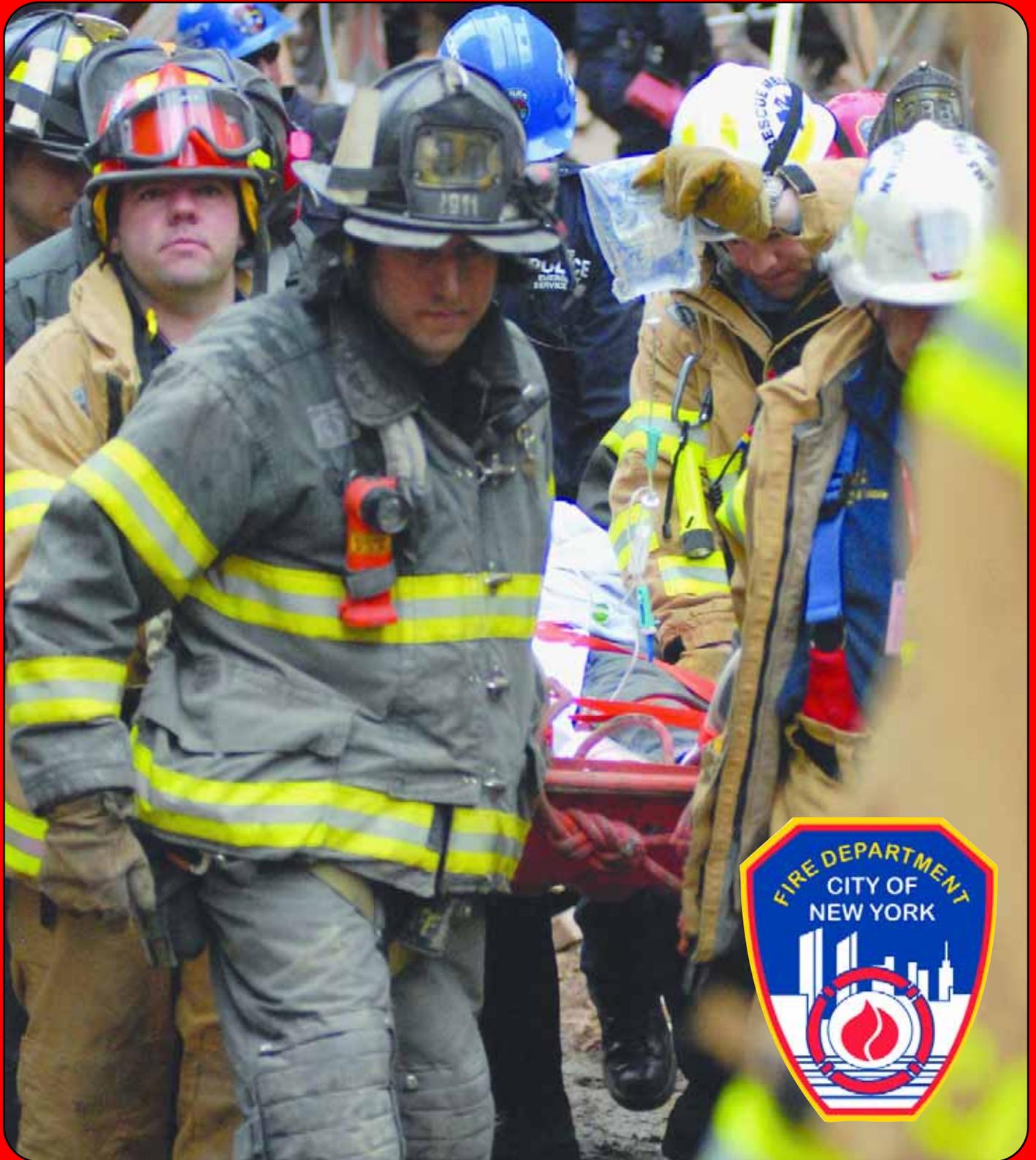


FDNY MEDAL DAY 2009



*Honoring The Courage, Commitment and Compassion
of FDNY Fire & EMS Members*

MEDAL DAY 2009

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Stephen Paul Antonelli

EDITOR
Janet Kimmerly

GRAPHICS/PRODUCTION
Thomas Ittycheria

WRITERS

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Division Chief James Booth, EMS Operations
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SFM Ralph Bernard
Randy Barron, Kristin Eng,
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**Special thanks to Supervising Fire Marshal
John Holohan for his assistance.**

FDNY

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Front Cover Photo and Photo on Opposite Page
Manhattan Box 44-0861,

305 East 50th Street/2nd Avenue, March 15, 2008.

FDNY Fire and EMS personnel remove victim from crane collapse. Ladder Company 4 members--Lieutenant Christopher M. King and FFs Edward M. Coyle, Louis Esposito, Patrick Moore, Daniel Squire and George T. Young--are the recipients of the Company of the Year, World Trade Center Memorial Medal; and Paramedic Marco A. Girao, EMS Lieutenant Louis Cook, Dr.

Dario Gonzalez and Paramedic Juan Henriquez are the recipients of the Christopher J. Prescott Medal for their efforts at this incident.

photos by FF Michael Gomez, Squad 288

Back Cover Photo

Bronx Box 75-2122, 354 East 134th Street, March 17, 2008.

This is the incident for which Captain James E. Walsh, Jr., Ladder Company 17, received the William F. Conran Medal.



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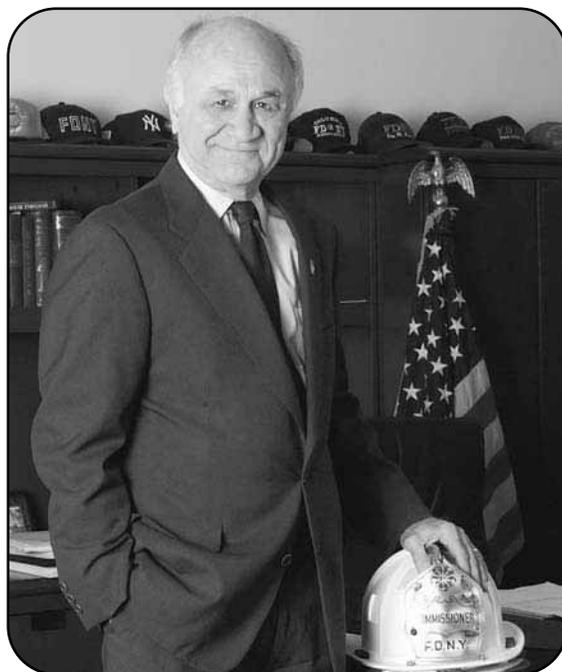
Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor

It is a great pleasure to welcome all those attending the New York City Fire Department's Medal Day ceremonies. For more than 140 years, New Yorkers have benefitted from the hard work and dedication of our Bravest, who have extinguished more than two million fires and saved hundreds of thousands of lives. The average response time to structural fires is the fastest it's been in 14 years. Fire-related fatalities continue to decline, dropping another 10 percent in 2008. And, last year alone, EMS responded to 1.2 million emergencies, making our City safer than ever.

This ceremony is an important opportunity to recognize Firefighters, Fire Officers, Fire Marshals and Emergency Medical Service personnel, whose courage, professionalism and commitment to helping others characterize the FDNY and embody the spirit of our City. Each of the men and women being honored has gone above and beyond the call of duty to serve our residents and I am proud to join in celebrating their tremendous accomplishments.

I especially congratulate Anthony Romano of Ladder 142, who is receiving the James Gordon Bennett Medal for saving the life of another Firefighter; Paramedic Marco A. Girao, Paramedic Juan Henriquez, Dr. Dario Gonzalez and Lieutenant Louis Cook, who are receiving the Christopher J. Prescott Medal; and Ladder 4, which is receiving the Company of the Year, World Trade Center Memorial Medal, for their extraordinary response to the Second Avenue crane collapse; and all the brave men and women receiving medals today. Your heroic efforts make our City one of the safest places in the world to live, work and do business. All New Yorkers are grateful for your sacrifices. On behalf of the City of New York, please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable ceremony and continued success.

A handwritten signature of Michael R. Bloomberg in black ink. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style and is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the page.



Nicholas Scoppetta
Fire Commissioner

Day after day, the men and women of the FDNY's Fire and EMS units work hard to save lives, often under conditions that put them at great risk. So it is important that we take time every year to honor those members whose actions in the line of duty merit special recognition.

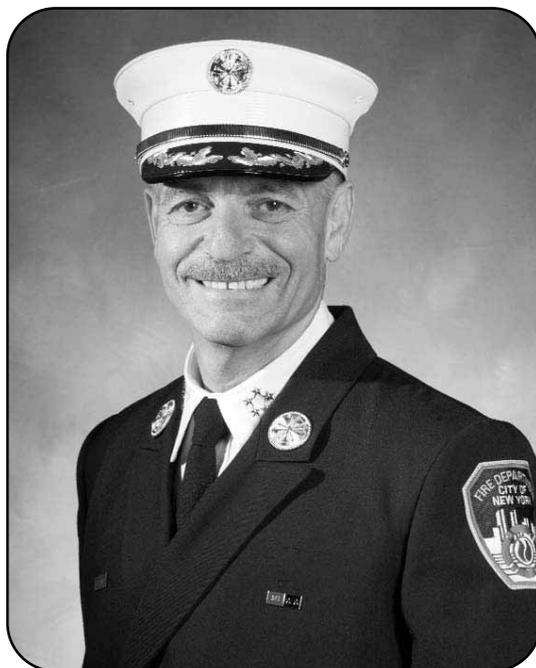
This year, we have added a new medal. The Company of the Year, World Trade Center Memorial Medal honors the memory of the 343 members killed on September 11, 2001, by highlighting the actions of a unit that performed exceptionally as a team. The first recipient of this highly prestigious award is Ladder 4 in Manhattan for the work they did at the Second Avenue crane collapse in March 2008.

Congratulations also to Firefighter Anthony Romano of Ladder 142 in Queens, who is being awarded the James Gordon Bennett Medal for saving a fellow Firefighter from a potentially fatal injury.

Our EMS winners also are being recognized for their work at the Second Avenue crane collapse, a complex multi-agency event. Congratulations to the four recipients of the Christopher J. Prescott Medal: Paramedic Marco A. Girao and Paramedic Juan Henriquez, both assigned to the Kips Bay EMS station; Dr. Dario Gonzalez, Medical Director for Divisions 1 and 2; and Lieutenant Louis Cook of Haz Tac.

And, congratulations to Firefighter James Byrne of Ladder 121 in Queens, who will receive the Dr. Harry M. Archer Medal this year and Engine 44 in Manhattan, which is being awarded the Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation/Father Julian F. Deeken Memorial Medal. Both medals are given out only every three years and, therefore, are especially prestigious. Engine 227 in Brooklyn is receiving the Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal and Ladder 6 in Manhattan is receiving the Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal. Both units should be proud of the work they have done.

Our members commit acts of bravery and compassion--small and large--every day and they do it for the public good, not for personal acclaim. For this, they all deserve recognition and thanks.



Salvatore J. Cassano
Chief of Department

Last year, FDNY was pleased to announce the merger of the Fire and EMS Medal Days into one day, one book and one celebration of the two related, but different services. As with most change, there was some trepidation to overcome. But, I had great faith in you and you did not let me down. Medal Day 2008 was one of the Department's best ceremonies ever.

This year, I am proud to announce another significant addition--the introduction of a brand-new medal--Company of the Year, World Trade Center Memorial Medal. To finally bring this project to fruition after seven years is a triumph for the Department. Family members and friends of the 343 FDNY members killed on 9/11 initiated this request. There was much spirited debate, but on one point, all agreed--a WTC medal was necessary.

Many criteria for this medal came into play, but the primary focus is on teamwork. As the prestigious unit citation for the year, the medal can be awarded to any FDNY line unit--engine, ladder or SOC company (Rescue, Squad, Haz-Mat or Marine). This medal is a lasting tribute to every FDNY member killed on 9/11, as well as a great honor for the recipients. The Company of the Year, World Trade Center Memorial Medal signifies that whether a Chief or a seven-week Proby was killed during the terrorist attacks, each death was afforded the dignity and respect deserving of a veteran. The memories of the 343 members killed on 9/11 will forever be noted with this perpetual medal.

In closing, I offer my congratulations to all of our 2009 Medal Day awardees. You make the Department proud and I am honored to be your Chief.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Salvatore J. Cassano".

FIRST DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

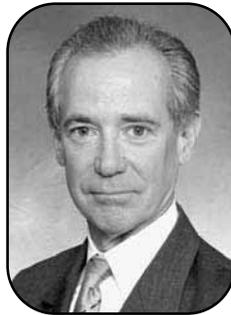


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THE ARCHER MEDAL

Special Order No. 180, which was dated October 4, 1920, reads as follows: “A medal, to be known as the ‘Harry M. Archer Medal’ has been donated by Dr. Herman L. Reis and is to be awarded every third year to such member of the uniformed force of the Fire Department as may have, during the three years preceding such award, been the recipient of one or more medals, which are now given or may hereafter be given, to the members of the uniformed force. Such award shall be made by selection from among said medal winners during the said three years preceding such award for the performance in the judgment of the Fire Commissioner and the Chief of Department of the most meritorious service or act of heroism or bravery.”

Legends in the Fire Department of New York begin with members who win medals. Theirs are the stories of danger, fear, courage, honor and the greatest degree of self-satisfaction.

Firefighters are brave, dedicated and loyal. Respect comes in many ways to those who fight fires. The highest honor that can be bestowed on a New York City Firefighter is to be awarded the Doctor Harry M. Archer Medal. It's reserved for the truly bravest of the brave!

1921 — Firefighter 1st Grade John Walsh (Hook & Ladder Company 1)	1960 — Firefighter 3rd Grade William V. Russo (Ladder Company 25)
1924 — Captain Edwin A.A. Quinn (Engine Company 14)	1963 — Firefighter 1st Grade Joseph E. Almon (Ladder Company 35)
1927 — Firefighter 1st Grade William G.R. Mitchell (Engine Company 18)	1966 — Lieutenant David Crowley (37 Battalion; Formerly Firefighter in Ladder Company 14)
1930 — Firefighter 1st Grade Michael McInerney (Hook & Ladder Company 12)	1969 — Firefighter 1st Grade Gene P. Dowling (Ladder Company 25)
1933 — Captain Albert B. Carlson (Engine Company 66)	1972 — Lieutenant Richard R. Hamilton (Rescue Company 2)
1936 — Firefighter 1st Grade Rudolph F. Musil (Hook & Ladder Company 12)	1975 — Firefighter 1st Grade Raymond G. McCann (Ladder Company 40)
1939 — Firefighter 1st Grade James P. Nevin (Engine Company 201)	1978 — Captain Frederick W. Gallagher (Rescue Company 2)
1942 — Firefighter 1st Grade Charles A. Merz (Hook & Ladder Company 168)	1981 — Lieutenant Howard R. Kennedy (Ladder Company 154)
1945 — Acting Deputy Chief John W. Heaney (Headquarters Staff)	1984 — Firefighter 1st Grade Kenneth Connelly (Ladder Company 111)
1948 — Firefighter 1st Grade Anthony L. Riccardi (Hook & Ladder Company 1)	1987 — Captain James F. McDonnell (Ladder Company 42)
1951 — Lieutenant Wilbur J. O'Donnell (Hook & Ladder Company 1)	1990 — Lieutenant William F. Maloney (Ladder Company 34)
1954 — Firefighter 1st Grade Victor F. Rossi (Ladder Company 120)	1993 — Firefighter Michael M. Dugan (Ladder Company 43)
1957 — Firefighter 2nd Grade Michael J. O'Driscoll (Ladder Company 28)	1996 — Lieutenant Albert J. Gonzalez, Jr. (Ladder Company 18)
	1999 — Firefighter Gerard J. Triglia (Ladder Company 132)
	2003 — Battalion Chief John J. Pritchard (41 Battalion; Formerly Captain of Engine Company 255)
	2006 — Firefighter James F. Mills (Ladder Company 176)

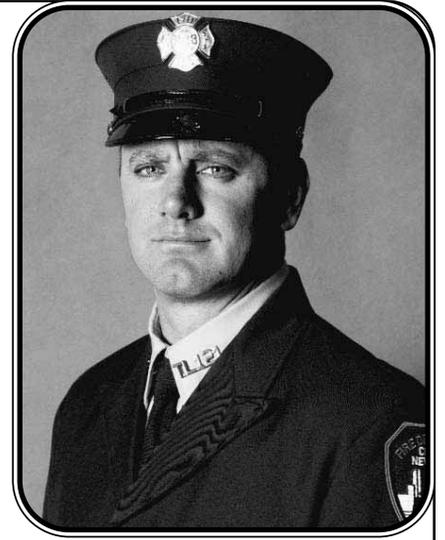
Dr. Harry M. Archer Medal

FIREFIGHTER JAMES T. BYRNE

LADDER COMPANY 121

January 26, 2006, 1349 hours, Box 33-1201, 40-20 Beach Channel Drive, Queens

Appointed to the FDNY on October 26, 1996. Brother-in-law, Lieutenant John O'Connor, is assigned to Engine 310 and brother-in-law, FF Christopher J. Haughie, is assigned to Engine 257. Member of the Holy Name and Emerald Societies. Attended Brooklyn College. Recipient of a Class II and two unit citations. Resides in Rockaway Beach, Queens, with his wife, Kathleen, and their sons, James, Colin, Brendan and Sean.



On January 26, 2006, Ladder Company 121 responded first-due to Queens Box 1201 for a phone alarm reporting a fire in apartment 6G on the sixth floor at 40-20 Beach Channel Drive, a 13-story, fireproof multiple dwelling. As units were arriving, the Queens dispatcher radioed them of a second source, also reporting fire on the sixth floor.

Arriving on the sixth floor via the "A" stairway with his inside team, Lieutenant Richard DePrima, Ladder 121, requested that Battalion Chief George Healy, Battalion 47, transmit the 10-75. The Lieutenant also informed the Chief that the public hallway was heavily charged, indicating that the apartment door was open. Lieutenant Steven Sharp, Engine 265, the first-due engine, was in the stairwell and entered the fifth floor so he could provide Ladder 121's inside team with the layout of the hallway and the direction and distance to the reported fire apartment.

Lieutenant DePrima ordered the forcible entry Firefighter, FF Richard Nash, to remain at the stairway door until the fire apartment was located. Lieutenants DePrima and Sharp, along with Probationary FF Joseph McMenamin, the extinguisher Firefighter, and FF James Byrne, the outside vent Firefighter, entered the sixth-floor hallway and crawled 12 feet to the T-shaped part of the public hallway. They turned right and went another 25 feet to the fire apartment, 6G.

A search was initiated, with FF Byrne going to the right and Lieutenant DePrima and Proby McMenamin searching to the left. Lieutenant Sharp returned to the stairway door to meet up with the nozzle team and lead the hose-line to the fire apartment. FF Nash then began crawling down the hallway to the fire apartment. Probationary FF McMenamin was using the extinguisher in an attempt to contain the fire to the open walkway leading to the rear bedroom.

By this time, FF Byrne had completed his search of the living room and kitchen. Lieutenant DePrima repositioned his team back to the public hallway to await the arrival of the charged hose-line, which was advancing down the long T-shaped hallway. Before leaving the fire apartment, Lieutenant DePrima directed FF Byrne to close the entrance door. He made several attempts to close it with the Halligan, but was unsuccessful.

Engine 265 was attempting to advance the line into the fire apartment as conditions began to worsen. Lieutenant DePrima directed FF Byrne to conduct a primary search of the public hallway. The Firefighter crawled 22 feet and searched the dead end of the hallway. He then secured an area of refuge in apartment 6H, which was on the same side of the hallway as the fire apartment. Apartment 6H also

was isolated between the fire apartment and the end of the hallway.

Almost immediately on FF Byrne's return to the fire apartment, the windows failed and conditions rapidly deteriorated. The influx of air, driven by a 40-mph wind, created blowtorch-like conditions, with fire exploding out the apartment door. Fire filled the public hallway and continued toward the open door of the attack stairs, making conditions in the hallway untenable.

The extreme conditions separated FF Byrne and Proby McMenamin from their Officer and the other Firefighters in the public hallway. Since they were unable to cross in front of the door of the fire apartment, FF Byrne led Proby McMenamin away from the danger, to the safety of apartment 6H.

FF Byrne then heard a *mayday* transmitted by Engine 264, the second-due engine. The back-up Firefighter, Kevin McCarthy, said he was burning up. Conditions in the public hallway had deteriorated to the point where entering the hallway, even with a hose-line, was treacherous. FF Byrne opened the door to apartment 6H wide enough to yell "over here" to FF McCarthy and also banged on the floor with his Halligan. FF McCarthy could not hear him or was unable to respond.

FF Byrne left his safe area and crawled 22 feet into the public hallway, without the protection of a hose-line. Simultaneously, the members of Engine 328 were attempting to make a push from the stairwell with a charged hose-line. Conditions now were so severe that after advancing a few feet, the engine company was forced back to the safety of the stairwell. The public hallway was being burned to the floor. Many members suffered burn injuries that required medical leave.

While searching the public hallway in zero visibility for the downed Firefighter, FF Byrne discovered FF McCarthy in the prone position on the floor at the entrance to the fire apartment. FF McCarthy was in an extremely dangerous position with flames around him. FF Byrne pulled FF McCarthy by the shoulder straps of his SCBA and dragged him 22 feet back down the hallway to apartment 6H. FF Byrne made a second attempt to search the public hallway for FF Nash and any other trapped members. After a quick search, he was driven back by the extreme heat. After returning to the apartment, FF Byrne transmitted to the Incident Commander that he and the other members were safe.

FF McCarthy suffered second-degree burns to his neck and back and was admitted to Nassau County Medical Center before being placed on medical leave. For his actions in rescuing another Firefighter, FF James T. Byrne officially is recognized for his bravery with the Dr. Harry M. Archer Medal.--NG



After his successful rescue, FF Byrne is trapped in an adjoining apartment (area of refuge) with FF McCarthy, who he dragged to safety.

photo by FF Chris Landano

THE JAMES GORDON BENNETT MEDAL WINNERS

The James Gordon Bennett Medal was 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 members of the Medal Board of the NYC Fire Department.

- 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 Levins (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 Banta (L-10)
- 1888--Lieutenant William Quirk (E-22)
- 1889--Firefighter William Reilly (L-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 (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 (L-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 Sharcko (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. Battillo (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. Triglia (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)
- 2003--Battalion Chief James Marketti (Bn-48)
- 2004--Firefighter James F. Mills (L-176)
- 2005--Firefighter Victor J. Rosa, Jr. (L-138)
- 2006--Captain Christopher J. Joyce (E-318)
- 2007--Firefighter James T. Byrne (L-121)
- 2008--Lieutenant James F. Congema (Bn-19)

James Gordon Bennett Medal

FIREFIGHTER ANTHONY M. ROMANO

LADDER COMPANY 142

February 26, 2008, 0318 hours, Box 22-9645, 87-35 114th Street,
Richmond Hill, Queens

Appointed to the FDNY on March 7, 2004. Father, FF Tony Romano, is retired from Ladder 30. Holds a bachelor's degree in History/Education from Hunter College. Resides in Oceanside, Long Island, with his wife, Jamie.



In the early-morning hours of Tuesday, February 26, 2008, Ladder 142 and Engine 285 received a phone alarm that will not be forgotten for years to come. A fire was reported at 87-24 115th Street, Queens. Arriving at the reported address, members conducted their investigation and found that there was *nothing showing* at this building, but the Ladder 143 roof Firefighter reported seeing smoke from the rear of a private dwelling on the next street, 114th Street.

Battalion Chief Patrick Ginty, Battalion 51, ordered Engine 285 to the building where they conducted an investigation and confirmed a working fire in a three-story, frame private dwelling. A 10-75 was given. The remaining companies responded to the new address, both on foot and apparatus. Due to the delay, the fire gained headway.

Units now arriving encountered Collyers' mansion-type conditions, complicating operations. Quick entry into the building was prevented, again allowing the fire to grow in intensity. Additionally, the owner had packed all rooms with debris and sealed the rooms with plastic sheeting and cardboard over some of the windows. This combination nurtured the environment for a delayed alarm and flashover.

Firefighter Anthony Romano, Ladder 142, was assigned the outside vent position. In keeping with procedures for private dwelling fires, he performed a perimeter survey for possible life hazards. While making his way to the rear, FF Romano heard a transmission over the handie-talkie: *Mayday! I'm burning up in the rear!* Knowing that the front of the fire building was covered by the inside team on the first floor and his LCC and the second-due LCC were on the second-floor front, the only area left uncovered was the second-floor rear.

FF Daniel Carson, Ladder 9, detailed to Ladder 142, was assigned the roof position and after verbally communicating with FF Romano, transported the 16-foot extension ladder to the rear. Both members raised the ladder to the exposure #3 setback roof, the only access to the only window on exposure #3. This setback had a pitch of 45 degrees with a span of six feet. The physical characteristics of the setback prevented placement of the ladder to the windowsill. With the exact location of the *mayday* still unknown and fire now involving the second floor, this window would be the only way in.

As FF Carson butted the ladder, FF Romano ascended to vent, enter and search for the member in distress. From the ladder at the edge of the setback roof, FF Romano vented the window, preparing to enter by pulling himself up, using the full extension of his arm and a six-foot hook. Subsequently, high heat and heavy, dense black smoke pushed out the rear window, indicating probable flashover. Simultaneously, while preparing his climb, FF Romano heard an addi-

tional transmission: *I'm burning up! I'm burning up!*

FF Romano, applying situational awareness, determined that FF Robert Grover, Ladder 143, was probably in that second-floor rear area. Experiencing the worst of conditions for entry and feeling the intense heat of the fire, he donned his mask, pulled up his hood, hooked his six-foot hook onto the windowsill and pulled himself up the steep setback roof. At the window, he cleared the remaining glass and sash. Entering and searching were arduous, due to the incline of the roof, awkward footing, the escalating heat and smoke venting from the window and lack of an area of refuge.

Hanging onto the windowsill, he entered the room head-first into the severe conditions, hooking the instep of his left boot onto the windowsill as his only lifeline and searching to the right. Not finding anyone, he let go of the security of the windowsill and turned to the left, continuing into the room. FF Romano immediately heard a noise that he determined to be coming from FF Grover. Through near-zero visibility, FF Romano saw the reflective stripes of bunker gear and found FF Grover semi-conscious in the corner of the bedroom, near the exposure #3 and #4 walls.

FF Romano reached out and grabbed the mask shoulder straps and dragged FF Grover back to the window. He then lifted the more than 200-lb. Firefighter up and over the sill. Conditions deteriorated toward flashover with fire venting overhead. In one swift motion, he held onto FF Grover and rolled out of the room through the window, out onto the setback roof. Together, they rolled down the steep setback roof, behind the ladder and fell to the ground.

Throughout the drop, FF Romano yelled through his facepiece, attempting to reassure FF Grover he would be safe, *I got you! I got you!* And, indeed, he did. Never letting go, the two landed in the rear yard. If not for the rapid and intelligent actions of FF Romano, FF Grover would have succumbed to his injuries, for 30 seconds later, heavy fire was venting through this only way out of exposure #3. Both

men sustained injuries from this operation. FF Romano stayed with FF Grover until both were transported to the hospital. FF Romano was removed with initial reports of a broken jaw, leg and internal injuries and FF Grover with burns to his face and hands. FF Grover spent the next 21 days at Cornell Burn Center.

Nothing is more important than saving a life. To save a Brother Firefighter is extraordinary. In honor of FF Anthony Romano's actions, he is presented with the James Gordon Bennett Medal.--TW



FF Anthony Romano operated at Queens Box 33-2034, brush fire at 165th Avenue/Cross Bay Boulevard, Howard Beach, April 30, 2008.

photo by Todd Maisel, New York Daily News



Brooklyn Citizens Medal/ FF Louis Valentino Award

LIEUTENANT THOMAS P. O'DAY

LADDER COMPANY 172

May 9, 2008, 2045 hours, Box 22-2849, 6824 18th Avenue, Brooklyn

Appointed to the FDNY on September 2, 1978. Previous assignments include Engine 310 and Ladder 174. Uncle, FF John L. Sullivan, is retired from Marine Operations and nephew, FF Nicola Iannacco, is assigned to Engine 230. Member of the Holy Name and Emerald Societies and the Columbia Association. Recipient of two Class Bs. Resides in Breezy Point, Queens, with his son, Tommy.

March 9, 2008, was a wet Friday night, with the weather periodically alternating between heavy rain and mist when an alarm came in for Box 2842, 18th Avenue and Bay Ridge Parkway. Upon receipt of the alarm at 2044 hours, Lieutenant Thomas P. O'Day boarded Ladder 172's apparatus with his crew to respond as the first-due truck. However, en route, the alarm location was changed to 6824 18th Avenue, resulting in Ladder 172 arriving as the second-due truck. Before Ladder 172's arrival, Acting Battalion Chief Brian Pritchard, Battalion 42, transmitted a 10-75 signal for a fire in the basement and first floor of a three-story, non-fireproof multiple dwelling at Box 2849.

As Ladder 172 pulled into the block, members observed heavy smoke in the street pushing out from the ground-floor store and a second-floor apartment. Lieutenant O'Day led his inside team to the building's side entrance for the second-due position on the building's second floor. Confronted immediately with high heat and heavy smoke in the stair vestibule, the Officer ordered his crew to don their masks while he scanned the area with his thermal imaging camera, finding fire already burning in the wall enclosing the store. The fire in the wall was reaching up toward the second floor and heavy smoke percolated out from between the stair treads and risers, suggesting that the fire already had dropped into the basement.

There were reports of people trapped above the fire and Lieutenant O'Day knew that they must start their second-floor search quickly, but he also knew that conditions in the stairway were deteriorating rapidly. He called for a hand-line to protect the egress route and cover their primary search of the second floor. Lieutenant O'Day alerted his extinguisher Firefighter, FF Richard Piccoli, and his forcible entry Firefighter, FF Joseph Edrehi, Jr., of the need to quickly search the hallway and then enter an apartment to escape the high heat they would encounter on the second floor.

As they ascended the stairs, they were met by high heat and had to go down onto their hands and knees, crawling up the stairs in an attempt to stay below the worst of it. Reaching the second-floor hallway, Lieutenant O'Day found that the heat was more severe than expected. As Ladder 172's interior team began their search of the hallway, they heard a radio transmission warning that there would be a delay in venting the roof bulkhead door. That delay meant that conditions would not improve any time soon and could, in fact, be expected to worsen.

Searching as they moved down the hallway, Lieutenant O'Day and the inside team squeezed past a bicycle that was

chained to the hallway railing and other items carelessly stored there. The heat was increasing as they arrived at the apartment door directly above the fire area. Lieutenant O'Day, again using his thermal imaging camera, observed that fire in the walls had extended up to the second floor and likely was spreading to the third floor.

As he supervised forcible entry, Lieutenant O'Day heard--above the sounds of forcible entry--moaning coming from the third floor. He instructed his men to continue their primary search on the second floor. Alone, the Lieutenant crawled up the stairs to the third floor, seeking the source of the moaning. He found 31-year-old Demaris Samoeraino lying in the public hallway.

The rescuer transmitted a 10-45 and began the struggle to drag Mr. Samoeraino over to and down the stairs. While so engaged, Lieutenant O'Day heard the sound of moaning farther down the hallway. There was another victim. Mindful of the deteriorating conditions, Lieutenant O'Day brought Mr. Samoeraino to the second floor and handed him off to FF Piccoli.

Then, the Lieutenant again crawled back up to the third floor and, using his thermal imaging camera, located eight-year-old Charlie Romero, who was lying outside an open apartment door. The Officer transmitted a second 10-45 and crawled toward the stairs, shielding the boy with his body against the high overhead heat and the glass falling from the skylight above. The skylight, once broken, served as a vent that drew smoke and heat up the stairs at Lieutenant O'Day.

Crawling beneath the intense heat and cradling the child protectively, he slid down the stairs on his side to the second floor and then continued down to the first floor. He traversed the smoke and heat-filled hallway, descended the stairs and entered the street, where he handed the unconscious child into the arms of a waiting EMS worker. The Officer then re-entered the building, rejoined his inside team and renewed his search of the second floor; fortunately, with negative results.

Lieutenant O'Day, fully aware of the existing hazards and rapidly deteriorating conditions, alone and without the protection of a hose-line, undertook the third-floor rescue attempt twice. He found and rescued the unconscious Mr. Samoeraino unassisted and despite rapidly deteriorating conditions, returned to the third floor, looked for and found young Charlie Romero and rescued him, bringing him down two flights of stairs and into the street. He then returned to the second floor to supervise his inside team. For all of these reasons, Lieutenant Thomas O'Day is honored with the Brooklyn Citizens Medal/FF Louis Valentino Award.--FM



Ladder 172 in operation.

Hugh Bonner Medal

FIREFIGHTER CHARLES C. BOTTI

SQUAD COMPANY 18

January 14, 2008, 1353 hours, Box 22-370, 246 Spring Street, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY on May 4, 2003. Previously assigned to Ladder 6. Member of the Emerald Society and Columbia Association. Holds a BS degree in Manufacturing Engineering from Western Carolina University. Recipient of a unit citation. Resides in Warwick, New York.



A day in the life of Squad 18 members routinely involves the use of specialized equipment and techniques to support human life. In order to be effective, all rescue-trained Firefighters participate in evolutions that may expose them to peril if proper and safe procedures are not adhered to. Although there may be alternative methods and equipment that may be used by other agencies to effect vertical rope rescue, the methods used by the FDNY Special Operations Command and presented in the FDNY Rescue School are intended to provide the highest level of safety for all participants. It is this dedication to training that allowed Squad 18 members to bring to fruition a high-angle rope rescue under grave circumstances.

As Manhattan Box 22-370 was transmitted on January 14, 2008, for an unknown-type trauma at the corner of the Avenue of the Americas and Spring Street, FDNY fire alarm dispatchers were piecing together the many conflicting reports being received that indicated a possible floor, building and/or crane collapse, all occurring at 246 Spring Street. Arriving at the location, members determined that a crane hoisting a container to the upper-most floor of the building had lost a load of concrete, causing a partial collapse of the upper floors and the obvious death of one construction worker who had been ejected off the side of the building to the ground. Miraculously, a second construction worker was caught in a severely damaged safety net that was overloaded with flowing concrete, steel beams and wood shoring.

Recognizing the danger and necessity for a high-angle rope rescue, the members of Squad 18 made their way to the upper floors of the structure by the only means available--the exterior hoist-way elevator. Arriving at the 37th floor with his company and their high-angle rope equipment, Lieutenant Thor Johannessen's size-up revealed that the netting was dangerously overloaded with debris, wet concrete and steel, but the victim was viable and in a very precarious position.

Confident in his members and ultimately in their repetitive training, Lieutenant Johannessen ordered FFs Charles Botti and Richard Naviasky to the 39th floor, a better location to set up operations. The primary function of any rescue is to locate and extricate trapped victims, as well as transfer them to a stable and safe area, while

providing basic life support. In keeping with this principle, Lieutenant Johannessen, in concert with Battalion Chief Robert Norcross, Battalion 1, decided to initiate a high-angle rope rescue.

FF Botti was lowered by a main line rope and subsequently, a safety belay rope to the victim's precarious position in the net. The initial trauma assessment revealed that the victim had fallen 50 feet and was buried in wet cement that had cascaded from the building into the net. While simultaneously treating the victim's life-threatening injuries, FF Botti began to secure him in a triangular harness constructed of webbing and canvas, securing it around the victim's chest and through his legs.

While FF Botti was working against time on the victim in the net, the remaining members of Squad 18 were rigging a hauling line to give them a mechanical advantage and safe means of retrieving both victim and rescuer. With all parts of the rope system tested and ready, the lift was initiated.

Simultaneously, as the lift was underway, a construction bucket was maneuvered adjacent to FF Botti's and the victim's location by an operating engineer. With skill mastered through training, FF Botti was able to guide the victim into the bucket, which facilitated quicker extrication, as well as safer continuation of patient care. Once secured, the Firefighter removed the ropes to which he and the victim were attached, allowing the crane operator to lower the bucket to the street.

Reaching the street, Francesco Palizzotto, the 40-year-old worker, was rapidly assessed by FDNY Paramedics and transported to St. Vincent's Hospital. He was admitted with critical injuries.

Due to team work, as well as unit cohesiveness and repetitive training, FF Botti and the members of Squad 18--assisted by Ladder 5 and Rescue 1 members--were able to complete this unique rescue operation in spite of extreme operational challenges. Moreover, FF Botti placed himself at risk in the rescue of this victim by operating on rope 400 feet above street level, in the collapse zone, with tons of debris hanging precariously above his head.

For demonstrating bravery and risking his own life to save another, FF Charles C. Botti is presented with the Hugh Bonner Medal.--PWB



Photo reveals the collapse with the victim in the net on the 37th floor, approximately 400 feet off the street.



Emily Trevor/ Mary B. Warren Medal LIEUTENANT VICTOR SPADARO *LADDER COMPANY 157*

July 1, 2008, 0222 hours, Box 22-2463, 1001 Ocean Avenue, Brooklyn

Appointed to the FDNY on July 5, 1988. Previously assigned to Ladders 20 and 103 and Engine 290. Member of the Columbia Association and the Holy Name and Emerald Societies. Recipient of the Columbia Association Medal and a Service Rating A. Attended Kingsborough/Brooklyn College. Resides in Brooklyn with his son, Matthew.

In the early-morning hours of July 1, 2008, at 0222 hours, Tower Ladder 157 was dispatched to Box 2463 for a reported fire on the second floor of a four-story multiple dwelling at 1001 Ocean Avenue, Brooklyn. The Brooklyn dispatchers were receiving numerous calls and immediately dispatched four engines and two trucks on the initial alarm.

On arrival, Lieutenant Victor Spadaro and the members of Ladder 157 were confronted with a heavy fire condition venting out two windows, numerous people on the fire escapes, people also showing at windows and additional civilians in the street, frantically screaming that there was still a family inside the apartment.

Quickly transmitting the 10-75, Lieutenant Spadaro and his inside team of FFs Christian Nielsen with the irons and Christopher Ganci with the extinguisher immediately made their way to the fire apartment door on the second floor. Arriving at the door, they found it locked, with fire and heavy smoke pushing from around the door and fire even pushing through the peep hole. After directing the forcible entry team to take the door, Lieutenant Spadaro geared up for entry into the apartment.

Knowing that conditions inside were severely deteriorated and Engine 255's line still was in the process of being stretched, Lieutenant Spadaro knew that people were trapped inside and there was no time to waste. The door now was forced and, without hesitation, Lieutenant Spadaro placed himself in danger as he crawled as low as he could into the fire apartment to begin his search.

Feeling the intense heat and flames overhead, he made his way down the hall, on his belly, toward the main body of fire. Hearing a moan behind him, Lieutenant

Spadaro changed his direction to make his way toward the voice. Battling every inch, Lieutenant Spadaro made his way into the bedroom where he thought he heard the voice. Frantically searching about 10 feet into the room, Lieutenant Spadaro found the now-motionless body of a seven-year-old boy.

Maintaining his composure, he transmitted the 10-45, quickly scooped up the young boy and made his way back to the apartment door. As he crawled back, with the flames still over his head, Lieutenant Spadaro protected and shielded the child. Once he reached the entrance door, the Lieutenant handed the boy off to FF Ganci.

The Lieutenant now turned around to go back into the apartment, again enduring the high heat and smoke conditions, and continued his search for victims. Keeping his position inside the apartment, Lieutenant Spadaro continued to coordinate the rescue of two additional children, while remaining calm and conveying concise information to the Incident Commander, Acting Deputy Chief Hugh Mulligan, Division 11. He also guided Engine 255 members while they advanced their hose-line into the apartment.

Lieutenant Spadaro's bravery in placing himself at risk and operating under severe fire conditions without the protection of a hose-line and continuing to operate despite his own injuries set the tone for this operation and the actions of the young members of Ladder 157 under his guidance. Unfortunately, two of the children died as a result of their injuries.

For displaying leadership and bravery, which are standard for members of Rogers Avenue, the New York City Fire Department presents Lieutenant Victor Spadaro with the Emily Trevor/Mary B. Warren Medal.--TW



Flatbush, Brooklyn, fire at which Ladder 157 operated on September 28, 2006.
photo by Paul Martinka, New York Post

Thomas E. Crimmins Medal

LIEUTENANT KEVIN F. QUINN

BATTALION 17 (ASSIGNED), LADDER COMPANY 4 (DETAILED)

April 3, 2008, 0732 hours, Box 0833, 406 West 47th Street, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY on July 9, 1995. Previously assigned to Engines 304 and 84, Ladder 34 and Battalion 47. Great grandfather, FF Joseph Quinn (deceased), was retired from Engine 34; brother, FF Thomas Quinn, is retired from Ladder 138; and nephews, FFs Matthew Quinn and Daniel Quinn, are assigned to Ladder 105 and Ladder 23, respectively. Member of the Holy Name and Emerald Societies. Resides in Franklin Square, Long Island, with his wife, Jeanine, and their daughter, Amy.



It's one of those theories that new FDNY Firefighters hear in their first day at proby school. Members remember it, but they never really believe they will actually experience it. When forcing the fire apartment door, *If you find the chain on, you know someone is inside.* Act accordingly.

It was just this truism that came back to Lieutenant Kevin Quinn, who was working in Ladder 4 in the early morning of April 3, 2008. At 0732 hours, Ladder 4 responded to a telephone alarm at 406 West 47th Street, Manhattan, for smoke on the fifth floor.

On arrival, Lieutenant Quinn and the members of Ladder 4 were confronted with the following conditions: heavy smoke pushing from a fourth-floor window in a five-story, non-fire-proof multiple dwelling. Immediately, the Officer and his forcible entry team--FFs Patrice McLeod with the irons and John Heaney with the extinguisher--rushed up the stairs to the fire apartment, 4D. Smoke was pushing from around the door jamb.

Lieutenant Quinn ordered his forcible entry team to take the door. Just as the door gave way, it opened just enough to show that it was chained from the inside. This fact can mean only one thing. Someone inside had chained the door. Firefighters take this as positive confirmation that the apartment is occupied and extraordinary actions may be taken to search the interior.

Lieutenant Quinn knew that the hose-line would be delayed. The stairs were straight-run stairs, which meant the line would have to be walked around the entire landing at each floor. The Lieutenant realized that time was in short supply. Heavy smoke was pouring from the open door and his team members could not wait for the line to begin their search.

Immediately upon entering the apartment, Lieutenant Quinn could see that a large volume of fire was venting out of the front bedroom into the living room. The intensity of the heat was growing and visibility was deteriorating rapidly. For a moment, the Officer considered ordering everyone out to await the line, due to the possibility of a flashover. But, he remembered the chain was on and someone must be inside, so he pushed deeper into the intensifying heat.

Lieutenant Quinn ordered FF Heaney to use the extinguisher to hit the ceiling and possibly delay a flashover, but the growing flames meant time was running out. The Lieutenant reached the open doorway to the bedroom, where the fire was most intense. He swept the floor around him and found the unconscious Jesus Leonard lying on the floor. He transmitted a 10-45 and immediately started to drag Mr. Leonard back to the door.

The rescuer could feel the heat intensify around him as he used all his strength to get near the apartment door. As he neared the entrance, Lieutenant Quinn was assisted by FF Heaney. Together, they removed Mr. Leonard to the hallway where Engine 34 members administered CPR, revived him and then brought him to the street to the awaiting ambulance. Unfortunately, the victim died the next day. The Officer and Firefighter then returned to the apartment to finish the primary search.

Lieutenant Quinn performed these heroics without the protection of a charged hose-line. Lieutenant Kevin Quinn's actions are in keeping with the finest traditions of the Fire Department. It is for these reasons that he is recognized today with the Thomas E. Crimmins Medal.--CB



Lieutenant Kevin Quinn with his nephews--FFs Daniel Quinn, Ladder 23, on the left and Matthew Quinn, Ladder 105, on the right.



Thomas A. Kenny Memorial Medal

FIREFIGHTER CHRISTOPHER P. KELLY

LADDER COMPANY 13

August 30, 2008, 0126 hours, Box 1161, 510 East 86th Street, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY on March 8, 2005. Previously assigned to Ladder 121. Brother, FF Brian Kelly, is assigned to Ladder 124. Member of the Emerald Society. Studied as an Education major at SUNY, Old Westbury. Recipient of a unit citation. Resides in Sea Cliff, Long Island.

Ladder 13, which protects the Upper East Side of Manhattan, arrived first to a reported fire on East 86th Street in the early-morning hours of August 30, 2008. The Ladder 13 Officer, Lieutenant Thomas Delgrosso, knew immediately that the company had a confirmed fire after he saw an orange glow and smoke behind a closed window in the front of the building. Lieutenant Delgrosso told Battalion Chief Richard Tarello, Battalion 10, what he saw as he headed into the lobby, where he was met by a frantic doorman who informed the Officer that the fire was in apartment 9-D on the ninth floor. The doorman added that the woman living in the apartment was unaccounted for.

Lieutenant Delgrosso engaged the elevator in Firemen Service to gain full control over its functions and debarked on the seventh floor with his inside team. Firefighters exit elevators two floors below the reported fire for several reasons: the fire may actually be on a lower floor; if the car malfunctions, firefighters can take action before the car opens on the fire floor; and departing on a lower floor allows firefighters to survey the layout of the apartments in a safe, clean environment. Adherence to this procedure proved critical in how quickly the victim was found and removed to safety.

The inside team--consisting of the Lieutenant, extinguisher Firefighter, FF Shane Benac, and forcible entry Firefighter, FF Christopher P. Kelly--located the D line of apartments on the seventh floor, just in case the public hallway on the fire floor was compromised. Gathering information along the way, the inside team climbed from the seventh to the ninth floor. When the three rescuers opened the stairwell door on the ninth-floor landing, they were met with thick, blinding smoke, indicating that the apartment door was left open. It later was discovered that the victim made it to the apartment door, but returned to find her dog.

Knowing how quickly a failed window or a change in wind direction can turn the public hallway into an inferno--especially on the upper floors of a Manhattan high-rise apartment building--the Lieutenant left FF Benac at the stairwell door. With FF Benac positioned as a reference point, the Lieutenant and FF Kelly crawled down the black, smoke-filled hallway to find the fire

apartment. With the mental picture that the Officer and FF Kelly had of the hallway layout, they quickly found the door to apartment 9-D on the opposite side from the stairwell door. They crawled inside and closed the door to deprive the fire of oxygen. With the apartment door secure, FF Benac was summoned to the fire apartment from the stairwell door.

The inside team regrouped inside the apartment and began their search. Lieutenant Delgrosso directed FF Kelly to search from the left side, while FF Benac joined the Officer for a right-wall search. FF Kelly's search brought him to the dining room and into another hallway. He knew that he was approaching the seat of the fire because he could feel the heat intensify through his protective clothing. Reaching the bedroom door, FF Kelly heard crackling and saw flames rolling in the smoke at the ceiling level, a sign of imminent flashover. The fire started to extend into the hallway and FF Kelly, who knew that the occupant remained unaccounted for, continued his search past the fire, despite deteriorating conditions and the possibility that he would be cut off from his exit.

As fire rolled overhead and before a hose-line was positioned, FF Kelly quickly moved into the bedroom where he found Linda Roberts, 68, unconscious on the floor. He transmitted a 10-45 over his handie-talkie and started to remove Ms. Roberts from the bedroom that now was filled with fire. After dragging the victim to the dining area, FF Kelly called to Lieutenant Delgrosso for assistance. The Lieutenant helped FF Kelly drag the woman from the apartment as FF Benac protected his colleagues with the remaining water from his extinguisher, giving them the precious seconds needed to remove the victim from the immediate fire area. She was carried down the stairs to an awaiting elevator on the floor below the fire.

Despite suffering a painful, lower-back injury, FF Kelly continued his efforts to revive Ms. Roberts in the elevator until she could be handed over to EMS personnel waiting in the lobby. As a result of her injuries, she perished months later.

For exhibiting bravery and sound search techniques in a hostile environment, without regard for his personal safety, FF Christopher P. Kelly is awarded the Thomas A. Kenny Memorial Medal.--SN



FF Chris Kelly (center) with the members of Ladder 13.

Walter Scott Medal

FIREFIGHTER JOHN L. KROON

LADDER COMPANY 168

May 9, 2008, 2045 hours, Box 22-2849, 1787 Bay Ridge Avenue, Brooklyn

Assigned to the FDNY on February 5, 1995. Member of the Viking Association. Holds a BS degree in Business and an AS degree in Nursing, both from the College of Staten Island. Recipient of the Brooklyn Citizens Medal in 1996. Resides on Staten Island with his wife, Christine, and their sons, Matthew, Jonathan and Eric.



Fires occurring at night in multiple dwellings usually mean that people are trapped and in need of assistance. Such was the case on May 9, 2008, at 1787 Bay Ridge Avenue, Brooklyn. The involved building was a three-story, 20- by 60-foot, non-fireproof multiple dwelling, consisting of a commercial food store on the first floor and two apartments on each of the two floors above.

At 2045 hours, numerous phone alarms were received at the Brooklyn Fire Communications Office for a fire in a building at the intersection of 18th and Bay Ridge Avenues. This information was transmitted to the local firehouses, including Ladder 168. A fast turnout, quick response and heroic actions would be necessary to lessen the severity of injuries if any of the occupants was trapped. Through training and experience, the members of Ladder 168 were up to the challenge.

It was raining quite heavily on this evening as the first units rolled up to the fire scene. Members noticed that the corner building was involved in fire, with heavy smoke emanating from all windows of the fire building and fire venting out of the store windows on 18th Avenue. The rainy atmosphere further complicated matters because the smoke lingered around the lower areas, obscuring portions of the building.

The members of Ladder 168 sized up the situation, then raced toward the blaze, knowing that it would be difficult to rescue any trapped civilians in the apartments on the second and third floors. FF John Kroon, a 17-year veteran, was assigned the ever-important position of outside vent Firefighter for this tour because of his experience and knowledge in operating alone at fire emergencies. He was notified by civilians in the street that there were, indeed, people unaccounted for who lived on the second floor. Thus, it was important to lower the fire escape drop ladder immediately for access to the apartments on the second floor.

The drop ladder was wedged in a narrow space between two store awnings. As he ascended and squeezed through this tight space, the radiant heat from the fire in the store made this task difficult, but FF Kroon--unwavering in his mission to get to those trapped civilians--reached the landing on the second floor. Just before forcing open the window of the second-floor front

apartment and entering, he had heard radio transmissions over his handie-talkie that there was a heavy fire condition in the store and the flames had spread to portions of the second floor, including this front apartment. Additionally, FF Kroon was informed that a charged hose-line was not yet in place to operate on the main body of fire.

He entered the kitchen of the fire apartment and was met with a heavy smoke condition, zero visibility and extreme heat. Through the darkness, FF Kroon could see a deep red glow, indicating that the fire had extended to this apartment. Again, he was notified by his Officer that a charged hose-line was not operating and to be cautious because there was a serious fire in the store below his position.

He immediately began the primary search for any trapped occupants, crawling past the extending fire, deeper into the occupancy, knowing that someone's life depended on his knowledge and bravery. In the living room, he found a mother lying on the floor, near death. She was disoriented and choking on smoke. FF Kroon communicated this information to his Officer and then began the arduous task of removing her from the toxic environment.

During this procedure, he discovered that she was clutching her baby. With an extra shot of adrenaline, he grabbed them both and began dragging the victims toward the safety of the fire escape window. Putting himself in jeopardy, the

Firefighter shielded the two victims with his body as he dragged them past the fire in the kitchen. Approaching the safety of the window, FF Kroon mustered all of his strength to lift the victims and pass them out to FF Brian McBride, Ladder 168's chauffeur, who had positioned a portable ladder to the fire escape. The two Firefighters then removed the victims to other members on the portable ladder. Arlene Martinez and her six-month-old baby then were removed to Maimonides Hospital, surviving this near-tragedy.

FF Kroon's courage and selfless actions in a very dangerous situation, without the protection of a charged hose-line, gave life to these two victims. For his initiative, bravery and heroic actions, the Fire Department is proud to honor FF John Kroon with the Walter Scott Medal.--EB



Ladder 168 members operate at Brooklyn Box 22-2890, Bay 25th Street/86th Street, Bay Ridge, January 17, 2005.



John H. Prentice Medal

FIREFIGHTER MICHAEL ROSKOWINSKI, JR.

LADDER COMPANY 168

January 19, 2008, 0700 hours, Box 75-2842, 7421 18th Avenue, Brooklyn

Appointed to the FDNY on July 28, 2002. Previously assigned to Engine 243. Holds an AS degree in nursing from St. Vincent's Catholic Medical Center Nursing School. Cited for bravery on two previous occasions. Resides on Staten Island.

The outside vent position is essential in effectively combating a fire. Additionally, there are times when the OV Firefighter performs his/her duties with such a degree of deft and daring that he/she makes a crucial difference at a critical moment. Such was the case for FF Michael Roskowski, Jr., Ladder 168, when members were called to a fire at Box 2842 on January 19, 2008.

At 0700 hours, a call came in for a fire in a 99 cent store, located at 7421 18th Avenue. However, when *Bensonhurst's Bravest* arrived approximately four minutes later, the scene was quite different from what the company expected. The fire was not in the commercial space, but in the apartments above them. One civilian already had jumped from the second floor to escape the unchecked blaze, which was venting hot, black smoke from all three windows on the second floor.

While getting the 24-foot extension ladder, FF Roskowski heard a report via his handie-talkie of civilians trapped on the second floor and the inside team was unable to immediately search the area due to heavy smoke and fire conditions. As FF Roskowski saw the dry hose-line being stretched into the hallway, he sized up the building and realized ladder placement would be difficult due to the 99 cent store's awning, which would leave a three-foot gap between the ladder's point of contact and the windowsill.

Knowing it would take time get the hose-line stretched and into the apartment, FF Roskowski donned his SCBA, set up and ascended the ladder and then spanned the distance over the awning. Realizing the awning would not support his weight, the Firefighter entered the window and descended into zero visibility to begin his search. In doing so, FF Roskowski placed himself in a dangerous position because he would be unable to get back to the ladder.

Now in the pitch-black room and under worsening conditions, FF Roskowski began a methodic search. He quickly found the first victim about 15 feet into the room. He then located the second victim about eight feet away. FF Roskowski gave two 10-45 signals, making note of his location inside the burning apartment and began to remove them simultaneously.

Engine 243 members entered the apartment and began to operate. FF Roskowski then moved the first victim closer to the second and partially shielded them, using a dresser that sectioned off that part of the room. At this location, FF Roskowski stayed in place with the victims as the engine company began to knock down the fire. As the engine company advanced, FF Roskowski knew he now had an opportunity to get the victims to the interior stairs. He dragged the second victim--who was breathing--to the public stairway and passed the person over to FF Derek O'Brien, who was working in Ladder 168's extinguisher position. FF Roskowski then went back into the apartment and with the assistance of FF John Kroon, Ladder 168's irons Firefighter, removed the first victim--who was in cardiac arrest--to the street. Ultimately, four of the five victims of this blaze expired.

In his report of the fire, Battalion Chief Patrick Lyons wrote, "FF Roskowski did not hesitate in the flawless performance of his duties. His aggressive search led to a quick find of two victims, which gave them a chance for survival." This sentiment was reinforced by Deputy Chief Roger Sakowich, who noted, "His actions were performed in the highest traditions of the Department and are worthy of recognition." Therefore, in light of this dramatic rescue, the Fire Department is proud to honor FF Michael Roskowski, Jr., with the John H. Prentice Medal today.--DJH



Ladder 168 members operate at incident for which FF Michael Roskowski, Jr., was awarded the John H. Prentice Medal.

Christopher J. Prescott Medal

March 15, 2008, 1430 hours, Box 44-0861, 305 East 50th Street/2nd Avenue, Manhattan



DR. DARIO GONZALEZ
MEDICAL DIRECTOR, DIVISIONS
1 AND 2

Appointed to EMS in 1993 as an Associate Medical Director of Training at the Bureau of Training. Holds a degree in Mathematics from Columbia University and obtained his MD from SUNY at Stony Brook. Served in the Navy from 1964-1970. Resides in the Bronx with his wife, Pearl.



PARAMEDIC
MARCO A. GIRA0
07R3

Appointed to the FDNY as an Emergency Medical Technician on September 21, 2001. Previous assignments include 12V1, 12Z3 and 12R3. He is a Medical Specialist for New York Task Force 1. He is the recipient of numerous pre-hospital saves. Resides in Tarrytown, New York.

EMS LIEUTENANT
LOUIS COOK
HAZ-TAC

Appointed to EMS as an Emergency Medical Technician on October 6, 1986. Recipient of many unit citations, several pre-hospital saves, excellent duty awards and the NYC EMS Lifesaving Medal. Resides in Long Beach, Long Island.



PARAMEDIC
JUAN HENRIQUEZ
07R3

Appointed to the FDNY as an Emergency Medical Technician on September 21, 2001. Previous assignments include 12V3, 12Z3 and 07R3. Cousins, FFs Victor Sanchez, is assigned to Ladder 118 and Eric Rodriguez is retired from Engine 95. Recipient of the Christopher J. Prescott Medal in 2007, excellent duty with honors and numerous pre-hospital saves. Resides in Brooklyn.



The afternoon of Saturday, March 15, 2008, was cool and crisp as EMS Lieutenant Louis Cook of the Haz-Tac Battalion quietly started his tour. That quiet soon was shattered by a dispatcher's voice assigning his unit to what turned out to be a crane collapse involving a 19-story tower crane at East 51st Street and Second Avenue in Manhattan.

On arrival, Lieutenant Cook was confronted with reports of two people trapped in void spaces of a three-story multiple dwelling that had suffered a pancake-type collapse from the impact of the crane's boom, as well as four confirmed fatalities and numerous injured civilians. Realizing the extent of the situation, he transmitted his findings to the Medical Branch Director, who had begun to establish a Rescue Medical Task Force. Lieutenant Cook was joined by the members of 07 Rescue, which included Rescue Paramedics Juan Henriquez, Marco Girao and Dr. Dario Gonzalez, who along with the members of Rescue Company 1 and NYPD ESU, embarked on the perilous mission to rescue the trapped victims.

Paramedic Girao was involved in the extrication of Juan Perez, who was prone, pinned by heavy timber beams and debris. The victim was in severe pain and spoke only Spanish. Paramedic Girao, who is bi-lingual, entered the void space. Supervised by Lieutenant Cook, he began to communicate with Mr. Perez to determine the source of his pain. Paramedic Girao conducted the patient interview in Spanish, calming the man, while providing medical care.

The removal of Mr. Perez was difficult because the situation was hampered by the tower crane sitting directly above both rescuers. The rescuers and victim also had to deal with thick dust and settling debris, as well as fumes from the crane's diesel fuel. While lengthy and technically challenging,

the rescue was conducted in a manner that provided Mr. Perez with Advanced Life Support while he was being dug out of the debris. The carefully orchestrated rescue culminated in a successful extrication and subsequent removal to the hospital.

Simultaneously and in proximity to Paramedic Girao, Paramedic Henriquez provided medical care to another trapped victim--John Gallego, who was pinned in a second void space. The substantial amount of debris and the position of Mr. Gallego's body substantially impeded his respiratory efforts. About an hour into the extrication process, Paramedic Henriquez noted that the victim's condition was becoming increasingly unstable. In an effort to further stabilize him, Dr. Gonzalez was directed to enter the void to make a surgical assessment and--if needed--facilitate the removal of Mr. Gallego's trapped limbs should it be required to save his life as the structural conditions of the void continued to deteriorate.

While Dr. Gonzalez conducted his assessment, a secondary collapse occurred directly over him and Paramedic Henriquez, as well as the members of Rescue 1. The collapse further delayed and impeded the victim's removal. The entire extrication process was in excess of two hours. This incident marked the first time a Rescue Medic worked inside a trench with a Rescue Company and provided crush syndrome medicine.

Dr. Dario Gonzalez, Lieutenant Louis Cook and Paramedics Marco Girao and Juan Henriquez performed in an exemplary manner, working as part of the Rescue Branch in perilous and extremely difficult conditions that were an immediate threat to their personal safety. They exhibited tremendous courage by placing the life and well-being of their patients above all else. For these reasons, FDNY is proud to honor them with the Christopher J. Prescott Medal.--JPB

M.J. Delehanty Medal

FIREFIGHTER MICHAEL R. HEFNER

LADDER COMPANY 44

December 28, 2008, 2030 hours, Box 75-2967, 1848 Monroe Avenue, Bronx

Appointed to the FDNY on April 15, 1997. Previously assigned to Engine 92. Cousin, Lieutenant Joe Gildea, is assigned to Ladder 115. Member of the Emerald and Holy Name Societies. Holds a BA degree in Political Science from LeMoyné College and a masters degree in Public Administration from Marist College. Recipient of a unit citation. Resides in Yonkers, New York, with his wife, Jennifer, and their sons, Michael and Bobby.



Morrisania is a residential neighborhood located in the southwestern part of the Bronx, New York City. The neighborhood population is more than 35,000, most of whom reside in multiple-dwelling apartment buildings. The City continues to rehabilitate the formerly abandoned, tenement-style apartment buildings and many of the newly constructed apartment buildings have been or are being built on the remaining vacant lots throughout the neighborhood. Today, Ladder 44, Engine 92 and Battalion 17 remain on the front lines of this continuing urban renewal project.

On December 28, 2008, the members of Ladder 44, Engine 92 and Battalion 17 were turned out for a reported fire at 1848 Monroe Avenue. On arrival, it was evident from the panicked tenants of this large, five-story, non-fireproof apartment building that there was a serious fire condition in one of the basement apartments. Moreover, the cellar ceiling of this apartment building was of fireproof construction and required that caution be exercised due to the extreme and quick buildup of heat.

As Ladder 44's inside team--FFs Michael Hefner with the irons and Angelo Sacco with the extinguisher and Lieutenant John Vanderstar--proceeded to the basement entrance of 1848 Monroe Avenue, they were confronted with a heavy smoke condition pushing from around a locked door. The Incident Commander, Battalion Chief Lawrence P. Hyland, Battalion 17, was notified to transmit a signal 10-75 for a confirmed working structural fire. Simultaneously, Ladder 44's forcible entry team was ordered to don their facepieces, force entry and enter the extremely hazardous and life-threatening area in search of the fire and any victims.

This inside team found themselves immediately forced to the floor, due to the high heat and smoke condition that was exacerbated by the building's concrete ceilings. While searching in zero visibility, Lieutenant Vanderstar employed the thermal imaging camera and located the fire apartment door at the end of a long, narrow hallway. Reaching this untenable location, the members encountered a fortified door with multiple locks.

After forcing entry on the

apartment door, FF Hefner again was forced onto his stomach as the fire began venting out the apartment doorway. Subsequently, FF Sacco had to deplete his extinguisher and was pushed back by the intense flames. Ignoring the danger, FF Hefner entered the apartment, crawling under the flames on his stomach as he felt his way throughout, knowing that he was alone in this dangerous environment due to the intensifying fire condition and limited space.

As the fire rolled over him, the Firefighter continued to press on, feeling his way deeper into the apartment in a last-ditch effort to give any possible occupant a chance to survive. With the fire continuing to vent overhead, FF Hefner's aggressive interior search was rewarded with the discovery of an unconscious victim. Notifying Lieutenant Vanderstar, FF Hefner--still working alone--began the arduous task of removing the victim. Undaunted in his efforts, FF Hefner was able to push past his pain and discomfort as the extreme heat penetrated his firefighting gear and finally reached the apartment doorway.

The rescuer removed the victim into the hallway at the precise moment that the apartment window failed, resulting in the spontaneous combustion of the entire room and its contents. With the victim safely out of the apartment, Lieutenant Vanderstar closed the apartment door, which allowed members to remove the unconscious and seriously burned occupant safely to the street.

Once safely outside, members conducted a patient assessment and found the occupant not breathing and in cardiac arrest. FFs Hefner and Sacco initiated lifesaving CPR and continued until relieved by members of Engine 46, a CFR-D unit.

These Firefighters successfully revived Daniel Rivera.

Daniel Rivera still is receiving medical treatment as a result of second- and third-degree burns to much of his body. Ultimately, his life is looking brighter as he makes a remarkable recovery, thanks to the unselfish and brave actions of a Bronx Firefighter named Michael R. Hefner of Ladder 44. To acknowledge his efforts, he is presented with the M.J. Delehanty Medal.--PWB



Ladder 44 operates at Brooklyn Box 10-10-0036, West/Quay Streets, Greenpoint, May 2, 2006. photo by FF Michael Gomez, Squad 288



William F. Conran Medal

CAPTAIN JAMES E. WALSH, JR.

LADDER COMPANY 17

March 17, 2008, 2228 hours, Box 75-2122, 354 East 134th Street, Bronx

Appointed to the FDNY on July 11, 1981. Previously assigned to Engine 95 and Ladders 34 and 41. Member of the Emerald and Holy Name Societies and the Company Officers Association. Holds a BA degree in Fire & Emergency Management from John Jay College. Recipient of two unit citations. Resides in Dobbs Ferry, New York, with his wife, Teresa, and their daughter, Lila.

March 17 is a special day in the life of many New York City Firefighters. It stands as both the feast day of the saviour of Ireland and a tribute to good fortune in America. On this day in 2008, a son of Erin--Captain James E. Walsh, Jr., of Ladder 17--managed to share the *luck of the Irish* with another proud ethnic New Yorker. The circumstances of their interaction truly represent the best that New York has to offer.

The evening had turned brisk and windy when a phone alarm was received at 2228 hours for a reported fire in a multiple dwelling. A rapid response led to the arrival of Ladder 17 at the scene of an exceptionally advanced fire in a four-story, brownstone-type structure. An intense body of fire was pushing out three of the four third-floor windows at the front of the structure. Captain Walsh was apprised by an excited civilian that an occupant of the building was trapped on the third floor.

Conscious of the absence of an engine on the scene, the 28-year veteran sprang into action, leading his entry team up the open interior stairs. They were met by high heat conditions at the second-floor level where Captain Walsh ordered his irons Firefighter, FF James Donovan, Ladder 29, to search the rooms on the second floor. Captain Walsh and FF Franklin Santillan, the extinguisher Firefighter (a proby experiencing his first fire), continued to ascend the stairs in a rapid and deliberate manner.

Arriving at the third-floor level, they observed that heavy fire at ceiling level was rolling aggressively into the hallway and passing up the stairway directly in front of them, ultimately reaching the top floor. Recognizing the deteriorating conditions on the third floor and the need for immediate action, Captain Walsh ordered FF Santillan to contain the fire with the extin-

guisher while he crawled into the hallway beneath the streaming flames.

The heat, flames and smoke originated at the front of the building and it was clear that the rooms in this direction were not tenable. The Captain's objective, therefore, became entry of the rooms at the rear to perform a rapid search for the reported victim. Captain Walsh entered the heavily smoke-charged kitchen and immediately found the victim, Jesus Pacheco, unconscious on the floor. He transmitted a 10-45 and began to drag Mr. Pacheco into the hallway.

Hampered by the dead weight of the victim and the encroaching fire, Captain Walsh gladly welcomed the arrival and assistance of Lieutenant Michael Conboy, Squad 41. Together, they removed Mr. Pacheco to the stairs and passed the victim to arriving members. They, in turn, delivered Mr. Pacheco to EMS personnel in the street. Mr. Pacheco survived this ordeal, directly as a result of the extraordinary efforts of Captain Walsh. Despite worsening conditions and still without the protection of a hose-line, Captain Walsh and Lieutenant Conboy returned immediately to the third-floor level and completed a rapid search of the remaining rooms at the rear.

The challenges faced by Captain James Walsh, Jr., at this fire were daunting: the absence of water, extreme fire and heat conditions, severe time constraints and limited means of access and egress. Nonetheless, through determination, clear objectives, a pronounced control over his actions and a bit of luck, Captain James Walsh, Jr., effected a rescue that is coincident with the greatest traditions of the FDNY. Worthy of recognition among his peers and the entire citizenry of New York City, he is presented with the William F. Conran Medal.--JF



Captain James Walsh, Jr., and the members of Ladder 17.

Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia Medal

CAPTAIN MICHAEL A. CUCCURULLO

LADDER COMPANY 149

April 15, 2008, 1946 hours, Box 75-2696, 929 71st Street, Brooklyn

Appointed to the FDNY on July 14, 1979. Previously assigned to Engine 283 and Ladders 176 and 132. Brothers, Deputy Chief Mark Cuccurullo, is assigned to Division 14 and Battalion Chief Steven Cuccurullo, is assigned to Battalion 31; son, FF Michael Cuccurullo, is assigned to Ladder 112; and son-in-law, FF Nicholas Schavio, is assigned to Ladder 153. Member of the Columbia Association and Holy Name Society. Cited for bravery on six previous occasions. Resides in Brooklyn with his wife, Jo Anne. They have three daughters--Gina, Jennifer and Dannelle and a son, Michael.



On the evening of April 14, 2008, many Americans were busy working to complete their taxes in time to meet the next day's deadline. However, on this night, Captain Michael A. Cuccurullo of Ladder 149 was far busier as a fire was reported on the top floor of 929 71st Street (Box 2696), a four-story, 30- by 65-foot, class three, non-fireproof multiple dwelling in the Dyker Heights section of Brooklyn.

The members of Ladder 149 quickly responded and on arrival, Captain Cuccurullo led his forcible entry team into the building and they raced to the top floor. On arrival, they encountered a light smoke condition. Meanwhile, Lieutenant Steven Galucci, Engine 284, was ordering a hose-line stretched. Now on the top floor, Captain Cuccurullo searched for the fire by feeling the apartment doors as he proceeded down the hallway. The fire was located in apartment D3 and the Officer transmitted a 10-75. He then ordered FF Philip Deguzman on the irons to force the door. With the door opened, the team was hit by a blast of heat while smoke eliminated all visibility from the hallway.

Captain Cuccurullo directed FF David Fogelstrom with the extinguisher to stay behind him and FF Deguzman to move left. Captain Cuccurullo began to search right toward the intensifying fire and after moving several feet, thought he heard a low moan. Holding his breath to aid his hearing, the Officer heard the sound again. He then ordered FF Fogelstrom to open the extinguisher and hold back the fire while he pushed forward to search the far side of the room.

Moving quickly and under an intense heat condition, Captain Cuccurullo made his way past the fire and toward the bedroom. During his search, he had to contend with large amounts of debris in his path.

However, as he neared the bedroom door, he discovered an unconscious victim, face-down on the floor.

With the fire worsening, the Captain discovered that the victim was badly burned. He could pull him only by his shirt. Additionally, because of the deteriorating conditions, Captain Cuccurullo was unable to stand and had to crawl along the floor with the victim in tow. Thwarting him was the victim's size, which slowed his advancement because he was able to pull the victim in increments of only a few feet.

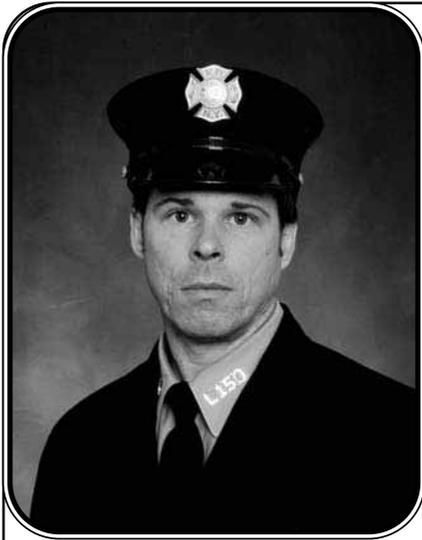
Meanwhile, FF Fogelstrom had expended the extinguisher and was in the process of moving debris to allow Captain Cuccurullo and the victim to be removed as quickly as possible. As the Officer, assisted by FF Fogelstrom, began to move the victim toward the door, Engine 284 members had completed their hose stretch and began to knock down the fire.

With the victim now out of harm's way, Captain Cuccurullo passed him off to other members in the public hallway. Regrettably, the victim ultimately perished. Then, he and the members of the forcible entry team returned to the apartment to complete their search.

In his report of the incident, Battalion Chief Mark Fernen noted, "Captain Cuccurullo exhibited personal bravery by conducting a determined and aggressive search in a dangerous and rapidly worsening environment without the benefit of a protective hose-line." Deputy Chief Roger Sakowich, Division Eight, added, "Captain Cuccurullo displayed personal bravery, initiative and capability..." In recognition of his heroism, the Fire Department of the City of New York is proud to honor Captain Michael A. Cuccurullo today with the Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia Medal.--DJH



Captain Michael Cuccurullo has so many family members on the job, it took two photos to show them all. Top photo shows Battalion Chief Steven Cuccurullo, Battalion 31, the Captain and Deputy Chief Mark Cuccurullo, Division 14. Bottom photo shows FF Nick Schavio, Ladder 153, Battalion Chief Steven Cuccurullo, FF Michael Cuccurullo, Ladder 112, and the Captain.



Chief John J. McElligott Medal/ FFs Fitzpatrick and Frisby Award FIREFIGHTER MICHAEL C. CUNNINGHAM

LADDER COMPANY 150

June 28, 2008, 1847 hours, Box 75-5341, 196-03 Jamaica Avenue, Queens

Appointed to the FDNY on March 7, 2004. Father, Lieutenant Thomas J. Cunningham, is retired from Engine 23. Member of the Emerald Society. Resides in Hicksville, Long Island, with his wife, Ana, and their sons, Jack and Brendan.

The outside vent (OV) Firefighter position is a very critical and challenging assignment. It requires a member to operate independently at times and improvise to address the situation at hand. More often than not, that member must make a risky, lifesaving move to save a helpless victim. On June 28, 2008, FF Michael Cunningham, Ladder 150, performed such an act and saved the life of an elderly female.

FF Cunningham was assigned to the OV position and shortly after the night tour started, Ladder 150 was dispatched to a phone alarm as the first-due ladder. The Queens dispatcher reported a fire in a private dwelling and that there was smoke on the first floor. The fire building was located at 196-03 Jamaica Avenue.

As both units turned out of the firehouse, the members could smell burning plastic. Once they arrived at the location, they observed heavy, black smoke forcefully pushing from a second-floor window at the front of what was a multiple dwelling, not the private house that was reported. Engine 301's Officer transmitted a 10-75 to the dispatcher, who informed units they were receiving multiple calls reporting people trapped on the second floor.

Ladder 150's inside team, led by Lieutenant James Rice, entered through the front door and found the vestibule door locked. As the members were forcing this door, it became apparent by the heavy smoke condition that the fire might be on the first floor. After getting the door open, it was impossible to see more than a few feet down the public hallway. Using the thermal imaging camera, Lieutenant Rice could see the fire was down the hall, on the right and that the apartment door was open. This created a dangerous situation for anyone above on the second floor as the open interior stair--the primary means of egress--was located directly across from the fire apartment. Lieutenant Rice and the other Firefighters crawled down the hallway to gain control of the open door and close it.

FF Cunningham made his way to the exposure #4 side of the fire building, but was delayed by a locked gate. He radioed that heavy fire was venting from a pair of windows on the first floor. As FF Cunningham forced the locked gate, he observed a panicked female ready to jump from the second floor. She was seated on the windowsill with her legs hanging down. Civilians were encouraging her to jump. An injured male, who had jumped, was on the ground with two broken legs and screaming for help.

FF Cunningham radioed for assistance to tend to the injured man and then silenced the misinformed crowd. He then ordered the woman on the sill not to jump. The Firefighter retrieved a 24-foot extension ladder and raised it to the victim's position. He quickly ascended it, assisted her onto the ladder and brought her

down. Once on the ground, the Firefighter learned from the woman that no one else was in her apartment.

FF Cunningham knew that the second-due ladder was responding from a distance and, based on the earlier reports of persons trapped, he surmised that if any civilians were trapped in the apartment above the fire, they would not be able to survive because the interior access was cut off. The original fire apartment on the first floor still had fire and black smoke pushing from the windows since the fire was not knocked down yet.

He repositioned the ladder, donned his facepiece, secured his hood and helmet and ascended the ladder to the apartment directly above the fire. FF Edward Maloney, Ladder 150's chauffeur, arrived and footed the ladder as FF Cunningham climbed up and vented the window. Encountering a great amount of heat, FF Cunningham entered the window and dropped down to the floor. The cluttered room was difficult for him to search, but he made his way along until he came upon a semi-conscious elderly female, Mrs. G. Belcher, slumped in a fetal position just inside the apartment door. FF Cunningham radioed a 10-45 that he found a victim and began dragging the woman back to the window.

FF Maloney ascended the ladder and entered through the window. The two Firefighters concluded that they could not remove the woman down the ladder due to the venting smoke and heat from the window below. They positioned the elderly woman below the window where the best air was located. FF Cunningham radioed Lieutenant Rice of the situation, deciding to stay in place until conditions improved and the Lieutenant concurred.

FF Maloney stayed with Mrs. Belcher while FF Cunningham continued searching. When FF Cunningham searched the public hallway, he met up with the members of Ladder 165, who arrived and took over the venting and searching of the floor above. After the skylight was vented by the roof Firefighter, conditions improved greatly, allowing FFs Cunningham and Maloney to remove Mrs. Belcher

via the interior stairs to safety outside. She was treated by EMS personnel and transported to North Shore Hospital, where she was hospitalized for several days to recuperate from smoke inhalation.

FF Cunningham had several difficult tasks that had to be addressed. He was forced to multi-task by himself initially, but helped save the lives of several victims. Those victims included a trapped fire victim, a potential jumper and an injured victim who already had jumped. For these reasons, FF Michael Cunningham is awarded the Chief John J. McElligott Medal/FFs Fitzpatrick & Frisby Award.--AP



Post-fire photo from the incident for which FF Michael Cunningham is being honored.

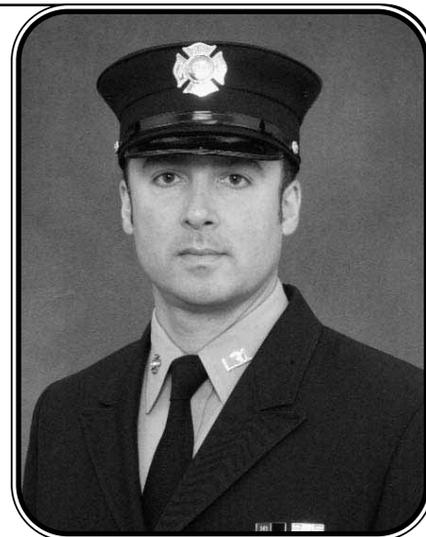
Thomas F. Dougherty Medal

FIREFIGHTER PHILIP TAYLOR, JR.

LADDER COMPANY 31

February 5, 2008, 1058 hours, Box 75-2733, 1317 West Farms Road, Bronx

Appointed to the FDNY on May 17, 1998. Previously assigned to Ladder 61 and Engines 259 and 82. Recipient of a unit citation. Resides in Orangeburg, New York, with his wife, Tara, and their daughters, Lauren and Kerry.



On February 5, 2008, at 1058 hours, Ladder 31 was assigned as the first-due ladder at Box 2733, 1317 West Farms Road. On arrival, Ladder 31 members found fire venting out of two windows on the top floor of a six-story, 150- by 100-foot, occupied multiple dwelling. The large building housed 42 apartments. Lieutenant Richard Zerilli, Ladder 31, radioed the Bronx dispatcher and transmitted a 10-75, reporting the serious conditions.

Lieutenant Zerilli then entered the building and ascended the stairs to the top floor with his inside team, which included FFs Phillip Taylor, Jr., the forcible entry Firefighter, and Daniel Abromowski, the extinguisher Firefighter. When these members reached the sixth-floor public hallway, they found fire showing around the door frame of apartment 6D. The door was locked, indicating the possibility of someone still inside. The door was beginning to buckle from the intense heat behind it.

FFs Taylor and Abromowski crouched low, forced the door to apartment 6D and tried to enter, but were unable to do so because of the severe fire conditions. They then controlled the door by keeping it closed, while Engine 82 members stretched their hose-line. Lieutenant Zerilli received a radio report from FF Seth Diamond, the roof Firefighter, that there was a high wind condition at the roof level. Battalion Chief Bartholomew Codd, Battalion 18, radioed Lieutenant Zerilli that he was informed by civilians in the street that there were two occupants still inside the fire apartment. As soon as Engine 82 had water in their hose-line, they began to

advance with Ladder 31's members directly behind them.

Engine 82's hose team advanced directly into the living room, which contained the main body of fire. FF Taylor moved along the left side of the apartment, finding the apartment hallway. Fire was above FF Taylor and extended from the living room into the kitchen. Without hesitation, FF Taylor continued along with his search and found a rear bedroom. This bedroom door was locked and beginning to burn through at the top. The Firefighter forced the door by himself and began searching for any trapped occupants. Crawling along in the bedroom, FF Taylor's efforts paid off when he found an unconscious fire victim, Andres Aviles, by the window. FF Taylor radioed that he had a 10-45, confirmed victim.

FF Taylor then proceeded to drag Mr. Aviles out of the bedroom into the hall, past the still-burning kitchen. The Firefighter continued to move Mr. Aviles out of the burning apartment and then he turned the victim over to other members who proceeded to treat the injured man. Mr. Aviles was transported by EMS personnel to Jacobi Hospital, where he was admitted and treated for burns and smoke inhalation. Additionally, he underwent treatment in the hyperbaric chamber. Regrettably, he died three months later.

Because of FF Taylor's brave actions, passing visible fire twice, Mr. Aviles was removed injured, but alive. Unfortunately, another occupant in the fire apartment was not so lucky and succumbed to his injuries. FF Philip Taylor's initiative and determination are being recognized by the Fire Department and he is presented with the Thomas F. Dougherty Medal.--AP



Ladder 31 operates at Bronx Box 75-2366, 833 Longfellow Avenue, November 18, 2008.

photo by Honorary Deputy Chief Matthew P. Daly



Albert S. Johnston Medal

LIEUTENANT TATE L. HUNT

LADDER COMPANY 166

December 18, 2008, 1427 hours, Box 3590, 3018 West 24th Street, Brooklyn

Appointed to the FDNY on February 4, 2001. Previously assigned to Engine 257 and Ladders 6 and 148. Brother, FF Chris Hunt, is assigned to Engine 157; brothers-in-law Captain Brian Gorman, Lieutenant Patrick Gorman and FF Brendon Gorman, are assigned to Engine 155, Division 15 and Ladder 105, respectively; and father-in-law, Battalion Chief Jerry Gorman (now deceased), was assigned to Operations. Member of the Emerald Society. Holds a BA degree in Engineering from the College of Staten Island. Resides on Staten Island with his wife, Margaret, and their children, Emma, Tate, Liam and Quinn.

The legendary Chief of Department Edward Croaker once said, "Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather, the judgment that something else is more important than fear." FDNY members once again demonstrated the truth of this statement on December 18, 2008, at 1428 hours, when Lieutenant Tate L. Hunt and the members of Ladder 166 received a phone alarm for a heavy smoke condition at 3018 West 24th Street, Box 3590, in the Coney Island section of Brooklyn.

While responding to the Box, Lieutenant Tate received a transmission that Engine 318 would be delayed due to building inspection. Arriving within three minutes to the 14-story, 150- by 75-foot, fireproof, high-rise multiple dwelling, Ladder 166 was the only unit on-scene. Lieutenant Hunt realized that he and his members would be operating alone for some time.

Lieutenant Hunt led the forcible entry team to the building's third floor. On arrival, they were met with a heavy smoke condition and the Officer transmitted a 10-75 signal. Lieutenant Hunt then began to search the public hallway for the fire's source by feeling the door of each apartment. At apartment 3A, Lieutenant Hunt found the door hot to the touch, under heavy pressure and with smoke pushing out from around the jambs.

As he was about to order the team to enter the apartment, an hysterical civilian fleeing the public hallway informed the Lieutenant an elderly man was trapped inside. Because the engine was delayed, Lieutenant Hunt knew he had to act both quickly and decisively, not only to save the person inside, but to keep the fire contained to this apartment.

The team forced the

door and was met by high heat and a heavy smoke condition. As Lieutenant Hunt entered the apartment, he dropped onto his belly to search, but ordered the door closed until the engine company arrived. Moving as quickly as possible in a dangerous environment, Lieutenant Hunt pushed forward in his search. With fire rolling over his head and zero visibility, the Officer moved past the fire without the benefit of a hose-line in the hope of finding the occupant before it was too late.

As the flames intensified and threatened his only means of egress, Lieutenant Hunt finally found the badly burned occupant approximately 30 feet from the door. Fighting excruciating heat and exhaustion, the rescuer radioed a 10-45 signal and then dragged the victim along behind him, once again passing the fire until the pair got to the public hallway. At that point, the unconscious--but still breathing--victim was passed to other members. Unfortunately, the victim succumbed to his injuries the next day. Lieutenant Hunt directed the members of Engine 318 toward the fire location and resumed his search for any other victims.

In his report of the incident, Battalion Chief Joseph Omeste noted, "Lieutenant Hunt's quick thinking and decisive actions, with disregard for his own safety, undoubtedly contributed to the outcome of this incident. He acted in the

finest traditions of the New York City Fire Department." In recognition of this courageous act and in the spirit of Chief Croaker's call to service, the Fire Department of the City of New York is proud to honor Lieutenant Tate L. Hunt with the Albert S. Johnston Medal today.--
DJH



Lieutenant Tate Hunt and the members of Ladder 166.

Bella Stiefel Medal

FIREFIGHTER MICHAEL D. TOMPKINS

LADDER COMPANY 39

April 17, 2008, 0142 hours, Box 3802, 4057 Lowerre Place, Bronx

Appointed to the FDNY on March 7, 2004. Holds an Associate's degree in HVAR (heat/ventilation/air-conditioning/refrigeration) from Delhi College. Resides in Carmel, New York, with his daughters, Alexandra, Olivia and Isabella.



By mid-April, the trees have bloomed and every day seems perfect. But no matter how the change in seasons affects a person, the Fire Department continues to stand ready to protect life and property. Such was the case when a fire broke out at 4057 Lowerre Place, a two-story, 20-by 60-foot, multiple dwelling, on April 17, 2008, at 0142 hours.

When the alarm sounded at Ladder 39, FF Michael Tompkins was assigned to the outside vent position. Within three minutes, the truck company arrived at Box 3802 where members found a heavy fire condition on the first floor with fire extending to the top floor. The forcible entry team gained access and found fire in control of the first floor and interior staircase.

Because advancement to the upper floor was not possible, FF Tompkins--taking his tools and a 24-foot extension ladder--ran approximately 400 feet around the block to gain access via the rear yard. When he was approximately 100 feet from the building, the Firefighter heard screams for help. By this time, two civilians already had jumped from the top floor because of deteriorating conditions and lack of a viable escape route.

Meanwhile, another victim, Leighton David, was dangling his infant son from the window, looking to drop the child and then jump. FF Tompkins raced the final 100 feet, shouting at Mr. David not to drop the child and that help was coming. He then transmitted two 10-45s for the civilians injured in the rear yard, reported a heavy smoke condition and announced that trapped civilians were on the top floor.

At this point, FF Tompkins was joined by FFs Darren Taylor and Denis Ward, Ladder 32's and 51's outside vent Firefighters, respectively. FF Tompkins forced his way into the rear yard by ripping out a fence post. Entering the yard, he found it cluttered with a large amount of construc-

tion debris, which made placement of the portable ladder extremely difficult. However, due to the dire situation, FF Tompkins set up the ladder in this unstable area to save the victims.

He quickly ascended the ladder, but it was too short to reach his objective. Thus, the Firefighter climbed to the ladder's top rung and fully extended himself against the building to reach the infant in peril. While still short of his goal, FF Tompkins reached up and grabbed the baby's back just as his father dropped the child from the window. Steadying himself while gently cradling the infant, the rescuer began his descent.

However, the ladder shifted twice during his descent, causing the pair to slide down the side of the building. With super-human effort, FF Tompkins was able to keep his balance, while protecting the baby. Reaching the ground, he handed the infant to FF Taylor. He then quickly repositioned the ladder and climbed up to aid Mr. David, who was preparing to jump. When FF Tompkins was three-quarters of the way up, Mr. David jumped headfirst from the window, but--amazingly--fell onto the extension ladder. Thankfully, FF Tompkins was able to secure the man and help him descend to the ground. With Mr. David safe, FF Tompkins repositioned the ladder for a third time, ascended to the upper floor of the building and performed VES duties.

In reporting on this rescue, Battalion Chief Keith Cartica wrote, "FF Tompkins' quick thinking, aggressiveness and physical capabilities prevented the infant and father from suffering a disastrous fate." Deputy Chief John Jonas concurred, "(these individuals) are alive today due to the quick and positive actions of FF Tompkins." For this difficult and miraculous save, the Fire Department is proud to recognize FF Michael D. Tompkins today with the Bella Stiefel Medal.--DJH



Ladder 39 operates at Bronx 22-3182, 155 East 182nd Street, January 25, 2009.

photo by Honorary Deputy Chief Matthew P. Daly



Tracy Allen-Lee Medal

December 8, 2008, 433 Pulaski Street, Brooklyn



PARAMEDIC ZARINA V. RONAY

STATION 57

Appointed to EMS as an Emergency Medical Technician on April 9, 1990. Cousin, FF Robert Rivera, is assigned to Ladder 109 and husband, EMS Lieutenant Rafael Cintron, is assigned to EMS Division 4. Recipient of pre-hospital saves and an excellent duty award. Resides in Freeport, Long Island, with her husband, Rafael Cintron.

PARAMEDIC BRIAN E. FRAYNE

STATION 57

Appointed to EMS as an Emergency Medical Technician on April 25, 1994. Holds a BA degree in Geography from SUNY at Geneseo. Resides on Staten Island with his wife, Cherie, and their twin sons, Zebulan and Seth Ian.

At approximately 0800 hours on the frigid, seven-degree, wind-chilled morning of December 8, 2008, Paramedics Zarina Ronay and Brian Frayne, both turning out of Station 57, were called to a private house at 433 Pulaski Street, just off of Broadway, Brooklyn, for a call that was going to turn out to be anything but normal.

They were called for a person who had fainted. However, while en route, that assignment was revised, now becoming two patients--a mother and her grandmother--both of whom needed immediate pre-hospital emergency medical care. The grandmother had fainted after suffering from a severe headache. The mother was violently vomiting and, coincidentally, also suffering from a severe headache. It is odd that two people would simultaneously get headaches at the same time--unless there was some type of common cause.

The unusual events that unfolded on the Paramedics' arrival was met with their uniquely specialized training, which had prepared them for such an occurrence. They arrived on-scene within four minutes of receiving the call.

There now was a growing list of patients, escalating beyond just the original two patients, which confronted Paramedics Ronay and Frayne. The patients were experiencing similar symptoms, making for a more accurate diagnosis of all the patients. During their four-minute response time, these two Paramedics correctly pieced together the many different variables to this still-unraveling mystery: Two patients simultaneously were experiencing severe headaches, with one of them losing consciousness. The other patient was vomiting.

More than just coincidence, Paramedics Ronay and Frayne kept analyzing for possible common causes of the source that was causing this reaction in two patients simultaneously. As

they sorted out the data, the likely causes could only be narrowed down to a few likely origins.

Their suspicions were quickly confirmed on arrival. Brand-new meters recently purchased by the Department to monitor for specific dangerous and life-threatening events began to ring loudly, with the meter readings reaching levels in excess of 500 ppm, even after ventilation of the building had been initiated. The victims were sick due to carbon monoxide poisoning.

CO is called the "silent killer" because it cannot be detected without the specialized meters. Since CO is odorless and tasteless, usually only after it has done its damage and sadly taken its toll on human life does one realize what caused the tragedy.

After the meters alerted them to this silent and life-robbing hazard, the Paramedics immediately and correctly identified the origin of the emergency, while simultaneously requesting proper, additional resources. Hampering their efforts were that the victims spoke little English, but the rescuers overcame the problem and persevered. Then, the pair began their professional joint efforts of rescuing the now-mounting number of stricken patients. Some of these patients were accessed following forcible entry.

In all, 14 patients were handled during this multiple casualty incident (MCI). This MCI easily could have turned tragic, had it not been for the expertise of Paramedics Ronay and Frayne.

In recognition of their alert and professional actions, which led to 14 patients being successfully rescued and treated, Paramedics Zarina Ronay and Brian Frayne are presented with the Tracy Allen-Lee Medal.--TCD

Vincent J. Kane Medal

FIREFIGHTER CHRISTOPHER M. GANCI

LADDER COMPANY 157

July 1, 2008, 0222 hours, Box 22-2463, 1001 Ocean Avenue, Brooklyn

Appointed to the FDNY on May 31, 2005. Father, Chief of Department Peter J. Ganci, Jr., was killed on 9/11; brother, FF Peter J. Ganci, III, is assigned to Ladder 111; brother-in-law, FF Bryan Cowan, is assigned to Ladder 123; and cousin, FF Kevin Koster, is assigned to Ladder 174. Member of the Emerald Society. Holds a BS degree from Cornell University and an MBA degree from NYU. Resides in Massapequa Park, Long Island, with his wife, Mimma, and their son, Christopher, Jr.



As the calendar moves into July, most people think about the upcoming holiday, time off from work, barbecues, the beach and making sure that air conditioners are working. Many believe the only thing that could spoil such a wonderful time of year is rain. However, in one case, something with far more potential for danger occurred in the early-morning hours of July 1, 2008, when a fire broke out on the second floor of 1001 Ocean Avenue in Brooklyn.

The first-due ladder company to respond was Ladder 157. Working the extinguisher position for the truck that morning was FF Christopher M. Ganci. The company received the call at approximately 0220 hours and arrived at the four-story, 50-by 80-foot, non-fireproof multiple dwelling in fewer than three minutes. While en route, Brooklyn Dispatch assigned four engine and four ladder companies because of the many calls indicating that people were trapped.

On arrival, FF Ganci and the members of Ladder 157 found a heavy fire condition on the second floor, with many residents either out on their fire escapes or at the windows of the apartments. The company also was confronted by anxious civilians, screaming that people were trapped inside.

Moving quickly, FF Ganci and the members of the forcible entry team--Lieutenant Victor Spadaro and FF Christian S. Nielsen with the irons--raced into the building and up to the second floor. Here they encountered a locked apartment door with fire and smoke venting not only from the door jamb, but also through the key hole. FFs Ganci and Nielsen forced the door and the team immediately faced intense heat and flames.

FF Ganci opened up the extinguisher, but it had little effect on the growing inferno. Lieutenant Spadaro then moved into the apartment to search for victims.

With the extinguisher expended, FF Ganci entered the apartment. Lieutenant Spadaro found a seven-year-old male victim and dragged him to FF Ganci. FF Ganci then removed the unconscious victim from the apartment.

With the first victim now safely in the hands of FF Brendan Ielpi (Ladder 157, detailed to Engine 255), FF Ganci re-entered the burning apartment to search for victims. Without the benefit of a charged hose-line, FF Ganci moved toward the rear of the apartment and entered one of the bedrooms. While searching this room, the Firefighter discovered bunk beds. Thus, he intensified his search with the strong possibility that a young victim might be trapped in the burning apartment.

Searching under the bunk bed, FF Ganci found the unconscious body of an eight-year-old child and immediately radioed a 10-45. As conditions worsened, FF Ganci crawled with the child back toward the apartment entrance. At this point, he was joined by Lieutenant Daniel Bowman, Engine 281, in removing the child. Once this child was safely in the public hallway, FF Ganci again went back into the blazing apartment and assisted in the removal of a 14-year-old victim. Unfortunately, two of the children died as a result of their injuries.

In his report of the incident, Captain Thomas Reilly, Engine 249, wrote--after interviewing witnesses, as well as other company Officers at the scene--that FF Ganci put himself in danger to effect this rescue. This sentiment was reinforced by the Acting Deputy Chief of Division 11, Hugh B. Mulligan, who wrote, "...his bravery and decisive actions at this fire are in keeping with the highest traditions of the New York City Fire Department." Therefore, in recognition of this heroic act, the FDNY is proud to honor FF Christopher Ganci today with the Vincent J. Kane Medal.--DJH



The brothers Ganci--Pete and Christopher.

Pulaski Association Medal

FIREFIGHTER RONALD J. SOLTYSIK

LADDER COMPANY 136

July 27, 2008, 2050 hours, Box 75-3249, 61-15 97th Street, Queens



Appointed to the FDNY on February 1, 2000. Previously assigned to Engine 287. Member of the Fire Riders. Recipient of a pre-hospital save. Holds an associate's degree from Morrisville College. Resides in Suffolk, Long Island, with his wife, Kimberly.

On the evening of July 27, 2008, at 2050 hours, Ladder 136 was directed to respond to 61-15 97th Street, a large, 15-story, irregular-shaped, fireproof multiple dwelling. Battalion Chief Robert McBride, Battalion 46, arrived at the scene right before Ladder 136 and transmitted the all-hands. Numerous civilians were self-evacuating due to the heavy smoke condition in the public hallway. The fire building contained multiple apartments crammed into hallways of wings that are separated from the main buildings by an exterior breezeway on each floor.

Ladder 136 arrived on the scene before the first-due engine. The members entered the building and determined that the fire was in apartment LB on the first floor. There was black smoke pushing from around the apartment door. The inside team of Ladder 136--including FF Ronald J. Soltysik, who had the irons--donned their facepieces and began to force entry into the fire apartment. As the forcible entry team began their work, two panicked civilians from apartment LC were assisted out of the tight, smoky hallway and into the breezeway by the members of Ladder 136.

The inside team had to briefly stop forcing the door so they could lead the civilians to safety. Once the civilians were safe, FF Soltysik and the extinguisher Firefighter, probationary FF Eric Swailes, resumed forcing the door, which was secured with three locks. The forcible entry team had to closely coordinate their actions because of the tight space in the hallway. After the locks were forced, FF Soltysik noticed that a chain lock was still engaged and he realized that there probably was somebody trapped in the apartment.

FF Soltysik transmitted this information to all members on the scene. The inside team also noticed that thick, black, super-heated smoke was coming from the apartment and being drawn into the breezeway. The forcible entry team knew that if anyone was inside the fire apartment, immediate action would be required to effect a rescue. FFs Soltysik and Swailes and the Officer entered the fire apartment and began their search in the high heat and zero visibility conditions without the protection of a hose-line.

Entering the fire apartment, FF Soltysik was faced with some difficult obstacles,

including a Collyers' mansion condition, which made it impossible to maintain contact with the walls when conducting his search. Additionally, the fire was extending from the den into the kitchen and living room. While searching the apartment, FF Soltysik located George Corbett, an unconscious, 40-year-old man, weighing more than 500 pounds, lying face-down in the hallway leading from the living room to the bathroom.

FF Soltysik gave a verbal notification to his Officer, Lieutenant Timothy Keenan, and a 10-45 was transmitted. The Chief was advised that help would be needed in removing the large man. FF Soltysik and Lieutenant Keenan tried to remove the victim, but were unsuccessful. FF Swailes then joined them, but the entire inside team was still having difficulty with the victim because he was wedged in a narrow hallway, with his arm stuck in the bedroom doorway and there was no clothing on which to grab.

At this point, the fire was beginning to enter the living room where the inside team was operating. FF Soltysik crawled over the victim, straddled him, took his tubular webbing and with a great amount of effort, was able to place the webbing around the victim's torso. FFs Soltysik and Swailes and Lieutenant Keenan then used the webbing to drag the victim from the hallway through the living room and half of the foyer. As they approached the apartment door, they were met by Engine 324 with their hose-line.

The engine had to wait to begin their attack on the fire because of the narrow doorway. Once the victim was removed to the breezeway, Engine 287 members began to perform CFR-D care. Removal of the victim to the street required the efforts of numerous companies and ultimately the use of the SOC companies' cargo net. George Corbett was transported for treatment of respiratory burns and carbon monoxide poisoning. He was hospitalized for more than a week.

For his initiative, determination and perseverance in leading the rescue of a 500-pound man, who was trapped by a rapidly extending fire, the FDNY proudly honors FF Ronald J. Soltysik with the Pulaski Association Medal.--NG



FF Ronald Soltysik takes a break after a job.



Columbia Association Medal

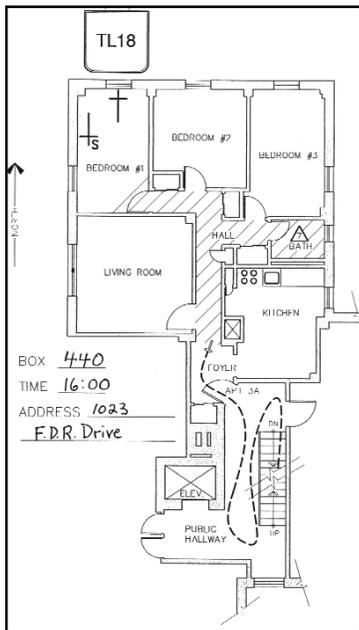
FIREFIGHTER CHARLES C. MALONEY

LADDER COMPANY 18

March 22, 2008, 1600 hours, Box 75-440, 1023 FDR Drive, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY on October 14, 1978. Previously assigned to Engine 17. Member of the Emerald and Holy Name Societies. Cited for bravery on five previous occasions, including the Thomas F. Dougherty Medal in 1999. Also the recipient of the New York City Fire Museum Board of Trustees Award, an award from Firehouse Magazine for Heroism and Community Service and the 2009 Liberty Mutual Firemark Award. Holds an AA degree in Liberal Arts from the College of Staten Island. Resides on Staten Island with his wife, Maureen.

The 9x6 tour of March 22, 2008, started like many others for the members of Ladder 18. It was a quiet, sunny Saturday on the lower east side. That changed at 1555 hours when Ladder 18 was dispatched to Manhattan Box 440, reporting a structural fire at the address of 1223 FDR Drive.



Second-source information determined that the fire location actually was 1023 FDR Drive and Ladder 18 proceeded to the address. The fire location was in a cluster of low-rise housing projects known as Jacob Riis Houses.

Lieutenant John Heaney ordered FF Ronald Lattari, Ladder 18's chauffeur, to approach the building via the courtyard off Avenue D. Turning into the courtyard, heavy gray/black smoke could be seen from a third-floor window. As

Ladder 18 reached its position, arms were seen waving frantically through the child gate. The Lieutenant transmitted the 10-75, ordered the tower ladder into position

and entered the building with his forcible entry team.

FF Charles Maloney, Ladder 18's outside vent Firefighter, took his position in the tower ladder bucket and raised it to the third-floor window. The woman, Carmen Henry, in her panicked state, had become entangled in the window gate, preventing FF Maloney from removing the gate. Twice during this incident, the woman lost consciousness. This added to the difficulty of the rescue because she was unable to assist her rescuer. Sensing the urgency of the situation, he removed the window glass to relieve the smoke condition in the apartment.

With one foot in the bucket and the other on the windowsill, FF Maloney cleared the woman from the gate and lifted her over the unusually high windowsill and into Ladder 18's bucket. Checking on her condition once she was in the bucket, the woman, a home health aide, communicated to FF Maloney that the person in her care was still in the apartment.

FF Maloney transmitted the report of another victim in the apartment via handie-talkie and prepared to re-enter the apartment. With severe pain in his neck and back caused by muscle spasms from lifting the large woman into the bucket, the Firefighter removed the window gate, cleared the remaining window sashes and re-entered the apartment.

As he conducted the search for the second victim, the rescuer faced intense heat and blinding smoke from the fire, which had burned through the bedroom door. Still searching without a hose-line in place, FF Maloney also knew that when Engine 28 members started operating, they would be pushing the smoke, fire and heat in his direction.

FF Maloney was able to locate the second victim, Adeline Lunnon, in her hospital bed. With the assistance of FF Stephen Katz--the Rescue Battalion Aide who had entered the apartment from the third-floor window--the pair carried the woman to the window. FF Katz passed the woman to FF Maloney and into the safety of Ladder 18's bucket.

In spite of injuries sustained while completing the first rescue, FF Charles Maloney re-entered the fire apartment and effected a second rescue. His initiative and capability were on display and he is recognized today with the Columbia Association Medal.--CF



(Top) Diagram shows route taken by FF Charles Maloney to rescue two victims. (Bottom) FF Charles Maloney vents top floor at March 19, 2009, fire at 28 Avenue B, between 2nd and 3rd Streets.

photo by Eric Sumberg

Susan Wagner Medal

FIREFIGHTER CHRISTIAN S. NIELSEN

Ladder Company 157

July 1, 2008, 0222 hours, Box 22-2463, 1001 Ocean Avenue, Brooklyn

Appointed to the FDNY on May 5, 2002. Father, Gareth Nielsen, retired as a Fire Marshal, but was a Firefighter in Ladder 157 and brother, FF Jonathan Nielsen, is assigned to Ladder 103. Holds a BS degree in Business from SUNY at Buffalo. Resides in Brooklyn with his wife, Susan, and their son, Eric.



Fires in the middle of the night are dangerous for building residents, as well as the Firefighters coming to their rescue. Roused from the arms of Morpheus, they awaken to an unfamiliar atmosphere of choking smoke and screams from other panicked residents. In the zero visibility of a smoke-filled apartment, it is easy to get lost in a normally familiar environment.

FF Christian S. Nielsen was working a night tour in Ladder 157 when he learned how quickly the situation can turn deadly. On July 1, 2008, at 0222 hours, the alarm sounded for Ladder 157 to respond to a reported fire at 1001 Ocean Avenue. The numerous phone calls reporting the fire prompted the dispatcher to send four engines and four trucks on the first assignment.

When Ladder 157 pulled up in front of the four-story, non-fireproof, multiple dwelling, they witnessed a heavy fire condition on the second floor, heavy smoke on the floors above and numerous people on the fire escapes. Residents who already had exited the building were screaming that there were still people trapped in the fire apartment.

FF Nielsen was assigned the forcible entry position and he quickly entered the building with Lieutenant Victor Spadaro and FF Christopher Ganci, the extinguisher Firefighter. Working their way up the stairs past residents still self-evacuating, they came to the door of the fire apartment.

The normally arduous task of forcing the door was made much more difficult by the fire pushing out from around the door and through the peephole. Knowing that there was a large body of fire on the other side of the door didn't dissuade the rescuers from gaining entry to search for victims. The interior hallway was fully

involved in fire and it was necessary to crawl in with flames overhead to reach the bedrooms. FF Nielsen knew there was one bedroom at the end of the hallway that had to be searched and he fought his way past the heat and smoke to reach it.

Just outside the bedroom door, he encountered the unconscious and badly burned form of 14-year-old Miscal Fuentes. FF Nielsen quickly transmitted a 10-45 signal and called for assistance. With conditions in the hallway rapidly deteriorating and no charged hose-line in place, the Firefighter was forced to drag the young man back into the relative safety of the bedroom and hope that help would be able to reach them in time.

The victim's injuries required that he receive immediate medical attention. FF Nielsen realized that he would have to try to remove the victim from the apartment. The fire in the hallway was so intense that he doubted they would make the distance.

Just then, the members of Engine 255 entered the apartment with a much-needed hose-line and began to knock down the fire. That allowed FF Ganci and a Squad 1 Firefighter to help FF Nielsen remove the victim out of the apartment and down to the street. He was treated by EMS personnel and taken to Kings County Hospital where he was treated for his burns and smoke inhalation.

Were it not for the bravery and perseverance exhibited by FF Nielsen, Miscal Fuentes would have perished in the inferno that night. Unfortunately, he did die the next day. For his determined and selfless efforts in giving this boy a chance at life, the Fire Department is proud to present the Susan Wagner Medal to FF Christian S. Nielsen.--JT



The family Nielsen--FF Jonathan Nielsen, Ladder 103, FF Christian Nielsen, Ladder 157, and FM Gareth Nielsen (retired).



FDNY Members in Action

Queens Box 22-4640, 154th Street/14th Avenue, November 2, 2008. This is the incident for which FM Robert McDevitt, City-Wide North Command, received the Deputy Commissioner Christine R. Godek Medal. He apprehended the arsonist responsible. (See page 57.)



(Left) Manhattan Box 22-370, 246 Spring Street, January 14, 2008. This is the incident for which FF Charles C. Botti, Squad 18, received the Hugh Bonner Medal. (See page 15.)

(Right) Manhattan Box 44-1031, 524 East 72nd Street, October 11, 2006. This is the incident for which Engine 44 members-- Lieutenant Edward E. Ryan and FFs Thomas M. Accardo, Edward Bohan, William Cupo, Bryan E. Doyle and Daniel D. Halvey--were presented with the Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal/Father Julian F. Deeken Memorial Medal. (See page 54.)





Shown above are the recipients of the top EMS award—the Christopher J. Prescott Medal. Paramedic Marco A. Girao, EMS Lieutenant Louis Cook, Dr. Dario Gonzalez and Paramedic Juan Henriquez were honored for their efforts at this crane collapse. (See page 21.)

(Above and right) Manhattan Box 44-0861, 305 East 50th Street/2nd Avenue, March 15, 2008. Photos provide an overall view of the devastation of the crane collapse and FDNY members in action at the incident. Ladder Company 4 members—Lieutenant Christopher M. King and FFs Edward M. Coyle, Louis Esposito, Patrick Moore, Daniel Squire and George T. Young—are the recipients of the first-ever Company of the Year, World Trade Center Memorial Medal for their efforts at this incident. (See page 61.)



Brooklyn Box 75-2842, 7421 18th Avenue, January 19, 2008. This is the incident for which FF Michael Roskowsinski, Jr., Ladder 168, was presented with the John H. Prentice Medal. (See page 20.)



Queens Box 33-1201, 40-20 Beach Channel Drive, January 26, 2006. This is the incident for which FF James T. Byrne, Ladder 121, has been awarded the Dr. Harry M. Archer Medal. (See page 11.) He was presented with the James Gordon Bennett Medal in 2007 for his heroic efforts in saving another Firefighter during this dramatic, wind-driven fire.

photo by FF Chris Landano



Steuben Association Medal

LIEUTENANT DANIEL C. HUNT

ENGINE COMPANY 236

February 19, 2008, 1308 hours, Box 75-1849, 364 Ridgewood Avenue, Brooklyn

Appointed to the FDNY on August 11, 1991. Previous assignments include Engine 231, Ladder 120 and Battalion 16. Brothers, FF Gerald Hunt and Lieutenant John Hunt, are assigned to Ladders 113 and 154, respectively. Member of the Emerald and Holy Name Societies and an alumnus of the FDNY Football Team. Resides in Massapequa, Long Island, with his wife, Maria, and their children, Jessica and William.

Personal initiative, bravery and devotion to duty are not courses taught at the Fire Department Training Academy on Randall's Island. Rather, these traits are instilled in our Firefighters from the moment they join the ranks of New York's Bravest. Lieutenant Daniel Hunt, Engine 236, exhibited these enviable traits on a cold afternoon in February 2008 when a fire broke out at Box 1849 in the Cypress Hills section of Brooklyn.

Shortly after 1308 hours, an alarm was sent to Engine 236 as the first-due company for smoke coming from the second floor of 364 Ridgewood Avenue--a two-story, 20- by 45-foot, brick, class three private dwelling with two apartments. Lieutenant Hunt and the *Pride of East New York* responded immediately and arrived at the building in fewer than three minutes.

On arrival, Lieutenant Hunt found heavy smoke emanating from three windows on the second floor. He immediately transmitted a 10-75 signal and ordered the company to commence operations. As the members of Engine 236 were hooking up to a hydrant to begin their hose stretch, Lieutenant Hunt proceeded to the building's stoop. Here, neighbors informed him that the elderly man on the second floor had not escaped from the unchecked blaze inside the building.

With this critical piece of information and no ladder company yet on-scene, the Lieutenant sprang into action. He entered the building and climbed the stairs to the second floor. At this point, Lieutenant Hunt donned his mask due to the heavy smoke condition. With the members of Engine 236 still working on their stretch, Lieutenant Hunt chose

not to wait for the protection of the hose-line and entered the burning apartment to search for the elderly occupant.

Moving quickly toward the front of the apartment, Lieutenant Hunt found the source of the fire. Doubling back, he then searched the living room area where his quick thinking and initiative were rewarded as he located the victim unconscious in the middle of the room. Lieutenant Hunt immediately keyed a 10-45 signal. Using his own body as a shield, he protected the man from the growing fire, which already was burning through the door and into the room where Lieutenant Hunt and the victim were located.

Lieutenant Hunt dragged the victim to the door of the apartment and then carried him down the stairs. Nearing the bottom of the stairs, the rescuer was met by Engine 236's nozzle team, whose members were working their way up to knock down the fire. At the bottom of the stairs, Lieutenant Hunt was assisted by FFs Matthew Barnes and Brian Walters, both Engine 236, in removing the victim to the stoop where he was passed off to other members of the Department. Regrettably, the victim expired.

Lieutenant Hunt then re-entered the building, climbed up the stairs and supervised Engine 236's extinguishment of the fire. During this rescue, the Lieutenant suffered a sprain/strain of his lower back and was transported to Kings County Hospital via EMS.

In recognition of his tenacity, initiative and personal bravery, the Fire Department of the City of New York is proud to honor Lieutenant Daniel Hunt today with the Steuben Association Medal.--DJH



Lieutenant Daniel Hunt (center) is flanked by members of Engine 236--FFs Damiano, Galgano, Palminteri, Greco and McGovern.

photo by FF Billy McLaughlin, Engine 231

Dr. J.W. Goldenkranz Medal

FIREFIGHTER THOMAS W. GIES

LADDER COMPANY 147

February 6, 2008, 1409 hours, Box 75-1552, 864 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn

Appointed to the FDNY on May 25, 2004. Father, Lieutenant Ronnie Gies, Squad 288, was killed on 9/11. Brother, FF Ronnie Gies, is assigned to Ladder 175. Member of the Emerald Society. Currently studying Fire Science at John Jay College. Resides in Merrick, Long Island, with his wife, Stephanie.



New York has one of the toughest fire codes in the world to try to keep the citizens of the Big Apple safe from the ravages of fire. But people don't usually think about how quickly fire can spread and trap them. A second means of egress is essential in a fire but, unfortunately, many people are more worried about someone getting in than about them getting out. Illegal subdivision of living spaces often removes one means of egress and unapproved security gates can remove another. This deadly combination during a raging fire put one man's life in great peril and it took the bravery of FF Thomas Gies and his Brothers in Ladder 147 to save it.

On the day tour of February 6, 2008, FF Gies had the forcible entry position in Ladder 147. The morning was fairly routine, but at 1409 hours, the computer spat out a report of a phone alarm for a house fire at 864 Flatbush Avenue. While Ladder 147 was en route, they heard Engine 248 transmit a 10-75 for a fire on the second floor of a non-fireproof, three-story, mixed occupancy.

As they arrived and took up their assignments as second-due truck, they had no idea how hard the building owner had made their jobs. The inside team included FFs Gies and John Dreher and Captain Christopher Rigoli. They entered the building and took note of the door that the first-due truck was forcing to the fire apartment as they made their way past them to the stairs. Their task was to search the floor above for any victims or fire extension.

FF Gies made short work of forcing the door with his Halligan, but when he opened the door, he was immediately forced to the floor. There was a high heat and heavy smoke condition in this apartment directly over the fire. Crawling on his stomach, FF Gies worked his way into the bath-

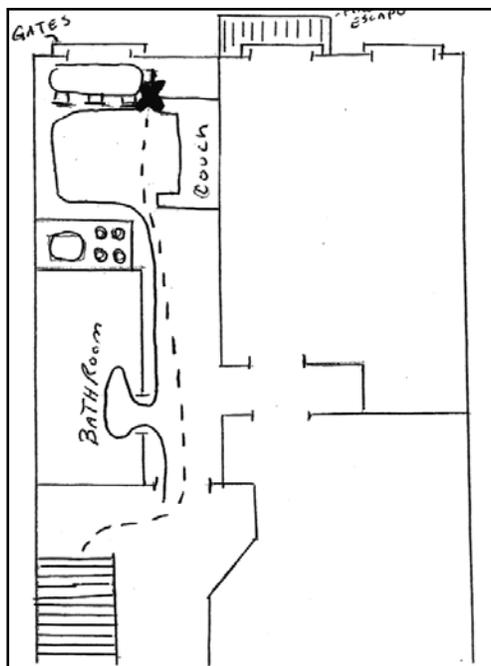
room and then down the hall into the kitchen, searching as he went for any victims. As he made his way toward the back of the building, he heard Ladder 147's outside vent Firefighter report that there were heavy-duty window gates on the outside of the window. In the kitchen, he came upon the motionless figure of 30-year-old Barry Abdourahahone, tangled up in the kitchen furniture. He yelled to his Captain that he'd found someone and Captain Rigoli quickly transmitted a 10-45 signal to Battalion Chief John McEneaney, Battalion 41.

In zero visibility, FF Gies untangled the victim from the table and chair. His task was made more difficult by the confined space between the table and a couch. The tragedy was that the victim probably had fled to the window that should have been a means of egress. The barred gates that kept him from escaping also meant that the rescuer had to drag the man back out of the apartment.

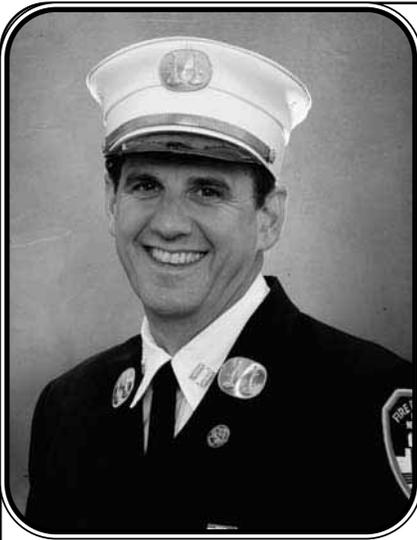
FF Gies soon was joined by Captain Rigoli, who helped him remove the victim from the apartment and down to street level. As soon as they were in a safe area, the Firefighter quickly checked the man's vital signs and determined that he required rescue breaths.

EMS personnel arrived on the scene to begin treating the patient. They quickly stabilized Mr. Abdourahahone and transported him to Kings County Hospital. In critical condition due to the severity of the smoke inhalation he suffered, he was taken to Jacobi Hospital and placed in the hyperbaric chamber. With a few more minutes in the deadly atmosphere of the apartment, there would have been no chance of survival.

For the swift and daring actions performed in this rescue, the Fire Department is proud to present FF Thomas Gies with the Dr. J.W. Goldenkranz Medal.--JT



The route used by FF Gies to perform his rescue.



Uniformed Fire Officers Association Medal

CAPTAIN MARK J. DORAN

ENGINE COMPANY 273

December 13, 2007, 1558 hours, Box 75-4474, 42-45 Kissena Boulevard, Queens

Appointed to the FDNY on June 15, 1990. Previous assignments include Engines 82, 261 and 38. Brother, Captain Peter Doran, is retired from Ladder 14. Recipient of several unit citations. Holds a BBA degree in Economics from the New York Institute of Technology. Resides in Stony Brook, Long Island, with his wife, Deidre, and their children, Paige, Logan and Brady.

In the late afternoon of December 13, 2007, Engine 273 was returning to quarters after taking up from a run for an odor of smoke at 137th Street and 63rd Avenue--which is south of the Long Island Expressway--when the members noticed heavy, black smoke coming from the third-floor windows on the exposure #1 side of 42-45 Kissena Boulevard. As the apparatus reached the building, heavy fire was seen showing from the windows on the exposure #2 side. Captain Mark Doran transmitted a verbal alarm for a 10-75 for a fire on the third floor of a seven-story, H-type, multiple dwelling. The building is 150- by 150-feet and of class three construction.

The members of Engine 273 knew that the first-due truck, Ladder 129, also was taking up from the Box on 137th Street and that they would be delayed to the job on Kissena Boulevard. The truck was more than a mile away when the 10-75 was transmitted. Captain Doran quickly entered the building to begin his size-up as the members of the engine--FFs Joseph Chidichimo (nozzle), Keith Delmar (back-up) and Brian Grace (control)--started stretching a 1³/₄-inch line to the third floor. The stretch proved to be a difficult, 12-length stretch, in part because the nearest hydrant was on the opposite side of Kissena Boulevard, which was heavily congested on this snowy day.

When Captain Doran reached the third-floor hallway, he was met by a heavy smoke condition. Simultaneously, FF Delmar transmitted a message via handie-talkie that there was a civilian at the window who was ready to jump. As Captain Doran began his search down the public hallway on the third floor, he encountered two disoriented occupants and removed them to the floor below. Once that was done, he continued his search to the fire apartment, 2-D.

When the Captain reached the fire apartment, he began his search in near-zero visibility without the protection of the hose-line that he

knew his company was stretching. He quickly located the semi-conscious man--who was at the window ledge in one of the bedrooms--ready to jump from the third floor. He gave a 10-45, removed the man from the ledge and led him to the hallway and down to the second floor.

Captain Doran noticed that the man did not speak English and was acting frantically. He realized that there must be another person inside the apartment. The Captain made his way back to the fire apartment and re-entered, where he confronted high heat and almost no visibility. Once again, he began his search without a charged hose-line in position. Captain Doran crawled through a living room full of clutter and past the bedroom that was on fire and located a female occupant lying unconscious on the floor in the hallway. The Officer gave a second 10-45 and dragged the woman out of the apartment and into the hallway, where he passed her off to FF Grace, who had reached the fire floor with the nozzle team. The woman was taken down to the lobby. Both victims were

transported to New York Hospital Queens where they were treated for smoke inhalation and burns.

As Engine 273's nozzle team of FFs Chidichimo and Delmar reached the fire floor with the hose-line, FF Delmar encountered four children in the opposite end of the hallway and led them to the stairwell and then to the floor below. Captain Doran told his chauffeur, FF Steve Leon, to start water. Then, the nozzle team, under the Captain's supervision, advanced the hose-line into the fire apartment where they were met with a heavy fire condition and intense heat and smoke. The members extinguished the fire in the hallway and rear bedroom.

For his rescue of two people, which was in the highest traditions of the Department, Captain Mark Doran is being recognized today by the FDNY with the Uniformed Fire Officers Association Medal.--NG

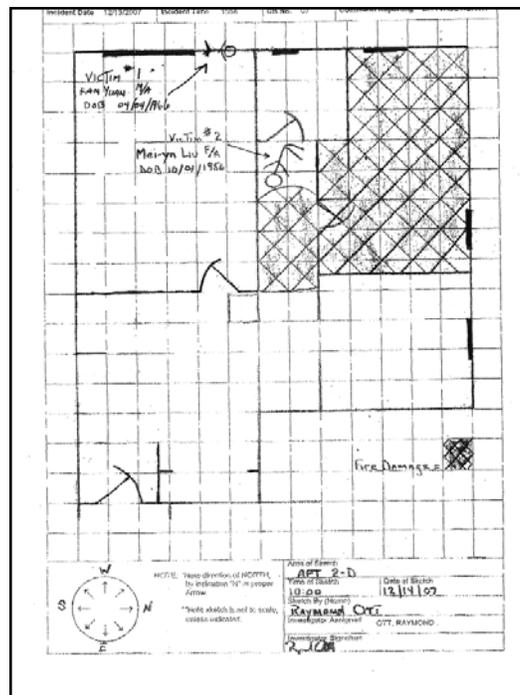


Diagram reveals Captain Mark Doran's rescue route.

Chief James Scullion Medal

February 20, 2008, 2000 hours, 21st Street/Queens Boulevard, Queens

PARAMEDIC KIMBERLEY M. MARSHALL 45R3



Appointed to the FDNY as an Emergency Medical Technician on February 8, 1999. Previous assignments include Stations 26, 58, 44, 57 and 46. Uncle, Steven Marshall, is a supervising mechanic at the Shops in Coney Island. Attended Kingsborough Community College and John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Recipient of a pre-hospital save. Resides in Brooklyn.

Subway and rail emergencies present their own set of unique safety considerations. Urgency must be balanced with safety and vigilance when first responders are called to such incidents. These factors are especially crucial for members of the emergency medical service.

As most members of the emergency services are well aware, the term, *power confirmed off*, does not always guarantee that the scene is totally safe or continues to remain safe.

Arriving at the scene within four minutes on this cold February evening assignment in Queens, Paramedics Kimberley Marshall and Hugo Canedo found a male situated between the rails, just below the couplings. After being assured that the power was off, Paramedic Marshall squeezed herself in between the subway car and the platform. She then descended onto the track bed. Her partner remained on the platform and assisted from that location.

What Paramedic Marshall found was a very seriously injured patient who had sustained major trauma, including loss of one hand and amputation of one foot, along with major tissue damage at the stump. These kinds of injuries are challenging enough to deal with at any location, but tackling this kind of emergency in such a precarious situation and under such dangerous circumstances multiplied the challenges facing the rescuer.

Naturally, the patient--who was conscious--was in obvious and excruciating pain. Here was yet another major ingredient that had to be factored into the safety equation. One wrong move from the patient and the unthinkable could happen.

Once FDNY Fire suppression forces determined an optimal path for extrication, only then were stabilization efforts initiated by Paramedic Marshall. The power to that particular rail bed area, in which everyone was working, was, indeed, off. However, the adjacent track was still energized, which dictated the comfort level for all involved. The margin for error was small and there was even less wiggle room, literally as the patient was writhing in pain.

It was obvious to everyone present regarding what could happen to anyone who came in contact with that unforgiving, live, third rail, which was "next door." This did not serve to facilitate rescue or stabilization efforts.

To do her job effectively, Paramedic Marshall had to focus, concentrate on the situation at hand and put everything else out of her mind. Notwithstanding this clear and obvious peril to herself, she continued with her duties in a controlled, professional manner. Included among her responsibilities were the immobilization of the patient with a C-collar and placement onto a long spine board, controlling the bleeding and tending to the man's badly damaged hand and leg.

After power was verified off to the adjacent track area, successful extrication of the patient was possible. Once on the subway platform, Paramedic Marshall then was able to perform additional advanced life support procedures for the victim.

For her exemplary and meritorious actions during the performance of her professional duties under hazardous conditions, Paramedic Kimberley Marshall is honored today and awarded the Chief James Scullion Medal.--TCD



Edith B. Goldman Medal

FIREFIGHTER JERROLD S. DIETZ

LADDER COMPANY 43

April 23, 2008, Box 75-1302, 2045 hours, 250 East 105th Street, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY on February 1, 2000. Previously assigned to Engines 228 and 53. Recipient of a unit citation. Resides in Bayport, Long Island, with his wife, Jennifer, and their children, Madison, Jesse and Lily.

Most Firefighters will say they get a sense from the dispatcher whether they have a job or not. Multiple calls, frantic caller(s) and fire out the window are some of the informational sound bites members receive while responding that give them an idea that they will be going to work. But even these classic dispatches could not have prepared FF Jerrold Dietz and the members of Ladder 43 for what they were about to encounter.

At 2045 hours on the night of April 23, 2008, Ladder 43 responded to a phone alarm at 250 East 105th Street. The dispatcher was notifying incoming units that there were multiple calls, reports of people trapped and possible jumpers.

Ladder 43 arrived first-due and the severity of the situation was readily apparent. Heavy smoke was pushing from a third-floor window and a civilian was lying in front of the large, U-shaped building, where he had jumped to escape the horrific conditions inside the fire apartment.

Ladder 43's inside team--consisting of Lieutenant Kevin Duggan and FFs Kevin Torrey and Jerrold Dietz--made their way to the fire apartment, 3F. On their way up the stairs, they were informed by civilians that there was still someone trapped inside. Arriving on the fire floor, they found the door to the apartment was wide open, with thick, blinding smoke pouring from the doorway and high heat roaring up the stairs, endangering the upper floors.

FF Dietz and the rest of the forcible entry team knew they were battling against the clock. They also knew it would be some time before the hose-line would be in place; there was at least a 10-length stretch (500 feet) through a large courtyard. If FF Dietz was to act, he would be in danger without the safety of a charged line. It was with this information in mind that FF Dietz with the irons and FF Torrey with

the extinguisher crawled down the smoke-filled hallway in the apartment.

Several feet down the hallway, FFs Dietz and Torrey felt a tremendous wave of heat. They obviously were near the seat of the fire. FF Dietz saw the glow in a nearby bedroom. FF Torrey immediately positioned himself in the doorway to the bedroom to try to confine the fire right there with his extinguisher, while FF Dietz continued his search.

FF Dietz crawled deeper into the blackened apartment. Time was running out. He was operating in zero visibility and intense heat. Anyone trapped in these conditions was in severe jeopardy and had little chance for survival.

FF Dietz entered the rear bathroom where he heard the whimpering cries from a badly burned, 31-year-old woman, Elizabeth Agramonte. FF Dietz immediately transmitted a 10-45. Simultaneously, FF Torrey called out to FF Dietz that he was out of water and the line was still not in place. FF Dietz knew he had mere seconds before the fire erupted once again and trapped both Ms. Agramonte and him in the rear of the apartment.

FF Dietz wrapped his arms around the victim and positioned his body between the fire and the woman as he quickly dragged her past the roaring bedroom and back to the front door. Ms. Agramonte was removed to Cornell Burn Center where she was treated for burns over 50 percent of her body.

Without the quick, decisive and courageous actions of FF Dietz, Ms. Agramonte would not have survived her terrible ordeal. It is for this reason that FF Jerrold Dietz is recognized today and presented with the Edith B. Goldman Medal.--CB



FF Jerrold Dietz (cap) with the members of Ladder 43 after a job.

American Legion Fire Dept. Post 930/ Mark M. Wohlfeld Memorial Medal

LIEUTENANT TIMOTHY K. GRANT

SQUAD COMPANY 41

October 22, 2008, 1919 hours, Box 75-1448, 9 West 122nd Street, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY on July 25, 1993. Previous assignments include Engine 75 and Ladder 33. Brother, FF Owen Grant, is assigned to Ladder 34. Member of the Emerald and Holy Name Societies and the FDNY Emerald Society Bagpipe Band. Holds a BS degree in Management Science from SUNY at Cortland. Resides in Stony Brook, Long Island, with his wife, Tara, and their children, Liam and Jessica.



The FDNY Squad Companies often arrive at a fire at a critical point when the Incident Commander needs the immediate assistance of another company. The uniqueness of the Squad is that members can operate in any capacity, either as an engine or ladder company. During the night tour of October 22, 2008, this versatility led to rescuing two elderly people at a deadly brownstone fire.

At 1919 hours, Squad 41 was special-called to a reported fire on the second floor of a four-story brownstone located at 9 West 122nd Street. When they arrived at the location, Lieutenant Timothy Grant and the other members observed heavy, black smoke pushing from the front second-floor windows and an occupant hanging out a window on the third floor.

Lieutenant Grant reported into Battalion Chief Peter Mulhall, Battalion 12, and was ordered to conduct a primary search of the top floor. The Lieutenant and his inside team--FFs Michael Lindy and John Barrett--made their way into the fire building and saw the members of Ladder 14 removing an occupant from a third-floor window via portable ladder. Additionally, Lieutenant Grant heard a transmission over his handie-talkie from Engine 59, reporting that they were unable to put water on the fire due to Collyers'-type conditions in the fire apartment on the second floor.

The Officer and his Firefighters knew that the hazards were extreme on the top floor. Anyone trapped would be unable to escape due to the lack of fire escapes. They masked up at the top of the stoop and crawled past the open fire apartment door on the second floor, where hot, boiling smoke was venting up the stairs to the top floor. Conditions on the top floor were punishing, with no visibility and a great amount of heat.

Lieutenant Grant ordered

his members to quickly force entry into the rear apartment first, to ensure an area of safe refuge, aware that the engine company was having difficulty extinguishing the fire two floors below. The Officer then proceeded to crawl 20 feet to the front apartment where he found the door open. Entering into the apartment a short distance, Lieutenant Grant found an unconscious person lying on the floor to the right of the door.

The Lieutenant radioed Chief Mulhall that he had a 10-45 and called out to his inside team that he needed help in removing the man. FFs Barrett and Lindy came to his assistance and began to drag the victim, while Lieutenant Grant made his way toward the front window. He knew that the severe heat and smoke condition in the interior stairway would prevent victim removal. He called for Ladder 14's bucket to be brought to the top-floor window, so the victim could be removed that way. The Lieutenant then returned to assist FFs Barrett and Lindy in dragging the man to the window. Once at the window, the Firefighters lifted him up and out, into Ladder 14's bucket.

Meanwhile, Lieutenant Grant continued searching the front apartment. He found another unconscious victim, approximately five feet into the front room. Again, he transmitted a 10-45 and was assisted by FF Barrett in lifting the second victim out and into Ladder 14's bucket. Lieutenant Grant and his inside team completed the primary search of the front apartment, which yielded no additional victims.

Lieutenant Grant was persistent in performing the primary search of the top floor. Unfortunately, both victims succumbed to their injuries. By going above an uncontrolled fire to search for potential victims, Lieutenant Timothy Grant's heroic actions make him worthy of receiving the American Legion Fire Department Post 930/Mark M. Wohlfeld Memorial Medal today.--AP



Lieutenant Timothy Grant operates at Bronx Box 22-2300, 700 Grand Concourse, January 22, 2009, photo by Honorary Deputy Chief Matthew P. Daly



Arthur J. Laufer Memorial Medal

FIREFIGHTER MICHAEL J. TANSEY

LADDER COMPANY 11

January 30, 2008, 1955 hours, Box 75-441, 765 FDR Drive, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY on February 2, 2003. Cousin, FF Kevin Glock, retired as the Commissioner's Aide. Member of the Emerald Society. Holds an associate's degree from the Culinary Institute of America. Resides in Suffolk, Long Island, with his wife, Susan.

Shortly before 2000 hours on a windy January evening, Ladder 11 was assigned to respond to a reported fire on the 10th floor of a 22-story, 100- by 150-foot, project-type building. Fewer than four minutes after receiving the alarm, Ladder 11 arrived. En route, the company was informed via Department radio that a second source was received, also reporting fire on the 10th floor. As the members stepped off the apparatus, a heavy smoke condition could be seen billowing from windows mid-way up the structure. High winds were blowing in a westerly direction from the East River, which could make this one of the most dangerous kinds of fires that Firefighters face.

As the members entered the lobby of the building, panicky civilians reported that people were trapped in apartment 10B. FF Michael Tansey, who was assigned the forcible entry position for the tour, along with his Officer, Lieutenant Christopher DelGiorno, and the extinguisher Firefighter, FF Richard Varela, all Ladder 11, as well as Engine 28's nozzle team, took the elevator to the eighth floor. They then continued to the fire floor via the interior stairs.

Once there, they encountered a heavy smoke condition in the hallway, which indicated that the door to the fire apartment had been left open. Because civilians had been reported trapped and with the dense smoke and potentially dangerous high wind condition that were noted on arrival, the inside team of Ladder 11 had to make entry into the burning flat.

As the team crawled down the public hall toward the fire apartment,

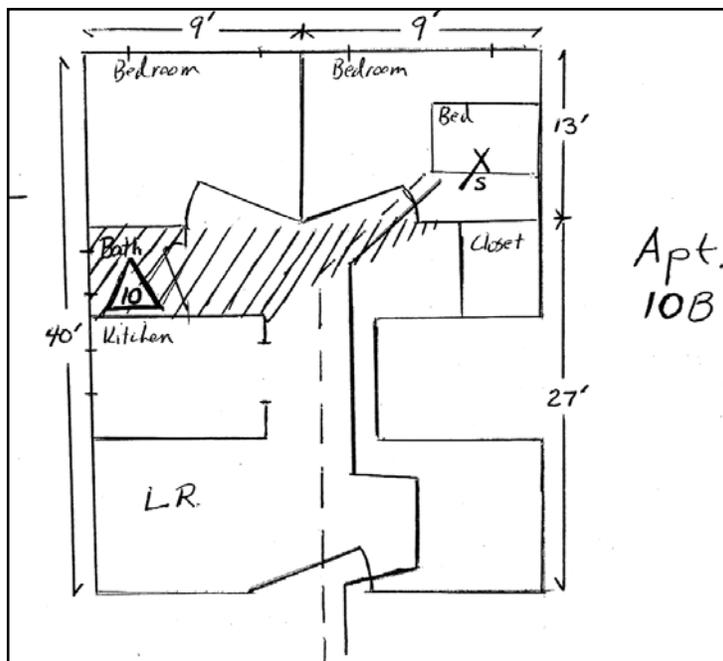
they were faced with high heat and zero visibility. Nevertheless, they continued on and entered the apartment where they were confronted with fire moving from the bathroom to the apartment hallway.

At this time, FF Tansey proceeded toward the right-side bedroom in order to search for anyone in distress. He aggressively passed the fire that was rolling overhead and reached the bedroom door. Although the door was blocked by debris, FF Tansey undauntedly continued his efforts. He removed the debris and forced open the door.

Once inside, he searched and found 67-year-old Glennete Johnson, lying unconscious on the bed. He grabbed the woman, lowered her to the floor, dragged her out of the bedroom and once again, passed under the fire until he and the victim were safely in the public hall. Once FF Tansey and the woman were in the hallway, he opened her airway and then turned her over to members of Engine 15 for continued care. Subsequently, the woman was transported to Beth Israel

Hospital for treatment. After completing his rescue, FF Tansey re-entered the fire apartment to conclude operations.

In performing his search and rescue efforts, without concern for his own well-being and safety and minus the protection of a covering hose-line, FF Tansey acted aggressively and bravely. Therefore, by upholding the highest traditions of the fire service and the FDNY by risking his own life to save another, the Arthur J. Laufer Memorial Medal is proudly presented to FF Michael J. Tansey.--BDG



The search and rescue route taken by FF Michael Tansey.

Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Medal

FIREFIGHTER THOMAS F. SULLIVAN

MARINE COMPANY 1

September 2, 2008, Box 352, Hudson River, Manhattan, 300 feet off 1st Avenue, Hoboken, New Jersey

Appointed to the FDNY on October 24, 1993. Previously assigned to Engine 93. Brother, FM Brian Sullivan, is assigned to BFI, City-Wide North Command. Member of the Emerald and Holy Name Societies. Recipient of several unit citations. Holds a Captain's License from the United States Coast Guard. Resides in Port Washington, Long Island, with his wife, Sue.



The members assigned to the FDNY Marine Division have a unique job. They perform firefighting duties onboard various marine vessels and along the waterfront, effect numerous rescues and provide assistance to people in the water. These members provide long periods of patrol; they never let their guard down because the unexpected can occur at anytime.

On September 2, 2008, the members of Marine 1 heard a report over the SOD radio of a person in the Hudson River, north of the Lackawanna pier in New Jersey. This location is almost directly across from Marine 1's quarters, so Captain Richard Johnson radioed the Manhattan dispatcher that they were responding, using Marine 1's smaller, 27-foot Safe boat.

As they left the dock in Marine 1-Alpha, the members heard a report from the Hoboken Fire and Rescue over the VHF radio, confirming the prior report. Additional reports indicated that this person was distraught and involved in an incident with the Hoboken Police Department. He had jumped into the river, trying to evade the police.

Aboard Marine 1-A were Captain Johnson, who was monitoring the various radios, FF Michael Krol, who was piloting the vessel, and FF Thomas F. Sullivan, who was donned in a Mustang Cold Water Rescue Suit and tying the necessary knots for attaching himself to a tether line. When the boat arrived at the reported location, members of the Hoboken Fire and Police Departments were pointing to the area where the individual had jumped into the water. The person then was swept under a pier by the fast-moving north-bound current.

The large pier at the location was under construction and measured approximately 300 by 150 feet. There were no lights and it had many work-type floating docks around its perimeter, making the fireboat's approach difficult. The pier's surface was dangerous, preventing the land-based units from operating on it. The Hoboken Fire Department (HFD) also had a small boat and Captain Johnson coordinated the positioning of the two vessels.

FF Krol carefully piloted Marine 1-A toward the last noted location of the victim. Maneuvering slowly in the tight space was even more difficult because the high tide allowed a space of only 18 inches between the water and underside of the pier. Captain Johnson shined a light under the pier when he saw the outline of a person struggling to stay afloat, about 100 feet away. He made several attempts to call out to him, but received no response.

Fearing that time was running out for this struggling and fatigued individual before he would go underwater, Captain Johnson made some final adjustments to the tether line attached to FF Sullivan and had the Firefighter enter the water. FF Sullivan was fully aware of all the dangers--instability of the troubled victim, a fast current, low headroom, construction hazards of the large pier and operating in total darkness--involved with this rescue, but he entered the water anyway.

FF Sullivan swam to the victim while negotiating through debris and tight spaces. He found a male barely afloat, clinging to a piling. The rescuer brought a torpedo float can with him and used it to gain control of the male, keeping his head above the water. FF Sullivan decided to swim with the victim another 25 feet to exit from under the pier to the HFD boat, rather than make the grueling trek back to Marine 1-A.

The victim acted erratically and actually broke free from FF Sullivan's grip--nearly submerging--until the rescuer was able to regain control of him and calm him down. FF Sullivan was so far away that Captain Johnson could not see him or the victim and the tether line was nearing its end. Fortunately, FF Sullivan and his victim reached the HFD fireboat and were assisted onboard. Out of danger, the victim was brought to Jersey City Medical Center for treatment.

FF Sullivan's quick and deliberate actions in dangerous conditions saved the life of a distraught drowning victim. For his heroic actions, FF Thomas F. Sullivan is awarded the Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Medal.--AP



FF Tom Sullivan was among the first responders removing passengers from the plane that landed in the Hudson River on January 15, 2009.



Company Officers Association Medal

LIEUTENANT MICHAEL J. KIRWIN

BATTALION 37 (ASSIGNED), LADDER COMPANY 153 (DETAILED)

December 16, 2008, 0522 hours, Box 75-3360, 2377 East 7th Street, Brooklyn

Appointed to the FDNY on January 26, 1997. Previous assignments include Ladder 51 and Engine 63. Father, Lieutenant James Kirwin, is retired from Engine 39. Holds a BA degree in Communications from Iona College. Resides in New Rochelle.

On December 16, 2008, at 0522 hours, the quarters of Engine 254 and Ladder 153 received a first-due telephone alarm for fire in a private dwelling at 2377 East 7th Street. En route, the dispatcher began receiving multiple calls for the fire, with someone trapped in the dwelling. When Engine 254 and Ladder 153 arrived at the Box, they found heavy smoke coming from all the windows on the first and second floors of a two-story, fully attached, flat-roof private dwelling. The Officer of Engine 254 gave the 10-75.

As Lieutenant Michael Kirwin, Ladder 153, and his inside team made their way to the front door, he heard several frantic civilians yelling that an elderly woman was still inside. FFs Michael Tadduni with the irons and Mark Long--detailed from Engine 254--with the extinguisher, quickly forced the front door and were met with heavy, black smoke and zero visibility. As the inside team began to make their way down the front hall, Lieutenant Kirwin found heavy fire burning through the door that led to the basement and up the open interior stair to the second floor.

The Officer received two critical radio reports. The first came from his outside vent Firefighter, FF John DeCarlo, reporting heavy fire from the basement rear windows. The second report came from Battalion Chief Donald Howard, Battalion 33, stating that there was a woman trapped on the second floor.

Lieutenant Kirwin and his inside team made an attempt to reach the second floor via the interior stairs, but were forced back

due to punishing heat and flames coming from the basement. As Lieutenant Robert Ferrara, Engine 254, began to stretch the first hose-line into the building, Lieutenant Kirwin informed him of the location of the burned-away basement door. He also ordered FF Long to assist the engine with the hose-line advance and FF Tadduni to perform a search of the first floor.

With still no water yet on the fire, Lieutenant Kirwin made a second attempt to reach the second floor. With flames and high heat still coming from the basement, the Officer rapidly ascended the open interior stairs and was able to make the second floor. Due to high heat conditions on the top floor, Lieutenant Kirwin crawled down the hall and made his way to the front bedroom. As he swept the bed, he found an elderly female unconscious on the bed. He immediately gave the 10-45 and his location in the front bedroom.

Realizing that time was running out for the victim, Lieutenant Kirwin dragged her off the bed and down the hall to the top of the stairs where he was met by FF Tadduni. With the first floor now controlled by Engine 254's hose-line, the

victim was removed down the interior stairs and out to EMS.

Although the victim later succumbed to her injuries, this in no way diminishes the Officer's efforts. Lieutenant Kirwin performed his duties under extreme conditions in an attempt to save her life. For this reason, Lieutenant Michael Kirwin's bravery is recognized by the Department with the Company Officers Association Medal.

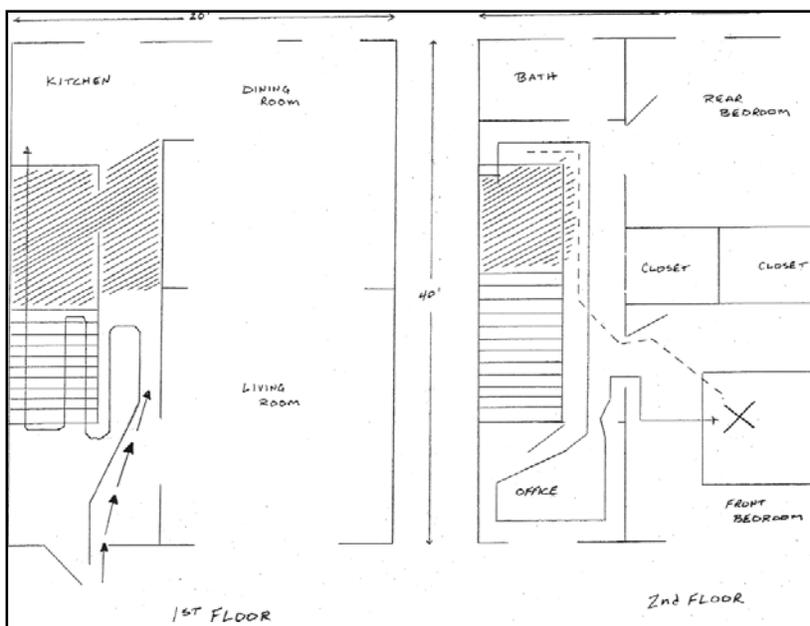


Diagram depicts route taken by Lieutenant Michael Kirwin in his effort to save a woman.

Chief Joseph B. Martin Medal

LIEUTENANT MICHAEL J. LYONS

BATTALION 16 (ASSIGNED), LADDER COMPANY 30 (DETAILED)

August 26, 2007, 2358 hours, Box 75-1469, 288 St. Nicholas Avenue, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY on November 22, 1998. Previously assigned to Ladder 148 and Engine 228. Uncle, Lieutenant John Lyons, is retired from Division 8. Member of the Emerald and Holy Name Societies. Cited for bravery on three previous occasions. Holds a BA degree in English and History from the University of Galway. Resides in Dix Hills, Long Island, with his wife, Kristine, and their seven-month-old daughter, Jillian.



It was just minutes before midnight on a warm summer evening two years ago when the alarm tones sounded in the quarters of Ladder 30. Assigned as second-due truck to an address in the central business district of Harlem, the company, under the command of Lieutenant Michael Lyons, raced to the scene. En route, the Officer started his mental size-up of the situation. A smoke condition had been reported and the fourth-floor location and late hour indicated the possibility of sleeping residents. An additional concern was that his extinguisher Firefighter recently had graduated from the Fire Academy.

As the company pulled up to the fire location, Lieutenant Lyons trained his apparatus spotlight on the façade of the structure and saw heavy smoke billowing from the building. He advised Captain Ronnie Gilyard, the Officer of first-due Ladder 40, of the conditions and proceeded to the fire floor. While waiting for a hose-line to reach the fourth floor where the fire was located, Lieutenant Lyons heard screams and banging emanating from the fifth floor.

He promptly advised Ladder 40 that he and his inside team were proceeding to the floor above the fire despite the fact there was no hose-line to protect them. Once they arrived on the fifth floor, moans were heard coming from apartment 5E. Lieutenant Lyons ordered his team to start forcing the door open. This was an arduous task because there were numerous locks on the door, visibility was zero and there was a very high degree of heat.

As the door was forced open, Lieutenant Lyons heard via handie-talkie that heavy fire was venting out two windows on the fourth floor and encroaching on the fifth floor. This created a heightened sense of urgency and the need for an immediate search for victims. It was only a matter of

time before the fire would reach the area where Lieutenant Lyons and his forcible entry team were operating.

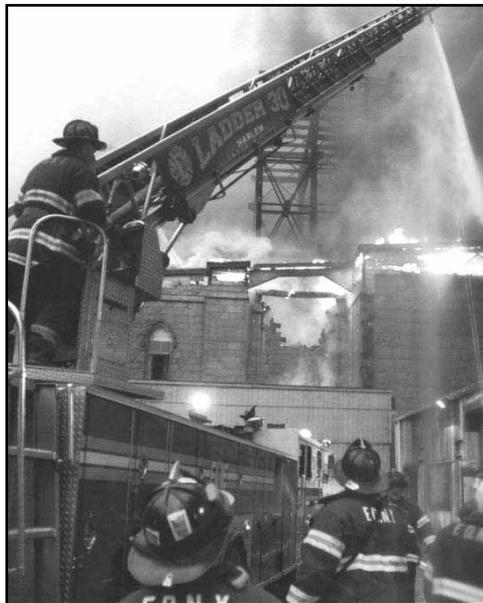
Although the apartment was filled with dense smoke, there was so much accumulated paraphernalia that the classification of *Collyers' mansion* was appropriate. The thermal imaging camera was rendered useless. Commencing an aggressive search and ordering his team to force the locks on a bedroom door, Lieutenant Lyons dropped to his hands and knees and crawled the length of the hallway, checking each room along the way.

When he finally reached the sixth bedroom at the end of the hall, the Lieutenant located 80-year-old Espifania Perez lying unconscious. He grabbed the woman and dragged her out of the bedroom into the hall. He called for FF Vincent DeGori to assist in bringing the victim out of the apartment. She then was transferred to the members of Engine 59.

Suffering from smoke inhalation, cuts and bruises, Ms. Perez subsequently was transported to the hospital. Lieutenant Lyons re-entered the apartment to continue searching for any other persons in distress.

Lieutenant Lyons showed initiative, as well as excellent command decisions, in directing his team as they forced access to the various rooms in the apartment. Further, he demonstrated personal bravery in performing a rescue under difficult and dangerous conditions. As Deputy Chief Daniel Donoghue, Division 3, noted, "...This aggressive search prior to the arrival of a hand-line resulted in the rescue of an elderly female, most assuredly saving her life..."

In recognition of his heroic performance in the highest tradition of the Fire Department, the Chief Joseph B. Martin Medal is awarded to Lieutenant Michael J. Lyons.--BDG



Ladder 30 operated at Manhattan Box 55-1354, West 113th Street/Amsterdam Avenue, Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, December 18, 2001.

photo by then-FF John Leavy



New York State Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal FIREFIGHTER ANTHONY M. ROMANO

LADDER COMPANY 142

**February 26, 2008, 0318 hours, Box 22-9645, 87-35 114th Street,
Richmond Hill, Queens**

Appointed to the FDNY on March 7, 2004. Father, FF Tony Romano, is retired from Ladder 30. Holds a bachelor's degree in History/Education from Hunter College. Resides in Oceanside, Long Island, with his wife, Jamie.

In the early-morning hours of Tuesday, February 26, 2008, Ladder 142 and Engine 285 received a phone alarm that will not be forgotten for years to come. A fire was reported at 87-24 115th Street, Queens. Arriving at the reported address, members conducted their investigation and found that there was *nothing showing* at this building, but the Ladder 143 roof Firefighter reported seeing smoke from the rear of a private dwelling on the next street, 114th Street.

Battalion Chief Patrick Ginty, Battalion 51, ordered Engine 285 to the building where they conducted an investigation and confirmed a working fire in a three-story, frame private dwelling. A 10-75 was given. The remaining companies responded to the new address, both on foot and apparatus. Due to the delay, the fire gained headway.

Units now arriving encountered Collyers' mansion-type conditions, complicating operations. Quick entry into the building was prevented, again allowing the fire to grow in intensity. Additionally, the owner had packed all rooms with debris and sealed the rooms with plastic sheeting and cardboard over some of the windows. This combination nurtured the environment for a delayed alarm and flashover.

Firefighter Anthony Romano, Ladder 142, was assigned the outside vent position. In keeping with procedures for private dwelling fires, he performed a perimeter survey for possible life hazards. While making his way to the rear, FF Romano heard a transmission over the handie-talkie: *Mayday! I'm burning up in the rear!* Knowing that the front of the fire building was covered by the inside team on the first floor and his LCC and the second-due LCC were on the second-floor front, the only area left uncovered was the second-floor rear.

FF Daniel Carson, Ladder 9, detailed to Ladder 142, was assigned the roof position and after verbally communicating with FF Romano, transported the 16-foot extension ladder to the rear. Both members raised the ladder to the exposure #3 setback roof, the only access to the only window on exposure #3. This setback had a pitch of 45 degrees with a span of six feet. The physical characteristics of the setback prevented placement of the ladder to the windowsill. With the exact location of the *mayday* still unknown and fire now involving the second floor, this window would be the only way in.

As FF Carson butted the ladder, FF Romano ascended to vent, enter and search for the member in distress. From the ladder at the edge of the setback roof, FF Romano vented the window, preparing to enter by pulling himself up, using the full extension of his arm and a six-foot hook. Subsequently, high heat and heavy, dense black smoke pushed out the rear window, indicating probable flashover. Simultaneously, while preparing his climb,

FF Romano heard an additional transmission: *I'm burning up! I'm burning up!*

FF Romano, applying situational awareness, determined that FF Robert Grover, Ladder 143, was probably in that second-floor rear area. Experiencing the worst of conditions for entry and feeling the intense heat of the fire, he donned his mask, pulled up his hood, hooked his six-foot hook onto the windowsill and pulled himself up the steep setback roof. At the window, he cleared the remaining glass and sash. Entering and searching were arduous, due to the incline of the roof, awkward footing, the escalating heat and smoke venting from the window and lack of an area of refuge.

Hanging onto the windowsill, he entered the room head-first into the severe conditions, hooking the instep of his left boot onto the windowsill as his only lifeline and searching to the right. Not finding anyone, he let go of the security of the windowsill and turned to the left, continuing into the room. FF Romano immediately heard a noise that he determined to be coming from FF Grover. Through near-zero visibility, FF Romano saw the reflective stripes of bunker gear and found FF Grover semi-conscious in the corner of the bedroom, near the exposure #3 and #4 walls.

FF Romano reached out and grabbed the mask shoulder straps and dragged FF Grover back to the window. He then lifted the more than 200-lb. Firefighter up and over the sill. Conditions deteriorated toward flashover with fire venting overhead. In one swift motion, he held onto FF Grover and rolled out of the room through the window, out onto the setback roof. Together, they rolled down the steep setback roof, behind the ladder and fell to the ground.

Throughout the drop, FF Romano yelled through his facepiece, attempting to reassure FF Grover he would be safe, *I got you! I got you!* And, indeed, he did. Never letting go, the two landed in the rear yard. If not for the rapid and intelligent actions of FF Romano, FF

Grover would have succumbed to his injuries, for 30 seconds later, heavy fire was venting through this only way out of exposure #3. Both men sustained injuries from this operation. FF Romano stayed with FF Grover until both were transported to the hospital. FF Romano was removed with initial reports of a broken jaw, leg and internal injuries and FF Grover with burns to his face and hands. FF Grover spent the next 21 days at Cornell Burn Center.

Nothing is more important than saving a life. To save a Brother Firefighter is extraordinary. In honor of FF Anthony Romano's actions, he is presented with the New York State Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal.--TW



FF Anthony Romano operates at Queens Box 33-2034, brush fire at 165th Avenue/Cross Bay Boulevard, Howard Beach, April 30, 2008.

photo by Todd Maisel, New York Daily News

Honor Legion Medal

CAPTAIN JAMES P. ELLSON

RESCUE COMPANY 3

August 07, 2008, 0118 hours, Box 75-2567, 1113 Sheridan Avenue, Bronx



Appointed to the FDNY on August 19, 1990. Previously assigned to Ladder 111 and Rescue 2. Father, Captain James P. Ellson, Senior, is retired from the Special Operations Command; uncle, Supervising Fire Marshal John Kittelberger, is retired from BFI; uncle, Lieutenant Robert Paolicelli (deceased), was retired from Engine 227; cousin, Lieutenant Robert Kittelberger, is assigned to Ladder 170; and cousin, Lieutenant Christopher Paolicelli, is ufo in Engine 332. Member and team Captain of the FDNY Hockey Team. Cited for bravery on eight occasions; recipient of the Hugh Bonner Medal in 2004. Also, a two-time recipient of the Firehouse Magazine Heroism & Community Service Awards. Resides in Jackson Heights, Queens.

As a rule, when the dispatcher announces over the air, "receiving numerous phone calls of people trapped..." the members assigned to the Rescue unit immediately prepare for the worst. They know from experience that in the next few moments, they will be tasked with operating somewhere in the building. Most of the members will begin their mental check list, based on the information received--height, size, location--all part of their size-up, since most of them have been to that kind of building before. They know the area by assigned first-due units.

During the span of his career, Captain James Ellson has operated in this type of scenario many times, but he still went through his own size-up and enumerated the possibilities with which his unit might be confronted. When Rescue 3 arrived on-scene, Captain Ellson saw the typical, six-story, H-type multiple dwelling that dominates that section of the Bronx. Battalion Chief Michael Massucci, Battalion 10 (acting Battalion 17), advised that fire was on the second floor (rear) and trapping the occupants above. He ordered Captain Ellson to split his unit up to perform the necessary searches above the fire. The Captain immediately broke his unit up into teams. The roof team was sent to the roof to check for extension and a possible lifesaving rope operation.

Entering the building, the Officer and his team encountered a distraught civilian who said that his son was still trapped in apartment 503. A quick check of the apartment numbers told Captain Ellson that this was in direct line of the fire apartment.

Reaching the fire floor, Captain Ellson and his inside team--FFs Patrick McKenna and Eugene Heghmann--advised the Officer of Ladder 19, Captain Kieran Kilduff, that they would attempt to make the upper floors. At this time, there was no hand-line in position at the door and Ladder 19 was attempting to gain control of it with heavy fire issuing out of the apartment.

The inside team of Rescue 3 ducked under the flames and went up the only staircase to the upper floors. (This type of building had isolated stairs in each wing.) This was not an easy task, since the stairwell at

the time was more like a chimney and the heat and smoke were intense.

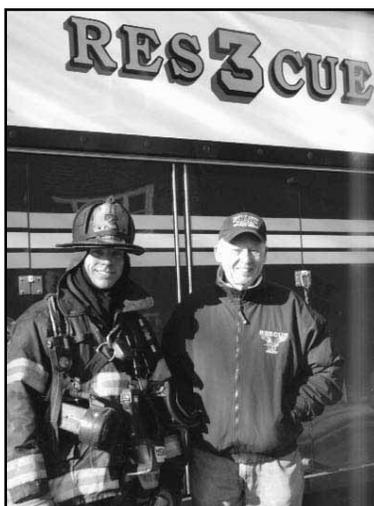
As soon as they made the third floor, Captain Ellson ordered his team to begin a search of that floor for any victims and advised them that he would attempt to get to apartment 503, which was still a couple of floors above. The high heat and dense smoke became unbearable since the roof was not vented yet. As the Officer reached the floor where apartment 503 was located, the conditions forced him to crawl on his stomach toward the apartment. The smoke was dense with zero visibility.

While crawling toward the apartment, Captain Ellson found the unconscious victim, Zakariah Fofana, just outside the open door of apartment 503 and immediately gave the 10-45 transmission. It was impossible to assess the victim's condition due to the smoke and heat in the hall. Experience dictated what actions the rescuer would have to take to save this young man's life.

Captain Ellson could not go up to the roof, even though it was closer to his current position. Instead, he had to drag/carry this 150-lb., 18-year-old down the interior stairs. He propped the victim up against the wall, grabbed him about the waist and dead-lifted him up to his shoulder. This forced Captain Ellson to be more upright in the heat and smoke, but he had no other option. He carried the victim down the stairway to the street.

Reaching the street, EMS personnel immediately intubated the young victim and began CPR. While the Paramedics were working on the victim, Captain Ellson observed the extent of the burns to the victim's face, hands and shoulders--testimony to the conditions to which they were subjected on their descent from the upper floors through the chimney-like stairwell.

Captain Ellson operated alone, above a heavy fire condition, without a hand-line in position. He exhibited great strength and determination in the removal of this victim. For his outstanding courage and tenacity, Captain James P. Ellson is presented with the Honor Legion Medal for valor.--JTV



Son and father--Captain James P. Ellson and Captain James P. Ellson, Sr., retired from the Special Operations Command.

Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn Medal

October 23, 2008, Alabama Avenue/Fulton Street, Brooklyn



**PARAMEDIC
JUAN R. LEBRON**
STATION 39

Appointed to the FDNY as an Emergency Medical Technician on January 9, 2006. Member of the FDNY Football Team. Recipient of a pre-hospital save and an excellent duty award. Resides in Brooklyn.



**EMT
ISAIAH A. BAKER**
STATION 39

Appointed to the FDNY as an Emergency Medical Technician on October 1, 2007. Resides in Bayside, Queens.



**EMT ROSTANTIN
W. KRUCZOWY**
STATION 39

Appointed to the FDNY as an Emergency Medical Technician on January 7, 2008. Father, FF Robert Kruczowy, is assigned to Engine 96. Attended SUNY, Maritime. Resides in Bellerose, Queens.

On Thursday evening, October 23, 2008, Paramedic Juan Lebron and EMTs Isaiah Baker and Rostantin Kruczowy made a dramatic difference in the life of one young female.

Just a few minutes before 2100 hours, while each was on his own routine duty in Brooklyn, a call came in that impacted the life of one woman, as well as her ultimate rescuers. Confirmation was received that a person was under a train at the J Line, BMT subway station, located at Fulton Street and Alabama Avenue.

When EMS units arrived at the scene of this assignment in less than one minute, they found Fire units already in the process of raising the subway car in a safe and secure manner. It never can be overstated that working on subway tracks poses its own unique safety concerns that always require heightened awareness on the part of potential rescuers. This is simply because third rail track power that often is confirmed as off, does not always guarantee that the power is, indeed, off or that the scene is ever totally safe.

When it was clear to do so (MTA staff had indicated that power on the tracks was cut off), Paramedic Lebron cautiously crawled under the front train car, alongside EMT Baker, to better assist the patient, who was curled up in a fetal position. (As it turned out, the power had been left on, but the rescuers

continued to provide care for the patient, feeling that they would be safe as long as they stayed at the platform wall.)

Paramedic Lebron started an IV to stabilize the patient. This 21-year-old victim actually was run over by the subway cars and, indeed, in immediate need of life-stabilizing interventions. EMT Kruczowy's contributions were significant. The psychological impact he had on the woman, talking casually and comfortably with her, facilitated the rescuers' efforts to remove her. He constantly monitored her mental status, keeping her apprised of what the rescuers were doing while performing the extrication.

Together, Paramedic Lebron and EMT Baker proceeded to immobilize her. They continued to treat her life-altering injuries all the way to the trauma hospital. The woman lost both arms and a leg, but due to the aggressive medical care provided by EMTs Baker and Kruczowy and Paramedic Lebron, she was alive when brought to the hospital. It was learned that this incident was an attempted suicide, as the woman had purposely jumped in front of the train.

For their diligent and dynamic contributions, as well as their vigorous and vital interventions to keep this injured female alive, Paramedic Juan Lebron and EMTs Isaiah Baker and Rostantin Kruczowy are presented with the Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn Medal.--TCD

Police Honor Legion Medal

FIREFIGHTER BRIAN P. CONNELLY

LADDER COMPANY 116

December 4, 2008, 2330 hours, Box 75-7383, 34-15 Crescent Street, Queens



Appointed to the FDNY on September 12, 2004. Served in the Air Force. Holds a BA degree in Sociology from SUNY at Albany. Resides in Riverhead, Long Island, with his wife, Bonnie, and their daughters, Nora and Molly.

On the evening of December 4, 2008, Ladder 116 was in quarters when "RCA Box 7383" came over the air for a reported structural fire at 34-15 Crescent Street, Queens. As they responded, the dispatcher was relaying to members that they were receiving numerous phone calls for this address. As they approached the location, the truck could see smoke emitting from the exposure #2 side of the building from the second floor. They knew that they were reporting to a working fire.

The inside team included FFs Brian Connelly and Chris DiMaria, with Lieutenant Patrick Keena in command. On arrival, they made their way to the second floor. Reaching the landing, they found a smoke condition and transmitted the 10-75 for apartment 2B.

The members donned their facepieces and forced their way into the apartment. After forcing the door, FF Connelly took notice of the chain latch still set from the inside, indicating someone was in the burning apartment. Without hesitation and benefit of a charged hose-line, the inside team entered the apartment and immediately confronted thick, black, acrid smoke. Due to the intense heat, the team was forced to the floor.

They now had to crawl down a cluttered, narrow, 20-foot-long hall, where heavy fire met them as it was lapping out the bedroom door on the left. The extinguisher Firefighter, FF DiMaria, raised the can and drove back some of the fire as FF Connelly and Lieutenant Keena advanced past the blaze. Proceeding another 10 feet on his stomach, FF

Connelly continued his search into the kitchen. While sweeping with his hand, he came upon the unconscious body of the occupant, a large man in excess of 200 pounds.

FF Connelly advised his Officer and Lieutenant Keena transmitted the 10-45. FF Connelly now began the arduous task of removal. Joined by FF DiMaria, who had emptied his extinguisher, both Firefighters proceeded to drag the unresponsive victim toward the front door. As they passed the bedroom on fire, they shielded his body with their own as the intensifying fire was raging over their heads and advancing down the hall.

After dragging the victim out the apartment door, the inside team proceeded to carry the unconscious man to the half-landing, where they were met by the members of Engine 262. Engine 262 Firefighters provided lifesaving first aid until they brought the still-unconscious man to EMS. It was reported then that the victim had no pulse. The victim was transported to Mt. Sinai Hospital in critical condition and then was transferred to the Cornell Burn Center--with a pulse. Regrettably, the victim succumbed to his injuries 10 days later.

Without regard for his personal safety, FF Connelly displayed courage, initiative and ability that epitomize the highest traditions of the New York City Fire Department. He passed a room of fire, crawled until he found the victim, shielded him as he again passed the room on fire to gain a safe exit and ensured the victim's safe transfer to EMS. Because of his heroic actions, FF Brian Connelly is awarded with the Police Honor Legion Medal.--TW



FF Brian Connelly and the members of Ladder 116.



Firefighter David J. DeFranco Medal

BATTALION CHIEF BARRY W. BRANDES

BATTALION 41

July 15, 2008, 1900 hours, Atlantic Ocean, Rockaway Beach, Queens

Appointed to the FDNY on October 13, 1979. Previously assigned to Engine 324, Ladder 170, Battalion 12, Ladder 34, Division 1, Battalion 43 and Division 15. Father, FF Benjamin Brandes, is retired from Engine 318 and brother, Captain Neil Brandes, is retired from Division 8. Member of Ner Tamid Society. Holds a BS degree in Physical Education and an MS degree in Secondary Education and Administration, both from Brooklyn College. EEO instructor for FDNY. Cited for bravery on five previous occasions. Resides in Neponsit, Queens, with his wife, Joanne, and their children, Jack, 9, and Jennifer, 7.

When Battalion Chief Barry “Butch” Brandes finishes up a tour and returns home, he likes to wind down by taking a walk along the Atlantic coast beach in Rockaway, not far from his home. That’s exactly what he started out to do when he was off duty on the early evening of July 15, 2008, not knowing that his relaxing walk would turn out to be anything but that. Although the day was sunny, there was a strong wind blowing, which was whipping up the surf and creating six- to eight-foot waves, severe riptides and treacherous undertows. All of these conditions--the results of tropical storm Bertha--had prompted the authorities to close the beach. Consequently, no lifeguards were on duty.

Chief Brandes made his way to the seawall, which ran parallel to the shore and kept the sand from encroaching on the residential area on the north side. As he was standing on the wall in the vicinity of Beach 148th Street, he observed a surfer approximately 40 yards from the edge of the beach and very close to the 149th Street rock jetty. It appeared that the surfer was attempting--unsuccessfully--to pull a young woman, 17-year-old Vanessa Sahn, onto the board.

Realizing that both the swimmer and surfer were in imminent danger as they drifted closer to the jetty, Chief Brandes took immediate action by sprinting approximately 100 yards to the edge of the beach, where he entered the pounding surf. After swimming roughly 40 yards out to

the victim and rescuer, Chief Brandes secured the woman in a cross chest carry. He asked the surfer if he could make it to shore. Although the man answered in the affirmative, he first had to untie the victim from his surfboard leash as directed by the Chief. Failure to do so could have caused the tip of the surfboard to spear both the young woman and Chief Brandes.

Once Chief Brandes had a secure grip on the woman, he commenced the arduous task of bringing her to safety. The severe ocean currents caused them to be bounced off the jetty. Twice, Chief Brandes lost his grip and the victim submerged. Both times, he dove down and although there was minimal visibility, with outstretched arms, he located Ms. Sahn and resumed his journey toward the shore. In spite of being pummeled by the surf and buried underwater several times as they neared the beach, Chief Brandes did not falter. He continued his efforts until he and the victim were on shore. Both were exhausted and suffered lacerations to the hands and feet.

When Chief Brandes saw someone in danger, he reacted immediately. Acting alone (there was no response from FDNY, NYPD or the Coast Guard), he ultimately saved the life of someone who otherwise might have perished. Because his lifesaving deed upholds the finest traditions of the Fire Department of the City of New York, it is with great pride that the Firefighter David J. DeFranco Medal is presented to Battalion Chief Barry W. “Butch” Brandes.--BDG

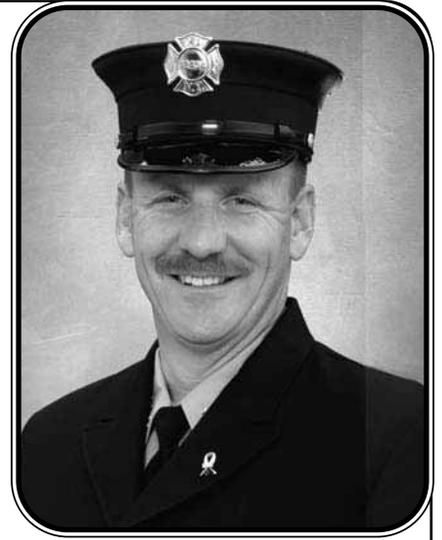


Battalion Chief Barry W. Brandes supervises operations at Brooklyn Box 75-2494, 800 East 8th Street, March 5, 2009. photo by Paul Sanner

Lieutenant James E. Zahn/ Lieutenant Peter L. Troiano Memorial Medal FIREFIGHTER THOMAS V. SIGNOR *LADDER COMPANY 106*

March 25, 2008, 1804 hours, Box 75-0045, 1035 Manhattan Avenue, Brooklyn

Appointed to the FDNY on February 5, 1995. Resides in Farmingville, Long Island, with his wife, Barbara, and their children, Alyssa and Thomas.



Frequently, truck company members must operate without the benefit of a hose-line being in place to protect them. This fact, alone, makes any rescue all the more remarkable. Such was the case when FF Thomas Signor and the members of Ladder 106 were called out to respond to a fire at 1035 Manhattan Avenue on March 25, 2008.

Reaching the top floor of a four-story, multiple dwelling, the members of Ladder 106 encountered a moderate smoke condition. Lieutenant Kevin Griffith instructed the forcible entry Firefighter, FF Pete Quinn, to force the door of the front apartment. The inside team immediately encountered heavy, dark smoke and heat. The Officer radioed a 10-75 to Battalion Chief John Papa, Battalion 45.

With smoke banked down to the floor and zero visibility, Ladder 106 members conducted a quick search, while Engine 238 members continued hand stretching up the interior stairs. Without benefit of a charged hand-line, the members of Ladder 106 entered and split up to search the small apartment.

FF Signor, a 13-year veteran, crawled to his left and felt along the wall. Eventually, he found the entrance to the front bedroom. While still crawling below the heat in the dense smoke, the Firefighter soon discovered 68-year-old Luz Rivera, unconscious on her back, located

between two beds. FF Signor verbally reported this to his Officer who radioed the 10-45.

Still without a charged line for protection, FF Signor struggled to extricate the victim from between the beds and move her to the open doorway. Calling for assistance, he was met by FF Quinn, who assisted with victim removal from the fire apartment. The Firefighters then carried Ms. Rivera down the four flights of stairs to the street level where medical attention was rendered.

As the victim was being removed to safety, Engine 238 members entered the apartment and extinguished the fire, which had begun in the kitchen a mere 10 feet from the open bedroom doorway. Ms. Rivera was transported by EMS personnel to Cornell Medical Center.

It is clear that the decision by Ladder 106 to conduct an immediate search before a charged hand-line could be put in place and the aggressive search performed by FF Signor resulted in the successful rescue of Luz Rivera who had been overcome by smoke inhalation.

For his brave actions in this rescue, FF Thomas Signor is presented with the Lieutenant James E. Zahn/Lieutenant Peter L. Troiano Memorial Medal.

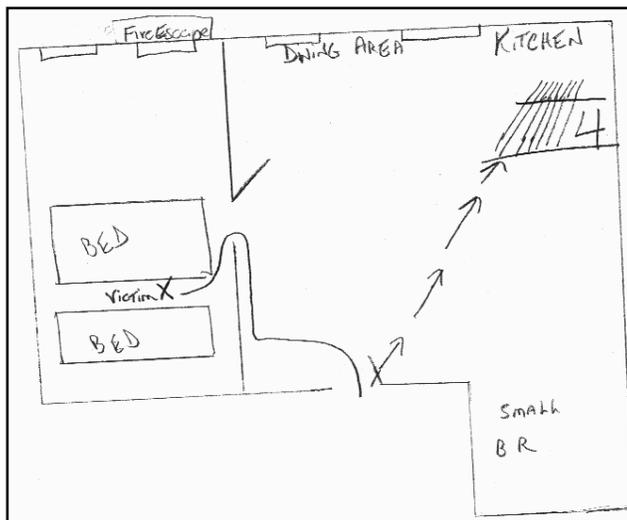


Diagram shows the route that FF Signor used to reach the victim. Photo shows Ladder Company 106 in action at a three-alarm fire.

Lt. James Curran/NYFFs Burn Center Foundation Medal/Father Julian F. Deeken Memorial Medal ENGINE COMPANY 44



October 11, 2006, 1443 hours, Box 44-1031,
524 East 72nd Street, Manhattan

LIEUTENANT EDWARD E. RYAN
FF DANIEL D. HALVEY
FF WILLIAM CUPO
FF THOMAS M. ACCARDO
FF EDWARD BOHAN
FF BRYAN E. DOYLE

A little before three p.m. on October 11, 2006, a small, privately owned plane, flown by New York Yankees pitcher Cory Lidle and his instructor, crashed into a 40-story apartment building on East 72nd Street. When reports of this incident began to come in, thoughts instantly turned to a possible terrorist attack, reminiscent of 9/11. Engine 44, with Lieutenant Edward E. Ryan and FFs Daniel D. Halvey, William Cupo, Thomas M. Accardo, Edward Bohan and Bryan E. Doyle, responded first-due.

Arriving on-scene, the company confronted an extremely heavy smoke condition and burning debris at the street level. With the wind shifting the smoke cloud, the Lieutenant saw black smoke pouring from an upper floor of the building. He transmitted a 10-77 for a fire on an upper floor of a high-rise multiple dwelling.

Engine 44 overcame several obstacles just to get to the building. Ten floors were skipped in the numbering system, causing some initial confusion. The nominal number of floors did not conform to the actual number of stories. Due to heavy smoke and falling debris, members had to search for the front door of the building on their hands and knees. Once inside, the building superintendent said the fire was on the 40th floor. As a precaution, the members proceeded via the elevator to the 30th floor and climbed the stairs from there. Reaching the 40th floor, members identified the fire apartment as 40F. Fire was showing through the peep hole and the door was beginning to buckle.

The members of Engine 44 quickly connected four lengths of 2¹/₂-inch hose to the standpipe on the 39th floor and then stretched and flaked out one and a half lengths of hose on the fire floor. With the arrival of Ladder 13, the door was forced and the members could see what the truck Officer described as simply “a ball of fire.”

All rooms in the apartment were in a free-burning stage and Engine 44 members quickly attacked and extinguished all visible fire. With the fire knocked down in this apartment, Lieutenant Ryan notified the Incident Commander, who radioed back there were still two floors of fire. Lieutenant

Ryan looked out the apartment window and could see substantial fire toward exposure #2.

Lieutenant Ryan used his flashlight to make a hole in the wall between apartment 40F and 40ABG. Finding only sheetrock separating the two apartments, he told Lieutenant Landau, Ladder 13, to make a few small holes in the wall, so Engine 44 could operate their hose to knock down the fire, using the remaining wall as protection. Once the fire was knocked down, the breach in the wall was made wider and Engine 44 moved in and knocked down the remaining pockets of fire.

While all visible pockets of fire had been knocked down, the members of Engine 44 continued to operate, alternating the line between hot spots and venting out the window. Meanwhile, 40 floors below, Engine 44's chauffeur, FF Halvey, used the rig's deck gun to extinguish the burning debris at the street level. He ensured adequate water supply was ready to combat any additional fire due to the falling debris. At this point, FF Halvey found the body of Mr. Lidle and transmitted a 10-45 code one message. Finally, additional pockets of fire were spotted on the third-floor setback. Again, using the deck gun, FF Halvey knocked down this fire.

In his report of the incident, Deputy Chief John Sudnik, Division 3 Commander, stated, “The aggressiveness of the initial attack on this fire was quite evident as the members of this unit extinguished four rooms of fire in apartment 40F. Engine 44 then advanced its hose-line through a breached wall of apartment 40ABG and extinguished the fire in this large occupancy. Not only were the fire conditions severe, but the integrity of the façade wall was suspect as well. The actions taken by the engine company exemplified outstanding teamwork and can be attributed only to a well-trained, professional unit. The members of Engine 44 were able to overcome such dangerous obstacles safely and efficiently and put the entire 40th floor under control in relatively short order.”

FDNY is proud to honor Engine 44 with the Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal/Father Julian F. Deeken Memorial Medal.--DJH

Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal



ENGINE COMPANY 227

April 6, 2008, 1638 hours, Box 75-1619,
642 Kingsboro 6 Walk, Brooklyn

LIEUTENANT KENNETH J. MACKO

FF JOHN F. BLAKELY

FF TRAVIS A. DILLAHUNT

FF MICHAEL B. MUCCI

FF CHRISTOPHER J. O'BRIEN

FF BRYSON N. SULLIVAN

Drill, baby, drill is a campaign slogan that has meaning to a great many Americans. That phrase has meaning to those in the fire service, too, and the members of Engine 227 demonstrated just how important it is to drill on a regular basis.

On April 6, 2008, the Sunday day tour was coming to an end when at 1636 hours, a woman started banging on the apparatus door. She reported a fire showing in windows of 642 Kingsboro 6 Walk, at Bergen Street. The members of Engine 227 immediately turned out and the incoming members notified the Brooklyn dispatcher of the verbal alarm.

The fire building is located approximately 250 feet from Engine 227 quarters. On arrival, the members observed glowing fire and dark smoke pushing from around the windows on the third floor. The members of Engine 227 had drilled repeatedly on such a scenario at Kingsboro Walk Housing. The standard operating procedures (SOPs) included a bottle stretch on the fourth floor and above and a hand stretch on floors one through three.

Lieutenant Kenneth Macko transmitted a 10-75 signal. He knew that his members would be operating alone for the crucial initial minutes of the fire. He had FF Bryson Sullivan, assigned the door position, accompany him to the fire floor with forcible entry tools. The remaining members--FFs John Blakely, Travis Dillahunt, Michael Mucci and Christopher O'Brien--were ordered to stretch a 1³/₄-inch hand-line to the third floor.

While the hose-line was being stretched, Lieutenant Macko and FF Sullivan ascended to the third floor and ascertained that the fire was located in apartment 3D. Neighbors informed them that the man occupying 3D might still be inside. The pair forced entry on the multi-locked fire apartment door and initiated a preliminary search behind the door and approximately 12 to 15 feet down the hallway before deteriorating conditions forced retreat.

Ladder 123 arrived on-scene and the hose-line now was in

place. Lieutenant Macko called for water and with Ladder 123 members, Engine 227 entered the apartment under a very heavy smoke condition and zero visibility to extinguish the fire.

After crawling down the hallway and making a right into the living room, Lieutenant Macko directed FF O'Brien on the nozzle to open the line on the fire in the living room. While advancing the hand-line toward the fire, FF Dillahunt--backing up FF O'Brien--came in contact with what he thought was a mattress. He made a sweep over the mattress and found a victim. After confirming his find by directing his flashlight on the victim, FF Dillahunt notified his Officer of the 10-45.

Lieutenant Macko radioed Battalion Chief Thomas Richardson, Battalion 38, that a 10-45 had been found. The Lieutenant then directed FF Dillahunt to remove the victim from the fire apartment. Members of Engine 234--the second-due engine and backing up Engine 227--helped FF Dillahunt carry the victim to the first floor and waiting EMS personnel.

The victim--James Garnier--suffered from second-degree burns to 80 percent of his body. In critical condition, he was rushed to Interfaith Hospital by EMS personnel. He ultimately succumbed to his extensive injuries. FF Sullivan moved up on the line to cover the back-up position. Engine 227 then extinguished all remaining fire in the fire apartment and members later were relieved by Engine 234 members.

Constant drilling paid off for Engine 227 and the victim. Operating alone, the members of Engine 227 demonstrated job knowledge, rapid intervention and a coordinated effort in forcible entry of the door, stretching the hose-line, extinguishment of the fire and rescue and removal of the victim, according to Deputy Chief David Jakubowski, Division 15. Their rapid and coordinated actions demonstrated that Engine 227 is a well-trained and disciplined unit.

For these reasons, FDNY is pleased to present Engine 227 with the Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal.

Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal



LADDER COMPANY 6

LIEUTENANT MICHAEL PIETRACATELLA (BN-6)

FF JASON J. CRUZ

FF STEVE K. GOUGH (E-55)

FF KEITH C. JOHNSON

FF KEVIN M. MCCORMICK

FF CHRISTIAN E. MURPHY

**March 27, 2008, 1936 hours, Box 254,
460 Grand Street, Manhattan**

Ladder 6 arrived second-due to Box 254, 460 Grand Street, for a reported fire on the fourth floor of a 26-story, class 1 multiple dwelling. On arrival, fire was showing out of two windows on the third-floor rear apartment, extending up past the windows on the floor above.

Exiting the apparatus, Lieutenant Michael Pietracatella was radioed by Battalion Chief John Esposito, Battalion 4, to search the apartment above the fire. There was a report of a wheelchair-bound female amputee who was reported missing. Lieutenant Pietracatella ascended the B stairwell with probationary FF Jason Cruz with the irons, FF Steve Gough with the extinguisher and FF Christian Murphy assigned the roof position.

Reaching the third floor, heavy black smoke required the rescuers to don their masks as they passed the fire floor en route to the floor above. They reached the apartment above the fire and made a complete and thorough search, which turned out to be negative. Lieutenant Pietracatella radioed Chief Esposito regarding the search results, that the windows in the room directly above the fire were showing signs of failing and that a line was needed on the floor above.

Simultaneously to the inside team's actions, FFs Keith Johnson, the LCC, and Kevin McCormick, the outside vent Firefighter, performed a quick outside survey of the building. Since the fire apartment was out of reach of ladders and construction scaffolding negated aerial ladder placement, the two made their way into the building to their assigned interior positions. They teamed up to search the B stairwell from the third floor upward.

Chief Austin Horan, Battalion 2, the Search and Evacuation Chief, ordered Lieutenant Pietracatella to check the B stairwell and upper floors in the B line above the fire apartment. The Officer and FFs Cruz, Gough and Murphy ascended the stairwell, forced multiple doors, searched numerous apartments, gave assistance to and sheltered in-place numerous building occupants.

FFs Johnson and McCormick ascended the B stairwell from the third floor to the 21st floor. Fully geared up, they encountered thick, black smoke from the third floor on up. Visibility was near zero on the 21st-floor stairwell. At this point, their vibralerts started to go off. They knew they had to exit the

stairwell and get to a safe area of refuge.

As they were about to exit the stairwell on the 21st floor, FF McCormick heard a gurgling sound off in the distance, midway between the 21st- and 22nd-floor stairwell. He ascended the stairwell and found 74-year-old Raquel Margary, unconscious on the stairs. FF Johnson gave a 10-45 and the two Firefighters dragged the woman off the stairwell and onto the 21st floor. This floor was heavily charged with thick, black smoke, affording zero visibility.

Although low on air, the Firefighters dragged the woman as far away as possible from the stairwell and hallway, trying to find a less contaminated area. They finally entered apartment 21-F and found the interior also heavily charged with smoke. So, FFs Johnson and McCormick dragged the victim to a rear bedroom, closed the bedroom door and opened all the windows. They then performed CPR on the woman.

After the 10-45 given for the woman, Chief Horan ordered Lieutenant Pietracatella and the inside team to the 21st floor to check on the victim, as well as FFs Johnson and McCormick. The Officer, inside team and roof Firefighter then proceeded to apartment 21-F. On arrival, the Lieutenant radioed Chief Horan that a CFR-D engine was needed in apartment 21-F. Engine 33 arrived shortly thereafter.

The Lieutenant then ordered FFs Murphy and Cruz to finish the search of the B stairwell. It was still heavily charged with thick, black smoke. As they ascended to the 22nd floor, they found Sheng Kwong, age 82, and his wife, Yuet Kwong, age 78, at the top of the stairs. The rescuers brought the two unconscious victims down to the 21st floor and into apartment 21-F. Engine 33 members then started CPR on these two victims. (Mrs. Kwong expired two days later.) By this time, Ladder 6 members had run out of air and were relieved by Division 1.

The operations performed by Ladder 6 members were dependent on teamwork, aggressiveness, initiative and a determination to accomplish the unit's goals in spite of the nasty conditions they encountered. Their accurate and informative radio transmissions assisted Chief Officers in taking prompt and decisive actions. For their superlative efforts, the members of Ladder 6 are presented with the Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal.

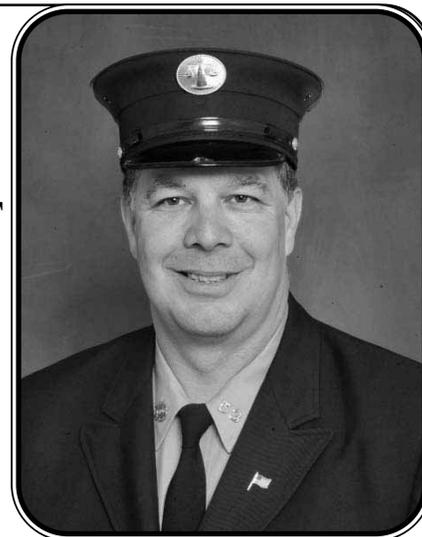
Deputy Commissioner Christine R. Godek Medal

FIRE MARSHAL ROBERT H. McDEVITT

Bureau of Fire Investigation, City-Wide North Command

November 2, 2008, 0110 hours, Box 22-4640,
154th Street/14th Avenue (153-31 Cross Island Parkway), Queens

Appointed to the FDNY on July 16, 1989. Previously assigned to Ladder 11. Uncle, FF Jack Supple, is retired from Engine 2. Member of the Anchor Club and the Emerald and Holy Name Societies, as well as the National Association of Fire Investigators and International Association of Arson Investigators. Recipient of two unit citations. Attended Frederick Community College. Resides on Long Island with his wife, Diane, and their children, Jack and Maggie.



On November 2, 2008, at 0110 hours, Fire Marshal Robert McDevitt--partnered with FM Denis Quinci--responded to a multiple-alarm fire in a commercial strip mall at 153-31 Cross Island Parkway, Whitestone. Responding Firefighters faced a heavy volume of fire. The blaze spread rapidly (due to an exterior surface that looks like stucco, but burns like Styrofoam) to six adjoining occupancies. Six Firefighters sustained injuries while operating at this Box. The fire started in the landmark establishment known as the Lollipop Diner, a business that had been in existence for more than 50 years. An estimated \$500,000 in property/revenue was lost.

Working under challenging conditions, FM McDevitt conducted a physical examination of the fire scene and determined the fire was of incendiary origin--arson--an act demonstrating a depraved indifference to human life. The Marshal canvassed the area, seeking investigative leads. He located and interviewed potential witnesses, searched investigative data bases and evaluated information and intelligence gleaned from a variety of law enforcement sources.

These actions led FM McDevitt to a potential suspect--Mike Trantel, a career criminal and convicted arsonist, who was observed in the area at the time of the fire. In another critical move, the Marshal was able to identify an eyewitness. This witness viewed a photo array and identified suspect Mr. Trantel, pinpointing him outside the fire building just prior to the fire.

As the lead investigator, FM McDevitt recognized that even with the witness identification, to secure a conviction in this case, he would need a full confession, as well as substantial connective evidence. The Marshal worked with other members of the Bureau of

Fire Investigation to set in motion a multi-layered investigative strategy that focused on three missions--apprehension, interrogation and search warrants. Fire Marshal teams were assembled and deployed.

Fire Marshals hit several addresses linked to this violent felon, resulting in an apprehension. Skilled interrogation led to a full confession--oral, written and videotaped. Simultaneously, Fire Marshals executed a search warrant at Mr. Trantel's residence and uncovered significant evidence connecting him to the arson.

On November 5, 2008, FM McDevitt arrested Mr. Trantel on charges of arson and burglary. The Marshal continued to work with prosecutors on issues of case enhancement, evidentiary organization and witness development. Mr. Trantel was convicted and sentenced to seven to 14 years in prison.

This is a significant BFI investigation and prosecution. FM McDevitt distinguished himself by working diligently under the most challenging conditions to develop investigative leads and formulate a strategy that resulted in the apprehension, prosecution and conviction of a violent career criminal.

Throughout the course of this investigation, FM McDevitt, committed to excellence, demonstrated the resourcefulness and abilities found only in the most dedicated investigators. The results of this investigation send forth a powerful message to both the public and potential offenders--the FDNY will meet and confront all those who challenge the safety of the citizens of New York City and its Firefighters.

The Marshal's actions reflect the highest traditions in law enforcement. In recognition of his exemplary service, FM Robert McDevitt is presented with the Deputy Commissioner Christine R. Godek Medal.--JDL



Fire Marshal Robert McDevitt (left), as a Ladder 11 Firefighter, removes victim from two-alarm fire at East 11th Street, between Avenues A and B, Manhattan, April 4, 1992.



William Friedberg Medal

FIREFIGHTER THOMAS J. McDONAGH

LADDER COMPANY 131

June 25, 2008, 0345 hours, Box 75-1359, 774 Henry Street, Brooklyn

Appointed to the FDNY on September 25, 2005. Brother, FF Michael McDonagh, is assigned to Engine 245; cousins, FFs Brian McDowell and Kevin McDowell, are assigned to Ladder 85 and Engine 166, respectively; and uncles, FF Chris Gaffney is retired from Ladder 131 and Lieutenant Artie Anwander is retired from Engine 249. Member of the Emerald Society. Holds a BS degree in Food Science from SUNY at Oneonta. Resides in Brooklyn.

At 0342 hours on June 25, 2008, Ladder 131 was dispatched to a phone alarm for 774 Henry Street. While en route, the dispatcher informed members that they were receiving multiple calls for fire. With the normally second-due truck and first-due engine relocated, Ladder 131 members knew they had their work cut out for them. Initially, the address was difficult to find, due to the smoke banked down the street.

Battalion Chief John Oehm, Battalion 32, was first on the scene and transmitted the 10-75 for a fire on the fourth floor. As Ladder 131 members made their way to the fourth floor, they received reports of two people trapped in the apartment. Arriving on the fourth floor, Ladder 131 was confronted with heavy fire venting from the open apartment door into the hallway.

The inside team attempted entry, but they were driven back by the intense heat of the fire. Knowing that a search was imperative, Lieutenant Peter Traut ordered the extinguisher Firefighter to expend his water on the fire, while he and FF Thomas McDonagh boldly entered on their stomachs. Once again, they were forced out into the hallway.

At this point, conditions in the hallway and on the floor above were deteriorating rapidly. Knowing that the line was on the way, the Officer decided to close the apartment door. This proved difficult because the door had buckled and warped from the high heat. Engine 202 brought the first line to the fire floor and called for water. Once Engine 202 had water, Lieutenant Traut opened what was left of the apartment door.

Engine 202 began operating the line from the hallway. Once the fire in the small foyer area of the apartment was knocked down, Ladder 131 made entry ahead of the line. As they cleared the foyer area, they were confronted with heavy fire in the living room area to their right. With the aid of the thermal imaging

camera, Lieutenant Traut guided his men along the left wall, past the heavy body of fire, toward the bedroom.

Arriving at the bedroom door, the members of Ladder 131 could see that the door had been burned through and that the bedroom also was involved in fire. Lieutenant Traut instructed FF McDonagh to do a left-hand search, while he and FF Jamie Prosser conducted a right-hand search. As fire rolled over their heads and vented itself out of the bedroom window, they conducted their search without the benefit of a hand-line for protection.

As soon as FF McDonagh made entry, he saw the victim's legs near the foot of the bed. He quickly made his way to the woman and yelled to his Officer that he had found a victim. Lieutenant Traut transmitted the 10-45 as FF Prosser made his way to FF McDonagh's position. FF McDonagh already had begun dragging the victim from the area and FF Prosser met him at the bedroom door to assist. Now that the fire in the living room was knocked down, Engine 202 members made their way to the bedroom to effect complete extinguishment.

FF McDonagh dragged the victim to the top of the fourth-floor stairway and paused a moment to determine whether the victim was breathing. Unable to assess whether the woman was breathing or not, FF McDonagh administered a few rescue breaths. Assured that she now was breathing, FFs McDonagh and Prosser carried the victim to the floor below and passed her care to Engine 239 members. Concerned that there still might be another victim in the apartment, FF McDonagh returned to the fire floor and resumed his search. It later was discovered that the second person had self-evacuated.

For his heroic efforts in rescuing a woman while operating without the protection of a hand-line, FF Thomas McDonagh is presented with the William Friedberg Medal.



Ladder 131 operates at Brooklyn Box 1326, 145 11th Street, trench cave-in rescue, June 27, 2006. photo by FF Michael Gomez, Squad 288

Shelly Rothman Memorial Medal

FIREFIGHTER WILLIAM E. CLARK

LADDER COMPANY 37

February 14, 2008, 0448 hours, Box 75-3577, 250 East Gun Hill Road, Bronx

Appointed to the FDNY on July 5, 1992. Previously assigned to Engine 79 and Ladder 37. Since this incident, he has been promoted to Lieutenant, assigned to Battalion 8, ufo Ladder 16. Member of the Holy Name and Emerald Societies. Recipient of a unit citation and a pre-hospital save. Resides in Pearl River, New York, with his wife, Karen, and their twins, Billy and Amanda.



February 14--St. Valentine's Day--is the day when most people think about love, flowers, chocolate and their sweethearts. Valentine's Day 2008 took on a far different and more altruistic meaning, however, for FF William E. Clark, Ladder 37. He will forever equate all future Valentine's Days with saving a life.

In the early morning on February 14, 2008, at 0448 hours, Ladder 37 was responding to a phone alarm for a fire in a six-story, H-type multiple dwelling at 250 East Gun Hill Road in the Bronx. Once en route, the dispatcher notified the company that there had been numerous calls and additional units were being sent.

On arrival, Engine 62 transmitted a signal 10-75 for a fire on the fourth floor. Ladder 37--assigned as the second-due ladder--was approaching the building entrance when members heard Ladder 32's outside vent Firefighter transmit that there was heavy fire on the fourth floor. The fire was in the rear apartment in the A wing and blowing out two windows.

As Ladder 37 members were ascending the stairs in the A wing, they passed Engine 62 members, who were still in the process of stretching the first hand-line. When they came to the third-floor landing, Ladder 37 was met with heavy, dense smoke, which forced the members to don their facepieces.

At the fire floor, Lieutenant Alfred Goodenough crawled to the fire apartment and notified Ladder 32 that they were going to the floor above to search. When Ladder 37 reached the apartment above the fire floor, they encountered a high heat condition, with heavy smoke

and zero visibility. FFs Clark and Steve Spellman forced the apartment door and began their search.

FF Clark crawled deep into the apartment in an attempt to reach the front bedroom. While searching the living room of the apartment, he came upon an unconscious female victim, who was overcome by smoke. FF Clark transmitted the 10-45 signal and began dragging his victim to the apartment doorway.

When FF Clark reached the public hallway, he was met by Lieutenant Goodenough and FF Spellman. At this time, Engine 62 still had no water in the first hand-line and the hall-

way was still charged with smoke and heat. Knowing they had no time to waste because of the severe injuries to their victim, they quickly headed for the safety of the B wing.

As these members made their way down the hallway with the woman past two interior fire doors, conditions finally began to improve. The two Firefighters and Lieutenant were able to descend to the street where the victim was treated and transported by EMS personnel.

FF Clark courageously and professionally traveled past the fire apartment to the most dangerous area of the floor above to ensure any occupants were removed from harm's way. FF Clark's training and dedication paid off when he saved the life of Margaret Mircik, giving her the best Valentine's Day gift of all. For his heroism, FF William Clark is presented with the Shelly Rothman Memorial Medal.



Then-FF William Clark operates at Bronx Box 22-3528, 268 East 202nd Street, a three-story rear frame, on March 27, 1998.

photo by Honorary Deputy Chief Matthew P. Daly



EMT JUAN RIOS
STATION 35

Appointed to the FDNY as an Emergency Medical Technician on December 8, 2000. Previously assigned to Station 31. Recipient of a pre-hospital save and four excellent duty awards. Resides in Brooklyn.

What can be said of those who are so unselfish and caring that they are willing to risk their lives for the sake of a total stranger? What traits are instilled inside such people in order to be able to accomplish such a feat?

Some of the traits exhibited by EMTs Jason Ruiz and Juan Rios included compassion, concern and a genuine sense of duty toward a victim. Around 1600 hours on a hot, summer afternoon of July 15, 2008, these characteristics came to the forefront as the pair of EMTs operated without hesitation or concerns for their personal safety.

EMTs Ruiz and Rios entered the subway station's north-bound IND G line, at Myrtle and Marcy Avenues, in order to get to a woman, who was lying face-down in dirt on the subway tracks. Off-duty Firefighter Tim Hogan, Engine 216, already was on the tracks with the victim, holding C-spine stabi-

**Jack Pintchik
Medal**

July 15, 2008, 1600 hours, IND G line at Myrtle and Marcy Avenues, Brooklyn



EMT JASON J. RUIZ
(posthumously)
STATION 35

Appointed to the FDNY as an Emergency Medical Technician on July 7, 2004. Recipient of two pre-hospital saves and a certificate of merit-- accomplishment. Now deceased, he resided in Brooklyn.

lization. Without knowing if the third rail was still hot or if the train service was suspended, the two EMTs jumped onto the tracks and began valuable lifesaving interventions.

The two EMTs performed a rapid assessment of the woman's condition. Apparently, she had a history of seizures and suffered one before tumbling onto the subway tracks. EMTs Ruiz and Rios then immobilized her and lifted her to safety onto the platform via a long board. The woman then was transported to Woodhull Hospital.

Their skills and expertise paid great dividends because they saved the woman's life. While ignoring the real dangers of both the third rail and the ongoing train service, the rescuers simply just tried to stay away from the third rail while they "did what they had to do."

For their compassionate and unselfish lifesaving efforts, EMT Juan Rios and, posthumously, EMT Jason Ruiz are awarded the Jack Pintchik Medal.-- TCD



EMTs Jason Ruiz and Juan Rios, both Station 35, met with the press after their lifesaving efforts. They have been awarded the Jack Pintchik Medal. EMT Ruiz' (left) award was presented posthumously.

Company of the Year

World Trade Center Memorial Medal

LADDER COMPANY 4

March 15, 2008, 1430 hours, Box 44-861,
305 East 51st Street, Manhattan

LIEUTENANT CHRISTOPHER M. KING

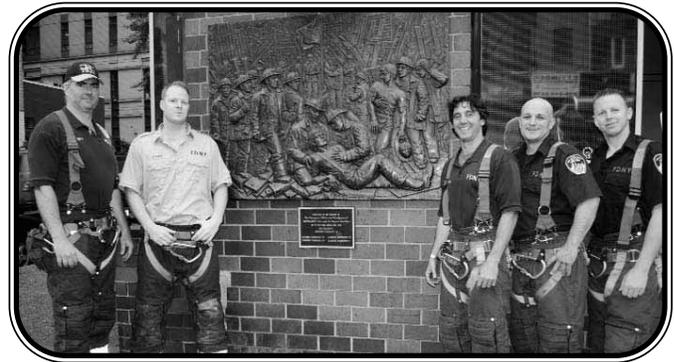
FF EDWARD M. COYLE

FF LOUIS ESPOSITO

FF PATRICK MOORE

FF DANIEL SQUIRE

FF GEORGE T. YOUNG



Most New Yorkers agree that the City has been in a construction boom for more than 10 years. No matter what neighborhood, chances are you will see sidewalk bridges surrounding new office towers, residential high-rises, commercial complexes or gut-rehabilitations of historic buildings. While the City and the Fire Department work diligently to ensure this work is compliant with applicable codes and done safely, tragic accidents occasionally happen. Such was the case on a cool Saturday afternoon in March 2008 when a construction accident occurred at East 51st Street in Midtown Manhattan. Resolution of the incident required the expertise, quick thinking and teamwork of Ladder 4, *The Pride of Midtown*.

At 1430 hours, a call came into the quarters of Ladder 4, reporting a construction crane collapse at 305 East 51st Street, Manhattan Box 861. Commanding the company that afternoon was Lieutenant Christopher King. Riding with him were FFs Daniel Squire, chauffeur; Edward M. Coyle, forcible entry; Louis Esposito, extinguisher; Patrick Moore, roof; and George T. Young, outside vent. Responding across town as the second-due truck, a 10-60 signal for a major emergency was broadcast over the radio. As such, the Officer and Firefighters knew that a difficult job lay ahead. They discussed their initial operations while responding.

Arriving on the east side, FF Squire positioned the apparatus so it would cover the rear of the collapse area, while other members grabbed portable ladders to set up and stabilize an access/egress route to the debris pile. Simultaneously, FF Squire cleared out an area of debris to allow other units into the area so they would be able to access the disaster site safely.

Lieutenant King and FF Coyle then worked their way to the top of the debris field to assist members of Rescue 1 and Ladder 2 in the removal of the first victim. This person was placed into a stokes basket and transferred down the pile to other members of Ladder 4 and eventually to EMS personnel for treatment.

With the first victim safe, FFs Esposito, Moore and Young met Lieutenant King at the rear of the apparatus to search for other victims. Moving cautiously, but with a single-minded

purpose, the team searched down into a number of extremely unstable voids. Here, they operated in an exceptionally dangerous environment that contained traces of natural gas, diesel fuel and hydraulic fluids, which rained down on them as they pressed forward.

Meanwhile, FF Squire had made his way to the top of the pile to join FF Coyle, who was aiding in the search and removal of another victim. During the intense and painstakingly difficult rescue, two police officers who were assisting in the effort almost became victims themselves when one began to fall into a hole. One officer grabbed the other by the waist and both would have been trapped if FF Squire had not reached them quickly and pulled them to safety.

As FF Squire was saving other rescue workers from entrapment, Lieutenant King, during the course of his search, found a victim who later was identified as the deceased operating engineer. Other members of Ladder 4 moved into the area to carefully and delicately remove debris from around the crane operator so he could be removed in a professional and reverent manner. Simultaneously, FFs Squire and Coyle were still on the top of the pile and assisted in the removal of another victim who was trapped in the remnants of his apartment.

This incident caused the death of seven people--an occupant, two construction workers and four rigging employees. During the course of the operation, the company contributed to the rescue of five civilians and the removal of several other victims. In his report on the incident, Deputy Chief James Hodgens, Division 3, noted Ladder 4's exceptional performance and wrote, "Throughout this operation, (they) demonstrated great courage, discipline and professionalism. The complexity, size and scope of this emergency were extremely challenging and in the finest traditions of this Department."

For their exemplary performance at this midtown crane collapse, the members of Ladder 4--Lieutenant Christopher King and FFs Edward Coyle, Louis Esposito, Patrick Moore, Daniel Squire and George Young--are worthy first recipients of the inaugural Company of the Year, World Trade Center Memorial Medal.--DJH

Service Rating A

BC Barry W. Brandes Bn-41	FF Michael J. Lyons L-148
FF William E. Clark L-37	FF Charles C. Maloney L-18
FF Brian P. Connelly L-116	FF Thomas J. McDonagh L-131
FF Michael C. Cunningham L-150	FF Timothy J. Moynihan M-1
FF Jerrold S. Dietz L-43	FF Christian S. Nielsen L-157
Capt. Mark J. Doran E-273	FF Thomas V. Signor L-106
FF Christopher M. Ganci L-157	FF Ronald J. Soltysik L-136
FF Thomas W. Gies L-147	FF Thomas F. Sullivan M-1
Lt. Timothy K. Grant SQ-41	FF Michael J. Tansey L-11
FF William S. Horel L-47	FF Philip Taylor, Jr. L-31
Lt. Daniel C. Hunt E-236	FF Michael D. Tompkins L-39
Lt. Tate L. Hunt L-166	FF Vincent Trotter L-109
Lt. Michael J. Kirwin L-153	

Service Rating B

FF Richard C. Cannon E-310	FF Anthony L. Modica L-87
FF Christopher Dimaria L-116	FF Kevin J. Molloy L-109
FF Todd G. Ferguson L-157	FF Brian L. Murray L-113
Capt. Dean A. Marino D-14	FF Scott Owen L-86
FF Robert M. Marolla E-282	FF Nicholas S. Pinto L-148
FF Andre P. Marrero L-17	FF John R. Rizzo M-1
FF Stephen E. McAnulty L-15	FF Christopher J. Tighe L-3
FF Robert D. Meuser L-16	FF Theodore A. Trombetta L-119
FF Robert W. Mina, Jr. L-163	FF Edward J. Tully, III L-143

2008 Pre-Hospital Save Awards

Lieutenant Paul Abate (3)	Paramedic Raymond Bartolomey	Paramedic Keisha Brockington (2)	Paramedic Pierre C. Charboneau (3)	EMT Joan Curran
EMT Joseph Abbondandolo	Paramedic Brendan Bass	EMT Steven Brothers	EMT Royston A. Charles (2)	EMT Peter Curry
Paramedic Faisal Abed	Paramedic Mario Bastidas (2)	EMT Dov Brown	EMT Steven M. Chasan	EMT Jackson Curtis
EMT Michael Abramowitz	Paramedic Toni A. Batiandela (3)	Captain Donald Browne	EMT Ruth Chavez	Lieutenant Timothy Cusack (2)
Paramedic Justine Abruzzo (4)	EMT Renata Batista (2)	EMT Louis Brunk	Paramedic Francisco Checo	Paramedic Michael Daddona
EMT James Acevedo	Lieutenant James Bayreuther (3)	EMT Lauren Bryan	Paramedic Rondell D. Chester (2)	Paramedic Joseph Dagosto
EMT Miguel Acevedo	Paramedic Albert Beauge, Jr.	Paramedic Joshua Bucklan (2)	Paramedic Jason Cheung (4)	Paramedic Donna Dagrossa (2)
Paramedic Elizabeth Acosta-Rayos (6)	Lieutenant James Becker (2)	EMT Tyeshia Burgess	EMT Timothy J. Chiarel	EMT Christopher Daley
EMT Pedro Acosta (4)	EMT Claudine Beckford	EMT Daniel Burgos (3)	EMT Frank Ciccirello	Paramedic Mary D'Angelo
Paramedic Wilbert Acosta (2)	Paramedic Jagmeet S. Bedi (2)	EMT Theresa Burgos	Paramedic Arina N. Clark	EMT Rheinhold R. Danglede
Paramedic William Acosta	Paramedic Leonardo A. Bedoya (4)	Paramedic Kevin Burik (2)	EMT Keith A. Clark	EMT Errol A. Daniels
Lieutenant Ileana Adrat	EMT William W. Bedula	Paramedic Jeffrey Burke	EMT Courtney D. Clarke	EMT Eugene F. Daniels (2)
EMT Jennifer Aguiluz	Paramedic Leisha L. Bell (3)	Paramedic Tracey Burke (3)	EMT Melvin H. Clarke	Paramedic Latoya Darden
EMT Hasnie Ahmetaj (2)	Paramedic Daniel J. Bellingham (2)	EMT Amy Burns	Lieutenant Dinorah A. Claudio	Lieutenant James Darnowski (2)
Paramedic Keith Ahrens	EMT John Beltram	EMT Anthony Burrell	Paramedic Ryan Clunes	Lieutenant Kevin Darnowski (4)
Lieutenant Nicholas Aiello (3)	Paramedic Gary R. Benedict (2)	Paramedic Tyisha Burwell	Paramedic Andrew P. Clute (2)	Paramedic Christopher Dauria
EMT Shakeel Ajaz (2)	Paramedic Althea Benjamin	Paramedic Peter Bushey (3)	Paramedic Michael C. Coeyman (3)	EMT Bernard Daustruche, Jr.
EMT Khumayun Akhmedov	Lieutenant Carol A. Benjamin (2)	EMT Alexander Bustamante (2)	Paramedic Heath S. Cohn (6)	Paramedic Sorffly Davius
Paramedic Rene Alaby (2)	Paramedic Sean Benjamin	EMT Sandra Butler	EMT John Coleman (2)	Lieutenant James Dedonato
Paramedic Joseph Albo	EMT Erik Bergsten (2)	EMT Keshica M. Byrd	EMT Trevor Coleman	Captain Anthony Degennaro
EMT Edwin Aldrich, III	EMT Victor Berrios	EMT James Byrne	EMT Tiffany Collazo	EMT Eva M. Dela Cruz
Paramedic Ashley Alejo	EMT Joseph Bevilacqua (2)	EMT Victor Cadicamo (2)	EMT Darrell Collier	Paramedic Sulai Delacruz
EMT Shaun Alexander	EMT Stephen Bielicki	Paramedic Steven Caggiano	EMT James P. Concannon	Paramedic William Delaney
Paramedic Jerard Allas (2)	EMT Peter J. Bilardello	EMT Thomas Cahill	Paramedic Arthur J. Concepcion	EMT Miosotty Delgado
Paramedic Richard Allas	EMT Todd L. Bilgore (2)	EMT Salvatore Caiozza (2)	EMT Jeremy A. Condit	EMT Vincent Dellova
EMT Wendell Alleyne	Lieutenant Christopher J. Bilz	Lieutenant Margaret Calamusa (3)	Paramedic Andria Connell	EMT Octavio Delossantos
EMT Daniel Almandoz (3)	EMT Prabhleen Bindra	EMT Corrielle Caldwell	Paramedic Brenda Contreras	Lieutenant Christopher Deluca
Paramedic Anthony Almojera (7)	Lieutenant Cheryl Bishop	EMT Tracey Calhoun (2)	EMT Felix Contreras	EMT Anthony Demaio
EMT Herber Alonzo	Paramedic Tnai Blades (2)	Deputy Chief Debra Cali	EMT Julio Contreras	EMT Adrian Dennis
Paramedic John Paul Alvarez (2)	EMT Anthony Blain	Paramedic Betsy Camacho	Lieutenant Robert Cook (2)	EMT Luis Depena
Paramedic Luis Alvarez	EMT Brent Blake (2)	EMT Robert C. Camaj	Paramedic Cindy Corcoran	EMT Leo Deraimo
EMT Soraya Alvarez	EMT Dave Blanchard	Paramedic Zaiith Camejo	EMT Nicholas Cordova (2)	EMT Philip Derosa
Lieutenant Lawrence Anderson (2)	EMT Conor B. Bliss (3)	Lieutenant Steven Cameron (4)	Paramedic Jane Corella	EMT Taralena Derosa
EMT Michelle Anderson	Lieutenant Jorge J. Blondett (3)	EMT Daniel Campanelli	EMT Derick Corlette (2)	Captain John Desantis (2)
EMT Raymond Andino (2)	EMT Monsurat W. Bolds	EMT Amanza E. Campbell	Paramedic Scott Cornwell (2)	EMT Steve A. Desgouttes
EMT Guillermo Andrade (2)	Paramedic James Bolger (4)	EMT Heather Campbell	Lieutenant Luis Corrales (4)	Paramedic Anthony Desir
EMT Christopher Ang	EMT Jeanine Bollettieri (2)	Paramedic Hugo Canedo	EMT Reinaldo C. Correa (2)	EMT Christopher Devaney
EMT Tamika Anglin	EMT Adolfo Bonafoux (2)	Paramedic Gene Canel (4)	EMT Howard Corrigan	EMT Louis Devino
Paramedic Timothy Anson (2)	EMT Jerry Bond	Lieutenant Cedric Cannon (3)	EMT Daniel Cortes	EMT Margaret Devlin
EMT Mohamed Antabi	EMT Kenold Bonhomme	Paramedic Julian Canstanaeda	Paramedic Juan D. Cortes (2)	EMT Alicia Dhanraj
EMT Yvonne Aparicio	Lieutenant Mark Bonilla (3)	Lieutenant Charles Caple	Paramedic Helen Courtney	EMT Ramon Diaz (3)
EMT Daniel Apicella	Paramedic Frantz Bonneau	EMT Robert Caponigro	EMT Barkim U. Covington	EMT Roland Diaz, Jr.
Lieutenant Carlos Ariza (5)	EMT Marc Bonometre	EMT Richard Cappock	EMT Ronald Coyne	EMT Wanda Diaz
EMT Leon Aronov	Paramedic Darryl Boodoo (2)	EMT Jorge Carbonell	Lieutenant Anthony Cozzino	Lieutenant Joseph Dibona
EMT Darnell Arroya (2)	Paramedic Alexis Borkowski	Lieutenant Michael Carboni	EMT Robert Crews (2)	Paramedic Kevin Difiore
EMT Yadira Arroyo	EMT Yezgeniy Borozin	Lieutenant Linda Carlson (2)	Paramedic James Crispino (3)	Paramedic Lawrence Difiore
Lieutenant Lloyd Arcscott	Paramedic Jose Borrero	EMT Stephen Carpenter	EMT Christopher F. Crutchfield	EMT Matthew Digiulio (2)
EMT Alejandro Arzeno	EMT Lisa Bottini	EMT Damian Carrera	EMT Allen Cruz	Lieutenant John P. Dimen
Paramedic Ulya Atilgan-Quesada	EMT Jonas Bovell	EMT Mark Carroll	Paramedic Jose Cruz	Paramedic Trinh K. Dinh
Paramedic Howard Auerbach	EMT Adam Boyd	EMT Theresa Carroll	EMT Veronica Cruz	Lieutenant Timothy E. Dluhos (5)
EMT Alexandra Aurelien	Lieutenant Tonya Boyd-Jones (2)	Lieutenant Elizabeth Cascio	EMT Henry J. Cuba	EMT Tiegge Dolly
EMT Marc Aurelus	EMT Stephen Bradbury	EMT Sergio J. Cascio (2)	EMT John A. Cuccio (5)	EMT Manuel Dominguez
Lieutenant Peter Auricchio	Paramedic Ian Bradshaw	EMT Paul Casson, Jr.	EMT Mary B. Cucinelli	Paramedic Anselmo D. Dossantos
Lieutenant Gilberto Aviles (5)	Paramedic Barbara Brady	EMT Johana Castaneda (2)	EMT Chanel M. Cudjoe	Lieutenant Erin Doyle
EMT Joseph Aviles	Paramedic Shane Brady (4)	EMT Joseph Castelli	EMT Joseph Cuello	Lieutenant Angela Dragotto (3)
EMT Lido Aviles (2)	Paramedic Frederick Brandt (2)	EMT Ruben Castillo (2)	Captain Steven Cuevas	EMT Denis Driscoll, Jr.
EMT Yesenia Aviles	Paramedic Kevin W. Bratholt	EMT Nancy Castle	EMT Anthony Cullen	Lieutenant Steven Dubin (2)
Paramedic Angel Ayala (3)	EMT Randolph Brewster	EMT Daynar Castro (2)	Paramedic Michael Cumberbatch (2)	EMT Kanessa A. Duguid
Lieutenant Edgar Baez (5)	EMT Vito Brinzo, Jr. (2)	Lieutenant Eileen Castro	EMT Clayton Cummings (2)	Lieutenant William Duncklee
Paramedic Carl Baker, Jr. (2)	EMT Ryan Brito (3)	Lieutenant Salvatore Catania (3)	Captain George Cundari	Lieutenant Andrew Dunn (8)
EMT Isaiah Baker (2)	Paramedic Benjamin Briu (4)	Lieutenant Michael Cavanagh	Paramedic Sean Cunniffe	Paramedic Joyce Dunn (2)
EMT Jean Mary Baptiste (2)	Paramedic Telina Brock (2)	Lieutenant Cemal Cengiz	Lieutenant Anthony Curatola	Paramedic Susanne Duque (2)
Doctor Paul Barbara		Paramedic Abelardo Cervantes	Lieutenant Frank Curatola (2)	EMT Ariel Duran (4)
Paramedic Matthew Barbella (2)		EMT Giancarlo Cervantes	EMT Stephen Curiale (2)	Paramedic Michael Dussau
Paramedic Maryann Barone (2)		Lieutenant Ricardo Chan		
Paramedic Dale Barrett (2)		EMT George Chandler, Jr.		
EMT Kenneth Barrietau				

EMT Jason Dwyer
 EMT Wayne S. Edgar (3)
 Lieutenant David Edick
 EMT Francis Edler
 EMT Laitrice N. Edwards
 EMT Keisha M. Ellis
 EMT John Emington
 Lieutenant Kevin Enright
 EMT Watson Entwisle
 Lieutenant Richard Erdey
 Lieutenant Cesar Escobar (2)
 Paramedic Josette J. Esquivias
 Lieutenant Albert Estrada (3)
 Paramedic John Evans (2)
 EMT Jason Falcone (2)
 EMT Vincent Fanelli
 Paramedic Dachary Famum (2)
 Paramedic Joseph Farrell (3)
 EMT Ronell Farrow (2)
 Captain Robert Fassetta
 Paramedic Joseph Fazzino
 Paramedic Elizabeth Feaster
 Paramedic David Fein (3)
 Paramedic Harvey Feintuch (3)
 Paramedic Christopher Feliciano
 EMT Domingo Feliciano (2)
 EMT Martin Fernandez
 EMT Samuel Fernandez
 EMT Philip Ferrara
 EMT Jennifer Ferraro (4)
 Paramedic Ray L. Ferreira
 EMT Sherri D. Fiebert
 Paramedic Brett Fields
 Lieutenant Thomas Finn
 EMT James Finnell
 Paramedic Andrew Fiorillo (2)
 Lieutenant Charles Fiske (3)
 Division Chief Michael Fitton
 Paramedic Daniel Fitzpatrick
 EMT Kristen Fitzpatrick (3)
 Paramedic Stanislav Flaksman (9)
 EMT Robert Fleming
 Paramedic Ernst Floreal
 EMT Andrew Flores
 EMT Mariela Flores
 Paramedic Serafin Flores (2)
 Paramedic Richard Flower
 Paramedic Patrick Flynn (5)
 EMT Dale Ford
 Lieutenant Ralph Francisco
 EMT Kristina Frangella
 Paramedic Katherine J. Frawley (3)
 Paramedic Brian Frayne (2)
 EMT James Freedley
 Paramedic Dorlan Freeman (3)
 Lieutenant Lisa Freitag
 Paramedic Elan Freudenthal
 Lieutenant Mitchell Friedland
 Paramedic Joshua Frumer (2)
 Deputy Chief Katherine Fuchs
 Paramedic Bruce Funaro (2)
 EMT Andrew Gabor (3)
 EMT Matthew J. Galard
 Lieutenant Scott Galletta
 EMT Paul Gallon
 EMT Carl Gandolfo
 EMT Janice Gardner
 Lieutenant Joseph Gasparini (2)
 EMT Anatoliy Gavrilov
 EMT Michael Gayle
 Paramedic Franer J. Genois (2)
 Lieutenant Victoria Genovese (2)

Paramedic Edward Gerber
 EMT Douglas Gertz (3)
 Paramedic William Gettens (7)
 Captain Nancy Gilligan
 Paramedic Annemarie Girgenti
 Lieutenant Michael Glenn
 Paramedic Alan Glick (2)
 EMT John Glover (2)
 EMT Christopher Godsey
 Paramedic Ross Goldberg
 Lieutenant Mordechai Goldfeder (2)
 Paramedic Erica Golino
 Paramedic Alex Gomez
 EMT Henry Gomez (2)
 EMT Adi Gonzalez
 EMT Andre Gonzalez (2)
 Paramedic Daniel Gonzalez (2)
 Paramedic Emilio Gonzalez
 Lieutenant Esmerelda Gonzalez
 EMT Jason Gonzalez (2)
 Lieutenant Jose E. Gonzalez
 EMT Joseph Gonzalez
 EMT Michael Gonzalez
 Lieutenant Sergio Gonzalez (2)
 Lieutenant Susan Gonzalez
 EMT David Goodman (3)
 EMT John Gorday
 Paramedic Joseph Gorgia (3)
 EMT Rafael Goris (2)
 EMT Victor Gornecki (2)
 Paramedic Valarie J. Gosling-Martinez
 EMT Mac R. Gottlieb
 EMT Sammy Gounden (3)
 EMT Marcio A. Grano De Oro
 Paramedic Feliks Granovskiy (3)
 EMT Blauri Graterol (2)
 Lieutenant Steven Graulau (2)
 EMT Christopher Gray
 EMT Nicholas P. Graziano
 EMT William J. Graziano, Jr.
 EMT Lushon N. Greene
 Paramedic David Greenidge (4)
 Paramedic Paul Greenwood
 EMT Ryan J. Gref
 Lieutenant Kendra Gregory (3)
 Lieutenant Jay Griffin
 EMT Shavar Griffin (3)
 Lieutenant Karen Grohl (3)
 Paramedic Eric Gruarin (3)
 Paramedic Charles Gschlecht (2)
 Paramedic Sheng Gu
 EMT Jimmy M. Guailacela (2)
 EMT Kendall Guerilus (2)
 EMT Karel Guibert-Delgado
 Paramedic Roland Guirand, Jr. (3)
 EMT Alan B. Guss
 Lieutenant Luis Gutierrez (3)
 EMT Brian Gutkin
 EMT Shayla Gutleizer (4)
 Paramedic Lydia Gutnick
 EMT Cecil Guy
 Paramedic James Gwilym (2)
 Lieutenant Nancy Gwilym (2)
 Lieutenant Andrew Haber (2)
 Lieutenant Robert Haggerty
 Captain Howard Hahn (3)
 Paramedic Andrew Haley
 EMT Antoine B. Hamm
 Lieutenant Vincent Hanlon
 EMT Matthew Hannon
 Paramedic Benjamin Harris

Lieutenant Charles Harris (3)
 EMT Winslow Harrison
 Lieutenant Robert Hart (2)
 Paramedic Richard Hawkins
 EMT Ryan Hayes
 EMT James Hayter (3)
 Paramedic William Heegan (3)
 Paramedic John Heer (2)
 EMT William Heilmann
 EMT Hopeton M. Hendricks
 Paramedic Juan L. Henriquez (2)
 EMT Carey A. Henry
 EMT Vaughn Henry (2)
 Paramedic Walter Henry
 EMT John Hernandez (2)
 EMT Samuel Hernandez
 EMT Kirk R. Herold
 Paramedic Betty Higdon (6)
 Paramedic Christopher Higgins (2)
 Lieutenant Joan Hillgardner (5)
 EMT Joann E. Hilman-Payne
 EMT Tyiesha S. Hinton
 EMT Eileen Hix
 EMT Robert Hockenjos
 Paramedic Edwin Hockstein (2)
 EMT Joakema J. Holiday (2)
 Paramedic Simon Holyland (2)
 Lieutenant Kevin N. Hooghus (5)
 EMT Darryln Hoover
 Lieutenant Paul N. Hopper
 Lieutenant Frank Horan
 EMT Chih Kai Hu
 Paramedic Morris C. Hubbard (4)
 EMT Donald Hubert
 Paramedic Joseph Hudak
 Lieutenant Paige Humphries
 Paramedic Jennifer Hunt
 EMT Mark Hunt
 Paramedic Robert Hunt
 Paramedic Derek Hutchinson (2)
 Paramedic Bruce N. Hydock, Jr.
 EMT Rudy C. Hyppolite
 EMT James Ingram (3)
 EMT Barbara Irizarry
 Paramedic Matt L. Jachyra (2)
 Paramedic Christian Jackson
 Paramedic Jared Jakob (3)
 Lieutenant Peter F. Jakubowski
 EMT Andre A. James
 Paramedic Dennis Jamieson
 EMT Timothy Janis (2)
 Paramedic Jean Jarvis-Maxwell (2)
 Paramedic Edy P. Jean-Phillipe
 Lieutenant Joseph Jefferson
 Lieutenant Walter Jehle (6)
 Paramedic Kevin Jenkins
 EMT Brian Jennings
 Paramedic Kevin Jennings
 EMT Estarlin Jimenez
 EMT Joseph Jimenez (2)
 EMT Ramon Jimenez
 EMT Alicia John
 EMT David Johnson
 Paramedic Kenneth Johnson
 Lieutenant Marietta L. Johnson
 Paramedic Mark Johnson (2)
 EMT Michael Johnson (2)

EMT Peter Johnson (2)
 Lieutenant Steve Johnson
 Paramedic Vincent Johnson (2)
 Lieutenant Andrew Johnston (2)
 EMT Loobans B. Jolicoeur
 EMT Antoinette Jonas
 EMT Andre Jones
 Paramedic Brenda Jones
 Paramedic Kenya Jones (2)
 EMT Vanchella A. Jones
 Lieutenant Wayne Jones (3)
 EMT Ian Jordan (4)
 EMT Margaret Jordan
 Paramedic Alexis Joseph (2)
 Paramedic Fritz Joseph (3)
 Paramedic Tracey J. Joseph
 EMT Marie Jouthe (2)
 EMT Leonard Joyner
 EMT Philip J. Jugenheimer
 Paramedic Winsley J. Julien (4)
 EMT Daniel Jurcsak
 Lieutenant Michael Kaiser (7)
 Lieutenant Steven Kanarian (3)
 EMT Aleksandr Kaplan (4)
 EMT Edward Karasik (2)
 EMT William Keating
 EMT Daniel Keegan
 Paramedic Robert Kelly
 EMT Julie A. Keshemberg
 EMT Yuriy Khurin
 Lieutenant Scott A. Kiemann (4)
 EMT Gloria Kim
 Paramedic Michael King
 EMT Andrey Kirichenko
 EMT Jennifer Kish
 Paramedic Steven Kleinberg
 EMT Anthony Knowles
 Captain Ronald Kochie (2)
 Paramedic Glenn Kolyer
 Paramedic Jing M. Kong (4)
 Paramedic Brendan Konrad
 Paramedic Peter Koretzky
 EMT Plamen K. Kostadinov
 EMT David Kowalski
 EMT Dana Kozack
 EMT Erica Krasilovsky
 EMT John E. Krause
 Lieutenant George Kroustallis (7)
 Lieutenant Jeff Krulfeifer (2)
 Paramedic Jason S. Kum
 Paramedic Franklin Kupferberg (2)
 Lieutenant Tammy LaBarbera (4)
 EMT Monique F. Lacroze (2)
 EMT Monica Laljeit
 Paramedic Jowaheer Lall (2)
 Lieutenant Karen Lamanna (3)
 EMT George Lampon
 Captain Shari L. Landsberg (3)
 Paramedic Yahki L. Langford
 Lieutenant Joseph Lanzi (2)
 Paramedic Todd A. Laracuenta
 EMT Carrie Larocco
 EMT Gregory Laroche
 Paramedic Kevin Laroy
 Paramedic Richard Laskowski
 EMT Terence Lau
 EMT Jerry Laurenceau (2)
 EMT Raymond Laurie
 Lieutenant Giuseppe Lavore (3)
 Paramedic Man Wai Law (2)
 EMT Lareina Lawrence
 Lieutenant Nicole Lawrence
 EMT Natasha Lawson

Lieutenant Gaetano Lazzara (2)
 EMT Leonard Leap (2)
 EMT Johnathon Leavy (2)
 Paramedic Juan Lebron (3)
 EMT David Lee
 Paramedic Eric Lee
 EMT Nancy Leger (3)
 EMT Ronald J. Leggiadro
 Paramedic William Lehmann, Jr. (3)
 EMT Dashiell G. Lehrman
 Paramedic Katy R. Lejarde (2)
 EMT Thomas Leonard
 Lieutenant David Lerich
 Paramedic Bart A. Leseur
 EMT Thomas Leto
 EMT Avia Levi
 EMT Brett Levine
 EMT Jeffrey H. Levine
 Paramedic Winsley J. Lewis
 EMT Maurice Lewis
 EMT Frank Li (2)
 Paramedic Ron Li
 EMT Joseph Lichtman (2)
 Paramedic Justin Lim (3)
 Lieutenant Patrick Limage
 EMT Jack Lin
 Lieutenant Timothy Lindblom (2)
 Lieutenant Matthew Lindner
 Paramedic Christopher Lipkin
 Paramedic Michael Liporace
 Paramedic Alexander Lipsitt (2)
 Paramedic Maureen Little (3)
 Paramedic Carlos A. Lizzano
 EMT Thomas S. Loggin (2)
 Paramedic Cris J. Loguicide
 Lieutenant Alice Lomino
 Captain Joseph Lomino
 EMT Valerie Longo
 EMT Diana Lopez (2)
 Paramedic Hoover Lopez
 Paramedic Joanne Lopez
 EMT John Lopez
 Paramedic Johnny Lopez (2)
 Paramedic Lisa Lopez (2)
 Paramedic Luis E. Lopez
 EMT Robert Lopez
 Paramedic Michael Loscalzo (2)
 Paramedic Joseph Losquadro
 Lieutenant Edward Loss (2)
 Paramedic Alexander Loutsky (2)
 EMT Edward Lowe
 EMT Edwin Lozada
 Paramedic Sara Lupin
 EMT Eileen Lyman (3)
 EMT Jonathan Lynch
 Paramedic Elizabeth Mackiewicz (2)
 Paramedic Patrick MacLennan
 EMT Vashala R. Madho
 EMT Raymond Magarie
 Paramedic Nicholas Magro
 Paramedic Kevin Maher (3)
 EMT Tene Mahon
 Paramedic Christopher Mahoney (3)
 EMT James Mahoney
 Paramedic Sean Mahoney (4)
 EMT George Maisonave
 EMT Ralph Maisonneuve
 EMT Jessica Maldonado (3)
 Paramedic Andrew Malone
 Paramedic James Malwitz
 EMT Vincent Maneri (2)
 EMT David Mangaran

EMT Thameswar Mangra (3)
 EMT John-Paul Mansour (2)
 EMT William Marchese (3)
 EMT Louis Marin
 Paramedic Raymond Marin
 Paramedic Michael Markowski
 Lieutenant David Marks (2)
 Paramedic Christopher Marquart
 EMT Joanna Marques (2)
 EMT Rafael Marrero
 Lieutenant Michael Mars (3)
 Paramedic Thomas Marsden (2)
 Paramedic Kimberley Marshall (2)
 EMT Harry Marthone
 Paramedic Michael Martin (3)
 EMT Kenneth Martinez
 Paramedic Orlando Martinez
 EMT Renzo Martinez
 EMT Robert Martucci
 Paramedic Scott Marucheu
 Paramedic Jordan Matlovsky (2)
 Paramedic Eric Matonis
 Paramedic Michael M. Matonis
 Paramedic Conrad Matos (2)
 EMT Jordan Matthew
 Lieutenant Kurt Maurer (2)
 EMT Mark Mazur
 Paramedic Kevin Mazuzan
 EMT Vincent Mazzarella (2)
 Captain Christine Mazzola
 Paramedic Daniel Mboh (2)
 Lieutenant Sargent McBride
 Lieutenant Lawrence McCalla (3)
 Paramedic Charles McCarren
 Lieutenant Michael McCarthy (4)
 Paramedic Thomas J. McCarthy (2)
 EMT Josh McCarty
 Paramedic John McConnell
 EMT Michael McConville
 EMT Michael McCormack (3)
 EMT Thomas McCormick
 Lieutenant Thomas McCoy
 Paramedic James McCue
 EMT Kevin McDonald
 Paramedic James McGee (3)
 Lieutenant John McGowan
 Paramedic James McGuire (2)
 EMT Shawn McGuire
 EMT Jason McIntosh (5)
 EMT Mark McIntyre
 EMT Kyle McKenna (4)
 Paramedic Tyrone S. McLune
 EMT David McMinn
 EMT Brendan M. McMorrow
 Paramedic Thomas McQuoid
 EMT Karen McTier
 Lieutenant Joe McWilliams (2)
 Paramedic Iliyaas Mead
 Lieutenant Peter Meccio (2)
 EMT Chalin J. Medina
 EMT Edward Medina
 Lieutenant Rudy Medina (2)
 Captain Bruce Medjuck
 EMT Jose Mejia (2)
 Paramedic Michael B. Melas
 EMT Allan Melendez
 EMT Giovanna Mendelsohn
 Paramedic Jason Mendelsohn
 EMT Orlen Mendez
 Paramedic Redwin Mendez (2)
 EMT Thomas Mendez
 EMT Dewey Mendonca
 EMT Elvin Mera
 EMT Roland Meraglia
 EMT Moira Mercado
 EMT Raul Mercado
 EMT Randy Mercedes
 Paramedic William Meringolo
 Lieutenant Lawrence Messina (5)
 EMT Joseph Metz
 Lieutenant Edward Meyer
 EMT Michael Meyer
 EMT Christopher Mifsud (2)
 EMT Michael Mignano
 EMT Alexandru Mihailescu
 EMT Daphne Miller
 Lieutenant Gary Miller
 Lieutenant Joanne Miller (4)
 EMT Johnny Miller
 Paramedic Latisa Miller
 Lieutenant Mary Miller
 Paramedic Matthew Miller
 Paramedic Jordan Minton (2)
 Lieutenant Anthony Miranda
 Lieutenant Peter Mirando (2)
 EMT Jean G. Moise (2)
 Paramedic Syndie E. Molina (3)
 Paramedic James Mondello (2)
 Captain Norberto Monell
 EMT Hector Montes (2)
 Lieutenant Anthony Montgomery
 Lieutenant Kevin Montgomery (2)
 EMT Edith S. Moog
 Lieutenant William Moore (4)
 Paramedic Angelo Morales
 Paramedic Daryl Morales
 EMT Michael Morales
 EMT Sally Moran
 EMT Jennifer Morgana (2)
 EMT Jason E. Morrissey
 Paramedic Michael Motley (2)
 Paramedic Farooq Muhammad
 Lieutenant Douglas Mulholland (3)
 Paramedic Carlos Muller (2)
 Paramedic Brendan Mulroy
 Lieutenant Anthony Murawski
 Paramedic Brian Murphy
 Paramedic Donald Murphy
 EMT Lavern Murray
 EMT Taras V. Mytkalyk
 EMT Jonathon Nagaki (2)
 EMT Rodrigo Nakouzi
 Paramedic Carlo Napoleon (2)
 EMT Emmanuel Napoleon
 Paramedic Daniel Napoletano (2)
 Paramedic Conrad Narcisse
 Paramedic Kevin Nash (3)
 EMT Emilio Navedo
 Paramedic Alessandro Negri
 EMT Nicolas Negron
 EMT Rebecca Negron
 Lieutenant Walter Nelson (2)
 Paramedic William Neri 4
 Paramedic Samantha Neverson (3)
 Captain John Nevins (2)
 EMT Matthew Newman
 Paramedic Jack Ng
 EMT Jeffrey Nichols
 Paramedic Vladimir Nikulin
 EMT Matthew Nolan (2)
 Paramedic Heather Norden
 EMT Eric Nunez
 EMT Marilyn Nunez
 EMT Robert Nurse
 EMT Anthony O'Carroll
 Paramedic Renae O'Carroll (2)
 Paramedic Jason Ochoa (4)
 Paramedic John O'Connor, Jr.
 EMT Kevin O'Hara
 Paramedic Diana Olaya
 EMT Makesi Oliver
 Paramedic Arelis Olivo (3)
 EMT Ericksson Olivo (2)
 Paramedic Gerson Olivo
 EMT Sarina B. Olmo
 Paramedic Matthew Olton
 Lieutenant Bryan O'Malley
 EMT Meleki Y. Oneal
 Paramedic Patrick M. O'Neil
 Paramedic William M. O'Neill (3)
 Paramedic George Orlando (3)
 EMT Daniel Ornstein
 EMT Iris Ortiz
 EMT John Ortiz
 EMT Jose Ortiz
 Paramedic Ferry Oscar
 EMT Ricardo Oterker
 EMT Conrad Oudkerk
 Paramedic Arnold Pabon (2)
 EMT Nyla S. Page-Walthrus (2)
 Lieutenant Lori Paige
 EMT Angelo Palladino, Jr. (2)
 Paramedic Michael Palleschi (2)
 Paramedic McCray L. Parchment (4)
 EMT Nestor Paredes (6)
 Paramedic Linda Parlamenti
 EMT Hanifa Parris
 EMT Greg W. Partch, Jr. (2)
 EMT Diana Partyka
 Paramedic Christian Pasco (3)
 Paramedic Goretti Pasquier
 Lieutenant Joseph Pastor (2)
 EMT Obrian Pastrana
 EMT Jake Pate
 Lieutenant Raymond Patterson
 EMT Anthony Paulino (2)
 Paramedic Fernando Payamps
 EMT Abel Payero
 EMT Daniel Payne (2)
 EMT David Peak
 EMT Olga Pedrero
 Paramedic Joseph Pelicano (4)
 Paramedic Maximo Pena
 EMT Asya J. Pendergrass
 Paramedic Clifton Pennie
 EMT Harmony R. Peralta
 EMT Mario Perdon
 EMT Anton M. Perelmuter
 EMT Alejandro Perez
 Paramedic Deborah Perez (2)
 EMT Edward Perez (2)
 EMT Frank Perez
 EMT James Perez
 Paramedic Jamil Perez (5)
 EMT Jonathon Perez
 Paramedic Jose Perez
 Lieutenant Osvaldo Perez (3)
 EMT Tina Perez
 EMT Yanko V. Perez
 EMT Chaz E. Perry
 Paramedic Craig Peterson
 Lieutenant Raymond Peterson
 EMT Ilya S. Petevka
 Paramedic Stephan Petras (2)
 EMT John J. Petrozziello, Jr. (2)
 EMT Dennis F. Peyton
 Lieutenant Ron Pfeffer (3)
 EMT Jon P. Phelan
 EMT Keith Phillips
 Paramedic Joel Pierce (2)
 Paramedic Andre Pierre-Louis
 EMT John Pike
 EMT Salvatore Pipitone (2)
 Paramedic Ramon Pla (2)
 EMT Hector Placeres
 Paramedic Natalia Polunin (2)
 EMT Alejandro Ponce
 Lieutenant Lawrence Pontrelli
 EMT Tanya Porazzo
 Lieutenant Michael Potasso (3)
 Paramedic Sean Power
 EMT Baldeo Prahlad (2)
 EMT Todd A. Pressler
 EMT Spencer Presume
 Lieutenant Robin Printy (2)
 EMT Rodrigue Prosper
 EMT Janet Puente
 EMT Simone N. Quashie
 Lieutenant Jeffrey Quigley
 Paramedic Antonio Quinones (2)
 EMT Omar Quinones (2)
 Paramedic Betzalel Rabinowitz (2)
 Paramedic Eddie Radovic
 Paramedic Milan M. Radunovich
 Lieutenant John Raftery (2)
 Paramedic Usman M. Rahyab (2)
 EMT Kevin Ramdayal (3)
 Paramedic Cesar Ramirez
 Paramedic Mario Ramirez
 Paramedic Guillermo Ramos
 Lieutenant Manuel Ramos (2)
 Paramedic Pierre Ramos
 EMT Rudaina Ramos
 EMT Victor Ramos
 EMT Vijay Rampersad
 Lieutenant Glauco Rancier (2)
 EMT Shaeomos Rand (2)
 EMT Steven Raney
 Lieutenant James Rawcliff (2)
 Paramedic Shlomo Raymon (3)
 Paramedic Charles Raynor
 Paramedic William Rezenon
 Paramedic David Reeve (2)
 Lieutenant Bonnie Regan
 EMT Dennis Rehberger (3)
 Paramedic Marc Reilly
 Paramedic Daniel Rella
 EMT Christopher Respol (3)
 Paramedic Joann Restko
 EMT Ivan Resto
 EMT Carlos Reyes
 EMT Rocco J. Riccardi
 Paramedic Daniel P. Riccobono (3)
 Lieutenant William Rich (3)
 EMT Shayssa Richardson
 Paramedic Matthew Rightmyer
 Paramedic Jeffrey Ringel (2)
 Paramedic Cesar Rios
 Paramedic Cesar Rios
 EMT Juan Rios
 EMT Chad W. Ritorto
 EMT William Ritter (3)
 EMT Agatha Rivera
 EMT Alexis Rivera
 EMT Erik Rivera (2)
 EMT James Rivera (2)
 Paramedic Marco Rivera
 Paramedic Michael Rivera
 Paramedic Rosa Rivera
 EMT Allen Rizzo
 EMT Frank Rizzo
 Lieutenant Michelle Robbins (2)
 EMT Earl Roberts
 EMT Peter Roberts (2)
 Paramedic Timothy Roberts
 Lieutenant Miguel Roche
 Paramedic John Roddy
 EMT Carlos Rodriguez
 EMT Christina Rodriguez
 EMT Christino Rodriguez
 Paramedic Luis Rodriguez (2)
 EMT Rema Rodriguez
 EMT Ruben Rodriguez
 EMT Carlos Rodriguez
 Paramedic Craig Roeder
 Paramedic Lynwood Rollins
 EMT Marcelino Roman (3)
 EMT Victor Roman
 EMT Christopher Romani (2)
 EMT Joseph Romeo
 Paramedic Michael Romps
 Paramedic Zarina Ronay
 Lieutenant Thomas Rosa
 EMT Richard Rosado
 Paramedic Edgar Rosales (2)
 Paramedic Jerri N. Rosati
 EMT Lyonel Rosemond
 Paramedic Andrew Rosenthal
 Lieutenant Anthony Rosiello (4)
 Paramedic Michael Rothfeld
 Lieutenant Scott Rothschild (2)
 Lieutenant David Rudnitzky
 EMT John Rugen
 Lieutenant Richard Ruhl
 EMT Adam Ruiz
 Paramedic Joseph Ruiz
 Paramedic Dean Russell
 Paramedic Alison Russo-Elling (3)
 EMT Ernest Russo
 Paramedic George Russo (2)
 Captain Stephen Russo
 Paramedic Brendan Ryan (2)
 EMT Malgorzata Saavedra
 EMT Marco Sabio (3)
 Paramedic Jason Saffon (2)
 EMT Melissa Saint-Fluer
 EMT Brian Saks
 EMT Shadath Salahudeen
 Paramedic Elizabeth Salazar
 Paramedic Parisa Salem
 Paramedic Anne Sales
 Paramedic Ron Salguera
 Paramedic Nura Samara (2)
 Lieutenant Marc Samuels (2)
 EMT Luis Sanchez
 Captain Joseph Sanders
 Paramedic Matthew Sanfilippo (2)
 EMT Tony Sannuto (3)
 Paramedic DonnaMarie Sansevero
 EMT Peter Santiago
 EMT Ramon Santiago
 Lieutenant Vincent Santoemma (2)
 EMT Kathleena Santoral
 EMT Nicholas Santy
 EMT Darryl Savoca (2)
 Paramedic Steven Scarinzi (2)
 Paramedic Joshua Scharback (3)
 EMT Jessica Schenker

EMT Michael Schultz	Paramedic Hugo Sosa (3)	EMT Adrian A. Theobald	EMT Donald Vasquez	Lieutenant David Weston
EMT Shraga D. Schupak	Lieutenant Anthony Soto (2)	Paramedic Elwood Thomas (4)	EMT Jose Vasquez	Lieutenant Andria Wetsell
EMT Woody Schurig (2)	Lieutenant Philip Soto (5)	Lieutenant Thoywell	EMT Joseph Vasquez-Aldana	Lieutenant Darren Wetsell (2)
Lieutenant James Scordus (2)	EMT Robert Soto	Thomas (2)	EMT Leonides Vasquez (2)	Paramedic Alwain White (6)
Paramedic Dwight Scott	EMT Robert L. Sottile (3)	Paramedic Mario	EMT John Vaval (3)	EMT Michael White
EMT Freda Scott	EMT Ondrej Spacek	Thompkins (2)	EMT Charles Vega	EMT Fredrick Whiteside
Paramedic Jasmin Scott (3)	Paramedic Jason Spandorf (2)	EMT Darryn Thompson (2)	Paramedic David Vega (2)	Captain John Wieland
Paramedic Linda Scott (3)	Paramedic Sophia Specht	Paramedic Donna Tiberi	Paramedic Margaret Vega	EMT Kyle Wigglesworth (2)
Paramedic Malcolm Scott	Paramedic Matthew Speier	Lieutenant Leonard Tiberi	EMT Alex Velez (2)	Paramedic Anthony Wilkey
EMT Joseph Searles (3)	Paramedic Lauren Sperber (2)	EMT Beth Tichman	EMT Elivis Velez	Paramedic Heather Willets
Lieutenant Lisa Seckler-	Paramedic Joseph R. Spinelli	EMT Robert Tiegen	EMT Valerie Vera-Tudela (2)	EMT Delano Williams
Roode (2)	Paramedic Jeffrey J. Spinner	EMT Robert Tier	Paramedic Jason Verspoor	Paramedic Marvin Williams
Paramedic Eartha	Paramedic Endri Spiro	Lieutenant John Tims	Lieutenant Michael Vetack (2)	(2)
Sedeniussen	Lieutenant Philip Spiro	EMT Mark Tome	Paramedic Brehene Vice	Paramedic Sebastian
Paramedic Donna Semple (3)	EMT Eon Z. Springer	EMT Frankie Torres	Paramedic Philip Villafane (2)	Williams
EMT Rafael Sequeira	EMT Glenn Steinle (4)	EMT Harold Torres	EMT Paula Villamizar	Paramedic Tawana Williams
EMT Alejandra Serrano	Paramedic Jason Steinle	EMT Jose Torres	EMT Christine Vincent (2)	EMT Brian Wilson
Paramedic Erika Serrano (3)	EMT Kevin Steinle	EMT Myra Torres	Paramedic Charles Vitale (2)	EMT Diana Wilson
EMT Javan Settles (2)	EMT Melvin Stokes	EMT Neil Torres	Paramedic Paul J.	EMT Richard M. Wilson, Jr.
Lieutenant Barry Shapiro	Lieutenant Amy Stone	Lieutenant Norberto Torres (4)	Vnuczenski (2)	Paramedic Chevalo
Lieutenant Michael Sheridan	EMT Robert Strafer	EMT Rafael Torres	EMT Barry Walker, Jr. (2)	Wilsondebriano (2)
EMT Jeremy Sherman	EMT June A. Straugh-	Paramedic Stephen	EMT Daniel Walker	Lieutenant Craig Wing (5)
EMT Thomas Siciliano	Goring (2)	Tortoriello (3)	EMT Niecia Walker	Paramedic Asher M. Winik (2)
EMT Francis Sierra	Paramedic Danny Suarez	EMT Mourad Touati	Lieutenant Vincent R. Walla	EMT Jason A. Wisniewski
Paramedic Kenneth Silas (3)	Paramedic Evan Suchecki (2)	Lieutenant Debra Towers	Lieutenant Kathleen Walsh (2)	EMT Trenton Withworth
Paramedic Arnold Silva (5)	EMT Matthew Suckle (2)	EMT Franklin Trabucco (3)	EMT Michael Walsh (2)	EMT Eric R. Witthohn
Paramedic Roberto Silveira	Lieutenant Eileen Sullivan (2)	Lieutenant George Trager	Paramedic Robert Walsh	Lieutenant Stewart Wolf (4)
Paramedic Gary Simmonds	Captain John Sullivan (2)	EMT George Trail (2)	EMT Leacroft Walters	Paramedic William Wolf
Paramedic Daniel Simon (5)	Paramedic Michael Sullivan	Paramedic Michael Travers (2)	EMT Maurice Walters (2)	EMT Dennis H. Wong (3)
Paramedic William Simon (2)	(2)	Captain Barry Travis	Lieutenant Susan Walters	EMT Kam F. Wong
EMT Merisa Simons (2)	EMT Jacqueline M.	EMT Tristan S Tricarico	Paramedic Chuen-Hsiang	EMT William Wright (2)
Lieutenant Derrick Simpkins	Summerford	Lieutenant Robert Trigili (7)	Wang	Paramedic Ilan Wunsch
EMT Richard Simpson	EMT Jason Sutherland	EMT Jose Trinidad	Paramedic Kevin Ward	EMT Markus O. Wyant
EMT Rajbir Singh	EMT Gilbert Taboade	EMT Michael Triolo	Paramedic Timothy Ward	EMT Willis R. Wynne, Jr.
Paramedic Konstantinos	EMT Nicholas Tacopino (4)	Paramedic Timothy Troeber	EMT Marcus Waring	EMT Maria Yopez
Skamalos (2)	Lieutenant Charles Tahaney (2)	Paramedic William Truoccolo	EMT William Warr	Paramedic Skerdi Ymeraj
EMT Michael Skody	EMT Tajuddin Takoor	Paramedic Felicia Tsang	Lieutenant Steven Warren (2)	Lieutenant Joseph Yolles (2)
EMT Margaret Slick	EMT David Taranto	EMT Herman Tyson	EMT Kevon Warrick	Paramedic Aaron Young (3)
Paramedic Gary Smiley (3)	EMT Christopher Taylor	EMT Linda Ubiles	Paramedic Charles	EMT Kenny Yu (2)
Lieutenant Brian Smith (3)	EMT Keith Taylor	EMT Cole Uhrig	Washington	Paramedic Andrey Yuabov (7)
Paramedic Kelvin Smith	Paramedic Mark Taylor	EMT Gerardo Urena	Paramedic Jason Waszmer	EMT Artur Yukhananov
EMT Henry Snead	EMT Orville Temple	EMT Vitaly Usherenko	Lieutenant William Waters (3)	Lieutenant Paul J. Yunek (4)
EMT Michael Snyder	EMT Kevin Tenorio	Lieutenant Andre Valdez (2)	EMT Edgar Wayne	Paramedic Roman Yusupov (2)
Paramedic Ervin Sobiev (3)	Paramedic Vanessa Tenorio	EMT Michael Vale	Paramedic Timothy Wayne (3)	Paramedic Evgeni
Paramedic Magdalena K.	EMT Anthony Terranova (3)	EMT Erick Valentini	Lieutenant Kim Weaver	Zenkovich (5)
Sobocinski (2)	Deputy Chief Rosario	EMT Michael Valentine	Paramedic Stuart Weinstein	Paramedic Yong Zheng (6)
Paramedic Arnaldo Soler (2)	Terranova (2)	EMT David Vanchoff	Lieutenant Philip B. Weiss (3)	Paramedic Marvin Zuniga (9)
EMT Elizabeth Sosa	EMT James Thenstead	Lieutenant Vincent Variale (3)	EMT Brian Werner	EMT Roy G. Zuniga, Jr.

Unit of the Month--2008

<i>Month</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Members</i>
January	48B3	EMTs Brent Charles, William Graziano, Edward Karasik
February	33F3	EMTs Ryan Brito, Vincent Maneri, Kyle McKenna
March	41D2	EMTs Yanique Doyley, Valeriy Dudchenko, Erica Freeland
April	45D2	EMTs Douglas Drumgo, John Eyzaguirre, Jeffery Wood
May	49A2	EMTs Diane Dos Santos, Beth Tichaman, Valerie Vera-Tudela
June	31H1	EMTs Winslow Harrison, Estarlin Jimenez, Lizbeth Vera
July	38A2	EMTs Blauri Graterol, Avia Levi, Deo Sukhu
August	51A3	EMTs Monique Lacroze, Jean Moise, Meleki O'Neal
September	47Z1	Paramedics Lawrence Difiore, Ross Goldberg, Rachel Victor
October	19W2	Paramedics Wa-il Eldahry, Claude Hall, Terrance Middleton
November	13C3	EMTs Henry Cabrera, Luis Depena, Brendan Lovett
December	22H3	EMTs Edward Lowe, Joseph Salzano, Jason Wisniewski

UNIT CITATIONS

Ladder Company 15 April 29, 2007 Box 8001	Ladder Company 4 March 15, 2008 Box 44-861	Engine Company 222 April 14, 2008 Box 33-781	Ladder Company 47 July 14, 2008 Box 22-3028
Ladder Company 149 August 8, 2007 Box 2640	Rescue Company 1 March 15, 2008 Box 44-861	Engine Company 63 April 17, 2008 Box 33-3802	Engine Company 314 July 16, 2008 Box 8362
GIBFU September 25, 2007 Box 8024	Ladder Company 2 March 15, 2008 Box 44-861	Engine Company 9 April 30, 2008 Box 206	Engine Company 251 August 14, 2008 Box 6026
Squad Company 18 November 19, 2007 Box 578	Rescue Company 3 March 15, 2008 Box 44-861	Engine Company 88 May 2, 2008 Box 33-3164	Ladder Company 164 August 14, 2008 Box 6026
Engine Company 273 December 13, 2007 Box 4474	Engine Company 8 March 15, 2008 Box 44-861	Ladder Company 135 May 10, 2008 Box 4954	Marine Company 3 August 24, 2008 Box 8300
Engine Company 15 December 23, 2007 Box 75-253	Engine Company 33 March 27, 2008 Box 254	Ladder Company 31 June 12, 2008 Box 3117	Haz-Mat Company #1 October 15, 2008 Box 4950
Ladder Company 56 January 4, 2008 Box 3182	Ladder Company 20 March 27, 2008 Box 254	Engine Company 202 June 25, 2008 Box 1359	Engine Company 308 October 18, 2008 Box 4675
Ladder Company 37 January 7, 2008 Box 3390	Ladder Company 6 March 27, 2008 Box 254	Engine Company 255 July 1, 2008 Box 22-2463	Ladder Company 136 October 31, 2008 Box 8387
Ladder Company 5 January 14, 2008 Box 22-370	Engine Company 227 April 6, 2008 Box 1619	Ladder Company 175 July 1, 2008 Box 22-2463	Engine Company 81 November 10, 2008 Box 22-3567
Squad Company 18 January 14, 2008 Box 22-370	Ladder Company 106 April 7, 2008 Box 78	Ladder Company 176 July 1, 2008 Box 0858	Ladder Company 116 November 22, 2008 Box 7357
Ladder Company 168 January 19, 2008 Box 75-2842	Ladder Company 102 April 14, 2008 Box 33-781	Engine Company 80 July 6, 2008 Box 1641	Engine Company 286 December 15, 2008 Box 4171
Engine Company 59 February 5, 2008 Box 1497	Ladder Company 111 April 14, 2008 Box 33-781	Ladder Company 23 July 6, 2008 Box 1641	Engine Company 280 December 15, 2008 Box 955
Rescue Company 4 March 15, 2008 Box 44-861	Engine Company 230 April 14, 2008 Box 33-781	Ladder Company 147 July 8, 2008 Box 1543	

MEDAL AND AWARD DONORS

Dr. Harry M. Archer Medal

This medal was endowed in 1917 by Herman L. Reis, FDNY Medical Officer. The deed of the gift states the medal shall be awarded every three years to a holder of a James Gordon Bennett Medal during the preceding three years. Cash award of \$500 donated by The Kenneth H. Straus Fund of the Fire Foundation of New York. This organization was established in 1968 by a group of prominent New York businessmen, in the interest of rewarding our FDNY members who perform acts above and beyond the call of duty. (Page 11)

James Gordon Bennett Medal

In addition to the Bennett Medal, first awarded in 1869, the Commissioner Robert O. Lowery Award of \$600 is provided by the late Honorary Deputy Chief Bertram Brummer and his wife, Susie. The recipient also is awarded \$1000, donated by The Kenneth H. Straus Fund of the Fire Foundation of New York. The organization was established in 1968 by a group of prominent New York City businessmen, friends of the FDNY, in the interest of rewarding Fire Department members who perform acts above and beyond the call of duty. (Page 13)

Brooklyn Citizens Medal/ FF Louis Valentino Award

In 1896, a committee of Brooklynites endowed this medal "to be given to the most deserving Fireman in the Brooklyn Fire Department, as he shall be selected by the Fire Department of the City of New York." An award of \$500 is donated by The Kenneth H. Straus Fund of the Fire Foundation of New York. This organization was established in 1968 by a group of prominent New York City businessmen, friends of the FDNY, in the interest of rewarding Fire Department members who perform acts above and beyond the call of duty. The recipient also is awarded the Firefighter Louis Valentino Award, a medal endowed in 1998 by Diane Valentino and the Valentino family. The recipient also will receive a gift of \$500. (Page 14)

Hugh Bonner Medal

Endowed by the Reverend James Johnson, Fire Chaplain assigned to Grace Church, and 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. In addition, an award of \$250 is made by The Kenneth H. Straus Fund of the Fire Foundation of New York, a trust fund recognizing "outstanding heroic service rendered by members of the Department." This organization was established in 1968 by a group of prominent New York City businessmen, friends of the FDNY, in the interest of rewarding Fire Department members who perform acts above and beyond the call of duty. (Page 15)

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. In addition, an award of \$250 is made by The Kenneth H. Straus Fund of the Fire

Foundation of New York, recognizing "outstanding heroic service, rendered by members of the Department." This organization was established in 1968 by a group of prominent businessmen, friends of the FDNY, in the interest of rewarding Fire Department members who perform acts above and beyond the call of duty. (Page 16)

Thomas E. Crimmins Medal

Mrs. May M. Burke provided in her will for the endowment of this medal in memory of her father, a contractor, builder, loyal New Yorker and the son of a volunteer firefighter. First awarded in 1912. Also awarded \$500, donated by The Kenneth H. Straus Fund of the Fire Foundation of New York. This organization was established in 1968 by a group of prominent New York City businessmen, friends of the FDNY, in the interest of rewarding Fire Department members who perform acts above and beyond the call of duty. Also awarded \$200 by Honorary Deputy Commissioner Dorothy Marks, in memory of the late Jeffrey S. Childs, great-grandson of Thomas E. Crimmins. (Page 17)

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. Recipient also is awarded \$500 by the Honorary Fire Officers Association, a line organization of the FDNY. (Page 18)

Walter Scott Medal

Colonel 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. Recipient also is awarded \$500, donated by The Kenneth H. Straus Fund of the Fire Foundation of New York. This organization was established in 1968 by a group of prominent New York City businessmen, friends of the FDNY, in the interest of rewarding Fire Department members who perform acts above and beyond the call of duty. (Page 19)

John H. Prentice Medal

This medal is the gift of Mrs. Marion Prentice Brookman in memory of her father. The medal is for "an act of intelligent bravery." First awarded in 1921. Recipient also is awarded \$1000. (Page 20)

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 EMS Command. There is a cash award of \$1000 (split among recipients), donated in equal amounts of \$500 by Robert Ungar and the Prescott family (Doreen Prescott-Sluder). Sponsored by the Uniformed EMTs and Paramedics and Fire Inspectors Union. (Page 21)

Henry D. Brookman Medal

Mrs. Marion Prentice Brookman, in making this award possible, 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 fealty and admiration held by the late Henry D. Brookman for the FDNY." First awarded in 1921. Recipient also is awarded \$1000. (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." Recipient also is awarded a \$200 savings bond by Honorary Assistant Chief Harvey Ball. An additional \$200 savings bond is donated by Honorary Battalion Chief James Palozzolo. (Page 23)

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 fire-fighting appliances. Recipient also is awarded a \$500 savings bond, donated by Paul and Dennis Sanner, in memory of Frank Muller, FDNY. (Page 24)

Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia Medal

The Honorable Fiorello H. LaGuardia, while Mayor, frequently "turned out" at large fires. He had a keen interest in the problems of fire prevention and extinguishment. First awarded in 1937. Recipient also is awarded \$400 cash, donated by the Uniformed Firefighters Association (UFA). (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 is awarded \$200 cash, donated by Honorary First Deputy Fire Commissioner Brian Mulheren, in memory of his father, Joseph A. Mulheren, a friend of the FDNY. Recipient also is awarded the Fitzpatrick and Frisby Award, a medallion endowed by the Fitzpatrick and Frisby Foundation, in memory of these two firefighters who made the Supreme Sacrifice. Also awarded \$250 cash by the Fitzpatrick and Frisby Foundation. (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. Recipient also is awarded \$100 cash, donated by Honorary Deputy Chief Sidney D. Rosoff.

(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 and may be awarded to a member of Fire Patrol. \$100 is awarded in memory of the officers and members of the NYC Fire Patrol who died in the line of duty, donated by Honorary Deputy Chief Edward Pospisil. An additional \$100 cash award is donated by Honorary Deputy Chief Stuart A. Forman.

(Page 28)

Bella Stiefel Medal

In Mrs. Stiefel's 90 years, she came to admire the bravery displayed by firefighters. Her last will and testament provided for this medal, which first was awarded in 1947. Recipient also is awarded \$400, donated by 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. There is a cash award of \$500 (split between recipients), donated by Robert Ungar. Sponsored by the Uniformed EMTs and Paramedics and Fire Inspectors Union.

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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. It was endowed by the UFA before World War II. Also awarded \$400, donated by the UFA.

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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. Accompanied by a cash award of \$200.

(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 endowing this, a second medal, they illustrate their high regard and affection

for the Department. A \$100 award also is given.

(Page 33)

Columbia Association Medal

Endowed by the Columbia Association since 1966. Recipient is awarded \$250 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 performed an outstanding act of valor. First awarded in 1966. Also awarded \$400, donated by the UFA in memory of the late assemblywoman Eileen Dugan, a prime sponsor of the Cancer Bill.

(Page 35)

Steuben Association Medal

Endowed by the Steuben Association in honor of General Frederick Wilhelm Von Steuben. First awarded in 1967. \$500 savings bond donated by the Fire Department Steuben Association Charities, Inc.

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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. Also awarded a \$200 savings bond, donated by the late Dr. Goldenkranz, and \$100, donated by Sandy and Terry Sansevero.

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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." Accompanying the medal is a \$500 cash award, donated by the UFOA.

(Page 40)

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. There is a cash award of \$500, donated by retired Chief of EMS Operations Robert A. McCracken and the Superior Officers Association. Sponsored by the Superior Officers Association.

(Page 41)

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 and to illustrate the high regard and affection he held for FDNY members. First awarded in 1978. Also awarded \$250.

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American Legion Fire Department Post 930/ Mark M. Wohlfield Memorial Medal

Endowed by American Legion Post 930, this medal is in memory of Mark M. Wohlfield, a lifelong member of the Fire Department Post, a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves and a retired FDNY firefighter. The history of this intrepid warrior's exploits is related graphically in the second and third issues of *WNYF* (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. Recipient also is awarded a \$300 bond, donated in memory of Firefighter Eugene "Butch" O'Kane by his family.

(Page 43)

Arthur J. Laufer Memorial Medal

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. The recipient of this medal will receive \$400, donated by the UFA, and \$300, donated by the family of retired Deputy Director of Dispatch Operations, Joseph E. Higgins, Jr.

(Page 44)

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. Recipient also is awarded a \$200 savings bond, donated by Matthew and Susan Daly, and \$100 is donated by Sandy and Terry Sansevero. An additional \$200 savings bond is donated by retired FM Jim McSwigin.

(Page 45)

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 awarded for the first time in 1982. It is donated in memory of retired Captain Sy Berkowitz. Included is a \$300 cash award from the Company Officers Association and an additional \$300, donated by Honorary Chief James Martin, in memory of Firefighter Francis Esposito and Captain Martin Egan of Ladder Company 79.

(Page 46)

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. \$100 is awarded in the memory of Firefighter Anthony D. Buccieri, Engine 75. Also, \$100 is awarded in memory of Firefighter Mike Donnelly of Ladder 33, who died in 1983 after an heroic battle with cancer. A \$1000 donation is made by the Martin Family in memory of Frances B. Martin (1905-1996), daughter of "Smokey Joe" Martin. Also awarded \$200 bond in memory of Battalion Chief William C. Rinsdale, 19th Battalion, who died in the line of duty in 1971. Donated by Richard Kirrstetter, Ladder 33, and all his Brothers in Ladder 33, Engine 75, Battalion 19.

(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 50 years of volunteer service to the Firefighters of New York and their families. The medal, which first was 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. With this medal, a check for \$1000 also is awarded and donated by the members of the New York State Honorary Fire Chiefs Association, Inc. (Page 48)

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. Also, a \$100 savings bond is donated by Joseph Rodriguez, Founding President, Honor Legion, Ladder 54, retired. Recipient receives a \$200 savings bond, donated by retired FM Jim McSwigin. An award of \$500 is donated by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York Free and Accepted Masons. Recipient receives a cash award of \$500 in memory of retired Fire Marshal Thomas J. Russo, Sr., a member of the Honor Legion. Additionally, recipient is given a \$200 cash award by past President, Battalion Chief Philip Gaetani, retired from Safety Battalion 1. (Page 49)

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. A \$400 U.S. Savings Bond is donated by Paul and Michael Sanner. Sponsored by the Uniformed EMS Officers Union. (Page 50)

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. Awarded with the medal is a \$100 savings bond, donated by FM Arthur J. Crawford, a \$100 savings bond, donated by FM Dennis H. Fink, and a \$250 savings bond, donated by retired Detective James K. Burke. (Page 51)

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 presented, along with a \$400 cash award, by the Uniformed Firefighters Association (UFA) 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. The recipient of the FF David J. DeFranco Medal also is presented a \$200 cash award by the David J. DeFranco Memorial Scholarship Fund. (Page 52)

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 while on- or off-duty. Also awarded is a \$200 savings bond, donated by the members of Engine 277 and Ladder 112. (Page 53)

Lieutenant James Curran/ New York Firefighters

**Burn Center Foundation Medal/
Father Julian F. Deeken Memorial Medal**
Presented every three years to a unit that received the Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal during the previous three years. Endowed by Honorary Deputy Chief Peter Horowitz, each recipient receives a \$200 savings bond. The bond is provided by former Fire Marshal James McSwigin, in memory of the family of Detective Terence L. McSwigin, who perished in a fire on February 3, 1987. Also, a \$100 cash award is donated by Honorary Deputy Chief Stuart A. Forman. (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." Proceeds for this endowment, as well as a \$100 savings bond for each recipient, are provided solely through the generosity of the Horowitz family, in memory of Honorary Deputy Chief Peter Horowitz. (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. In addition to the medal awarded

to the unit, each member receives a medal and \$100, donated by the Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Fund. (Page 56)

Deputy Commissioner Christine R. Godek Medal

Established and presented by Honorary Deputy 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. A \$350 cash award also is donated. (Page 57)

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. The recipient of this award will receive \$318, donated by Mr. Friedberg's widow and family. (Page 58)

Shelly Rothman Memorial Medal

This medal is dedicated to honoring all Firefighters who have performed with valor. Awarded for the first time in 2005. With this medal, a check for \$500 is awarded and donated by the members of the New York State Honorary Fire Chiefs Association, Inc. Additionally, a \$300 cash award is donated by the Fire Bell Club of New York in memory of Shelly Rothman, a long-time member and Chairman of the Board of Directors. (Page 59)

Jack Pintchik Medal

Following successful resuscitation 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. There is a cash award of \$1000 (for each recipient), donated by Matthew Pintchik. Sponsored by the Pintchik family. (Page 60)

Company of the Year 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. A cash award of \$343 for the unit is included. (Page 61)

F D N Y

M I S S I O N S T A T E M E N T

As first responders to fires, public safety and medical emergencies, disasters and terrorist acts, the FDNY protects the lives and property of New York City residents and visitors. The Department advances public safety through its fire prevention, investigation and education programs. The timely delivery of these services enables the FDNY to make significant contributions to the safety of New York City and homeland security efforts.

C O R E V A L U E S O F T H E D E P A R T M E N T

■ SERVICE

The Department continues its unwavering call to protect and serve.

■ BRAVERY

Courage is the foundation of our character. Bravery is the ability to overcome fear through fortitude, instinct, compassion for others and training.

■ SAFETY

Our citizens must be reasonably free from danger, especially deliberate, harmful acts. With the best equipment and training, the Department can reduce the risk to the public and its members at fires, emergencies and medical incidents.

■ HONOR

The enormous commitment necessary to perform the Department's tasks requires excellence of character. We inspire each other through pride in our unit, which is a belief that every action reflects on all the members of the unit, both past and present.

■ DEDICATION

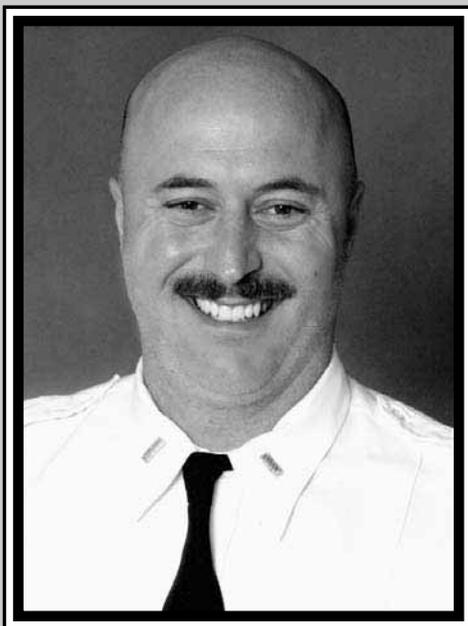
A commitment to the objectives of our mission is an essential part of our code of conduct. The faithful observance of duty calls for us to fulfill our obligations professionally and honestly.

■ PREPAREDNESS

By combining all the components of our core values, the FDNY will maintain its constant state of readiness to meet all threats and challenges, traditional and new.

In Memoriam

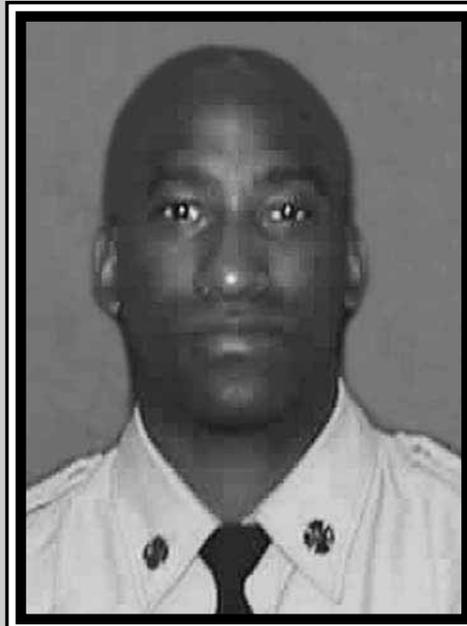
5 - 5 - 5 - 5
Died in the Line of Duty



Lieutenant Robert J. Ryan, Jr.
Engine Company 155

Died on November 23, 2008, as a result of injuries sustained in the performance of duty at Staten Island Box 22-0021.

Appointed April 14, 1991.



Firefighter Jamel M. Sears
Engine Company 218

Died on November 11, 2008, as a result of injuries sustained in the performance of duty at Manhattan Box 8336.

Appointed July 1, 2008.

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New York's Bravest

PROUDLY SERVING SINCE 1865



FIRE DEPARTMENT, CITY OF NEW YORK

MICHAEL R. BLOOMBERG, Mayor

NICHOLAS SCOPETTA, Fire Commissioner

SALVATORE J. CASSANO, Chief of Department

9 MetroTech Center
Brooklyn, New York 11201
www.nyc.gov/fdny

