



**FIRE DEPARTMENT • CITY OF NEW YORK**  
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### **2.1.1 FDNY GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION IN 9/11 EVENTS**

As we approach the end of the summer, the Department's attention becomes focused once again on the tremendous loss our Department suffered 19 years ago. This year, September 11<sup>th</sup> is particularly more poignant due to the extreme challenges we faced in the spring, and continue to confront today, with the COVID-19 pandemic. In the greatest tradition of the FDNY, our members responded to both 9/11 and the COVID-19 pandemic with selfless courage and relentless dedication.

During these difficult times, the Department acknowledges our members' commitment to never forget those we lost on that fateful day. At the same time, we must balance that with our obligation to keep our current and former members, and their families, healthy and safe from the ever-looming threat of the COVID-19 virus. While our workforce has a high level of health and fitness, we must remember that many of our September 11<sup>th</sup> families and retired members – who we would normally welcome and encourage to attend September 11<sup>th</sup> events – are in groups that are most at risk for COVID-19 due to age and health.

From a health and safety perspective, the FDNY strongly recommends that our members forego participating in 9/11 gatherings and events this year. However, the Department respects our traditions and will authorize certain events if currently accepted protective conditions can be adhered to. The following guidelines are required for those units sponsoring various events at or near FDNY facilities, firehouses and EMS stations:

- Indoor gatherings at any FDNY facility are strictly prohibited. All events/gatherings at these locations must be held outdoors.
- As per current New York State regulations, all outdoor gatherings are limited to 50 persons maximum.
- Face coverings are mandatory and shall be worn by all those in attendance.
- Social-distancing of at least 6 feet between participants must be maintained.
- An adequate supply of hand sanitizer must be provided for all those in attendance.
- All events must be pre-approved by the Borough Commander/ Bureau Head and are limited to two hours maximum.

If the current guidance from New York City and/or New York State should change prior to the commencement of an event, the Department will adjust reflecting those new guidelines. We will never forget our fallen members, but we must strive to remember them safely.

By Order of: **Daniel A. Nigro**, *Fire Commissioner*  
**John Sudnik**, *Chief of Department*