

FDNY Graduates 295 'Probies'



Mayor Bill de Blasio, Fire Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro and Chief of Department James E. Leonard presided over a graduation ceremony for 295 Probationary Firefighters in Queens on Nov. 6.

"This class reflects all of New York City," Mayor de Blasio said.

These Probationary Firefighters represent the growing diversity of the Department, with 40 percent of graduates identifying as people of color - 17.7 percent as Black, 19.7 percent as Hispanic and 2.4 percent as Asian.

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FDNY 'Probies' Graduate from the Fire Academy

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The latest FDNY Probationary Firefighter Class included 35 veterans.

"The respect and admiration of a grateful city has been earned through the blood, sweat and far too many tears of generations who have come before you," said Commissioner Nigro. "Countless young boys and girls dream of one day being where you are now."

Four of the graduates are women, bringing the total number of female FDNY Firefighters to 49 - the highest in Department history. Additionally, 35 of the graduates are veterans of the United States Armed Forces.

Over their 18 weeks at the FDNY Training Academy, this class was extensively trained in all aspects of their job, which includes fire suppression and medical response, hazardous materials, collapse and confined space rescue training, auto extrication, building inspections and procedures for engine and ladder operations.

Meet 'Probie' Aleigha Powder

F DNY Probationary Firefighter Aleigha Powder said serving as a New York City Firefighter is a job that reminds you each day of how important it is to help others. As a U.S. Marine Corps veteran, she noted, that public service has been a central part of her life.

“Serving as an embassy guard and then coming to the FDNY, the close knit relationships, being part of a team and everyone holding their weight - that is what I appreciate most,” Powder said. “It is great to be able to come from serving my country in the military to serving my community with FDNY.”



Powder was one of 295 “Probies” to graduate from the Fire Academy on Nov. 6. She was also one of four women “Probies” in that class. While in the Academy, she also performed with distinction by serving as the only female squad leader.

“I was the leader of Bravo One Two
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Meet 'Probie' Aleigha Powder

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Probationary Firefighter Aleigha Powder, left, was one of four women to graduate from the Fire Academy on Nov. 6. Standing with her, from left, are graduates Sheliz Salcedo, Lisa Cusimano and Choerlyne Doirin-Holder.

and serving as a squad leader definitely requires the ability to multi-task,” she explained. “The Academy was a lot of hard work, but it was a great experience.”

And now Powder reports to Ladder 155 in Queens as one of New York’s Bravest, where she helps to protect the lives and property of New York City residents and visitors.

“Working for the FDNY definitely has a lot of similarities to the structure of the military and I think this job is a great fit for me,” she said. “It’s really special to be able serve others in this capacity now and I’m happy to be working here.”



Mentees Attend Information Sessions



F DNY Firefighter Candidate Mentorship Program (FFCMP) Mentees were given a closer look at what is required to become one of New York's Bravest on Nov. 7 during their Mentee Information Sessions at the Fire Academy in New York City.

In addition to touring the training facility at the Fire Academy, the Mentees were able to participate in a question and answer session with FDNY Physical Fitness Unit Instructors and representatives from the Bureau of Health Services, as well as with FFCMP Senior and Junior Mentors.

The latest event is another advantage of being a part of the FFCMP, which pairs Firefighter

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Mentees Attend Information Sessions

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Candidates with existing firefighters who can help to answer any questions that they have about the Firefighter career. The Mentors remain available to their Mentees during the hiring process, and if their Mentees become Probationary Firefighters, throughout the 18-week training at the Academy.

If you're a Firefighter Candidate who



is completing processing, don't forget to participate in this important career beneficial program.



Firefighter 101: Decontamination Procedures

After a hazardous materials release, vapor or aerosol hazards can still exist on victims even after they have left the area of the release. Toxic levels of a material may be trapped inside clothing, which can vaporize (off-gas) and continue to harm people even after they have left the scene. Rapid physical removal of the material from the victims is the single most important action associated with effective decontamination. Reasons for decontaminating exposed victims include removal of the agent from the victim's skin and clothing to prevent any additional exposure, protecting responders and medical personnel from cross contamination and providing psychological comfort to the victims by removing contamination. Want to learn more about this topic? Visit our website: [http:// on.nyc.gov/1Kea0tF](http://on.nyc.gov/1Kea0tF).

Don't Procrastinate! Start studying the "Probie" Manual today to get ready for the *Fire Academy*!

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UWF to Host Training for Candidates

The United Women Firefighters (UWF) is scheduled to host physical fitness training for women Firefighter Candidates in December at the New York Sports Club on Wall Street in New York City. The club is located at 30 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005. To be eligible to participate, every candidate must bring a gym lock, at least a 50 pound vest,



fitness clothes and sneakers, water and a medical waiver. In addition, every candidate should attend the training properly hydrated and fueled and ready for an intense workout. Please note that these workout sessions are designed to prepare candidates for the physical training at the Fire Academy. To register for the sessions, please e-mail womenrecruitsfdny@yahoogroups.com.

December 2015 UWF Training Schedule

December 1, 8, 15 and 29 at 7:30 p.m.

December 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 at 7:30 p.m.

December 6, 13, 20 and 27 at 12 p.m.

RECRUITMENT CORNER

FDNY HS Hosts Second Open House for Future Freshmen



The FDNY High School for Fire and Life Safety hosted another Open House for families throughout the New York City area on Nov. 12.

As part of the event, interested applicants and their families were able to learn more about the school's courses, expectations, students and alumni.

In addition, the attendees were able to watch a FDNY Emergency Medical Service (EMS) rapid take down demonstration and tour a FDNY ambulance. The event, which is the second one the school has hosted this year, also provided prospective students

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with important information about all of the careers in the New York City Fire Department.

The high school, which is housed in the Thomas Jefferson High School Campus in Brooklyn, is a small thematic school that educates students from 9th to 12th grade, while introducing them to careers as Firefighters, Paramedics and EMTs.

It is largely funded by the FDNY Foundation, the official non-profit organization of the FDNY.