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**TRANSCRIPT OF MAYOR BILL DE BLASIO'S REMARKS ON THE PARIS TERRORIST
ATTACK**

Mayor Bill de Blasio: Thank you, lieutenant. Before I talk about today's ceremony and what it means, I think we should spend a moment on this tragedy that we saw in Paris just a few hours ago. The eyes of the world are on Paris – a heinous terrorist attack – goes at the very fabric of a free society. This was an attack on those who speak freely. It was an attack on the news media. It was an attack on freedom of expression. It was an attack on the values we hold dear and that you're preparing to defend. So, it's a sober moment. It's a difficult moment, but it's also a moment to take stock of how important the work is that you're about to do. Our thoughts and our prayers are with the families of those who were lost today. At least 12 individuals killed – at least two of them police officers who are defending lives of people who are simply expressing their views in a free society. So, we lost some heroes today. We lost some people who are trying to do good in this world, against a terrorist threat that tries to undermine everything we hold dear. So, you are preparing to start your work at a challenging and momentous time – a time when we need good men and women like you to stand up for values of respect and inclusion of all people. Those values were assaulted today in Paris, but that will not stop all of us from continuing to fight for them. I'd like to ask everyone for a moment of silence for all those who were lost today in Paris.

[Mayor de Blasio leads moment of silence]

**READOUT OF MAYOR DE BLASIO'S CALL WITH MAYOR OF PARIS ANNE
HIDALGO**

Mayor Bill de Blasio called Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo Wednesday morning to offer his condolences and to express New York City's unwavering support for the people of Paris in the aftermath of the terror attack against Charlie Hebdo magazine. Both leaders agreed that cities must be aggressive in fighting terrorism, confront the challenge of extremism with determination, and refuse to be intimidated or allow cowardly violent attacks to undermine free speech. The two Mayors also reaffirmed the closeness of their two cities.

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