Police Officers Rafael L. Ramos and WenJian Liu were shot and killed while sitting in their patrol car on Saturday, December 20, 2014.

The officers were assigned to a Critical Response Vehicle post at the corner of Tompkins and Myrtle Avenues in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn. The perpetrator, after shooting and seriously injuring his ex-girlfriend in Baltimore, arrived in New York City by bus. At about 2:45 pm, he approached the marked police car from the passenger side. Without warning or provocation, he fired several shots from a semi-automatic handgun striking Officers Ramos and Liu in the head and upper body. After the assassination, the gunman then fled into a nearby subway station where he took his own life.

Officer Ramos began his career with the NYPD as a School Safety Agent assigned to the 122 Precinct School Safety Unit in Staten Island. In January 2012, he became a New York City police officer fulfilling his life-long dream. He first worked in the 79 Precinct before transferring to the 84 Precinct in November 2013. He was a prominent member of the Christ Tabernacle Church in Glendale, Queens, and was near completion of his bachelor’s degree in Religion at Faith Evangelical College and Seminary.

Officer Liu first joined the NYPD as an auxiliary police officer. In July 2007, he was sworn in as a police officer and was assigned to the 73 Precinct. One year later, he transferred to the 84 Precinct.

At Ramos’ funeral, Saturday, December 27, 2014, Police Commissioner William J. Bratton posthumously promoted both officers to Detective First Grade.

The Commissioner also appointed Ramos as honorary Chaplain of the 84 Precinct. The funeral for Liu was held on Sunday, January 4, 2015.

Detective Ramos, 40, served with the NYPD for almost 3 years. He was survived by his wife, Maritza; two sons: Justin and Jaden; his mother, Julia; and his sister, Sindy.

Detective Liu, 32, served with the NYPD for seven years. He was survived by his wife, Pei Xia Chen, and his parents, Xiu Yan Li and Wei Tang Liu.