



# FDNY MEDAL DAY 2014



*Honoring the Courage, Commitment and Compassion  
of FDNY Fire & EMS Members  
— June 4, 2014 —*

# MEDAL DAY 2014

**Salvatore J. Cassano**  
*Fire Commissioner*

**Edward S. Kilduff**  
*Chief of Department*

**Francis X. Gribbon**  
*Deputy Commissioner*  
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**Special thanks to Chief Fire Marshal Robert Byrnes and his staff for their assistance. Also, thanks to Firefighter Greg Piotrowski and EMT Dulce McCorvey for their contributions to this book.**

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### *The FDNY Honorary Fire Officers Association*

Jack Lerch, President

### *Dorothy Marks*

Honorary Fire Commissioner

### *The FDNY Foundation*

Stephen L. Ruzow, Chairman  
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#### *Cover*

**Manhattan Box 33-1233, Second Avenue Subway Excavation Site, March 19, 2013,**  
the incident for which

EMS Lieutenant Rafael A. Goyenechea, Haz Tac Battalion, is awarded the Chief Ulyses Grant Leadership Medal, and Doctors David Ben-Eli and Douglas A. Isaacs, Office of Medical Affairs, and Paramedic Japhet G. Gaengan, are awarded the Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn Medal. Additionally, the following Fire Companies were presented with Unit Citations: Ladder Company 43, Squad Company 41 and Rescue Company 1.  
*photo by the FDNY Command Tactical Unit (CTU)*

#### *Opposite*

**Bronx Box 22-4972, Spuyten Duyvil Metro North Station, December 1, 2013,**  
the incident for which Rescue Company 3--Captain James P. Ellson and FFs Robert J. Athanas, Brian T. Browne, Daniel R. Foley, James D. Hodges, II, and Paul M. Patsos--is awarded the Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal.

Additionally, the following Fire Companies were presented with Unit Citations: Engine Company 81, Squad Company 61, Ladder Company 46, Engine Company 52, Ladder Company 52 and Engine Company 95.

*photo by Gary P. Hearn, Station Action Team Coordinator,  
National Railroad Passenger Corporation--Amtrak*

#### *Inside Back Cover*

**The bond between the FDNY and the Armed Forces has never been stronger--**

Fire Commissioner Salvatore J. Cassano  
*design and photo by the FDNY Photo Unit*

#### *Back Cover*

**Brooklyn Box 44-0634, 200 Willoughby/Washington Avenues,  
Pratt Institute, February 15, 2013,**

the incident for which Engine Company 210--Lieutenant Christopher J. Corsi and FFs John R. Delgado, Terry R. Lafontant, Sean P. Mahoney and James K. Smith--is awarded the Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal.

Additionally, Engine Company 219 is presented with a Unit Citation.

*photo by Bill Tompkins*



# MEDAL DAY 2014

photo by Gary P. Hearn, Station Action Team Coordinator, National Railroad Passenger Corporation--Amtrak



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*Assistant Chief of  
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*Chief EMS Division 1*



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**Bill de Blasio**  
*Mayor*

**I**t is a great pleasure to welcome everyone to the New York City Fire Department's Medal Day 2014.

The men and women who choose to join the New York City Fire Department make a promise to our City to protect the health and safety of our more than eight million residents and to do their best to keep us out of harm's way. We are all grateful for the hard and often dangerous work that FDNY members take on every day to ensure that New Yorkers can live, work and enjoy all that the five boroughs have to offer. Under the leadership of Commissioner Salvatore J. Cassano, our *Bravest* have helped New York remain the safest big city in the country. Incoming Fire Commissioner Daniel Nigro will build upon this success as he strengthens the relationship members have with the communities they serve and lead the FDNY moving forward.

On behalf of our great City, I am honored to applaud all of this year's medal recipients, including Lieutenant Robert E. Lee, EMT Brendon Hernandez and Ladder Company 176. I offer my best wishes for a meaningful ceremony and continued success.

*Bill de Blasio*



**Salvatore J. Cassano**  
*Fire Commissioner*

**F**or 44 years, I have had the privilege of taking part in one of the greatest traditions of this Department; our annual Medal Day ceremony. As a Firefighter and a Fire Officer, I witnessed my fellow Firefighters, Lieutenants and Captains receive well-deserved praise for their heroic acts. Later in my career, as Chief of Department and these past five years as Commissioner, I've had the honor of officiating over the ceremony and meeting the individuals whose brave service upholds the unmatched reputation of this Department. Truly, Medal Day is one of the most important days of all on the FDNY calendar. It is the one day of the year that we gather together to recognize and celebrate the lifesaving work of our Firefighters, Paramedics, EMTs and Fire Marshals.

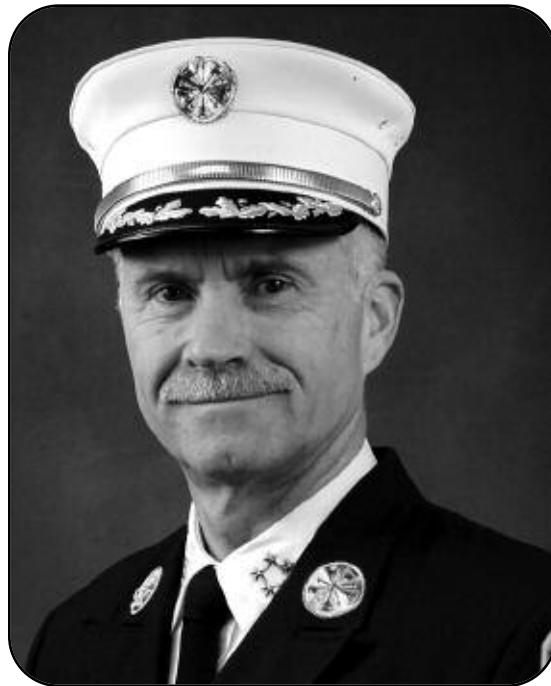
This year, there are two incidents for which members are being recognized that epitomize the Department's two primary services--Firefighting and EMS--working in unison to accomplish our lifesaving mission. At these two incidents--a worker trapped approximately 75 feet below the Second Avenue subway excavation site in Manhattan and the Spuyten Duyvil Metro North Station train derailment in the Bronx--neither Fire nor EMS could have succeeded without the teamwork that is a hallmark of this Department.

On March 19, 2013, Firefighters and EMS personnel worked hand-in-hand to extricate a worker from what could have been a watery grave. While Firefighters worked to free the victim, EMS Lieutenant Rafael Goyenechea, Haz Tac Battalion, remained with the worker to provide medical care and keep his face clear of mud. The Lieutenant is honored with the Chief Ulyses Grant Leadership Medal in tribute to his sound judgment and decision-making. So many members worked tirelessly throughout the night to rescue the patient. Doctors David Ben-Eli and Douglas Isaacs initiated medical orders and formed a plan of care from above and Paramedic Japhet Gaengan set up IV medication and warming blankets. For their lifesaving efforts, Doctors Ben-Eli and Isaacs and Paramedic Gaengan are presented with the Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn Medal.

The members of Rescue 3--Captain James P. Ellson and FFs Robert J. Athanas, Brian T. Browne, Daniel R. Foley, James D. Hodges, II, and Paul M. Patsos--made the Spuyten Duyvil Metro North Station train derailment scene as safe as possible so other first responders could do their jobs in an efficient and effective way. Triage-tagging at this December 1, 2013, mass casualty incident was crucial so that EMS personnel could prioritize those victims needing the most help. Rescue 3 members operated with the knowledge that due to several fatalities, law enforcement would be conducting a major investigation, so they worked with the goal of preserving possible evidence. Their efforts are rewarded with the Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal.

And this year, for the first time since 2007, we are awarding the Probationary Firefighter Thomas A. Wylie Medal. Probationary FF Ryan C. Blackwell (whose father, FF Christopher C. Blackwell of Rescue 3, was killed at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001), is assigned to Engine 62, but was detailed to Ladder 32 when he rescued a woman on September 14, 2013. To do so, he went past heavy fire without the protection of a hose-line. Truly a fantastic way to start a fulfilling career in the fire service!

These incidents--and all the heroic acts we recognize--are indicative of the dedication and bravery that define the FDNY. We are so proud of all our Medal Day recipients; indeed, all of our members. Thank you so much for your hard work and commitment to excellence throughout the year.



**Edward S. Kilduff**  
*Chief of Department*

**M**any FDNY members experience a long, satisfying and distinguished career without ever removing a victim from a fire or bringing a patient back from cardiac arrest. However, every FDNY member's supportive actions--whether on a hose-line, operating the aerial or assisting in medical care--facilitate rescues in the City every single day.

Therefore, when FDNY honors an individual for two separate acts of bravery in one year, it truly is extraordinary. And, this year, we are celebrating two such individuals.

First, FF Vincent A. Musacchio, Ladder 32, entered a highly charged atmosphere of heat and smoke three times--without the protection of a charged hose-line--to bring a victim to safety on May 31, 2013. For his bravery, he is being honored with the Hugh Bonner Medal. Then, less than four months later, on September 14, 2013, FF Musacchio crawled past a spreading fire--again, without benefit of a charged hose-line--to find and rescue another trapped individual. For his second courageous act this year, he is presented with the Walter Scott Medal.

Our second dual award-winner is Captain James P. Ellson, Rescue 3. On October 28, 2013, Captain Ellson operated in one of the most dangerous environments Firefighters face--a basement fire. Without a hose-line in place to offset the blistering conditions, he operated above the fire and rescued a young girl who was wedged between two beds. For his heroism, he is awarded the Thomas E. Crimmins Medal. Captain Ellson's second heroic act occurred on December 1, 2013, at the train derailment at Spuyten Duyvil Metro North Station in the Bronx. At this incident, the Captain's leadership skills came to the forefront as he directed and supervised his Rescue 3 members--FFs Robert J. Athanas, Brian T. Browne, Daniel R. Foley, James D. Hodges, II, and Paul M. Patsos--in search, removal of victims, medical care and stabilization of the insecure train car. Their collective actions, under Captain Ellson's direction, made a dangerous situation safe for the civilians and first responders. Captain Ellson and Rescue 3 Firefighters are the recipients of the Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal in recognition of their professionalism.

Throughout the pages of this Medal Day Book, you'll read of heroic actions of so many other worthy award recipients from Fire and EMS. Each medal recipient and all who worked with them at their respective incidents deserve our thanks and gratitude.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edward S. Kilduff". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned at the bottom center of the page.

**FIRST DEPUTY COMMISSIONER**



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**Thomas M. Jensen**  
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*Division 1*



*Deputy Chief*  
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*Division 3*



*Deputy Chief*  
**Raymond M. Stanton**  
*Division 6*



*Deputy Chief*  
**James F. Mulrenan**  
*Division 7*



*Deputy Chief*  
**Richard J. Howe**  
*Division 8*



*Deputy Chief*  
**James E. Campbell**  
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*Deputy Chief*  
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*Deputy Chief*  
**Mark A. Ferran**  
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*Deputy Chief*  
**Wayne T. Cartwright**  
*Division 15*

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**Stephen J. Geraghty**  
*Rescue Operations*



*Battalion Chief*  
**James C. Dalton**  
*Marine Operations*



*Deputy Chief*  
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*Haz-Mat Operations*

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EMS Operations*



**Michael J. Fitton**  
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**Sophia Kwok**  
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**Janice Olszewski**  
*Chief EMS Division 5*



**Marylou Aurricchio**  
*Division Chief  
EMS Operations*



**Steven Morelli**  
*Division Chief  
EMS Operations*

# 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)	1915--Captain Thomas W. Smith (E-2)	1965--Firefighter James E. Bowler (R-2)
1870--Lieutenant Charles L. Kelly (E-9)	1916--Firefighter James T. Daniels (L-26)	1966--Firefighter Robert E. Farrell (L-31)
1871--Firefighter Ambrose L. Austin (E-15)	1917--Firefighter John Walsh (1) (L-1)	1967--Firefighter Thomas D. Ferraiuolo (L-28)
1872--Lieutenant Thomas Henry (L-6) Firefighter Thomas Hutchinson (L-1)	1918--Firefighter Patrick R. O'Connor (L-14)	1968--Firefighter Gene P. Dowling (L-25)
1873--Battalion Chief William H. Nash (Bn-7) Firefighter Alfred Conner (L-10) Lieutenant Henry Schuck (E-34)	1919--Lieutenant Francis Blessing (R-1)	1969--Firefighter James N. Tempro (E-217)
1874--Captain William Mitchell (E-10)	1920--Firefighter Timothy F. O'Leary, Jr. (E-15)	1970--Firefighter Charles Varner (L-55)
1875--Lieutenant James Horn (E-11)	1921--Firefighter Frank J. Costello (L-12)	1971--Lieutenant Richard R. Hamilton (R-2)
1876--Firefighter Joseph McGowan (E-6)	1922--Firefighter Jacob F. Ferber (E-239)	1972--Firefighter Steven C. DeRosa (L-102)
1877--Firefighter Thomas J. Dougherty (L-1)	1923--Captain Edwin A.A. Quinn (E-14)	1973--Firefighter Raymond G. McCann (L-40)
1878--Captain Daniel J. Meagher (L-3)	1924--Hon. Medical Off. Harry M. Archer, MD	1974--Firefighter Gilbert J. Murtha (L-108)
1879--Firefighter Paul Bauer (L-4)	1925--Captain Thomas J. O'Toole (E-27)	1975--Firefighter Thomas J. Neary (L-31)
1880--Firefighter John Levins (L-2)	1926--Firefighter William G.R. Mitchell (E-18)	1976--Firefighter Martin McGovern (L-114)
1881--Firefighter Michael Connerford (E-12)	1927--Firefighter Michael McInerney (L-12)	1977--Captain Frederick W. Gallagher (R-2)
1882--Firefighter John L. Rooney (L-10)	1928--Captain James A. Walsh (1) (E-234)	1978--Firefighter James H. Battillo (L-152)
1883--Firefighter William B. Kirchner (E-11)	1929--Firefighter George W. Reilly (L-19)	1979--Firefighter John J. Pritchard (R-2)
1884--Firefighter John Binns (E-32)	1930--Firefighter Edward V. Conroy (L-1)	1980--Lieutenant Thomas J. Neary (L-28)
1885--Captain Peter H. Short (L-1)	1931--Captain Albert B. Carlson (E-66)	1981--Lieutenant Howard R. Kennedy (L-154)
1886--Firefighter Michael Brady (E-34)	1932--Firefighter Vincent J. Hyde (R-3)	1982--Firefighter Joseph H. Dirks (L-103)
1887--Lieutenant Samuel Banta (L-10)	1933--Captain Cornell M. Garety (R-1)	1983--Firefighter Kenneth L. Connelly (L-111)
1888--Lieutenant William Quirk (E-22)	1934--Firefighter Rudolph F. Musil (L-12)	1984--Firefighter Robert Merkel (L-42)
1889--Firefighter William Reilly (L-12)	1935--Firefighter George J. Wolken (E-60)	1985--Firefighter James A. Sollami (E-62)
1890--Captain Thomas J. Ahern (E-5)	1936--Firefighter Joseph E. Smith (2) (E-211)	1986--Captain James F. McDonnell (L-42)
1891--Firefighter Patrick F. Lucas (E-30)	1937--Firefighter James P. Nevin (E-201)	1987--Lieutenant William F. Maloney (L-34)
1892--Firefighter Patrick H. Aspell (L-4)	1938--Firefighter Charles G. Roscher (L-1)	1988--Firefighter John J. McDonnell (L-28)
1893--Firefighter John Walker (L-6)	1939--Firefighter Daniel J. Sullivan (L-3)	1989--Captain Richard Jacquin (L-59)
1894--Firefighter Denis Ryer (L-15)	1940--Firefighter Charles A. Merz (L-168)	1990--Lieutenant Gerard M. Murtha (R-3)
1895--Firefighter William H. Behler (E-35)	1941--Firefighter Thomas F. Brennan (L-111)	1991--Firefighter William E. Jutt (L-22)
1896--Firefighter Martin M. Coleman (L-3)	1942--Captain John W. Heaney (Hdq.)	1992--Firefighter Michael M. Dugan (L-43)
1898--Firefighter James Pearl (L-7)	1943--Firefighter John Colgan (L-2)	1993--Firefighter Albert J. Gonzalez, Jr. (L-18)
1899--Firefighter John Hughes (1) (L-14)	1944--Firefighter Harvey W. Crook (R-3)	1994--Lieutenant John M. Fox (SQ-1)
1900--Firefighter William Clark (L-14)	1945--Captain George H. Winter (L-3)	1995--Firefighter Gregory J. Smith, Jr. (L-108)
1901--Firefighter Thomas J. McArthur (E-29)	1946--Firefighter Arthur L. Speyer (L-24)	1996--Firefighter Gerard J. Triglia (L-132)
1902--Firefighter Richard Nitsch (E-35)	1947--Firefighter Anthony J. Riccardi (L-26)	1997--Firefighter John K. Duddy (L-28)
1903--Firefighter Charles F. Douth (L-3)	1948--Captain Patrick T. Green (R-1)	1998--Firefighter Stan J. Sussina (R-1)
1904--Firefighter James R. McAvoy (L-4)	1949--Firefighter James S. Norton (L-163)	1999--Captain John J. Pritchard (E-255)
1905--Firefighter Michael J. Stevens (L-4)	1950--Firefighter Wilbur J. O'Donnell (L-111)	2000--Firefighter Stephen P. Fenley (L-78)
1906--Firefighter Cassimer C. Wodzicki (E-17)	1951--Firefighter Victor F. Rossi (L-120)	2001--Firefighter John F. South (L-44)
1907--Firefighter Michael Nicklaus (L-4)	1952--Lieutenant John F. McGlynn (L-10)	2003--Battalion Chief James Marketti (Bn-48)
1908--Firefighter John T. Oakley (L-11)	1953--Firefighter Angelo Michelini (E-97)	2004--Firefighter James F. Mills (L-176)
1909--Battalion Chief George L. Ross (Bn-7)	1954--Deputy Chief John T. Oakley (2) (Hdq.)	2005--Firefighter Victor J. Rosa, Jr. (L-138)
1910--Firefighter John R. Harcke (L-12) Firefighter Frank C. Clarke (L-24)	1955--Firefighter Bernard F. Curran (E-92)	2006--Captain Christopher J. Joyce (E-318)
1911--Firefighter Richard J. Condon (2) (E-12)	1956--Firefighter Michael J. O'Driscoll (L-28)	2007--Firefighter James T. Byrne (L-121)
1912--Firefighter Robert J. Boyle (L-10)	1957--Firefighter William Von Diezelski (L-4)	2008--Lieutenant James F. Congema (Bn-19)
1913--Engineer of Steamer Seneca Larke (E-20)	1958--Firefighter Nicholas Sharko (L-11)	2009--Firefighter Anthony M. Romano (L-142)
1914--Firefighter John F. Mooney (1) (L-4)	1959--Captain Arthur J. O'Connor (SQ-4)	2010--Firefighter Michael A. Czech, Jr. (L-142)
	1960--Firefighter William V. Russo (E-254)	2011--Firefighter Peter G. Demontreux (L-132)
	1961--Firefighter Joseph G. Peragine (L-14)	2012--Firefighter Kevin J. Hogan (L-114)
	1962--Firefighter Joseph E. Almon (L-35)	2013--Lieutenant Thomas G. Woods (L-154)
	1963--Firefighter Lawrence F. Duenas (E-59)	
	1964--Firefighter David Crowley (L-14)	

# James Gordon Bennett Medal NYS Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal

## LIEUTENANT ROBERT E. LEE

*BATTALION 16 (ASSIGNED)*

*LADDER COMPANY 47 (DETAILED)*

October 28, 2013, 0413 hours, Box 22-2851, Bronx



*Appointed to the FDNY on October 15, 1995. Previously assigned to Engine 225 and Ladder 107. Member of the Emerald Society and the Company Officers Association. Served in the Navy for four years and participated in Operation Desert Storm; achieved the rank of Petty Officer. Recipient of the Fire Bell Club Medal in 2012 and a Service Rating A. Resides in Kings Park, Long Island, with his wife, Lisa, and daughter, Jenna.*

The night tour started as many of them do here in the Bronx for the members of Ladder 47: Ready the gear, take roll call, check the rig and maybe a quick workout if there's time. Ladder 47 is a battle-tested unit. The members are well-trained and seasoned, which ensures a tight working group. There was a lot of experience on-duty this night--FFs Santiago Gonzalez, William Horel, Luke Jurain, Michael Schnarr and Michael Sudol, led by Lieutenant Robert E. Lee.

The run came in just after 0400 hours. The Firefighter on Housewatch duty called out the details for the incoming run. As they turned out of quarters onto Castle Hill Avenue, all members of Ladder 47 listened intently to the radio as Bronx Dispatch came on the air with a report of "second source, fill out the alarm, report of six people trapped, we're getting numerous phone calls." The smell of smoke filled the cold, early-morning air.

FDNY Firefighters are highly trained in situational awareness and response strategy. With 18 solid years on the job, Lieutenant Lee knew what needed to be done. Many tactical issues had to be addressed immediately and simultaneously.

When Ladder 47 arrived on the block, a signal 10-75 had been transmitted for fire in an occupied, two-story private dwelling. First-due units Engine 96 and Ladder 54 were met with a heavy fire condition in the basement. As Lieutenant Lee quickly led his forcible entry team to the building, he observed two panicked occupants trapped on the outside railing of the second-floor balcony. Heavy, black smoke boiled violently up from below. The Officer radioed Battalion Chief Bartholomew Codd, Battalion 18, that two children already had been passed to neighbors in the street and that a jumper was down in the driveway at the front of the fire building.

Within moments, Lieutenant Lee and his forcible entry team were at the door. Radio reports alerted all members to heavy fire from the basement windows. Without delay, the rescuers made entry and immediately were confronted with a heavy smoke and high heat condition from the open basement stairwell--indications of a rapidly evolving fire.

The Lieutenant ordered FFs Horel with the irons and Gonzalez

with the water can to begin an interior search at the front, while he maneuvered toward the rear to begin his search. Lieutenant Lee ascended a short run of stairs and then located a hallway that led to a rear bedroom where he found a closed door. The basement fire burned directly below. This meant he would be working without benefit of a protective hose-line for a significant period of time.

He attempted to open the door, but found it was blocked by furniture within, so he squeezed through and, in zero visibility, located an unresponsive adult female on the floor. He transmitted the 10-45 signal. Lieutenant Lee removed debris that partially covered the victim, then transitioned the victim onto her side as he angled her through the narrow opening. Then, he dragged her down the hallway and out onto the sidewalk where members of Engine 94 began medical treatment on the victim.

Exhausted but undaunted, Lieutenant Lee re-entered the fire building. As he did, he passed FF Horel, who was removing a 10-45, then passed Rescue 3 as yet another 10-45 was being removed. Lieutenant Lee retraced his path to that rear bedroom, again forced his way in through the blocked door, entered and located a bed. The top of the bed was clear. He swept the floor under the bed and located the body of an unresponsive female child, then transmitted the signal 10-45. Once again, Lieutenant Lee turned toward the blocked door, maneuvered through, crawled down that long hallway and onto the street where members of Engines 94 and 45 provided medical treatment to the victim. The 10-45s were transported to the hospital, but all made a full recovery.

Lieutenant Robert E. Lee operated under extreme and challenging fire conditions, without the benefit of a charged, protective hose-line in a rapidly deteriorating environment. He demonstrated initiative, unwavering courage and professionalism in the performance of his duty. Additionally, his leadership and decisive actions directly resulted in the lifesaving rescue of two occupants of the fire building. He is presented with the James Gordon Bennett Medal and New York State Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal for his brave actions.--JDL



Shown above are the Ladder 47 members--FFs Luke Jurain and William Horel, Lieutenant Robert E. Lee and FFs Michael Sudol, Santiago Gonzalez and Michael Schnarr (kneeling)--who responded to the incident for which Lieutenant Lee was awarded the James Gordon Bennett Medal and New York State Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal.



# Brooklyn Citizens Medal/ FF Louis Valentino Award

## FIREFIGHTER HARRY E. PFEIFFER

### LADDER COMPANY 146

March 4, 2013, 0919 hours, Box 75-0143, Brooklyn

*Appointed to the FDNY on May 31, 2005. Holds an AS degree in Computer Information Systems from Nassau Community College. Resides in Howard Beach, Queens.*

On March 4, 2013, Engine 229 and Ladder 146 responded at 0919 hours to a call of fire in the borough of Brooklyn. Even from quarters, the members observed smoke. And, when they arrived at the fire location, heavy, black smoke pushing from the doorway of an auto repair shop greeted them. The Engine 229 Officer transmitted a 10-75 for a fire in a one-story commercial building.

A civilian approached Lieutenant James O'Boyle, Ladder 146 (assigned to Ladder 110), to inform him that a coworker was trapped inside the building. Reacting quickly, Lieutenant O'Boyle entered the building with his forcible entry team of FFs Christopher Kielczewski with the irons and Harry Pfeiffer with the water can. After donning their face pieces, they tied off the search rope at the entrance and entered the building.

The trio faced zero visibility and high heat conditions due to limited ventilation. The inside team of Ladder 146 used the search rope and imaging camera to locate the fire and search for the victim in the front of the occupancy. Engine 229 operated a hand-line on the fire in front of the building.

Several burning cars and burning fuel blocked the Ladder 146 search team from the rear of the building. Heavy fire had extended throughout the structure and to the mezzanine area toward exposure #1. There was no water on the fire in the rear. Radio reports verified that there was no access to the rear of the building from the exterior.

Fire was blocking the only means of escape for anyone trapped in the rear of the building. There was at least one car on fire on top of a car lift and another on fire on the ground. The only path to the rear dictated crawling under a burning elevated car on a lift with questionable stability due to the heavy fire.

After searching for a few minutes in blacked-out conditions, FF Pfeiffer reported that he had located the reported victim, lying unconscious toward the rear of the occupancy. Lieutenant O'Boyle transmitted a 10-45 and the pair dragged the victim back under the burning car to safety.

The rescuers passed the victim off to EMS personnel for medical assistance. These members then transported the man to the hospital for treatment of his injuries.

The Lieutenant and his forcible entry team returned to the auto repair shop to finish their primary search of the premises. Engine 229 members had made progress in the rear of the structure and extinguished the visible fire. Additionally, a foam line was deployed to deal with the tremendous amount of burning gasoline that was leaking from the vehicles.

Firefighter Pfeiffer put himself in jeopardy in an expanding fire, without the benefit of a charged hose-line for protection, to effect this rescue. Thanks to his heroic actions, a life was saved. For these reasons, FDNY is pleased to present FF Harry E. Pfeiffer with the Brooklyn Citizens Medal/FF Louis Valentino Award.--PB



FF Harry E. Pfeiffer takes a break from the February 2013 FDNY Ski Races at Hunter Mountain. His category is snowboarding.

# Christopher J. Prescott Medal

## EMT BRENDON HERNANDEZ *EMS STATION 16*

June 10, 2013, 0537 hours, Harlem Hospital, Manhattan

*Appointed to EMS as an Emergency Medical Technician on July 12, 2010. Resides in Newburgh, New York.*



The Christopher J. Prescott Medal is the highest honor that can be bestowed upon an EMT or Paramedic and is second only to the Supreme Sacrifice Medal, which is awarded posthumously. EMT Christopher J. Prescott made the Supreme Sacrifice in the line of duty in 1994 while caring for a patient. This year's recipient--EMT Brendon Hernandez--earned this medal for disarming a patient who had just shot an NYPD police officer.

As FDNY EMTs know, there are many components that contribute to completing an assignment successfully and safely. When dealing with emotionally disturbed patients, the men and women of the New York City Police Department are a tremendous asset when it comes to ensuring the safety of potential rescuers. This can be crucial at assignments that involve dangerous or unstable patients.

On June 10, 2013, the roles were reversed, as EMTs Brendon Hernandez and Jean Altidor risked their personal safety by answering the call to assist those who normally work diligently to keep New Yorkers safe every day, the NYPD. The pair of EMTs, accompanied by two police officers, arrived at the Emergency Room entrance at Harlem Hospital. The patient was emotionally disturbed, so the officers had escorted the patient, along with the EMTs.

Once at the hospital, EMT Hernandez remained in the vehicle completing paperwork, while EMT Altidor and the officers began walking the patient

toward the Emergency Department entrance. The patient became uncooperative and attempted to escape. The officers quickly grabbed the patient to keep him from escaping. The now combative patient was resisting the officers and the situation quickly was escalating into a dangerous one.

The patient continued to resist the officers, causing all three to fall to the ground. At this time, the patient was able to reach an officer's weapon. The patient quickly fired two shots at one of the officers, striking him once in the foot.

EMT Hernandez heard the gunshots and came to the assistance of the officers and EMT Altidor. All were attempting to subdue the patient who still had control of the weapon. During this continuing struggle, EMT Hernandez was able to wrestle the weapon from the patient's hands, actually prying the patient's finger from the weapon's trigger. He then removed the magazine and cleared the chamber of the weapon. The patient now was restrained, allowing EMT Altidor to immediately provide care to the injured officer.



EMT Brendon Hernandez (right) speaks at a press conference regarding his heroic actions in disarming a combative patient who had grabbed a police officer's gun. He was presented with the Christopher J. Prescott Medal. EMT Hernandez' partner, EMT Jean Altidor, Jr. (left), received the Chief James Scullion Medal for his assistance at the same incident.

For his courage and quick thinking, EMT Hernandez was hailed as a hero by the previous New York City Mayor and Police Commissioner. For risking his own life to defend and protect the officers, his partner and innocent bystanders, the Fire Department is honored to present the Christopher J. Prescott Medal to EMT Brendon Hernandez.--  
*JP*



# Hugh Bonner Medal Honor Legion Medal

## FIREFIGHTER VINCENT A. MUSACCHIO *LADDER COMPANY 32*

May 31, 2013, 1043 hours, Box 75-3671, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on March 7, 2004. Previously assigned to Engine 62. He is an instructor in the Fitness Unit. Resides in Yorktown Heights, New York, with his wife, Ashley.*

**F**irefighter Vincent A. Musacchio was working a day tour in Ladder 32 on the morning of May 31, 2013. When the alarm rang out for Box 3671 at 1043 hours, with a report of a structural fire, all thoughts of the retirement party he was planning to attend that night were vanquished. FF Musacchio was assigned the outside vent position as the company responded and heard Engine 62, the first-arriving unit, transmit a 10-75 for a working fire at the Box.

Heavy smoke was billowing from all three floors as members pulled up in front of the private dwelling and FF Musacchio noticed that there also was heavy smoke pushing out from the rear of the building. Grabbing a 24-foot extension ladder and his tools, the Firefighter made his way through a similar building next door and into the rear yard.

When he arrived at the rear of the building, he witnessed two men screaming for help. One of them was badly burned on his neck and back because he had been inside and self-evacuated from the fire building. The other man was screaming that his father was still trapped inside. FF Musacchio quickly informed the Incident Commander, Battalion Chief Christopher Rearer, Battalion 27, and his Officer, Lieutenant James Caddigan, Ladder 32 covering, of the trapped occupant and requested medical assistance for the burn victim. The Firefighter sized up the situation: There was heavy fire and smoke pouring from the rear door and two rear windows that would prevent anyone else from getting out and making it nearly impossible for him to enter.

Absorbing this information, Lieutenant Caddigan and the forcible entry team tried to enter the front of the fire building to reach the victim, but they were forced back by the heavy volume of fire and smoke blocking their way. When FF Musacchio heard this, he knew that the only chance the victim had was for him to remove him from the rear.

Crawling under the flames lapping over his head and in zero visibility in the cluttered premises, FF Musacchio made a quick sweep of the living room area, but was forced out by the intense heat. Grabbing a garden hose in the rear yard, he directed one of the men to use it on the fire, while he entered a second time to search. He made a partial search of the left side of the bedroom as far as he could reach, but the garden hose was no match for the roaring inferno and, again, he was forced to exit the blaze.

Mustering all his strength and courage, FF Musacchio again entered the highly charged atmosphere, this time working along the right side of the bedroom in hopes of reaching the victim. Finding the bed, he gave it a quick sweep, as the fire was burning him and heating the air in his self-contained breathing apparatus. Realizing that no one could survive under these horrible conditions for long, the rescuer pushed on and his sweep of the floor area was rewarded with the discovery of an adult male, face down between the bed and a dresser. Transmitting a 10-45 signal to let everyone know he had reached the victim, FF Musacchio began to drag the man toward the rear and safety.

By the time FF Musacchio had reached the rear door and transferred the victim to waiting medical assistance, the engine company had water on the fire and alleviated the conditions enough for him to enter one more time and make sure there were no other victims. Emergency Medical Technicians rushed the victim to the hospital.

Without a hose-line in place, FF Vincent A. Musacchio completely disregarded his own safety and withstood the grueling heat and smoke three different times in a determined effort to bring the victim to safety. For his bravery, courage and tenacity in reaching and removing the man from the blaze, the FDNY is proud to award the Hugh Bonner Medal and Honor Legion Medal to FF Vincent A. Musacchio.--JT



**FF Vincent Musacchio operates at a two-alarm fire in the Bronx in 2012.**

*photo by Michael Dick*



# Emily Trevor/ Mary B. Warren Medal

## LIEUTENANT JONATHAN M. SHIELDS

### LADDER COMPANY 7

April 3, 2013, 0434 hours, Box 75-718, Manhattan



*Appointed to the FDNY on August 19, 1990. Previously assigned to Ladders 51 and 33. Brother, FF Patrick Shields, is assigned to Ladder 37 and uncle, Lieutenant Richard McKenna, is retired from Engine 66. Member of the Emerald and Holy Name Societies. Holds an AS degree in Electrical Technology from SUNY at Delhi. Recipient of the Walter Scott Medal in 1999, the UFOA Medal in 2010 and a Class III in 1998. Resides in Cold Spring, New York.*

There's no such thing as a restful night in the firehouse. Throughout the day, members respond to every imaginable type of fire and emergency. There's one alarm, however, that always makes the blood pump just a little faster; that early-morning phone alarm for fire. These alarms, more often than not, tend to be life-threatening emergencies.

This was definitely the case in the early-morning hours of April 3, 2013. The alarm bells rang at 0434 hours. The members of Ladder 7 and Engine 16 responded to a report of smoke on the fifth floor of a five-story housing development on 34th Street.

On arrival, Lieutenant Jonathan Shields, Ladder 7, was met by fleeing occupants who informed him that there was smoke on the fifth floor coming from the door of a known hoarder who frequently barricaded himself in his apartment. The Lieutenant shared this information with all the units on the scene and immediately proceeded to the fifth floor.

On the fifth-floor landing, Lieutenant Shields noticed the peeling paint and heavy smoke pushing from around the door-frame of the fire apartment, testament to the extreme fire conditions. He transmitted a 10-75. Lieutenant Shields then ordered the irons Firefighter, FF John Faherty, and the water can Firefighter, FF Andrew Bowman, to force the door.

Immediately upon popping the door, fire pushed from the opening and filled the narrow hallway with high heat and heavy smoke. The members of Ladder 7 attempted to gain entry to the apartment, but were able to open the door only a few inches. The door was blocked by a bicycle and furniture blocked the entryway. Collyers' mansion conditions existed.

Undaunted by these obstacles, Lieutenant Shields and his

forcible entry team squeezed past the door and crawled past the rolling fire over their heads. Lieutenant Shields ordered FF Bowman to direct his extinguisher at the fire to keep it from cutting off their escape route. FF Bowman also attempted to clear the doorway of debris to allow entry for the engine company and their hose-line.

Conditions in the apartment were very challenging. With rubbish piled three- to four-feet deep, Lieutenant Shields and FF Faherty continued their search into the apartment. In zero visibility and with the fire starting to ignite all the rubbish around him, Lieutenant Shields knew that time was running out for anyone who still might be inside the apartment.

In one last sweep near the hallway and kitchen, Lieutenant Shields found the motionless elderly man lying on the floor. The victim's clothing had ignited due to the intense heat, so Lieutenant Shields extinguished the fire with his gloved hands. With the fire rolling over his head, he retraced his path back to

the front door, dragging the victim with the very last bit of strength he could muster. When the rescuer reached the front door, he passed the victim off to FF Bowman and Captain Philip Pape, Engine 16, who brought the man to the waiting ambulance in the street. Lieutenant Shields then returned to the fire apartment to finish his primary search, which proved negative.

Ultimately, the victim expired days later due to his injuries. This fact in no way diminishes the Lieutenant's bravery. Lieutenant Jonathan M. Shields performed this act in the absence of a charged hose-line in very severe and dangerous conditions. It is for these reasons that he is recognized today with the Emily Trevor/Mary B. Warren Medal.--CB



A week after the incident for which Lieutenant Jonathan M. Shields received the Emily Trevor/Mary B. Warren Medal, Ladder 7 was first-due at this fire.



# Thomas E. Crimmins Medal

## CAPTAIN JAMES P. ELLSON

### RESCUE COMPANY 3

October 28, 2013, 0416 hours, Box 22-2851, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on August 19, 1990. Previously assigned to Ladder 111 and Rescue 2. Father; Captain James P. Ellson, Senior (recently deceased), was 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, Captain Christopher Paolicelli, is assigned to Ladder 105. Former member and Captain of the FDNY Hockey Team. Holds a bachelor's degree in Emergency Management from SUNY, Empire State. Cited for bravery on numerous occasions; recipient of the Hugh Bonner Medal in 2004 and the Honor Legion Medal in 2009. Also, a three-time recipient of the Firehouse Magazine Heroism & Community Service Awards. Resides in Jackson Heights, Queens.*

Under the best of circumstances, a basement fire represents the most challenging of environments for firefighting operations. The searching Firefighter relies to a great extent on fortitude, instinct and training to accomplish his necessary tasks.

At 0416 hours on October 28, 2013, Captain James Ellson, Rescue 3, placed himself on the "floor above" just such a fire. Myriad challenges forced him to dig even deeper within himself in order to accomplish a truly remarkable rescue.

The scene on arrival was straight out of a novel. An intense fire within the basement, combined with an open interior stairwell, had caused the entire building to be heavily charged. Black smoke was issuing under pressure from the front door and windows on all three floor levels. Heavy fire pushed from the rear. Numerous civilians on upper floors had jumped to the street and others sought refuge on balconies. Due to a report of numerous missing occupants, Captain Ellson and his entry team--Rescue 3 FFs David Donatelli and Brian Browne--were ordered to assist in the primary search of the first-floor level.

Entering the building, the members encountered a column of rising heat due to the location of the basement stairs adjacent to the entrance door. Without a hose-line in place, the members advanced past the blistering heat and into the apartment to find impenetrable smoke and high heat.

Aware of the deteriorating conditions, Captain Ellson divided his team and rapidly searched the apartment from front to rear. At the rear of the apartment--directly above the seat of the fire--he discovered a blocked bedroom door that could be

forced open only 12 inches. He squeezed through the opening and encountered a cluttered and confined mass of furniture, including a large dresser, two closet doors that had fallen from their tracks and two beds.

Captain Ellson negotiated this maze and, based on experience, immediately focused on the beds. Wedged between them, he discovered an unconscious young victim. Now fighting his own survival instinct, Captain Ellson ascended into the blistering heat above the bed. This position permitted him to use webbing and his entire reservoir of strength to hoist the victim upward, thereby freeing her from entrapment. He then dragged the girl through the confined bedroom and, with extraordinary effort, through the partial door opening. Still in zero visibility, the Captain continued to drag the victim down the apartment hallway, through the building hallway and into the street.

The victim required resuscitative measures, which were initiated immediately by members of Engine 45. She then was transported to the hospital by EMS personnel. This girl was among several other civilians rescued by first-arriving units at this Bronx fire.

A young girl is alive today because of the dedication and professionalism exhibited by Captain Ellson. In the course of this rescue, he exhibited remarkable courage, determination, skill and ingenuity in the highest traditions of both the FDNY and the Special Operations Command. For his efforts and dedication, Captain James P. Ellson is hereby awarded the Thomas E. Crimmins Medal by a grateful Fire Department and City.--JF



The two Captains Ellson--father, James P. (recently deceased) and son, James P., winner of the Thomas E. Crimmins Medal. They are shown with the Rescue 3 VW Bug at the 2009 Medal Day.

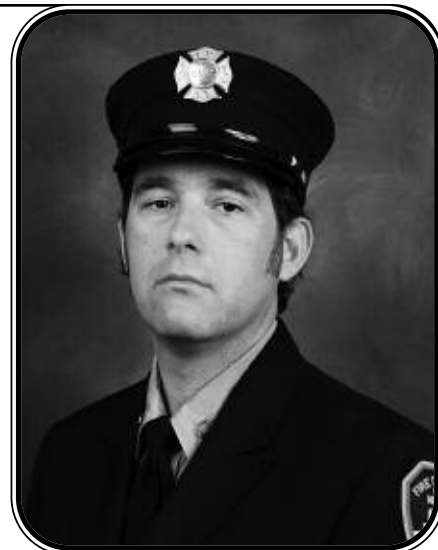
# Thomas A. Kenny Memorial Medal

## FIREFIGHTER EUGENE SQUIRES

### LADDER COMPANY 13

November 27, 2012, 0114 hours, Box 75-1046, Manhattan

*Appointed to the FDNY on February 2, 2003. Previously assigned to Engines 312 and 22. Member of the Emerald Society. Holds a BA degree in Economics from Loyola University at New Orleans. Resides in Southampton, Long Island, with his wife, Moira, and their children, Liam, 6, and Keira, 3.*



Shortly after 0100 hours, the members of Ladder 13 were assigned to respond to a 35- by 75-foot, occupied multiple dwelling. While en route, the Manhattan Communications dispatcher advised that numerous telephone calls were being received for fire on the fifth floor.

As the units arrived, heavy, black smoke was emanating from two closed windows at the rear of the building. Additionally, smoke was pushing from windows on two sides of the structure. The members of the inside team--FFs Eugene Squires, who carried a 2½-gallon water can, and Harry Callahan, with forcible entry tools--quickly ascended to the fifth floor. When they reached the apartment, smoke was seeping out various cracks and crevices around the door. Once the team forced the multiple locks, a night security chain not only impeded entry to the flat, but served as notification that someone was still inside.

As the Firefighters tried to enter the apartment, they were unable to push the door open more than a few inches because it was barricaded with obstructions, including a mattress, cabinets and other materials. As each attempt to open the door was initiated, more smoke and heat poured into the public hallway. The interior of the apartment was considered a Collyers' mansion because of all the piled-up debris.

As this information was reported to Battalion 8, Battalion Chief John Corcoran transmitted that he observed a woman at a side window of the apartment. By this time, conditions had worsened considerably and the woman's screams could be heard clearly, coming from the rear of the apartment.

It was at this point that FF

Squires made a courageous decision. He climbed three to four feet over the obstructions blocking access to the rear and, by himself, pushed deeper into the apartment. Through the high heat and dense smoke, FF Squires located the resident at the window, preparing to jump. He grabbed her around the torso and, with great difficulty, pulled her back into the bedroom. With fire above him, he finally dragged her into the kitchen. FF Squires then was assisted by the other members of the inside team who took her into the hallway. It should be noted that the hallway was so narrow and littered with debris that it was necessary for the other Firefighters to back out to the stairway so the victim could be removed.

After continuing their efforts, the members of Ladder 13 and Engine 22 controlled the fire, which had consumed a good portion of the apartment and extended into the public hallway. Subsequently, the victim was transported to the hospital.

In a narrative such as this, it is difficult to enumerate all the specific details that dictated his actions and to convey the courage FF Squires summoned to make the decision to act alone. By entering an extremely hostile and dangerous environment, he effected the rescue of another person and clearly saved her life. He operated alone, without the protection of a hose-line, and placed himself at risk. FF Squires upheld and demonstrated the highest traditions of bravery of the FDNY and the entire fire service.

For his courage and decisiveness, the FDNY is proud to award the Thomas A. Kenny Memorial Medal to FF Eugene Squires.--BDG



Ladder 13 operated at Manhattan Box 44-1157, 121 East 85th Street/Park Avenue, synagogue fire, July 11, 2011.

*photo by Bill Tompkins*



## Walter Scott Medal

### FIREFIGHTER VINCENT A. MUSACCHIO

#### LADDER COMPANY 32

September 14, 2013, 0605 hours, Box 75-3460, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on March 7, 2004. Previously assigned to Engine 62. He is an instructor in the Fitness Unit. Resides in Yorktown Heights, New York, with his wife, Ashley.*

As everyone knows, firefighting is a very dangerous, but rewarding profession. Many Firefighters can have a long, outstanding career without ever making a successful rescue. Timing and being in the right place are critical to many heroic rescues. Such was the case at a fire in the Bronx when FF Vincent Musacchio was in position to attempt a rescue of a trapped man. He faced a tough challenge, but proved he was able to overcome any and all obstacles.

On September 14, 2013, at 0605 hours, the Bronx Communication Office received a phone alarm for a building fire. This information was transmitted to local units, including Ladder 32. FF Musacchio was aware that early-morning fires in occupied multiple dwellings generally are an indication that people are trapped and in need of assistance.

While en route, Ladder 32 was alerted by the dispatcher of a serious fire at this location. The members of this unit were prepared for any assignment given to them. Through company drills and other training, they were taught to expect the unexpected. Shortly after arrival and operating at this fire, the unexpected occurred.

The fire building is a six-story, non-fireproof, Class 3, 75-by 100-foot, occupied multiple dwelling. On arrival, members were confronted with a smoke condition on various floors throughout the building. Additionally, fire was venting out an apartment window on the fifth floor and a heavy smoke condition was noticed pushing out of other windows of this fire apartment. At this time, the first-arriving units notified the dispatcher to send additional units because of the serious conditions encountered.

As Ladder 32 members entered the building, fleeing occupants informed Captain Patrick Tracy that people were still in the fire apartment. The Captain, along with his forcible entry team of FFs Musacchio and Ryan Blackwell, rushed up

the smoke-filled stairway to the interior door of the fire apartment. After forcing open the apartment door, this rescue team was met with a heavy fire condition in the kitchen area, high heat and zero visibility due to the smoke.

They quickly donned their self-contained breathing apparatus because of the hazardous conditions in the interior hallway. At this time, the engine's charged hose-line was not yet in place, so they attempted to hold the fire in check with the unit's water can, while FF Musacchio searched the apartment for trapped occupants.

Sensing the urgency and without the protection of a charged hose-line, FF Musacchio crawled past the spreading fire, searching each room until he came to the rear bedroom. He crawled around this very hot and smoke-filled bedroom, knowing that there was a good chance that an occupant would be located in this area. He came upon a bed and while sweeping it and touching the bed, FF Musacchio found an unconscious male adult.

He notified his Officer in command and then began the arduous task of attempting to remove this victim as quickly as possible to lessen his injuries. FF Musacchio dragged and then carried the victim toward the front entrance of the apartment. As he got close to the spreading fire, the Firefighter used his body as a shield to protect the victim. Once outside the apartment and in the safety of the interior hallway, he handed the victim off to waiting EMS personnel. Regrettably, the victim ultimately expired.

FF Musacchio used his courage, tenacity and dedication to overcome all obstacles to effect this rescue. For his initiative, bravery and heroic actions, without the protection of a charged hose-line and without regard for his own safety, the Fire Department is proud to honor FF Vincent A. Musacchio with the Walter Scott Medal.--  
EB



FF Vincent A. Musacchio, awarded the Walter Scott Medal, with his Ladder 32 members, left to right: FFs Sean O'Donnell, Vincent Musacchio and Michael Willman, Lieutenant Terry Ward and FFs Bobby Ruhf and Paul Hoekzema. Kneeling is FF Christopher McSwigin. *photo by Michael Dick*

# John H. Prentice Medal

## LIEUTENANT WILLIAM S. BUTLER

### LADDER COMPANY 56

December 19, 2013, 2232 hours, Box 75-4904, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on October 23, 1994. Previously assigned to Ladder 6. Member of the Emerald Society, the Incident Management Team and the Apparatus and Division 7 Safety Committees. Holds a BA degree in Fire and Emergency Services from John Jay College. Recipient of two Unit Citations. Resides in Middletown, New York, with his wife, Diane, and their son, Michael, and daughters, Katie, Nicole and Danielle.*



On the evening of December 19, 2013, Engine 48 and Ladder 56 received a UCT911 alarm for a fire on the sixth floor in an occupied multiple dwelling in the Bronx. Ladder 56, commanded by Lieutenant William S. Butler, quickly gave a 10-75 for heavy fire coming from two of the top-floor windows, lapping up and over the parapet on the exposure #2 side of the building.

Lieutenant Butler and his team sized up the building and began to make their way in and through the large number of people exiting down the interior stair. Knowing that other Boxes were out in the area, the Lieutenant knew the assistance of the second-due truck would be delayed.

Engine 48 began the hose-line stretch, but these members, too, knew that there would be a delay because they would be stretching the 13 lengths alone. While the line was being stretched, Lieutenant Butler and the inside team arrived at the sixth floor to find smoke pushing from around the door of the fire apartment. They made quick work of the multiple locks, controlled the door and prepared themselves for the heavy smoke and fire that could be seen from the apartment door.

Despite the known conditions and knowing the hose-line would be delayed, Lieutenant Butler and his forcible entry team of FFs Peter Kenney and Christopher Macri persevered and entered the apartment. It quickly became evident that a Collyers' mansion condition existed and would hamper operations.

As he made his way in, Lieutenant Butler discovered that the fire was coming from the first room on the left and there was no door on this room. With reports of people trapped in this apartment, the Lieutenant crawled under the rapidly advancing fire to conduct his search. Moving forward, FF Macri immediately found the first victim, nearly unconscious and with severe burns. Lieutenant Butler transmitted the 10-45 and ordered FF Macri to remove the victim.

FF Kenney was running low on water in his extinguisher. Additionally, due to the victim's size and the amount of debris, FF Macri was unable to remove him alone. Lieutenant Butler came to assist. While

shielding the victim with their bodies from the extreme conditions, the members worked feverishly to free the victim from the debris and small table he was holding. Finally, they removed him to the hall, protected by the remaining water in FF Kenney's extinguisher.

FF Kenney now was out of water and the hand-line was not yet charged. As victim #1 was passed out into the hall, FF Kenney tossed the empty water can into the hallway to let the engine company know that they were inside the apartment and operating without water. Lieutenant Butler crawled back in and passed the intensifying fire again to make his way back over the debris to the back bedroom. There he found the second victim, next to a bed in a large pile of debris. The victim was unconscious.

Lieutenant Butler knew the path through which he had to bring the victim to safety. As he started to make his move to remove the victim, he called to his inside team for assistance. Despite the difficult terrain, which at times narrowed to 12 inches, the exhausted rescuers removed the victim back through the apartment and the deteriorating conditions. They were able to work their way back the 45 feet, past the fire and remove the victim to the hallway. Both victims were delivered to EMS personnel.

Lieutenant Butler is a true hero to this Bronx neighborhood that he's served for 11 of his 19 years on the job. He conducted a tenacious search with an advanced fire in the apartment with possible extension into the cockloft. His physical and mental toughness on multiple occasions throughout this incident allowed him to find one unconscious victim and remove two. Unfortunately, the second victim ultimately expired.

Despite the harshest of conditions a Firefighter might encounter, Lieutenant Butler passed the fire on three different occasions without the protection of a charged hose-line and used his body to shield the victims. These actions were performed in great danger, in an extremely untenable environment. For all of these reasons, Lieutenant William S. Butler is proudly presented with the John H. Prentice Medal.--TW



Lieutenant William Butler (far right) operates at May 2013 five-alarm fire on White Plains Road, Bronx.



# Henry D. Brookman Medal

## CAPTAIN JOSEPH S. MCKIERNAN

### *DIVISION 7 (ASSIGNED)*

### *LADDER COMPANY 46 (DETAILED)*

February 9, 2013, 0720 hours, Box 75-3500, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on July 9, 1995. Previously assigned to Engines 66, 252 and 48 and Ladder 56 as a Firefighter and Engine 21 as a Lieutenant. Now assigned to Ladder 46. Member of the Emerald Society. Holds an AS degree in Criminal Justice from Rockland Community College and a BS degree in Fire Science from Columbia Southern. Recipient of two Unit Citations. Resides in Tappan, New York, with his wife, Michele, and their children, Thomas, Kayla, Cristina and John.*

Captain Joseph McKiernan was working the night tour as a covering Officer in Ladder 46 in the Bronx. The tour had been fairly routine, but the morning quiet was broken on February 9, 2013, when the computer rang out at 0720 hours with a report of a fire in a multiple dwelling. The Bronx dispatcher was reporting numerous phone calls as Ladder 46 and Engine 81 were racing to the fire location. The fire was reported on the first floor of the six-story building and callers feared that a disabled man was trapped in the fire apartment.

Captain McKiernan could see a huge column of smoke rising above the rooftops in the area to which they were racing and informed the members of Ladder 46 that they would be going to work with a heavy fire condition and reports of a man trapped. As they pulled up to the fire building, members could see fire billowing out of two windows of the fire apartment and heavy smoke pouring from the others and filling the rest of the building.

The heavy volume of fire later was determined to have been exacerbated by well-meaning neighbors breaking windows to try and reach the trapped victim. The additional oxygen fed the blaze and rapidly increased the spread of fire and filled the building with acrid, black smoke.

Several people, screaming for help, were fleeing their apartments via the fire escape in the front of the building. After directing his chauffeur and outside vent Firefighter to assist in the removal of the panicked residents, Captain McKiernan, along with the forcible entry team, raced into the building entrance heading to the fire apartment. Fleeing tenants told them that the man was still trapped in the fire apartment. Fire was showing around the door frame as FFs Robert Blake, the irons

Firefighter, and Mark Connolly, with the water can, worked to open the locked door.

The heavy, black smoke and flames that barreled out of the door as they opened it, prompted the Captain to temporarily close the door again to prevent endangering fleeing occupants. Realizing that time was in short supply, Captain McKiernan again opened the door and, despite the heavy fire condition, he crawled in with flames rolling over his head to search for the victim. He ordered FF Connolly to direct the extinguisher into the apartment, but it had little effect on the roaring inferno.

Despite the high heat and zero visibility and without the benefit of a charged hose-line, Captain McKiernan pushed deeper into the fire apartment, searching by sense of touch, until he was rewarded with the discovery of a male victim, unconscious on the floor, with flames beginning to consume his body. Transmitting a 10-45 to Battalion Chief James McMorrow, Battalion 27 (assigned to Battalion 19), the Captain then rolled the victim over to smother the flames and began to drag him through the rapidly deteriorating conditions, back toward the apartment door. As he neared the exit, FF Blake assisted him in removing the victim to safety.

Once they removed him from the building, they turned the man over to EMS personnel, who transported him to the hospital.

Were it not for the bravery and determination that Captain McKiernan showed in putting his own life at risk in order to reach and rescue the victim, the man never would have survived the inferno. Because of his tenacity and courage, the Fire Department is proud to award the Henry D. Brookman Medal to Captain Joseph S. McKiernan.--JT



Captain Joseph S. McKiernan (center), recipient of the Henry D. Brookman Medal, with the Ladder 46 crew—left to right, FFs Joe Buchanan, Andy Pile, Dan Bright, Dan Pagels and Mark Connolly.

# Chief Ulyses Grant Leadership Medal

## EMS LIEUTENANT RAFAEL A. GOYENECHEA

### *HAZ TAC BATTALION*

**March 19, 2013, 2040 hours, Box 33-1233,  
Second Avenue Subway Excavation Site, Manhattan**

*Appointed to EMS as an Emergency Medical Technician on December 10, 1987. Previously assigned to EMS Stations 10, 14, 15 and 17; NYC EMS SOD; and EMS Operations. He is a Task Force Leader on the Urban Search & Rescue (USAR) team, a Medical Unit Leader on FEMA's Incident Support Team and a Medical Specialist with the SOC Task Force. Recipient of numerous Unit Citations, Medal of Honor and Excellent Duty award. Resides in the Bronx with his wife, Merary, and his son, Erik.*



As a Haz Tac Officer and USAR Task Force Leader, Lieutenant Rafael A. Goyenechea is no stranger to dangerous, large-scale assignments. From Hurricane Katrina to the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, Lieutenant Goyenechea's Rescue Paramedic skills have been tested and proved to be top notch. However, in the late evening of March 19, 2013, Lieutenant Goyenechea had to test his skills once again, in a place he had never been--knee deep in Bull's liver soil (a fine-grained mixture of inorganic silt or clay soil and water, with low permeability and low plasticity), approximately 75 feet below Second Avenue in Manhattan.

On arrival, Lieutenant Goyenechea was assigned to operate as the Rescue Medic Task Force Officer in contact with the victim/patient. He began his descent under the street via multiple ladders and catwalks filled with water. Once setting foot at the bottom of the tunnel, it became evident something as simple as walking would be difficult as he continued to become stuck in this quicksand-like mud.

When he reached the patient, a construction worker who had slipped and become lodged in the mud, a rapid assessment was performed. The man's right leg was buried in the mud from mid-thigh down. His left leg was completely freed and his torso was under muddy water up to his mid-chest.

The patient was suffering the effects of being cold. Lieutenant Goyenechea began appropriate treatment and wrapped the man's exposed body with warming blankets. He assessed the scene and did not want any of his members to become stuck in the mud. Knowing a Rescue

Paramedic unit was working their way down into the tunnel, he established a safe area where the unit members could assist him close to the patient, yet not become victims themselves. This proved to be key as medications and equipment were within reach and did not have to be relayed from above when needed, as well as facilitating constant monitoring of the patient.

As Firefighters worked feverishly around Lieutenant Goyenechea to free the victim, he continued to provide medical care and keep the patient's face clear of mud. Operating in extremely hazardous conditions, Lieutenant Goyenechea used his charismatic personality to keep the patient's spirits high, with constant reassurance that he would be freed from this potential watery grave.

After approximately four hours of intense effort, the patient finally was free from the grips of the slurry that held him hostage. None the worse for wear, the patient's primary complaint was that of being cold. Lieutenant Goyenechea transferred the patient to a waiting Paramedic crew who transported the stable victim to the hospital.

While operating without regard for his own safety,

Lieutenant Goyenechea put the safety of his members first. He battled the slurry, accessed the trapped patient and provided lifesaving treatment throughout this extremely difficult extrication. For his exemplary command presence and superior decision-making, Lieutenant Rafael A. Goyenechea is honored with the Chief Ulyses Grant Leadership Medal.--  
PM



Rescuers and a very happy victim reunite at a party held at the quarters of Engine 53/Ladder 43. Reality TV "Cake Boss" Buddy Valastro (far right) baked the cake that sandwich Joe Barone (center) presented to FDNY members. Lieutenant Rafael Goyenechea, standing next to Mr. Valastro, received the Chief Ulyses Grant Leadership Medal for his actions in rescuing Mr. Barone.  
*photo by Craig Warga, New York Daily News*



# M.J. Delehanty Medal

## CAPTAIN ROBERT F. REINHARDT

### LADDER COMPANY 152

April 1, 2013, 0146 hours, Box 75-9722, Queens

*Appointed to the FDNY on June 15, 1990. Previously assigned to Ladders 39, 4 and 176 and Squad 270. Resides in Setauket, Long Island, with his wife, Maryanne, and their sons, Zachary and Bobby, and daughter, Lexi.*

The March 31, 2013, 6 by 9 tour was Easter Sunday. Captain Robert Reinhardt and the members of Ladder 152 conducted a brief drill at roll call and focused on early spring, historically busy for fire duty, especially in the numerous private dwelling neighborhoods within their response area. Their preparation and focus on private dwelling fires would prove prophetic.

Ladder 152 had five runs prior to a phone alarm at 0146 hours on April 1, 2013. The company was fully alert while responding to a phone alarm for a fire in a frame private dwelling in the Fresh Meadows area of Queens. The Queens Fire Alarm Dispatcher reported numerous calls for the alarm with credible reports of civilians trapped. The members of Ladder 152 concentrated on their first priority: *LIFE*.

The members of Ladder 152 were split into two teams--an outside team and inside team, led by Captain Reinhardt. The outside team was assigned to perform ventilation, entry, search and rescue from portable ladders. The Captain's inside team was responsible for forcible entry, search for fire and life and facilitating the engine company's effort to suppress the fire.

Captain Reinhardt observed civilians at second-floor windows on the exposure #2 or left side of the building. He determined the fire was on the second floor and that the second floor was its own apartment. After communicating direction to the outside team, he led the inside team for a rescue attempt via the interior.

The inside team was met at the base of the stairs by thick, black smoke, which was flowing down the interior stairs from the second floor. After donning all proper

personal protective equipment, the team members ascended the stairs and were met by fire at the top of the stairs extending from the kitchen. Using the extinguisher, the team passed the fire without the protection of a hand-line due to the presence of a known life hazard.

FFs Richard Kuntzler and Daniel Fanto searched toward the front of the building, while Captain Reinhardt searched toward the rear. To reach the rear, Captain Reinhardt was forced to the floor as he again passed the extending kitchen fire. After searching the exposure #4 rear bedroom, he entered the exposure #2 corner bedroom. In the corner rear bedroom, Captain Reinhardt closed the bedroom door and teamed with FF Louis Nicolosi, Ladder 125 outside vent Firefighter, where they were challenged with a total of four victims.

Captain Reinhardt rescued, secured and protected a young boy until Engine 299 gained progress in suppressing the fire. The Captain then started the arduous task of removing the victim until he was assisted by FF Kuntzler. They removed the boy to the front lawn where a CFRD engine started pre-hospital care and then transferred him to EMS personnel, who subsequently transported him to the hospital.

Captain Reinhardt performed the successful rescue of this

youngster under perilous conditions without the protection of an operating hand-line. If not for his actions, the boy would have lost his life. Due to his brave actions in the finest traditions of the FDNY, Captain Robert F. Reinhardt is awarded the M.J. Delehanty Medal.--  
RM



Captain Robert F. Reinhardt (right) and his Ladder 152 crew--FFs Daniel Fanto, Sal Mirra, Louis J. Nicolosi, Noel T. Curry, Daniel P. Rotanz, Thomas A. Strong, Jr., and Richard F. Kuntzler.



# William F. Conran Medal

## FIREFIGHTER WILLIAM S. HOREL

### LADDER COMPANY 47



October 28, 2013, 0413 hours, Box 22-2851, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on February 4, 2001. Previously assigned to Engine 64. Member of the Steuben Association. Recipient of a Service Rating A. Resides in Brewster, New York, with his wife, Karen, and their daughters, Cassidy and Madelynn, and son, William.*

By late October, the days in New York have grown short and brisk and the colors of fall paint the City in beautiful hues of red, brown and gold. Meanwhile, as most New Yorkers relish the change in seasons and look forward to the upcoming holidays, the members of New York's *Bravest* maintain a round-the-clock vigil in support of their vow to protect life and property. This pledge again was put to the test during the early-morning hours of October 28, 2013, when a fire was reported at Box 2851 in the Bruckner section of the Bronx.

At 0413 hours on that chilly morning, Ladder 47 was directed to respond as second-due ladder truck to a reported fire at a two-story, 20- by 60-foot, class 3, non-fireproof, brick structure. Working that morning in the irons position was FF William S. Horel. As *The Castle Hill Gang* responded into the location of the private dwelling, Bronx Fire Dispatch advised units of multiple calls for a fire and up to six people trapped on the first floor.

When the company arrived on-scene within four minutes and 42 seconds, Engine 96 already had transmitted a 10-75 signal. FF Horel, along with Lieutenant Robert E. Lee and FF Santiago Gonzalez with the water can, moved toward the building's front entrance, where they found a heavy smoke condition coming from all floors. Meanwhile, two civilians were seen on the outside railing of the second-floor balcony. (Prior to the company's arrival, two children had been dropped to civilians below and one civilian had jumped into the driveway.)

While FF Horel donned his face piece, Ladder 54's outside vent Firefighter reported heavy fire from the rear basement windows. FF Horel entered the building and immediately was

met by an intense heat and smoke condition because the interior basement door had been left open. Moving into the building without the protection of a charged hose-line, FF Horel, at the direction of Lieutenant Lee, began a right-handed search toward the front of the apartment.

FF Horel then heard Lieutenant Lee transmit a 10-45 signal for a victim found in a rear bedroom. The Firefighter searched through the living room, dining room and into a hallway, where he met with Lieutenant Lee removing the victim he had found. As conditions deteriorated, FF Horel moved down the hallway toward the rear bedroom, which was directly over the fire.

Here, he located a partially opened door, squeezed through and began his search. FF Horel quickly found an unresponsive victim and immediately transmitted a 10-45 signal. In ever more intense heat conditions, zero visibility and without the protection of a hose-line, the rescuer moved the victim through the partially opened door and into the hallway. Once in the hallway, FF Horel was able to drag the victim out of the building and to safety, where members of Engines 94 and 45 performed CPR until EMS personnel transported the non-responsive victim to the hospital.

In his report of the incident, Lieutenant Lee noted that FF

Horel displayed "courage and initiative" in this rescue and because of his actions, the victim lived. FF Horel's aggressive actions were instrumental in the survival of this victim and were in the highest traditions of the Department. In recognition of his bravery, the Fire Department is proud to honor FF William S. Horel today with the William F. Conran Medal.--DH



FFs William S. Horel (left) and Santiago Gonzalez after the job for which FF Horel is awarded the William F. Conran Medal. FF Gonzalez assisted with removal of the victim.



# Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia Medal

## FIREFIGHTER EDWIN SANCHEZ

### RESCUE COMPANY 4

October 7, 2013, 0327 hours, Box 75-7919, Queens

*Appointed to the FDNY on February 4, 2001. Previously assigned to Engine 298 and Squad 288. Member of the FDNY Triathlon Team and FEMA Urban Search and Rescue NYTF-1. Holds an AAS degree as a Veterinary Technician from LaGuardia College. Army veteran of 16 years. Resides in Bellerose, Queens, with his wife, Joann Corona, and their sons, Christian and Tristan.*

In the early morning of October 7, 2013, FF Edwin Sanchez of Rescue 4 and Engine 292 were dispatched to a reported structure fire. While en route, the units received an updated address. Because the location was so close to their quarters, both units arrived very quickly and Rescue 4 members began to initiate the duties of the first-arriving ladder company.

Sizing up the building, members were confronted with an advanced fire condition on the first floor of a two-story, wood-frame, private dwelling. Fire had possession of two front rooms and the vestibule entranceway. Entering from the front door was impossible until a hose-line was in place to put water on the fire.

Civilians standing in front of the fire building were reporting that people were trapped inside. FF Sanchez went to look for another way into the burning building. He found fire extending out of a window on the exposure #2 side, preventing any access to the building from this location. Undeterred, FF Sanchez continued to look for a way into the building so he could search for the trapped occupants.

Ladder 136 arrived on-scene and took over the first-due ladder duties. Ladder 136's chauffeur raised the aerial ladder to the second floor, but was forced to remove it because another window on the first floor failed, causing heavy fire to lap out and engulf it, preventing its use.

Simultaneously, via the front door, Engine 292 began to start their advance on the large fire. FF Sanchez, joined by FF Rod Ford, Rescue 4, consulted with their Officer, Lieutenant Charles Marshall (assigned to the Rescue Battalion), who directed the Firefighters to seek access to the second floor via the interior stairs. Lieutenant Marshall advised Battalion Chief Joseph Cooney, Battalion 46, of the latest attempt to reach the trapped victims, whom Chief Cooney stated were confirmed. A woman was trapped inside.

Updated with this new

information, FF Sanchez knew the urgency to find this woman. He squeezed past Engine 292's nozzle team first, followed by FF Ford. As the two Firefighters searched toward the interior stairs, they were forced to crawl past two fully involved rooms as they advanced to the rear. With visibility extremely limited and a high heat condition overhead, FF Sanchez pressed on.

Roughly 25 feet into the fire building, FF Sanchez's efforts paid off when he located an unconscious woman lying on the floor at the base of the interior stairs. He transmitted a 10-45 code over his radio and began to remove the unconscious victim. FF Ford continued to search for any remaining victims.

FF Sanchez was joined by FF Joseph Matz, Ladder 154's irons Firefighter, who also was attempting to get above the fire to search for the trapped victims. The Firefighters and victim were about halfway back to the front door. But due to the extreme heat, FFs Sanchez and Matz had to remove the victim by dragging her while on their knees and stomachs. Making their way along the hallway and past the kitchen and vestibule area, they brought the victim out the front door and to safety.

After assessing the victim, FF Sanchez and the members of Engine 289 worked together to resuscitate the victim until she was removed to an ambulance for transport to the hospital. Due to the extent and severity of her injuries, she passed away with family members by her side.

In their endorsement of FF Sanchez, the Chief Officers stated that "FF Sanchez displayed not only bravery, but the ability to adjust and adapt to changing conditions and responsibilities. FF Sanchez disregarded the danger to himself presented by these conditions and performed in a manner reflecting the highest ideals of the FDNY."

In recognition of his courage, FF Edwin Sanchez is presented with the Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia Medal by a grateful FDNY and City.--AP



Rescue 4 operates at five-alarm fire on January 4, 2014. photo by Fred Bacchi

# Chief John J. McElligott Medal/ FFs Fitzpatrick and Frisby Award

## FIREFIGHTER CHRISTOPHER R. MACRI *LADDER COMPANY 56*

December 19, 2013, 2232 hours, Box 75-4904, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on February 4, 1996. Holds an AS degree in Electrical Construction and Instrumentation from SUNY at Delhi. Recipient of a Unit Citation in 2010. Resides in Tuxedo, New York, with his wife, Tracy, and their sons, Jack and Salvatore.*



On December 19, 2013, at 2232 hours, the teleprinter in the quarters of Engine 48 and Ladder 56 came to life with a UCT911 alarm for the companies to respond for a fire in a multiple dwelling. FF Christopher R. Macri and the members of 56 Truck were assigned as the only truck on the Box, which is a second-due Box for the company.

When the companies arrived at the fire location, a 10-75 signal was transmitted for heavy fire coming from two top-floor windows on the exposure #2 side of the multiple dwelling. There was so much fire that it was lapping up over the parapet and onto the roof. FF Macri, the irons Firefighter, and the rest of the inside team made their way up the stairs against the large number of people who were coming down at the same time. FF Macri knew that the engine companies had a long stretch and that the second-due truck would be delayed. Engine 48 began the 13-length stretch alone because the second-due engine was coming from another Box.

When he reached the sixth floor, FF Macri saw smoke pushing from around the door of the fire apartment, which was closed and had multiple locks engaged. As the Firefighter forced the door, heavy smoke and heat began issuing from around it. When forcible entry was completed, FF Macri saw fire and heavy smoke at the apartment door. With the knowledge that the hose-line was on the way up, but not yet in position, FF Macri entered the fire apartment.

Once inside, FF Macri encountered Collyers' mansion conditions and observed fire extending out of the living room, to the left of the entrance door. The extending fire made it difficult to access the rest of the apartment. Lieutenant William S. Butler, Ladder 56, ordered the company's extinguisher Firefighter, Peter Kenney, to take a position immediately to the left of the front door at the entrance to the living room. The room could not be isolated because it did not have a door. At this time, the walls in the apartment were showing signs of the high heat condition and the heavy smoke was banked down to within two feet of the floor.

As FF Kenney held back the fire with the extinguisher, FF Macri crawled beneath the advancing fire to begin the difficult search through the

debris for victims. As soon as he began searching, FF Macri located the first of the two victims in the apartment, a badly injured adult man. Lieutenant Butler transmitted the 10-45 and ordered FF Macri to remove the victim.

FF Macri was unable to move the victim by himself because of the victim's size, the large amount of debris and the fact that the victim was caught on something. Lieutenant Butler came over to assist FF Macri, but the removal of the victim was still difficult because the man was holding onto a small table and was among three feet of debris. FF Macri shielded the victim from the high heat conditions with his body as he worked feverishly to free him.

FF Kenney informed the other members of the inside team that the extinguisher was almost empty. Lieutenant Butler made his way through the debris and was able to reach the victim's head and free his arm from the table. Using all the strength he could muster, FF Macri was able to remove the man to the public hallway. He was removed to the street by other units.

The extinguisher now was depleted and the hose-line was still on the way up and not in position to be operated. FF Macri was physically exhausted and suffering from an injury to his left shoulder, but he re-entered the fire apartment and again crawled past the fire to assist Lieutenant Butler in the removal of a second male victim. This man was found in a rear bedroom at the back of the apartment. The Firefighter and Lieutenant used all their remaining strength to remove the second victim through the poor conditions in the apartment, which included passing 45 feet through the fire and high heat and navigating only 12 inches of clearance space in some parts. Engine 48 now was operating the hose-line on the fire. The second victim was taken down to the street and turned over to EMS personnel for care. Regrettably, both victims ultimately died.

For his actions of locating one victim and assisting in the removal of a second victim, both of whom were trapped by heavy fire, smoke and Collyers' mansion conditions, FF Christopher R. Macri, Ladder 56, is officially recognized by the FDNY with the Chief John J. McElligott Medal/FFs Fitzpatrick & Frisby Award.--NG



FF Christopher Macri, with the saw, operates at a taxpayer fire on Washington Avenue in the Bronx in 2001.



# Thomas F. Dougherty Medal

## FIREFIGHTER JUSTIN A. PELKA LADDER COMPANY 43

November 8, 2013, 0109 hours, Box 75-1328, Manhattan

*Appointed to the FDNY on March 25, 2007. Previously assigned to Engine 53. Holds a BS degree in Criminal Justice from New Jersey City University. Resides in the Bronx.*

**M**anhattan to Ladder Company 43. We're receiving numerous calls for a fire in an apartment with an infant trapped. K...The acknowledgment of this message by Ladder 43's Captain Raymond J. Farrell (assigned to Division 3) was confirmation that this fire was going to be anything but routine. As the forcible entry team consisting of Captain Farrell and FFs Justin Pelka, water can, and Nathan Evans, irons, dismounted the apparatus, they were met by two distraught women, screaming that a one-year-old baby was trapped in the apartment, confirming that a known life hazard existed.

Dispatched at 0109 hours, Ladder 43 arrived in fewer than four minutes. The reported address for Box 1328 is an 18-story, New York City housing development on Lexington Avenue. Ladder 43's inside team moved deliberately and without hesitation to secure a Fireman's Service elevator to the sixth floor. Exiting the elevator and climbing stairwell "A" to the eighth floor, they were greeted with a heavy smoke condition.

Donning their SCBA face pieces, the team crawled out from the security of the stairwell into the heavily charged hallway to search for the open apartment door. Locating and entering the zero-visibility fire apartment, FFs Pelka and Evans began an aggressive search for both the fire room and the reported trapped infant, while Captain Farrell maintained the integrity of the entrance door and, using his thermal imaging camera, supervised the search.

Finding the fire in a rear bedroom, FF Pelka judiciously expended the water from his extinguisher to prevent the possibility of a flashover. After fully depleting the extinguisher

and without the protection of a charged hose-line nor a secondary means of egress (the building contains no fire escapes), FF Pelka crawled past the fire room to an adjacent bedroom where he located an unconscious and severely injured adult male.

FF Pelka shielded and dragged the victim past the now re-developing fire, still without the protection of a charged hose-line. He crawled, dragging the victim approximately 35 feet to the apartment entrance door and then continued down the hallway, navigating his way past several obstacles, including the engine companies advancing the first hose-line.

Reaching the stairwell door, the Firefighter passed the victim off to the assigned CFR engine company. FF Pelka then returned to the fire apartment where he continued a search for the infant. He assisted in completing the primary search, ventilation and eventual overhaul of the fire-ravaged apartment.

In all, two additional victims (for a total of three) were located and removed by Ladder 43's inside team. The originally reported trapped infant was removed by the Officer of Engine 91. The critically injured victim rescued by FF Pelka was removed to the hospital by FDNY EMS. If it weren't for the tenacious and determined efforts of FF Pelka, the first victim, whose escape was cut off by the smoke and fire, in addition to severe injuries, would not have made it out of the apartment. (Unfortunately, the victim ultimately expired.)

For his extraordinary effort, FF Justin A. Pelka is awarded the Thomas F. Dougherty Medal for conducting himself most professionally, under dire conditions, in the truest traditions of the FDNY.--SM



FF Justin A. Pelka, recipient of the Thomas F. Dougherty Medal, is ready to take up from a job.

# Albert S. Johnston Medal

## CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER G. EYSSER

*DIVISION 15 (ASSIGNED)*

*LADDER 120 (DETAILED)*

**July 6, 2013, 0246 hours, Box 75-1687, Brooklyn**

*Appointed to the FDNY on October 15, 1995. Previously assigned to Ladder 111 as a Firefighter and Ladder 124 as a Lieutenant. Now assigned to Ladder 120. Father, Battalion Chief George D. Eysser, is retired from Battalion 35; uncle, Manhattan Fire Alarm Dispatcher Herbert Eysser, is retired; and Grandfather, Herbert Eysser (now deceased), was a member of the New York Fire Patrol. Recipient of three Unit Citations. Holds a BS degree in Management from C.W. Post College. Resides in Syosset, Long Island, with his wife, Patty, and their children, Matthew and Alyse.*



**O**n July 6, 2013, Ladder 120 commenced a response to Box 1682 for a structural fire at 0246 hours. While responding, the unit was redirected by radio to Box 1687 for a different address. Brooklyn Dispatch notified the Ladder 120 Officer that they were receiving numerous phone calls, indicating a working fire.

On arrival, Captain Christopher Eysser, UFO in Ladder 120, proceeded into the courtyard of this three-story, 100- by 40-foot multiple dwelling. Residents were screaming that there were people trapped in the fire apartment on the second floor. A 10-75 signal was given, confirming a working fire.

Captain Eysser and his forcible entry team responded to the second floor. They were unable to locate the fire apartment due to the heavy smoke condition. Smoke issued from both the second- and third-floor windows. Captain Eysser used the thermal imaging camera to find the fire apartment. The apartment door was partially open and the conditions in the public hallway were deteriorating.

Members from the first engine to arrive, Engine 231, were stretching a hose-line. While his unit was stretching the line, Captain Robert Higgins, Engine 231, kept the apartment door closed until Captain Eysser and his crew were ready to enter and make their primary search.

Ladder 120 irons Firefighter, FF John Ostraticky, searched left toward the living room, while Captain Eysser and his water can Firefighter searched

toward the rear of the apartment. Continuing the left-hand search out of the bathroom to the hallway, the pair found a bedroom.

In zero visibility, Captain Eysser came upon the unconscious body of a young girl. He transmitted a 10-45 to Battalion Chief George Johnson, Battalion 58 (assigned to Battalion 38). Knowing that two children were reported to be in the apartment, Captain Eysser continued his search and found an unconscious young boy. He transmitted a second 10-45 to Chief Johnson.

Captain Eysser realized that the unconscious children had to be removed quickly if they were to survive. The Captain and a Firefighter from Ladder 103 carried the two unconscious children out of the apartment. The youngsters were taken to the street and transferred to EMS personnel for appropriate medical attention.



**Captain Christopher G. Eysser, shown after a job, was presented with the Albert S. Johnston Medal for finding and removing two youngsters from a fire in a multiple dwelling.**

In keeping with the highest traditions of both Ladder 120 and the FDNY, Captain Eysser exhibited tremendous courage and tenacity. He performed this rescue, putting himself in jeopardy, because there was no charged hose-line in place for protection. The expedient removal and subsequent treatment at the hospital were highly instrumental in saving the lives of these two children. (Regrettably, the young boy ultimately expired.) It is for these reasons that the FDNY presents Captain Christopher G. Eysser with the Albert S. Johnston Medal.--PB



## Ner Tamid Society/ Franklin Delano Roosevelt Medal FIREFIGHTER JOSE L. ORTIZ *LADDER COMPANY 6*

February 24, 2013, 1020 hours, Box 215, Manhattan

*Appointed to the FDNY on February 5, 1995. Member of the Holy Name and Hispanic Societies. Recipient of three commendations for valor. Resides in Flushing, Queens, with his wife, Teresa, and their daughters, Alondra and Amber.*

**T**he *Bravest* frequently get to exhibit valor in situations completely divorced from fire emergencies. The morning of February 24, 2013, was one such occasion.

FF Jose L. Ortiz, the assigned chauffeur of Ladder 6, was washing the apparatus in quarters. At 1020 hours, he was startled by a woman's screams from across the street. He and FF James Trainor, Engine 15, but detailed to Engine 9 for the tour, observed a woman being forcibly pulled down the block by an unknown male. The young woman was crying out for help and struggling to break the man's grip and escape.

FFs Ortiz and Trainor alerted their companies and raced across the street to render assistance. As the Firefighters approached, the male pulled a meat cleaver from his waistband and began striking the woman on the head. She was hit approximately a dozen times before FFs Ortiz and Trainor could disarm and subdue the attacker.

The pair was able to restrain the male, who later was iden-

tified as the woman's husband, until he could be taken into custody by NYPD Housing Officers who were flagged down by other members of Engine 9 and Ladder 6.

The severely injured and distraught young woman fled the scene during the chaos of the attack. She was tracked down by members of Engine 9 who provided first aid prior to the hospital.

FFs Ortiz and Trainor suffered minor cuts and bruises in the scuffle. Currently, the woman's husband is incarcerated and awaiting trial.

FF Ortiz displayed great courage and decisiveness in recognizing the threat to this woman. His decision to intervene, placing himself in peril, is in keeping with the finest traditions of the Fire Department.

For his exemplary bravery, FF Jose L. Ortiz is presented with the Ner Tamid Society/Franklin Delano Roosevelt Medal.--CF



At a press conference, FF Jose Ortiz animatedly describes how he disarmed a man who was hitting his wife with a meat cleaver. For his bravery, he was presented with the Ner Tamid Society/Franklin Delano Roosevelt Medal.



# Tracy Allen-Lee Medal

October 25, 2013, 2220 hours, Bronx



## EMT

### JUSTIN P. O'GRADY

#### STATION 26

*Appointed to EMS as an Emergency Medical Technician on September 27, 2010. Holds an AS degree in Automotive Technology from Lincoln Technical Institute. Resides in the Bronx with his daughter, Arianna.*

## EMT

### FRANCISCO M. VASQUEZ

#### STATION 26

*Appointed to EMS as an Emergency Medical Technician on November 5, 2002. Sister-in-law, EMT Veronica Cruz, is assigned to Station 20. Resides in the Bronx with his wife and daughter, both of whom are named Gladys.*

**W**orking during the evening hours in the City of New York, emergency responders encounter some of the most dangerous situations. On October 25, 2013,

EMTs Justin P. O'Grady and Francisco M. Vasquez, both assigned to EMS Station 26, encountered danger first-hand. It started out innocently enough as that night, halfway through their busy tour of duty, 26D3 responded to a sick call in the Hunts Point section of the Bronx.

The crew was met outside by a patient who expressed she no longer wished to be transported to the Emergency Room. While EMTs O'Grady and Vasquez were evaluating their patient in the rear of the ambulance, they performed a patient assessment. They were in the process of securing a refusal of medical aid when they noticed that there was a New York City police officer in need of assistance.

The police officer, who was working a foot post without a partner, was struggling to subdue a perpetrator on the ground. The officer

lost possession of his radio and was unable to call for assistance. With no police back-up on the way to assist him, clearly this officer was in trouble.



EMTs Francisco M. Vasquez and Justin P. O'Grady, recipients of the Tracy Allen-Lee Medal, are shown at Station 26.

EMTs O'Grady and Vasquez sprang into action. They made immediate notification to both the EMS and NYPD dispatchers of the situation and requested additional police resources to respond for assistance. Without hesitation, not knowing if the perpetrator was in possession of a weapon, the EMS crew put their personal safety in harm's way. They assisted the officer in subduing the perpetrator while waiting for police back-up.

Thanks to the EMS crew's quick thinking, going above and beyond the call of duty, their dedication to assist the police officer in need prevented him from becoming seriously injured. For these reasons, the FDNY today officially recognizes EMT Justin P. O'Grady and EMT Francisco M. Vasquez with the Tracy Allen-Lee Medal.--ML



# Third Alarm Association Medal

## FIREFIGHTER JAMES P. TRAINOR, JR.

*ENGINE COMPANY 15 (ASSIGNED)*

*ENGINE COMPANY 9 (DETAILED)*

**February 24, 2013, 1020 hours, Box 215, Manhattan**

*Appointed to the FDNY on May 31, 2005. Now assigned to Tower Ladder 18. Father, FF Jim Trainor, is retired from Rescue 4; uncle, FF John Gayron, is retired from Ladder 112; cousins, FF John Trainor is assigned to Ladder 138, FF Billy Dukeman is assigned to Ladder 173, FF Brian Gayron is assigned to Ladder 124, FF Thomas Gayron is assigned to SCUBA, FF James Gayron is assigned to Ladder 163, Lieutenant John Gayron is assigned to Battalion 58 and EMT Brian McIntyre works in Far Rockaway. Recipient of three Unit Citations. Resides in Massapequa Park, Long Island, with his wife, Sabrina, and their daughter, Kelly Rose.*

The life safety mandate of the Fire Department of the City of New York extends well beyond the fire floor, including pre-hospital medical care and other emergencies. For FF James P. Trainor, a nine-year veteran of the Department, he was suddenly called to execute that life safety mission across the street from the firehouse in a critical and unexpected way.

FF Trainor recently had arrived from Engine 15 on Pitt Street to the quarters of Engine 9/Ladder 6, to fill a one-tour vacancy called a "detail." A short time later in the late morning, FF Trainor was on the apparatus floor with Ladder 6's chauffeur, 19-year veteran FF Jose Ortiz, who was washing the truck when events quickly unfolded.

With the apparatus doors open, FFs Ortiz and Trainor heard a commotion across the street from the firehouse on Canal Street, where the Firefighters saw a man violently dragging a woman by the arm as she screamed and tried to break free. Without hesitation, FFs Ortiz and Trainor ran across the street to intervene.

When the deranged man, who turned out to be the woman's husband, saw the Firefighters approaching, he pulled out a meat cleaver from his waistband. He waved it at the Firefighters and then began hitting the woman over the head with the deadly instrument, striking her

approximately a dozen times before the two Firefighters were able to tackle the man, get him to drop his cleaver and restrain him, narrowly avoiding serious injury to themselves.

Other members of the firehouse quickly followed FFs Ortiz and Trainor and flagged down a passing NYPD Housing Bureau patrol car, whose officers then arrested the suspect. Simultaneously, other members of Engine 9 grabbed their Certified First Responder medical kits and pursued the victim, who ran from the scene. Eventually, the Firefighters were able to catch the victim on East Broadway, where they treated her wounds before she was transported to a local hospital by EMS personnel.

Fortunately, FFs Trainor and Ortiz suffered only minor cuts and bruises during their encounter with this man who was wielding a deadly weapon. FF Trainor acted without hesitation, placing himself in jeopardy to help a woman in a life-and-death situation. His split-second decision to act without regard for his personal safety, while facing such an unusual threat for a Firefighter, undoubtedly saved the woman's life, in keeping

with the highest traditions of the FDNY.

It is for these reasons that the courage of FF James P. Trainor, Jr., is recognized by the FDNY with the Third Alarm Association Medal.--SN



At a City Hall presentation, FF James P. Trainor, Jr. (left center), was given a Proclamation in recognition of his heroism. FDNY honored him with the Third Alarm Association Medal. photo by FDNY Photo Unit



# Vincent J. Kane Medal

## FIREFIGHTER CHRISTOPHER J. SLOW *LADDER COMPANY 11*

November 10, 2013, 1434 hours, Box 75-427, Manhattan

*Appointed to the FDNY on April 11, 2006. Uncle, FF Eddie Slow, is retired from Ladder 170. Holds an AAS degree in Nursing and is an RN. Combat veteran of Iraq 2004, 69th Infantry Division of the Army; recipient of the Combat Action Badge. Recipient of two Unit Citations. Resides on Staten Island, with his wife, Cristina, and their daughters, Ava and Alivia.*



On November 10, 2103, while the City's sports pages pondered the New York Giants' fate after their third straight win and New Yorkers saw the first snow of the season, FF Christopher J. Slow, Ladder 11, was too busy for such matters as a high-rise fire was reported in Alphabet City.

At 1434 hours, the call came into the Second Street firehouse for a fire on the eighth floor of a 14-story, 100- by 100-foot, class 1, fireproof multiple dwelling. FF Slow, assigned the irons that cool afternoon, was part of the forcible entry team, along with Lieutenant Vincenzo Fiumara and FF Bryan Scimeme (detailed from Ladder 6), working the water can position.

While responding to the incident, Engine 28 reported smoke showing from a window on the eighth floor and the company transmitted a 10-77 signal (high-rise, multiple dwelling fire). Arriving at the scene in approximately four minutes, FF Slow and the other members of the forcible entry team entered the building and took the elevator (under the control of FF Kevin Ferguson, Ladder 11's outside vent Firefighter) to the sixth floor. While en route, Engine 28 confirmed the fire apartment.

The forcible entry team climbed the last two flights of stairs and made their way to the fire location. FFs Slow and Scimeme then forced the door and entered the apartment. FF Slow was met with a heavy smoke condition and zero visibility. While Lieutenant Fiumara directed Engine 28's Officer to control the door, FF Slow began to search for possible victims and the fire's location.

As FF Slow made his way to the rear of the apartment,

Lieutenant Fiumara transmitted that the fire was located in one of the rear bedrooms. FF Slow made his way to this area and informed Lieutenant Fiumara he was going to move past the fire and continue to search for possible victims. As conditions deteriorated and without the benefit of a charged hose-line, the Firefighter deliberately went past the burning room and discovered a second bedroom next to the room that was on fire.

Moving into this room, FF Slow was met with a high heat condition (due to the fire's proximity) and began to search. His efforts were quickly rewarded as he found a non-responsive adult male lying on the bed. FF Slow transmitted a 10-45 signal, moved the victim off the bed and dragged him out of the rear bedroom. Because a hose-line was not yet in position, FF Scimeme tried to hold the fire back with the extinguisher, allowing FF Slow to drag the victim out of the burning apartment and to the elevator. At this point, he turned the man over to FF Ferguson, who took the victim down to the street and transferred his care to EMS personnel.

In his report of the incident, Deputy Chief Michael McPartland, Division 1, noted that FF Slow exposed himself to risk by passing an unchecked fire and made this rescue without the benefit of a charged hose-line. Additionally, both Lieutenant Fiumara and Battalion Chief Patrick Sheridan, Battalion 6, noted that FF Slow's actions were in the highest traditions of this Department.

Based on these accolades and in recognition of his courageous act, the Fire Department is proud to honor FF Christopher J. Slow today with the Vincent J. Kane Medal.--DH



FF Christopher Slow at a four-alarm fire in Manhattan. There were five floors of fire. Ladder 11 received a Unit Citation for their actions at this incident.



# Brummer Medal

## FIREFIGHTER MARTIN B. MURPHY LADDER COMPANY 58

June 10, 2012, 1343 hours, Box 75-2907, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on May 31, 2005. Father-in-law, FF John Ross, is retired from Ladder 38 and brother-in-law, FF Chris Ross, is assigned to Ladder 38. Member of the Emerald Society. Recipient of two Unit Citations. Studied Criminal Justice at SUNY at Farmingdale. Resides in Lindenhurst, Long Island, with his wife, Patricia, and their son, Thieran.*

On June 10, 2012, Tower Ladder 58 was assigned first-due to Box 2907, a six-story, 200- by 50-foot, fire-resistant multiple dwelling. On arrival, Ladder 58's Officer, Lieutenant Michael K. Scotto, and his inside team, FFs Martin B. Murphy with the water can and Christopher J. Reilly with the forcible entry tools, entered the fire building and encountered panicked civilians in the lobby. These civilians claimed the fire was on the fourth or fifth floor.

Using the stairs, Lieutenant Scotto arrived at the fourth floor and noticed smoke pushing from a ceiling vent. Ladder 58 members continued to the fifth floor where they found a medium smoke condition. The Lieutenant ordered a 10-75 be transmitted. Battalion Chief Vincent P. Mosca, Battalion 18, notified Lieutenant Scotto that a disabled person was located in the fire apartment.

The company entered the hallway and heard noises coming from their right. Crawling through the dense smoke toward the sounds, they encountered the occupant of the apartment, standing at the end of the hallway. He told Lieutenant Scotto that his mother was still in the apartment.

Lieutenant Scotto ordered FFs Murphy and Reilly to begin a search of the apartment while he assisted the man toward the stairs. FF Murphy was met with high heat and zero visibility when entering the apartment. Following the right wall, he located the

fire at the rear of the apartment.

The Ladder 58 chauffeur had advised that trees blocked ladder access to the fifth-floor front windows, which would make bucket placement difficult at best. As conditions worsened and without the protection of a hose-line, FF Murphy proceeded past the fire, finding a rear bedroom. While searching the bed, FF Murphy found the motionless form of a woman. He dragged her through the apartment, shielding her body from the intense heat pouring out of the adjacent room. FF Reilly assisted FF Murphy in removing the victim from the apartment.

Lieutenant Scotto radioed Chief Mosca of the 10-45. FFs Murphy and Reilly dragged the victim out of the apartment and approximately 50 feet down the heavily charged hallway to the stairs and down to the fourth floor where her care was transferred to Engine 46. FF Murphy then proceeded back to the fire apartment to continue fire operations.



Shown are Ladder 58 members, left to right, Lieutenant Michael Scotto and FFs Martin Murphy (recipient of the Brummer Medal), Danny Geysen, Christopher Reilly, John Daly and Sven Jensen.

*photo by New York Daily News*

In his report, Chief Mosca stated, "It is probable that this woman would have perished if not for FF Murphy's actions." FF Murphy acted selflessly, in the best traditions of the FDNY, to place himself in harm's way while rescuing a disabled woman. The Fire Department recognizes FF Martin B. Murphy's courageous actions and presents him with the Brummer Medal.--TM

# Frank W. Kridel Medal

## FIREFIGHTER CODY J. BAKER

### LADDER COMPANY 59

November 24, 2013, 1232 hours, Box 75-2989, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on August 5, 2007. Member of the Steuben Association. Member of the Marine Corps infantry and served in Fallujah, Iraq, in 2006. Bone marrow donor through the FDNY program and was a successful match for a Texas man. Resides in Greenville, New York, with his wife, Jennifer. They are expecting the birth of their first child.*



Firefighting is a debilitating and arduous activity in the best of circumstances. One type of occupancy that compounds the severity of that dangerous environment is a housing development fire. Many are constructed with concrete floors and ceilings. If a fire gets going in such a development, it's similar to crawling into an oven. The fire and heat are reflected and contained by the concrete and the heat has nowhere to go. In many cases, the fire burns uncontrolled until all the combustibles in the apartment are consumed. It was just this kind of fire that awaited FF Cody Baker and the members of Ladder 59 on November 24, 2013.

At 1232 hours, Ladder 59 responded to Box 2989. Almost immediately on arrival, Ladder 59 members knew they were going to work. Panicked civilians in the street told them the fire was on the second floor. Captain James Rogers and his forcible entry team--consisting of FFs Cody Baker, with the irons, and John McDermott, with the water can (detailed from Engine 42)--ran up the stairs to the second floor where they were met with a medium smoke condition in the hallway. Searching the hallway, the fire apartment was located. Heavy smoke was pushing out from around the door frame of the fire apartment.

Captain Rogers ordered his forcible entry team to take the door. When the door was popped, the Captain felt a high heat condition and visibility was diminished to zero. Captain Rogers immediately gained control of the door to keep the fire from extending. He relayed all of this information to Battalion Chief James Doddy, Battalion 19 (assigned to Battalion 20). Lieutenant Steven Gillespie, Engine 43, took over control of the door.

FF Baker searched to the right and Captain Rogers and FF McDermott went left. As the Captain and Firefighter entered the living room, they found fire extending up the walls and beginning to roll across the ceiling. FF McDermott was ordered to use the extinguisher to hold the

fire while the search continued.

By this time, FF Baker had gone deeper into the apartment. He searched the first room he encountered, which was the bathroom; this search was negative. FF Baker immediately returned to the hallway and felt the heat intensifying. He knew he was running out of time if he was going to find any survivors. The hose-line still was not at the door and the rescuer knew he had to finish his search before the extending fire blocked his only exit.

FF Baker made a right turn out of the bathroom and found a bedroom. With the heavy smoke obscuring his vision, the rescuer searched by touch. From across the room, he heard the faint sound of a radio--indicating to FF Baker that someone must be in that room. Quickly, but methodically, he searched every inch of the room until he found the bed. FF Baker reached up onto the bed and found an unconscious civilian lying on his back.

Simultaneously, FF McDermott was running out of water and notified Captain Rogers. The Officer knew their position in the apartment soon would become untenable. Captain Rogers ordered FF McDermott back to the apartment door and went to notify FF Baker of the situation. FF Baker transmitted a 10-45 and said he was attempting to remove the victim.

FF Baker then attempted to drag the civilian back to the door, but due to the victim's severe burns, found it difficult to hold him. FF Baker finally was able to wrap his arms around the victim and dragged him back to the front door, shielding the man from the intensifying fire and heat with his own body. FF McDermott joined FF Baker in the hallway and, together, they carried the victim to the lobby, where he was treated by EMS personnel. (Unfortunately, this victim ultimately perished.)

FF Baker performed this rescue without the protection of a charged hose-line. His actions are in the finest traditions of the New York City Fire Department and it is for these reasons that FF Cody J. Baker is being honored today with the Frank W. Kridel Medal.--CB



**FF Cody J. Baker, recipient of the Frank W. Kridel Medal.**

*photo by Angel Chevreton, New York Daily News*

# Emerald Society Medal

## FIREFIGHTER VINCENT T. NIESI *LADDER COMPANY 111*

August 29, 2013, 0919 hours, Box 22-861, Brooklyn

*Appointed to the FDNY on May 5, 2002. Recipient of a Unit Citation. Resides on Staten Island, with his wife, April, and their sons, Cole and Hunter.*



**F**ires occurring in occupied multiple dwellings generally are an indication that people are trapped and in need of assistance. Such was the case on August 29, 2013, at a three-story, non-fireproof, multiple dwelling, measuring 25 by 72 feet, and consisting of six apartments.

At 0919 hours, the Brooklyn Fire Communications Office was notified of a fire at this building with occupants trapped on the upper floor. This information was transmitted to the local firehouses, including Ladder 111. Combining a fast turnout, quick response and heroic actions may be necessary to lessen the severity of injuries, if, in fact, occupants are trapped. Through training and experience, members of Ladder 111 were up to this task.

On arrival, members were confronted with a serious fire on the first-floor public hallway; flames extended up the stairs to the second and third floors of this three-story building. There was a female victim screaming for help from a third-floor front window. Heavy smoke was venting over her head. The members of Ladder 111 sized up the situation and realized the arduous task ahead of them, knowing that this operation would be a challenge to rescue any trapped civilians in this building.

Ladder 176 members raised their aerial ladder to the window to remove the woman from danger. Simultaneously, FF Vincent Niesi, Ladder 111, assigned the outside vent position for this tour, quickly made his way to the top floor via the tower ladder bucket. The female victim was screaming that her family was inside the apartment.

FF Niesi arrived at the window adjoining the one from which the woman was being removed and immediately took the initiative to enter the apartment alone because of the confirmed life hazard. He was confronted with an extremely heavy smoke condition, a high heat level and zero visibility. At this time, the

fire and products of combustion were flowing up the stairs, through the open apartment door, causing waves of heat to move toward the rescuer.

FF Niesi initiated his search for trapped victims without the protection of a charged hose-line in place. The further he moved toward the rear, the hotter conditions became. As he approached the open apartment door, he could not close it completely, which would have given him and any victims more survival time.

Approximately 60 feet in from the front window, FF Niesi came upon the unconscious body of a teenage female victim. He notified his Officer and was about to remove the girl when he heard faint moaning from an area deeper within the apartment. He reversed his course and located three additional victims of this family--two children and a female adult in the living room. FF Niesi used his radio to call for assistance in removing all four people. Without waiting for help, he moved all four victims close to the living room window to give them the best chance for fresh air and, hence, survival.

At this time, the interior hallway fire was extinguished, allowing members of Ladder 111 to enter the fire apartment and assist in removing the three semi-conscious victims. FF Niesi

removed the young girl down the charred interior stairs and turned her over to medical personnel. During this rescue, while moving toward the rear of the apartment, FF Niesi displayed capability and bravery in overcoming the challenges presented by physical alterations within the apartment.

FF Niesi's courage and selfless actions in a dangerous situation, without the protection of a charged hose-line, made for an heroic deed in the rescue of four family members. For his initiative and courage without regard for his own safety, the Fire Department is proud to honor FF Vincent T. Niesi with the Emerald Society Medal.--EB



The incident for which FF Vincent T. Niesi, Ladder 111, is presented with the Emerald Society Medal.

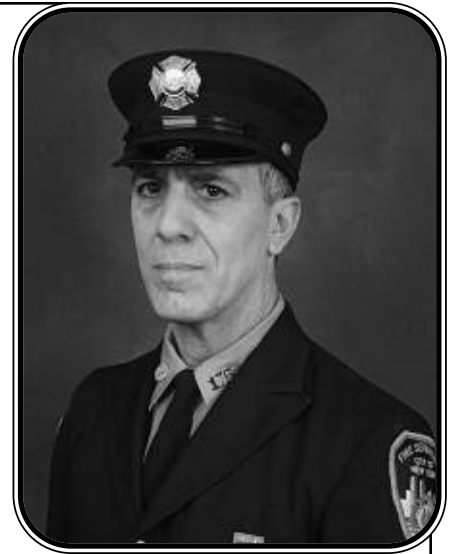
# Chief Wesley Williams Medal

## FIREFIGHTER MICHAEL PERRONE

### LADDER COMPANY 175

February 17, 2013, 0318 hours, Box 75-1801, Brooklyn

*Assigned to the FDNY on September 5, 1981. Previously assigned to Engine 236. Recipient of two Unit Citations and a Service Rating A. Resides in Seaford, Long Island, with his wife, Doreen, and their son, Michael, and daughter, Christine.*



Saturday, February 17, 2013, was another cold day in a cold winter, but things warmed up rapidly for the members of Ladder 175. It was 0318 hours when Ladder 175 was dispatched second-due to a report of black smoke in the basement of a three-story brick building. Although assigned second-due, Ladder 175 arrived as first-due truck and as they pulled into the block, heavy, black smoke was seen pushing from the building's closed basement door. Light smoke was observed exiting from the entrance door on the first-floor level.

Lieutenant Thomas Farragher mounted the three steps to the first floor and made a quick check of the first-floor hallway for extending fire. Finding no indication of extension, he directed his inside team to proceed to the basement to perform a primary search. FF Michael Perrone was the unit's forcible entry Firefighter for the tour and FF Keith Kern had the water can.

The heavy, black smoke seemed to come from the oil burner, but its smell told another story. The telltale odor of burning wood indicated that this was a structural fire. The Lieutenant and his inside team masked up, descended the exterior stairs and forced entry into the building's basement via the under-stair door. Inside, they encountered a heavy smoke condition, accompanied by moderate heat.

FF Perrone began his search. After progressing only 10 feet toward the rear of the building, his path was blocked by a burning mattress wedged in a doorway, obstructing entrance into the next room. The mattress fire already had extended into a kitchen area where fire was visible despite the dense smoke. Water was spraying down on FF Perrone as if from a sprinkler head. Later, he discovered that the heat from the fire had melted the solder on water pipes and, as a result, water was spraying down, cooling the smoke and hampering its venting.

With the fire located, FF Perrone squeezed past the burning mattress into the fire area, continuing his search for possible victims. FF Kern expended his water can to control the visible flames, after which he and Lieutenant Farragher wrestled the mattress from the doorway and followed FF Perrone into the room, continuing their search. As they progressed deeper toward the rear of the basement, heat and smoke conditions worsened to the point that it seemed as if there must be another room of fire yet to

be discovered.

FF Perrone continued his search down the long, hot hallway, working toward the rear of the building. Keeping contact with the left wall and sweeping the floor to his right with his leg, feeling for possible victims, he pushed deeper into the basement, despite the worsening conditions, until he reached the rear wall, 60 feet from where the rescuers had entered the apartment.

FF Perrone discovered a door on his right side. The door opened out toward him, revealing a small bathroom. In this room, FF Perrone discovered an adult male, lying on the floor unconscious and not breathing. FF Perrone immediately transmitted a signal 10-45 over his handie-talkie, alerting Battalion Chief Daniel DiMartino, Battalion 39, of the presence of a victim and requesting EMS personnel for medical assistance.

Knowing that any delay in securing medical assistance could prove fatal for the victim, FF Perrone immediately began dragging the man out of the bathroom. FF Gregory Jackman, Ladder 175's outside vent Firefighter, was at the rear door, awaiting permission to vent it. Hearing the 10-45 signal, he forced the exit door and removed the bathroom door, which when in the open position, obstructed the rear exit. Fortunately, the rear doorway was only several feet from FF Perrone's position, saving him from having to drag the victim 60 feet, back through heavy smoke and heat, to the front door. This saved precious seconds and allowed FF Perrone to bring the man out of the basement and to medical care quickly.

Both FFs Kern and Jackman assisted FF Perrone in carrying the victim up the cellar stairs, out into the rear yard and then to the front of the building, where Engine 332 Firefighters were waiting to provide aid to the victim. Then the patient was transported to the hospital.

FF Perrone sized up the building, considered the time of day and concluded that there was the possibility of a trapped victim somewhere inside the basement apartment. He knew that a hose-line was not yet operating and that the fire could flare up at any time. Using his initiative and at personal risk, he passed the fire, located the victim and orchestrated his removal to fresh air and medical treatment. For his aggressive actions, FF Michael Perrone is presented with the Chief Wesley Williams Medal.--FCM



FF Michael Perrone, on Ladder 175's aerial, at an all hands fire in Brooklyn, spring of 2013.



# Holy Name Society Medal (Brooklyn/Queens)

## FIREFIGHTER LOUIS J. NICOLOSI

### LADDER COMPANY 125

April 1, 2013, 0149 hours, Box 75-9722, Queens

*Appointed to the FDNY on April 17, 1994. Father, FF Ben Nicolosi, is retired from Ladder 144; uncle, FF Carlo Nicolosi (deceased), was retired from Engine 320; and cousin, FF Carl Nicolosi, is retired from Engine 295. Member of the Columbia Association. Holds a BBA degree in Marketing from Hofstra University. Recipient of a Unit Citation. Resides in Jericho, Long Island, with his daughter, Nanci.*

The outside vent Firefighter (OVFF) position usually is assigned to the most experienced Firefighter who has knowledge of the many complexities of the position. The OVFF is expected to make a quick decision, based on his or her situational awareness, on whether to be patient and wait for the engine company to advance on the fire before ventilating or to be aggressive due to a life hazard and vent, enter and search immediately. When the fire is in a private dwelling, the challenge can be intensified if all actions have to be performed from a portable ladder.

FF Louis Nicolosi was assigned as the OVFF in Ladder 125 for the 6 by 9 tour, starting on March 31, 2013. With 20 years of experience at Ladder 125, FF Nicolosi was fully aware of the demands of the OV position and the importance of his actions. At approximately 0200 hours on the morning of April 1, 2013, FF Nicolosi and the members of Ladders 125 and 152 faced significant challenges.

Ladder 125 was assigned second-due for a report of a structural fire in a private dwelling in the borough of Queens. While en route, the Queens fire alarm dispatcher reported that several civilians were reported trapped by fire at the location. FF Nicolosi and the outside team prepared to execute the complex tactics of search and rescue via portable ladder in the rear of this private dwelling.

On arrival, the units were met with visible fire on the second floor with numerous panicked civilians. FFs Nicolosi and Noel Curry, Ladder 125 roof Firefighter, focused on the known life hazard and removed a 24-foot extension ladder. Their first hazard was a locked, six-foot-high fence that had to be forced. Upon completion, they rushed to the rear and determined that the most severely exposed civilian was in a second-story corner bedroom on the left rear part of the house. While positioning the ladder, FF Nicolosi communicated to his Officer and the initial Incident Commander, Battalion Chief Eugene

Marmann, Battalion 52, that numerous civilians required rescue in the rear and additional assistance was required.

FF Nicolosi ascended the portable ladder and performed the arduous task of entering a hostile fire room from the ladder. Without hesitation, knowing he was placing himself in a perilous situation, he entered the room and rescued a young boy. He removed the youngster to the ladder tip and transferred him to FF Curry.

FF Nicolosi returned to the room--which now had fully deteriorated to high heat and zero visibility--and discovered three additional victims on the floor. After transferring the young boy to EMS personnel, FF Curry joined FF Nicolosi and removed another young victim, a female, and transferred her to Ladder 125 chauffeur, FF Patrick Lavin, on the portable ladder.

FF Nicolosi now faced the task of removing an unconscious adult male via the portable ladder, a very dangerous tactic for both victim and rescuer. At this point, Engine 299 started to make progress attacking the fire. Thus, FF Nicolosi determined that with the slightly improved conditions, he could remove this third victim via the interior. The fourth victim was removed by Captain Robert Reinhardt and FF Richard Kuntzler, Ladder 152. FF Curry assisted FF Nicolosi in the removal of the final victim to EMS personnel outside the fire building. With the conclusion of the rescue operation at this fire, 10 civilians--four of

them in critical condition--were removed or rescued by FDNY members.

FF Nicolosi directly participated in the successful rescue of four civilians from a second-floor bedroom of a significant framed private dwelling fire. He rescued two of the civilians himself; one using a portable ladder. If not for the actions of FF Nicolosi and the Ladder 125 outside team, all four victims probably would have lost their lives. Due to his brave actions in the finest traditions of the FDNY, FF Louis J. Nicolosi is awarded the Holy Name Society Medal (Brooklyn/Queens).--RM



Members of Ladder 125--standing, left to right, FF Patrick Lavin, Lieutenant Thomas Lane and FFs Ryan Fassino, Noel Curry, Louis Nicolosi--recipient of the Holy Name Society Medal (Brooklyn/Queens)--and Robert Marolla. Kneeling, left to right, FFs Jeffrey Dobry, Michael Lawrie and Thomas Ruesing.

# Chief James Scullion Medal

## EMT JEAN ALTIDOR, JR.

### *STATION 16*

June 10, 2013, 0537 hours, Harlem Hospital, Manhattan

*Appointed to EMS as an Emergency Medical Technician on July 17, 2006. Previously assigned to Station 15. Holds an AA degree in Liberal Arts from the Borough of Manhattan Community College. Resides in Manhattan.*



The FDNY Emergency Medical Technicians, while well-trained, cannot fully anticipate what danger might await them on any given response. They always work in pairs. Although each member has the same training, the partners rely on each other and value the importance of teamwork. At assignments, teamwork is also vital with other agencies, such as the NYPD. FDNY and NYPD typically will work in collaboration with each other on many assignments. This teamwork effort came to the forefront on June 10, 2013, when all were faced with an armed patient.

EMTs Jean Altidor, Jr., and Brendon Hernandez were arriving at Harlem Hospital with an emotionally disturbed patient. Although this was a routine medical assignment, some of these patients may become violent, so to ensure the safety of the crew members, police officers will escort the patient, along with the crew members, to the receiving hospital. Such was the case on June 10, 2013.

Arriving at the Harlem Hospital Emergency Department, EMT Hernandez remained in the vehicle completing paperwork, while EMT Altidor and the police officers began to walk the patient toward the entrance. At this juncture, the patient attempted to escape. This routine medical assignment quickly began to esca-

late into a very dangerous one.

The officers grabbed the patient, who now was aggressive and resisting the officers' efforts. During the struggle, all three fell to the ground. It was during this struggle that the patient was able to reach the officer's weapon. The patient quickly fired two shots, striking one of the NYPD officers once in the foot. The uninjured officer and EMT Altidor continued to struggle with the patient who still had control of the weapon.

Hearing the gunshots, EMT Hernandez ran over to the location of his partner and officers. EMT Hernandez joined the efforts of his partner and police officer and was able to remove the weapon from the patient's hand. EMT Altidor and the officer continued their efforts to restrain the still violent patient and were able to successfully subdue him. Once the patient was restrained, EMT Altidor, without consideration to the danger he just faced, maintained his composure and immediately went to the injured officer and began to evaluate and treat him.

In recognition of his bravery and outstanding dedication to the care of his patient, the Department is proud to present the Chief James Scullion Medal to EMT Jean Altidor, Jr.--JP



EMTs Jean Altidor, Jr. (right) and Brendon Hernandez (left) were honored with the Chief James Scullion Medal and Christopher J. Prescott Medal, respectively, for their efforts in assisting two police officers, one of whom was disarmed by a mentally disturbed patient.

# Hispanic Society Memorial Medal

## LIEUTENANT GEORGE L. TORRES

### RESCUE COMPANY 4

September 12, 2013, 1310 hours, Box 75-7955, Queens



*Appointed to the FDNY on October 25, 1992. Previously assigned to Engine 302, Squad 41 and Battalion 41. Current President of the Hispanic Society. Holds an AS degree in Computer Information Systems from Queensborough College. Recipient of a Service Rating A and several Unit Citations. The father of three children--Adrian, Daniel and Diego--he resides in Woodside, Queens.*

On the afternoon of September 12, 2013, at 1310 hours, Lieutenant George Torres was working a day tour in Rescue 4 when the company was dispatched to a working fire near the borders of Elmhurst, and Jackson Heights, Queens. Engine companies already on the scene were stretching lines to extinguish the fire, which appeared to be on the first floor of a two-story private dwelling. A signal 10-75 was transmitted and Rescue 4 arrived shortly thereafter.

As Ladder 138's inside team began their search of the first floor, members quickly realized that fire was coming up from a stairway that led to the basement. Lieutenant Torres reported in to Battalion Chief Joseph Cooney, Battalion 49 (assigned to Battalion 46), and was tasked with assisting the units in locating the main body of fire. The Lieutenant ordered his outside team to search the floors above and his inside team to assist the companies in the basement. In his size-up, Lieutenant Torres noted that heavy smoke was billowing out of the doorways on both the exposures #2 and #4 sides.

Fire was in possession of the basement stairs and a large area of the front portion of the basement. It was impossible for members to enter the basement until a hose-line was in place and operating. Engine 289's first attempt to make the push down into the basement was unsuccessful, due to the small stairway that was inside of a closet-like opening that now acted like a flue for the serious fire.

A second attempt was made that was successful after members made a large bow in the line so it could easily move down the stairway. The members of Ladder 138 and Rescue 4 followed closely behind the hose-line as they went down the stairs. Once at the bottom, they immediately started a search from the base of the stairs to the rear. This proved difficult as they passed an uncontrolled fire and encountered a maze-like layout. The basement had been altered and consisted of single room occupancies, some of which were locked.

As the members were pressing on, Chief Cooney gave a radio report that a

civilian was missing and presumably in the basement. Based on the conditions encountered, Lieutenant Torres knew that time was limited to successfully rescue someone in that occupancy. He aggressively made his way to the rear by following along a wall. As he pressed on, he came upon an unconscious person lying face-down in water. Hearing gurgling sounds, it appeared that the victim was drowning. Lieutenant Torres reached down to lift the victim's face off the floor. He yelled through his mask face piece, 10-45. This message was heard by Captain Ronald Bonomo, Ladder 138 (assigned to Division 14), who relayed it to Chief Cooney.

Lieutenant Torres knew he had to position the victim for removal, so he forcibly lifted the man up, but in doing so, he injured himself. In excruciating pain from his lower back, the rescuer fell to his knees with the victim. At this point, other members, hearing the commotion, arrived to help remove the injured man.

Despite the pooled water, a charged operating hose-line and tight layout, the members were able to reach the stairs and carry the victim up and out of the basement rather quickly. They brought him to the safety of the driveway so he could be assessed.

Lieutenant Torres quickly began CPR on the unconscious man. Lieutenant Torres then was assisted by Engine 325, whose members initiated CPR and other lifesaving measures. The victim was transported to the hospital and survived his ordeal.

Lieutenant Torres also was removed to the hospital with a serious and painful back injury received while performing the rescue. In his endorsement of the Lieutenant, Chief Cooney stated, "that Lieutenant Torres went past an uncontrolled fire to effect the rescue of a man near death. He performed an act of bravery and showed quick initiative in carrying and dragging the man to safety. He deserves recognition for this action." It is for these reasons that the 16-year SOC veteran, Lieutenant George L. Torres, is presented with the Hispanic Society Memorial Medal.--AP



Lieutenant Jorge Torres, Rescue 4, back in the firehouse after a job.



# Captain Denis W. Lane Memorial Medal

## FIREFIGHTER BRIAN C. NAYLOR

### LADDER COMPANY 147

March 7, 2013, 1904 hours, Box 75-2487, Brooklyn

*Appointed to the FDNY on February 2, 2003. Previously assigned to Engine 281. Father, Brooklyn Dispatcher Eugene Naylor, is retired. Holds an Associate degree in Nursing from the College of Staten Island. Resides in Staten Island, with his wife, Ann, and their son, Daniel, and daughter, Juliette.*



People close to us--such as family members, neighbors and friends, who are not in our line of work--are always fascinated by the life and culture of Firefighters. You may have heard statements or questions such as, "So, you do everything together? Training? Cleaning?" Our answer is always the same, "YES! We are a team."

That is not the full answer. The more complete answer usually is not shared on such casual encounters. The real reason Firefighters are so close and do everything together is to prepare for the time when we have to be alone; the inevitable time when we have to operate in solitude at a fire. A life is in danger and will be lost without an action taken by an individual. A Firefighter takes that action confidently and effects a rescue when he knows he can rely on his team, his Brothers/Sisters, to watch his back.

FF Brian Naylor, Ladder 147, found himself in this isolated situation on March 7, 2013, when he rescued an elderly grandmother trapped by a fire in her home. Ladder 147 arrived first on the scene at Box 2487 in Brooklyn and members were confronted with thick, black smoke pushing out of the first floor of this two-story private dwelling.

On entry, Firefighters immediately were confronted with high heat coming from the first room to the left, indicating heavy fire on the first floor. The FDNY dispatcher had informed responding members that a person was trapped on the second floor and those reports were confirmed by fleeing occupants. FF Naylor, assigned as part of the inside team, knew he had to take action. His experience told him that since no other ladder company was on-scene,

the second floor had to be searched if the person reported missing was to be found.

Once at the top of the stairs, the Firefighter found himself alone and searching without the protection of a charged hose-line on a floor above heavy fire. Then, he heard a faint call for help. Through the heat and smoke, FF Naylor made his way toward the sound. Finally, in the last rear bedroom, he found her. FF Naylor transmitted this, along with his location, to his Officer and began the arduous task of dragging the female victim more than 40 feet back to the front of the building. Throughout, he endured punishing smoke and heat conditions.

Battalion Chief Michael Steinman, Battalion 48, arrived as the rescue was taking place. His immediate concern was the worsening conditions he observed, when FF Naylor and his Brothers from Ladder 147 appeared at the front door, carrying the elderly woman. They completed the removal to the front yard and seamlessly handed her off to EMS personnel.

Chief Steinman later stated in his report of meritorious act that, "without question, FF Naylor should be cited for this act." Obviously, the Board of Merit agreed with him.

FF Naylor's actions at this fire saved a life. He effected the rescue alone and under some of the worst conditions Firefighters can face. He extended himself to the very limit and placed himself in jeopardy. He kept going because he knew his team..the guys he does everything with..*Da Pride of Flatbush*..was with him every step of the way. For his act of bravery, FF Brian C. Naylor is awarded the Captain Denis W. Lane Memorial Medal.--  
MD



FF Brian C. Naylor and Ladder 147 operated at this November 2012 two-alarm fire in two private dwellings.



# Uniformed Fire Officers Association Medal

## CAPTAIN PAUL A. MILLER

### *DIVISION 13 (ASSIGNED)*

### *ENGINE 286 (DETAILED)*

January 25, 2013, 0136 hours, Box 75-5122, Queens

*Appointed to the FDNY on October 27, 1996. Previously assigned to Ladder 48 and Engines 289, 16 and 307. Now assigned to Ladder 142. Great-grandfather, FF Edward Lehmkuhl (now deceased), was retired from Engine 79. Member of the Steuben Association. Recipient of the William F. Conran Medal in 2005 and the Daily News Hero of the Month, March 2013. Holds an Associate degree in Criminal Justice from Suffolk County Community College and a BS degree in Fire and Emergency Services from John Jay College. Resides in Centereach, Long Island, with his wife, Eileen, and their daughters, Grace and Erin.*

The run came in during the early-morning hours of January 25, 2013. Queens Box 5122 was turned out at 0136 hours for a reported fire in Glendale, Queens. On arrival, Captain Paul Miller and the members of Engine 286 were confronted with heavy fire blowing out the second floor on the exposure #2 side of the building.

Captain Miller promptly transmitted the 10-75 for a heavy fire condition on the second floor of a two-story, class 4, private dwelling. He ordered the nozzle team to start stretching a hose-line to the fire building.

The Captain raced into the building and was informed by exiting residents that their elderly father was still up on the second floor in the apartment and oxygen tanks were present. As the members of Engine 286 continued their line placement, Captain Miller reached the second floor to find that the apartment door was open and exposing the hallway.

He donned his mask and made an attempt to crawl into the fire apartment. As he entered, he turned left and found a fully involved room with fire extending into the living room. He tried to close the door to this bedroom, but attempts were unsuccessful because the fire had burned through the door.

At this time, Captain Miller heard a transmission from the control Firefighter that the hydrant was frozen and the engine company chauffeur (ECC) quickly gave a signal 10-70 to the dispatcher. At this time, the Captain ordered FF Frank Mitchell, the ECC, to supply booster water as soon as possible.

Without the protection of that hose-line, Captain Miller still crawled past the fire, deeper into the living room, to conduct his primary search. Conditions were punishing, as he proceeded under the high

heat and near-zero visibility. As he made his way through, he found the elderly man, unconscious and slumped over on the couch in the prone position.

After transmitting a 10-45 via the handie-talkie, Captain Miller began to remove the victim toward the apartment door, shielding him from the flames, as they went back past the fire room. The victim then was passed off to FFs Daniel Haase, Engine 286, and Christopher Magas, Ladder 142--the nozzle team--who then handed the victim off to FF Pablo Vargas, Ladder 135, who removed him to the street and into the care of EMS personnel. Captain Miller then proceeded to move into the fire apartment with the team to extinguish the rapidly extending fire.

"Captain Miller, having knowledge of water problems and with no hose-line in position, forged ahead into the fire apartment," stated Battalion Chief Christopher Joyce, Battalion 28. Deputy Chief Patrick Clifford emphasized, "The extenuating circumstances of a frozen hydrant (10-70 transmitted), the cold and windy conditions (10 degrees Fahrenheit) and the fast-moving fire in a frame building only added to the arduous effort it took to

accomplish this rescue."

Thanks to Captain Miller's brave actions, including passing fire twice, a man in dire circumstances was rescued. Thanks to his efforts and the quick thinking and aggressive actions of Engine 286 and Ladder 135, the victim survived. In recognition of his heroism, the City of New York, the New York City Fire Department and his peers in the 13th Division and City-wide recognize Captain Paul A. Miller with the Uniformed Fire Officers Association Medal.--  
TW



Shown, left to right, are Captain Paul A. Miller, recipient of the Uniformed Fire Officers Association Medal, with FFs Frank Mitchell, Engine 286, Danny Haase, Engine 286, and Chris Magas, detailed from Ladder 142. Not shown is FF Eddie Dillon, Engine 286. Without the efforts of these Firefighters, Captain Miller said the incident would not have had such a positive outcome.

# Dr. Albert A. Cinelli Medal

## FIREFIGHTER NATHAN F. EVANS

### LADDER COMPANY 43

November 8, 2013, 0109 hours, Box 75-1328, Manhattan

*Appointed to the FDNY on December 5, 2004. Previously assigned to Engine 53. Recipient of two Unit Citations. Studied Business Management at the University of Phoenix. Marine Corps veteran. Resides in Manhattan. Proud father of five-year-old son, Quinn.*



Shortly after 0100 hours, the alarm tones shattered the stillness of Ladder 43's firehouse. The members of *El Barrio's Bravest* quickly mounted their apparatus and headed for an 18-story, 150- by 150-foot, residential, high-rise multiple dwelling half a dozen blocks away from quarters.

FF Nathan Evans, who was assigned to the forcible entry team for the night tour, smelled smoke when the truck was approximately three blocks from the reported location. He mentioned to another member, "we have a job." This fact, coupled with broadcasts from the dispatcher that numerous calls were being received and a child was reported trapped, enhanced the sense of urgency felt by the Firefighters.

Once they reached the building, the Firefighters were met by civilians in the lobby who were frantically screaming that a baby was trapped in an eighth-floor apartment. At this point, FF Evans and the forcible entry team recalled the elevator to the lobby and rode it to the sixth floor. They then climbed the remaining two flights of stairs up to the door of the fire floor. FF Evans, who was in the lead, cracked the hallway door and a puff of dense, black smoke was emitted. FF Evans closed the door, donned his face piece and proceeded into the public hallway where he encountered luggage, clothing and other material strewn about.

In spite of these obstacles, FF Evans made his way through the inky, black smoke to the door of the fire apartment. Fortunately,

the door was unlocked and slightly ajar, so he easily entered the premises. Familiar with the layout of the flat, once he was in the apartment, he turned left toward the bedrooms where the fire conditions were untenable.

FF Evans passed the fire room and looked for the child, but no baby was discovered. Along with FF Justin Pelka, also Ladder 43, FF Evans went into another bedroom and encountered a man who they dragged out of the room. FF Evans then

proceeded to another bedroom where he found a female victim halfway out the window. He grabbed her in a bear hug and maneuvered her past the flaming bedroom, out of the flat, and brought her to the floor below.

At this point, FF Evans still had a victim to tend to. He had to get her past a male victim who was receiving CPR in the narrow hallway and make his way to the elevator for transport to the lobby. After completing these tasks, FF Evans returned to the fire apartment to assist in overhauling.

FF Evans placed himself in jeopardy without concern for his own safety. He acted alone and without the protection of a covering hose-line. Additionally, he passed the fire room, knowing he had no secondary means of egress. For his initiative, bravery and for upholding the finest traditions of the fire service in general, and the FDNY in particular, today the Dr. Albert A. Cinelli Medal proudly is presented to FF Nathan F. Evans.--BDG



FF Nathan F. Evans operated at the "Man in the Mud" incident on March 19, 2013, above. However, he is the recipient of the Dr. Albert A. Cinelli Medal for rescuing two people from fire.



# Fire Chiefs Association Memorial Medal

## FIREFIGHTER

### CHRISTOPHER A. SLUTMAN

#### LADDER COMPANY 17

July 23, 2013, 0022 hours, Box 75-2169, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on September 14, 2003. Currently detailed to Ladder 27. Member of the Emerald Society. A Marine for eight years; currently, he is a Sergeant in the Marine Reserves. Resides in Yonkers, New York, with his wife, Shannon, and their daughters, McKenna and Kenley.*

Almost half-past midnight on July 23, 2013, Engine 60, Ladder 17 and Battalion 14--the *Green Berets* in the South Bronx--received a ticket to respond first-due to a report of smoke on the seventh floor of a 13-story, high-rise, fireproof multiple dwelling. Assigned to the inside team on this night tour were Lieutenant Gregory Macagnone (covering) and FFs Christopher A. Slutman, the irons Firefighter, and Francis Lemaire, with the water can.

While they were making their way up the stairs to the seventh floor, Lieutenant Macagnone was informed by a civilian on the fourth floor that, "something is burning on the seventh floor." At about the same time, the chauffeur of Ladder 17 reported that smoke was pushing from the bathroom window of the E-line apartment.

When Lieutenant Macagnone reached the sixth floor, he smelled an odor of smoke and radioed to Battalion Chief Joseph Regan, Battalion 14, to transmit a 10-75. At this time, Engine 60 was on its way up to the sixth floor to hook up the line to the standpipe. It was not yet in operation to protect the truck's inside team.

FFs Slutman and Lemaire forced open the door to the fire apartment and were met with a high heat condition and dense, black smoke, from floor to ceiling. The inside team immediately entered the apartment to begin their search. At this time, the fire in the living room of the apartment intensified and showed itself.

FF Lemaire took a position in the living room and used the extinguisher to try to control and

contain the fire, which allowed FF Slutman and Lieutenant Macagnone to pass the fire by crawling on the floor in an attempt to reach the two back bedrooms. Shortly after FF Slutman began his search of the most distant of the two bedrooms, he located an unconscious adult female on the bed and transmitted the 10-45.

Engine 60 now was at the door to the fire apartment and the Officer was calling for the hose-line to be charged. FF Lemaire, knowing that a charged hose-line was ready, decided to make his way past the fire to meet FF Slutman, who already had removed the victim from the bedroom to the apartment hallway. Together, the two Firefighters dragged the woman past the fire and out into the public hallway where Lieutenant Macagnone had cleared a path for them. FFs Slutman and Lemaire took the victim to a waiting elevator on the sixth floor and then down to the lobby where her care was turned over to EMS personnel. She was transported to the hospital.

In his endorsement of the Report of Meritorious Act for FF Slutman, Battalion Chief Joseph Regan, Battalion 14, wrote, "I have determined that FF Slutman, did at peril to himself, perform a search and successful rescue of the occupant without the aid of a properly positioned and charged hand-line." The Board of Merit agreed with Chief Regan and FF Christopher A. Slutman, Ladder 17, is receiving official recognition for his actions on Medal Day by being presented with the Fire Chiefs Association Memorial Medal.--NG



FF Chris Slutman takes up after a multiple-alarm taxpayer fire.

# Fire Marshals Benevolent Association Medal

## CAPTAIN ROBERT M. FORDE

### LADDER COMPANY 121

January 16, 2013, 0730 hours, Box 75-1278, Queens

*Appointed to the FDNY on October 19, 1997. Previously assigned to Ladders 120 and 121 and Engine 332. Since promoted to Battalion Chief, now assigned to Division 15. Holds a BA degree in Fire and Emergency Service from John Jay College. Recipient of a Service Rating A. Resides in Massapequa, Long Island, with his wife, Christine, and their sons, Jackson and Cooper.*



After hearing the tones go off, nothing gets a New York City Firefighter's blood pumping more than a "phone alarm for fire." The same was true on January 16, 2013, as the early-morning silence was broken in the quarters of Ladder 121 after the receipt of an alarm reporting fire in a two-story, peaked-roof, wood-frame private dwelling. Early-morning fires can be especially furious because they may go undetected, while people are sleeping, giving the blaze a head start.

While en route to Box 1278, the Queens Communications Office advised Ladder 121 of occupants reported trapped in the dwelling. With Captain Robert Forde in command, Ladder 121 pulled up to the reported address where members were met by cries for help from bystanders, telling the unit that someone was still inside the burning home. Captain Forde, observing heavy fire and smoke showing from the second floor, promptly transmitted the 10-75 signal.

Reaching the second floor, Captain Forde and his forcible entry team were met with intense heat as the fire had engulfed an entire bedroom and now was lapping out into the hallway. Receiving a report of heavy debris around the hydrant, which would delay water, Captain Forde attempted to control and confine the fire by moving to close the door to the bedroom, but to no avail; it already had been incinerated.

Realizing time was at a premium and that conditions were

rapidly deteriorating, Captain Forde had his water can Firefighter, Brian Dessart, hold his position at the fire door and knock the fire back so he could crawl underneath and past the fire to the rear bathroom. Entering the bathroom, the Captain discovered an unconscious male victim and transmitted the 10-45 signal.

Trying valiantly to dislodge the victim--who had become wedged between a bathroom fixture and an exterior wall--Captain Forde called for FF Dessart's assistance. As the two worked on freeing the helpless man from certain doom, the

hallway and their means of egress quickly were becoming cut off by the extending fire. Through the pair's gallant efforts, the victim finally was freed and quickly removed to the street by FF Dessart. Captain Forde continued to operate until the fire was placed under control.

By crawling underneath and past a rapidly extending fire without the protection of a charged hose-line to execute this difficult rescue (the Captain had to get into the bathtub to extricate the victim from his trapped position), Captain Forde placed himself in jeopardy and rose above and beyond the call of duty. Unfortunately, the man later expired, but this fact in no way detracts from the Captain's bravery. For putting a stranger's life above his own, Captain Robert M. Forde is awarded the Fire Marshals Benevolent Association Medal.--SI



Queens Box 75-1278, the actual incident for which Captain Robert M. Forde is being presented with the Fire Marshals Benevolent Association Medal.



# Community Mayors, Inc./ Lt. Robert R. Dolney Medal FIREFIGHTER DANIEL A. BARON *RESCUE COMPANY 5*

July 11, 2013, 1002 hours, Box 75-0036, Staten Island

*Appointed to the FDNY on August 8, 1999. Previously assigned to Engines 4 and 66. Recipient of a Class B. Holds a Paramedic certificate and attended Northeastern University in Boston. Resides in Peekskill, New York, with his wife, Cheri, and their daughters, Alyssa and Kelsey.*

Most rescues in the Fire Department are completed in a matter of minutes or even less as the rescuer races to save the victim from a rapidly approaching blaze or pushes through a wall of fire in order to reach someone. However, there are many incidents where careful planning is more important than speed and the emphasis is on taking carefully thought-out actions and not exacerbating the situation.

The members of the FDNY Rescue Companies are trained in many different procedures for helping citizens trapped in precarious scenarios. They carry the equipment needed to reach normally inaccessible spaces and remove victims from life-threatening circumstances.

On July 11, 2013, FF Daniel Baron was working in Rescue 5 on Staten Island, assigned the entry 1 position. He and the rest of the Rescue 5 members were preparing the firehouse to receive 50 Wounded Warriors and their families for lunch. That was put on hold when at 1002 hours, the Computer Dispatch System assigned Rescue 5 to a report of a worker trapped in a building under construction. When they arrived at the site of a new, six-story courthouse under construction, the members of Ladder 78 already were on-scene and reporting on conditions.

An adult male had fallen 24 feet into a plumbing and ventilation shaft from the sixth floor and landed on a ventilation duct between the fourth and fifth floors. The fall had badly injured the victim, leaving him unable to help himself and in danger, perched over a shaft that was open to the basement. The situation required teamwork, but FF Baron specifically was assigned the responsibility of reaching the victim, assessing his injuries and directing his safe removal.

A wall was breached on the fifth floor to allow FF Baron access to the shaft. Secured by a rope from above, he was forced to make his way across the shaft on a two-inch

angle iron to reach the victim. Before the Firefighter could even assess the worker's injuries, he had to ensure that he did not plunge deeper down the shaft to certain death. The worker wore a harness that FF Baron secured to a substantial part of the structure. He then secured himself, unhooked from the overhead safety line and allowed it to be positioned for removal of the victim.

While FF Baron was tending to the victim's injuries and packaging him for a safe transport, other Firefighters were breaching a wall on the fourth floor to facilitate the safe egress of the worker from the shaft. When the rope had been repositioned and FF Baron had prepared the victim for transport, he reconnected him to allow other Firefighters to support his weight while the rescuer moved him. As the victim was slowly lowered by other Firefighters from above, FF Baron carefully moved the man horizontally across the shaft toward the opening. He had to delicately guide the victim over, under and around the pipes and ducts in the shaft, without causing any more injuries to this already seriously injured worker.

As they reached the breach in the opposite wall, the victim was guided into the fourth-floor hallway by the chauffeur of Rescue 5 and ladder company personnel. EMS personnel assumed patient care and removed the victim to the hospital. While seriously injured, the worker's status could have been far worse, but for the expertise and bravery demonstrated by FF

Baron and the other FDNY members.

For the great courage and determination shown in effecting this rescue--while tethered to the building and precariously working on an 18-inch-wide duct, hanging 50 feet high in the shaft--the Fire Department, City of New York, is proud to present the Community Mayors, Inc./Lt. Robert R. Dolney Medal to FF Daniel A. Baron.--JT



Rescue 5 members, left to right, are FF Lawrence Sullivan (who died on August 20, 2012, due to WTC illness), Lieutenant Thomas Clair and FFs Joseph Esposito, Daniel Baron (recipient of the Community Mayors, Inc./Lt. Robert R. Dolney Medal), Robert Unger and John Leahy.

# LIEUTENANT KIRBY McELHEARN MEDAL

March 19, 2013, 2040 hours, Box 33-1233, Second Avenue Subway Excavation Site, Manhattan



**DR. DAVID BEN-ELI**  
**OFFICE OF**  
**MEDICAL AFFAIRS**



**PARAMEDIC**  
**JAPHET G. GAENGAN**  
**STATION 16**



**DR. DOUGLAS A.**  
**ISAACS**  
**OFFICE OF**  
**MEDICAL AFFAIRS**

**W**hen the EMTs, Paramedics and physicians start their tour, one never knows where the day will bring them. On March 19, 2013, Paramedic Japhet G. Gaengan, Station 16, and Drs. David Ben-Eli and Douglas A. Isaacs, Office of Medical Affairs, were brought together to work as a team 75 feet below Second Avenue. Teamwork proved to be the key to achieving a positive outcome on an assignment that very easily could have ended tragically.

In the late-evening hours of March 19, 2013, EMS received a call for a worker in the Second Avenue subway line excavation site. He was trapped chest-deep in the mud. As the FDNY began to arrive on-scene, this assignment quickly escalated, prompting the response of a Paramedic ambulance and EMS physicians to respond.

Once at the location, the doctors and Paramedic Gaengan were advised to head down into the tunnel to assist with the rescue efforts. The challenge for the responders began even before they could reach the patient. After scaling slippery catwalks and ladders, the team of three found themselves in the pool of the Bull's liver (a fine-grained mixture of inorganic silt or clay soil and water, with low permeability and low plasticity). The tunnel was dark and filled with thick, muddy water and an immense amount of water also was falling from the pipes above. This demanded great physical effort just to take a few steps ahead in the muck.

Doctors Ben-Eli and Isaacs quickly made contact with the Haz Tac Lieutenant, Rafael Goyenechea, who already had begun patient care. The doctors initiated

medical treatment on the victim. Members took turns holding the patient up to prevent him from drowning, while a dry, safe area was established. The patient was stuck in the cold, wet mud for more than an hour. The doctors formed a plan of care. The worst case scenario included a possible field amputation to remove the patient quickly if his condition deteriorated.

Paramedic Gaengan also made contact with the Haz Tac Lieutenant at the patient's side and began setting up IV medication and warming blankets. Communications were poor due to the noise emanating from the Con Ed vacuum truck, power tools and backhoe removing the dirt, forcing Paramedic Gaengan to continuously fight the mud, getting himself to an area where he could communicate face to face or via hand signals with the Medical Branch Director at the Command Post, providing updates and requesting additional supplies.

More than three hours had elapsed before the patient was freed from the grips of the quicksand-like mud. The patient's successful outcome was due to the commitment each member made, to work together, with the one goal of freeing this man in stable condition. All this was done while each member continuously struggled to stay on his two feet in the thick mud. For their dedication to the welfare of this patient, working in extraordinary conditions and demonstrating great initiative and improvisation skills, the FDNY presents Dr. David Ben-Eli, Dr. Douglas A. Isaacs and Paramedic Japhet G. Gaengan with the Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn Medal.--AA



Victim was extricated from the Bull's liver and transported to the hospital.

*photo by James Kievom, New York Daily News*



# Battalion Chief Frank T. Tuttlemondo Medal CAPTAIN FREDERICK N. FUCHS ENGINE COMPANY 306

March 11, 2013, 0217 hours, Box 75-6128, Queens

*Appointed to the FDNY on February 4, 1985. Previously assigned to Ladder 127 and 15. Father, Captain Frederick Fuchs (now deceased), was retired from Ladder 21. Member of the Steuben Association. Recipient of a Unit Citation. Holds a BS degree in Personnel Management from American International College and a Juris Doctorate from City University of New York School of Law. Resides in Glen Cove, Long Island, with his wife, Lisa, and their son, Douglas, and daughter, Natalie.*

Being assigned to a single engine company sometimes requires the members of that company to operate alone for a period of time. A heroic or lifesaving act can occur during these solitary moments. In the early-morning hours of March 11, 2013, Captain Frederick Fuchs and his crew working in Engine 306 in Bayside, Queens, found out exactly what it was like to be in this situation.

At 0217 hours, Engine 306 and Tower Ladder 164 were assigned to Queens Box 6128 for a residential automatic alarm in a private dwelling. On Engine 306's arrival, Captain Fuchs did not notice anything out of the ordinary with the two-story, 20- by 40-foot, peaked-roof, wood-frame private dwelling. However, as the Captain approached the front of the house, he observed a man entering the front door carrying a fire extinguisher. After inquiring, the man replied, "my father has set his bedroom on fire!"

Hearing this information, Captain Fuchs immediately entered the house, ascended the stairs to the half-landing and saw flames emanating from the top and sides of the father's bedroom door. He immediately instructed FF Angelo Novelli, Engine 306 ECC, to transmit a signal 10-75 for a fire on the second floor of a private dwelling. Captain Fuchs also instructed FFs Stephen Buonavita, Engine 306 nozzle, and Brian Zolzer, Engine 306 back-up, to stretch a 1¾-inch hose-line to the second floor forthwith.

After confirming with the son that his father, indeed, was in the bedroom, Captain Fuchs donned his SCBA and forced open the bedroom door. Instantly, he was met with fire running up the door frame to his right, proceeding above his head, as well as many objects in the bedroom free-burning. Captain Fuchs began his search of the bedroom, located and searched on and around the bed, but was unsuccessful in locating the man's father. As conditions continued to deteriorate in the bedroom, Captain Fuchs made his way back to the hallway and questioned the son, who was on the half-landing, regarding the possible whereabouts of his father.

The son stated that his father had a stroke and could not self-evacuate and that it was possible he was in the bath-

room. Still without a charged hose-line in place, Captain Fuchs re-entered the bedroom for a second time, made his way through the closet between the bedroom and the bathroom and finally located the father, who was behind the bathroom door and wedged between the toilet and the wall. The Officer transmitted a signal 10-45 over his handie-talkie and began to pull the victim out from behind this area and dragged him to the closet area.

With Engine 306's nozzle team now positioned at the half-landing with the hose-line and the rapidly deteriorating conditions in the bedroom, Captain Fuchs called for the assistance of FF Buonavita. Together, the pair successfully dragged the victim from the closet to the bedroom, but were halted by the intense heat and fire that now blocked their successful exit. FF Buonavita called out to FF Zolzer, who proceeded to open the hose-line, pushing back the fire and permitting Captain Fuchs and FF Buonavita to complete removal of the victim. FFs Buonavita and Carlo Casoria, Engine 306 control, carried the victim to the members of another engine company, who provided first aid. The victim was transported to the hospital. The members of Engine 306 then proceeded to extinguish the remaining fire.

After the fire was extinguished, the members of Engine 306 learned that this house had undergone major alterations, including the relocation of interior stairs and conversions of the adjacent bedroom into a long, large closet and master bathroom.

Both windows in that portion of the house were sealed up, which had eliminated the possibility of a rescue from the exterior.

As stated by Battalion Chief James Doherty, Battalion 53, "Captain Fuchs acted without the protection of a charged hose-line and showed individual bravery and capability in his search, discovery and removal of the victim." Without the swift decision-making by Captain Fuchs and the teamwork and determination exhibited by the entire crew of Engine 306 that early morning on March 11, 2013, the outcome for this victim could have been tragic. It is for these reasons that Captain Frederick N. Fuchs is honored with the Battalion Chief Frank T. Tuttlemondo Medal.--KC



Captain Frederick N. Fuchs (second left), with his Engine 306 crew--FFs Stephen Buonavita, Carlo Casoria, Brian Zolzer (kneeling) and Angelo Novelli.



# Dr. John F. Connell Medal

## LIEUTENANT ROBERT GREER

*LADDER COMPANY 38 (ASSIGNED)*

*LADDER COMPANY 39 (DETAILED)*

June 1, 2013, 0430 hours, Box 75-3685, Bronx



*Appointed to the FDNY on February 1, 2000. Previously assigned to Engine 46 and Ladder 27. Member of the Emerald and Holy Name Societies. Teaches extrication, subway operations as an instructor at the FDNY Academy. Resides in Buchanan, New York, with his wife, Amy, and their daughter, Ryan, and son, Robert.*

In the early-morning hours of June 1, 2013, Bronx Box 3685 was transmitted for a reported building fire. The first-due truck, Ladder 39, arrived on-scene and discovered a well-involved private dwelling. The truck Officer, Lieutenant Robert Greer, observed heavy smoke pushing from the windows on the second floor and the attic area above, with numerous occupants fleeing from the burning building.

Lieutenant Greer got on the radio and transmitted a 10-75. Then, he climbed down from the apparatus and began an exterior size-up. During this examination of the building, the Lieutenant observed a face at the top-floor attic window, which was pushing heavy smoke. He looked up again and the person who was there just a moment ago had disappeared into the thick smoke.

Knowing the victim did not have long to survive such conditions, Lieutenant Greer notified his outside team of the known life hazard and hustled into the house with his forcible entry team to attempt to reach the victim via the interior. As they climbed the stairway toward the second floor, Lieutenant Greer and his forcible entry firefighters encountered high heat and heavy smoke banking down the stairs.

When they reached the second-floor landing, they could see that the fire was blowing out of the doorway of the front bedroom and spreading down the interior hallway toward the stairs to the third floor. Knowing that a life hung in the balance, Lieutenant Greer ordered his water can

firefighter to hold the fire at the bedroom door with the extinguisher while he attempted to pass the fire and ascend the stairs to the floor above the fire to reach the victim.

Arriving on the top floor, Lieutenant Greer encountered heavy heat and smoke conditions that left him with zero visibility. He moved cautiously through the first bedroom he encountered with negative results. He quickly crawled into the front bedroom and, knowing that the victim was running out of time, he called out. He heard a muffled moan and moved deeper into the smoky room to find a woman beside the bed, on the floor, unconscious.

At this point, the rescuer lifted the victim and carried her through the heavy heat and smoke and down the stairway. As he descended onto the second floor, he was forced to shield the victim from the extending fire with his body. Lieutenant Greer carried the woman down and out of the house and delivered her to EMS personnel in front of the building before returning to his crew inside the building.



Ladder 38 operates at a third alarm on Belmont Avenue. For a different incident, Lieutenant Robert Greer is presented with the Dr. John F. Connell Medal. He credits the courageous efforts of Engine 63 and Ladder 39 members in facilitating this rescue.

It must be noted that the rescue performed by Lieutenant Greer was conducted without the protection of a charged hose-line and that he passed fire twice to bring the unconscious victim out of the building alive.

Due to his resourcefulness and bravery, a life was saved that June morning. To acknowledge his courage, the Fire Department of the City of New York is pleased to award the Dr. John F. Connell Medal to Lieutenant Robert Greer.--JJS



## Fire Bell Club Medal

### FIREFIGHTER RYAN C. O'NEIL

#### LADDER COMPANY 50

July 12, 2013, 0350 hours, Box 75-4048, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on August 5, 2007. Holds an AS degree in Science from Dutchess Community College. Resides in Walden, New York, with his wife, Denyse, and their sons, Aidan and Logan.*

When a run comes in for a fire in a private dwelling in the middle of the night, the Officers and Firefighters responding know that there is the possibility that people may be home and unable to evacuate on their own. On July 12, 2013, at 0350 hours, that was just the situation facing companies in the eastern Bronx when they responded to an alarm.

The original ticket that came in was for an intersection, but as the companies were responding, the dispatcher provided a specific address without the cross streets. When the first-due engine arrived at the Box, there was nothing showing at the corner, so the engine continued, looking for a house address and had to loop around the block, causing a delay. The first- and second-due engines arrived at the fire simultaneously.

Engine 72 transmitted a 10-75 for a fire in a two-story, flat-roof, private dwelling, measuring 35 by 75 feet. The building had a front entrance at basement level and an additional entrance to the first floor via a high entrance stoop. The fire was on the first floor and extended up the interior stairs to the second floor.

The forcible entry team of Ladder 50 proceeded to the front door and FF Ryan C. O'Neil, the irons Firefighter, forced the door of the private dwelling. He was joined on the inside team by Lieutenant Thomas J. Bendick, Battalion 13, and FF Jorge Sanchez, Jr., 50 Truck. Entering the first floor of the dwelling, the members were met with high heat and a heavy smoke condition from the fire in the living room. Fire and smoke were extending out and over their heads.

FF O'Neil could see the glow of

the fire, which was also in the kitchen in the rear of the house. While the Firefighter was making his search, the fire completely extended from the living room to the kitchen and self-vented from the rear windows. He knelt down below the smoke, which was banked down to about one foot above the floor. He spotted a victim lying on the floor about 20 feet down the hallway. Without the protection of a charged hose-line, FF O'Neil made his way down the hallway and located a large, adult male victim on the floor outside the living room.

A 10-45 was transmitted and FF O'Neil removed the man back to the front door, where FF Sanchez assisted him in removing the victim from the fire building and to the street. The man was transported to the hospital and, unfortunately, died.

Once the rescue was completed, the inside team of 50 Truck closed the door to the house, forced to exit the building due to the deteriorating conditions and the need for a hose-line to attack the fire. They tried to make entry back into the house to conduct an additional search, but were unable to do so because of the untenable conditions. A total of four 10-45s were located and removed from the fire building, including three on the second floor, after the hose-line was in place.

For his quick and decisive actions in locating and initiating the removal of a victim from a rapidly extending private dwelling fire, FF Ryan C. O'Neil, Ladder 50, is officially recognized by the FDNY on Medal Day with the Fire Bell Club Medal.--NG



Ladder 50 operates at a four-alarm fire during one of the many winter 2014 snowstorms.

# Deputy Commissioner Christine R. Godek Medal

## MANHATTAN SERIAL ARSON TASK FORCE

September 8, 2013, 0509 hours,  
Box 782, Manhattan



**SUPERVISING FIRE MARSHAL THOMAS G. KANE, *SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT***  
**SUPERVISING FIRE MARSHAL ERIC H. HANSEN, *CITYWIDE SOUTH COMMAND***  
**FIRE MARSHAL MICHAEL J. KAVANAGH, *SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT***  
**FIRE MARSHAL PHILIP P. MEAGHER, *CITYWIDE SOUTH COMMAND***

There are many motives associated with the crime of arson, but to FDNY Fire Marshals (FMs), the crime of arson is directly linked to loss of life or serious injury to civilians and/or Firefighters. The FBI's National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime describes arson as a violent crime, often taking the lives of innocent people, while also causing tremendous losses in property. Fire Marshals know all too well from experience that the greatest danger is associated with the serial arsonist, who will continue to set fires over a period of time, sometimes years. The fires are carefully planned and cloaked in secrecy, making apprehension difficult.

It was an early-morning fire at a trendy midtown hotel that drew the attention of an alert team of Fire Marshals and launched a major case investigation into a string of unsolved arsons in Manhattan. On September 8, 2013, at 0509 hours, the Manhattan Fire Dispatcher received a report of fire at Box 782, a 29-story midtown hotel. Responding FDNY units--Engine 34/Ladder 21, Engine 54/Ladder 4 and Battalion 9--arrived to find panicked occupants streaming into the lobby from all upper floors. Battalion 9 reported fire on two separate floors, 18 and 22. This fire made the public stairway impassable, trapping unsuspecting occupants above. FDNY members quickly attacked both fires, brought them under control and conducted a search for overcome or injured occupants.

The Bureau of Fire Investigation (BFI) dispatched a team of investigators. FMs Philip P. Meagher and Andre Ramos from the Citywide South Command responded, as did Supervising Fire Marshal (SFM) Eric H. Hansen. A forensic examination determined that the fires on both floors were the result of arson and that the fires were set in a manner that would cause the greatest amount of chaos and potential injury to hotel occupants.

Members of the BFI's Special Investigations Unit responded: SFM Thomas G. Kane and FMs Michael J. Kavanagh, Daniel Flynn, John Watkins and Brian Kane. FM Salvatore Hill was assigned as the intel analyst. A multi-layered investigation was organized that centered on motive, with a focus on creative methods of developing investigative leads and sources of information. Fire Marshals began with the time-consuming task of taking a hard look at registered guests, as well as visitors to the

popular nightclub in the hotel.

Investigation determined that there had been several previous fires at the hotel dating back to October 2011. A comprehensive data base analysis of the fire-setter's method of operation highlighted a possible link to several earlier fires at a second Manhattan hotel location. There was no question, Fire Marshals were hunting for a serial arsonist who had been operating since 2009.

Fire Marshals also delved deeply into the hotel computer-based access key tracking system and the on-premises security staff. This effort ultimately developed the leads that would break the case. Using superior analytic techniques, Fire Marshals began to focus on several members of the security staff. Behavior analysis interview techniques drew their attention to a specific individual, a veteran employee who served as the chief of security.

An additional background check determined that the security chief had been previously employed at the other hotel where similar fires had occurred. The overall investigation by Fire Marshals resulted in an overwhelming amount of evidence against the chief of security that soon led to a full confession. The chief of security was arrested by Fire Marshals and indicted on numerous counts of arson and reckless endangerment. A long-operating serial arsonist had been brought to justice.

This is a significant investigation brought to a successful conclusion by highly valued members of this Department. This group of Fire Marshals--committed to excellence--has demonstrated the tenacity and resourcefulness found only in the most dedicated law enforcement professionals. Their actions in this investigation represent the highest traditions of the BFI and the FDNY.

The results of this investigation send forth a powerful message to those individuals whose depraved indifference for life bring great peril to the citizens of New York, as well as to the members of the FDNY. It is with this in mind that the Manhattan Serial Arson Task Force members--SFM Thomas G. Kane, SFM Eric H. Hansen, FM Michael J. Kavanagh and FM Philip P. Meagher--are awarded the Deputy Commissioner Christine R. Godek Medal.--JDL



# Firefighter Kevin C. Kane Medal

## FIREFIGHTER JOHN COLON LADDER COMPANY 59

December 11, 2013, 0936 hours, Box 75-2961, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on January 27, 2002. Previously assigned to Engines 6 and 235. Serves with the Coast Guard Reserves. Recipient of a Unit Citation. Resides in Walden, New York, with his wife, Elizabeth, and their son, Joshua, and daughters, Isabella and Victoria.*

On December 11, 2013, at 0900 hours, FF John Colon was ready for duty. He was about to begin what he thought was going to be a regular tour. Little did he know that just 36 minutes later, he would be making life-and-death decisions.

Passing fire without a properly positioned hose-line is one of the most dangerous and important decisions a Firefighter can make. This decision requires a steadfast commitment to training and trusting the members around you. Ladder 59, as usual, operated with no hesitation to perform the duties that each member of the New York City Fire Department is sworn to do.

At 0936 hours, the Bronx Communications Office transmitted Box 2961, reporting a fire in a multiple dwelling. As Ladder 59 approached the location, numerous people were self-evacuating from a six-story, non-fireproof building. Smoke began to fill the street, adding to the panic. People were screaming that there was a fire on the second floor and the apartment was occupied. Engine 43, the first-due engine, reported that they were delayed. When they did arrive, they noticed the first serviceable hydrant was located remotely from the fire building. This would not be an ordinary stretch for Engine 43.

As Ladder 59's inside team arrived on the second floor, members were met with a smoke condition. The search for the apartment door ensued. As they arrived at the apartment, the doorknob was in the locked position. Ladder 59 forced and gained control of the door and Lieutenant Joseph Ginley instructed FF Colon, with the irons, to perform a right-handed search.

As FF Colon began searching, he realized he was getting closer to the fire; heat became noticeable and vision diminished. The Firefighter

knew he was searching toward the seat of the fire and if someone was trapped in this area, only seconds separated that person from life and death. As his search continued, the Firefighter was obstructed by personal belongings and furniture.

The fire had started in the rear bedroom and burnt through the door. It now was over the head of FF Colon. He had to decide: wait for water or continue. He continued his search and made it past the fire.

FF Colon now was in a tight spot. He made it into the living room, found a recliner and felt what he thought was a pile of clothes. Upon further investigation, he had found the missing occupant and gave a 10-45 for the fire victim. The heat at this point became unbearable and he began to drag a motionless body past fire and toward the door from which he entered. The search on the way in was hard, but dragging the female victim down a cluttered hallway proved to be even more difficult.

Lieutenant Ginley made his way to the hallway and assisted with the removal. FF Cody Baker, with the water can, operated the can above the heads of both members, to force the fire back and give them the seconds needed to reach the public hallway.

Engine 43 began operating the line and forced the fire back to its original room. Simultaneously, FF Colon provided medical care to the victim he had just rescued. She was handed off to Engine 42 members, who were joined by EMS personnel, who transported the woman to the hospital. Fortunately, this family was able to celebrate the holiday season instead of planning a funeral.

If not for the quick actions of Ladder 59 and FF Colon--exchanging his personal safety for a chance to make a difference--a person wouldn't be alive today. FF John Colon's selfless actions are acknowledged as he is awarded the Firefighter Kevin C. Kane Medal.--RL



Shown above are Ladder 59 FFs John Walsh, John Colon (recipient of the Firefighter Kevin C. Kane Medal) and Cody Baker (recipient of the Frank W. Kridel Medal).

# Probationary Firefighter Thomas A. Wylie Medal FIREFIGHTER RYAN C. BLACKWELL

*ENGINE COMPANY 62 (ASSIGNED)  
LADDER COMPANY 32 (DETAILED)*

September 14, 2013, 0605 hours, Box 75-3460, Bronx



*Appointed to the FDNY on January 14, 2013. Father, FF Christopher Blackwell, Rescue 3, was killed at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. Resides in Brewster, New York.*

Historically, in the New York City Fire Department, following in your father's or even grandfather's footsteps to become a Firefighter is a regular occurrence. What is a little more rare is continuing a family tradition of saving the life of a New York City resident. However, that is precisely what happened on the morning of September 14, 2013.

Probationary FF Ryan C. Blackwell (son of FF Christopher J. Blackwell, Rescue 3, who was killed on September 11, 2001, at the World Trade Center terrorist attacks), Engine 62--only four months out of the Fire Academy--was detailed to work the night tour across the floor in Ladder 32. At 0605 hours, the *Gunhill Gang* received a telephone alarm to respond to Box 3460 in the Bronx for a structural fire. While en route, units were notified of additional calls of smoke from various floors throughout the building.

On arrival, Engine 62 members observed fire and smoke venting out several fifth-floor windows and transmitted a 10-75. Ladder 32, commanded by Captain Patrick Tracy, arrived and headed into the fire building with his inside team--FFs Blackwell with the water can and Vincent A. Musacchio at the forcible entry position.

Captain Tracy, notified by fleeing occupants that there were people trapped in an apartment, promptly relayed that information to his members and Battalion Chief William Bonasera, Battalion 20, and headed to the fifth floor via the interior stairs. At the apartment door, FFs Musacchio and Blackwell forced entry and were immediately faced with high heat and zero visibility.

After gaining control of

the apartment door, the members of Ladder 32 began their search without the protection of a charged hose-line. Captain Tracy and FF Blackwell headed right and FF Musacchio went to the left. FF Blackwell was ordered to use his extinguisher to contain the fire to protect the other members while they conducted their searches. FF Blackwell notified Captain Tracy that his extinguisher was completely discharged. He was ordered to conduct a search of a rear bedroom.

Crawling past the fire toward the bedroom, he came upon the motionless form of an adult woman in the hallway. After notifying his Officer of the 10-45, FF Blackwell dragged the victim back through the apartment, past the uncontained fire and into the public hallway. At this point, she was handed off to Squad 61 members for patient care. After transferring care of the woman, FF Blackwell quickly re-entered the fire apartment to continue and complete his normally assigned duties.

In his report, Deputy Chief Michael Gunning, Division 7, said, "Firefighter Blackwell rescued the victim by going past heavy fire with no visibility and without the protection of a hose-line...his determination and aggressiveness saved the life of this woman." FF Blackwell completely disregarded his own safety and acted in the highest traditions of the FDNY and the woman is alive today because of his initiative.

On Medal Day 2014, the Fire Department, City of New York, recognizes Probationary Firefighter Ryan C. Blackwell's actions and presents him with the Probationary Firefighter Thomas A. Wylie Medal.--TM



Probationary FF Ryan Blackwell (left) and FF Vincent Musacchio (right) discuss their respective rescues at a press conference. Captain Patrick Tracy, Ladder 32, congratulates them both.



# Captain John J. Drennan Memorial Medal CAPTAIN RAYMOND J. FARRELL, JR.

*DIVISION 3 (ASSIGNED)*

*LADDER COMPANY 43 (DETAILED)*

**November 8, 2013, 0109 hours, Box 75-1328, Manhattan**

*Appointed to the FDNY on July 16, 1989. Previously assigned to Engine 38 and Ladders 51 and 21. Father, Lieutenant Raymond Farrell, is retired from Engine 72 and brothers, FFs Dennis and David Farrell, are retired from Ladder 59 and Engine 37, respectively. Member of the Emerald and Holy Name Societies and the FDNY Anchor Club. Instructor for Annual Education Day. Holds a BS degree in Criminal Justice from St. Thomas Aquinas College. Resides in Hawthorne, New York, with his wife, Eileen. Proud father of three daughters--Suzanne, 24, Elizabeth, 21, and Kathleen, 20.*

Shortly after one o'clock in the morning of November 8, 2013, the tone alarm's shrill alert notified the members of Ladder 43 to respond to a fire in an 18-story, multiple dwelling. Simultaneously, the Manhattan fire alarm dispatcher announced that numerous calls were being received for a fire in the structure.

Under the command of Captain Raymond Farrell, the company made its way to the reported address and, on arrival, was met in the lobby by two frantic women who advised that a young child was trapped in an apartment on the eighth floor. Captain Farrell took the elevator to two floors below the fire. At this point, he confirmed the floor layout and passed this information to the Officer of Engine 91, Lieutenant Brian Fox. Then, the Captain took the stairs to the eighth floor, where the fire was located.

One of the apartment's occupants had fled the premises and left the apartment door ajar, which filled the public hallway with heavy, black smoke. In fact, the extremely dense smoke made it impossible to use a thermal imaging camera to locate victims. As the Captain and his forcible entry team--FFs Justin Pelka with the water can and Nathan Evans with the irons--made their way to the fire apartment, they were hampered, not only by the heat and smoke, but by numerous obstructions in the hallway. These obstructions included a shopping cart, suitcase, clothing and other household items.

Several pieces of information had to be considered by Captain Farrell. There was a heavy smoke condition, fire was blowing out one of the windows, Firefighters were searching and removing injured and trapped occupants and the possibility of a flashover

loomed. Captain Farrell elected to remain at the door in order to control the flow of the flames. Additionally, he shouted and banged on the floor and door in order to generate sufficient noise to guide the Firefighters engaged in a search effort away from the blaze to safety.

As the Firefighters were removing occupants from the apartment, they called for assistance from Captain Farrell. He immediately entered a bedroom and commenced searching. He located an adult man, gasping for air. He quickly shielded the man from the flames and they crawled out of the danger zone. Captain Farrell removed the man to the floor below the fire and handed the victim off to receive medical attention. Subsequently, the man was hospitalized. The Captain then returned to the fire apartment to resume searching for victims and supervising the group effort of Ladder 43 and Engine 91 members.

From this narrative, it is evident that Captain Farrell had to assume a number of roles at this fire and rescue operation. He participated in the physical activities of mitigating the fire conditions, supervised the actions of his crew, searched for and

removed a victim and constantly maintained situational awareness in order to ensure the safety of his company.

All of the Captain's actions were taken without the protection of a hose-line. He operated alone and without regard for his personal well-being. For acting in the finest traditions of the fire service and the FDNY in particular, it is with great pride that the Captain John J. Drennan Memorial Medal is presented to Captain Raymond J. Farrell, Jr.--BDG



**Captain Raymond Farrell, with his Ladder 43 members--FFs Andy Hawkins, Justin Zorbo, Al Serino, Curt Green and Pat Carr.**



## Jack Pintchik Medal

February 11, 2013, 1416 hours, Bronx



### PARAMEDIC CARLOS S. MULLER STATION 15

*Appointed to EMS as an Emergency Medical Technician on October 22, 2001. Previously assigned to Stations 26 and 20. Veteran of the Marine Corps and served in Iraq in 2003. Resides in Sleepy Hollow, New York, with his wife, Maggie, and their sons, Samuel and Maximilien.*

### PARAMEDIC DAVID H. VILLARUEL STATION 15

*Appointed to EMS as an Emergency Medical Technician on July 16, 2012. Previously assigned to Stations 26 and 19. Now assigned to Station 39. Holds an AS degree in Applied Sciences from the Borough of Manhattan Community College. Resides in Brooklyn with his wife, Belkis Medina, and their daughter, Daviny.*

Paramedics Carlos S. Muller and David H. Villaruel are both assigned to Station 15 in the Williamsbridge section of the Bronx. With 12 years on the job, Paramedic Muller is no stranger to life-and-death situations. Such experience proved valuable to his partner, Paramedic Villaruel.

February 11, 2013, had started like any other normal day for the pair of Paramedics. However, their third call of the day made it a day the two of them will never forget.

After leaving Montefiore Hospital, the crew was immediately flagged down by a crowd of people on East 231st Street. They surveyed the scene and were directed to a two-story, two-family house on fire. Paramedic Muller contacted the Bronx dispatcher and notified them of the situation and to have additional resources respond.

The Paramedics then began to don their personal protective equipment when instinct and training took over. Paramedic Muller entered the house armed with only a single fire extinguisher. He was met by occupants of the first floor who told him everyone had left from the first floor, but people were still upstairs.

Entering the smoke-filled second floor, he found several people and advised them to evacuate the building. At this point, a male teenager advised Paramedic Muller that his grandmother was in the front room.

When he entered the bedroom, Paramedic Muller found an elderly female who was confined to her bed. He made a rapid assessment of her and determined that the woman could be moved safely downstairs in the stair chair.

Paramedic Muller immediately ran downstairs and retrieved his partner. The pair returned to the smoke-filled second floor and safely extricated the woman to the waiting ambulance. Now in a safe environment, the two Paramedics performed a thorough and detailed assessment of the woman and transported her to the hospital.

These members acted with the safety of the public in mind. Without their courageous actions, as well as quick thinking, the day might not have had such a successful outcome. For their bravery, Paramedics Carlos S. Muller and David H. Villaruel are being honored today with the Jack Pintchik Medal.--ES

# Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal

## ENGINE COMPANY 210

February 15, 2013, 0213 hours, Box 44-634, Brooklyn

**LIEUTENANT CHRISTOPHER J. CORSI**  
**FF JOHN R. DELGADO**  
**FF TERRY R. LAFONTANT**  
**FF SEAN P. MAHONEY**  
**FF JAMES K. SMITH**



The Department's annual Medal Day singles out exemplary acts of courage by individuals. These awards are altogether fitting and proper. But some operations--due to their scope and complexity and by the action of an entire company--require our attention and also attest to the character, skill and bravery of members of this great Department. This was the case on a cold February night when the members of Engine 210 once again were called into service and demonstrated why FDNY members are known as New York's *Bravest*.

At 0213 hours on February 15, 2013, Engine 210 was directed to respond to a reported structural fire on the top floor of 200 Willoughby Avenue, Brooklyn Box 634. The 80- by 100-foot, six-story, class 6 structure on the campus of Pratt Institute was constructed in 1879 and is a City landmark. Responding in as first-due engine that night, *Fort Greene's Bravest* were led by Lieutenant Christopher J. Corsi, with FFs Sean P. Mahoney, chauffeur, James K. Smith, nozzle, John R. Delgado, back-up, and Terry R. Lafontant, control.

Arriving on-scene in fewer than four minutes, the company found the top floor ablaze with heavy fire emanating from every window. Fire also was coming through the roof, with flames venting approximately 60 feet into the air. A 10-75 signal was given and the company quickly gained access to the gated campus and took up station at a hydrant adjacent to the building. FF Mahoney hooked up a 3½-inch supply line to the Siamese connection in front of the building and, assisted by the Engine 219 chauffeur, hooked up an additional supply line to the first-floor standpipe.

By this time, the rest of the company, with folded hose and standpipe kit, had ascended to the floor below the fire. Lieutenant Corsi directed the hose lengths be connected and hooked up to the fifth-floor standpipe. At this point,

members of Engine 211 arrived and added a length of their hose to the stretch. With the stretch made and hose flaked out, FFs Smith and Delgado quickly moved into position on the top floor, while FF Lafontant remained in the stairway to remove kinks and charge the hose-line when ordered.

When the line was charged, the team moved to the point of attack and was met with an advanced fire and high heat conditions. The area involved featured cubicles and lockers containing paint, aerosols and numerous types of combustible material, which fueled the inferno. Because of the large amount of fire and space involved (coupled with collapsing roof boards), the hose team realized it would take time to knock down this fire.

With this in mind, FFs Smith and Delgado exchanged positions periodically in order to keep a steady push on the fire. While this was occurring, FF Lafontant ensured the hose team had the proper pressure, the line advanced amid worsening conditions and additional lines were stretched. Engine 210's aggressive effort allowed the fire to be extinguished by an interior attack and without the defensive tactics of a tower ladder operation and greater damage to this historic structure.

In his report of the incident, Deputy Chief Robert Strong, Division 11, noted, "the fire was rapidly consuming this iconic structure and its preservation is directly attributed to the operations undertaken by the members of Engine 210." Therefore, in light of this exceptional effort, the Fire Department is proud to honor the members of Engine Company 210--Lieutenant Christopher J. Corsi and FFs John R. Delgado, Terry R. Lafontant, Sean P. Mahoney and James K. Smith--today with the Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal.--DH



Engine 210 members are honored with the Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal for their aggressive interior attack, which minimized the damage to the historic Pratt Institute.

*photo by Bill Tompkins*



# Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal

## RESCUE COMPANY 3

December 1, 2013, 0720 hours, Box 22-4972, Bronx

***CAPTAIN JAMES P. ELLSON***

***FF ROBERT J. ATHANAS***

***FF BRIAN T. BROWNE***

***FF DANIEL R. FOLEY***

***FF JAMES D. HODGES, II***

***FF PAUL M. PATSOS***

**S**unday morning, December 1, 2013, at 0720 hours, the Spuyten Duyvil Metro North Station became the scene for one of the worst railroad tragedies in New York history. The Bronx Fire Communications Office received calls reporting a train crash and derailment with people trapped. Rescue 3 was special-called and responded with their very experienced crew: Captain James P. Ellson and FFs Robert J. Athanas (chauffeur), Brian T. Browne (irons), Daniel R. Foley (roof), James D. Hodges, II (water can) and Paul M. Patsos (outside vent).

Captain Ellson and the company were confronted with a southbound Metro North commuter rail train that had derailed and been thrown across several hundred yards of track, wooded area and waterfront. As he approached the scene from the fence line, Captain Ellson took in the full magnitude of the incident and radioed Battalion Chief James McMorrow, Battalion 27, with a brief description of the scene and recommended a 10-60 signal.

Access was the first problem to be addressed so FFs Patsos and Foley cut the fence and guard rail to accommodate the large numbers of civilians and responders who would be entering and leaving the scene. This location remained the main access/egress for the entire operation. Captain Ellson and FFs Browne and Hodges proceeded to the track area and found the seven-car train and locomotive (leaking diesel fuel) were tossed from the tracks, each in a different stage of danger.

Captain Ellson split his company into three two-member teams to cover as much of the train and scene as possible, to determine the number of casualties and other hazards that would affect the overall safety of the responders. He then divided the scene into two areas--the first four cars and the last three cars and locomotive. He directed FFs Patsos and Foley to survey the perimeter of the train and report any pertinent information.

FFs Athanas and Hodges were directed to survey car four, which was in a precarious, unstable position. Captain Ellson and FF Browne entered this car to start a search for victims. All members were operating in a triage-tagging mode of a mass casualty incident. (Triage is structured based on START, simple triage and rapid treatment, that allows patients to be grouped or sorted by maximizing resource capabilities. START comprises four categories, based on a quick evaluation of a patient's respiration, circulation and mental status. The breakdown follows: Red Tag--immediate; Yellow Tag--delayed; Green Tag--minor; and Black Tag--deceased/non-salvageable.) With this tactic in operation, car



four yielded four red tag and three orange tag patients. As the car rocked back and forth, Captain Ellson decided to have these patients removed immediately. Assisted by other FDNY units, FFs Athanas and Hodges began removing these injured passengers.

Captain Ellson and FF Browne kept moving forward in their search and entered car three, which was on its side and had to be entered via the broken door windows. They found three red tags, five orange tags, numerous yellow tags and one deceased patient pinned under the train car.

FFs Patsos and Foley reported in car one that there was one red tag and numerous yellow tags needing medical attention. Captain Ellson then climbed into car two where he found 30 to 40 passengers in-between the two cars; they had self-evacuated. He instructed them to remain in place awaiting rescue personnel. FFs Athanas and Hodges completed their patient removal and worked toward the locomotive.

FF Browne was relieved and met up with Captain Ellson to work in car two, along with FFs Patsos and Foley. They discovered many other victims, as well as another fatally injured passenger trapped under the train. Removal of the victims was challenging as none of the doors was operable and the train cars were on their sides. FF Athanas reported that a search of the locomotive was negative.

With help from Squad 61 members, Captain Ellson requested that FFs Athanas and Hodges prepare a tools cache that would be needed to extricate the two deceased victims. Captain Ellson and the members of Rescue 3 and Squad 61 used the best method for removing the victims, mindful of the major investigation of this incident. They unearthed and dug around the victims, rather than moving or disturbing the train cars' placement. This task was done by hand. When the removal of all the victims was completed and they were handed off to EMS personnel, Rescue 3 conducted a secondary search of all the cars. The Command Post then ordered Rescue 3 to work with Rescues 1 and 4 to shore and stabilize the still unsecure car four.

Rescue 3 operated at this tragedy--that ultimately killed four people--for more than five hours. They assisted the numerous injured passengers, secured the cars and made safe a very dangerous scene for civilians and fellow responders. Their training, expertise and professionalism were noted by all on-scene. It is with great honor that Rescue Company 3 is awarded the Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal.--AP

# World Trade Center Memorial Medal

## LADDER COMPANY 176

August 29, 2013, 0918 hours, Box 22-0861, Brooklyn

*LIEUTENANT*

*GEORGE W. GUINAN*

*FF MICHAEL P. BACHEK*

*FF JOSEF B. FISCHER*

*FF AARON L. GARDNER*

*FF DANIEL A. SAALFRANK*

*FF TROY TALDONE*



While Lieutenant George W. Guinan was going over some last-minute items at roll call, Box 861 came in, immediately followed with the ominous information of “possible people trapped.” A well-trained and disciplined unit will adjust to that and respond as they have hundreds of times before. This time, the information was accurate.

Ladder 176 arrived as assigned, first-due at this Box, where members encountered a three-story, non-fireproof, old law tenement (two railroad apartments per floor). There was heavy fire at the entry door of the first floor, which was rapidly extending up the interior stairs. The fire was so intense, the inside team had to wait for the line to be stretched so they could enter and advance.

Other members of the unit were completing their assignments and giving reports. Lieutenant Guinan looked up to see a woman at the top-floor front window with a heavy volume of smoke issuing around her. The outside vent Firefighter, FF Michael P. Bachek, gave his report: “Heavy smoke condition on upper floors and numerous people trapped behind window gates on the second and third floors.” The report from the roof position, FF Daniel A. Saalfrank, indicated children trapped at the top-floor, open-end shaft window.

As soon as the line began to move in, the interior team of Lieutenant Guinan and FFs Aaron L. Gardner and Troy Taldone made their primary search of the first-floor apartments, then moved ahead of the line to the second floor. Once on the second floor, the Lieutenant split his team up to cover as much ground as possible in the shortest amount of time.

After forcing two doors, two second-floor victims were found and taken to the rear windows for removal. FF Josef B. Fischer, the chauffeur, raised his aerial to the top-floor front window, adjacent to another victim’s location. (The woman was leaning over a window air-conditioning unit and it would have been impossible to remove her from this window.) FF Fischer entered the highly charged room and assisted the woman back to his aerial where he took her down to the turntable and awaiting members. On this trip down, the woman advised FF Fischer

that her children were still in the apartment. FF Fischer immediately ascended the aerial again and continued his search of the top floor for the children.

FF Saalfrank had gained access to the roof via exposure #4. After completing his primary duties and making his report of the children trapped at the third floor, preparations were underway to make a lifesaving rope rescue. Squad 252 members had been dispatched to the roof for this operation. FF Saalfrank was locked in and on the parapet when the team was informed that the victims were being removed via the interior.

FF Bachek gained access to the rear via exposure #4 and then over a fence, which separated the two yards. Dropping the “drop ladder,” he ascended the rear fire escape where he found numerous people trapped behind window bars on the second and third floors. After giving his report and requesting assistance, FF Bachek began the arduous task of removing the window bars and window frame. Once removed, he entered the highly charged room and assisted the three people who were trapped onto the rear fire escape.

When this was completed, he immediately moved up to the third floor and again removed the window bars enough to enter the room. Once in the room, he assisted a person to the fire escape, continued his search of the room and located two more victims. At this point, a member from Squad 252 arrived to assist in moving the victims from the fire escape to the ground.

To quote Deputy Chief Michael Ajello, Division 15, “Their simultaneous rescue/removal operations included the ladder company chauffeur effecting a rescue via aerial ladder; the outside vent Firefighter via the rear fire escape; and the inside team searching the fire floor. Ladder 176’s actions undoubtedly saved the lives of the occupants located and removed. Of the multiple 10-45s at this fire, five were code 2s, indicating the seriousness of their exposure. The outstanding cooperative effort of the unit displayed at the operation, in my opinion, is worthy of recognition by the Board of Merit.”

Today, we honor Ladder 176 members for their valiant efforts with the World Trade Center Memorial Medal.--JTV

## Service Rating A

FF Anthony Arroyo, L-103  
FF Cody J. Baker, L-59  
FF Daniel A. Baron, R-5  
FF John Colon, L-59  
FF Noel T. Curry, L-125  
FF Nathan F. Evans, L-43  
Capt. Christopher G. Eysser, D-15  
Capt. Raymond J. Farrell, Jr., D-3  
Capt. Robert M. Forde, L-121  
Capt. Frederick N. Fuchs, E-306  
FF Bryan D. Gemmill, L-13  
FF Jacob M. Gershen, L-29  
FF Thomas W. Gies, L-147  
Lt. Robert Greer, L-38  
Capt. Paul M. Jirak, L-22  
FF Kevin J. Lynch, L-14  
FF Christopher R. Macri, L-56  
Lt. Christopher K. Mangels, L-121  
Capt. James P. McCarthy, E-264

FF Patrick P. McElvaney, L-22  
Capt. Paul A. Miller, D-13  
FF Salvatore Mirra, Jr., L-138  
FF Martin B. Murphy, L-58  
FF Brian C. Naylor, L-147  
FF Louis J. Nicolosi, L-125  
FF Vincent T. Niesi, L-111  
FF Ryan C. O'Neil, L-50  
FF Jose L. Ortiz, L-6  
FF Michael F. Peacock, L-134  
FF Justin A. Pelka, L-43  
FF Michael Perrone, L-175  
FF Kevin M. Ruane, L-83  
FF Christopher J. Slow, L-11  
FF Christopher A. Slutman, L-17  
FF Eric J. Swailes, L-136  
Lt. George L. Torres, R-4  
FF James P. Trainor, Jr., E-15  
Capt. Kevin H. Woods, L-33

## Service Rating B

FF Andrew B. Bowman, L-7  
Lt. Hugh F. Boyle, L-61  
FF Stephen Buonavita, E-306  
Lt. Brian D. Burik, Bn-28  
FF Brian T. Dessart, L-121  
Capt. James P. Ellson, R-3  
FF George E. Finnerty, L-150  
FF Charles A. Garofalo, L-49  
FF Raymond F. Germaine, L-106  
FF Vincent A. Giallombardo, L-161  
Lt. Donald R. Hodgkinson, Bn-53  
FF Steven A. Hoek, M-6  
FF Peter A. Kenney, L-56  
FF Andrew L. Maxwell, L-55  
FF John J. McCann, R-1  
FF James P. McEntee, L-43  
FF Richard I. Miranda, R-1

FF Brian J. Mohr, L-19  
FF Christopher Morgan, R-1  
FF Brett A. Munsey, L-163  
FF Matthew J. Murphy, R-1  
FF Eugene F. Nickola, L-133  
FF Raymond B. Olsen, L-105  
Lt. William J. Olson, L-55  
Lt. Vincent I. Perdikou, E-275  
FF Jaret M. Radimer, L-104  
FF Konstantine Rallis, E-28  
FF Jovan F. Scott, L-106  
FF Michael J. Shea, L-159  
FF Matthew J. Taylor, L-47  
Lt. Ernesto Tirado, L-47  
Lt. Kevin V. Tully, L-19  
FF Jeffrey Warner, L-158

# Bureau of Fire Investigation--BFI

## Service Rating A

July 29, 2013, FM Daniel E. Flynn, SIU  
September 8, 2013, FM Philip P. Meagher, CWS  
November 4, 2013, FM Anthony Kotowicz, CWS  
November 8, 2013, FM Andre Ramos, CWS  
November 13, 2013, FM Brett R. Nebel, CWS

## Service Rating B

January 10, 2013, FM John P. Watkins, SIU  
May 7, 2013, FM Michael J. Kavanagh, SIU  
July 23, 2013, FM John V. Franzone, Jr., CWS  
August 24, 2013, FM Constantine J. Kanelopoulos, CWS  
August 29, 2013, FM John R. Orlando, CWS  
October 12, 2013, FM Brian T. Kane, SIU  
October 12, 2013, FM Brian M. Krebs, CWS

## Unit Citations

<b>Firearms &amp; Tactics Unit</b> BFI Training 2013	<b>Arson/Homicide/Multiple 45s</b> August 29, 2013, Box 861
<b>5th Alarm Arson/Homicide</b> January 10, 2013, Box 319	<b>Arson/Domestic Violence</b> October 10, 2013, Box 4110
<b>3rd Alarm Arson</b> April 6, 2013, Box 4784	<b>Arson/Burglary Task Force</b> October 17, 2013, Box 1256
<b>Arson Investigation</b> April 20, 2013, Box 4402	<b>Multiple 10-45s</b> November 8, 2013, Box 1328
<b>Arson/Burglary</b> July 23, 2013, Box 807	<b>Richmondtown Task Force</b> November 13, 2013, Box 2853
<b>Firehouse Burglaries</b> July 29, 2013, Multiple Boxes	<b>5th Alarm Fire</b> December 13, 2013, Box 1626

# Unit Citations

**Ladder Company 58**

June 10, 2012 Box 75-2907

**Ladder Company 51**

September 28, 2012 Box 4482

**Ladder Company 105**

November 5, 2012 Box 1238

**Ladder Company 147**

November 30, 2012 Box 75-2494

**Engine Company 235**

January 11, 2013 Box 22-937

**Engine Company 214**

January 11, 2013 Box 22-937

**Ladder Company 104**

January 22, 2013 Box 44-124

**Engine Company 221**

January 22, 2013 Box 44-124

**Engine Company 54**

January 25, 2013 Box 75-802

**Engine Company 81**

February 9, 2013 Box 75-3500

**Ladder Company 46**

February 9, 2013 Box 75-3500

**Ladder Company 26**

February 11, 2013 Box 10-77-1349

**Engine Company 210**

February 15, 2013 Box 44-634

**Engine Company 219**

February 15, 2013 Box 44-634

**Ladder Company 49**

February 23, 2013 Box 2351

**Ladder Company 55**

March 17, 2013 Box 75-2384

**Ladder Company 43**

March 19, 2013 Box 33-1233

**Squad Company 41**

March 19, 2013 Box 33-1233

**Rescue Company 1**

March 19, 2013 Box 33-1233

**Ladder Company 152**

April 1, 2013 Box 75-9722

**Ladder Company 24**

April 12, 2013 Box 713

**Engine Company 96**

May 4, 2013 Box 75-2609

**Ladder Company 129**

June 10, 2013 Box 4475

**Squad Company 18**

June 12, 2013 Box 75-915

**Rescue Company 1**

June 12, 2013 Box 75-915

**Ladder Company 151**

June 18, 2013 Box 75-3180

**Engine Company 305**

June 18, 2013 Box 75-3180

**Squad Company 288**

June 18, 2013 Box 75-3180

**Rescue Company 4**

June 18, 2013 Box 75-3180

**Rescue Company 2**

June 18, 2013 Box 75-3180

**Squad Company 252**

June 18, 2013 Box 75-3180

**Engine Company 48**

June 23, 2013 Box 22-3570

**Ladder Company 125**

June 27, 2013 Box 6623

**Engine Company 299**

June 27, 2013 Box 6623

**Ladder Company 11**

July 3, 2013 Box 417

**Engine Company 74**

July 5, 2013 Box 1152

**Rescue Company 5**

July 11, 2013 Box 75-0036

**Ladder Company 78**

July 11, 2013 Box 75-0036

**Engine Company 317**

July 11, 2013 Box 75-5681

**Ladder Company 149**

July 22, 2013 Box 8037

**Ladder Company 46**

August 21, 2013 Box 8415

**Ladder Company 176**

August 29, 2013 Box 22-861

**Engine Company 233**

August 29, 2013 Box 22-861

**Ladder Company 111**

August 29, 2013 Box 22-861

**Engine Company 157**

September 5, 2013 Box 751

**Engine Company 289**

September 12, 2013 Box 75-7955

**Engine Company 16**

September 17, 2013 Box 8608

**Ladder Company 110**

October 12, 2013 Box 431

**Ladder Company 7**

October 15, 2013 Box 22-738

**Engine Company 45**

October 28, 2013 Box 22-2851

**Engine Company 94**

October 28, 2013 Box 22-2851

**Engine Company 324**

October 31, 2013 Box 8400

**Rescue Company 1**

November 3, 2013 Box 160

**Engine Company 91**

November 8, 2013 Box 10-77-1328

**Engine Company 88**

November 11, 2013 Box 75-3323

**Engine Company 80**

November 24, 2013 Box 33-1571

**Rescue Company 3**

December 1, 2013 Box 22-4972

**Engine Company 81**

December 1, 2013 Box 22-4972

**Squad Company 61**

December 1, 2013 Box 22-4972

**Ladder Company 46**

December 1, 2013 Box 22-4972

**Engine Company 52**

December 1, 2013 Box 22-4972

**Ladder Company 52**

December 1, 2013 Box 22-4972

**Engine Company 95**

December 1, 2013 Box 22-4972

**Engine Company 42**

December 11, 2013 Box 75-2961

**Engine Company 48**

December 19, 2013 Box 75-4904

**Ladder Company 147**

December 20, 2013 Box 2485

## CFR Pre-Hospital Save Commendations

*January-December 2013*

### January 2013

Engine Company 9, January 20  
Engine Company 24, January 24  
Engine Company 38, January 17  
Engine Company 62, January 31  
Engine Company 64, January 14  
Engine Company 68, January 6  
Engine Company 76, January 31  
Engine Company 79, January 23  
Engine Company 160, January 17  
Engine Company 216, January 1  
Engine Company 220, January 26  
Engine Company 229, January 6  
Engine Company 231, January 27  
Engine Company 234, January 16  
Engine Company 263, January 18  
Engine Company 283, January 26  
Engine Company 301, January 21  
Engine Company 314, January 29  
Engine Company 323, January 28  
Engine Company 331, January 25

### February 2013

Engine Company 8, February 22  
Engine Company 9,  
February 13 and 15  
Engine Company 23, February 23  
Engine Company 59,  
February 1 and 3  
Engine Company 79, February 24  
Engine Company 89, February 4  
Engine Company 155, February 10  
Engine Company 163, February 3  
Engine Company 218, February 26  
Engine Company 231, February 10  
Engine Company 240, February 1  
Engine Company 246, February 24  
Engine Company 249, February 15  
Engine Company 262, February 17  
Engine Company 273, February 24  
Engine Company 274, February 10  
Engine Company 281,  
February 15 and 25  
Engine Company 291, February 10  
Engine Company 325, February 1  
Engine Company 332, February 17

### March 2013

Engine Company 1, March 5  
Engine Company 15, March 31  
Engine Company 44, March 22  
Engine Company 79, March 14  
Engine Company 97, March 21  
Engine Company 154, March 11  
Engine Company 214, March 18  
Engine Company 234, March 25  
Engine Company 241, March 26  
Engine Company 243, March 29  
Engine Company 246,  
March 15 and 19  
Engine Company 263, March 16  
Engine Company 280, March 6

### April 2013

Engine Company 5, April 30  
Engine Company 16, April 25  
Engine Company 47, April 6  
Engine Company 48, April 12  
Engine Company 50, April 12  
Engine Company 55, April 12  
Engine Company 75, April 1  
Engine Company 151, April 25  
Engine Company 202, April 4  
Engine Company 221, April 21  
Engine Company 236, April 12  
Engine Company 249, April 27  
Engine Company 273, April 24  
Engine Company 283, April 20  
Engine Company 287, April 15  
Engine Company 293, April 16  
Engine Company 305, April 25  
Engine Company 307, April 15  
Engine Company 330, April 13

### May 2013

Engine Company 22, May 9  
Engine Company 28, May 11  
Engine Company 67, May 7  
Engine Company 79, May 22  
Engine Company 219, May 29  
Engine Company 225, May 10  
Engine Company 243,  
May 13 and 20  
Engine Company 246,  
May 3 and 17  
Engine Company 248, May 22  
Engine Company 255, May 30  
Engine Company 266, May 22  
Squad Company 270, May 20  
Engine Company 276, May 5  
Engine Company 286, May 25  
Engine Company 298, May 13  
Engine Company 310, May 6  
Engine Company 324, May 12  
Engine Company 325, May 9

June 2013

Engine Company 3, June 12  
Engine Company 15, June 3  
Engine Company 63, June 7  
Engine Company 69, June 18  
Engine Company 88, June 5  
Engine Company 92, June 10  
Engine Company 96, June 1  
Engine Company 155, June 5  
Engine Company 160, June 7  
Engine Company 253, June 5  
Engine Company 271, June 7  
Engine Company 301, June 15  
Engine Company 305,  
June 13 and 17

July 2013

Engine Company 38, July 31  
Engine Company 65, July 31

August 2013

Engine Company 8, August 19  
Engine Company 15, August 3  
Engine Company 21, August 17  
Engine Company 23, August 2  
Engine Company 26, August 5  
Engine Company 52, August 10  
Engine Company 76, August 28  
Engine Company 81, August 21  
Engine Company 89, August 30  
Engine Company 96, August 3  
Engine Company 158, August 29  
Engine Company 166, August 29  
Engine Company 206, August 21  
Engine Company 251, August 31  
Engine Company 266, August 29  
Engine Company 273, August 2  
Engine Company 280, August 3  
Engine Company 282, August 8  
Squad Company 288, August 23  
Engine Company 298,  
August 1 and 23  
Engine Company 299, August 4  
Engine Company 304, August 25  
Engine Company 321, August 8  
Engine Company 324, August 15  
Engine Company 331, August 3

September 2013

Engine Company 38,  
September 1 and 26  
Engine Company 44, September 6  
Engine Company 45, September 17  
Engine Company 48,  
September 2 and 21  
Engine Company 79, September 18  
Engine Company 82, September 4  
Engine Company 95, September 10  
Engine Company 163,  
September 23  
Engine Company 206,  
September 19  
Engine Company 221, September 5  
Engine Company 243,  
September 23  
Engine Company 247,  
September 28  
Engine Company 274,  
September 20  
Engine Company 276,  
September 25  
Engine Company 279,  
September 19  
Engine Company 281,  
September 25  
Engine Company 292,  
September 20  
Engine Company 298,  
September 29  
Engine Company 305,  
September 21  
Engine Company 325,  
September 28

October 2013

Engine Company 74, October 16  
Engine Company 94, October 28  
Engine Company 155, October 18  
Engine Company 166, October 6  
Engine Company 167, October 12  
Engine Company 210, October 25  
Engine Company 227, October 7  
Engine Company 229, October 7  
Engine Company 233, October 9  
Engine Company 234, October 8  
Engine Company 263, October 7  
Engine Company 273,  
October 8, 9 and 25  
Engine Company 275, October 19  
Engine Company 283, October 30  
Engine Company 287, October 18  
Engine Company 291, October 23  
Engine Company 292, October 12  
Engine Company 293, October 23  
Engine Company 297, October 27  
Engine Company 301, October 28  
Engine Company 302, October 3  
Engine Company 305, October 24  
Engine Company 307, October 24  
Engine Company 308, October 23  
Engine Company 314, October 22  
Engine Company 315, October 3  
Engine Company 317, October 24  
Engine Company 321, October 26  
Engine Company 325, October 16

November 2013

Engine Company 34, November 8  
Engine Company 48, November 10  
Engine Company 155, November 4  
Engine Company 210, November 11  
Engine Company 225, November 9  
Engine Company 233,  
November 8 and 8  
Engine Company 243, November 2  
Engine Company 251, November 15  
Engine Company 257,  
November 15 and 15  
Engine Company 273, November 15  
Engine Company 283, November 13  
Engine Company 317, November 15  
Engine Company 320, November 11

December 2013

Engine Company 257, December 23

## EMS 2013 Pre-Hospital Save Awards

*Number in parentheses indicates multiple saves.*

EMT Byron P. Abad	EMT Melinda Aviles	Paramedic Robert Bonome, Jr. (2)	Lieutenant Elizabeth Cascio
Lieutenant Paul E. Abate, Jr.	EMT Gillian M. Axtens (2)	Deputy Chief Lillian A. Bonsignore	Captain Kevin M. Cassidy
EMT Isa-Isha Abdulkarim-Middleton	Paramedic Angel D. Ayala	Lieutenant Frank Borello (3)	Paramedic Julian D. Castaneda
Paramedic Iller Abramov	EMT Arzu Aydogdu	Paramedic Yan S. Borukhov	EMT Joseph Castelli
Paramedic Justine P. Abruzzo (2)	Paramedic Babacar Ba	Paramedic Staci M. Bossack	EMT Sidney G. Castiblanco
EMT Antonio Accardo	Lieutenant Chantel Bacot (4)	EMT John A. Bottone	EMT Ruben A. Castillo
Paramedic Brandon K. Adams	Paramedic Anthony B. Baijnauth	Lieutenant Kelly Boulter	Lieutenant Salvatore Catania
EMT Ahmed A. Adekoya	EMT Francesco Baldanza	EMT Isaac I. Bouskila	Lieutenant Andre Catapano
EMT Denzel T. Adonis	EMT Jennifer E. Banegas	EMT Antoinette A. Bovell Ali	Paramedic James P. Cavaliere
Paramedic Antonio Adorno	Paramedic Felicia S. Bangura	Lieutenant Schyler C. Boyd	Paramedic Marcos A. Cavallo (2)
Lieutenant Ileana D. Adrat	EMT Johnsy J. Baptiste (2)	Lieutenant Richard Bracken (2)	Lieutenant Cemal Cengiz
Lieutenant Jeanne A. Aikins	Paramedic Matthew A. Barbella (2)	Paramedic Gregg T. Brady (2)	EMT Jose R. Cerda Matos
EMT Gregory Aimable	EMT Catherine A. Barnes	Paramedic Shane Brady (3)	Lieutenant Jorge D. Chalen (3)
EMT Shakeel Ajaz (2)	Paramedic Ethan Barningham (2)	Paramedic Fredrick Brandt	EMT Christopher L. Chalmers (2)
Paramedic Rene F. Alaby	Paramedic Kenneth M. Barone	Paramedic Joel P. Brathwaite	Paramedic Marvin K. Chan
EMT Elias Alachouzos	EMT Kenneth H. Barriteau	Paramedic Rudolph Brathwaite	EMT Wilson Chan
Paramedic Joseph Albo	EMT Michael I. Barrow	Paramedic Victor I. Brathwaite (2)	EMT George Chandler, Jr.
EMT Shaun Alexander	Paramedic Jason J. Bartels	Paramedic Charles R. Braun (3)	Paramedic Stephen H. Chang (4)
EMT Mir M. Ali	Lieutenant Anthony T. Bartolomey	Deputy Chief Martin Braun	EMT Christopher G. Chaplin
Lieutenant Rosemarie Alibrandi (2)	Lieutenant Brendan M. Bass (3)	EMT Erik R. Bressingham	EMT Teresa Charry
Lieutenant Richard Allas	Lieutenant Moses O. Bastien (3)	EMT Yvette R. Brignol	Paramedic Francis Checo
EMT Kevin M. Allen	Lieutenant Andrew Bates (2)	EMT Kevin M. Bristol	EMT Zhen Huan Chen
EMT Shanice D. Alleyne	EMT Mark Batista	Paramedic Lauren A. Broccoli	Paramedic Kenny Cheng
EMT Wendell Alleyne	EMT Nicholas Batista	Paramedic Artur G. Bronshteyn	Paramedic Stuart I. Chenkin
Paramedic Farouk Ally (2)	Lieutenant James Bayreuther (2)	EMT Jonathan Broome	EMT Timur Chernichkin
Paramedic Daniel J. Almandoz (3)	EMT Jean M. Beaubrun	Paramedic Cleo O. Brown	Paramedic Christopher Chin (2)
EMT Christopher R. Alsina	EMT Jamelya J. Beauharnais	EMT Joshua Brownstein	Deputy Chief Phillip Chindelas (2)
EMT Gabrielle Altobelli	EMT Gandhi Beauvil	EMT Ronald Bulaclac (2)	Paramedic Martha C. Cienfuegos-Ortiz
Lieutenant Rae Ammirati	Lieutenant James Becker (3)	Paramedic George Burbano	Lieutenant David Cira
Paramedic Michele E. Anderson	Paramedic Jagmeet S. Bedi	Paramedic Daniel Burgos (2)	EMT Glenn C. Clapp
EMT Tameeka Anderson	Paramedic Leonardo A. Bedoya	Lieutenant David Burke (4)	EMT James C. Clark (2)
EMT Nicholas A. Antonelli	EMT John Beltram (2)	Paramedic Eva Busa Farkas	EMT Keith A. Clark
EMT Yvonne A. Aparicio	EMT Jacqueline J. Benel	EMT Sandra A. Butler	EMT Walter H. Clark
EMT Hector Aquino	Paramedic Jose O. Benitez	Lieutenant Keshica M. Byrd (3)	EMT Courtney D. Clarke
Paramedic Jean Carlos Arache (3)	Lieutenant Sean Benjamin (4)	Lieutenant Ralph Cabello	Paramedic Edward A. Clarke
EMT Stephen C. Aran (2)	EMT Janet Bentkowski	Paramedic Christell E. Cadet	Captain Lizette Claro
Paramedic Paul A. Ardizzzone (2)	Paramedic Victor S. Berrios	Lieutenant Steven M. Caggiano (3)	EMT Steve C. Clavel
Paramedic Jose R. Arias (2)	Paramedic Richard Berroa (2)	Lieutenant Giovanna M. Caldarella	Paramedic Johana Clerge
Lieutenant Carlos Ariza	Paramedic David K. Besemer (2)	Paramedic Zaith Camejo	Paramedic Ryan K. Clunes
EMT Corey T. Arneeman	EMT Christopher M. Betancourt	Lieutenant Steven F. Cameron (3)	EMT Robert C. Codrington
Paramedic Joseph Q. Arnold (2)	EMT Michael F. Bifulco	Paramedic Daniel R. Campanelli (2)	Paramedic John F. Coleman
EMT Benzion Aron	Paramedic Peter J. Bilardello	Paramedic Patricia Campbell (2)	Paramedic Dwayne A. Coley
EMT Alexander V. Arroyo	Lieutenant Christopher J. Bilz	Paramedic Cassandra R. Campolo (3)	EMT Andres F. Coll Martinez (2)
EMT Yadira Arroyo	EMT Randall S. Bingham	EMT Yaniri E. Canales (2)	EMT Amanda P. Collazo
Lieutenant Lloyd C. Arscott	EMT Franklyn Birnbaum	Paramedic Joy H. Canter (2)	Paramedic Gardenia D. Collins
Paramedic Pietro Arsenault (2)	Paramedic Timothy J. Bittar	Lieutenant Mark R. Caplan (2)	Paramedic Eric J. Colvil
EMT Alejandro O. Arzeno	EMT Anthony Blain	EMT John J. Capunay	EMT Richard E. Comerford
EMT Alejandro O. Arzeno	Paramedic Conor B. Bliss	EMT Alberto C. Caraballo	Paramedic Gregory Companion (6)
EMT Rohan L. Ashby	Paramedic Thomas J. Blumbergs	EMT Jorge Carbonell	EMT Jeremy A. Condit
EMT Wayne V. Askew (2)	EMT Aline D. Bocanegra	EMT Alfred Carcani	EMT Daniel T. Conklin
Lieutenant Christopher Attanasio (3)	Paramedic Peter R. Bockwoldt (2)	Paramedic Robert J. Carlo (2)	Paramedic Andria L. Connell
Lieutenant Peter G. Auricchio	EMT Abdul M. Boddington	Lieutenant Linda Carlson	Paramedic Brenda M. Contreras
EMT Linda Avellino	Lieutenant Richard T. Bonet	Paramedic Stephen W. Carpenter	Captain Louis Cook
EMT Jesan Michael A. Avila Hyde	Paramedic Kenold Bonhomme	Paramedic Mark C. Carroll	Paramedic Nicholas C. Cordova
Paramedic Freddy Aviles (2)	Paramedic Ferdinand D. Bonifacio		Lieutenant Luis Corrales (4)
Lieutenant Gilberto Aviles	Captain Mark A. Bonilla		EMT Leila Cosme
EMT Lido Aviles	Paramedic Frantz Bonneau		Lieutenant Anthony S. Cozzino (2)



EMT Patrick M. Creeden  
 EMT Robert Crews  
 Paramedic James V. Crispino  
 Paramedic Conrad C. Cross  
 EMT Christopher F. Crutchfield  
 EMT Emilio Cruz  
 Paramedic Gina Cruz (2)  
 Paramedic Jose L. Cruz (2)  
 EMT Luis R. Cruz  
 Paramedic Yeny F. Cruz  
 EMT Adrian F. Culcay  
 Lieutenant Timothy B. Cusack  
 Lieutenant Michael C. Daddona  
 Paramedic Joseph A. Dagosto  
 Paramedic Donna J. Dagrossa  
 Lieutenant Joseph T. Daly (3)  
 Lieutenant Jonathan T. Damato (2)  
 Paramedic John W. D'Andrea (2)  
 Paramedic Mary E. D'Angelo  
 EMT Rheinhold R. Danglade  
 EMT Sencia Datilus  
 EMT Brian M. Daur  
 Lieutenant Roy David  
 EMT Kenneth J. Davis, Jr.  
 EMT Stanley Davis  
 Lieutenant Brendan P. Dean  
 EMT Anthony J. Decesare  
 Captain Carolyn I. Deevy (2)  
 Lieutenant Jesus V. Deinnocentiis  
 EMT Baldwin DeJesus  
 Lieutenant Gilbert Dejesus  
 EMT Felix W. Delacruz  
 Lieutenant William J. Delaney (2)  
 EMT Filomena F. Deleon  
 Lieutenant Robert R. Deleon, Jr.  
 EMT Helenmarie Delgado  
 Lieutenant Jose L. Delgado (2)  
 EMT Bryan J. Deliz (2)  
 EMT Vincent C. Dellova  
 Lieutenant Christopher Deluca  
 Lieutenant Michael A. Demarco  
 Paramedic Christopher Demott (4)  
 Paramedic Michael J. Dennehy  
 Paramedic Brian Desantis  
 Lieutenant Fredric C. Desarno, Jr. (6)  
 EMT Steve A. Desgouttes  
 Paramedic Anthony Desir (2)  
 EMT Zachary L. Deutsch  
 EMT Christopher M. Devine, Jr.  
 EMT Margaret Devlin (2)  
 EMT Michael M. Dias  
 Lieutenant Lawrence A. Difiore  
 Lieutenant Patrick J. Dillon  
 Lieutenant John Paul Dimen (3)  
 Paramedic Trinh K. Dinh (5)  
 EMT Manuel Dominguez  
 EMT Jean J. Dominique  
 EMT Justin D. Donaldson  
 EMT Patrick F. Donawa  
 EMT Ellis C. Dones  
 EMT Frederick C. Dorner  
 EMT Christopher M. Downey  
 Lieutenant Erin P. Doyle  
 Lieutenant Angela Dragotto (2)  
 EMT Catherine Drizis  
 Lieutenant Steven S. Dubin  
 EMT Christopher L. Duffus  
 Lieutenant Richard H. Dun (2)  
 Lieutenant William Duncklee  
 EMT Seleana D. Dunton-Muhammad  
 Paramedic Michelange Dussuau  
 EMT Bryan T. Easop (2)  
 EMT Christopher Echevarria  
 EMT Wayne S. Edgar (2)  
 Lieutenant Wa-il K. Eldahry (4)  
 EMT Ariel R. Elghanayan  
 Paramedic Doraun L. Ellis  
 Lieutenant Christopher R. Emhardt  
 Paramedic John A. Emington  
 Paramedic Andrew J. Enderes  
 Lieutenant Richard L. Erdey (2)  
 EMT Mark A. Estick (2)  
 EMT Fatima D. Estrada  
 Lieutenant John B. Eyzaguirre (2)  
 EMT Daniel J. Fazzino  
 Paramedic David A. Fein  
 EMT Joseph A. Felder  
 EMT Lisa D. Feldman (2)  
 Paramedic Christopher M. Feliciano  
 EMT Michael A. Fennell (2)  
 EMT Blair A. Fenty Dawson  
 Paramedic Samuel L. Fernandez  
 Paramedic Ray L. Ferreira  
 Paramedic Oscar Ferry  
 Lieutenant Brett H. Fields (2)  
 Paramedic Jerry A. Figueroa  
 EMT Kenneth M. Fink  
 EMT Ross P. Finkelstein  
 Lieutenant Thomas Finn  
 Paramedic Andrew P. Fiorillo  
 EMT Matthew M. Fiorito  
 EMT Brendan J. Fitts (2)  
 Paramedic Daniel Fitzpatrick (2)  
 Paramedic Vince Flood  
 Paramedic Richard G. Flower  
 Paramedic Gregory L. Floyd (3)  
 Paramedic Tisha Floyd  
 EMT Monique O. Follins  
 EMT Shauna S. Forrest  
 Paramedic Joseph R. Fortis (2)  
 Paramedic Elvira L. Francis  
 Lieutenant Ralph A. Francisco (2)  
 Paramedic Helen M. Franco (2)  
 EMT John V. Franzone  
 Paramedic Brian E. Frayne (3)  
 Paramedic Michael P. Fregonese (2)  
 Captain Lisa M. Freitag  
 Paramedic Stephanie M. French  
 Paramedic Joshua L. Frumer  
 Lieutenant James P. Furlong  
 Paramedic Kenshin Furuta  
 Paramedic Japhet G. Gaengan  
 EMT Alfredo H. Garcia  
 EMT Jessy B. Garcia  
 Lieutenant Maria Garcia (3)  
 Paramedic Miguel A. Garcia  
 Paramedic Joshua J. Gardiner  
 EMT Michael D. Gayle  
 EMT Edison N. Gbor  
 EMT Paul A. Gebhardt  
 Paramedic Bruce C. Geiser (2)  
 Paramedic Edward Gerber (2)  
 Paramedic James J. Geronimo  
 EMT Domenick R. Gerrardi  
 EMT Douglas E. Gertz (2)  
 Paramedic Matthew J. Giacalone  
 EMT Robalino Giannella  
 EMT John R. Gilbert  
 Lieutenant Dave A. Gill (5)  
 EMT Norman Gillard  
 EMT Michael B. Ginty  
 Lieutenant Joseph A. Gioielli (2)  
 Paramedic Linette A. Gipson  
 EMT Roy Givens, Jr. (2)  
 Paramedic Erlis Gjyrezi  
 Lieutenant Abraham B. Glatzer (3)  
 Lieutenant Sheldon Glaubach  
 Lieutenant Michael J. Glenn  
 EMT Travis C. Gluck  
 EMT Christopher R. Godsey  
 EMT Robert T. Goldberg  
 Paramedic Erica A. Golino  
 EMT Henry W. Gomez  
 EMT Carlos Gonzales  
 Paramedic Christopher Gonzales  
 Paramedic Emilo Gonzalez  
 Paramedic Enrique A. Gonzalez  
 Paramedic Jason Gonzalez  
 EMT Jose Gonzalez, Jr. (2)  
 EMT Luis Gonzalez  
 Lieutenant Sergio H. Gonzalez (6)  
 Lieutenant Susan Gonzalez (2)  
 Paramedic Robert Goodwin  
 EMT Anthony S. Gordon (2)  
 Paramedic Valerie J. Gosling-Martinez  
 EMT Peter M. Gospodinov  
 Paramedic Kahlia D. Graham  
 Paramedic Marcio A. Grano de Oro  
 Lieutenant Feliks Granovskiy (2)  
 EMT Kyle J. Grassia  
 Lieutenant Steven Graulau (2)  
 EMT Jason N. Gray  
 Paramedic Michael A. Greco (3)  
 Lieutenant Alan M. Greenberg  
 Lieutenant Kendra C. Gregory (2)  
 Paramedic Jeremy E. Griffel  
 EMT Brett D. Grill  
 EMT Taras Y. Grynyk  
 EMT Jimmy M. Guailacela  
 EMT Tiana Guglielmo  
 EMT Karel Guibert-Delgado  
 Lieutenant Luis F. Gutierrez (2)  
 Paramedic Brian G. Gutkin  
 Paramedic Lydia M. Gutnick  
 Paramedic Richard Guzman  
 Lieutenant Nancy M. Gwillym (2)  
 Paramedic James P. Gwillyn  
 Lieutenant Bruce Haas (3)  
 Lieutenant Andrew S. Haber (2)  
 Paramedic Claude V. Hall (4)  
 EMT Michael Hannan  
 Lieutenant Thomas Hannan (2)  
 EMT Chad W. Hannon  
 EMT Luke Hardcastle  
 Paramedic Michael Hargett  
 EMT Rajindra Harnarain  
 Captain Charles Harris (5)  
 EMT Jaclyn Y. Harris  
 EMT Keesha Harris (2)  
 EMT Jessica R. Hart  
 Paramedic Kimberly L. Hattan (2)  
 Paramedic James S. Hayter  
 Paramedic Michael J. Healey  
 EMT Kevin E. Healy  
 EMT Shawn P. Healy (3)  
 Paramedic William P. Heegan  
 Paramedic John A. Heer  
 EMT Arallia Q. Heggss  
 Paramedic Christian T. Hehn (2)  
 Lieutenant Robert W. Heins  
 Paramedic Cristobal V. Hernandez (2)  
 EMT Henry Hernandez, Jr. (2)  
 EMT John L. Hernandez  
 Paramedic Joseph A. Hernandez (3)  
 EMT Matthew K. Hernandez  
 EMT Ocean M. Herrera  
 EMT James J. Hoffman  
 Paramedic Chaundel L. Homer  
 EMT Michael B. Hood  
 Paramedic Steven C. Hornbrook  
 EMT James E. Howe  
 EMT Bryan D. Hoyos  
 Paramedic Joseph J. Hudak  
 EMT Gary Hui  
 Paramedic Jennifer M. Hunt  
 EMT Alan C. Hurtado (2)  
 Paramedic Derek Hutchinson  
 Paramedic Eric W. Ingram  
 Lieutenant Mahammad Iqbal (2)  
 EMT Wendi L. Ireland (2)  
 EMT Melissa L. Irizarry (2)  
 Paramedic Gregory Jackman  
 EMT Rudolph M. Jagernauth  
 Lieutenant Peter F. Jakubowski  
 Paramedic Sonia James-Raju  
 EMT Tony Jarani  
 EMT Sade Jeannot-Monchik (2)  
 Captain Joseph Jefferson  
 Lieutenant Walter Jehle (3)  
 EMT Malcolm O. Jenkins  
 Paramedic Kevin K. Jennings (2)  
 EMT Marcus H. Jerome  
 Paramedic Daril W. Jimenez  
 Paramedic Chauncey L. Johnson  
 EMT Cory Johnson (2)  
 Paramedic Kenneth Johnson  
 EMT Michael D. Johnson  
 EMT Peter A. Johnson  
 EMT Ronald Johnson  
 EMT Sean H. Johnson

Lieutenant Stephen T. Johnson (2)  
 Lieutenant Andrew Johnston (2)  
 EMT Loobans B. Jolicoeur  
 Paramedic Brenda E. Jones (5)  
 Paramedic Jennifer A. Jones (2)  
 EMT Raheam A. Jones  
 Lieutenant Wayne Jones (4)  
 Paramedic Willie K. Jones  
 Paramedic Ian Jordan  
 EMT Elis Joseph  
 Paramedic Fritz Joseph  
 Paramedic Henderson O. Joseph  
 Paramedic Winsley J. Julien (2)  
 Paramedic Ravivarman Kailayanath  
 Lieutenant Michael Kaiser (2)  
 EMT Kyle J. Kanzenberg  
 Lieutenant David S. Karic  
 Paramedic Matthew I. Keene (3)  
 Lieutenant Kevin Kelleher  
 Paramedic Chante M. Kelly (2)  
 EMT Christopher J. Kelly  
 Paramedic Alexander Khalef  
 Paramedic David Kher  
 Paramedic Pavel Khriyenko  
 EMT Andrey Kirichenko  
 EMT Sergiy Kiseliuk  
 Lieutenant Moshe Klein (2)  
 EMT Jonathan R. Kleisner  
 EMT Kerone D. Knowles (2)  
 EMT Stanley G. Ko  
 Lieutenant Jing M. Kong (2)  
 Paramedic Brendan Konrad  
 EMT Brian D. Kopchynski  
 EMT Michael L. Kornberger  
 EMT Paul K. Kostadin  
 EMT David Kowalski  
 EMT Elyse L. Krakower  
 Paramedic Andrea R. Kripalani (2)  
 Lieutenant Irene Kruitien (2)  
 Lieutenant Jeff Krulfeifer  
 Lieutenant David R. Kruysman (2)  
 EMT Alexander F. Kulick  
 Paramedic Jason S. Kum  
 Paramedic Franklin Kupferberg (2)  
 EMT Lucio V. Laduca  
 EMT David J. Laffan, Jr. (3)  
 EMT Amy M. Lagaris  
 EMT Thomas A. Lagrega  
 Lieutenant Sean S. Lahey (2)  
 Paramedic Jowaheer Lall  
 Paramedic Larry Lam  
 Paramedic George Lampon  
 Lieutenant John Langley (3)  
 Lieutenant Joseph Lanzi (3)  
 Paramedic Yvonne S. Larock-Trail (2)  
 Paramedic Paul J. Larow  
 EMT Laticia N. Larrier  
 Paramedic Richard Laskowski  
 Paramedic Arina N. Lasserre (2)  
 Paramedic Terence Lau  
 EMT Eric D. Laukaitis  
 EMT Raymond E. Laurie (2)  
 EMT Stephen Laurikietis  
 EMT Frank L. Laurino  
 Lieutenant Giuseppe Lavore  
 EMT Myron M. Lawing  
 Lieutenant Nicole Lawrence (2)  
 Lieutenant Gaetano Lazzara (3)  
 EMT Andy Le (2)  
 EMT Johnathon R. Leavy  
 Lieutenant Kevin Lebby  
 Paramedic Michael J. Lebowitz  
 Paramedic Warren G. Lees  
 EMT Ronald J. Leggiadro  
 Lieutenant Katty R. Lejarde (2)  
 Paramedic Vito Leone  
 Paramedic Wayne A. Leslie (2)  
 EMT Jeffrey H. Levine  
 EMT Maurice W. Lewis  
 EMT Richard D. Lewis (2)  
 Paramedic Webster K. Lewis  
 Paramedic Randy Li  
 Paramedic Joseph M. Lieto  
 Paramedic Justin C. Lim (2)  
 Paramedic Kay Lincoln  
 Captain Matthew B. Lindner  
 Paramedic Jesse D. Lipton  
 Paramedic Rostislav Livinsky  
 EMT Krystle A. Liz  
 Lieutenant Telina A. Lloyd (2)  
 Paramedic Kyle D. Logiudice  
 EMT Vivian A. Lomacang  
 Lieutenant Alice Lomino  
 Lieutenant Carlos E. Lopez (2)  
 Paramedic Hoover Lopez (2)  
 Paramedic Johnny J. Lopez (3)  
 Paramedic Lisa Lopez (2)  
 Paramedic Luis E. Lopez (2)  
 EMT George A. Lorenz, Jr.  
 Paramedic Michael S. Loscalzo (2)  
 Paramedic Joseph R. Losquadro  
 EMT Margot P. Loth (2)  
 Paramedic Alexander Loutsky (2)  
 Lieutenant Kristin J. Lovegren-Boyle (2)  
 EMT Edwin A. Lozada  
 Paramedic Wanda Luciano  
 EMT Jessica O. Lunden  
 EMT Theresa Lustica  
 EMT Gary T. Luten  
 EMT Robert Lynch  
 Lieutenant Elizabeth J. Mackiewicz (2)  
 EMT Jeffrey F. Maduro  
 EMT Robert W. Magnuson (2)  
 EMT Daniel R. Mahlmann (2)  
 Paramedic Christopher Mahoney (2)  
 Paramedic Michael P. Mahoney (2)  
 Paramedic Sean P. Mahoney (2)  
 Paramedic Valeri Makarets  
 EMT Christopher Mallette (2)  
 Paramedic Andrew J. Malone (2)  
 Paramedic James F. Malwitz  
 EMT David Manashero  
 Lieutenant Neil E. Mancuso (2)  
 Paramedic Ralph V. Mangrella (2)  
 EMT Dexter A. Manifold  
 EMT Douglas M. Maningo  
 EMT Jennifer M. Marinello  
 Lieutenant David Marks (2)  
 Lieutenant Julio C. Marrero  
 Lieutenant Michael Mars (2)  
 Paramedic Kimberley M. Marshall  
 Lieutenant Michael Martin (3)  
 EMT Luis Martinez-Gutierrez  
 Paramedic Sylvia M. Martinez  
 EMT Robert C. Martucci  
 Lieutenant Renae T. Mascol (3)  
 Paramedic Daniel Mathieu (3)  
 Paramedic Conrad F. Matos (2)  
 Paramedic James J. Matthews  
 EMT Shawn M. Matthews (2)  
 EMT James R. Matthus (2)  
 EMT Daniel P. Mattina (3)  
 EMT Dorothea Mattocks (2)  
 EMT Anthony M. Mattola  
 Lieutenant Kevin M. Mazuzan  
 EMT Vincent A. Mazzarella (2)  
 Lieutenant Lori Mazzeo  
 EMT Michael J. Mazzola  
 Paramedic Daniel Mboh  
 EMT Ainsworth McCalla, Jr. (2)  
 Lieutenant Michael McCarthy (2)  
 Paramedic John P. McConnell (2)  
 EMT Michael P. McCormack (2)  
 EMT Brendan C. McCue  
 EMT Stephen F. McGowan (2)  
 EMT Joseph P. McGrath  
 Lieutenant Keith E. McGregor (2)  
 Paramedic James J. McGuire  
 EMT Brian P. McIntyre  
 EMT Kyle M. McKenna  
 Paramedic Charles J. McKeon  
 EMT Kevin McKeon  
 EMT Ryan J. Mckeown  
 Lieutenant Charles T. McLaughlin  
 Paramedic Tyrone S. McLune  
 Paramedic Stephen B. McNamara  
 Paramedic Trevvia S. McNeary  
 Lieutenant Eric R. McNeice  
 Lieutenant Joe McWilliams (3)  
 EMT Edward Medina (2)  
 EMT Marian D. Meinen (2)  
 Paramedic Michael B. Melas  
 EMT Allan Melendez  
 Lieutenant Debbie A. Mellon (2)  
 Paramedic Theodore Melnick (2)  
 Paramedic Jason G. Mendelsohn  
 Paramedic Jose E. Mendoza  
 EMT Moria D. Mercado  
 Lieutenant Mary Merced (3)  
 Paramedic William T. Meringolo  
 Paramedic Kerry D. Merkel  
 EMT Joseph Metz  
 EMT Joseph Meyer  
 EMT Anthony W. Mezzacappa  
 Paramedic Katerina Michael  
 Paramedic Joseph J. Michel  
 EMT Kirvens Michel  
 EMT Scott A. Michels  
 Lieutenant Terrance Middleton  
 Paramedic Alexandru Mihailescu  
 Paramedic Jennifer C. Millado-Marin  
 EMT Cilla M. Miller Richards  
 Lieutenant Joanne Miller (3)  
 EMT Johnny Miller  
 Paramedic Latisha R. Miller  
 Lieutenant Matthew Miller (2)  
 Lieutenant Jesse Minalgo  
 Paramedic Dariell Minyety-Berroa  
 EMT Andres Miranda  
 Lieutenant Anthony J. Miranda  
 Lieutenant Peter Mirando  
 Paramedic Juan D. Moncada (2)  
 Lieutenant Kevin F. Montgomery  
 Lieutenant William Moore (2)  
 Lieutenant Angelo Morales  
 EMT Isaiah E. Morales  
 EMT Jorge Morales  
 Paramedic Jose N. Morales  
 EMT Michael A. Moran  
 Paramedic Julie Moreland  
 EMT Christopher F. Moreno  
 EMT Edgar Moreta (2)  
 EMT Jennifer L. Morgana  
 Paramedic Emily M. Moy  
 EMT Steven Q. Moy  
 Lieutenant Susan A. Muller  
 Paramedic Brendan P. Mulroy (2)  
 EMT Michael C. Mulvihill  
 Lieutenant Brian C. Murphy  
 Paramedic Joseph J. Murphy  
 Paramedic Patrick Murphy (2)  
 EMT Ryan P. Murphy  
 EMT Lavern N. Murray  
 Paramedic Said A. Mustafa (2)  
 Paramedic Diana P. Muyudumbay  
 EMT Johanna M. Nan  
 Lieutenant Daniel Napoletano  
 Paramedic Kevin J. Nash  
 Paramedic Ari M. Nathanson  
 EMT Jean L. Naufable  
 EMT John J. Naughton (2)  
 Lieutenant Jonathan D. Negron  
 EMT Rebecca Negron  
 Paramedic Kim T. Nelthrope  
 Paramedic Samantha A. Neverson  
 EMT Christian A. Nieves (2)  
 Paramedic Vladimir Nikulin (2)  
 EMT Andy E. Nunez  
 EMT Andrea V. Occhipinti  
 Paramedic Liane Ochoa  
 EMT Justin P. O'Grady  
 EMT Charles Okai (3)  
 EMT Curtis Oliver (2)  
 Paramedic Makesi L. Oliver (2)  
 EMT Amber J. Olmo-Avalos  
 EMT Eve N. Omansky

Paramedic Meleki Y. O'Neal (2)  
 Paramedic Robert W. Oneil  
 Lieutenant William M. O'Neill (3)  
 EMT Steven J. Orloski  
 Paramedic Daniel P. Ornstein  
 EMT Kimberly A. Ororke (2)  
 EMT Carlos A. Ortiz  
 Captain Norman A. Ortiz  
 Captain Jeannette Otero  
 Paramedic Ricardo Otero  
 Paramedic Kyle M. Owens (2)  
 Paramedic Eric S. Ozechowski  
 Paramedic Arnold Pabon (3)  
 EMT Michael W. Pagan  
 EMT Alexander R. Pagano-Stalzer  
 EMT John M. Palladino  
 EMT Anthony V. Palmeri  
 EMT Odelmo M. Paltooram (2)  
 EMT Johnathan N. Papia  
 Paramedic McCray L. Parchment  
 EMT Dangelo B. Pariona  
 Paramedic Gregory W. Partch, Jr.  
 EMT Cristopher Partida  
 EMT Diana M. Partyka  
 EMT Matthew C. Pascale  
 Captain Anthony T. Pascarella  
 Paramedic Christian G. Pasco (2)  
 Paramedic Goretta Pasquier (2)  
 EMT John S. Paster  
 Paramedic Anal A. Patel (2)  
 EMT Richard J. Paterno  
 Paramedic Anthony T. Paulino  
 Lieutenant Abel J. Payero  
 EMT Leonel Pazos  
 EMT Christian Peguero  
 Lieutenant Esmerelda J. Pepper  
 EMT Alejandro Perez (2)  
 EMT Anthony R. Perez  
 EMT Elizabeth Perez  
 Paramedic Jamil N. Perez  
 EMT Johanna F. Perez  
 EMT Rachel Perez  
 EMT Raul Perez  
 EMT Ashley R. Pernice  
 Paramedic Chaz E. Perry  
 Paramedic Andre Persaud (2)  
 EMT Amanda M. Peters  
 Paramedic Kelly A. Peters  
 EMT Arnel Petit Mat  
 Lieutenant Stephan Petras (2)  
 Lieutenant Ron Pfeiffer (3)  
 Paramedic Megan M. Pfeiffer  
 Lieutenant Jon P. Phelan  
 EMT Timothy J. Phillips  
 Paramedic Andre F. Pierre Louis  
 Paramedic Jenelle K. Pierre  
 Paramedic Latasha L. Pierre  
 Paramedic John G. Pike  
 EMT Carlos Pilliza  
 Paramedic Justin H. Pinero  
 EMT Rodrigo K. Pinto  
 Paramedic James M. Pione (3)  
 EMT Christina Pirrone  
 Paramedic John R. Pneuman  
 Lieutenant Bernard Pogrebinsky (4)  
 Lieutenant Lawrence Pontrelli (3)  
 Paramedic James E. Porras  
 EMT Robert Portilla  
 Lieutenant Michael J. Potasso (4)  
 EMT Rohan A. Prince  
 Lieutenant Robin M. Printy (3)  
 EMT Kyle J. Pumillo (2)  
 EMT Annwon D. Quick  
 Lieutenant Jeffrey Quigley  
 EMT Michael L. Quinn  
 Lieutenant Antonio G. Quinones (3)  
 EMT Omar Quinones  
 EMT Tracey Quinonez-Hofknecht (2)  
 Paramedic Eddie Radovic  
 Lieutenant John P. Raftery  
 EMT Angel E. Ramirez  
 Paramedic Cesar N. Ramirez  
 EMT Jonathan C. Ramos  
 Lieutenant Manuel A. Ramos  
 Paramedic Vijay Rampersad  
 EMT Eric A. Randolph  
 Paramedic Ronald H. Ratz  
 EMT Kenneth Rau  
 Lieutenant William F. Razenson (6)  
 EMT Leila F. Recce  
 EMT Althea M. Redican  
 EMT Andrew R. Redwood  
 Lieutenant Bonnie L. Regan (3)  
 EMT Christopher R. Relyea (2)  
 Lieutenant Joann N. Restko (2)  
 EMT Jessica Reyes  
 Paramedic Nemesio H. Reyes  
 Paramedic Vanessa E. Reyes  
 Paramedic Rocco J. Riccardi  
 Paramedic Daniel P. Riccobono (2)  
 Lieutenant William L. Rich (5)  
 Paramedic Katherine A. Riffey  
 Paramedic Cesar Rios  
 EMT Vanessa Rios  
 EMT Ramses R. Rivas  
 Paramedic Brian D. Rivera  
 EMT Edward Rivera  
 EMT Jason F. Rivera  
 EMT Jenelle Rivera  
 Paramedic Jonathan T. Rivera (2)  
 Paramedic Marco Rivera (2)  
 EMT Mathew I. Rivera  
 EMT Melissa A. Rivera  
 Paramedic Michael Rivera (2)  
 Paramedic Ronald J. Roberson  
 Paramedic Peter H. Roberts  
 EMT Christopher A. Robertson  
 Paramedic Taisha N. Robinson (2)  
 Paramedic Latoya Rock  
 EMT Alfredo Rodriguez, Jr.  
 Lieutenant Brandon A. Rodriguez (2)  
 EMT Carlos A. Rodriguez  
 EMT Cristino Rodriguez  
 EMT Daniel E. Rodriguez  
 Paramedic Edward Rodriguez (2)  
 Paramedic Juan D. Rodriguez  
 Lieutenant Luis D. Rodriguez  
 Paramedic Stephen P. Rogers  
 Paramedic Jose Rojas, Jr.  
 EMT Michael J. Rojas  
 EMT Louis M. Rom  
 EMT Peguy Romain  
 EMT Victor Roman, Jr.  
 EMT Ruben Romano  
 Paramedic Corey Romanowski  
 EMT Christopher W. Romeo  
 EMT Cesar J. Rosario  
 EMT Bushra M. Roshni  
 Lieutenant Anthony T. Rosiello (2)  
 EMT Vanessa Ross  
 Paramedic Michael S. Rothfeld  
 Lieutenant Scott E. Rothschild (3)  
 EMT Brian J. Rozas  
 EMT John F. Rugen  
 EMT Adam J. Ruiz  
 Paramedic Edward Ruiz  
 EMT William J. Rush  
 EMT Carletha Rushing  
 Paramedic Dean A. Russel  
 Paramedic Michael Russo  
 Paramedic Alison Russo-Elling  
 EMT Avian N. Rutherford  
 EMT Michael S. Rybak  
 Paramedic Daniel Ryoo  
 Lieutenant Jason L. Saffon (2)  
 EMT Stuart M. Saladin  
 Paramedic Elizabeth Salazar  
 Paramedic Favian Salazar  
 EMT Adam R. Salhany  
 EMT Hugh J. Samerson (2)  
 EMT Salustiano J. Sanabria  
 EMT Michael G. Sanchez (2)  
 EMT Desiree M. Sanders (2)  
 EMT Felipe Sangurima  
 Lieutenant Jason E. Santiago (2)  
 Paramedic Nicholas L. Santini  
 EMT Tameca T. Santini  
 EMT John H. Santora (2)  
 Paramedic Kathleen M. Santora  
 EMT Edward Savinon  
 Paramedic Jonathan E. Schecter  
 EMT Emile J. Schettino  
 EMT Toni A. Schmidt  
 EMT Vanessa M. Schoening  
 Paramedic Steven G. Schooley  
 EMT Michael J. Schramm, Jr. (2)  
 Paramedic Charles Schwager  
 EMT Joshua Schwartz (2)  
 EMT Michael J. Sclafani  
 Lieutenant James E. Scordus (3)  
 EMT Carlyn J. Scott  
 EMT Lavell Scott  
 Paramedic Linda Scott (2)  
 EMT Rudolfo Seddio, Jr.  
 Lieutenant Eartha P. Sedeniussen  
 Paramedic Andres Segovia, Jr.  
 Captain Peter A. Sennert (2)  
 Paramedic Rafael Sequeira  
 Paramedic Betzaida Serrano (2)  
 Paramedic Olashawna Seymore  
 Paramedic Ajay K. Sharma  
 Lieutenant Rachel P. Sheridan  
 Paramedic Ann Marie Sidtis  
 EMT Luis J. Sierra  
 Paramedic Arnold J. Silva (4)  
 Lieutenant Michael A. Silver  
 Paramedic Michael Silvestri  
 Lieutenant Derrick C. Simpkins (2)  
 EMT Rajbir Singh  
 EMT Shawn C. Sisti  
 Paramedic Konstantino Skamalos  
 EMT Trent Small (2)  
 Lieutenant Brian M. Smith  
 EMT Erika M. Smith  
 Paramedic Hugh Smith (2)  
 EMT John E. Smith  
 EMT Juliet Smith  
 EMT Shawn Smith  
 Lieutenant Theresa Smith-Hawkins (2)  
 EMT Garfield Smythe  
 Paramedic Ervin Sobiev (3)  
 Lieutenant Magdalena K. Sobocinski (3)  
 EMT Dennis M. Solano (2)  
 Paramedic Jose O. Solis (2)  
 EMT Hector Soto (2)  
 Lieutenant Jose Soto (2)  
 Lieutenant Robert L. Sottile (5)  
 EMT Diquence Souffrant  
 Lieutenant Joseph R. Spinelli  
 EMT Peter D. Spink  
 Lieutenant Philip H. Spiro  
 EMT Steven J. Steinberg  
 EMT Glenn A. Steinle  
 EMT Adam D. Stern  
 EMT David M. Stewart  
 Lieutenant Robert Stock (4)  
 Paramedic Bo Straussberg (3)  
 EMT Tess I. Studholme (2)  
 Paramedic Danny R. Suarez (2)  
 Paramedic Jason K. Sutherland  
 EMT Terrence D. Sykes  
 Lieutenant Milton Sylman (3)  
 EMT Gilbert A. Taboada  
 EMT Jacob J. Tauber  
 Paramedic Christopher M. Taylor (2)  
 EMT Christopher R. Taylor (2)  
 Paramedic Glen G. Taylor (3)  
 Paramedic Mark A. Taylor  
 EMT Tomisha C. Taylor (ARD)  
 Paramedic Erika Tejada  
 EMT Michael A. Telesca, Jr.  
 Paramedic Vanessa K. Tenorio (2)  
 Paramedic Anthony J. Terranova  
 Paramedic Kimera A. Thomas  
 Paramedic Mario A. Thompkins (2)  
 EMT Kavon C. Thompson

EMT Steven Thorsen  
 Lieutenant Donna L. Tiberi (3)  
 Captain Leonard L. Tiberi (2)  
 EMT Beth R. Tichman  
 Paramedic Corey J. Tillery  
 EMT Vanessa Tineo  
 EMT Jennifer E. Tobin  
 EMT Felipe Torre  
 EMT Camalia Torres  
 EMT Juan C. Torres  
 EMT Marlo A. Tortorelli  
 Paramedic Stephen J. Tortoriello  
 Paramedic Gerardo Toyloy  
 EMT Robert W. Trace, Jr. (2)  
 Lieutenant George V. Trager, Jr.  
 Paramedic George Trail  
 Paramedic Michael K. Travers  
 EMT Michael Trimis  
 Paramedic Jose Trinidad (2)  
 Lieutenant Timothy M. Troeber (4)  
 EMT Nicholas J. Trotta  
 Lieutenant Leonid Tverskoy  
 EMT Edwin S. Tweedy  
 EMT Hector B. Tyler  
 EMT Erica V. Ucciardino (2)  
 EMT Michael F. Ulrich (2)  
 Paramedic Vitaly Usherenko  
 EMT Amanda R. Uster  
 Paramedic Peter J. Vaccaro (2)  
 Paramedic Chez C. Valenta-Kannar (3)  
 EMT Erick Valentin  
 EMT Alex D. Vallejo Bayas  
 EMT Adriana Valverde (2)  
 EMT Joseph K. Vandemark  
 Paramedic Joanna Vanegas  
 Paramedic Kyle Van Nostran  
 Paramedic Lee Vargas (2)  
 EMT Francisco M. Vasquez  
 EMT John Vassios

Lieutenant Richard Vazquez  
 Lieutenant David Vega, Jr. (2)  
 EMT Diocar E. Vega  
 EMT Exsavier M. Vega (2)  
 EMT Jessica Vega  
 EMT Valerie A. Veluz (2)  
 Captain Michael Vetack (2)  
 Paramedic Brehene M. Vice (2)  
 Paramedic Ricky Vien  
 Paramedic David H. Villaruel (2)  
 Lieutenant Guillermo Villaverde  
 Paramedic Jennifer Virgile  
 Lieutenant Charles M. Vitale (2)  
 Paramedic Starsky T. Von Prime  
 Paramedic Keith J. Vonwesternhagen  
 Lieutenant Antonios Voxakis  
 EMT Eric P. Wachter  
 Paramedic Jessica C. Wade  
 EMT Terrance P. Wakely  
 EMT Niecia F. Walker  
 Captain Vincent R. Walla (2)  
 Paramedic Christopher S. Walsh  
 Lieutenant Robert Walsh (3)  
 Lieutenant Raymond Wang (3)  
 Paramedic Kevin S. Ward (2)  
 Paramedic Andre C. Ware  
 EMT Muhammad Warfield  
 EMT Othaniel C. Warren  
 Lieutenant Scott Waryold (2)  
 Lieutenant Charles C. Washington  
 Paramedic Andrew J. Wasniewski  
 Paramedic Raymond J. Wasyl (2)  
 EMT Rashard D. Watts  
 Paramedic Todd R. Weber (2)  
 EMT Anthony C. Weiburg  
 Paramedic Stuart J. Weinstein  
 Lieutenant David J. Weston  
 Lieutenant Darren R. Wetsell  
 Paramedic Alwain B. White (2)

EMT Liana E. White  
 EMT Frederick D. Whiteside  
 Lieutenant Kyle Wigglesworth  
 Paramedic Samantha Z. Wilding (2)  
 Paramedic Peter S. Wilken (2)  
 EMT Delano M. Williams  
 Lieutenant Horace G. Williams (3)  
 EMT Joseph A. Williams  
 Paramedic Marvin L. Williams (4)  
 Paramedic Sebastian A. Williams  
 Lieutenant Craig M. Wing (5)  
 Lieutenant Asher M. Winik (3)  
 EMT Maggie P. Wit (2)  
 EMT Trenton Withworth  
 Paramedic Alexander J. Witkowski  
 Lieutenant William M. Wolf  
 Paramedic Amanda Wong  
 Paramedic Kam F. Wong (2)  
 Paramedic Patrick A. Worms (2)  
 Paramedic Hilda Wu  
 EMT Joshua S. Wylie  
 Paramedic Gedion Yagudayev  
 Paramedic Skerdi Ymeraj  
 Paramedic Wayne J. Young, Jr.  
 Paramedic Anlo Yu  
 Paramedic Joseph K. Yu (2)  
 Lieutenant Paul J. Yunek (2)  
 Paramedic Roman Yusupov (2)  
 EMT Christian Zamora  
 Paramedic Andrea E. Zender (2)  
 Lieutenant Joee E. Zepeda (2)  
 EMT Steven A. Zerafa  
 Paramedic Yong Zheng (2)  
 Paramedic Michael J. Zummo (2)  
 EMT Roy G. Zuniga, Jr.

**EMS Unit of the Month--2013**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Members</b>
January	19V2	Paramedics Joseph Fortis, Chante Kelly, Patrick Worms
February	03F3	EMTs Alexander Arroyo, Ernesto Mejia, Julian Peterson
March	43D3	EMTs Jason Costello, John Greenwald, Xue-Hua Li
April	14B2	EMTs Shakeel Ajaz, Daniel Conklin, Margaret Devlin
May	07C1	EMTs James Acevedo, Michael Mignano, Dmitriy Vernik
June	49H2	EMTs Ian D'Souza, Michael O'Neil, Jonathan Weiss
July	01H2	EMTs Michael Curatolo, Michael Paulino, Miguel Perez
August	07Y3	Paramedics Sean Randazzo, Brian Rivera, Michael Ullman
September	16C2	EMTs Siul Paulino, Eva Tashjian, Robert Vales
October	43G2	EMTs Joseph Brandstetter, Vincent Mazzarella, Michael McCormack
November	07B3	EMTs Christopher Gallo, Joseph Piergiovanni, Nicole Pucciarelli
December	26B1	EMTs Peter Abbondandolo, Brian Daur, John Muniz

# MEDAL AND AWARD DONORS

## James Gordon Bennett Medal

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 member by the Medal Board of the New York City Fire Department. (Page 11)

## Brooklyn Citizens Medal/ FF Louis Valentino Award

In 1896, a committee of Brooklynites endowed this medal "to be given to the most deserving Firefighter in the Brooklyn Fire Department, as he/she shall be selected by the Fire Department of the City of New York." The recipient also is awarded the Firefighter Louis Valentino Award, a medal endowed since 1998 by Diane Valentino and the Valentino family. (Page 12)

## 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 Bureau of EMS. Endowed by the Uniformed EMTs and Paramedics and Fire Inspectors Union. (Page 13)

## Hugh Bonner Medal

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. (Page 14)

## 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 and endowed by the Honor Legion. (Page 14)

## 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. (Page 15)

## Thomas E. Crimmins Medal

First awarded in 1912. In memory of her father, Thomas E. Crimmins, contractor, builder, loyal New Yorker and son of a volunteer Fireman, Mrs. May M. Burke provided for the endowment of the Crimmins Memorial Medal. (Page 16)

## 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. (Page 17)

## 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. (Page 18)

## John H. Prentice Medal

This medal is endowed by Mrs. Marion Prentice Brookman in memory of her father. The medal is for "an act of intelligent bravery." First awarded in 1921. (Page 19)

## Henry D. Brookman Medal

Mrs. Marion Prentice Brookman, in endowing this award, 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. (Page 20)

## Chief Ulyses Grant Leadership Medal

Named in honor of Chief Ulyses Grant, a 30-year veteran of the Emergency Medical Service, who exemplified respect, leadership, integrity, imagination, compassion and dedication. The recipient of this medal is an EMS Officer who has the ability to influence others to accomplish the mission. The medal is awarded to an EMS Officer who, in leading members under his/her command, has performed an outstanding act of heroism and bravery in the line of duty. The award is endowed by Chief of EMS Operations Robert A. McCracken (retired) and EMS Division Chief Robert P. Browne (retired), who believe a man's experience and wisdom need not die with him, but become his legacy. (Page 21)

## 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." (Page 22)

## 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 firefighting appliances. (Page 23)

## Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia Medal

The Honorable Fiorello H. LaGuardia, while the Mayor, frequently "turned out" at large fires. He had a keen interest in the problems of fire prevention and extinguishment. First awarded in 1937. (Page 24)

## 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 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. The UFA funds this award. (Page 25)

## 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. (Page 26)

## 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. (Page 27)

## Ner Tamid Society/ Franklin Delano Roosevelt Medal

This medal was endowed by the officers and members of FDNY's Ner Tamid Society in honor of the late president. First awarded in 1946. (Page 28)

## 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. Endowed by the Uniformed EMTs and Paramedics and Fire Inspectors Union. (Page 29)

## Third Alarm Association Medal

The Third Alarm Association, a group of men interested in Fire Department activities, endowed this medal for valor in 1950. (Page 30)

## 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. Endowed by the UFA. (Page 31)

## Brummer Medal

The late Bertram Brummer and his wife, Susie, have had a long-standing interest in the FDNY. Bertram, a member of the New York Stock Exchange, received training during World War II at the Fire Department College and was assigned to Engine Company 44 in the Auxiliary Corps. In 1961, Bertram and Susie Brummer endowed this medal to be awarded annually for an act of bravery. First awarded in 1962. (Page 32)

## Frank W. Kridel Medal

Awarded by the Hotel Association of New York City to a member of the FDNY in recognition of an act of valor above and beyond the call of duty. First awarded in 1962. (Page 33)

## Emerald Society Medal

Endowed/funded by the Emerald Society and awarded to an FDNY member whose distinguished service in the line of duty receives recognition by the Department's Board of Merit. First awarded in 1965. (Page 34)

## Chief Wesley Williams Medal

Endowed/funded by the Vulcan Society. Awarded to an FDNY member whose distinguished service in the line of duty receives recognition by the Department's Board of Merit. First awarded in 1966. (Page 35)

## Holy Name Society Medal (Brooklyn/Queens)

Endowed/funded by the Holy Name Society (Brooklyn-Queens) in memory of Chaplain Emeritus Very Reverend Monsignor Merrit E. Yeager. First awarded in 1967. (Page 36)

#### **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. (Page 37)

#### **Hispanic Society Memorial Medal**

Endowed/funded by the Hispanic Society as "a memorial tribute to the 12 Brother Firefighters who made the Supreme Sacrifice at the East 23rd Street fire on October 17, 1966." First awarded in 1968. (Page 38)

#### **Captain Denis W. Lane Memorial Medal**

Endowed in honor of the late Captain Denis W. Lane. Established by the Honorable Joseph M. Lane and Ms. Joan M. Lane. Captain Lane was appointed to the Department in 1913. A life-long member of the FDNY Anchor Club, he retired in 1958 after a long and dedicated career. Awarded to a deserving member of the uniformed force in recognition of an outstanding act of bravery. First awarded in 1976. (Page 39)

#### **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." (Page 40)

#### **Dr. Albert A. Cinelli Medal**

Endowed/funded by the UFA in memory of Dr. Albert A. Cinelli, a longtime friend of the FDNY. Dr. Cinelli was responsible for founding both the Medical and Surgical Specialists Plan and the Surgical Assistance Fund. Serving without salary as the director of both programs, Dr. Cinelli won the admiration and respect of every member of the FDNY. In keeping with these thoughts, this medal has been dedicated to his memory. Awarded for the first time in 1978. (Page 41)

#### **Fire Chiefs Association Memorial Medal**

The Fire Chiefs Association has endowed this medal to honor the memory of those Chief Officers of the FDNY who, from volunteer days to the present, have given leadership, inspiration, courage and, sometimes, their lives, to the development of the finest firefighting force in the world. First awarded in 1979. (Page 42)

#### **Fire Marshals**

##### **Benevolent Association Medal**

This medal was endowed/funded since 1980 by the Fire Marshals Benevolent Association, to be awarded to a member of the uniformed force for performance of an outstanding act of valor. (Page 43)

##### **Community Mayors, Inc./**

##### **Lt. Robert R. Dolney Medal**

This medal is sponsored by the Community Mayors, Inc., and is dedicated to the memory of Lieutenant Robert R. Dolney, who gave his life so that others might live. The Community Mayors organization, dedicated to helping handicapped children, will present this medal annually to a member of the Department who performs an act of bravery in attempting to save the life of a Firefighter. However, if an act of this nature does not occur during the year, it then will be presented to a member who performed an outstanding act of heroism. First awarded in 1981. (Page 44)

#### **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. (Page 45)

#### **Battalion Chief**

##### **Frank T. Tuttlemondo Medal**

This medal is endowed/funded by the members of the 44th Battalion in honor and memory of their late, beloved Chief, who served the Brownsville area of Brooklyn most of his firefighting career and gave his life to save his men. The medal was designed by then-Firefighter George Guinan, formerly of Ladder 120. It is presented annually to a member of the Department who performs an act of bravery and courage in keeping with the highest traditions of the FDNY. First awarded in 1982. (Page 46)

#### **Dr. John F. Connell Medal**

Awarded since 1983 in honor of the late Dr. John F. Connell, adopted in 1923 by Engine 2, in what was then Hell's Kitchen. With encouragement of Firefighters who became his substitute fathers, he received his medical degree. He attended thousands of fires, treating Firefighters and civilians without a thought of personal recognition. Endowed/funded by his son, the late John F. Connell, Jr., and first awarded in 1983, the award continues from Rosemary Connell, the widow of John F. Connell, Jr. (Page 47)

#### **Fire Bell Club Medal**

The Fire Bell Club, the oldest and largest such group in the New York City area, consists of individuals, both in and outside of the fire service, who have an interest in the FDNY. The Fire Bell Club awards this medal bi-annually as an expression of their admiration and appreciation of the camaraderie that has existed between the FDNY and the Club since its founding in 1939. First awarded in 1984. Funded by the Fire Bell Club. (Page 48)

#### **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, endowed by the Association and first 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. (Page 11)

#### **Deputy Commissioner**

##### **Christine R. Godek Medal**

Established and endowed by Honorary Fire 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. (Page 49)

#### **Firefighter Kevin C. Kane Medal**

This medal has been established in honor of Firefighter Kevin C. Kane, who made the Supreme Sacrifice in the discharge of his duties, protecting life and property on September 13, 1991. This medal is awarded bi-annually to a member of the Department who performs an act of outstanding bravery and courage as deemed by the Board of Merit. Funded by Engine 207. (Page 50)

#### **Probationary Firefighter Thomas A. Wylie Medal**

This medal is endowed by the members of Ladder Company 18 in honor of their fallen Brother, Probationary Firefighter Thomas A. Wylie, who gave his life assisting in the rescue of more than 20 civilians at a fire in Chinatown. The medal is awarded to a Probationary Firefighter who distinguishes himself as Tom did in his brief career. The medal depicts his caricature of a "Can Man," the traditional position of a "Probie." (Page 51)

#### **Captain John J. Drennan Memorial Medal**

Endowed/funded by the Viking Association of the FDNY in memory of Captain John J. Drennan, who sacrificed his life in the line of duty. This medal is awarded to members of the Department who perform acts above and beyond the call of duty. (Page 52)

#### **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. (Page 53)

#### **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." Endowed by the New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation and Dr. Marc Kramer, Honorary Assistant Chief and Consultant to the Medical Division. (Page 54)

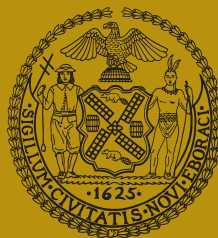
#### **Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal**

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. (Page 55)

#### **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. (Page 56)





# **New York's Bravest**

*PROUDLY SERVING SINCE 1865*

**FIRE DEPARTMENT, CITY OF NEW YORK**

**Bill de Blasio, *Mayor***

**Salvatore J. Cassano, *Fire Commissioner***

**Edward S. Kilduff, *Chief of Department***

**9 MetroTech Center  
Brooklyn, New York 11201  
[www.nyc.gov/fdny](http://www.nyc.gov/fdny)**