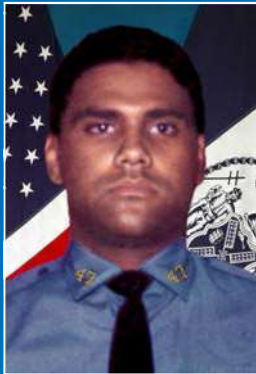


FALLEN FINEST

POLICE OFFICER HECTOR A. FONTANEZ 47 Precinct



Officer Fontanez was shot and killed after he chased an armed suspect into the courtyard of a building on Thursday, September 12, 1991.

Officer Fontanez and his partner responded to a radio call of a “man with a gun” at the corner of Boston Road and East 216th Street in the Bronx.

The officers began to canvas for the suspect and, about 45-minutes later, they spotted him near 3467 Eastchester Rd. Officer Fontanez, who was the vehicle recorder, exited first and approached the suspect. The suspect fled on foot into the courtyard of the location with both Fontanez and his partner in pursuit. Officer Fontanez was about 20-feet behind, when the perpetrator suddenly turned and fired six shots from his .357 revolver. One shot struck Officer Fontanez in the stomach, below his bullet resistant vest, and the other struck him in the back. As he fell to his knees, mortally wounded, Officer Fontanez managed to fire five of the six rounds from his service revolver, striking the suspect several times. His partner transmitted a “10-13, Officer Down” over the radio, and responding officers were able to apprehend the wounded perpetrator.

Officer Fontanez was taken to Bronx Municipal Hospital, where he died later that night from his wounds.

The suspect was convicted of murder and sentenced to 25 years to life in prison. He will be eligible for parole in 2016.

Police Officer Hector A. Fontanez was 26 years old and served with the New York City Police Department for 5 years. He was survived by his mother, Encarnación and brother, Luis.

