigned as the CFR-D engine, the scene they were about to encounter would require a different set of immediate lifesaving actions.

Quickly approaching the frantically pointing people, Lieutenant Michael McWeeney and FFs Michael Lynam, Michael Mongno, Joseph DeMaio and Michael R. Conicelli moved to the river’s edge to assess the situation. Sixty feet from shore, they saw that a fully clothed adult male was losing a struggle to stay afloat in the East River.

The assigned water rescue unit was stuck in traffic and not yet on-scene. Yet it was immediately obvious that the struggling man was floundering in exhaustion. That was enough for FF Conicelli to see before taking the unhesitating initiative (without the benefit of a water rescue suit) to prepare for a water entry. As FFs Lynam and Mongno tied a utility rope securely around FF Conicelli, FF DeMaio rushed to retrieve a flotation device and Lieutenant McWeeney determined the safest point of entry into the river.

There was a strong northbound current to fight as FF Conicelli swam hard toward the victim, who now was facedown and going under. With selfless determination, FF Conicelli covered the 60 feet, arriving to find that the drowning man had completely submerged and was barely visible below the dark surface of the river. Nonetheless, FF Conicelli was able to grab hold of him and turn the victim’s face out from the water, then place the barely conscious man between himself and the flotation device. While keeping the man’s face free of the water, FF Conicelli held him secure with the flotation device as FFs Lynam, Mongno and DeMaio hauled the utility rope to help bring them in.

By now, the assigned water rescue unit, Ladder 7, had arrived and secured a FDNY 20-foot straight ladder in place at the edge of the sidewalk down to the river. Firefighter Devin Powers (wearing a water rescue suit) entered the river to assist FF Conicelli with stabilizing the victim against the ladder. Together, FFs Conicelli and Powers were able to secure the victim into a rescue harness specifically for water rescue use. Members of Engine 16 and Ladder 7 hauled the victim up the ladder to the dry sidewalk, where waiting EMS personnel performed necessary care and transported the patient to the hospital.

With the nearly drowned victim now safely removed from the river, FFs Conicelli and Powers both removed themselves as well, climbing the 20-foot straight ladder out and to the conclusion of a job well-done.

For his initiative and quickness of action demonstrated under perilous river circumstances and the bravery exhibited in executing this lifesaving rescue, FF Michael R. Conicelli is awarded the Lieutenant James E. Zahn/Lieutenant Peter L. Troiano Memorial Medal.—RN
There are many motives associated with the crime of arson. One motive that clearly demonstrates a depraved indifference to human life is crime concealment—the use of fire to cover or conceal a separate crime. Experienced Fire Marshals know all too well that the crime of arson is directly linked to loss of life or serious injury to civilian or Firefighter.

On June 2, 2016, at 0539 hours, a fire in a large, one-story, commercial building drew the attention of an alert team of Fire Marshals and launched a major case investigation into a high-value arson/burglary. Firefighters from Engines 158 and 157, Ladders 86 and 80, Rescue 5, Haz-Mat 1, Battalion 22 and Division 8 were assigned. The rapid response and aggressive interior attack soon brought the fire under control. EMS personnel responded and maintained a tactical position to ensure prompt medical attention and hospital transport as needed. Ten Firefighters were injured during operations.

The Bureau of Fire Investigation (BFI) dispatched Fire Marshals from the Citywide South Command, the Special Investigations Unit and the Special Operations Command. Fire Marshal Peter A. Lindell, Jr., was assigned as the lead investigator. Fire Marshal Lindell and his partner, FM Zachary Fletcher, conducted a challenging forensic examination of the fire scene that uncovered significant evidence of arson. Fire Marshal Lindell’s investigation also determined that the occupancy was specifically targeted due to a large amount of cash known to be kept on the premises. Numerous fires were set in different parts of the building in an effort to destroy and conceal any evidence of the burglary.

The crime was carefully planned and cloaked in secrecy, making detection and apprehension especially challenging. Fire Marshal Lindell launched a multi-layered investigation centered on motive, witness development and the more creative methods of developing leads and sources of information. Within 24 hours, FM Lindell had identified a suspect. Apprehension teams were strategically deployed and on June 10th, Fire Marshals apprehended the suspect without incident. The outstanding work of FM Lindell, in conjunction with partner, FM Fletcher, and BFI’s Special Investigations Unit, resulted in an arrest and successful prosecution.

This is a truly significant investigation brought to a successful conclusion by a highly valued member of the Fire Department. Fire Marshal Lindell is recognized for his unwavering standard of excellence. He has demonstrated the skill and resourcefulness found only in the most dedicated law enforcement professionals. His actions 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. For his dedication to finding the truth and conducting a most successful investigation, FM Peter A. Lindell, Jr., is presented with the Deputy Commissioner Christine R. Godek Medal. — JDL
Ladder 153 received a ticket to respond second-deue to Box 3286, in the Sheepshead Bay section of Brooklyn, on May 2, 2016, at 0126 hours.

On arrival, Ladder 153 members could see that the fire building was a three-story, attached frame, mixed occupancy with commercial on the first floor and apartments on the second and third floors. Fire was venting from the rear of the address, accompanied by heavy, black smoke pushing from all three floors of both the original fire building, as well as the adjoining building on exposure #2.

Firefighter Gregory Hansen, assigned the outside vent position for the 6x9 tour, immediately exited the apparatus and made his way around to the rear of the fire building, where Ladder 169 members already had begun operating. Completing his size-ups, FF Hansen returned to the front of the fire building to grab a portable ladder.

Reaching Ladder 153’s apparatus, FF Hansen was told by FF Gregory Santangelo, Ladder 153’s chauffeur, that there were people at the third-floor front windows of exposure #2. Firefighter Hansen quickly looked up and observed a person—exhibiting great duress and screaming for help—banging on the glass of a third-floor window. Firefighter Hansen told FF Hansen that he was unable to set up Ladder 153’s tower ladder due to overhead electrical wires. Firefighter Hansen continued to the window with the 24-foot portable ladder he had grabbed previously and began setting it up with FF Santangelo.

With conditions in the exposure worsening and also aware that the 24-foot portable ladder would have trouble reaching the third-floor window, FF Hansen knew that time was critical and started to ascend the almost vertical ladder. As he climbed up the ladder, fire began venting out the exterior wall between the first and second floors of the exposure and thick, black smoke now was exiting every opening, seriously hindering FF Hansen’s ability to see. With the last rung of the ladder barely reaching the window on the third floor, FF Hansen vented the window with his tool and through the thick smoke, now could see that there were two victims lying within the vicinity of the window. He notified FF Santangelo—who was footing the ladder—that two victims would be coming down the ladder.

Firefighter Hansen reached inside the window, grabbed the first victim and secured the person on the portable ladder. Then, with clear and concise commands, FF Hansen slowly assisted the individual down the very steep portable ladder to the ground safely. Once on the ground, FF Hansen butted the ladder while FF Santangelo ascended the same ladder and removed the second victim from the same window.

Firefighter Hansen’s quick and controlled actions made it possible to remove two victims from serious danger or possible demise, upholding the time-honored traditions of the FDNY. For his heroic actions, FF Gregory Hansen is awarded the William Friedberg Medal.—KC

Ladder Company 153 operates at Brooklyn Box 33-3286 on May 2, 2016.
Ladder 5 is a designated water rescue company and members drill regularly on this kind of rescue. Therefore, it was with textbook accuracy that Probationary Firefighter Anthony L. Mauro performed his duties on February 19, 2016, at Manhattan Box 0542 for a confirmed person in the river. What he accomplished in saving a life that day was done despite the 29-degree air temperature, 38-degree water temperature, strong outward current and choppy conditions.

On the way to the scene, knowing that he was designated the position of first water entry, FF Mauro donned a cold-water suit to keep him dry and afloat should he need to enter the river. Once on-scene, with the presence of a victim floating out from the river’s edge confirmed, a rope was tethered to FF Mauro. Another Probationary Firefighter, FF Darren Fernandez, Ladder 5, lowered him in. Thanks to his training, FF Fernandez performed this task quickly and smoothly.

Fighting the rough chop of the river, FF Mauro swam toward the victim, now floating facedown, 200 feet from the shore. Reaching the victim, FF Mauro turned him over to provide an open airway and secured him with the use of a rescue torpedo. Detecting the presence of labored breathing and determining that the victim indeed was viable, FF Mauro immediately alerted the members on shore to begin hauling on his tether line for retrieval.

Firefighter Philip Prisco, assigned as Ladder 5’s second entry, also had donned a cold-water suit and entered the river to assist with the stokes basket operation and victim removal. A third member, FF Santos Torres, Squad 18, also entered the river to assist.

Even with these three members working together, the operation was difficult and becoming increasingly more problematic, due to the choppy water, fatigue caused by the extreme cold and ice forming on the rungs of the ladder (thus hindering its use as a method of removing the victim from the river).

With the victim now secured in a stokes basket, Lieutenant Michael Brennan, Ladder 5 (UFO), determined that the safest and quickest method of removal from the river was to use the NYPD harbor boat, which was in proximity. (Marine 1 was further out, due to responding from the George Washington Bridge.) Lieutenant Brennan ordered the ice-covered ladder relocated to the boat’s docking point and had members lower another hook ladder (free of ice) to be used for the removal of the Firefighters from the river once the victim was safely on the harbor boat.

On this frozen February day, FDNY members worked together as components of a lifesaving machine. The male patient survived, thanks mainly to a Probationary Firefighter, Anthony Mauro, who showed that no matter how new a Firefighter is, his training, courage and conviction will lead to success.

Firefighter Anthony L. Mauro’s bravery is recognized with the Probationary Firefighter Thomas A. Wylie Medal.—RN
Heavy fire on the first and second floor of a two-and-one-half-story private dwelling, exposing the homes on both sides, with three trapped occupants. This scenario is just what the units of Battalion 46 faced at 2228 hours on the night of March 21, 2016.

In just three minutes, the first-due engine, Engine 289, arrived and gave a 10-75. As the first- and second-due ladder companies arrived on foot (their respective apparatus was delayed due to a tight turn and parked cars), the first line was stretched to extinguish the heavy, first-floor fire.

Arriving second-due, Captain Michael E. Sitler, Engine 287, followed the foot race to the fire building and, recognizing the lack of hydrants in the immediate vicinity, radioed his chauffeur to go around the block to find a serviceable hydrant. Engine 287’s chauffeur, FF Timothy Tamburello, and crew—FFs Andy Frias, Sheldon Taylor and John O’Connor (Ladder 136)—secured a positive water source, stretched two lengths of 3½-inch supply hose to the first-due engine and backed up Engine 289 on the first attack hose-line. Subsequently, Engine 287’s team was required to stretch and operate a second hose-line to work simultaneously with the first to darken down the fire on the first floor. After helping fight back that fire, Captain Sitler ordered his company to advance up the interior stairway to the second floor following reports of fire at that location.

Leading his team up the open, unenclosed stairs through punishing heat and heavy smoke conditions, Captain Sitler conferred with the second-due ladder Officer on the location of the advancing fire in a rear bedroom. With his engine crew in place to extinguish any visible fire and knowing that no one had searched the remainder of the second floor yet, Captain Sitler pressed on—ahead of the line—to search for fire extension.

With conditions quickly deteriorating, Captain Sitler came upon a victim in the doorway of the middle bedroom. After giving a signal 10-45, Captain Sitler dragged the victim toward the staircase. Turning the unconscious victim’s body to assist in removal down the stairs, the Captain then straddled the victim’s torso and protected his head from the blistering heat with his gloved hand. Firefighter O’Connor, the Engine 287 control Firefighter, arrived on the stairs to assist. The pair quickly removed the victim to the front porch and transferred the man to waiting EMS personnel. Captain Sitler and FF O’Connor then re-entered the burning structure to join their team in extinguishing the fire now visible on the second floor.

Working in an extreme heat and smoke environment and after leaving the relative protection of his company’s hose-line, Captain Sitler gave the elderly man—who was badly injured—a chance at survival. Regrettably, he did succumb to his injuries.

Captain Michael E. Sitler is awarded the Shelly Rothman Memorial Medal in recognition of his undeterred and valiant efforts to save the man’s life.—SN

Shown are FFs Tim Tamburello and Andy Frias, Captain Michael E. Sitler (receiving the Shelly Rothman Memorial Medal) and FFs Anthony Mauro and Keith Lippert.
On the evening of August 2, 2016, EMT Dujohn A. Roberts was working on 31C3. It was a typical summer day in Downtown Brooklyn until he received a call for a young woman who was run over by a subway train at the Atlantic Avenue terminal.

As most FDNY members know, subway emergencies always pose unique challenges and safety concerns. The information given to the 911 dispatchers was that the young woman had fainted and fell from the platform onto the tracks, just as the train had pulled into the station.

EMT Roberts arrived on-scene to find the victim trapped underneath the train. The woman had suffered serious injuries. Even though it is very dangerous to crawl underneath a train, EMT Roberts did not hesitate to reach this woman, who was in dire need of his help.

While beneath the train, EMT Roberts assessed and provided the necessary emergency treatment to the victim. The EMT knew that in order to get her out safely, the train would have to be moved. If the bleeding was not controlled first, his patient most likely would bleed to death.

After providing the necessary treatment and bleeding was controlled, additional arriving rescuers were able to safely move the patient to the platform where ALS personnel were waiting.

The Jack Pintchik Medal recognizes and honors lifesaving actions performed by a member of the FDNY Emergency Medical Service. This year’s recipient displayed extreme courage and a disregard for personal safety in order to help a critically injured patient. It is for these reasons that the FDNY is proud to present EMT Dujohn A. Roberts with the Jack Pintchik Medal.—LS
On Monday, October 3, 2016, at 1543 hours, Engine 298 received a first-due phone alarm reporting a building fire. Leaving quarters, an unidentified unit transmitted a 10-75. While en route, Queens’ dispatchers urged Engine 298 to use caution; the Police Department was operating at the scene of a barricaded emotionally disturbed person (EDP), who was threatening to blow up the building. While responding, Engine 298 was impeded by numerous EMS and police vehicles. Engine 298’s Officer for the tour, Lieutenant Ralph L. Longo (Ladder 127), ordered Probie FF Erich L. Smith (on a one-week detail from Probationary Firefighter School) to have all vehicles removed as far as possible from the fire building.

Once properly identified, the building address was relayed to Battalion Chief Stephen Browne, Battalion 50. Fire was venting out two windows in the front and four windows in the rear of the throat. Lieutenant Longo ordered a line to be started to the lobby. Two minutes later, FF Smith found all drivers of emergency vehicles and had them moved. Still, these vehicles made the stretch an arduous task. Engine 298’s chauffeur, FF Ross Dubner, was forced to pass the front of the building to permit access for Ladder 127 and hand-stretch back to the hydrant.

Lieutenant Longo relayed to his crew that the fire was located in the “B” wing, third-floor apartment and no well-hole. Once FF James A. Branch, Engine 298’s nozzle Firefighter, backed up by FF Garrett P. Langdon, had a sufficient amount of hose on the fire-floor landing, water was called for. As Engine 298 made its initial attack, members were met with extreme heat and zero visibility conditions, indicative of an advanced fire. It later was reported that the EDP used gasoline and natural gas as an incendiary device. Witnesses stated, “The building blew up and windows were blown out.”

Engine 298’s nozzle team continued advancing the line, extinguishing four rooms of fire. The transmission was made, “We have the main body of fire knocked down in the front of the apartment.” Chief Browne notified Engine 298 there was still heavy fire venting out three windows in the rear of the throat, threatening to expose the fourth and fifth floors. Subsequently, he transmitted a second alarm.

As FF Dubner charged the second line, he nearly drew a vacuum. Luckily, Engine 298 control Firefighter, FF Howayne G. Delisser, used a gate on the hydrant. The two chauffeurs from Engines 298 and 315 hand-stretched back to the hydrant and augmented Engine 298, resulting in sufficient intake pressure. This initiative was taken while Engine 298’s nozzle team was in a precarious position, trying to find the rear room.

An aggressive search was made for the hallway leading to the rear room. Conditions became untenable. Lieutenant Longo decided to breach a wall and apply water on the fire as quickly as possible. After water was applied, Engine 298’s nozzle team repositioned and finished extinguishing all visible fire. Members operated for an extended period of time, extinguishing numerous pockets of fire, ultimately preventing any vertical or horizontal extension.

Engine 298 members aggressively met and overcame many challenges operating at an active crime scene with many hazards in an illegally converted H-type apartment. For their outstanding display of teamwork, the members of Engine 298 are recognized with the Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal.—JK
On February 1, 2016, at 2051 hours, Rescue 5 was dispatched to a 10-75 at Box 4311. En route, members received the report of fire in the basement of a private dwelling. On arrival, Lieutenant Salvatore Civitillo reported in to the Incident Commander (IC) and was ordered to deploy his members to the basement via a secondary stair located in the rear of the garage and locate the fire. Lieutenant Civitillo and FFs Michael S. Burgo (Ladder 77), Kievon Y. Harper (Ladder 176) and Robert Hosie entered the basement from this stairway, while FF Christopher P. Mullin made a perimeter search of the building.

Entering the basement, members encountered heavy smoke, zero visibility and a medium heat condition. Firefighters Burgo and Harper initiated a right-hand search, while Lieutenant Civitillo and FF Hosie went to the left. The Lieutenant heard fire crackling ahead and to his left. Firefighter Hosie, searching in front, radioed Deputy Chief William Tanzosh, Division 8, that he found fire and needed a hose-line. Firefighter Donald A. Dillon, Jr., arrived in the rear of the garage and entered the basement. Lieutenant Civitillo returned to the stairs and exited the basement to secure a hose-line and brief the IC. He also began to survey the exterior perimeter for additional access and ventilation. Firefighter Mullin arrived in the garage after sizing up the rear and met FF Hosie at the base of the stairs. Lieutenant Civitillo returned to the stairs and exited the basement to secure a hose-line and brief the IC. He also began to survey the exterior perimeter for additional access and ventilation. Firefighter Mullin arrived in the garage after sizing up the rear and met FF Hosie at the base of the stairs. Firefighter Hosie called for the hose-line and FF Mullin met with Engine 162 and assisted them with advancing the line into the basement. Once in the basement, FF Hosie led Engine 162 to the fire area and helped them direct the stream.

The basement in the house was a very large area. Firefighter Burgo was searching along the exposure #3 wall when he encountered an engine company. He reoriented them and directed them to the fire area. At this time, Engine 168’s Officer gave a mayday transmission, stating he was lost in the basement. Firefighter Harper also was searching off the exposure #3 wall and heard an activated pass alarm, so he proceeded toward it. He climbed over a couch and a knee wall and located Engine 168’s Officer.

Lieutenant Civitillo heard the mayday for the missing Officer and immediately returned to the garage to re-enter the basement. As he was donning his facepiece, he heard an additional radio transmission from another member, stating that he was lost and running out of air. In the background, his vibra alert low air warning could be heard. Firefighter Harper was joined by FF Hosie and they assisted Engine 168’s Officer from the basement and to the garage. At this point, yet another mayday was given by Ladder 82’s can member, who stated he had fallen through the floor and was burning.

Firefighter Harper returned to the basement while FF Hosie went to the first floor to assist at the collapse location, backing up the nozzle Firefighter from Squad 1. Lieutenant Civitillo directed FF Dillon to the first-floor area to verify that the Ladder 82 can Firefighter was not hung up in the floor. Lieutenant Civitillo returned to the basement and heard a vibra alert from a mask and moved toward that location. The Lieutenant found the lost member and received a report that the Ladder 82 can Firefighter was located and being assisted, so he continued to help the member on low air to the garage and safety.

The Ladder 82 Firefighter was assisted by FF Burgo. Firefighter Burgo heard the Firefighter’s pass alarm when he was nearing the fire area. The Ladder 82 can member was at the entrance area of the utility room. After confirming his identity, company and condition, FF Burgo was met by FF Harper and, together, they assisted the injured Firefighter to the street.

Firefighters Mullin and Dillon were backing up Squad 1’s Officer on a hose-line in the basement. After changing air cylinders, FFs Harper, Burgo and Hosie rejoined the remaining members of Rescue 5 in the basement where they assisted on the hose-lines and overhauled until relieved.

For their strong teamwork in effectively assisting several lost and distressed members at a serious basement fire, the above-listed members of Rescue 5 are awarded the Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal. —AP
In the late-evening hours of January 18, 2016, Ladder 28 responded to Manhattan Box 1524. A 10-77 had been given for a compactor fire that had extended from the shaft on numerous floors. Ladder 28 was assigned search and evacuation (SAE) duties on the upper floors of the building.

There were reports of heavy smoke conditions and people trapped. 28 Truck made a quick size-up of exposure #3 and confirmed the reports, observing people hanging their heads out the windows to get fresh air. The members entered stairway “B” and made the climb to the 28th floor. Battalion Chief Kenneth Sinkevitch, Battalion 14, was commanding the Upper-Floor Sector and assigned Ladder 28 to SAE duties from floor 28 down to 20. On floor 26, they took note of a door leading to a setback that later served to assist rescued occupants.

Reaching floor 27, members encountered a panicked civilian who stated that there was an elderly female down in the hallway. Captain John Gormley split the company and assigned FFs Thomas K. Newbert, John P. Salva and Damon S. Alston to search the left, while he and FFs Joseph B. McPartland and Daniel M. Bellew went to the right. Captain Gormley maintained the two-team concept throughout the operation to maximize efficiency of searches, as well as provide for supervision and communication.

Proceeding down the hall, they encountered an open apartment door. Just inside, they found a female in severe respiratory distress, lying on the floor. The apartment was untenable, so the victim was removed to the stairwell to the outside team and they removed her to the setback on the 26th floor. She was the first of four victims Ladder 28 rescued at this fire. Captain Gormley requested Sector Command have an elevator brought to the 26th floor. Ladder 28’s inside team continued searching and made their way to the top floor. They searched all and forced the doors and searched many others due to the severity of the smoke conditions on the upper floors. During this time, Ladder 28 evacuated multiple occupants to the setback and advised others on the windward side of the building to shelter in place when the conditions were acceptable.

While conducting SAE duties on the 24th floor, Captain Gormley looked out a window to assess conditions on the exterior of the building. He noticed someone’s head and arms out of the window, slumped over the child guard on the floor below. Captain Gormley took the inside team to floor 23 and had the door forced to the apartment where he observed the individual hanging outside the window. Due to the heavy smoke conditions, the Captain had his outside team force the doors in that end of the hallway. With smoke down to the floor, Captain Gormley and FFs Bellew and McPartland searched the apartment. Firefighter Bellew quickly located a female victim at the window. She was unresponsive and required the teamwork of both Firefighters to remove her from the apartment.

Captain Gormley continued the search and located an additional victim, who was in a state of panic and refused to let go of the child gate. Captain Gormley forcefully removed him from the apartment and into the evacuation stairs. Meanwhile, the outside team was searching the adjacent apartment. Firefighter Newbert located a victim who also found her way to the window. Under a heavy smoke condition, FFs Newbert and Salva, assisted by FF Alston, removed the victim to the evacuation stairwell. The members of Ladder 28 continued their SAE duties down to the 20th floor. All the victims who were removed were transported to the lobby and turned over to the care of EMS personnel.

For their demonstrated coordination, communication and individual bravery in rescuing four victims and assisting many others, the above-listed members of Ladder 28 are recognized with the World Trade Center Memorial Medal. —TW
Lt. Barry J. Annette, L-23
FF Craig S. Arancio, L-83
FF Justin J. Banasz, E-46
FF Peter J. Brady, L-174
FF Daniel Buckheit, R-4
FF Michael R. Conicelli, E-16
FF Sean T. Cosgrove, L-163
Lt. Thomas G. Dalgish, E-312
Lt. Gregory S. D’Amish, E-302

SERVICE RATING A
FF William P. Felten, E-310
Capt. Matthew R. Hagan, E-80
FF Gregory Hansen, L-153
FF Sean M. Heater, L-42
FF Andrew Kelly, L-147
FF Sean W. Koellner, L-167
FF Kevin J. Lavelle, L-33
Lt. Sean L. Mannion, L-32
FF Anthony L. Mauro, L-5
FF William M. McGarry, L-26

BC Michael P. McGrath, Bn-47
Lt. Robert P. Meuser, L-48
FF Michael J. Pattwell, L-44
FF Christopher J. Reilly, L-58
FF Erik T. Roslund, L-14
FF Gregory G. Santangelo, L-153
Capt. Michael E. Sitler, E-287
Lt. Daniel J. Sullivan, L-51
Lt. Michael Urso, L-30
FF Brady S. Wehrum, L-23

SERVICE RATING B
FF Frank Floridia, L-132
FF Michael A. Gaudioso, E-224
FF Mark D. Gonzalez, E-310
Lt. Michael J. Lyons, L-30
FF Niko Negron, L-10
FF Keith N. Nicoliello, L-30

FF Michael P. O’Connell, L-21
FF Timothy B. O’Neill, R-1
FF Mario H. Pagan, E-239
FF Philip M. Prisco, L-5
FF Matthew G. Reno, L-166
FF Christopher L. Russell, E-266
FF Cody J. Stamberger, L-35

BUREAU OF FIRE INVESTIGATION—BFI

SERVICE RATING A
February 9, 2016, FM Jacob J. Lappin, CWN
March 5, 2016, Mark Colicci, CWN
March 9, 2016, FM Kieran McSharry, CWS
May 7, 2016, FM Shaun E. Ihne, CWN
June 10, 2016, FM Peter A. Lindell, Jr., CWS
July 9, 2016, FM Kevin Miller, CWN
October 3, 2016, FM Anthony Denardo, CWS

SERVICE RATING B
April 5, 2016, FM William P. McNally, CWS
May 21, 2016, FM Mark Colicci, CWN
June 21, 2016, FM Robert J. Schiff, CWN
August 12, 2016, FM Kieran McSharry, CWS
August 15, 2016, FM Edmund Morrisey, CWS
September 21, 2016, FM Kevin Miller, CWN
October 14, 2016, FM Sean G. Cummins, CWS
October 14, 2016, FM Anthony Denardo, CWS

UNIT CITATIONS

Bronx Borough MFAs
February 9, 2016, Box 3850

Arson/Domestic Violence
March 9, 2016, Box 0948

Queens Borough MFAs
March 23, 2016, Box 6555

Arson/Domestic Violence Investigation
May 7, 2016, Box 9378

Bronx Arson/Revenge
May 8, 2016, Box 3593

Commercial Arson Apprehension
July 9, 2016, Box 2267

Arson/Fraud Investigation
May 21, 2016, Box 6511

NYCHA Arson Arrest
August 15, 2016, Box 1669

Arson/Burglary Investigation
June 10, 2016, Box 0967

Arson/Domestic Violence
August 15, 2016, Box 3897

Kew Hills Arson/Theft Investigation
June 21, 2016, Box 4908

Bronx Commercial Arson
September 21, 2016, Box 2312
## UNIT CITATIONS

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<td>Box 75-1595</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Engine Company 93</th>
<th>Ladder Company 87</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 30, 2015</td>
<td>February 2, 2016</td>
<td>April 7, 2016</td>
<td>October 27, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 55-2989</td>
<td>Box 3385</td>
<td>Box 0397</td>
<td>Box 0565</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Engine Company 287</th>
<th>Ladder Company 1</th>
<th>Ladder Company 59</th>
<th>Rescue Company 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 22-7951</td>
<td>Box 44-0145</td>
<td>Box 8926</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Engine Company 211</th>
<th>Rescue Company 1</th>
<th>Engine Company 43</th>
<th>Ladder Company 43</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 0309</td>
<td>Box 0776</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ladder Company 119</th>
<th>Squad Company 18</th>
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<tr>
<td>Box 0309</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ladder Company 151</th>
<th>Ladder Company 24</th>
<th>Squad Company 18</th>
<th>Engine Company 53</th>
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<td>Box 3145</td>
<td>Box 0776</td>
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<tr>
<th>Ladder Company 5</th>
<th>Engine Company 294</th>
<th>Engine Company 301</th>
<th>Engine Company 76</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 1, 2016</td>
<td>February 9, 2016</td>
<td>May 28, 2016</td>
<td>October 27, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 7167</td>
<td>Box 5109</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ladder Company 39</th>
<th>Ladder Company 143</th>
<th>Engine Company 54</th>
<th>Engine Company 91</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 3, 2016</td>
<td>February 9, 2016</td>
<td>June 1, 2016</td>
<td>October 27, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 22-3807</td>
<td>Box 5109</td>
<td>Box 22-0851</td>
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<tr>
<th>Rescue Company 5</th>
<th>Ladder Company 26</th>
<th>Ladder Company 12</th>
<th>Engine Company 236</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 7, 2016</td>
<td>February 13, 2016</td>
<td>June 14, 2016</td>
<td>November 1, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 8460</td>
<td>Box 75-1376</td>
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<th>Ladder Company 109</th>
<th>Ladder Company 136</th>
<th>Marine Company 8</th>
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<tr>
<td>Box 8460</td>
<td>Box 3129</td>
<td>Box 3479</td>
<td>Box 7801</td>
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<th>Ladder Company 108</th>
<th>Ladder Company 120</th>
<th>Engine Company 226</th>
<th>Ladder Company 167</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 10, 2016</td>
<td>February 16, 2016</td>
<td>August 2, 2016</td>
<td>December 8, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7120</td>
<td>Box 1609</td>
<td>Box 7040</td>
<td>Box 22-4499</td>
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<th>Ladder Company 28</th>
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<th>Engine Company 75</th>
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<td>Box 75-1524</td>
<td>Box 0542</td>
<td>Box 75-3152</td>
<td>Box 0118</td>
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<th>Ladder Company 43</th>
<th>Engine Company 316</th>
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<tr>
<td>Month</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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| JANUARY 2016 | Engine Company 3, January 16  
Engine Company 9, January 20  
Engine Company 22, January 18  
Engine Company 54, January 11  
Engine Company 162, January 25  
Engine Company 163, January 6  
Engine Company 167, January 30  
Engine Company 214, January 20  
Engine Company 241, January 9  
Engine Company 254, January 13  
Engine Company 257, January 13  
Engine Company 258, January 3 & 29  
Engine Company 273, January 7 & 18  
Engine Company 277, January 24  
Engine Company 291, January 16  
Engine Company 295, January 17  
Engine Company 298, January 16  
Engine Company 301, January 20  
Engine Company 302, January 25  
Engine Company 304, January 17  
Engine Company 306, January 17  
Engine Company 318, January 31  
Engine Company 319, January 13  
Engine Company 330, January 13  
Engine Company 331, January 17  
Engine Company 332, January 9  |
| FEBRUARY 2016 | Engine Company 3, February 24  
Engine Company 54, February 27  
Engine Company 63, February 2  
Engine Company 65, February 14  
Engine Company 81, February 25  
Engine Company 83, February 14  
Engine Company 96, February 18  
Engine Company 156, February 27  
Engine Company 243, February 3 & 27  
Engine Company 250, February 28  
Engine Company 253, February 2  
Engine Company 273, February 3  
Engine Company 280, February 28  
Engine Company 289, February 20  
Engine Company 294, February 19  
Engine Company 298, February 14 & 22  
Engine Company 316, February 29  
Engine Company 321, February 17  
Engine Company 325, February 21  
Squad Company 18, February 29  
Squad Company 270, February 6  |
| MARCH 2016 | Engine Company 16, March 25  
Engine Company 22, March 6  
Engine Company 33, March 19  
Engine Company 43, March 23  
Engine Company 53, March 31  
Engine Company 58, March 13  
Engine Company 69, March 5  
Engine Company 89, March 22  
Engine Company 207, March 6  
Engine Company 253, March 7  
Engine Company 284, March 20  
Engine Company 293, March 28  
Engine Company 297, March 20  
Engine Company 301, March 1 & 17  
Engine Company 307, March 8  
Engine Company 315, March 4  
Engine Company 323, March 20  
Squad Company 61, March 23  
Squad Company 270, March 14  |
| APRIL 2016 | Engine Company 53, April 13  
Engine Company 72, April 16  
Engine Company 74, April 4  
Engine Company 79, April 5  
Engine Company 158, April 17  
Engine Company 163, April 21  
Engine Company 214, April 6  
Engine Company 221, April 20  
Engine Company 241, April 16  
Engine Company 257, April 12 & 19  
Engine Company 271, April 11  
Engine Company 286, April 1 & 13  
Engine Company 301, April 6  
Engine Company 305, April 21  
Engine Company 306, April 21  
Engine Company 313, April 3  
Engine Company 314, April 24  |
| MAY 2016 | Engine Company 1, May 20  
Engine Company 21, May 20  
Engine Company 28, May 17 & 20  
Engine Company 34, May 25  
Engine Company 40, May 17  
Engine Company 47, May 9  
Engine Company 54, May 4  
Engine Company 64, May 22  
Engine Company 66, May 11  |
| JUNE 2016 | Engine Company 68, May 30  
Engine Company 71, May 3 & 31  
Engine Company 73, May 12  
Engine Company 82, May 8 & 28  
Engine Company 93, May 8  
Engine Company 97, May 26  
Engine Company 211, May 25  
Engine Company 218, May 17  
Engine Company 236, May 11  
Engine Company 253, May 15  
Engine Company 257, May 16  
Engine Company 259, May 15  
Engine Company 266, May 23 & 29  
Engine Company 274, May 5  
Engine Company 276, May 20  
Engine Company 281, May 7  
Engine Company 292, May 18  
Engine Company 298, two saves on May 29  
Engine Company 301, May 18  
Engine Company 308, May 15  
Engine Company 311, May 30  
Engine Company 323, May 12  
Engine Company 325, May 22  
Engine Company 328, May 25  
Engine Company 330, May 22  
Engine Company 332, May 1  
Squad Company 252, May 18  
Squad Company 270, May 3  |
CFR-D PRE-HOSPITAL SAVE COMMENDATIONS

Engine Company 279, June 6
Engine Company 280, June 13
Engine Company 283, June 13
Engine Company 285, June 3
Engine Company 287, June 25
Engine Company 292, June 22 & 23
Engine Company 305, June 10
Engine Company 311, June 16
Engine Company 315, June 8
Engine Company 318, June 23
Engine Company 324, June 27

JULY 2016
Engine Company 4, July 15
Engine Company 58, July 5 & 12
Engine Company 60, July 18
Engine Company 74, July 15
Engine Company 81, July 19
Engine Company 153, July 2
Engine Company 162, July 31
Engine Company 163, July 31
Engine Company 165, July 3
Engine Company 166, July 10
Engine Company 206, July 12
Engine Company 207, July 8
Engine Company 254, July 19
Engine Company 258, July 7
Engine Company 260, July 24
Engine Company 282, July 3
Engine Company 284, July 6
Engine Company 301, July 5
Engine Company 302, July 31
Engine Company 311, July 1
Engine Company 312, July 15 & 18
Engine Company 325, July 9
Engine Company 328, July 1

AUGUST 2016
Engine Company 37, August 22
Engine Company 55, two saves on August 11
Engine Company 59, August 13
Engine Company 96, August 12
Engine Company 218, August 13
Engine Company 236, August 7
Engine Company 282, August 9
Engine Company 298, August 9

SEPTEMBER 2016
Engine Company 38, September 22
Engine Company 50, September 20 & 28
Engine Company 80, September 23
Engine Company 94, September 25
Engine Company 216, September 14
Engine Company 235, September 18
Engine Company 247, September 19
Engine Company 273, September 19
Engine Company 281, September 3 & 22
Engine Company 303, September 13
Engine Company 315, September 19
Engine Company 319, September 20

OCTOBER 2016
Engine Company 3, October 13 & 27
Engine Company 16, October 27
Engine Company 38, October 3 & 30
Engine Company 63, October 22
Engine Company 92, October 6
Engine Company 151, October 6
Engine Company 166, October 1
Engine Company 214, October 13
Engine Company 225, October 8
Engine Company 227, October 22
Engine Company 246, October 19
Engine Company 255, October 3
Engine Company 271, October 16 & 28
Engine Company 276, October 22
Engine Company 283, October 25
Engine Company 285, October 17
Engine Company 301, October 27
Engine Company 308, October 2 & 14
Engine Company 312, October 28

NOVEMBER 2016
Engine Company 3, November 4
Engine Company 10, November 2
Engine Company 23, November 30
Engine Company 45, November 3 & 23
Engine Company 46, November 11
Engine Company 54, November 25
Engine Company 64, November 27
Engine Company 71, November 16
Engine Company 80, November 30
Engine Company 82, November 26
Engine Company 162, November 2
Engine Company 231, November 30

DECEMBER 2016
Engine Company 43, December 7
Engine Company 45, December 1
Engine Company 55, December 31
Engine Company 68, December 12
Engine Company 88, December 18
Engine Company 154, December 7
Engine Company 161, December 8
Engine Company 167, December 9
Engine Company 201, December 6
Engine Company 255, December 1
Engine Company 263, December 28
Engine Company 275, December 14
Engine Company 285, December 13
Engine Company 291, December 31
Engine Company 305, December 11
Engine Company 313, December 1
Engine Company 326, December 14
Squad Company 288, December 14

Engine Company 235, November 6
Engine Company 236, November 12
Engine Company 242, November 27
Engine Company 243, November 30
Engine Company 254, November 1
Engine Company 275, November 25
Engine Company 276, November 15
Engine Company 284, November 29
Engine Company 286, November 1 & 13
Engine Company 292, November 29
Engine Company 297, November 11 & 28
Engine Company 305, November 6
Engine Company 306, November 13
Engine Company 318, November 17 & 24
2016 PRE-HOSPITAL SAVE AWARDS

Number in parentheses indicates multiple saves.

Paramedic Byron Abad (2)
Paramedic Abdurrahid Abdussalam (2)
Paramedic Ilzer Abrams
EMT Annabelle Abreu
EMT Denise Abreu
Paramedic Justine P. Abruzzo (2)
EMT James Acevedo
Paramedic Pedro J. Acosta
Paramedic Brandon K. Adams
EMT Ahmed A. Adekoya (2)
Paramedic Antonio Adorno (3)
Lieutenant Juan A. Aguirre
EMT John W. Ahlemeyer (2)
Lieutenant Jeanne A. Aikins
EMT Muhamed Aksabanaj
Paramedic Angie G. Alburquerque (3)
Paramedic Ashley Alejo
EMT Kershina S. Alexander
EMT Alexis Alicea
Lieutenant Richard J. Alicea, II (2)
Lieutenant Jerard G. Allas (3)
Paramedic Farouk Ally
Lieutenant Anthony R. Almojera (4)
Paramedic Natalia A. Alzate
EMT Bryan Anderson
Paramedic Samuel T. Andrews (2)
EMT Nicholas P. Andryuk (3)
Paramedic Angel G. Alburquerque
EMT Linda Avellino
Paramedic Steven M. Aumoithe (2)
Lieutenant Christopher Attanasio
Lieutenant Robert A. Atkins
EMT Anne Abreu
Paramedic Anthony R. Almojera
EMT Kimberly M. Barba
EMT Kyle R. Barbara
Paramedic Matthew A. Barrella
EMT Lissette K. Barillas
Paramedic Ethan Barningham (3)
EMT Kenneth H. Barritteau
Lieutenant Granger Barrow
Lieutenant Jason J. Bartels (2)
Paramedic Justine L. Barton-Hossanah
Lieutenant Serreoste Barton-Hossanah
Lieutenant Brendan Bass (3)
Lieutenant Moses O. Bastien
Lieutenant Andrew Bates
EMT Jamelya J. Beaubearnais
EMT Gandhi Beaulieu (2)
Lieutenant James Becker
Paramedic Leonardo A. Bedoya
Lieutenant William H. Bedoya
Paramedic Jacqueline J. Benet (2)
Paramedic Gregory E. Benisatto
Paramedic Jose O. Benitez
EMT John M. Bentoro
EMT Elliot J. Bergenbaum (2)
Lieutenant Victor S. Berrios
EMT Michael F. Bifolcu
Paramedic Peter J. Bilardello (3)
Todd L. Bigall
Paramedic Jonathan R. Billian
Paramedic Timothy J. Bittner (3)
Paramedic Felice P. Bizzarro
EMT Andrew J. Black
EMT Anthony Blain
EMT Brent W. Blake
EMT Matthew J. Blewitt (2)
Paramedic Kerri M. Blieka
Paramedic Peter R. Bockwoldt (4)
Paramedic James A. Bolger
Lieutenant Richard T. Bonet
EMT Elizabeth M. Bonilla
EMT Joseph M. Cassano (2)
EMT John M. Benton
EMT Kershina S. Alexander
EMT Lynn Bacchus
Lieutenant Andrew Brock
Paramedic Keisha M. Brockington
EMT Randy Brokman (2)
Paramedic Arthur G. Bronshyten
Paramedic Bruce A. Brown
Paramedic Bruce C. Brown
Paramedic Louis R. Brunik (3)
EMT Andrew M. Buckley
EMT Christopher Budet
EMT Alfonso Buoninfante
EMT Brenda L. Burgos
Paramedic Daniel Burgos (3)
Paramedic Jeffery J. Burke (2)
Paramedic Alexa Buttermark
Paramedic Katriona J. Byun
Paramedic Alex Byrd
Lieutenant Keshica M. Byrd (3)
Paramedic Brandon J. Caban
Lieutenant Raphael Cabello
EMT John Cadotte
EMT Philip J. Cagnard
Paramedic Christopher D. Caldwell (2)
EMT Julio C. Camargo (2)
EMT Michael A. Camastro
Paramedic Zathime Camero
Paramedic Franklin Camilo, Jr.
EMT Oscar Canada (4)
EMT Yaniri E. Canales
Paramedic Terri-Ann Canetty
Paramedic Jerry Cange
EMT Kelly J. Canham
EMT Danielle Cappoerici
Paramedic Alberto Caraballo
Lieutenant Robert J. Carlo
Paramedic James D. Carlson
EMT Patrick M. Carney (2)
Paramedic Stephen W. Carpenter
Paramedic Efrian F. Carzasquillo
Lieutenant Mark C. Carroll (2)
Paramedic Dustin L. Carter (3)
EMT Sergio J. Casco (2)
Paramedic Diana M. Cassa (2)
EMT Joseph M. Cassano (2)
Deputy Chief Kevin M. Cassidy
EMT Johana K. Castaneda
Paramedic Julian D. Castaneda
EMT Joseph Castelli
EMT Luisa M. Castillo
Paramedic Nancy C. Castro
Lieutenant Andre Catapano
Paramedic Laura J. Catucci (3)
Lieutenant James P. Cavalier
Paramedic Marcos A. Cavallaro (2)
EMT Daniel R. Cavorsi
EMT Andrew A. Cellucci
Lieutenant Cemal Cengiz
EMT Jose R. Cerda Matos (3)
EMT Jorge D. Chalen
Lieutenant Christopher L. Chamers (2)
EMT Kevin A. Bristol
Paramedic Benjamin Bruz (2)
Paramedic Lauren broccoli
Lieutenant Marvin K. Chan
EMT Wilson Chan
EMT Michelle M. Chango
Paramedic Christopher G. Chaplin
EMT Michael J. Charles
EMT Tawana L. Chatman (2)
EMT Jonathan Chavez
Paramedic Ruth E. Chavez (2)
Paramedic Dennis S. Chen
Paramedic Zhen Huan Chen (2)
EMT Premil Cherry
Lieutenant Jason Cheung
Paramedic Christopher Chin
Paramedic Cynthia A. Chin (2)
Paramedic Nabi Z. Chowdhury
EMT Brian M. Cicero
EMT Keith A. Clark
EMT Brian Clarke (2)
EMT Courtney D. Clarke
Captain Lizette Claro (2)
EMT Kristin B. Clinton
EMT Shaun Clouse
Lieutenant Ryan K. Clunes (3)
EMT Scott T. Cohen
Paramedic John F. Coleman
Paramedic Trevor M. Coleman
Paramedic Eric J. Colvil
EMT John J. Comerford
Lieutenant Gregory Companion
Lieutenant Arthur J. Concepcion
Paramedic Desiree Corsello (2)
Lieutenant Gary Cortes (2)
Paramedic Juan D. Cortes
Paramedic Jason Cortes (2)
Paramedic Brian W. Cotiaux (2)
Paramedic Jillian E. Cox (3)
Lieutenant Anthony S. Cozzone (4)
EMT Cameron A. Crayton (2)
Paramedic James E. Cricistello
Paramedic James V. Crispino
EMT Matthew F. Crowe
Paramedic Jessica H. Cruz
EMT Stephanie Cruz (2)
Paramedic Yen F. Cruz (2)
EMT Raymond Cubas
EMT Richard D. Cucurullo
Paramedic Karen S. Cueva
Paramedic Michael A. Cumberbatch
EMT Nevin E. Cummings
EMT Ryan Cummings (2)
EMT Patrick C. Cunningham
Lieutenant Franklin Curatola (2)
EMT Peter J. Curcio
EMT David A. Curling
Lieutenant Timothy B. Cusak
EMT Helen Dabietic
Lieutenant Michael C. Daddona (3)
EMT Joseph J. Daly
Lieutenant Joseph T. Daly (3)
EMT Nicholas A. Damante
Lieutenant Jonathan R. Damato (2)

EMT Jonathan M. Dambrosio

EMT Christopher J. Damitz

EMT Joseph J. Dantuono

Paramedic Latoya D. Darden

EMT Catarina J. Da Silva

EMT Bernard Dautruche, Jr.
Lieutenant Roy David

EMT Scott Davila

EMT Casey L. Davis (2)

EMT Kenneth J. Davis, Jr. (2)

EMT Christopher M. Debonet

Lieutenant James M. Dedonato (4)

EMT Walter Deehan

Lieutenant Jesus V. Deinocentis (2)

Paramedic Gonzalo De Jesus (2)

Lieutenant William J. Delaney

Paramedic Karel Delgado (2)

EMT Bryan J. Deliz

Lieutenant Christopher DeLuca (2)

Lieutenant Michael DeMarco (3)

Lieutenant Michael J. Denney (2)

EMT Leo Deraimo (2)

Lieutenant Steve A. Desgouttes

Lieutenant Louis A. Devino (3)

EMT Thomas J. Devoti (2)

EMT Stephen C. Diamond (2)

EMT Roland Diaz, Jr.

Lieutenant Patrick J. Dillon (2)

Captain John Paul Dimen (3)

Paramedic Trinh K. Dinh (4)

EMT Joseph V. Dinovelli-Lang (2)

EMT Andrew A. Doherty

EMT Snejana Dolgounova

EMT Damian D. Domingo

Paramedic Patrick F. Donawa

Paramedic George W. Doremus

EMT Kevin F. Dougherty

EMT Michael T. Dougherty

Lieutenant Angela Dragotto

Lieutenant Ian J. D’Souza

Lieutenant Steven S. Dubin (2)

EMT Christopher L. Duffus

Lieutenant Jessica M. Duffy (3)

EMT Kinessa A. Duguid

Paramedic Tholeme Dunay

Lieutenant Andrew W. Dunn (2)

EMT Saleena Dunton-Muhammad

Paramedic Susanne Duque

Paramedic Michelangelo Dussaua

Paramedic Jason M. Dywer (2)

Paramedic Bryan T. Easop

EMT Daniel Eberlein

Paramedic Shamel P. Edge

Lieutenant Laitrice N. Edwards

EMT Christopher J. Egan (2)

Paramedic Chandy EK

Lieutenant Wa-Il K. Eldahry (3)

Paramedic Doraun L. Ellis (2)

EMT Keisha M. Ellis-Carter

EMT Sean P. Emanuel

Lieutenant Christopher R. Emhardt (7)

Lieutenant John A. Emington

EMT Mackenley Emmanuel (2)

Lieutenant Richard L. Erdey (2)

EMT Jonathan Escobar

Paramedic Italia E. Espinoza

Lieutenant John B. Faguyguire (2)

Paramedic Donald Faeth

EMT Corrine T. Fairlie

Lieutenant Dachary Farum (4)

EMT Ali Fattah

Paramedic Joseph Fazzino (2)

EMT Vincent J. Federici

EMT Christopher Felix

EMT Christine M. Fernandez

EMT Thomas J. Ferrara

EMT Elizabeth Ferrin

EMT Timothy S. Figaro

Paramedic Alvin Figueroa (2)

EMT Michael A. Figueroa

EMT Frank V. Fiore

Lieutenant Charles Fiske

EMT Justin L. Fitzmartin

Lieutenant Stanislav Flaaksan (3)

Paramedic Miguel A. Flores

EMT Paul F. Florida (2)

Paramedic Isha Floyd (2)

Lieutenant Ronald Floyd (2)

EMT Paul M. Forte

EMT Justin C. Fotis

Paramedic Michael Frail

Paramedic Oral L. Francis

Paramedic Helen M. Franco

Paramedic Ashriel S. Frasier (2)

Lieutenant Katherine J. Frawley (2)

Lieutenant Michael P. Fregoneze (2)

Lieutenant Mitchell Friedland

Paramedic Joshua L. Frumer

Lieutenant James P. Furlong

EMT Maxim Furman (2)

Paramedic Keshin Furuta (2)

Paramedic John P. Faglino (2)

EMT Ryan G. Gale

Paramedic Andres F. Gallego

Paramedic Anthony V. Gallo (4)

Paramedic Dwane O. Gamble

Paramedic Carl A. Gandolfo

EMT Christopher J. Gangale (2)

Paramedic Christian A. Garcia

EMT Dale J. Garcia

EMT Joshua D. Garcia

EMT Kahmil F. Garcia

Lieutenant Leonore J. Garcia

Paramedic Joshua J. Gardiner

EMT Edison N. Gbior

EMT Paul A. Gebhardt

EMT Sarah A. Geldard

EMT Domenick R. Gerardi, II

EMT Jesse B. Gerhard (2)

Paramedic James J. Geronomis (2)

Paramedic Matthew J. Giacalone

EMT Jamie L. Giannone

EMT Cory E. Gibson (2)

Paramedic Tanika M. Gillison (2)

EMT Michael B. Ginty (2)

Paramedic Marco A. Girao (2)

Paramedic Ann Marie Girgenti

EMT Joseph R. Girimonte

EMT Anthony C. Giunti

Lieutenant Michael J. Glenn

EMT Joshua T. Gluck

EMT Kareem Gomes

Lieutenant Surain Gomes

Lieutenant Alexander Gomez (2)

Paramedic Yohn Gonzalez

Paramedic Daniel A. Gonzalez

Paramedic Enrique A. Gonzalez

Paramedic Jason Gonzalez

EMT Jose Gonzalez

EMT Joshua S. Gonzalez

EMT Daryl A. Goodridge

EMT Victor N. Gornecki (2)

Paramedic Joshua Goset

EMT Peter M. Gospodinov

Lieutenant Kahalia D. Graham

EMT Shaun P. Graham (2)

EMT Keniesha C. Grant

EMT Blauri M. Gratelot (2)

EMT Matthew W. Graziano

EMT Deborah A. Greco

Paramedic David Greenidge

Lieutenant Jeremy E. Griffin

Paramedic Glenroy Griffith

Paramedic Noel Grimaudo

Lieutenant Eric M. Grumar (4)

Lieutenant Charles M. Gschlecht

Paramedic Sheng Gu

Paramedic Jimmy M. Guaralaca

EMT Kyler A. Gudge

EMT Brian D. Guerra

EMT Ryan M. Gumbs (2)

EMT Patrick J. Gustama

Paramedic Bryant Gutierrez

Lieutenant Luis E. Gutierrez (2)

Paramedic Brian G. Gutkin (2)

EMT Dougas Guzman

Paramedic Richard Guzman (2)

EMT Thimley Gyatso

EMT Steven Hadjimanolis

EMT Lana Hagai

Paramedic Michael Haggerty

EMT William Hagney

EMT Molly A. Hallinan

EMT Nigel R. Hamilton

EMT Elizabeth N. Hamlet (2)

EMT Antoine B. Hamm

EMT Thomas W. Hanley (2)

Lieutenant Elise Hanlon

Lieutenant Thomas Hanlon (2)

EMT Chad W. Hannon

Lieutenant Eugene G. Hanretty (3)

Paramedic Luke Hardcastle

EMT Claire M. Harewood

EMT Keisha N. Harris

EMT Stefan J. Harris (2)

Paramedic Bevonia A. Harrison (3)

EMT Adam C. Harrow

Paramedic Lauren D. Hartnett

Paramedic Kimberly Hattan

Lieutenant Kristal S. Hayes (2)

EMT Elliot C. Haynes (2)

EMT Ziquayya M. Hedrington

Paramedic Christopher J. Hegemann

Lieutenant Robert W. Heins

EMT Daniel P. Henning

Paramedic Amanda Henry

Paramedic Cristobal V. Hernandez

EMT Samuel J. Hernandez

Paramedic Ocean M. Herrera

EMT Matthew Herzog (2)

Paramedic Luke Hill

EMT Jestina E. Hinds

Paramedic Walter Hochbruecker

EMT Chalako D. Hodges

Paramedic Raquel Hogan (3)

EMT Joakema J. Holiday

EMT Ceasar D. Holloway

Paramedic Simon A. Holyland

Paramedic Shoshana D. Holzberg-Pill

Paramedic Chaundel L. Homer (2)

EMT Frantzis Honore

Paramedic Michael B. Hood (3)

Captain Paul N. Hopper

Paramedic Steven C. Hornbrook

Paramedic Natasha R. Howard

Paramedic Andry Hrycyk (2)

Paramedic Morris C. Hubbard

Paramedic Joseph J. Hudak

Paramedic Robert F. Hunt (2)

EMT Delroy E. Hunter

Paramedic Onel Hunter (3)

EMT Dwayne J. Hurley

Lieutenant Bruce N. Hydock, Jr.

Paramedic Justin Umbirga

EMT William A. Iommi, Jr.

Lieutenant Jennifer M. Ison (2)

Dr. Doug Issacs

EMT Edward A. Jablonowski

Lieutenant Matt Z. Jackyra

Paramedic Gregory Jackman (2)

Paramedic Ariana N. Jackson (2)

Paramedic Christopher W. Jacobs (2)

Paramedic Sonia James-Raju

EMT Thaldeus K. Janowski (2)

EMT Tony Jaroni (2)

Paramedic Samuel A. Jaroslawicz (3)

Paramedic Ra Jassir

EMT Anthony J. Jean

EMT Dominique B. Jean

EMT Rocky Jean-Baptiste

Paramedic Edy F. Jean-Philippe (2)

EMT Obed Jean-Pierre (2)

Captain Joseph Jefferson

EMT Randy Jeune

Paramedic Dariel W. Jimenez

EMT Estarlin Jimenez

Paramedic Joshua Jimenez

Paramedic Ramon E. Jimenez

EMT Peter A. Johnson

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 Paramedic Vadim Polishchuk
EMT John R. Pneuman
EMT Jose A. Plaez
 Paramedic James M. Pione
EMT Rodrigo K. Pinto
EMT Carlos Pilliza
EMT Piotr P. Piechota
 Paramedic Maxim A. Pena
Lieutenant Esmerelda J. Pepper
EMT Edson A. Perez-Lima
EMT Johanna F. Perez
EMT Jose E. Perez
EMT Kevin A. Perez
EMT Madelyn Perez
EMT Rachel Perez
EMT Raul Perez
Lieutenant Tina M. Perez
Paramedic Ashley R. Pernice
Paramedic Patrick C. Pertrota
Paramedic Chaz E. Perry
Paramedic Andre Persaud
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EMT Chaz E. Perry
EMT Michael Schultz
EMT Michael J. Schramm, Jr.
EMT Christopher T. Scheel
Lieutenant Jonathan E. Schechter
EMT Anthony F. Scarnati
EMT Laura D. Savastano
EMT Matthew D. Sauer
EMT Matthew A. Santos
EMT Joseph M. Santos
EMT Jacqueline R. Santiago
EMT Juan C. Santiago Paulino
Paramedic Michael S. Santiago
Paramedic Nicolas L. Santini
EMT Joseph M. Santos
EMT Matthew A. Santos
EMT Matthew D. Sauer
EMT Laura D. Savastano
Paramedic Steven Scarrini
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EMT Zelman Schapira, Jr.
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EMT Christopher T. Scheel
EMT Raymond D. Scherma
EMT Michael J. Schramm, Jr.
EMT Michael Schultz
Paramedic Charles Schwager
Paramedic Michael J. Sclafani
Lieutenant James E. Scordus
Captain John J. Scotch, II
Paramedic Hervin Scott
Paramedic Oneilia N. Seaton
Paramedic Andres Segovia, Jr.
EMT Domenico E. Seminelli
EMT Alejandra E. Serrano
EMT Riza N. Sever
Paramedic Chung-Hing Sham
EMT Matthew E. Sharkey
Paramedic Ayaj K. Sharma
EMT Brendan D. Shields
Paramedic Mark Shilen
Paramedic Nirmoul Shbowitz
Paramedic Ann Marie Sidits
EMT Aramis C. Sierra
Paramedic Edmond J. Signer
Paramedic Kenneth Silas
Paramedic Roberto J. Silveira
Paramedic Michael Silvestri
Paramedic Gary J. Simmonds
Paramedic Matthew Simon
Lieutenant Derrick C. Simpkins
Lieutenant Suchindia Singh
Paramedic Sherry F. Singleton
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EMT Trent B. Small
EMT Stacey Ann N. Smiling
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Paramedic Hugh Smith, II
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Paramedic Shawn P. Smith
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EMT Christopher J. Smolny
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Lieutenant Magdalena K. Sobocsinski
EMT William Sochor
EMT Nicholas D. Soller
EMT Jessica D. Sosa
Lieutenant Antony Soto
EMT Hector Soto
Lieutenant Jose Soto
Lieutenant Phillip A. Soto
EMT Robert A. Soto
EMT Bryan J. Sotomayor
Lieutenant Robert L. Sottile
EMT Diqueunce Souffrant
EMT Marie Nicole Souffrant
Lieutenant Christopher W. Spracht
Paramedic Chaim Spiegel
Lieutenant Bryan C. Spies
Lieutenant Philip H. Spiro
EMT Alexander J. Sprofera
EMT Kellan A. Squire
EMT Donald St Hubert
EMT Mark L. Stabile
EMT Jeremy M. Stadler
Paramedic Jeffrey J. Stenborg
EMT Jesse C. Stephen
Paramedic Cindy M. Stewart
Paramedic Dwanye P. Stewart
EMT Melvin A. Stokes
EMT Eric Stone
Paramedic Bo Straussberg
EMT Kevin M. Stringfield

Fire Department, City of New York • Medal Day 2017
EMS UNIT OF THE MONTH—2016

MOUND  UNIT  MEMBERS

January  23D2  EMTs Daniel Jakubowski, David Taranto, Lori Valitutto
February  50G2  EMTs Kevin Janssen, Matthew McNulty, Robert Williams
March  64B2  EMTs Michael Fox, John LaMonica, Salvatore Starace
April  46D2  EMTs Marissa Kenary, Johan Velasco, Nicholas Webb
May  08Z2  Paramedics Felice Bizzarro, Jonathan Kleisner, Bryon Melo
June  45A2  EMTs Emmanuel Napoleon, Shady Wesson, Weikai Xiang
July  45A1  EMTs Michael Kane, Matthew McEvoy, Crystal Scognamiglio
August  11F1  EMTs Kyle Best, John Scanlon, Andrew Vuolo
September  45E2  EMTs Christopher Chalmers, Christina McKeen, Scott Rest
October  58D1  EMTs Fatima Estrada, David Ianno, Scott Michels
November  33F2  EMTs Jamelya Beaucharnais, Timur Chernichkin, Arnie Han
December  58E2  EMTs Nathalie Arias, Kelvin Baptiste, Kelly Billingiere
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. The Fire Foundation of New York, Inc., funds this award, Kenneth Bronstein, President. (Page 11)

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 Fire Foundation of New York, Inc., funds this award, Kenneth Bronstein, President. The recipient also is awarded the Firefighter Louis Valentino Award, a medal endowed since 1998 by Diane Valentino and the Valentino family. (Page 12)

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 EMSs and Paramedics and Fire Inspectors Union. Also endowed by former First Assistant Fire Commissioner, Robert A. Ungar, Legislative Counsel to the Union. (Page 13)

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 14)

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 14)

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 15)

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. Additional award from Honorary Fire Commissioner Dorothy Marks, in memory of Jeffrey S. Childs, great-great-grandson of Thomas Crimmins. Also funded by the Fire Foundation of New York, Inc., Kenneth Bronstein, President. (Page 16)

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. Endowed by the Fire Officers Association of the FDNY, it includes a cash award honorarium from that line organization. (Page 17)

Walter Scott Medal

Coloned 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. The Fire Foundation of New York, Inc., funds this award, Kenneth Bronstein, President. (Page 18)

John H. Prentice Medal

This medal is awarded by Mrs. Marion Prentice Brookman in memory of her father. The medal is for “an act of intelligent bravery.” First awarded in 1921. (Page 19)

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 fidelity and admiration held by the late Henry D. Brookman for the FDNY.” First awarded in 1921. (Page 20)

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 Ulyses Grant’s great-grandson of 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 21)

Hispanic Society/
23rd Street Fire Memorial Medal of Valor

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.” The Hispanic Society Memorial Medal was first awarded in 1968. A $1000 honorarium in memory of Battalion Chief Anthony Mendoza, Senior, is given to the medal recipient. (Page 22)

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 23)

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 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. Sponsored in memory of Honorary Battalion Chief Paul Sanner. (Page 25)

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 medalion endowed by the Fitzpatrick and Frisby Foundation, in memory of these two Firefighters who made the Supreme Sacrifice. The UFA funds this award. Recipient is awarded cash, donated by Honorary First Deputy Commissioner Brian F. Mulheren, in memory of his father, Joseph A. Mulheren, a friend of the FDNY. (Page 26)

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 27)

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 28)

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 29)

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 EMSS and Paramedics and Fire Inspectors Union. Also endowed by former First Assistant Commissioner, Robert A. Ungar, Legislative Counsel to the Union. (Page 30)

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 31)

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 32)

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 endorsing this, a second medal, they illustrate their high regard and affection for the Department. (Page 33)

Columbia Association Medal

Endowed by the Columbia Association since 1966. Medal is awarded in memory of retired Fire Marshal Thomas J. Russo, Senior. (Page 34)

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...
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. Sponsored in memory of Honorary Battalion Chief Paul Sanmer. (Page 45)

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. $1000 is donated in memory of Firefighter Anthony D. Bucciarelli, Engine 75. $1000 is donated in memory of Firefighter Mike Donnelly, Ladder 53, who died in 1983 after a heroic battle with cancer. $100 is donated in memory of Battalion Chief William C. Rinsdale, 19th Battalion, who died in the line of duty in 1971. (Page 46)

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 47)

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 66 years of 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 11)

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 48)

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 on- or off-duty. Endowed by the members of Engine 277 and Ladder 112. (Page 49)

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 50)

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 51)

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 “Probe.” (Page 52)

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 longtime member and Chairman of the Board of Directors. (Page 53)

Jack Pintchik Medal

Following successful reanimation 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 54)

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 55)

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 56)

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 57)

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 42)

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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 43)

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 was awarded for the first time in 1982. It is donated this year by Battalion Chief John Dunne, Battalion 2, a former C.O.A. board member. (Page 44)

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 36)

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 37)

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 38)

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 39)

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 to illustrate the high regard and affection he held for FDNY members. First awarded in 1978. (Page 40)

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 Reserve, and a retired FDNY Firefighter. The history of this intrepid warrior’s exploits is related graphically in the second and third issues of WYDF (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 41)

Arthur J. Lauffer Memorial Medal

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5-5-5-5
Died in the Line of Duty

Battalion Chief Michael J. Fahy*
Battalion 19
Died on September 27, 2016, as a result of injuries sustained in the performance of duty at Bronx Box 22-3732. Appointed May 9, 1999. (*Promoted posthumously to the rank of Deputy Chief.)

Firefighter William N. Tolley*
Ladder Company 135
Died on Thursday, April 20, 2017, as a result of injuries sustained in the performance of duty at Queens Box 22-4017. Appointed September 14, 2003. (*Posthumously assigned to the Special Operations Command.)

EMT Yadira Arroyo
Station 26