



Message From the Mayor of the City of New York
MICHAEL R. BLOOMBERG



Since becoming Mayor of New York City five years ago, I have frequently been privileged to work closely with the Firefighters and emergency medical professionals of the New York City Fire Department and witness firsthand the dedication, commitment and courage of these brave men and women, who sacrifice so much to protect their fellow New Yorkers.

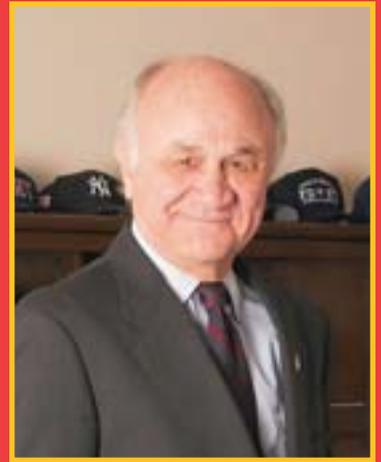
In this past year alone, I have seen Firefighters battle a 10-alarm blaze in Greenpoint and respond to a small plane crash into a high-rise on the Upper East Side, while our EMTs and Paramedics have continued to prove themselves the very best first responders in the nation. The terrible fire in the Bronx in March that claimed 10 lives--a toll that could have been far worse were it not for the heroic rescue efforts of Firefighters--was a tragic reminder of how deadly fire can be and how essential the professionalism and courage of our first responders are to our City.

This past fall, we marked the fifth anniversary of the tragic attack on the World Trade Center. We will always be grateful for the self-

less dedication of those members of the Fire Department who rushed into the twin towers to save lives in our darkest hour. And we remain truly thankful that, every day, the 15,000 members of the FDNY continue to exhibit the unparalleled heroism that has earned them the respect and admiration of all New Yorkers.

From firefighting to emergency medicine to terrorism preparedness, this report marks the highlights of the services and programs that FDNY has so capably implemented in the previous fiscal year. I congratulate FDNY on another year of phenomenal service to our great City.





Message From the Fire Commissioner
Nicholas Scoppetta

During the past five years, we have made this Department stronger by providing better training, equipment and technology for all our Firefighters and EMS personnel. In the past year alone, we have added several crucial resources. The new Fire Department Operations Center (FDOC) is a \$17 million facility that gives us an unprecedented range of capabilities and is equipped with the most advanced technology available to first responders.

Another critically important enhancement is the Automatic Vehicle Location System (AVL). AVL allows the Department to dispatch ambulances with greater efficiency, which has helped bring about an average 24-second drop in City-wide response times for life-threatening emergencies.

Among the equipment improvements made in 2006, the implementation of and training on the new safety ropes for Firefighters was critical. These changes demonstrate that public and member safety is our number one priority.

In 2006, the Department also launched an unprecedented and innovative recruitment campaign aimed at increasing the number of minorities and women in the uniformed ranks. It was the largest recruitment drive in FDNY history and attracted a diverse group of more than 30,000 applicants. More than 40 percent of this number were minorities

or women--an unprecedented response.

We expanded our haz-mat capability by training all EMTs and Paramedics to the Operations level. Additionally, 375 EMS professionals (with 35 Haz Tac units) have been trained to the Technician level, increasing to approximately 1250 the number of uniformed members possessing advanced haz-mat training. This is a significant increase in the number of FDNY members who had the training before 9/11.

Rebuilding and improving were especially relevant in 2006 as we faced the fifth anniversary of the September 11th attacks. In June, the FDNY 9/11 Memorial Wall was unveiled on the Greenwich Street side wall of Engine 10/Ladder 10. The beautiful, 56-foot-long, bas-relief bronze sculpture depicts Firefighters and EMS personnel working at the World Trade Center site and lists the names of all FDNY members killed there. It is dedicated to our 343 members who perished, as well as those who carry on.

Our achievements this year--whether they focused on training, equipment or technology--demonstrate the Department's continuing commitment and determination to make the world's greatest fire department even better.



Message From the Chief of Department
SALVATORE J. CASSANO



photo by FF Daniel P. Alfonso

The events of 9/11 forced the Fire Department to look at its operations more critically and, ultimately, re-define itself. The events of 9/11 also forced the FDNY to realize that we are not “just” a fire department any longer. The FDNY, in every sense, has become the first responder to terrorism.

Through comprehensive training and new equipment, the FDNY has significantly improved operational preparedness. Briefly, this ongoing enhancement has been accomplished by:

1. Delivering Incident Command System (ICS) training to all ranks of Fire and EMS members.
2. Developing a new state-of-the-art Fire Department Operations Center (FDOC).
3. Preparing for large-scale and terrorist events 24/7, 365 days a year, at our own Center for Terrorism and Disaster Preparedness.
4. Educating our leaders at the FDNY Officers Management Institute (FOMI).
5. Increasing Marine Operations’ capabilities.
6. Integrating EMS more fully.
7. Implementing significant technology enhancements.
8. Developing a Continuity of Operations Plan.

In accordance with the FDNY Strategic Plan, the following points summarize some of the key goals for the Department and how they are being met.

Improve Emergency Response Operations--Enhance the Department’s preparedness to respond to fires, emergencies, disasters and acts of terrorism.

- Enhance delivery of pre-hospital care.
- Continue to enhance voice, data and telecommunication

networks to improve on-scene operations.

- Expand and enhance training provided to probationary Firefighters.
- Ensure that first responders’ core and newly acquired specialized competencies and skills are maintained and sustained.
- Ensure the continuity of operation through the development of action plans in the event of a City-wide disaster.

Enhance Health and Safety of FDNY Members--Augment and expand programs to monitor and improve the health and safety of members.

- Provide World Trade Center health monitoring of active and retired members.
- Enhance operational safety management and behavior.
- Develop operational procedures for applying water to live electricity at any electrical facility to minimize the amount of collateral damage and disruption of electrical service to larger geographical areas.

Strengthen Management and Organizational Development--Promote organizational effectiveness and develop leadership capabilities.

- Implement an enhanced Performance Management System for mission critical functions.
- Develop Battalion Chief Training Day and Deputy Chief Development Programs to augment the Department’s Executive Management initiative.

In conclusion, the FDNY constantly is changing, striving to stay a step ahead of those who would harm our City and its people. This requires being much more than “just” a fire department. The FDNY and its people are up to the challenge. We have to be--our City and our lives depend on it.