FALLEN FINEST

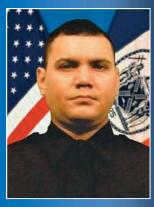## DETECTIVE FIRST GRADE DENNIS E. GUERRA
Police Service Area 1

On April 6, 2014, then-Police Officer Dennis Guerra and his partner, Police Officer Rosa Rodriguez, responded to a fire on the 13th floor of a Coney Island housing development. Arriving before other first responders, the officers took an elevator to the floor to warn and evacuate tenants. As they emerged from the elevator, Police Officers Guerra and Rodriguez were overcome by acrid smoke that quickly filled the hallway. Responding fire personnel quickly located both unconscious officers and transported them to area hospitals, where medical staff performed equally heroically.

Sadly, On April 9, Police Officer Guerra died of his injures.

Police Officer Guerra began his career with the New York City Police Department in December 2001 as a School Safety Agent assigned to the 101 Precinct School Safety Unit. In June 2005, he left the NYPD to be sworn in as a New York City Correction Officer and was assigned to the Rikers Island North Infirmary Command. He served as a correction officer until being sworn in as a New York City Police Officer on July 10, 2006.

During his career, Police Officer Guerra made more than 70 arrests. On February 9, 2009, Police Officer Guerra was awarded an Excellent Police Duty medal.

On April 9, 2014, at his funeral, Mayor Bill de Blasio and Police Commissioner William J. Bratton posthumously promoted Police Officer Guerra to Detective First Grade. The following June 9 2015, Detective Guerra was awarded the Medal of Honor.

Detective Dennis E. Guerra is survived by his wife, Cathy; his four children, Kathleen, Jonathan, Alyssa, and Zachary; his sister, Elaine; his father, Dennis Guerra, a retired NYPD Detective, Second Grade from Queens North Homicide; and his mother, Miriam, a retired School Safety Agent.