



# FDNY MEDAL DAY 2021

Honoring Members of the Fire Department — June 2, 2021 —

#### MEDAL DAY 2021

**Daniel A. Nigro** *Fire Commissioner* 

**Thomas J. Richardson** Acting Chief of Department

Laura Kavanagh First Deputy Commissioner

**Frank Dwyer** Deputy Commissioner Public Information & External Affairs



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Supervising Fire Marshal Ralph Bernard Randy Barron, David Warren Special thanks to Chief Fire Marshal Daniel Flynn and his staff for their assistance. Also, thanks to Director Matthew Talty, Bureau of Legal Affairs and Lieutenant Joan Hillgardner for their contributions to this book. Publication of this edition of the FDNY Medal Day Book was made possible by several grants. The FDNY gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the following contributors:

The FDNY Honorary Fire Officers Association James S. Griffiths, Acting President

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*The FDNY Foundation* Stephen L. Ruzow, Chairman Jean O'Shea, Executive Director



#### **Proudly Serving Since 1865**

#### Cover

Ladder Companies 34 and 23 operated at Manhattan Box 22-1675 on September 29, 2020, the incident for which Firefighter Abraham G. Miller, Ladder Company 23, received the Chief of Department Peter J. Ganci, Jr. Medal/NYS Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal; Firefighter Jairo M. Sosa, Ladder Company 34, received the John H. Prentice Medal; Firefighter Jose A. Castro, Ladder Company 42, received the Pulaski Association Medal; Firefighter Robert Caponigro, Ladder Company 34, received the Commissioner Edward Thompson Medal; Firefighter Philip C. Ingwersen, Squad Company 41, received the William Friedberg Medal; and Squad Company 41 received the Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal. Photos by James Long, Director, Office of Public Information.

#### **Back** Cover

FDNY EMT Manuel Melendez, Station 39, responded during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. On March 30, 2020, the FDNY received 6,527 911 calls—the highest ever.





FIRE John J. Hodgens Acting Chief of Fire Operations MEDAL BOARD Daniel A. Nigro

Daniel A. Nigro Commissioner

**Thomas J. Richardson** 

Acting Chief of Department

EMS Lillian A. Bonsignore *Chief of EMS Operations* 



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THE CITY OF NEW YORK OFFICE OF THE MAYOR NEW YORK, NY 10007

June 2, 2021

Dear Friends:

It is a great pleasure to welcome everyone to the New York City Fire Department's annual celebration of Medal Day.

The New York City Fire Department is the best in the world thanks to the incredible group of men and women who continue to show their unwavering commitment to safeguarding their fellow New Yorkers. The members of this iconic workforce have saved countless lives since FDNY's inception in 1865, and throughout a year in which our city's first responders have faced unprecedented challenges, New York's Bravest have demonstrated their tenacity and steadfast dedication time and time again.

Every year, Medal Day provides us with the chance to express our gratitude to all FDNY personnel for inspiring us every day by exemplifying the courage and spirit of service that form the core of our city's values. As you come together to recognize the tremendous acts of valor carried out by firefighters and EMTs throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, I am proud to applaud everyone in the FDNY family for protecting the residents of the five boroughs and helping us to forge a safer, brighter tomorrow.

On behalf of the City of New York, congratulations to all those being honored this year. Please accept my best wishes for a meaningful ceremony and continued success.

Sincerely,

Bill de Blasio Mayor



**Daniel A. Nigro** *Fire Commissioner* 

edal Day is when we celebrate the most extraordinary acts of bravery by FDNY members. The incidents immortalized in these pages every year are the greatest examples of why our Department is revered around the world. The actions taken to save lives represent the greatest traits of our Department: teamwork, ingenuity, training, service and courage. While the last year was one most would like to forget, the heroic acts that took place must be remembered. They represent hope, and they demonstrate the Department's unwavering commitment to serve and save others, no matter the dangers faced by our members.

It can be said that every single response in 2020 was an extraordinary act of bravery, as our members operated in a pandemic the likes of which had not been seen in a century. Every call meant our firefighters, paramedics and EMTs responded to a situation that could have meant exposure to or infection from COVID-19. While this fact weighed heavily on every member of our Department, and without question on their loved ones as well, it did not deter them from their lifesaving mission.

Our highest award for bravery to a firefighter, the Chief of Department Peter J. Ganci, Jr. Medal, is awarded to Firefighter Abraham Miller of Ladder Company 23 for his incredible rescue of a child trapped by fire in September. In careful coordination with Firefighter Jairo Sosa of Ladder Company 34, who is awarded the John H. Prentice Medal, Firefighter Miller descended from the roof of a six-story building and pulled a child from the growing smoke and flames. This is one of two roof rope rescues for which members are honored this year. Firefighter Brian Quinn of Ladder Company 30 is awarded the Walter Scott Medal for rescuing a trapped occupant in a similar fashion from another fire in September, and he and his fellow members in Ladder Company 30 also receive the World Trade Center Memorial Medal for their heroic efforts.

The highest award given annually for members of EMS Operations is the Christopher J. Prescott Medal, awarded this year to Emergency Medical Technicians Gary Hui of the Medical Equipment Unit and Samuel Wright of Station 59 for their daring rescue of a driver trapped inside a dump truck that crashed into multiple vehicles and a utility pole. Together, they removed the occupant seconds before flames engulfed the vehicle, then began medical care and transported him to the hospital. Truly, 2020 threw every challenge possible at our EMTs and paramedics, and like EMTs Wright and Hui, they rose to meet those challenges head on.

Despite the pandemic that ravaged our City, and the fact that so many were locked down at home to stay safe, the dangers our members faced never stopped. There were still thousands of calls each day, lives to save and millions of New Yorkers relying on the expert response of our Department. They called the FDNY, and our members responded quickly—bringing with them elite training, unmatched dedication and a commitment to act to save others despite the unseen dangers around them.

To all our members, thank you for all you did this year, and every year, to proudly represent our Department. And to those recognized for acts of valor on this Medal Day, congratulations on your well-deserved awards.

Vapul A. Nien



**Thomas J. Richardson** Acting Chief of Department

ach Medal Day, the Department recognizes heroes among heroes, members who were faced with opportunities to save lives. This 2021 Medal Day is no different. Their training prepared them, and their warrior mindsets enabled them to act. This is our mission, and we should all be proud of the members being recognized today. Although they performed individual acts, we know the importance of the teamwork necessary to be successful.

The Dr. Harry M. Archer Medal is awarded every three years to one of the members who received our highest honor for fire operations during the preceding three years. This year, we award the Archer Medal to Lieutenant Michael (Mickey) Conboy of Rescue Company 3, who rescued a man and a young boy from a Bronx fire in December 2017. Lieutenant Conboy performed those rescues with determination, under punishing conditions, on the floor above a serious fire in a wood-frame private dwelling.

We also award the EMT-P Carlos Lillo-Lt. Ricardo Quinn Medal every three years to deserving members from EMS Operations who were recipients of the Christopher J. Prescott Medal. We proudly award this medal to EMS Lieutenant Joshua S. Rodriguez of EMS Division 2 and Paramedic Niall C. O'Shaughnessy of EMS Station 4 for their bravery while providing pre-hospital care to four injured construction workers at a Manhattan scaffold collapse in November 2019.

In September 2017, Engine Company 302 received the Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal for displaying outstanding teamwork while extinguishing three floors of fire in a South Queens private dwelling fire that required multiple rescues by members of Ladder Company 155. They operated until complete exhaustion and in the greatest tradition of the FDNY. Engine Company operations are key to the success of every fire operation, particularly one in which lives hang in the balance. For their extraordinary display of teamwork, Engine Company 302 is being awarded the Lieutenant James Curran/NYFFs Burn Center Foundation/Father Julian Deeken Memorial Medal, which signifies the most deserving unit medal during the previous three years. We congratulate Lieutenant (now Captain) Gregory S. Damato, FF Christopher M. Armstrong, FF Christopher Cavalcante, FF James R. Terry (Ladder 158) and FF Kerron V. Ware.

It is important to recognize that although we are celebrating these members today, we are proud of all of you for your unwavering heroism during the last year. We experienced a global pandemic; you rose to the challenge and continued to respond to fires, medical emergencies and other calls for help, putting yourselves in harm's way and saving many lives as a result. Our job is a calling to something greater than ourselves. We have a moral imperative to perform our duty. You have done the job with humility, perseverance and—most importantly—with selflessness. On behalf of the entire Executive Staff, THANK YOU!

Thomas J. Richardson

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Alvin J. Suriel Assistant Chief of EMS Operations



Joseph M. Jardin Assistant Chief Chief of Fire Prevention



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Michael J. Massucci Deputy Assistant Chief Chief of Uniformed Personnel



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**Dean Koester** Deputy Assistant Chief Fire Operations



Kevin J. Brennan Deputy Assistant Chief Fire Prevention



**Anthony Saccavino** Deputy Assistant Chief Fire Prevention



Michael V. Meyers Deputy Assistant Chief Chief of Safety



Frank A. Leeb Deputy Assistant Chief Chief of the Fire Academy



Cesar A. Escobar Deputy Assistant Chief Chief of the EMS Academy



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Kathleen Knuth Division Chief BHS Operations



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Ian C. Swords Division Chief Emergency Medical Dispatch

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Deputy Chief Mark A. Ferran Division 14



Division Chief Nancy J. Gilligan EMS Division 4



Division Chief **Christopher J. Bilz** EMS Division 9



Deputy Chief Stephen G. Moro Division 15



Deputy Chief **Malcolm Moore** Chief of Rescue Operations



Deputy Chief **Daniel J. Murray** Haz-Mat Operations



Battalion Chief **Francis Simpson** Chief of Marine Operations



Deputy Chief Mark A. Bonilla EMS Special Operations

#### THE DR. HARRY M. ARCHER MEDAL

pecial Order No. 180, which was dated October 4, 1920, reads as follows: "A medal, to be known as the 'Harry M. Archer Medal' has been donated by Dr. Herman L. Reis and is to be awarded every third year to such member of the uniformed force of the Fire Department as may have, during the three years preceding such award, been the recipient of one or more medals, which are now given or may hereafter be given, to the members of the uniformed force. Such award shall be made by selection from among said medal winners during the said three years preceding such award for the performance in the judgment of the Fire Commissioner and the Chief of Department of the most meritorious service or act of heroism or bravery."

Legends in the Fire Department of New York begin with members who earn medals. Theirs are the stories of danger, fear, courage, honor and the greatest degree of self-satisfaction.

Firefighters are brave, dedicated and loyal. Respect comes in many ways to those who fight fires. The highest honor that can be bestowed on a New York City firefighter is to be awarded the Doctor Harry M. Archer Medal. It's reserved for the truly bravest of the brave!

- 1921 Firefighter 1st Grade John Walsh (Hook & Ladder Company 1)
- 1924 Captain Edwin A.A. Quinn (Engine Company 14)
- 1927 Firefighter 1st Grade William G.R. Mitchell (Engine Company 18)
- 1930 Firefighter 1st Grade Michael McInerney (Hook & Ladder Company 12)
- 1933 Captain Albert B. Carlson (Engine Company 66)
- 1936 Firefighter 1st Grade Rudolph F. Musil (Hook & Ladder Company 12)
- 1939 Firefighter 1st Grade James P. Nevin (Engine Company 201)
- 1942 Firefighter 1st Grade Charles A. Merz (Hook & Ladder Company 168)
- 1945 Acting Deputy Chief John W. Heaney (Headquarters Staff)
- 1948 Firefighter 1st Grade Anthony L. Riccardi (Hook & Ladder Company 1)
- 1951 Lieutenant Wilbur J. O'Donnell (Hook & Ladder Company 1)
- 1954 Firefighter 1st Grade Victor F. Rossi (Ladder Company 120)
- 1957 Firefighter 2nd Grade Michael J. O'Driscoll (Ladder Company 28)
- 1960 Firefighter 3rd Grade William V. Russo (Ladder Company 25)
- 1963 Firefighter 1st Grade Joseph E. Almon (Ladder Company 35)

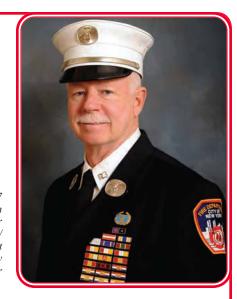
- 1966 Lieutenant David Crowley (37 Battalion; Formerly Firefighter in Ladder Company 14)
- 1969 Firefighter 1st Grade Gene P. Dowling (Ladder Company 25)
- 1972 Lieutenant Richard R. Hamilton (Rescue Company 2)
- 1975 Firefighter 1st Grade Raymond G. McCann (Ladder Company 40)
- 1978 Captain Frederick W. Gallagher (Rescue Company 2)
- 1981 Lieutenant Howard R. Kennedy (Ladder Company 154)
- 1984 Firefighter 1st Grade Kenneth Connelly (Ladder Company 111)
- 1987 Captain James F. McDonnell (Ladder Company 42)
- 1990 Lieutenant William F. Maloney (Ladder Company 34)
- 1993 Firefighter Michael M. Dugan (Ladder Company 43)
- 1996 Lieutenant Albert J. Gonzalez, Jr. (Ladder Company 18)
- 1999 Firefighter Gerard J. Triglia (Ladder Company 132)
- 2003 Battalion Chief John J. Pritchard (41 Battalion; formerly Captain of Engine Company 255)
- 2006 Firefighter James F. Mills (Ladder Company 176)
- 2009 Firefighter James T. Byrne (Ladder Company 121)
- 2012 Firefighter Peter G. Demontreux (Ladder Company 132)
- 2015 Firefighter Kevin J. Hogan (2) Ladder Company 114
- 2018 Firefighter James P. Lee, Jr. (Rescue 1)

#### Dr. Harry M. Archer Medal

#### Lieutenant Michael J. Conboy Rescue Company 3

#### December 17, 2017, 2317 hours, Box 22-2596, Bronx

Appointed to the FDNY on February 4, 1985. Previously assigned to Squad Company 41, Ladder Company 37 and Engine Company 79. Uncle Battalion Chief William Robb is retired from Battalion 26 and cousin Battalion Chief Peter Robb is assigned to Battalion 18. Member of the Emerald and Holy Name Societies and the Honor Legion, where he serves as the Bronx Trustee. Recipient of the Thomas A. Kenny Memorial Medal, Emily Trevor/ Mary B Warren Medal, Columbia Association Medal, one Service Rating A, two Service Rating Bs and eight Unit Citations. Served in the U.S. Coast Guard. Resides in Montgomery, New York, with his wife, Jeanne. They have three children—son Timothy and his wife, Debra; son Matthew and his wife, Ana; daughter Colleen and her husband, John Conroy—as well as six grandchildren: Michael, Quinn, Brigid, John, Jack and Nicholas.



n Sunday, December 17, 2017, Rescue Company 3 was special-called to Bronx Box 2596 for a reported structure fire with people trapped. Working this night tour was veteran officer Lieutenant Michael (Mickey) Conboy. Rescue 3 arrived on-scene quickly. The fire building was a two-story, flatroof private dwelling, measuring 20 by 60 feet. Ladder Company 31 was on scene already, and Lieutenant Conboy heard their officer transmit a 10-45 over the handle-talkie.

Lieutenant Conboy approached the fire building, observing heavy fire blowing up over the roof from an open three-footsquare light shaft approximately 20 feet back on the exposure #2 side. He reported in to Battalion Chief Lawrence Hyland, Battalion 3, who was in front of the building. The Chief told the Lieutenant to have his members assist with searching the fire building and check exposure #4 for extension. Unable to get to the second floor from the front door, Lieutenant Conboy ordered the inside team to attempt entry via a portable ladder up to the front porch roof and the outside team to check the exposure.

Lieutenant Conboy crawled through the front doorway, which had heavy, black smoke venting out over his head. He crawled past Engine 82 members, who still were waiting for water in their hose-line so they could make a push into the two rooms now fully involved in fire and venting into the first-floor hallway. LieuLieutenant Conboy climbed up the stairs through blistering heat to reach the second-floor hallway. At the top of the stairs, he got on his belly and began his search into the front bedroom. He found Ladder 31's tools, which indicated that their search had stopped there when they removed the victim. Searching to his right, Lieutenant Conboy looked up and saw fire rolling over his head. Crawling along the wall, he found a small child, lying unconscious and faceup, on the floor under a window. The curtains and drapes had dropped down on the child and were on fire, as were the boy's pants, so Lieutenant Conboy placed him on a bed away from the window and patted the flames out. He then crawled out of the room with the child and handed him off to another firefighter in the hallway, instructing him to bring the child to EMS personnel in the street. With time running out for any other victims, Lieutenant Conboy returned to the bedroom to complete his search. Fire was blowing into the bedroom from the shaft. This time, he searched to his left, where he found a leg between a bed and the front wall. Pushing the bed away from the wall, Lieutenant Conboy found an unconscious adult male lying on the floor. Trying to free the man, the Lieutenant told FF Brian Browne, Rescue 3, to remove a door from an adjoining bedroom and place it over the window to slow the spread of fire blowing into the room from the air/light shaft, as there still was no hose-

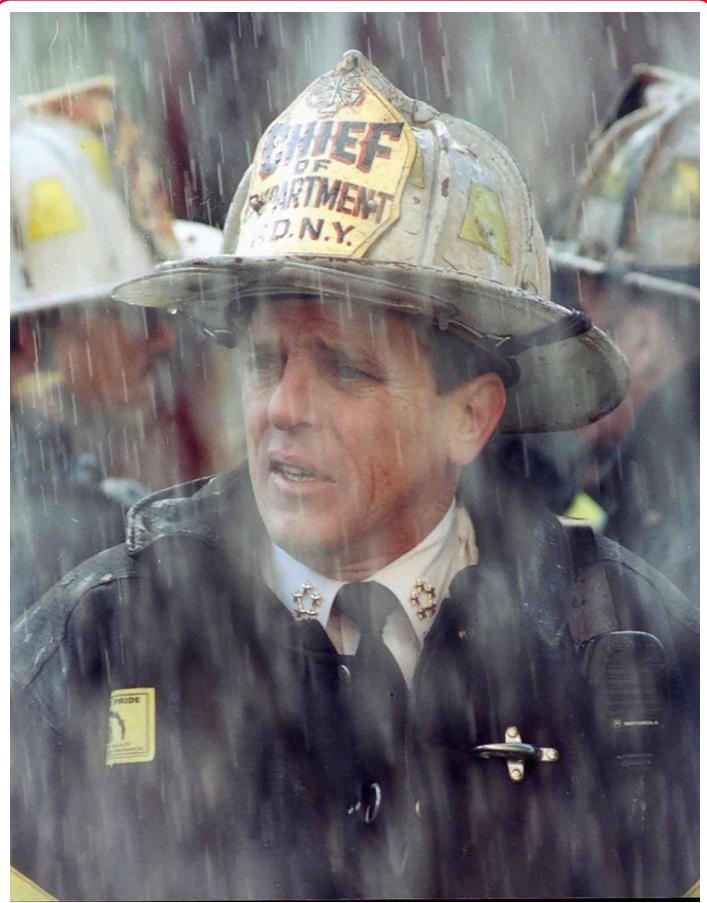
tenant Conboy met Ladder 31's extinguisher firefighter in the hallway at the base of the stairs, where he was attempting to keep the fire back in order to protect his officer, Lieutenant Jerald Perillo, and forcible entry member, FF Lucas Niskanen, as they were coming down the stairs with an unconscious woman.

Lieutenant Conboy asked Lieutenant Perillo whether he had anyone else searching the second floor and was told no. Knowing that the second-due ladder was not yet on scene,



Lieutenant Mickey Conboy and his Rescue 3 crew following rescues at Bronx Box 22-2596.

line stretched to the second floor. Under the extreme heat of the fire, Lieutenant Conboy mustered all his strength and moved the man out of the bedroom toward the hallway. When he got the unconscious male to the hallway, he handed the man off to another firefighter for removal to the street and EMS members. Facing great personal risk, Lieutenant Michael J. Conboy rescued a man and a young boy. For his valor, he is presented with the Dr. Harry M. Archer Medal.—AP



Chief of Department Peter J. Ganci, Jr., responded to Queens Box 44-6945, 153-01 Northern Boulevard at 153rd Street, Flushing, December 9, 2000. Photo by John Leavy.

### Chief of Department Peter J. Ganci, Jr. Medal/ NOS Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal

### Firefighter Abraham G. Miller Ladder Company 23

#### September 29, 2020, 0431 hours, Box 22-1675 Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY May 28, 2015. Brother Firefighter Mike Miller is assigned to Ladder 28. Member of the Vulcan Society. Resides in Buchanan, New York, with his wife, Roxann, and their son, Elijah.



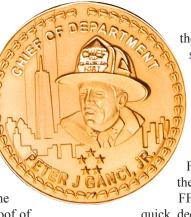
n September 29, 2020, at 0431 hours, Ladder Company 23 responded to a reported fire at a six-story, non-fireproof multiple dwelling. Upon arrival, members saw heavy fire out of two fifthfloor windows at the front of the building. The fire was venting onto the front fire escape completely cutting off the secondary means of egress for the occupants. Firefighter Abraham G. Miller, assigned the roof position in Ladder 23, made a quick size-up and decided he should use the adjoining building to get to the roof of the fire building.

Upon reaching the roof, FF Miller began his perimeter check and immediately heard screams. Through the smoke in an open shaft on the side of the building, he saw a child being held out the top-floor bathroom window. FF Miller—working in conjunction with Ladder Company 34's roof firefighter, Jairo Sosa—reported to Battalion 16 that they were commencing a roof rope

rescue. Knowing the fire had engulfed the front fire escape and seeing the smoke pushing under pressure from the fully ventilated bulkhead, FF Miller reasoned that a rope rescue was the only option and there was no time to spare.

While tying into his personal harness, FF Miller maintained contact with the frightened occupants by yelling down to them that help was on the way. He mounted the parapet, and FF Sosa began lowering him without the benefit of a substantial object to which to anchor. At this time, FF William Gustavson, Ladder 23 chauffeur, arrived and assisted with the operation by pushing down on the rope to create more friction for a safer descent.

Arriving at the window above



the occupants, FF Miller was met with heavy smoke, a window child gate and an intact glass window. Calmly, he took the glass on the upper sash of the window and pulled the young child up through it. Once he had a firm grip on the child, he transmitted a clear message via radio to the Incident Commander that he had secured the victim. FF Sosa then lowered FF Miller and the child six floors to the base of the shaft.

FF Miller's actions at this second alarm were quick, decisive and courageous. Overcoming numerous

challenges, he relied on his training and knowledge of the equipment to safely complete the rescue under extreme conditions. In doing so, FF Miller upheld the very finest tradition of our great Department. For his valor, he is presented with the Chief of Department Peter J. Ganci, Jr. Medal and NYS Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal -JG



Ladder Company 23 operates at Box 22-675 in Manhattan.

#### **EMT-P CARLOS LILLO/LT. RICARDO QUINN MEDAL**

his medal was endowed in 2016 (to coincide with the 20-year anniversary of the Fire/EMS merger) by EMS Local 2507. Named in honor of Paramedics Carlos Lillo, Station 49, and Ricardo J. Quinn, Station 57, who made the Supreme Sacrifice during the September 11, 2001 terror attacks, the deed of the gift states that the medal shall be awarded every three years to a holder of a Christopher J. Prescott Medal during the preceding three years.

- 2016 Paramedic Marilyn L. Arroyo (Station 47) Paramedic Jimmy M. Guailacela (Station 17)
- 2019 EMT Shaun Alexander (Station 58) EMT Khadijah Hall (Station 58)



Fire Department, City of New York • Medal Day 2021



## EMT-P Carlos Lillo/Lt. Ricardo Quinn Medal

November 11, 2019, 0800 hours, Manhattan

### Paramedic Niall C. O'Shaughnessy Station 4

Appointed to the FDNY as an Emergency Medical Technician on March 13, 2006. Previously assigned to Stations 49 and 45. Recipient of the Jack Pintchik Medal in 2020, the Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn Medal in 2017, the Tracy Allen-Lee Medal in 2016 and 2018 and several other citations. Member of the Irish Reserve Defence Force. Resides in Levittown, New York, with his wife, Morgan, and sons, Alex and Aidan.

he Lillo-Quinn Medal is only awarded every three years: a special honor bestowed in remembrance of the lives of Paramedic Carlos Lillo and Lieutenant Richardo Quinn for their supreme sacrifice on September 11, 2001. This year's recipients are Paramedic Niall C. O'Shaughnessy and Lieutenant (then Paramedic) Joshua S. Rodriguez.

On the early morning of November 11, 2019, Paramedics Niall O'Shaughnessy and Joshua Rodriguez started their workday on 01R, a Rescue Paramedic Unit assigned to Station 4 in Manhattan. As part of maintaining a state of readiness and situational awareness, they monitored numerous radio frequencies, including the fireground radio. It wasn't long before a call came in for a collapse—specifically, a scaffolding collapse in a highrise construction site with victims potentially pinned. The paramedics immediately contacted EMS Dispatch to be placed on assignment at the 58-story building.

Arriving on scene with Rescue 1, Paramedics Rodriguez and O'Shaughnessy made entry into the location, which was a large framework of scaffolding, construction equipment and unfinished stairways, with some floors only accessible by ladder. Without hesitation, they traversed construction pathways from the 13th to 17th floors to aid injured construction workers. The pathways were hazardous, unfinished construction areas consisting of wooden ladders and planks that the paramedics used to gain access to the vic-

### Lieutenant Joshua S. Rodriguez EMS Division 2

Appointed to the FDNY as a Emergency Medical Technician on May 2, 2011. Previously assigned to Station 4. Resides in Manhattan.

tims, all while carrying lifesaving pieces of equipment.

On the 17th floor, Paramedics O'Shaughnessy and Rodriguez began triaging, assessing and performing acute stabilization of four injured construction workers. Paramedic O'Shaughnessy identified a seriously injured victim who required rapid extrication from the 17<sup>th</sup>-floor construction zone. With the assistance of Rescue 1, an on-scene crane was converted into a means of victim extrication. Paramedic O'Shaughnessy stayed with the victim as they were both lowered 170 feet to street level and into a waiting ambulance for continued care and transport.

Paramedic Rodriguez remained on the 17th floor, rendering additional aid to the three remaining victims. With his assistance and good communication relay with on-scene resources, the remaining victims were transported by crane to street level and into awaiting ambulances.



From left to right: Lieutenant Robert Vender, Paramedic Niall O'Shaughnessy, Lieutenant Joshua Rodriguez, Lieutenant Kam Wong and Captain John Paul Dimen

The actions of Paramedics Rodriguez and O'Shaughnessy exemplified the dedication and professionalism of emergency pre-hospital care providers. For their unwavering professionalism and conviction to provide the best pre-hospital care in this unique and dangerous situation, Paramedic Niall C. O'Shaughnessy and newly promoted Lieutenant Joshua S. Rodriguez are awarded the Lillo-Quinn Medal.—*BR* 



### Brooklyn Citizens Medal/ **FF Louis Valentino Award** Lieutenant George O. Mueller Ladder Company 107

July 25, 2020, 1543 hours, Box 77-3966, Brooklyn

Appointed to the FDNY March 25, 2007. Previously assigned to Ladder Company 138. Holds a bachelor's from St. John's University. Resides in Smithtown, New York.

t 1543 hours on July 25, 2020, Tower Ladder Company 107 was assigned second due to Brooklyn Box 3966 for a report of a fire with multiple addresses given. They arrived first due to the reported location due to other borough fire activity and street traffic. The outside vent firefighter alerted his officer to heavy smoke emanating from the top floor of the eight-story, fireproof building.

Lieutenant George Mueller and the inside team quickly made their way into the building, deciding to take the stairs due the unreliability of the elevator. As they ascended, they stopped on the sixth floor to size up the hallway layout. When members reached the eighth floor, they identified the fire apartment due to the dense black smoke pushing out from around the door frame.

The irons firefighter forced entry into the apartment, and members were immediately met with a thick wall of black smoke. Lieutenant Mueller directed his can firefighter to begin a left-handed search as he went right. With no guarantee of quick water, the irons firefighter stayed at the apartment door to act as a beacon for the searching members until relieved by the engine officer. All members of Ladder 107's inside team were aware of the challenges the building presented to engines getting a line into place because it did not have a standpipe.

Lieutenant Mueller crawled down the interior apartment hallway with zero visibility in high-heat conditions. He made it into the living room area, where the main body of fire was located, and continued his search without the protection of the hose-line. He discovered an unconscious woman and transmitted a 10-45.

Using his body as a shield, Lieutenant Mueller turned the victim around and moved her to the door, where he handed her over. With Engine Company 225 still stretching the hose-line to his location, he reentered the apartment. Ladder 107's outside vent alerted the inside team to a person gasping for air at one of the windows, and the irons firefighter gave a 10-45 for an unconscious male.

Lieutenant Mueller began his search in the same location, this time finding an unconscious young female beneath a mattress and other clutter. As he grabbed the victim, Engine Company 225 moved in to apply water to the main body of fire. He



Members of Ladder 107 and Engine 225 responded to Box 77-3966 in Brooklyn on July 25, 2020.

was met by the can firefighter, who assisted him out of the apartment and into the public hallway. A moment later, the irons firefighter gave a fourth 10-45 for an unconscious male located in a closet. Lieutenant Mueller and the can firefighter went back into the apartment to assist with removal of the victim.

Climbing eight stories of a fireproof multiple dwelling, on a hot summer day in full protective gear, is no easy task. Despite the debilitating conditions, Lieutenant Mueller maintained his composure and kept the incident commander aware of conditions on the fire floor. He orchestrated multiple removals in punishing conditions. His selfless devotion and willingness to put himself in harm's way resulted in a positive outcome at this devastating fire. For his actions at this fire scene, he is awarded the Brooklyn Citizens Medal/FF Louis Valentino Award.—*RLL* 



### Christopher I. Prescott Medal

April 22, 2020, 1223 hours, Brooklyn

### EMT Gary Hui Medical Equipment Unit

### EMT Samuel R. Wright Station 59

Appointed to the FDNY as an Emergency Medical Technician on January 14, 2013. Previously assigned to Stations 58 and 59 and Medical Equipment Unit. Brother-in-Law, Firefighter Christopher Schuster, is assigned to Engine Company 309. Member of the Phoenix Society. Resides in Brooklyn with his wife, Helen.

Appointed to the FDNY as an Emergency Medical Technician on February 19, 2019. Holds an associate's degree from Central Oregon Community College. Resides in Hempstead, New York.

Using the afternoon of April 22, 2020, EMTs Samuel Wright and Gary Hui were driving to their assigned street location when they were flagged down for a motor vehicle crash. At that time, they could see black smoke filling up the sky. As they approached, they saw a dump truck that had crashed into four parked cars and ended up stopped by a utility pole. The dump truck was engulfed in heavy smoke and active fire.

EMT Hui worked to retrieve the fire extinguisher and equipment from the ambulance while EMT Wright went to evaluate the scene and discovered the driver was trapped inside the cab, unconscious. A bystander broke the passenger-side window with a pipe, and EMT Wright crawled into the smoke-filled cab to unlock the driver's-side door. Together, EMTs Hui and Wright moved the driver out and away from the cab, just before it was filled with fire and the tires began to explode. The patient was treated and taken to the hospital, where he recovered from his injuries.

EMTs Wright and Hui intervened quickly and heroically, without concern for the personal risk they faced. If not for their selfless actions, the driver might not be alive today. For their unselfish act of heroism to help remove a person from harm's way, EMTs Wright and Hui are honored with the Christopher J. Prescott Medal.—MV



From left to right: EMT Gary Hui, Lieutenant Krystal Hayes, Captain Barbara Aziz and EMT Samuel Wright



### Hugh Bonner Medal/ Honor Legion Medal Captain Thomas R. Sussman Engine Company 316

May 17, 2020, 1307 hours, Box 75-7717, Queens

Appointed to the FDNY January 26, 1997. Previously assigned to Engine Company 310 and Ladder Company 174 as Firefighter and Engine 221 as a Lieutenant. Holds an FAA License/Aircraft Technician and a construction engineering degree from SUNY Farmingdale. Member of the Emerald Society and Holy Name Society. Resides in Malverne, New York, with his wife, Maureen, and their daughters, Maureen Joyce, Mary-Kate, AnnMarie and Meghan.

ince 1865, the New York City Fire Department has been a symbol of professionalism, bravery and heroism. The nickname "New York's Bravest" was not bestowed upon the men and women of the FDNY; it was earned. On a clear afternoon on May 17, 2020, Captain Thomas R. Sussman of Engine Company 316 once again proved that the members of the FDNY are truly New York's Bravest.

On that Sunday afternoon, Engine 316 was dispatched to a fire in Queens. When Captain Sussman arrived on the scene, he saw flames emanating from the second floor windows and notified the Queens Dispatcher. He was informed that a woman and her son were trapped on the second-floor of the two-and-a-halfstory dwelling. He immediately ascended the heavily cluttered staircase, but not before ordering a hose-line to be stretched.

When Captain Sussman reached the door at the top of the stairs, he encountered heavy smoke and an almost insurmountable amount of clutter. He entered the apartment and used his thermal imaging camera (TIC) to better gauge the layout. While using the TIC, he located the body of an elderly female victim just outside his reach. Blinded by the smoke, he entered the apartment, grabbed the woman and removed her from the unit, down the stairs and safely to the front stoop. There he was met by Engine 316's door firefighter, who initiated patient care.

The rescued woman regained consciousness and conveyed that she had last seen her son upstairs in the back bedroom. Still without the protection of a hose-line, Captain Sussman reentered the burning dwelling in search of the missing son. Once again, he encountered high heat and zero visibility. He attempted to utilize his thermal imaging camera to locate the victim, but the high heat rendered it useless. Captain Sussman had become accustomed to operating in these types of situations in the course of his 24-year career, and he used his previous experience to quickly find the victim.

Now farther into the apartment than in his first rescue, Cap-

tain Sussman failed his initial attempt to carry the unconscious, stout male. With the fire now extending from the bedroom and lapping at the victim's back, Captain Sussman finally lifted the man from a squatting position and carried him over some debris. As they both fell, the victim landed on his rescuer, jarring his facepiece and causing the seasoned captain to inhale superheated gasses.

Captain Sussman readjusted his equipment and continued with the rescue. Feeling the heat through his firefighting ensemble, he lay on his stomach and used his legs to push off the wall and move the victim to the front of the apartment. As they reached the apartment door, Engine 316's nozzle firefighter entered and began extinguishing the fire. The backup and control firefighters relieved Captain Sussman and finished with the removal of the victim to street level.

In recognition of his courageous and remarkable rescue efforts, Captain Thomas Sussman is being honored today with the Hugh Bonner Medal/Honor Legion Medal.—*SR* 



From left to right: FF Lawrence Young II, FF Daniel Casey, FF Brett Grill, FF Steve Guida, Captain Thomas Sussman and FF Robert Landon

# Emily Trevor/ Mary B. Warren Medal Firefighter Antonio F. Tarabocchia

#### **Rescue Company 4**

#### July 24, 2020, 0011 hours, Box 75-7878, Queens

Appointed to the FDNY March 7, 2004. Previously assigned to Ladder Company 28. Father, Lieutenant Tony Tarabocchia, is retired from Rescue Company 1. Attended Queensbouough Community College and Suffolk County Community College. Recipient of three Unit Citations. Resides in Miller Place, New York, with his wife, Christina, and their children, Antonio and Angelina.



Just after midnight on July 24, 2020, Rescue Company 4 was assigned first due to a fire on the first floor of two-story private dwelling in Queens. Dispatch notified the incoming units of people trapped on the second floor.

Upon arrival, Rescue 4 encountered a large volume of fire blowing out the front first-floor windows. Undeterred, Firefighter Antonio F. Tarabocchia (irons position) donned his facepiece on the stoop and entered the building, where he was faced with fire extending out from the first-floor apartment and up the interior stairs. With no hose-line yet in place, Rescue 4's can firefighter temporarily held back the fire through the disintegrating apartment door while FF Tarabocchia ascended the burnt-out staircase to where there were reports of life.

On the second floor, a zero-visibility environment and intense heat forced FF Tarabocchia to the ground. Exacerbating the perilous conditions he found himself in, a 10-70 was transmitted. Knowing there would be delay in water, he looked for an area of refuge while simultaneously searching for life. He came across two doors. After a quick search of the first room, he found the other door locked. Still on his belly, he forced the locked door and gained access to the rear bedroom.

A tangle of bicycles and furniture in the room made crawl-

ing difficult. As FF Tarabocchia negotiated the obstacles on his hands and knees, he heard faint gasping in the corner of the room. He swept the top of the bed and underneath it to find a female on her knees, covering a child wedged between the head-board and rear wall of the building. He transmitted the 10-45s and immediately began removal of the woman, assisted by Rescue 4's hook firefighter, FF Daniel A. Hickey, who had entered the building from the rear via portable ladder.

FF Tarabocchia then crawled back through the room to where he had found the first victim. Farther in the corner and under the bed was the small child, still lying in the smoke-filled bedroom. He grabbed the child's legs, freed her from beneath the bed, picked her up and carried her out to the hallway. Exhausted, he lifted the girl onto his shoulder to descend the staircase and exit the building, handing off the child to EMS units on scene.

FF Tarabocchia knowingly put himself at great risk on the floor above a heavy fire to find potential victims. In doing so, he saved two lives. The bravery and courage he embodied while operating at the scene of this fire exemplifies the best tenets of the FDNY, and that is why the Department is awarding him the Emily Trevor/Mary B. Warren Medal.—*LA* 



Firefighter Antonio F. Tarabocchia (second from right) and members of Rescue Company 4



#### Thomas E. Crimmins Medal

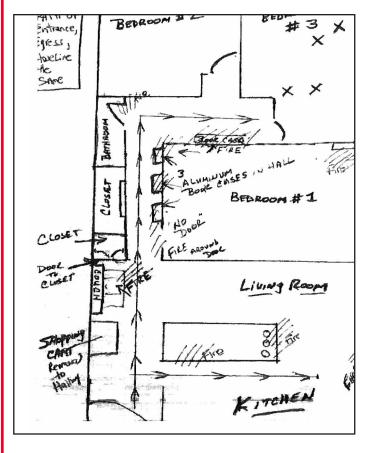
### Firefighter Gerardo A. Urena Ladder Company 34

September 5, 2020, 1840 hours, Box 75-1670, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY January 8, 2007. Previously assigned to Engine Company 84. Attended Bronx Community College. Resides in Montgomery, New York, with his wife, Raquel, and their children, Jerry Jerramiah, Julius and Aubree.

hortly after the start of the night tour on September 5, 2020, Ladder Company 34 was assigned first due for a fire in a high-rise, fireproof, multiple dwelling. The normally assigned first-due units to this location were unavailable due to another box in the area. As Ladder 34 turned out, Dispatch informed them that there were numerous reports of people trapped in a 30<sup>th</sup>-floor apartment.

Upon arrival, Ladder 34 recalled the high-rise bank of elevators, but only one of the three elevators functioned properly, which would delay other incoming units. Undeterred, Ladder 34 made their way up to the fire floor, where they were met with a smoke condition and numerous occupants self-evacuating.



Ladder 34's covering officer, Lieutenant George Diaz of Ladder Company 50, came across a victim in the hallway gasping and covered in soot. Barely able to communicate, she informed him that there were four more occupants trapped in the apartment. As Lieutenant Diaz transmitted this information, the other members of the inside team—Firefighters Gerardo A. Urena and Michael Murray—masked up and entered the apartment.

The inside team encountered high heat, zero visibility, fire and numerous items blocking the apartment hallway. When they heard cries for help on the other side of the flames, all three members made their way past the fires without question. There was no hose-line in place, and the extinguisher had little, if any, effect on the intensity of the fire.

As they made their way through the flames, FF Murray came across an unconscious adult female and Lieutenant Diaz a semiconscious child. While they underwent the arduous and self-sacrificing task of removing and protecting the victims from the fire, FF Urena moved deeper past the fire and into a back bedroom, where he located two more semiconscious victims. Now alone, FF Urena transmitted the two additional 10-45s and reported that he was unable to remove them via the interior, since the wall of fire was burning directly opposite the now controlled bedroom door.

While the first-due engine companies tried to overcome issues with inadequate pressure in the line, FF Urena cleared the windows and readied for a possible lifesaving rope rescue. Throughout the process, he managed to keep himself and the two victims calm and ready for the potential roof rope rescue.

Fortunately, Engine Company 84 was able to knock down the fire that cut off FF Urena and the victims from egress. The other members of Ladder 34 made their way to FF Urena's position and assisted with the victims' removal.

The members of Ladder 34 acted in a determined, purposeful manner and displayed outstanding teamwork. FF Urena's individual actions went above and beyond the call of duty. His professionalism while being confronted by imminent danger is among the highest quality of standards the FDNY adheres to and is why he is being honored with the Thomas E. Crimmins Medal.—LA

### Thomas A. Kenny Memorial Medal

### Firefighter William J. Long Squad Company 288

July 24, 2020, 0011 hours, Box 75-7878, Queens

Appointed to the FDNY on July 1, 2008. Previously assigned to Ladder Company 109/Engine Company 241. Resides in Rockaway Beach, New York, with his wife, Katie, and children, Henry and Thomas.

Private dwellings are among the most challenging environments in which members of the FDNY must perform firefighting and rescue operations. This is due to both their combustible wood construction and their open stair configuration, which contribute to rapid heat and smoke spread during a working fire. It is these conditions that Firefighter William J. Long encountered just after midnight on July 24, 2020, when responding to a second-floor fire in a two-story attached private dwelling in Queens.

Firefighter Long already knew his unit was headed into a life-threatening situation when they heard Engine Company 292 transmit an urgent 10-75 for a heavy fire on the first floor, amidst radio reports of people trapped above the fire. Further complicating the operation was a transmission from Engine 292's chauffeur of no hydrant and a 10-70 signal for no positive water severe

70 signal for no positive water source.

In what was clearly a dire, life-threatening situation, FF Long was ordered to search the floor above the heavy first-floor fire. With a lack of hose-line protection, no positive water source and the first-floor door to the fire area failing, FF Long's climb up the interior stairs was a punishing task in and of itself. He pushed himself through high heat and zero visibility to the second floor to begin his search.

Hearing members operating in the rear of the building, FF Long began moving toward the front, where he found an open door and encountered an increasingly high heat condition and household furniture in his path. Moving up and over the furniture, he found a bed and felt an arm between the mattress and the wall.

Despite the victim being located, FF Long's challenge to remove her had

only begun. He used his Halligan tool to pry the bed off the wall, freeing the pinned victim and repositioning her for rescue. Summoning all of his strength and determination, FF Long moved the victim up and over the furniture, staying as low as possible to avoid the high heat conditions. His tactical expertise and bravery carried him and his rescued victim along the dangerous pathway to the street as he navigated through numerous obstacles and entanglement hazards.

It is due to FF Long's high level of training, experience, professionalism and firefighting grit that the fire victim was found under extreme conditions, removed and transported for care. His actions truly represent all of the most honorable and respected characteristics that make up a New York City Firefighter. He is awarded the Thomas A. Kenny Memorial Medal. -TC







### Walter Scott Medal

### Firefighter Brian C. Quinn Ladder Company 30

September 1, 2020, 1326 hours, Box 75-1562, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY on June 26, 2016. Brother, Lieutenant Daniel Quinn is assigned to Ladder Company 120. Cousin, Lieutenant Matthew Quinn is assigned to Ladder Company 28. Cousin, Captain Kevin Quinn is retired from Engine Company 325. Uncle, FF Thomas Quinn is retired from Ladder 138. Served in U.S. Marine Corps. Resides in East Islip, New York, with fiance Devin Battino.

There are few rescues that elicit more public admiration and awe than a roof rope rescue, and the reason is simple: it is, without a doubt, the type of rescue that poses the greatest risk to both rescuer and victim. For that reason, it is attempted in only the most extreme situations when there is no other option.

At 1326 hours on September 1, 2020, Ladder Company 30 received a phone alarm for Box 1562 for a fire on the 14th floor



Firefighter Quinn aids woman on edge at Box 75-1362.

of a 17-story high-rise multiple dwelling. En route, units received additional information reporting conflicting cross streets. Engine Company 59 and Ladder Company 30 arrived on scene to discover heavy smoke coming from the 15th floor of the fire building and immediately transmitted the correct address.

Firefighter Brian Quinn (outside vent position) entered the elevator and attempted to put the car into fire service mode but discovered the system was inoperable. Lieutenant Jason D. Norwich of Ladder 30 made the decision to keep the elevator in normal service and ordered FF Quinn to proceed to the floor above, along with FF Patrick A. Chiarel (Engine Company 59), who was assigned the roof in Ladder 30 for the tour.

Adding an additional challenge was the fact that there was no 13<sup>th</sup> floor, so the fire was actually on the 16th floor. This information was transmitted to all units, and FFs Quinn and Chiarel proceeded to the unit above the fire apartment. There, FF Quinn made a quick survey of the exposures and observed a panicked victim standing on a windowsill and clutching a small dog. She was enveloped in smoke and in obvious imminent peril. FF Quinn straddled the windowsill, attempting to calm her and coax her back inside.

FF Quinn knew by listening to the radio transmissions that units were having difficulty entering the fire apartment and an interior removal would be delayed. His immediate concern was that the victim would lose her grip and plunge to the ground below before she could be reached via the interior units. He realized that time was of the essence. Fortunately, Ladder Company 28's roof firefighter arrived with the lifesaving rope, and everyone focused on getting it into operation.

In anticipation of the roof rope rescue, FF Quinn placed a Halligan hook across a doorway to provide an anchor point. All members on the floor above coordinated efforts to assist with the rescue operation. FF Quinn clipped the rope into his personal harness, dismounted the windowsill on the 17th floor and began his descent. When FF Quinn reached the victim, he held her in place until interior units had secured operations and she was able to be removed via the apartment.

There is no doubt that because of FF Quinn's actions, the victim survived the ordeal. He is awarded the Walter Scott Medal. -CB

### John H. Prentice Medal

### Firefighter Jairo M. Sosa Ladder Company 34

September 29, 2020, 0431 hours, Box 22-1675, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY December 31,2014. Holds an associate degree as a paramedic from the Borough of Manhattan Community College. Member of the Hispanic Society. Resides in Manhattan, New York, with his wife, Evelyn, and their daughters, Diana and Sofia.



Throughout their careers, few firefighters receive the opportunity to directly save a fire victim's life. Fewer still have the opportunity to save a child's life, and none will ever be able to perform both of those noble feats utilizing the newest piece of FDNY equipment for the first time. Firefighter Jairo M. Sosa, of Ladder Company 34, takes his place in history for accomplishing all three extraordinary tasks at one fire.

On September 29, 2020, at 0431 hours, Ladder 34 was assigned first due to a reported fire with people trapped. The quality and quantity of 911 calls prompted Dispatchers to "load up

the box." Engine Company 84 arrived at the location and transmitted a 10-75 for fire out of the fifth-floor window. The fire building was a six-story, U-shaped multiple dwelling with an open shaft facing the rear yard.

Stepping from the apparatus, FF Sosa observed two occupants at a sixth-floor window above the fire. While Ladder 34's chauffeur and outside vent addressed those life hazards, FF Sosa made his way to the roof. Performing his assigned duties, he opened and examined the bulkhead, vented its skylight and performed a perimeter search. When he heard screams from the shaft, he looked down to see a child's arm waving out of a sixth-floor window. Heavy, dark smoke vented over the child's head. FF Sosa notified the Incident Commander and prepared to deploy the newest weapon in the FDNY's lifesaving arsenal: the Kernmantle Life Saving Rope (KLSR) system. As part of the KLSR pilot program, Ladder 34's members drill extensively on its use. Now, with difficult night visibility and exasperated by heavy smoke, FF Sosa conscientiously and calmly brought his company training to bear.

Ladder Company 23's roof firefighter, Abraham Miller, arrived, and an instantaneous decision was made to perform the rescue. As FFs Miller and Sosa were the only two firefighters on the roof and FF Sosa was trained in the KLSR, he took charge as the lowering member. With no substantial object, FF Sosa bur-



Intense fire conditions at Box 22-1675 in Manhattan.

ied his Halligan's pike into the roof and straddled a soil pipe for support to keep from slipping toward the edge. Clipping into the KLSR system, he instructed FF Miller to prepare to descend. FF Sosa lowered FF Miller to the sixth-floor window, where FF Miller removed a young female victim, and FF Sosa subsequently lowered them safely to the ground. A second rope rescue was then performed by other units to rescue the victim's grandmother from the same window.

With the lives of a trapped civilian and another firefighter in his hands, FF Jairo M. Sosa, a six-year member of Ladder Company 34, demonstrated extreme professionalism, perfect technical abilities and initiative to execute the first KLSR rescue in FDNY history. In doing so, he acted in the finest traditions of the Department and is therefore awarded the John H. Prentice Medal.—*SM* 



#### Henry D. Brookman Medal

#### Lieutenant Daniel A. Saalfrank Ladder Company 4

May 16, 2020, 1543 hours, Box 77-0898, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY on November 19, 2006. Previously assigned to Ladder Company 176 and Ladder Company 169. Served in the U.S. National Guard. Recipient of Unit Citations and 2014 World Trade Center Medal with Ladder Company 176. Member of the Emerald Society and Emerald Society Pipes & Drums. Holds a Master of Public Administration from John Jay College. Resides in Brooklyn with his wife, Jessica Murzyn.

ew York City is a city of high-rises. Probably no unit in the FDNY has more experience with high-rise fires than Ladder Company 4, "the Pride of Midtown." With that experience comes the knowledge that many times, the truck company will be at the fire apartment door before the engine company with the hose-line; this is due to the time required to get the hose-line in place.

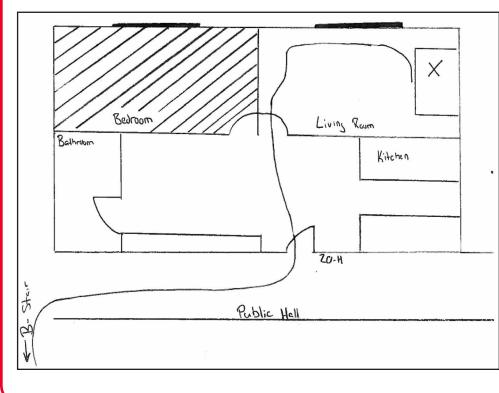
On the afternoon of May 16, 2020, Lieutenant Daniel A. Saalfrank and the members of Ladder Company 4 responded to Box 0898 for a report of a fire. As soon as Ladder 4 made the turn out of quarters, smoke was visible across the avenue. Battalion 9 transmitted a 10-77 for fire out the window on the top floor of a 20-story, fireproof multiple dwelling.

Ladder 4 put the elevator into fire service mode and proceeded to the 18<sup>th</sup> floor. Ladder 4 accessed the B stair and reached the 20th-floor landing, where they encountered NYPD officers. Lieutenant Saalfrank confirmed that all NYPD members were accounted for and directed them to the 19th floor, out of danger.

Upon opening the stairway door to the hallway, Lieutenant Saalfrank observed heavy smoke and immediately realized the apartment door must be open. He utilized the thermal imaging camera he quickly led his unit down the hallway to gain control of the apartment door and maintain the integrity of the fire-floor hallway.

Aware that the hose-line would be delayed and fire conditions were intensifying, Lieutenant Saalfrank knew an immediate search of the apartment was necessary to save anyone inside. As he entered the fire apartment, he observed fire rolling across the ceiling at the doorway, coming from a bedroom where the door had burned through. The Lieutenant ordered FF Randy L. Meredith of Engine Company 54 (can position) to use the extinguisher to hold the fire at bay, and then he ordered FF Shawn F. Clark (forcible entry) to search to the right.

Lieutenant Saalfrank made a quick search of the living room



using the thermal imaging camera and located an unconscious person on the couch. He transmitted a 10-45 to Battalion 9 and pulled the female occupant to the floor. He was able to move her 15 feet to the front door, where he met FFs Clark and Meredith. The three of them maneuvered the victim to the apartment entranceway, and FF Meredith then singlehandedly removed her 50 feet to the B stairwell. expediting transport to the hospital.

All actions by Lieutenant Saalfrank and the members of Ladder 4 at this fire were performed without the protection of a charged hoseline. Lieutenant Saalfrank's actions exemplify the finest traditions of the FDNY, and for that reason he is being recognized today. He is awarded the Henry D. Brookman Medal. -CB

#### Chief Ulyses Grant Leadership Medal

#### Lieutenant Alexandru Mihailescu EMS Station 55

September 17, 2020, 1022 hours, Bronx

Appointed to the FDNY as an Emergency Medical Technician on January 7, 2007. Previously assigned to Stations 55, 20 and 3. Resides in New Milford, New Jersey, with his wife, Mariana, and their children, James and Elizabeth.



t is common in the Emergency Medical Service to expect the unexpected. On the cloudy morning of September 17, 2020, at 1022 hours, a civilian entered Station 55 in the Bronx without authorization. As he walked in, he pushed an EMT station member and immediately went and pushed another EMT. When the civilian was asked about his reason for being at the station, he pushed the EMT a second time and then took out a razor knife.

Lieutenant Alexandru Mihailescu noticed the altercation and placed himself between his member and the perpetrator. The

assailant swung the knife, nearly slashing the Lieutenant's face. Once the other personnel at the station became aware of the situation, they surrounded the offender until the NYPD arrived, at which point he was taken into custody.

Lieutenant Mihailescu put himself in danger to protect his members' well-being. He was in the right place at the right time. For his intelligent decision-making and courage, he is presented with the Chief Ulysses Grant Leadership Medal, which is bestowed on an EMS officer who has displayed leadership and performed an outstanding act of bravery in the line of duty.— MV



*Lieutenant Alexandru Mihailescu (left) and Captain George Lampon (right) outside of Station 55.* 



# Hispanic Society/23rd Street Fire Memorial Medal of Valor

### Firefighter Patrick G. Hemsley Ladder Company 4

September 4, 2020, 0958 hours, Box 75-0910, Manhattan

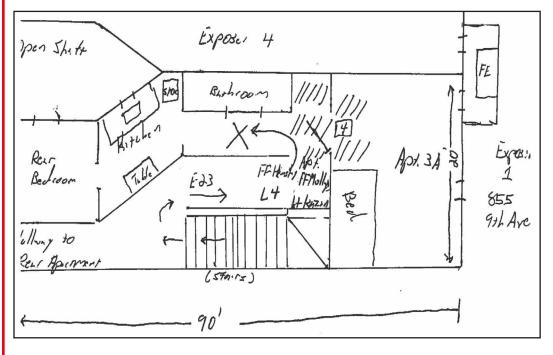
Appointed to the FDNY February 11, 2017. Previously assigned to Engine Company 54. Father, Captain John J. Hemsley, is retired from Ladder Company 13; brother John G. Hemsley is a fire marshal. Holds a bachelor's degree in history from Iona College. Resides in Bronx, with his wife, Sara Osorio, and their daughter, Amelia.

Just after the members of Ladder Company 4 finished their roll call for the 9x6 tour, the company was assigned to a phone alarm reporting a fire in a multiple dwelling. The Manhattan Dispatchers reported that fire was on the fourth floor, with people on the fire escape. En route to the fire, further information was received that people were reported trapped.

Upon Ladder 4's arrival, there was one occupant on the fourth-floor fire escape, and smoke was visible from the fourth-floor windows. Ladder 4's inside team consisted of Lieutenant John Kazan; Firefighter Patrick G. Hemsley, the irons member; and Firefighter Brendan G. Mulligan, the can member. They made their way to the fire apartment on the fourth floor and found smoke emanating from the door jamb. Lieutenant Kazan ordered FF Hemsley to "force the door." Both FFs Hemsley and Mulligan masked up and quickly forced the apartment door. They were met with heavy fire at the entranceway; fire was coming from a closet and front bedroom. Firefighter Mulligan began using his can to knock the fire back. Knowing that people

were reported trapped, FF Hemsley made his way past FF Mulligan, requiring him to reduce his profile due to extremely limited space. The fire was now rolling across the ceiling of the public hallway. A construction project in front of the building entrance complicated operations.

Without hesitation, FF Hemsley made a left turn in the apartment and headed toward the kitchen and rear bedroom. His aggressiveness paid off when he came upon an unconscious male approximately six feet into the apartment. Firefighter Hemsley transmitted a 10-45 over his handie-talkie and prepared to remove the victim. Firefighter Mulligan had exhausted his can and made his way over to FF Hemsley, who was calling for assistance. Together, FFs Hemsley and Mulligan shielded the victim and moved him under the fire, to the hallway, without the protection of a hose-line. The victim was handed off to FF Andrew McShane of Engine Company 54 in the public hallway and was removed the to the street. Firefighter Hemsley reentered the burning apartment, crawling under the fire and to make his way



to the rear of the apartment and search for other trapped victims. Lieutenant Kazan met up with FF Hemsley as they completed the search of the back bedroom.

The victim was turned over to EMS, who administered patient care and transported him to nearest the hospital.

Without the protection of a hose-line, and despite the heavy amount of fire encountered, FF Hemsley never hesitated to initiate his search for a trapped fire victim. For his brave actions, FF Patrick G. Hemsley is awarded this Hispanic Society/23rd Street Fire Memorial Medal of Valor.—AP

Fire Department, City of New York • Medal Day 2021

#### M.J. Delehanty Medal

#### Firefighter Andrew E. Dinkel, IV Rescue Company 1

#### September 15, 2020, 1630 hours, Box 1083, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY February 2, 2003. Previously assigned to Engine Company 219, Squad Company 252. Holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of New Haven in Fire Science and a master's from CUNY John Jay College in Public Administration. Member of the Steuben Association and Emerald Society. Recipient of multiple Unit Citations. Resides in Sayville, New York, with his wife Connie, and children, Madalyn and Ean.



t 1630 hours on September 15, 2020, Rescue Company 1 received a phone alarm for Box 1083 for workers hanging from scaffolding on the side of a high-rise multiple dwelling. Upon arrival, members discovered two workers tethered to an off-leveled hanging scaffold around the 10th floor. Rescue 1 entered the building with the gear and equipment required for a high-angle rope rescue. Firefighters Andrew E. Dinkel, IV; Aron Buch; John C. O'Connor; and John P. Adamow proceeded to the roof to set up the operation, while on the 10th floor below, an attempt was made to bring the workers in through the interior. One of the men was successfully brought in, but the other was unreachable from inside. Rescue 1's officer, Lieutenant Russo, ordered the members to implement a high-angle rope rescue from the roof.

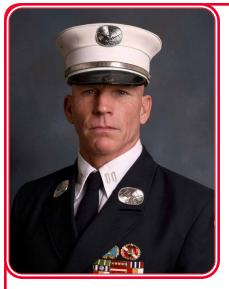
With the main line and safety line in place, FF Dinkel went over the roof's edge and began his decent. Guided from the ground by FF Thomas Cosgrove, Rescue 1's chauffeur, FF Dinkel descended two stories, skillfully navigating his ropes around the rough edges of two protruding ledges. The victim was not visible from the point of descent, and a change of direction was required at roof level to get FF Dinkel closer.

Once FF Dinkel reached the suspended worker, he immediately secured him with two separate ropes and helped the distressed worker calm down. After ensuring that the victim was properly secured and FF Dinkel was in position, the members on the roof lifted both men, relieving the pressure on the victim's own line and allowing FF Dinkel to free him from it. Firefighter Dinkel kept the victim calm and protected as the pair were raised to the window of the 10th floor and safely brought inside.

Firefighter Dinkel performed an intricate rescue operation while hanging 10 stories above the ground—to save a life, acting in the highest traditions of this Department, and it is for this reason that he is being awarded the M.J. Delehanty Medal. —*JP* 



Operations at Box 1083 in Manhattan



#### Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia Medal

### Captain James P. Ellson Division 15

March 12, 2020, 1352 hours, Box 77-0868, Brooklyn

Appointed to the FDNY on August 19, 1990. Previously assigned to Ladder Company 111, Rescue Company 2 and Rescue Company 3. Father, Captain James B. Ellson ,Sr., was retired and is now deceased. Uncle Supervising Fire Marshal John Kittelberger is now retired from the Bureau of Fire Investigation. Uncle, Lieutenant Robert Paolicelli retired from Engine Company 227 is now deceased. Cousin Lieutenant Robert Kittelberger is assigned to Ladder Company 170, and cousin Battalion Chief Christopher Paolicelli is assigned to Battalion 54. Recipient of multiple Unit Citations. Was a member of the FDNY hockey team and FDNY Honor Legion. Recipient of the Hugh Bonner Medal, Honor Legion Medal, and the Thomas Elasser Medal. Holds a bachelor's degree in fire/ emergency management. Resides in Jackson Heights, New York.

t 1352 hours on March 12, 2020, Ladder Company 176 was assigned as the first-due ladder to a fire in a seven-story, low-rise, fireproof multiple dwelling. Brooklyn Dispatchers advised the incoming units that an occupant was trapped in the rear bedroom of the fire apartment on the seventh floor. Upon arrival, Captain James P. Ellson—commanding Ladder 176 along with his inside team, Firefighters Christopher Lane (irons position) and Dominick Prince (can position) quickly ascended the "A" stairway.

When the door to the 7th floor hallway was opened, they were confronted with a heavy smoke condition and a large area



Fire damage inside Box 77-0868 in Brooklyn

of burning debris that was dragged out of the fire apartment. As FF Prince used the can to extinguish the burning debris, a resident in the hallway told Captain Ellson that a woman was indeed trapped inside. He relayed this critical information to Battalion 37 and Engine Company 222.

Engine 222 informed Captain Ellson that a scaffold erected around the building was impeding their efforts to pull a hoseline to the upper floors using a rope via the bottle stretch method. Knowing that time was critical for the trapped occupant's survival, Captain Ellson and Firefighter Prince crawled over and around the burning debris to reach the fire apartment door, where

> they were met with heavy fire and high heat. Captain Ellson found a partially used fire extinguisher on the floor and used it to lighten the fire enough to push past and access the rear bedrooms.

> As he crawled farther along, Captain Ellson heard faint moaning coming from the rear bedroom and noticed the upper half of the door was beginning to ignite. While searching along the floor in zero visibility, he found a semi-conscious victim, transmitted a 10-45 and proceeded to remove her out of the bedroom and down the still-smoldering 20foot hallway. When Captain Ellson reached the seventh-floor public hallway, he was met by members of Engine Company 233 who initiated medical care and brought the victim down to EMS. Unwavering in his resolve, Captain Ellson made his way back into the fire apartment to continue to search for life and assist with fire extinguishment.

> Despite several obstacles and delays encountered at the fire, Captain Ellson placed himself in danger to rescue a trapped woman. He did not stop or hesitate until he found and removed the injured woman from certain peril. For his actions, Captain James P. Ellson is awarded this Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia Medal.—AP

### William F. Conran Medal

### Firefighter Joseph N. Ambrosio Ladder Company 152

#### June 21, 2020, 0347 hours, Box 75-9477, Queens

Appointed to the FDNY on August 5, 2007. Resides in Ronkonkoma, New York, with his wife, Kristin, and children, Lilliana, Emilia, Adelina and Matthew.



n June 21, 2020, at 0347 hours, Queens Box 9477 was transmitted for a fire in a private dwelling. Fires occurring during overnight hours in private dwellings can be especially dangerous, as sleeping occupants can quickly be overcome, and this fire was no exception.

On arrival, Ladder Company 152 found a three-story, flatroof private dwelling with heavy fire outside the entrance on the first floor and rapidly extending to the second floor. Members heard multiple explosions as they exited the apparatus. As they approached the fire building, they could see several propane and gasoline cylinders, as well as various paint cans and unlabeled cylinders on fire at the entrance to the dwelling.

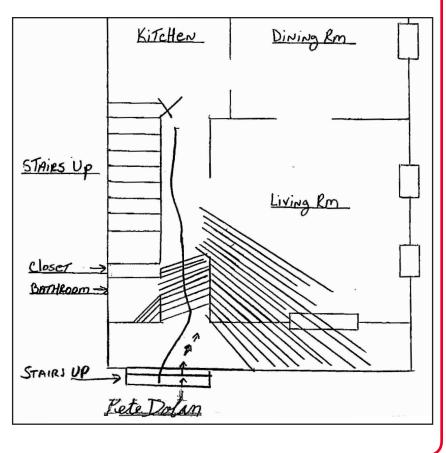
Engine 273 stretched and charged a hose-line and quickly

extinguished some of the fire, allowing access up the stairs to the entrance door. Faced with a rapidly extending fire threatening the front entrance, Firefighter Joseph Ambrosio (irons position) made the quick decision to squeeze through the narrow opening at the front door and push his way through piles of clutter to perform a search. Lieutenant Peter Dolan and Firefighter Richard Kuntzler (can position) moved debris from the entryway and also pushed their way in.

Members were met with zero visibility and a high-heat condition inside. Due to the enormous amount of clutter and debris immediately past the front door, the hose-line was unable to advance inside. A sheet of plywood covering the first-floor window that contributed to the tough conditions and limited the members' ability to egress out the building.

Despite these conditions, FF Ambrosio continued his search and stopped when he heard a groaning noise in the distance. He followed the sound of the person's voice and made his way to the rear, where he found a victim lying at the base of the stairs. He began to move the person back through the maze of clutter and toward the door while FF Kuntzler used the can extinguisher to keep fire from blocking their exit at the main entrance. Firefighter Kuntzler made his way deeper into the building and met up with FF Ambrosio to assist with victim removal. Lieutenant Dolan continued to remove debris and clutter to clear a path back to the door, and all three members assisted in removing the victim from the building.

Faced with a rapidly extending fire, an enormous amount of piled clutter and blackout conditions, FF Joseph Ambrosio acted in the highest traditions of the FDNY. He made an immediate decision to push through a maze of clutter without the protection of a hose-line and located a trapped victim. His actions at this fire exemplify what it means to be a New York City firefighter. For his actions, Firefighter Joseph N. Ambrosio is awarded this William F. Conran Medal.—RAW





### Chief John J. McElligott Medal/ Ffs Fitzpatrick and Frisby Award Firefighter Samuel A. Rivera Ladder Company 54

January 23, 2020, 0959 hours, Box 22-2859, Bronx

Appointed to the FDNY December 29, 2014. Holds a Bachelor of Science in computer information systems and Bachelor of Arts in theater from Lehman College. Member of the Hispanic Society. Resides in the Bronx with his wife, Angie Nunez-Rivera.

n the night of January 23, 2020, off-duty Firefighter Samuel A. Rivera was driving with his wife when he noticed a smoke condition on the avenue that they were traveling on. Firefighter Rivera stopped to investigate, and upon reaching the corner of the smoke location, he was met with fire blowing out of the cellar window of a residential two-family home. The fire was extending up the exterior wall to the top floor and cockloft.

As his wife called 911, FF Rivera asked the residents whether everyone was accounted for from the first-floor apartment. When he discovered that an elderly woman was missing, FF Rivera entered the first-floor apartment and began searching for her.

With fire extending to the first floor and smoke conditions worsening, FF Rivera continued his search, aware that his exit might soon be cut off. He found the elderly resident in the rear kitchen, overcome by the worsening smoke condition and unable to self-evacuate. Firefighter Rivera lifted up the victim and carried her through the apartment, shielding her from the heat and extending fire. He removed her through the front door and onto the sidewalk in front of the building, where she was treated and transported to the hospital by EMS.

FDNY units arrived and began to operate at the fast-moving fire. Due to heavy clutter conditions in the basement, the fire extended throughout the building, and units were removed for an exterior attack. It eventually took a second-alarm assignment to bring the fire under control.

Firefighter Rivera performed this rescue in the highest traditions of the Department while off duty, with no personal protective equipment and no protective hose-line. Operating alone in heavy-smoke, high heat and a rapidly extending fire, he put his own life at extreme risk to remove the occupant before the arrival of FDNY units, and it is for this reason that he is being awarded the Chief John J. McElligott Medal/FFs Fitzpatrick and Frisby Award.—*KE* 



Conditions at Box 22-2859, Bronx

#### Thomas J. Dougherty Medal

### Firefighter Joseph A. Montgomery Ladder Company 44

September 11, 2020, 0655 hours, Box 75-2769, Bronx

Appointed to the FDNY on December 29, 2014. Grandfather Capt. Thomas Montgomery was assigned to Ladder Company 33 and is deceased; uncle Lieutenant Thomas Montgomery was assigned to Ladder Company 104 and is deceased. Uncle, Captain Joseph Depperman is assigned to Ladder Company 152, uncle FF Bob Montgomery is assigned to Engine Company 295. Cousin FF Vincent Depperman is assigned to Ladder Company 150. Resides in Smithtown, New York, with his wife, Laura.



The FDNY Ladder Company's outside vent position requires a great deal of skill, knowledge and experience. Knowing one's first-due response area, the types of buildings that will be encountered and how to attack those buildings is essential when being assigned the position.

In the early morning hours of September 11, 2020, all of these factors came into play when Tower Ladder Company 44 (TL-44) responded first due to Bronx Box 2769 for a reported fire in a multiple dwelling. Bronx Communications notified all responding units that there were jumpers in the rear and that people were trapped. When TL-44 pulled onto the block, members observed heavy smoke emanating from the entire two-story building. An occupant from the fire building notified the members that the fire was on the top floor.

Once in position on the roof of the fire building, FF James E. Halpin (roof) transmitted that he had a person down in the rear of the building who had jumped from a window. Firefighter Halpin also reported that he had briefly seen a hand stick out of a window in the exposure #2/3 corner, with fire blowing out

the other windows in the rear. Firefighter Joseph Montgomery was assigned the outside vent position in TL-44 for the night tour, and upon hearing this transmission from the roof, he knew he would have to act quickly.

Under very difficult conditions, FF Montgomery navigated his 24-foot portable ladder to the rear of the building and set it up to the window where FF Halpin had last seen the hand. Firefighter Montgomery donned his facepiece, ascended the ladder and entered the window to begin his search for the victim.

Once inside the bedroom, FF Montgomery experienced high-heat and zero-visibility conditions. Despite his best efforts, he could not locate a door to isolate the bedroom from the intense fire in the apartment. Fortunately, he quickly located the unconscious victim lying facedown in the bedroom. He transmitted a 10-45 and began moving the victim back to the window he had used to enter. With the flames from the fire extending directly toward their location, he knew that time was running out to remove the victim.

Once at the window, FF Montgomery desperately tried to wake the victim before he climbed outside onto the ladder. Then, using all of his strength, he pulled the semi-conscious, 240-pound victim up and over the windowsill and onto the ladder. Once the pair were a few rungs down the ladder, the bedroom became involved in fire; flames licked out of the window they had just exited. Firefighter Montgomery assisted the victim down the length of the ladder to safety and handed him off to EMS. At the conclusion of fire operations, it was discovered that none of the bedrooms in the apartment had doors, which allowed the fire to spread rapidly throughout.

Due to the swift and decisive actions of FF Montgomery tje victim survived. Firefighter Montgomery represented the highest traditions of the FDNY, and it is for this reason that he is being awarded the Thomas F. Dougherty Medal.—*KC* 



From left to right: Captain Matthew Burke, Division 6; FFs James Halpin and Keith Richards of Ladder 44; Colin McShane of Engine 92; Captain Steven Luisi of Ladder 44; FFs Joseph Montgomery, Michael Blatus and Michael McPartland of Ladder 44; and Brian Kirby of Engine 92



#### Albert S. Johnston Medal

### Firefighter Michael L. Borriello Ladder Company 11

#### October 11, 2020, 1906 hours, Box 75-0433, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY January 14, 2013. Holds an associate's degree from the College of Staten Island. Resides on Staten Island.

Fighters often take calculated risks, putting themselves in great peril to save a life. On October 11, 2020, Firefighter Michael L. Borriello of Ladder Company 11 showcased these qualities while operating at an upper-floor fire in a 14-story, high-rise, fireproof multiple dwelling.

The inside team from Ladder 11 proceeded upward and con-



Firefighter Michael L. Borriello of Ladder Company 11

firmed the fire apartment to be on the seventh floor. Firefighter Borriello (irons position) began forcible entry operations alongside FF Matthew J. Feminella on the heavily fortified apartment door. After they obtained a purchase, smoke began pushing under pressure around the door jamb. At the same time, Battalion 4 notified the members that they had confirmed reports

> of a resident trapped inside. The pair were forced to the floor almost immediately from the high-heat conditions emanating from the apartment. Undeterred by these arduous conditions, FF Borriello made an aggressive attempt to move into the fire apartment and save a life.

> The main body of fire was found in the kitchen, situated between the living room and the bedrooms with a long hallway separating both. This created the long distance FF Borriello had to travel in order to affect the rescue, with the main body of fire standing between him and the occupant.

Firefighter Borriello performed a lefthand search, negotiating a heavy clutter condition and pushing past numerous obstacles to the rear bedroom apartments. He found an unconscious resident just outside the rear bedroom entrance, with the fire rolling over his head. Without hesitation, he dragged the victim past the main body of fire and through the long apartment hallway to safety, using his own body to shield the victim from the intense heat and flames.

Alone in his extraordinary effort, FF Borriello covered two-thirds of the apartment, moving the victim nearly 50 feet past the fire area and clutter condition before passing the patient off to receive emergency medical treatment. For his unwavering bravery in the face of danger, and for putting the lives of others ahead of his own, the FDNY proudly presents FF Michael Borriello with the Albert S. Johnston Medal.—*BC* 

### Bella Stiefel Medal

# Captain Matthew W. Burke

#### **Division** 6

#### January 14, 2020, 0154 hours, Box 22-1031, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY on January 27, 2002. Previously assigned to Engine Company 62 as a Firefighter and Engine Company 22 as a Lieutenant. Grandfather, William J. Moran, Ladder Company 109 died in the Line of Duty. Uncle Lieutenant Daniel Moran is retired from Ladder Company 174. Cousin Lieutenant Keith Moran is covering Division 15, and cousin Paul Moran is assigned to Ladder Company 174. Recipient of a Unit Citation, and nine pre-hospital saves. Served in the US Navy aboard the USS Hawes. Member of FDNY boxing and football teams. Resides in Warwick, New York, with his wife, Gilda, and their children, Madison and Matthew Joseph.



n January 14, 2020, Matthew Burke had the great fortune of working his very first tour as a Captain back in his old house: the FDNY's "Pride of Yorkville"—Engine Company 22, Ladder Company 13 and Battalion 10—located on Manhattan's Upper East Side. At 0154 hours on that cold and windy night, the Ladder 13 firehouse was turned out for Box 1031. The call was for a fire on the 24th floor of a 41-story, highrise, fireproof multiple dwelling. The building, which housed more than 400 apartments, had a footprint more than 200 feet wide and 100 feet deep.

Upon arrival, first-due Ladder Company 16 transmitted a 10-77 for heavy smoke and high heat in the 24th-floor hallway. Arriving second due, Ladder 13's inside team made their way up toward the fire. While stopping two floors below to make a quick reconnaissance, Captain Burke noted the extreme length and width of the hallway. With prior Manhattan experience, he knew that searching the fire-floor hallway with the door left open would be no easy task.

Upon entering the fire floor, Ladder 13 encountered a "lights-

out" condition with piercing heat that drove them to the floor. The search began to the right of the attack stairway. Upon reaching the hallway's dead end, the team continued their tedious right-hand search in the opposite direction. Shortly after passing the fire apartment door, Engine 39's officer transmitted a 10-45 for an unconscious female victim in the public hallway. Firefighter William Pitta (Ladder 13, irons position) assisted with her rescue, while FF Michael Wunder (Ladder 13, can position) used his extinguisher to hold back the flames rolling out of the apartment door overhead.

Captain Burke pushed on with his search, without any tools or the assistance of his inside team. At the opposite end of the hallway, he located an unconscious, extremely large, male victim. After transmitting the 10-45 and requesting help, he began to remove the victim along the long, carpeted floor. Despite being extremely fatigued and low on air, he pressed on with his rescue, assisted by members of Engine Company 39. The punishing conditions were exemplified by the discoloration and melted reflectors on his bunker coat.

The two occupants of the fire apartment had been overcome by thick, toxic smoke and high heat while attempting to escape. Both victims were hospitalized for six days before being released. A total of 24 residents were injured in the fire, along with several FDNY members who valiantly fought to control it. After the fire, Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro held a press conference in which he recalled how the FDNY units faced "blowtorch conditions" and strongly urged all New Yorkers to "close the door" when fleeing a fire.

Due to his brave and selfless actions and his display of unusual personal risk while conducting this search and rescue Captain Matthew Burke is awarded the Bella Stiefel Medal in the finest traditions of the FDNY.—*SM* 



Captain Matthew Burke D-6 was a Lieutenant in Engine 22 after a second alarm on 2nd Avenue in Manhattan. From left to right, members of Engine 22: FF Michael Galluccio, FF John Mongiello, Lieutenant Matthew Burke, FF Andrew Dory and FF Christian McNamara.



### Tracy Allen-Lee Medal

#### Paramedic Bruce C. Geiser Division 2

November 2020, 1500 hours, Bronx

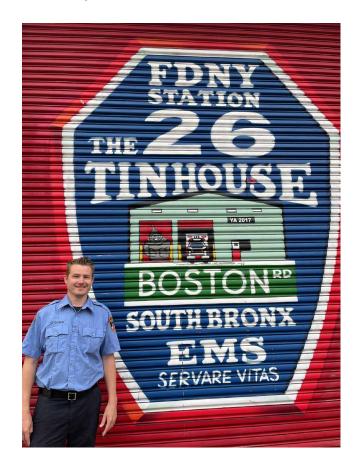
Appointed to the FDNY on September 29, 2008, as a Paramedic. previously assigned to Stations 18 and 55. Resides in Chester, New York.

n a November day in 2020, Paramedic Bruce Geiser of EMS Station 55 was transferring care of his patient to the hospital staff in the triage area of a busy hospital emergency department. What seemed like a routine assignment quickly turned into an aggressive, hostile situation. Two men not known to Paramedic Geiser, standing near triage, started a verbal altercation that escalated into an armed standoff. One of the men pulled out a knife and made threatening remarks toward not only the other man, but also others around him. At the same time, he thrust the knife in a stabbing-like motion, causing safety concerns to everyone around him. Everyone in the area

dispersed to avoid him as they waited for hospital security to respond.

Paramedic Geiser, however, decided to remain at triage and approach the man. Devoid of fear, he was able to distract the man and knock the knife out of his hand. Once the man was disarmed, Paramedic Geiser subdued him with the aid of hospital police, who then placed him into custody.

As a result of Paramedic Geiser's swift, brave actions to subdue the aggressive, knife-wielding man, he is presented with the Tracy Allen Lee Medal.—*TM* 



### Vincent J. Kane Medal

### Lieutenant Robert J. Brown, Jr. Squad Company 41

September 29, 2020, 0431 hours, Box 22-1675, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY on July 14, 1996. Previously assigned as lieutenant to Ladder Company 120 and as firefighter to Engine Company 58. Grandfather Firefighter John Brown is retired from Ladder Company 116. Father, Battalion Chief Robert Brown, is retired from Battalion 44. Cousin Firefighter John Wrobel is retired from Ladder 32. Member of the hockey team, Emerald Society and Columbia Association. Recipient of seven Unit Citations. Holds degrees from Nassau Community College, SUNY Stony Brook and New York Institute of Technology. Resides in Glen Head, New York with his wife, Cheryl, and their children Sarah, Robbie and Thomas.



n the early morning hours of September 29, 2020, Squad Company 41—led by Lieutenant Robert J. Brown, Jr.—was dispatched to Box 22-1675 in Manhattan, where members encountered heavy fire coming from two windows on the fifth floor of a six-story multiple dwelling. With reports of numerous people trapped, Battalion Chief Tom Fitzgerald, Battalion 16, ordered Squad 41 to the top floor to assist with searches.

As Squad 41 ascended the stairs, Ladder Company 34's roof firefighter transmitted that there was a child hanging out the window on the sixth floor and that the roof firefighters from Ladder Companies 23 and 34 were setting up for a roof rope rescue. Lieutenant Brown ordered Firefighter James Smith to remain on the fire floor to assist and report conditions, while FFs Philip C. Ingwersen and Jose A. Castro would operate as the roof team. Lieutenant Brown and FFs Adam Kirchmann and Ryan C. Blackwell searched for victims on the top floor.

When the inside team arrived on the floor above the fire, they were met with high heat and heavy smoke, as the line was not yet in place. At this time, members of Ladder 23 were removing two people down the aerial ladder, with victims reporting there were more people trapped inside.

Ladder 23 was operating directly above the fire apartment on the sixth floor which had fire extension with heavy black smoke of the four-bedroom apartment.

Firefighter Castro then radioed that two people were hanging out of the windows on the top floor. Hearing this, Lieutenant Brown forced his way into a locked bedroom, searched around the bed and found two semi-conscious men struggling to breathe out the window. He rushed to remove them to safety, but as the three of them moved into the next room, he heard a faint moaning. In zero visibility, he returned to where the first two victims had sheltered and found an unconscious woman between the bed and the wall.

Lieutenant Brown radioed to his members for assistance and began removing the unconscious victim. Knowing there were still people trapped and the search was incomplete, he handed off the victims to FFs Kirchmann, Smith and Blackwell, along with Captain William Murphy of Rescue Company 3, in order to continue searching the front bedroom. There, he met up with Ladder 34's Outside Vent firefighter, who had removed another victim and had an additional one at the window being removed via fire escape. The primary search was complete; a total of eight victims were removed from the apartment. For his actions, Lieutenant Robert J. Brown, Jr. is awarded this Vincent J. Kane Medal.—*KE* 

pushing out the doorway. Lieutenant Brown ordered FF Blackwell to force the door to the adjoining apartment in order to address reports of people hanging out the rear. He ordered FF Kirchmann to force the door to the apartment adjacent to the one above the fire, and where the roof rope rescue was taking place, which also had smoke pushing out around the door and reports of people inside.

The building had large apartments, so an exhaustive search was necessary. In zero visibility and heavy black smoke, Lieutenant Brown and FF Kirchmann searched until they heard a voice. Lieutenant Brown ordered FF Kirchmann down the hallway to search for trapped victims as he made his way to the back



Sq-41 (left to right): FF James Smith, FF Phil Ingwersen, Lieutenant Rob Brown, FF Ryan Blackwell, FF Adam Kirchmann, and FF Jose Castro



## Pulaski Association Medal

## Firefighter Jose A. Castro Ladder Company 42

September 29, 2020, 0431 hours, Box 22-1675, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY on July 29, 2013. Member of the Hispanic Society. Recipient of a Unit Citation. Resides in Garnerville, New York, with his wife, Jahaira, and daughters, Abigail and Rachel.

t 0431 hours on September 29, 2020, Squad Company 41 was assigned to Manhattan Box 1675 for heavy fire on the fifth floor of a six-story multiple dwelling. Upon arrival, Squad 41 was notified of people trapped on the top floor, and they were directed to assist with the search and rescue effort. As the members of Squad 41 made their way to the sixth floor, the first-due roof firefighter of Ladder Company 34 reported that a child was hanging out the window on the top floor, and that a roof rope rescue had begun. Squad 41's officer, Lieutenant Robert J. Brown, split the company, sending Firefighter Jose A. Castro and Firefighter Philip C. Ingwersen to the roof to assist with the rescue. Lieutenant Brown and Firefighter Adam Kirchman proceeded to the floor above the fire.

On the roof, FF Castro saw the rope rescue underway, as well as a second victim at a window on the top floor. The victims were at a window in an enclosed shaft, and due to its location, there were no substantial objects to tie off to. Firefighter Castro, without regard for his own safety, was lowered by FF Ingwersen to rescue the second victim. As FF Castro descended the side of the building, the victim attempted to jump right as he reached the window and prevented her from doing so. While he secured the victim at the window, FF Kirchman was able to get to them through the interior. While attempting to escape, the victim had entangled herself in the window bars and sustained injuries to her arms and torso. After assuring the victim was freed and safely removed through the interior, FF Castro was lowered to the ground and then returned to the top floor to continue the search.

Firefighter Castro operated under severe conditions at extreme personal risk and prevented a woman from making a six-story jump from a window. For his bravery during this rescue operation, he is awarded the Pulaski Association Medal.—*JP* 



## Commissioner Edward Thompson Medal Firefighter Robert Caponigro Ladder Company 34

September 29, 2020, 0432 hours, Box 22-1675, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY June 4, 2008. Previously assigned to Engine Company 84. Holds a bachelors' from SUNY Empire State. Served in the U.S. Army. Recipient of multiple Unit Citations. Member of the Columbia Association. Resides in South Huntington, New York, with his wife, Marissa, and their sons, Max and Francesco.



Firefighters operating above the fire floor often find themselves in a dangerous, rapidly changing environment, as heat, fire and smoke moving in a vertical direction often impede fire operations and trap occupants. This was the exact scenario Ladder Company 34 encountered when arriving firs due to a fire out the fifth-floor window of a large U-type apartment house, with reports of numerous people trapped, in the early-morning hours of September 29, 2020. This crucial information always creates a higher sense of urgency for our members to act even more quickly and decisively.

Captain Henry Fellner led FFs Edgar Reyes and Glenn C. Perry of Ladder Company 34 up the interior stairs to search for life and confine the fire. Firefighter Robert Caponigro, assigned the outside vent position, was tasked with exterior operations and observed two civilians straddling the windowsill on the apartment above the fire floor, ready to jump. The spread of flames outside the building from the fifth floor to the floor above created an untenable environment for the occupants. Teamed up with FF Matthew McCurdy, who positioned Ladder 34's aerial up to the window, FF Caponigro assured the residents that help was on the way and climbed six stories without hesitation, pass-

ing intense heat and thick smoke to effect the rescue.

Once safely on the ground, the two occupants were frantic, stating that there were still five more people trapped inside. As FF Caponigro reascended the aerial, members on the roof gave an urgent transmission that a roof rope rescue was being set up for occupants hanging out windows in the rear. Realizing the situation was dire, FF Caponigro conducted a rapid and systematic search of the upper-floor apartment under a heavy smoke condition and punishing heat emanating from the floor below. Pushing past a clutter condition, FF Caponigro heard a moan near the common area of the apartment.

He employed a left-handed search, located the unconscious resident, transmitted a 10-45 and began removing the victim toward the open window to provide him with fresh air. Conditions had improved from the engine companies knocking down the rapidly intensifying fire on the floor below. Firefighter Caponigro made a tactical decision to remove the victim through the interior stairs, proving to be the safest and most effective action.

Firefighter Caponigro entered the apartment above the fire floor, an extremely dangerous position without the initial protection of a charged hose-line, and initiated multiple rescues. In placing himself at great personal risk, his quick and decisive actions were instrumental in saving two seriously exposed occupants and one unconscious victim trapped in a rapidly expanding fire. In all, a total of 12 occupants were rescued by firefighters at this two-alarm Manhattan fire, as well as a young child who was saved through a roof rope rescue in the rear of the building. Firefighter Caponigro's actions at the fire upheld the highest traditions of this Department, and for his bravery and tact judgment, he is awarded the Commissioner Edward Thompson Medal.—BC



Ladder Company 34 operates at Box 22-1675.



### Columbia Association Medal

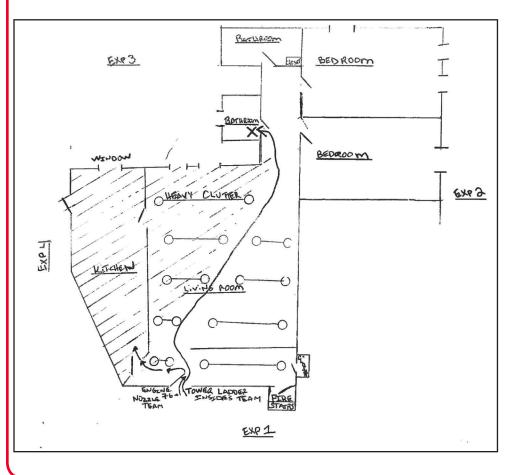
### Captain Shaun A. Burgos Division 3

June 7, 2020, 0313 hours, Box 75-1238, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY May 4, 2003. Previously assigned to Division 3, Ladder Company 48, Battalion 2 Ladder Company 19. Served in the U.S. Navy. Recipient of a Unit Citation. Resides in Pine Bush, New York, with his wife, Marisol, and their sons, Shaun Jr. and Dylan.

n June 7, 2020, at 0313 hours, Tower Ladder Company 22 was dispatched to Box 1238 for a reported fire in the shaft. They were informed that Dispatch had received multiple 911 calls for fire on the top floor of a 16-story multiple dwelling. Upon entering the lobby, the members of Ladder 22 were advised by the building's super that an elderly woman was trapped inside the fire apartment on the 16th floor.

Ladder 22's inside team—consisting of Captain Shaun A. Burgos, Firefighter Frank Piazza (irons position) and Probationary Firefighter Ryan Lentz (can position)—proceeded to the fire floor and encountered heavy smoke emanating from an apartment on the 16th floor. Captain Burgos relayed the conditions to



Captain Brian Walters, Battalion 11, who transmitted the 10-77.

Once entry was forced and the door controlled, a primary search was initiated but was made extremely difficult by high heat, low visibility and heavy clutter. Using the thermal imaging camera, Captain Burgos discovered a heavy body of fire on the left side of the apartment. As the inside team searched for the missing woman, the officer for the first-due engine, Lieutenant Tyler Schultz of Engine Company 76, relayed to Captain Burgos that because they were unable to put the elevator in fire service, there would be a delay getting the line in place. Conditions in the apartment were deteriorating, but because of the known life hazard, Captain Burgos decided to make a push to the rear.

As the search continued, the heat intensified until the kitchen window failed, causing the members of Ladder 22 to retreat into the hallway and regroup. When Captain Burgos saw that the line was not yet in place, he ordered FF Lentz to utilize the can and knock back the flames at the door, allowing for one final, aggressive push. Without the protection of a charged hose-line and brought down to their stomachs by the intense heat, the inside team crawled past the main body of fire and made it to the back of the apartment. There, Captain Burgos located an unconscious adult victim and transmitted the 10-45. With the assistance of FF Lentz, Captain Burgos removed the victim to the exit, shielding her as Engine 76 entered and began their attack.

Once outside the apartment, FF Lentz initiated care. The victim was brought to a service elevator and was taken to the lobby, where EMS was ready to transfer. For his actions, Captain Burgos is awarded the Columbia Association Medal.—*JP* 

### Susan Wagner Medal

### Lieutenant William R. Prange Ladder Company 59

#### May 11, 2021, 1140 hours, Box 75-2927, Bronx

Appointed to the FDNY on February 8, 1998. Previously assigned to Engine Company 310 and Ladder Company 174 as a firefighter. Father, Firefighter William D. Prange, was assigned to Ladder Company 8 and died in the line of duty. Brother Lieutenant John Prange is assigned to Engine Company 253. Recipient of a Unit Citation. Resides in East Northport, New York, with his wife, Bernardete, and their sons, William, Brian and Brendan.



New York City Firefighter's oath to protect human livesfrom the perils of fire is unconditional. This moral imperative applies not only to those who seek our help, but also to those who may refuse it. On May 11, 2020, FDNY members saved the life of a man with a reported mental health condition who had allegedly intentionally set fire to his own apartment, intending to take his own life.

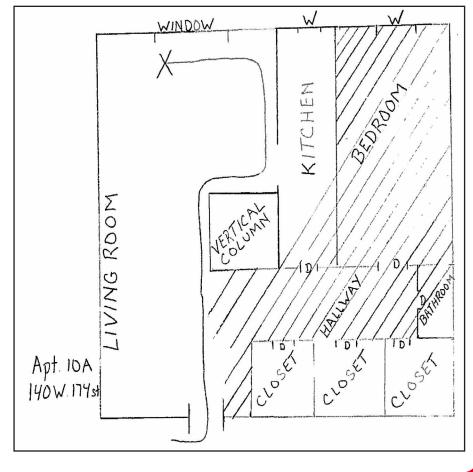
When Engine Company 43 and Ladder Company 59 arrived at the 14-story New York City Housing Authority apartment building, heavy fire and smoke were issuing from the 10th-floor windows. The NYPD Emergency Services Unit (ESU) had been on the scene negotiating with the person and warned the incom-

ing FDNY members that the occupant had barricaded himself in the fire apartment while allegedly brandishing a weapon.

Despite the unusual personal risk, Engine 43 and Ladder 59 advanced to the fire floor to begin operations. Members perceived a measure of safety because the ESU was initially present on the 10th floor for force protection. However, as soon as FFs Kevin Grace and Thomas G. O'Shea forced open the fire-apartment door, NYPD ESU members were unable to maintain their position near the apartment due to the overwhelming smoke and heat condition from the fire. This forced Lieutenant William R. Prange to make a difficult decision. He understood that the occupant was a potential threat to members' safety, but he also had the compassion to consider the risk now facing the barricaded person.

Lieutenant Prange decided to enter and search the fire apartment for the known life hazard, conducting a right-hand search of the living room. As he entered, he encountered heavy clutter and rapidly deteriorating conditions as fire began extending out of the rear bedroom toward the inside team in the apartment hallway. Lieutenant Prange reached the rear of the living room, where he came upon the unconscious man who had now become a victim of the fire. At this point, Lieutenant Prange transmitted a 10-45 and began removing the victim along with FF O'Shea. Upon exiting the apartment, the victim was transported to the floor below and treated by EMS.

Because of his unconditional commitment to uphold his oath, and his unwavering courage in the face of unusual danger, the New York City Fire Department proudly recognizes the actions of Lieutenant William Prange and awards him the Susan Wagner Medal.—JC





### Steuben Association Medal

## Firefighter Thomas G. O'Shea Ladder Company 59

May 11, 2020, 1140 hours, Box 75-2927, Bronx

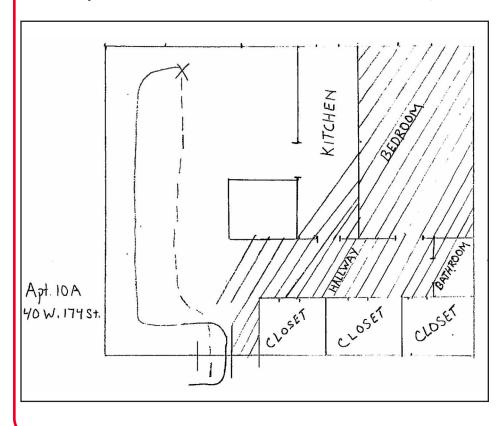
Appointed to the FDNY July 11, 1981. Previously assigned to Engine Companies 43 and 64. Father, Captain Gene O'Shea, retired from Engine Company 206. Son Danny O'Shea is assigned to Engine Company 298. Uncle Jack Clancy was assigned to Engine Company 67 and is now deceased. Cousin Mike O'Shea is retired from Engine Company 97. Recipient of multiple Unit Citations. Attended Suffolk Community College. Resides in Brentwood, New York, with his wife, Eileen, and their children, Kaitlyn, Danny, Matt and Kevin.

t was a May morning in the Bronx when Ladder Company 59 received a ticket for a fire on the 10th floor of a 14-story, fireproof multiple dwelling. Arriving first due, Lieutenant William R. Prange saw that the street was filled with NYPD Officers and NYPD Emergency Service Unit (ESU) members. Ladder 59 was informed that a person was attempting to light his apartment on fire.

Members of Ladder 59 entered the lobby to find that the elevators were not working and residents were in the process of evacuating. The inside team climbed the stairs to the 10th floor. There was a heavy police presence, and ESU confirmed that the person was in apartment. According to the police, the man had attempted to stab several officers with a knife. Knowing that the barricaded man might not want to be saved—or might even cause bodily harm or death to the members—the inside team forced entry into the fire apartment, splitting up to begin a search.

Firefighter O'Shea crawled through the door and began a left-handed search of the living room, where he was confronted with a heavy clutter condition. As one of the most senior members of the Department, he knew the clutter would severely debilitate the search and subsequent removal.

Fire began to roll out of the bedroom and kitchen, and all members of Ladder 59 called out to let each other know they had fire over their heads. Firefighter O'Shea began to feel discomfort in his bunker gear, but he pushed on. Conditions were deteriorating rapidly and searches becoming difficult, but he found his way deeper into the living room, all the while crawling over a motorcycle, laundry racks and other clutter. By touch only, he managed to find the victim partially covered in debris by the rear windows, and he transmitted the 10-45.



Knowing the removal of the victim would be arduous and punishing, FF O'Shea called out for help and was met by both his officer and the irons firefighter. The victim became trapped in the clutter as they dragged him through the living room. Firefighter O'Shea positioned the man on his back and carried him through the rest of obstacles, shielding him from the high heat and fire. Once he reached the apartment door, FF O'Shea removed the victim past the engine to the stairwell and down to the ninth floor.

Firefighter O'Shea acted without regard to his own safety, searching and operating in an active crime scene. If not for his aggressive actions in less than desirable conditions, a life would have been lost. He embodies the core values of the FDNY, passing no judgement and doing his job regardless of the possibility of physical harm. For his actions at Bronx Box 2927, he is awarded the Steuben AssociationMedal.—*PB* 

Fire Department, City of New York • Medal Day 2021



## Chief James Scullion Medal

August 11, 2020, 1106 hours, Bronx

### **EMT Timothy J. Nimal** *Queens Tactical Response Group*

Appointed to the FDNY as an emergency medical technician on June 10, 2019. Served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves. Recipient of the Unit of the Month. Resides in Wantagh, New York.

The Chief James Scullion Medal is awarded to EMTs Samson Shakarian and Timothy Nimal of the Queens Tactical Response Group.

On August 11, 2020 at 1106 hours, EMTs Samson Shakarian and Timothy Nimal responded to a call for a man holding a knife and wanting to harm himself. Both EMTs took heroic action, using their training and compassionate hearts to calm the patient and remove the danger. After removal of the threat, both members provided pre-hospital care and transported the patient



### EMT Samson Shakarian Queens Tactical Response Group

Appointed to the FDNY on February 19, 2019, as an emergency medical technician. Served in the U.S. Marine Corps. Recipient of a Unit of the Month and Pre-Hospital Save award. Resides in Bayside, New York.

to the hospital for further evaluation and appropriate assistance.

The actions and skills of EMTs Shakarian and Nimal showed superior dedication, tremendous effort, courage and compassion in deescalating the danger, all while they worked continuously as a team. Congratulations to both members for displaying the core values of the FDNY: service, bravery, safety, honor, dedication and preparedness. Well done is always better than well said. They are awarded the Chief James Scullion Medal.—AF



Queens Tactical Response Group (QTRG) members, from left to right: Captain Matthew Rightmyer, Lieutenant Elise Hanlon, EMT Samson Shakirian, EMT Timothy Nimal, EMT Donte Rasmus, EMT John Butcher, EMT Nicholas Dellavecchia and EMT Thomas Van Wallendael



### Dr. J.W. Goldenkranz Medal

### **Firefighter Matthew J. Boney** Ladder Company 32

September 28, 2020, 0929 hours, Box 75-3499, Bronx

Appointed to the FDNY July 29, 2013. Previously assigned to Engine Company 62 and EMS Station 14. Attended St. Thomas Aquinas College. Resides in Garnerville, New York, with his wife, Bianca, and their children, Mackenzie and Juliana.

There is perhaps no rescue that embodies a firefighter's mission more than that of a child who is trapped and endangered by a structural fire. On the morning of September 28, 2020, Firefighter Matthew J. Boney of Ladder Company 32 exemplified that ideal for not only one child, but multiple children.

Shortly after the start of the day tour, Engine Company 62 and Ladder 32 responded to Box 3499 for a report of a fire in private dwelling. While en route, Dispatch notified the companies of multiple calls for a fire with people trapped. As the first-due companies arrived, they could see fire blowing out all the windows on the top floor of a two-story, flat-roof, private dwelling.

Captain Daniel J. McEnroe led FF Boney (irons position) and FF Mario C. DePalma (can position) to the second-floor

apartment, where they were met with black smoke pushing from around the locked door. When FF Boney forced the door, the members immediately encountered high heat and were engulfed in smoke. They controlled the door, donned their SCBA and entered the apartment, where they found the front living room fully involved with fire. Flames rolled across the ceiling and over their heads in the hallway.

Firefighter DePalma held back the fire with the can while FF Boney crawled under the fire to search both the hallway and the bedroom next to the living room. After completing his immediate search, FF Boney made his way back to the hallway, where Captain McEnroe ordered him to remove the apartment door blocking access to the rear. As the extinguisher depleted, FF Boney quickly completed his task and continued his primary



Ladder Company 32

search into the next two bedrooms.

In the third bedroom, FF Boney noticed children's toys strewn about the floor, and as Engine Company 62 was put on the fire, he found multiple 10-45s. Captain McEnroe transmitted an "urgent" regarding the victims, while FF Boney grabbed an infant and a young child. Carrying both victims, he crawled back down the hallway and interior stairs, and out into the street. There, he handed the unconscious children to EMS, who began CPR and advanced life support. Firefighter Boney then returned to the fire apartment to continue with his first-due truck responsibilities.

Firefighter Boney acted quickly and selflessly. With the knowledge that people were reported to be trapped, he put himself at great personal risk as he crawled under and past fire to commence his search. His actions in forcing the apartment door off its hinges made it possible for the engine to enter swiftly and for him to continue his rapid and systematic search of the remaining rooms, ultimately saving the lives of two children. He exhibited great bravery and efficiency, exemplifying the best of the FDNY, and that is why he is being awarded the Dr. J.W. Goldenkranz Medal.—LA

## Uniformed Fire Officers Association Medal

### Captain Robert McKeefrey Engine Company 39

January 14, 2020, 0154 hours, Box 1031, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY on May 4, 2002. Previously assigned to Engine Company 289 and Ladder Company 138 as a firefighter, Engine Company 236 as a lieutenant, Engine 39 as captain, and Division 13 as covering battalion chief. Holds a degree from SUNY Cortland. Member of the Emerald Society and Chiefs Association. Resides in Wantagh, New York, with his wife, Katie, and children, Allie and Bobby.



n the early morning hours of January 14, 2020, Engine Company 39 responded second due to a phone alarm for smoke on the 24th floor of a high-rise, fireproof multiple dwelling. When first-due units arrived at the 24th floor, they found the hallway consumed with heavy smoke. It was clear that the door to the fire apartment had been left open, and a second alarm was transmitted.

Both the A and B stairwells were to the right of the fire apartment. Four other apartments and two elevator banks were to the left of it. As the members of Engine 39 assisted Engine Company 44 with setting up the first line in the stairwell, Ladder Company 16—the first-due truck company—reported heavy fire at the door to the fire apartment.

Once the hose-line was set up and charged, Captain Robert

started treatment of the victim.

Captain McKeefrey returned to the fire floor and maneuvered past the hose-line and back to the other end of the hallway, where he had located the first victim. There, he found Captain Mathew Burke of Ladder 13 with another unresponsive victim. Seeing that the operation at the fire door would be an obstacle, Captain McKeefrey instructed Engine 39's backup and control firefighters to assist Captain Burke and FF Pitta. Together, they brought the second victim out of the hazardous environment and down to the floor below.

If not for Captain McKeefrey utilizing his tools and ignoring the risk to himself, two people may have lost their lives that day. For his extraordinary efforts, he is awarded the Uniformed Fire Officers Association Medal.—*JP* 

Once the hose-line was set u McKeefrey followed the members of Engine 44 and Engine 39 to the fire floor. In the hallway, he used his thermal imaging camera to see through the heavy smoke toward the end of the hallway, where the other apartments were located. As he scanned the area, he spotted a person lying motionless on the ground, past the door to the fire apartment.

Captain McKeefrey made his way to the victim, crawling past the hose-line as he was pushed to his stomach by the fire. He found an unresponsive adult, quickly transmitted a 10-45 in the public hallway and began removing the individual. Firefighter William Pitta of Ladder Company 13 made his way over, and together, the two pulled the victim through the blacked-out hallway, past the fire apartment, to the stairwell and down to the floor below, where members of Engine 39



Engine 39 responds in Manhattan.



### Edith B. Goldman Medal

### Firefighter Michael J. Murray Ladder Company 34

September 5, 2020, 1840 hours, Box 75-1670, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY on July 14, 2014. Holds a Bachelor of Science in nursing from the University of Rhode Island. Resides in Astoria, New York.

n the evening of September 5, 2020, at 1840 hours, Ladder Company 34 was assigned first due for a reported fire in a high-rise, fireproof, multiple dwelling. Responding from quarters, Ladder 34 was advised by the Manhattan dispatcher that multiple 911 calls were received reporting people trapped on the 30th floor. Upon arrival, Ladder 34 recalled the elevators using the fire service feature. Only one of the three available elevators recalled to the lobby, which Ladder 34 used to proceed to the upper floors.

When they reached the 30th floor, members were met with heavy smoke and found numerous occupants that were self-evacuating in the public hallway. On their way to the fire apartment, members of Ladder 34 found a woman crouched over and gasping for air. After assisting her, Lieutenant George Diaz (Ladder 34 Officer), Firefighter Michael A. Murray (can position) and FF Gerardo Urena (irons position) made entry into the fire apartment, where they encountered high heat, zero visibility and a clutter condition with numerous items blocking the apartment hallway. Evidence of multiple intentionally set fires further complicated operations.

Without the protection of a hose-line, Ladder 34's inside team began conducting a primary search and heard cries for help from the other side of a wall of fire. With the extinguisher barely having any effect due to the intensity of the fire, Lieutenant Diaz and FFs Murray and Urena were forced to move past the flames to reach the victims in the back bedroom.

Lieutenant Diaz found a semi-conscious female child, and FF Murray found an unconscious adult female. Shielding the victim from the fire, FF Murray carried her to the floor and removed her approximately 50 feet toward the stairwell. Lieutenant Diaz fol-



FDNY operates at Box 75-1670.

lowed behind, carrying the child. In the hallway, FF Glenn C. Perry (chauffeur) guided the members to the stairs using his voice as a beacon. After the arduous task of transporting the adult victim down the hallway, FF Murray and FF Perry carried her down to the 28th floor, where she was placed on the elevator and transferred to the care of EMS on scene.

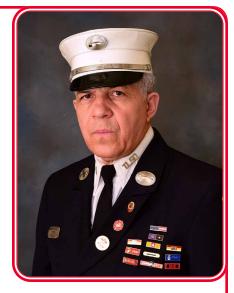
Firefighter Murray's tactically sound operation of the extinguisher allowed the inside team to reach trapped civilians in the rear bedroom. His courage, tenacity and brute strength to carry an adult victim to safety under heavy fire and heat conditions were key to the victim surviving. The unusual personal risk taken by FF Murray during his search and removal of the victim are in the finest traditions of the FDNY, and he is awarded the Edith B. Goldman Medal.—*MB* 

## American Legion Fire Dept. Post 930/ Mark M. Wohlfeld Memorial Medal Lieutenant George Diaz Ladder Company 50

Luuder Company 50

September 5, 2020, 1840 hours, Box 75-1670, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY July 5, 1988. Previously assigned to Ladder Company 54, Ladder Company 47 and Squad Company 18. Holds a bachelors in fire science from John Jay College. Served in the U.S. Marine Corps and US Air Force. Recipient of a Unit Citation. Member of the Hispanic Society and Disaster Assistance Response Team. Resides in Bronx.



t 1840 hours on September 5, 2020, Ladder Company 34—led by Lieutenant George Diaz, detailed from Ladder Company 50—was assigned first due for a reported fire in a high-rise, fireproof multiple dwelling in Manhattan, with reports of people trapped on the 30th floor.

Upon arrival, Ladder 34 took the high-rise bank of elevators to the 28th floor. As they entered the 30th floor, they were met with limited visibility due to smoke. Multiple civilians were self-evacuating in the public hallway and stairwells. On their way to the fire apartment, members found a woman crouched over and gasping for air. Lieutenant Diaz asked her whether anyone was inside; unable to speak, she held up four fingers. After confirming that there were four occupants in the apartment, he transmitted a 10-45, masked up and entered the apartment.

Firefighters Michael J. Murray (can position) and Gerardo A. Urena (irons position) had entered moments before. The inside team encountered high heat, zero visibility, multiple fires and cluttered conditions. The members began to conduct a primary search without the protection of a hose-line.

Screams for help came from the other side of the flames, and the members made their way toward the cries. The can was barely effective due to the intensity of the multiple fires, which forced them to move past the wall of fire to reach the victims in the back bedroom.

Lieutenant Diaz found a semi-conscious child, and FF Murray found an unconscious adult female. Firefighter Murray shielded his victim from the fire, carrying her on his shoulder into the public hallway. He then moved her to the floor and, in zero visibility and high heat, removed her down a 50-foot hallway to the stairwell. Behind him, Lieutenant Diaz carried the female child.

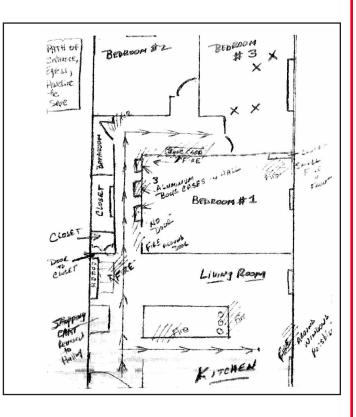
Ladder 34's chauffeur, FF Glenn C. Perry, guided the members to the 30th floor stairs using his voice as a beacon and assisted FF Murray in carrying the unconscious victim to the 28th floor, where they passed her off to Ladder 23's outside vent (OV).

Still operating without the protection of a hose-line, FF Urena, now alone, located two more semi-conscious victims. One was bed-bound, and the other was gasping for air at the bedroom window. Firefighter Urena was unable to remove the victims due to the wall of fire impeding his exit, and the room continued to fill with smoke. He controlled the bedroom door and proceeded to remove the

windows and child safety bars to create more tenable conditions for the victims and gain better visibility, clearing the way for a potential roof rope rescue.

Once Engine Company 84 charged the hose-line and began knocking down the fire, Lieutenant Diaz, along with FF Judge (OV), reached the back bedroom to assist with the two remaining 10-45s, removing them down to the lobby.

The members of Ladder 34 acted in a determined and purposeful manner, displaying outstanding teamwork. Lieutenant Diaz displayed leadership, courage and bravery at this operation, and he is awarded the American Legion Fire Dept. Post 930/Mark M. Wohlfeld Memorial Medal. —*KE* 





### Arthur J. Laufer Memorial Medal

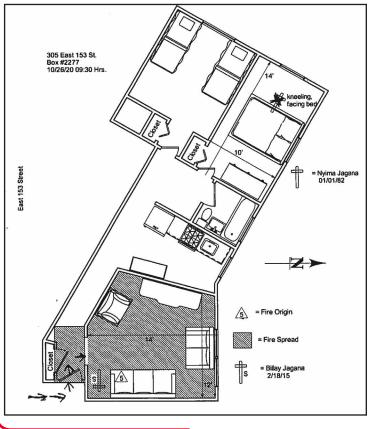
## Lieutenant William J. Olson Ladder Company 55

October 26, 2020, 0930 hours, Box 77-2277, Bronx

Appointed to the FDNY on July 28, 2002. Previously assigned to Ladder 126 as a firefighter. Grandfather FF Carl Olson is retired from Ladder 126. Father, Captain William C. Olson, is retired from Ladder 150. Uncle Lieutenant John Olson is retired from Rescue Company 3. Uncles Lieutenant James Daly, FF Robert Daly and FF Timothy Daly are retired from Engine Companies 251, 262 and 259, respectively. Member of the Company Officers Association. Recipient of multiple Unit Citations and a Class "B." Holds a bachelors, in Criminal Justice from the University of Maryland. Resides in Islip Terrace, New York with his his wife, Cathy, and their children, Meagan, Abigail and Daniel.

n the morning of October 26, 2020, at 0930 hours, Ladder Company 55 was assigned first due to a reported structural fire in a 14 story fireproof multiple dwelling. While responding, they were advised by the Bronx Dispatcher of reports of people trapped in the fire apartment. Upon arrival, units were informed by several building residents that the fire was on the fifth floor and they were unable to account for the residents of the fire apartment.

Ladder 55's inside team—consisting of Lieutenant William Olson and Firefighters Kyle Kleb (can position) and Douglas Gollogly (irons position)—advanced up the stairs to the fifth floor, where they encountered a heavy smoke condition in the public hall. Firefighter Keith Murphy



(chauffeur) transmitted a report of heavy smoke pushing from the windows of an apartment on the fifth floor.

The inside team located the fire apartment and found the door locked, with smoke pushing out from around the door frame. As Engine Company 71's hose-line was stretched from the fourth-floor standpipe outlet, FFs Gollogly and Kleb forced entry into the apartment. Under a high-heat condition, Lieutenant Olson entered the apartment and located the seat of the fire in the living room immediately to the right of the entrance door. Lieutenant Olson attempted to enter the area, but due to the intensity of fire, he was only able to sweep the area immediately in front of him. With fire rapidly extending overhead and no hose-line in place, Lieutenant Olson directed FF Kleb to operate his

extinguisher so that he and FF Gollogly could advance farther into the apartment to search.

Lieutenant Olson crawled to the rear of the apartment in zero visibility, where he heard a muffled, panicked voice. He called out as he advanced toward the sound and found a female victim on the bed, partially slumped into the narrow space between the wall and bed. After transmitting the 10-45, Lieutenant Olson climbed over the bed to vent the windows and alleviate the dense smoke condition in the bedroom. He then lifted the victim over the bed and, with the assistance of Firefighter Kleb, removed her from the apartment. The victim was brought to the floor below and received medical treatment and was transported to the hospital by EMS.

Lieutenant Olson's aggressive actions and leadership were instrumental in saving the fire victim's life. Faced with a heavy fire condition, he put himself at great personal risk by passing the fire to search for, and ultimately find, the victim in the rear bedroom. His actions exemplify the finest values and traditions of the FDNY, and he is awarded the Arthur J. Laufer Memorial Medal.—*MB* 

## Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Medal Firefighter Richard G. Schmidt Rescue Company 4

#### July 24, 2020, 0011 hours, Box 75-7878, Queens

Appointed to the FDNY September 4, 1991. Previously assigned to Ladder Company 154. Uncle Firefighter John O'Brien is retired from Marine Division. Member of the Emerald Society, Holy Name Society, Honor Legion and FEMA's Urban Search and Rescue Team. Recipient of the Hugh Bonner Medal. Recipient of multiple Unit Citations. Resides in Hicksville, New York.



Just past midnight on July 24, 2020, Rescue Company 4 was assigned first due to Queens Box 7878 for a fire on the first floor of a private dwelling. As Rescue 4 traveled to the location, Dispatchers reported that people were trapped on the second floor.

At the scene, there was a large volume of fire on the first floor that was blowing out the front windows. Rescue 4's chauffeur, Richard Schmidt, stopped the apparatus in front of the adjoining building to allow the officer and other members to get off the rig. Firefighter Schmidt then moved the rig down the block and out of the way of other responding units.

As he grabbed his tools, FF Schmidt was approached by an individual who reported that there were still people on the second floor and directed him to the rear of the building. Moving down the rear alleyway, he saw Firefighter Daniel A. Hickey, Rescue 4 hook position, placing a portable ladder at the second-floor rear window. Firefighter Schmidt butted the ladder as FF Hickey forced open the bars on the window and entered the home.

The rear bedroom was charged with smoke and high heat from the fire burning below on the first floor. FF Schmidt searched the bedroom and continued into the hallway, crawling through clutter toward the front of the unit. Multiple victims were in the process of being removed from the second floor, hampering efforts to reach the front of the building. Finally, FF Schmidt made it into the front bedroom, where he found an outward-opening door that led to a closet.

Inside the closet, FF Schmidt found a female victim slumped over on her knees, facing the rear of the closet and covered in clothing and other debris. He transmitted a 10-45 and pulled the victim out of the closet. Realizing the victim needed to be removed as quickly as possible, he picked her up and carried her down the congested hallway. Descending the staircase was no easy feat, as he was hampered by members advancing hand-lines up the stairs. Using an authoritative voice, FF Schmidt

asked members to make room for him to pass so he could reach the first floor and exit the building. Once outside, he placed the victim on the ground and began CPR until additional EMS units arrived on scene.

Firefighter Schmidt's actions on the floor above, in severe heat, smoke and fire conditions, saved the life of a young woman. For his courage and tenacity while operating at this "all hands" fire scene, FF Richard Schmidt is receiving the Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Medal.—*PB* 



Rescue 4 at Queens Box 75-7878



## **Company Officers Association Medal Lieutenant Jason P. Warnken** *Ladder Company 61*

January 20, 2020, 0246 hours, Box 77-4482, Bronx

Appointed to the FDNY June 11, 2006. Previously assigned to Squad Company 41 and Ladder Company 39. Member of the Emerald Society and Holy Name Society. Recipient of multiple Unit Citations and an Emerald Society Medal. Holds a bachelor's degree from John Jay College. Resides in Middletown, New York, with hhis wife, Lisa, and their children, Anna, Katie and Jack.

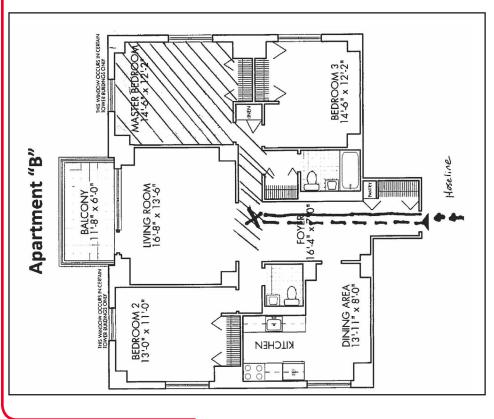
n the early morning hours of January 20, 2020, Ladder Company 61 was ordered to respond to a 33-story, class 1, fireproof multiple dwelling for a fire on the 11th floor. The Dispatcher alerted Ladder Company 61's officer, Lieutenant Jason Warnken, that the Bronx Communications Office was receiving numerous 911 calls for a fire and people trapped in an apartment on the 11th floor. With wind gusts of up to 40 mph, Lieutenant Warnken understood there would be difficulties in fighting a wind-impacted fire.

Upon arrival, Captain Paul Newman of Engine Company 66 noticed fire behind the glass on the 11th floor and transmitted a 10-77. Lieutenant Warnken and his inside team proceeded to the fire floor. As he opened the stairwell door to the 11th floor public hallway, Lieutenant Warnken observed heavy smoke in the hall, a clear indication of an open fire-apartment door. He led his

forcible entry team 50 feet down the hallway, in zero visibility, to locate fire apartment.

As Lieutenant Warnken located the fire apartment door, he received a report from Firefighter Paul Hunt (chauffeur) via handie-talkie that the windows in the fire apartment had failed, and that wind-driven conditions were present in the apartment. A second report then indicated that there was still a victim trapped in the apartment.

Just inside the apartment door, Lieutenant Warnken attempted to use his thermal imaging camera, which he deemed inoperable due to high heat and excessive soot. Undeterred and without the protection of a charged hose-line, he pushed down the nearly untenable apartment hallway and toward the main body of fire. With wind driving the fire across the ceiling and over his head, Lieutenant Warnken located a male victim on the floor.



Lieutenant Warnken ordered FF Richard Salorio (can position), Engine 66, to use his extinguisher to hold back the surging fire overhead. After transmitting a 10-45, Lieutenant Warnken began the arduous task of removing the victim from the rapidly deteriorating apartment. With complete disregard for his own safety, he used his body to shield the victim from the intense heat above them, removing the victim out of the apartment and down the long public hallway to the relative safety of the stairwell. After transferring care of the victim to EMS. Lieutenant Warnken returned to the fire apartment to supervise the completion of the primary searches and overhaul until Ladder Company 61 was relieved by the Incident Commander.

Lieutenant Jason Warnken acted selflessly, without hesitation and within the highest traditions of the Fire Department of the City of New York, and he is presented today with the Company Officers Association Medal.—*TM* 

### Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn Medal

### **EMT Edward F. Pearce** *Public Safety Answering Center 1*

EMD PSAC 1, Year of 2020

Appointed to the FDNY as an emergency medical technician on April 20, 1992. Previously assigned to stations 26 and 50. Member of the Knights of Columbus and the American Martyrs Council. Resides in Queens Village, New York.



The COVID-19 pandemic has left a global impact. The need for medical care and support to our New York City communities has never been greater. The strain and consistent pressure on FDNY EMS were highlighted this year by our highest call volume of more than 7000 calls per day.

This massive influx of calls for help from our fellow New Yorkers was met with perseverance, professionalism and support thanks to members of the Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD). In addition to fielding unending requests for help, the FDNY incorporated federal support: the FEMA National Ambulance Contract (NAC). The NAC consisted of more than 120 additional ambulances and more than 240 EMTs and paramedics in order to supplement the efforts of FDNY's response to the emerging pandemic. For many of those EMTs and paramedics,

the NAC deployment was their first time visiting New York City—a memorable experience, especially during a pandemic.

With supplemental resources now available, a new challenge presented itself: incorporating the additional resources into our established 911 system. This was no easy feat, but thanks to members like EMT Edward F. Pearce, the unprecedented task was accomplished.

On March 30, 2020 the first day of the NAC's incorporation into the 911 system—EMT Pearce stood out. He epitomized the professionalism of what an FDNY Dispatcher represents. Thanks in part to his experience with the National Incident Management System, he established an immediate understanding and rapport with the members from the NAC. Through EMT Pearce's professionalism, supportive demeanor and welcoming mannerism, the 240 visiting EMTs and paramedics felt confident responding to their assignments and knew support was just a radio transmission away.

Thanks to EMT Pearce's experience as a Dispatcher, his supplemental education and his consistent supportive nature, a remarkable feat in the face of a pandemic was accomplished: a tone of calm was established over the incredibly busy dispatch frequency. EMT Pearce was able to work effectively with units without the aid of traditional dispatch technology—a true testament to his innate ability, skill, professionalism and profound understanding of EMD operations.



EMT Pearce's efforts and professionalism were immediately recognized and appreciated by the NAC members. Many members sought him out after their shifts to personally thank him for his support. Deservedly, numerous compliments and thanks were submitted by NAC supervisors to memorialize his professionalism in this unprecedented time.

For his exceptional contributions, consistent professionalism and unwavering support of the NAC units during our COVID-19 operations, EMT Edward Pearce is hereby awarded the Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn Medal.—*BR* 



### Chief Joseph B. Martin Medal

## Firefighter Richard C. Myers Rescue Company 2

January 20, 2020, 2220 hours, Box 22-2503, Brooklyn

Appointed to the FDNY January 21, 1990. Previously assigned to Engine Company 324, Engine Company 214 and Squad Company 252. Recipient of Police Honor Legion. Resides in East Northport, New York, withhis wife, Kathleen, and their children, Lauren, Karen and Christopher.

n January 20, 2020, while operations were underway at 10-75 Box 2503, a mayday was transmitted by a missing member who was running low on air. Locating the member was made difficult by the deteriorating conditions on the fire floor. Rescue Company 2 was directed to enter the building and assist in locating and extricating the missing member. Rescue 2's chauffeur, Firefighter Richard C. Myers, entered the fire apartment through the front door and made his way through heavy smoke, past the main body of fire and to the rear of the apartment. Based on the missing member's riding position and last-known location, FF Myers determined that the back bedrooms were the best place to start his search.

Finding the door to the left rear bedroom stuck, FF Myers forced the door and entered. He searched along the rear wall and quickly found the missing member, who was out of air, facedown and semiconscious. Firefighter Myers reported that he had located the missing member, then checked for a second means of egress. With the member out of clean air and in need of medical attention, and the windows blocked by window bars, FF Myers prepared to take the downed member out through the main entrance.

While FF Myers worked to secure the member, FF Enrico Bolletti of Squad Company 1 entered the bedroom to assist. The two men helped the distressed member to his feet, placed his arms over their shoulders and guided him out of the bedroom, through the heavy smoke and past the fire room, out to the street. Outside, he was handed over to EMS and given medical attention.

Firefighter Myers remained calm and fell back on his 30+ years of training, which enabled him to safely and efficiently facilitate the removal of a distressed member from a life-threatening situation. For his actions in saving a fellow member's life, FF Myers is awarded the Chief Joseph B. Martin Medal Medal.—*JP* 



Members of Rescue 2 following their last tour on Bergen Street, November 12, 2019. From left to right: FF Ronald Broome, FF James Lopez, FF Edward Dailey, Lieutenant Thomas Daly, FF Bryan McEvoy, FF James Dowdell and FF Richard Myers.

### Police Honor Legion Medal

### Firefighter Todd G. Ferguson Rescue Company 5

April 14, 2020, 0250 hours, Box 75-3455, Staten Island

Appointed to the FDNY July 15, 2001. Previously assigned to Ladder Company 59 and Ladder Company 157. Holds a physical education degree from Southern Connecticut State University. Member of the Emerald Society. Resides on Staten Island, New York, with his wife, Laura, and their sons, Ryder and Rhett.



t 0250 hours on April 14, 2020, Rescue Company 5 was assigned to 10-75 Box 3455 on Staten island for fire on the second floor of a three-story townhouse. When they arrived at the command post, Rescue 5's officer, Lieutenant John Drew, was approached by an older man, earlier removed from the building, who claimed his adult daughter was still inside somewhere on the top floor. Lieutenant Drew relayed this information to the Incident Commander, and Rescue 5 was directed to aid in the search for the missing woman.

Lieutenant Drew and Firefighters Todd G. Ferguson (irons position) and Donald Campbell (can position) entered the building and made their way up to the second floor. Upon arrival, they were driven to the floor by intense heat. Firefighter Ferguson, aware that the victim had already been in the hazardous environment for a long time, made his way past the engine operating the line and located the interior stairs to the third floor. He ascended the stairs in high heat and blacked-out conditions, without the benefit of a hose-line, to reach the third floor and begin a righthand search.

Firefighter Ferguson quickly cleared a bathroom and a closet and then entered a bedroom, where he continued a right-hand search toward a window. There, he came across an unconscious adult woman. He secured the victim, transmitted the 10-45 and informed members that he would bring her down through the interior stairs. He was met by FF Campbell at the top of the stairs, and they carried the victim down to the floor below. The victim was handed over to FF John Thompson of Squad Company 8, and FF Ferguson returned to the top floor to ensure that no additional victims remained.

Firefighter Ferguson's heroic actions and aggressive firefighting tactics that morning resulted in the successful outcome of this lifesaving rescue operation. He is awarded the Police Honor Legion Medal.—*JP* 



From left to right: FF John Teahan, FF Donald Dillon, Jr., FF Todd Ferguson, FF Vincent Niesi, FF Robert Fucci, Jr. and Captain James Murray, all members from Rescue 5.

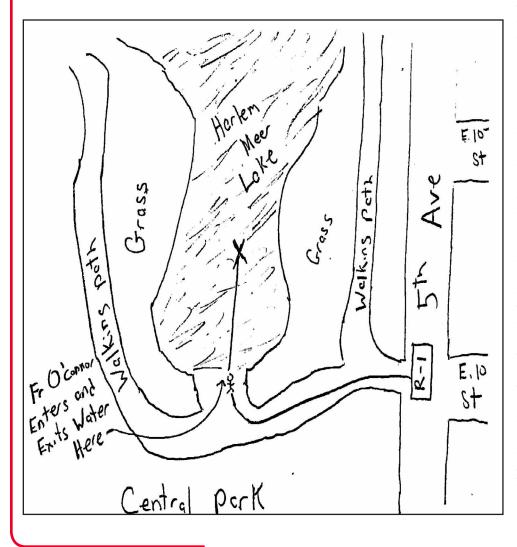


## Firefighter David J. DeFranco Medal Firefighter John C. O'Connor Rescue Company 1

February 28, 2020, 1351 hours, Box 1307, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY May 31, 2005. Previously assigned to Ladder Company 136. Attended Hudson Valley Community College and John Jay. Member of the Emerald Society. Recipient of multiple Unit Citations. Resides in Long Beach, New York, with his wife, Ela, and their children, Ronan and Emilia.

n February 28, 2019, at 1351 hours, Rescue Company 1 received a phone alarm for Box 1307 for a person in the water. An NYPD officer witnessed the victim going under. The body of water was a lake called the Harlem Meer, and during February, its temperature is extremely low. Firefighter John C. O'Connor suited up for a dive job while in transit, enabling him to be immediately ready to go. Upon arrival, Rescue 1 positioned themselves at the water's edge. The officer, Lieutenant Michael Steo, received reports from Engine Company 58 and the NYPD officer that the victim had gone under and not resurfaced. Through witness accounts, Lieutenant Steo determined the exact spot where the victim went under. Once FF O'Connor was properly tethered and hooked up with a com-line, all safety checks were completed and a back-



up diver was in place, he entered the water. A second rescue company was requested as a backup dive unit.

The area where the victim had gone under was approximately 40 feet from the lake's edge and 10 feet deep. The water was freezing and polluted. Once in position and in communication with dive tender FF Brian Cullen, FF O'Connor began his descent. At the bottom of the lake, a thick layer of silt, leaves and branches kicked up when he landed and brought visibility to zero. Using his hands to "see," FF O'Connor began a fan pattern search. Within a minute, he communicated that he had located the victim.

Firefighter O'Connor embraced the victim in a bear hug, inflated his buoyancy control device and kicked his way to the surface. The victim, a large male, was unconscious and not breathing. While keeping the victim secured, FF O'Connor swam 40 feet back to where FF Cullen and other FDNY members assisted him and the victim out of the water. EMS immediately began CPR on the victim and transported him to the nearest hospital, where he was revived and survived. For his action, FF O'Connor is awarded the Firefighter David J. De-Franco Medal. — JP

Fire Department, City of New York • Medal Day 2021

## Lieutenant James E. Zahn/Lieutenant Peter L. Troiano Memorial Medal Captain Daniel J. McEnroe

### **Division** 7

September 28, 2020, 0929 hours, Box 3499, Bronx

Appointed to the FDNY on October 27, 1996. Previously assigned to Ladder Company 35 and Ladder Company 44. Father, Lieutenant Thomas McEnroe, Sr., is retired from Ladder Company 27; brother FF Thomas McEnroe, Jr. is retired from Ladder Company 59. Brother-in-law FF John Schroeder is retired from Ladder Company 35. Holds a bachelor's degree in history from St. John's University. Recipient of multiple Unit Citations. Member of the Emerald Society and Holy Name Society, Emerald Society Pipes and Drums. Resides in Yorktown Heights, New York with his wife, Jeanne, and their children, Reileigh, Brady and Finnian.

t 0929 hours on September 28, 2020, Engine Company 62 and Ladder Company 32 received an alarm for multiple calls of fire in a two-story private dwelling with people trapped. Units were able to see fire emanating from the second-floor windows from two blocks away, and a 10-75 was transmitted.

Captain Daniel J. McEnroe of Division 7 (detailed to Ladder 32) led his inside team, FF Matthew J. Boney (irons position) and FF Mario C. DePalma (can position), to the top floor, where they discovered smoke pushing out under pressure around the door. Firefighter Boney forced entry, and they were immediately met with high heat and thick smoke. After controlling the door, the team masked up and entered.

Once inside, they found the living room fully involved in fire. Aware of the reports of people inside and knowing the first line was not yet in place, Captain McEnroe ordered FF DePalma to hold back the fire with the can while he and FF Boney searched the apartment. While searching, Captain McEnroe discovered that when fully opened, the apartment door blocked a hallway that led to three additional rooms. Knowing that the Engine would need the door fully opened to operate, he ordered FF Boney to remove the apartment door so their means of egress would not be cut off if the missing victims were located. Firefighter Boney removed the door and used it as a shield to slow the spread of the fire.

Captain McEnroe and FF Boney proceeded down the hallway in blackout conditions, without the benefit of a hose-line, and split up to search the three rooms. At that time, FF Sean J. Doyle (outside vent) entered through the window in a rear bedroom and teamed up with FF Boney. As Captain McEnroe searched a separate bedroom, FF Boney called out that they had located multiple victims. Captain McEnroe transmitted an urgent message to the Incident Commander, then made his way to the rear bedroom. Firefighter Boney passed him, carrying two children out of the fire apartment. Captain McEnroe went back and continued the search, at which point he found an unconscious child. After ensuring there were no additional 10-45s, he pulled the child out and handed him off to a member of Engine Company 79, who immediately began CPR. Captain McEnroe then returned to the fire apartment and resumed command of the fire floor.

Captain McEnroe exhibited calm, composure and professionalism in an unusual and dangerous situation, resulting not only in the safety of the members, but also the survival of young children. He is awarded the Lieutenant James E. Zahn/Lieutenant Peter L. Troiano Memorial Medal.—*JP* 



Members of Ladder 32, from left to right: FFs Adam Rosano and Matthew Boney; Captain McEnroe, D-7; and FFs Gary Schiffmacher, Sean Doyle and Mario DePalma





## Deputy Commissioner Christine R. Godek Medal Fire Marshal Christopher M. Lucarelli *Citywide North Command*

May 31, 2020, 2352 hours, Box 7924, Queens

Appointed to the FDNY March 25, 2007. Previously assigned to Bureau of Fire Investigation at Citywide North Command and Ladder Company 125. Recipient of a Unit Citation and a Hospital Pre-Save. Holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Providence College. Resides in Long Island with his family.

**F** ire marshals in the Bureau of Fire Investigation (BFI) are tasked with expertly determining the origin and cause of all complex, fatal and suspicious fires occurring within the City of New York. These incidents range in size from small outside rubbish fires to large-scale multiple alarms. No matter what the magnitude, when dedicated fire marshals determine a fire is arson-related, a complete and thorough criminal investigation will be conducted, enforcing all criminal and administrative laws.

During the late hours of May 31, 2020, Engine Company 298 and Ladder Company 127 responded to a series of rubbish fires in Queens. Most of these were small nuisance fires, until one extended to a private dwelling with residents inside, including a three-month-old infant. The Bureau of Fire Investigation dispatched fire marshals from the Citywide North Command to investigate. Fire Marshal Christopher M. Lucarelli was the assigned investigator, with Fire Marshal John



Manning assisting. During their forensic examination of the fire scene, they discovered that the incident could have been related to a string of similar fires in the recent weeks. Fire Marshal Lucarelli informed the members of Engine 298 and Ladder 127 that he was investigating these cases and to contact him if they happened upon a similar response. While conducting an extensive security camera canvass for investigative leads, FM Lucarelli was informed by Engine 298 that NYPD was holding a suspect who had attempted to set a fire at a tire shop. He was taken into custody, and the fire marshals conducted an interview with the individual, who had become a person of interest in numerous other intentionally set fires. Fire Marshal Lucarelli confronted the suspect with a series of surveillance videos implicating the individual in the act of setting several rubbish fires. Faced with the undeniable evidence, FM Lucarelli was able to elicit a confession.

> Based on his training and experience, FM Lucarelli believed he could be dealing with a serial arsonist. Convinced the perpetrator might be responsible for additional fires, FM Lucarelli conducted a search of the BFI database to see if he was involved in any previous fire investigations. This proved to be worthwhile and revealed this person was interviewed by BFI during a 2006 fatal fire investigation in the Bronx. Armed with details gleaned from the 2006 BFI report, FM Lucarelli questioned the suspect, who ultimately acknowledged his role in setting the fire in 2006 as a result of a domestic dispute. The perpetrator was subsequently charged with murder and arson for his role in the Bronx fire, as well as numerous counts of arson, criminal mischief and reckless endangerment for the rash of Queens fires.

> This investigation was brought to a successful conclusion due to the tenacity and resourcefulness of FM Lucarelli. Undoubtedly committed to excellence, his actions in this investigation represent the highest traditions in BFI and the FDNY. For his outstanding efforts, Fire Marshal Christopher M. Lucarelli is awarded the Deputy Commissioner Christine R. Godek Medal.—*MK*

## William Friedberg Medal

### Firefighter Philip C. Ingwersen Squad Company 41

September 29, 2020, 0431 hours, Box 22-1675, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY on January 21, 2008. Previously assigned to Ladder 154. Cousin Firefighter Salvatore Bartolotta is assigned to Ladder Company 130, and cousin Lieutenant Brian Siegel is assigned to Squad Company 61. Holds a bachelor's degree in behavioral sciences from New York Institute of Technology. Member of the Columbia Association. Recipient of multiple Unit Citations. Resides in Hauppauge, New York, with his wife, Nateesha, and their children, James and Leah.



n September 29, 2020, at 0431 hours, Squad Company 41 was assigned to a fire on the fifth floor of a six-story, occupied multiple dwelling on the Upper West Side of Manhattan. As the squad was assigned to assist in top-floor searches, fire was showing out of windows, and there were multiple reports of people trapped.

As the squad ascended the building, handie-talkie transmissions indicated that a roof rope was being deployed in attempts to save a child hanging out of a window. At that point, Squad 41 was assigned the additional task of helping with the roof rescue. Squad 41's officer, Lieutenant Robert J. Brown, Jr., split the company: FF James A. Smith would remain on the fire floor to assist, observe and report conditions; Lieutenant Brown and FFs Adam Kirchmann and Ryan C. Blackwell would operate on the top floor to search and assist with rescues; and FFs Philip C. Ingwersen (roof position) and Jose A. Castro (hook position) would operate on the roof.

Firefighters Ingwersen and Castro accessed the roof via the adjoining building. When they arrived, first-due companies

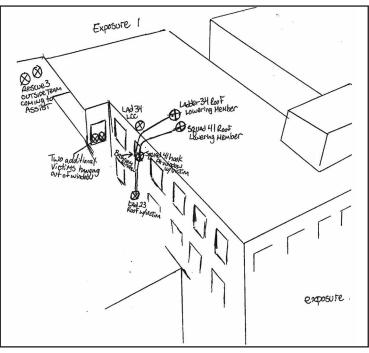
were conducting a lifesaving rope operation in an open shaft between the fire building and exposure 4. Firefighter Castro noticed there were several more people hanging out of windows in the shaft, including the window from which Ladder Company 23's roof firefighter had just rescued a child. It was promptly decided that FF Castro would be lowered on the rope to rescue a panicked woman before she jumped. As the current operation had indicated there was no viable substantial object, it was decided that they would perform the operation using a human anchor.

Firefighter Ingwersen deployed the lifesaving rope as FF Castro clipped the rope into his harness. Firefighter Ingwersen moved back from the parapet, took four turns around his harness hook and lay down to create as much friction as possible between himself and the roofing material. Without regard for his own safety, FF Ingwersen became the substantial object for FF Castro and the frightened woman at the window.

As FF Castro dismounted the parapet, his weight on the other end of the rope forced FF Ingwersen into a seated position. At that time, FF Joseph S. Drury of Rescue Company 3 clipped his harness into FF Ingwersen's, increasing the weight of the human anchor. With Ladder Company 34's chauffeur relaying commands, FF Ingwersen lowered FF Castro to the top-floor window.

At the command to stop, FF Ingwersen held tightly for several tense moments while FF Castro tried to free the woman, who had become entangled in the child guard. Unyielding, FF Ingwersen leaned back and anticipated the extra weight of a panicked adult being added to the working end of the rope. Firefighter Castro, however, informed him that the woman was being removed though the interior after being disentangled.

Firefighter Ingwersen operated under unusual personal risk to ensure the safety of his friend, coworker and fellow firefighter, as well as the safety of a potential victim, during a stressful LSR operation without the security of a viable substantial object. He acted selflessly and within the highest traditions of the FDNY, which is why he is being honored with the William Friedberg Medal.—*LA* 





## Probationary Firefighter Thomas A. Wylie Medal Proby Ryan S. Lentz

Ladder Company 22

June 7, 2020, 0313 hours, Box 75-1238, Manhattan

Appointed to the FDNY November 12, 2019. Served in the U.S. Marine Corps. Resides in Katonah, New York.

n June 7, 2020 at 0313 hours, Tower Ladder Company 22 was dispatched to a reported fire in a shaft. As members entered the building, they were met by a frantic super in the lobby who told them there was a fire on the 16th floor and an elderly woman trapped inside. The inside team—Captain Shaun Burgos, Firefighter Frank Piazza (irons position) and Firefighter Ryan S. Lentz (can position)—made their ascent. Upon reaching the 16th floor landing, they observed heavy black smoke emanating from both the kitchen service door and the main entrance of the fire apartment.

Firefighter Lentz quickly forced the main entrance door and maintained door control. He then used his extinguisher to hold back the flames while FF Piazza and Captain Burgos attempted to reach the rear of the apartment. Suddenly and unexpectedly, the kitchen window failed, causing fire conditions to quickly intensify. This new flow path forced the inside team to bail out into the hallway. Firefighter Piazza quickly regained control of the door and stopped the fire from endangering their area of refuge.

In true heroic fashion, the inside team made a second attempt. Captain Burgos ordered FF Lentz to use whatever was left in the extinguisher to push back the flames and allow the team to slip past the main body of the fire. Even though a hand-line was not yet in operation, FF Lentz continued to search deeper into the apartment.

At this point, the kitchen service door had burned through, and fire was now blowing out into the B stairwell. Captain Burgos announced that he had located an unconscious victim on the bathroom floor. Hearing this, FF Lenz followed the Captain through heavy clutter ands—contending with deteriorating conditions—pressed forward without regard for his own safety



From left to right: Ladder 22 Firefighters Mike Greenfield, Ryan Lentz, Stephen Fitzgerald, Frank Piazza and Christopher Barber

in order to help remove the woman from certain peril. He crawled back through the clutter, moving and clearing it as he shielded the victim from the heat of the fire. Engine Compnay 76 began an aggressive attack on the large volume of fire, making the area survivable until the inside team reached a safe area. Firefighter Lentz handed off the victim for emergency medical treatment.

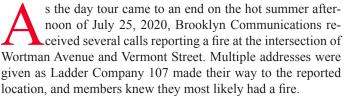
Firefighter Lentz's personal bravery, initiative and capability helped save a life, He knowingly and unhesitatingly put his life in jeopardy, without the protection of a hose-line. His actions were exemplary and in the highest traditions of the FDNY. He is awarded the Probationary Firefighter Thomas A. Wylie Medal.—*MD* 

### Shelly Rothman Memorial Medal

### Firefighter Khalid T. Lee Ladder Company 107

July 25, 2020, 1543 hours, Box 77-3966, Brooklyn

Appointed to the FDNY on June 29, 2015. Holds a degree in criminal justice from Kingsborough Community College. Member of the Vulcan Society, Ceremonial Unit, Recruitment Unit and NYFF Burn Center. Resides in Brooklyn.



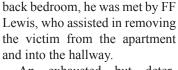
Upon arrival, responding units saw heavy black smoke venting from the top floor of an eight-story fireproof multiple dwell-

ing without a standpipe. Familiar with the building, members knew it did not have a standpipe. Lieutenant George Mueller, Firefighter Khalid Lewis (irons position) and Firefighter Khalid Lee (can position) entered the lobby and decided to use the more reliable stairs rather than the uncertain elevator. They began their climb up to the eighth floor, briefly stopping on the sixth floor to determine the hallway layout. This would prove to be of great assistance on the fire floor, where they were met with a hot, smoke-filled public hallway with no visibility. Members donned their facepieces and plunged into the darkened hallway to search for the fire apartment.

Once the fire apartment was located and the door forced open, FF Lee began a left-hand search inside the blacked-out apartment. The Ladder 107 outside vent firefighter reported over the handie-talkie that he could see a person leaning out a top-floor window and desperately gasping for air.

Firefighter Lee knew there

would be a delay in getting water on the fire, as Engine Company 225 was performing the difficult and time-consuming task of stretching a hand-line up eight flights of stairs. Recognizing the severity of the situation, he continued to push deeper into the apartment. He made his way through a significant clutter condition and reached the farthest bedroom, where he found a semi-conscious, teenage male lying on a bunk bed and struggling to breathe. As FF Lee began to pull the victim from the



An exhausted but determined FF Lee reentered the fire apartment and heard Lieutenant Mueller transmit over the handie-talkie that he had found an additional victim. Firefighter Lee pushed his way past the advancing hand-line and assisted Lieutenant Mueller with the removal of the second victim.

Firefighter Khalid Lee performed his duties without hesitation and at great personal risk. He searched deep into the fire apartment through a maze of clutter, in high heat and zero visibility, with full knowledge that there was no hand-line in place. He found and removed one victim from the bedroom farthest from the apartment door and then reentered the apartment to assist in the removal of an additional victim. Firefighter Lee showed tremendous courage and acted in the highest traditions of this great Department. He is awarded the Shelly Rothman Memorial Medal.-RAW



## Jack Pintchik Medal

November. 8, 2020, 2110 hours, Bronx





#### Lieutenant Treyvia Paramedic Kimberly EMT Joshua R. S. Kadin, Station 45 L. Verspoor, Station 50

Appointed to the FDNY as an emergency medical technician on July 29, 2009. Previously assigned to Station 50. Sister Paramedic Giovanni Cummings is assigned to Station 39. Resides on Staten Island with her husband. Mike, and their sons, Jacob and Joshua.

Appointed to the FDNY as a paramedic Appointed to the FDNY as an emeron April 7, 2008. Previously assigned to Station 47. Husband, Lieutenant Paramedic Jason Verspoor, is assigned to Station 49. Recipient of the Tracy Allen Lee Award, Resides in Oakdale, New York, with her husband and their sons, Cooper and Knox.

unday, November 8, 2020, began just like any other day. Lieutenant Treyvia Kadin and Paramedic Kimberly Verspoor were working on 50U3, covering the South Jamaica, Queens area. They had just cleared from their second assignment of the night when they were dispatched to an unconscious male.

Upon arrival at the reported location, the paramedics went to the second floor and knocked on the patient's door. They heard a female speaking inside the apartment; however, she refused to open the door, and they requested that the New York Police Department (NYPD) assist with gaining entry.

While waiting for the police, Lieutenant Kadin and Paramedic Verspoor continued trying to convince the female to open the door. Although they had yet to make patient contact, their combined training and years of experience had led them to quickly determine that something was very off. The female seemed very confused, which raised serious concerns for both paramedics.

Their persistence paid off, though, when they were somehow able to get her to unlock the door.

Within seconds of their entry into the apartment, the crew's carbon monoxide (CO) meters went off and reached levels as high as 572 ppm. After a quick scene survey, they established that there were four patients total-two adults and two children-each exhibiting signs of CO poisoning. Paramedic Verspoor immediately requested additional resources.

A short distance away, EMTs Joshua Schwartz and Steven Welsh



# Schwartz, Station 50

gency medical technician on May 2, 2005. Previously assigned to Station 50 and Haztac Training Battalion. Attended John Jay College. Served in the U.S. Navy. Member of Ner Tamid. Resides in Glen Head, New York, with his daughter, Skylar.



### **EMT Steven M.** Welsh, Station 50

Appointed to the FDNY as an emergency medical technician on June 10, 2019. Father, Lieutenant Mat Welsh, is currently assigned to Engine Company 227. Holds an associate's degree from Suffolk Community College. Resides in Patchgue, New York.

were working 52H3 when they heard Paramedic Verspoor's request. Without hesitation, they contacted Dispatch themselves and were assigned to the job. As they made their way to the location, Paramedic Verspoor and Lieutenant Kadin evacuated the patients. Paramedic Verspoor quickly removed an unconscious male child, while Lieutenant Kadin carried out an unconscious female child. Once the children had been moved to a safe environment, Paramedic Verspoor rendered care while Lieutenant Kadin returned to the apartment.

During this time, EMT Schwartz contacted Lieutenant Kadin and was able to ascertain details of the assignment. He immediately notified the Haz-Tac officer to ensure that all involved were aware of the situation unfolding. He expressed serious concern for Lieutenant Kadin's safety and assured her that they would arrive soon to assist.

A short time later, 52H3 arrived on scene and assisted with

evacuating the patients. They were met with some resistance. After some prompting, the crew got the remaining patients to safety and subsequent medical attention. They ensured that the other occupants of the building were brought to safety as well.

Lieutenant Kadin and Paramedic Verspoor, along with EMTs Schwartz and Welsh, demonstrated courage. Their actions that day exemplified their dedication, passion and genuine concern for the public. They are exemplary members of the FDNY and have rightly earned the Jack Pinchik Medal. — ET



Standing left to right outside Station 50: Lieutenant Justin Lim, Lieutenant Paul Yunek, Paramedic Kimberly Verspoor, Lieutenant Trevvia Kadin and Captain David Burke. Kneeling are EMT Joshua Schwartz (left) and EMT Steven Welsh (right).

## Lt. James Curran/ NPFFs Burn Center Foundation/ Father Julian F. Deeken Memorial Medal

### **Engine Company 302**

September 8, 2017, 0334 hours, Box 22-8897, Queens

Lieutenant Gregory S. Damato Firefighter Christopher M. Armstrong Firefighter Christopher Cavalcante Firefighter James R. Terry (L-158) Firefighter Kerron V. Ware

n September 8, 2017, at 0334 hours, Engine Company 302 responded first due to Box 8897. As they reached the corner of the South Jamaica location, a heavy volume of fire was coming out the front window of a house halfway down the block.

Lieutenant Gregory S. Damato gave a 10-75 for a fire in a  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -story, peaked-roof private dwelling. The officer ordered his nozzle firefighter, FF Kerron V. Ware, to drop two  $1\frac{3}{4}$ -inch lines and bring one to the front of the building. A frantic woman stated that children were inside on the second floor. Ladder Company 155's officer transmitted this fact over the radio and proceeded to the front steps. The fire was so intense it not only prevented Ladder 155 from entering the building but was auto-exposing to the second floor and already had extended to the exterior of exposure #2.

After confirming that his nozzle team was ready, Lieutenant Damato ordered his ECC, FF Christopher Cavalcante, to start water. Firefighter Cavalcante was not connected to a positive water source yet and supplied booster water. While the line

was being charged, Lieutenant Damato ordered members to quickly sweep the front of the fire building and exposure #2. After a few seconds, Engine 302 aggressively pushed into the first floor and quickly advanced through clutter, knocking down heavy fire to allow Ladder 155 to get to the second floor.

As soon as the line reached the foot of the staircase leading to the second floor, Lieutenant Damato felt the Ladder 155 inside team push past and quickly ascend the stairs despite the high heat and zero visibility. Engine 302 was still on booster water but continued advancing deeper on the first floor. When FF Cavalcante stated they were on a positive water source, the nozzle team continued extinguishment of the back room. He then dropped back on the line to assure no pockets of fire had flared up behind them and met up with the con-

trol firefighter, FF James R. Terry (detailed from Ladder 158), at the base of the stairs. At this location, members of Ladder 155 were heard struggling to remove multiple 10-45s down the stairs. Lieutenant Damato instructed FF Terry to assist with vic-tim removal.

With the rear room now knocked down and no second line available, Engine 302 pushed to the second floor. However, this action was delayed due to another victim coming down the stairs. With only nozzle and backup firefighters available, Lieutenant Damato instructed his backup firefighter, FF Christopher M. Armstrong, to aid in the removal of the second victim. As Lieutenant Damato reached the second floor, fire was extending from the front bedroom into the hallway. With no time to spare, Engine 302 quickly assisted with freeing the third victim so Ladder 155's outside vent firefighter could remove her down the stairs. Firefighter Ware started to stretch the hose by himself to the second floor after the victim passed him.

With all three victims safely out of the building, all members of Engine 302 reentered. The line was advanced through the sec-

ond floor to extinguish fire in the front room. Battalion 51 reported heavy black smoke issuing under pressure from the attic and ordered members out of that location. Engine 302 knew that Ladder 155's chauffeur was in the attic and advanced their line to protect his position. Once in the attic, Engine 302 was met with heavy fire.

All members of Engine 302 worked under extremely dangerous conditions, operating tirelessly to effectively enable the removal of trapped civilians. Not only did they extinguish three floors of fire, but they also were integral in assisting the members of Ladder 155 in the removal of multiple victims. The members of Engine 302 used initiative and teamwork to safely accomplish their tasks, most of which were performed unassisted by additional units. For these reasons, Engine Company 302 is awarded the Lieutenant James Curran/ NYFFs Burn Center Foundation Medal/Father Julian F. Deeken Memorial Medal.—*RL* 



*Engine Company 302 operated at Queens Box 22-8897.* 

## Lt. James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal



n May 17, 2020, at 1307 hours, Engine Company 316 received a call for smoke at a private dwelling. As the single engine responded, the Dispatcher indicated that multiple 911 calls were received reporting a fire, with people trapped. The members of Engine 316 knew they would have to operate alone, as the address was north of their firehouse and all other responding companies would have to drive past their quarters to get there.

Upon arrival, Captain Thomas R. Sussman transmitted a 10-75 for fire showing out the rear windows of the second floor, then entered the front door to search. He located a woman in the fire and radioed Firefighter Robert C. Landon (chauffeur), who transmitted the 10-45 over the Queens frequency. Captain Sussman dragged the woman out to the stoop and handed her to Firefighter Daniel M. Casey (door position), who removed her to the street and began treating her. At that point, the first-arriving ladder and second engine were still not on scene, so Captain Sussman reentered the fire to locate the second victim.

Without the direction of their officer, Firefighters Lawrence M. Young (nozzle position) and Steven J. Guida (backup posi-



Box 75-7717, Queens

### **Engine Company 316**

May 17, 2020, 1307 hours, Box 75-7717, Queens

Captain Thomas R. Sussman Firefighter Brett D. Grill Firefighter Robert C. Landon Firefighter Daniel M. Casey Firefighter Steven J. Guida Firefighter Lawrence M. Young, II

tion) stretched a hose-line to the front stoop and began to flake it out, while FF Brett D. Grill (control position) helped FF Landon connect the pumper to the hydrant. When Captain Sussman radioed FF Landon that he had located the second victim and needed assistance, FFs Guida and Grill left the hose stretch and ascended the stairs to the second floor, without the protection of the hose-line, to help with removal. Firefighters Guida and Grill encountered high heat, zero visibility and a heavy clutter situation.

The second victim was caught up in the heavy clutter, and the fire was extending out of the rear rooms. Firefighters Grill and Guida—realizing that Captain Sussman and the victim were in danger of the quickly deteriorating conditions—banged on the floor to guide the captain toward them. As Captain Sussman pushed the victim toward them, the room lit up. Luckily, at that moment, water reached the nozzle and FF Young brought up the line by himself. Without hesitation, he opened the hose-line over Captain Sussman and the victim to cool them down. Firefighters Guida and Grill each grabbed one of the victim's arms, and Captain Sussman grabbed his legs. In an act of outstanding teamwork, the three removed the man out to the top of the stairs as FF Young operated the hose-line around them.

Exhausted and overheated, Captain Sussman knew he would soon become a victim himself if he did not exit, so he climbed past the nozzle team and down the stairs. Firefighters Grill and Guida carried the victim out of the building to safety, while FFs Young and Casey moved the hose-line into the kitchen and started pushing the fire back into the rear bedrooms. Members of Engine 316 continued to operate without the supervision of their officer as they pushed through three rooms of heavy fire and clutter. After extinguishing the kitchen/living room and two bedrooms, they repositioned the hose-line to extinguish the attic.

The members of Engine 316 operated alone for a considerable period of time, searching for and removing two victims in heavy clutter and high heat, as well as maneuvering the hoseline through three rooms of fire and into the attic. Their teamwork saved a woman's life and exceeded the highest standards of the FDNY. For their actions, they are receiving the Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal.—*RLL* 

# Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Alemorial Aledal

## **Squad Company 41**

September 29, 2020, 0431 hours, Box 22-1675, Manhattan

Lieutenant Robert J. Brown, Jr. Firefighter Jose A. Castro, L-42 Firefighter Adam Kirchmann Firefighter Ryan C. Blackwell Firefighter Philip C. Ingwersen Firefighter James D. Smith



n the early morning hours of September 29, 2020, the Manhattan Dispatcher was loading up Box 1675 after several frantic 911 calls reporting a fire. Squad Company 41 arrived to find heavy fire venting out two windows on the fifth floor of a six-story apartment building and were ordered to assist in searching the top floor for trapped occupants.

As the members of Squad 41 ascended the stairs, they heard a report on the handie-talkie of a child hanging out the win-

dow on the sixth floor. First-arriving fire companies were preparing for a roof rope rescue. Lieutenant Robert Brown made the decision to split the company. He ordered Firefighter James Smith to remain on the fire floor and report conditions. Firefighters Philip Ingwersen and Jose Castro were ordered to the roof, while Firefighters Adam Kirchmann and Ryan Blackwell stayed with Lieutenant Brown to operate on the top floor and search for trapped occupants.

Firefighters Ingwersen and Castro arrived on the roof to find Ladder Company 43 and Ladder Company 23's roof firefighters setting up the roof rope to lower a member. As Ladder 23's roof firefighter went over the parapet, FF Castro could see a second person leaning over a child gate in a window with heavy black smoke pushing out of it. With no substantial object available, FF Ingwersen acted as a human anchor, and FF Castro was lowered via lifesaving rope to the struggling victim. As FF Castro worked from his precarious position to remove the child gate outside the window, FF Kirchmann searched the apartment inside. He forced his way through blinding smoke and a locked door to locate the victim in the window, and she was removed via the interior.

As these rescues were performed, Lieutenant Brown and FF Blackwell searched the top-floor apartment adjacent to the fire apartment. The conditions were punishing: high heat, a blackout smoke condition and a line still being stretched. Lieutenant



Brown made his way to the back of the apartment and encountered a locked door. He forced the door open to find two semi-conscious male victims trying to get out of the window.

As Lieutenant Brown began to remove the victims from the apartment, he heard a faint moaning sound. Knowing he had a rapidly developing fire below them and time was running short, he instructed both victims to grab onto a couch and stay there. He returned to the back room. where he found an unconscious female victim on the floor. Meanwhile, the male victims panicked and left the couch, making their way to the back room. Lieutenant Brown transmitted the severity of his situation over the handie-talkie, and FFs Kirchmann, Blackwell and Smith assisted in removing the victims.

Squad 41 acted in the highest traditions of the Department. Using teamwork, bravery and skill and without regard for their personal safety, they rescued several occupants from this fire. It is for those reasons that Squad 41 is receiving the Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal.—RAW

### **Borld Trade Center Memorial Medal**



n September 1, 2020, at 1326 hours, Ladder Company 30 was dispatched to a fire on the 16th floor. As Ladder 30 commenced operations, Firefighter Nicholas J. Foley (chauffer position) surveyed the exterior of the building and was able to confirm the location of the fire apartment. Firefighter Brian C. Quinn (outside vent) reported into the building to operate the elevator. He found the fire service mode inoperable, and a decision was made to operate the elevator in normal mode.

While ascending in the elevator, Lieutenant Jason D. Norwich received a report from Engine Company 59 that a bystander had seen a person on a window ledge. Recognizing the importance of a two-sided approach to rescuing the victim, Lieutenant Norwich immediately directed Firefighter Quinn to proceed to the floor above with Firefighter Patrick A. Chiarel (roof, detailed from Engine 59) in case a life saving rope rescue was required.

Once members reached the 16th floor, the fire apartment was quickly located. With the door hot to the touch and secured with multiple locks, Firefighter Ramon Ziegler, Jr. (irons position)



September 1, 2020, 1326 hours, Box 75-1562, Manhattan

Lieutenant Jason D. Norwich Firefighter Nicholas J. Foley Firefighter Kenyatta Spellman, E-59 Firefighter Patrick A. Chiarel, E-59 Firefighter Brian C. Quinn Firefighter Ramon Zeigler, Jr.

and Firefighter Kenyatta Spellman (can position, detailed from Engine 59) began to force entry. However, a locking bar wedged under the inside doorknob prohibited access to the apartment. With smoke and heat billowing out of the partially opened door, Lieutenant Norwich heard a victim screaming. Visibility in the hallway was rapidly diminishing. He felt around the edge of the door for the obstruction, and once he located it, FFs Ziegler and Spellman proceeded to break the knob off of the door, freeing it to open.

While the inside team overcame the heavily fortified door, FFs Quinn and Chariel entered the apartment directly above the fire apartment and surveyed the exterior of the building from the windows. Firefighter Quinn discovered a female victim holding onto a small dog, on a ledge no wider than six inches, outside the fire apartment. With the woman in peril and the inside team delayed, FF Quinn immediately requested that the second-arriving roof firefighter bring the lifesaving rope to his location. Firefighter Quinn straddled the windowsill and reassured the

> victim while FF Chariel improvised a substantial object by placing the metal Halligan hook across the lower part of a doorway. With the arrival of additional members, and when instructed to dismount, FF Quinn began his descent. He reached the panicked victim and secured her as the inside team made their way into the fire apartment, holding the fire at bay with the extinguisher until arrival of the hose-line.

> Firefighter Quinn kept the victim safely secured at the window until the fire was extinguished, at which point he and the inside team assisted her through the window to safety, where she was brought out of the fire apartment to EMS.

> At this fire, members of Ladder 30 performed in an exemplary manner in the highest traditions of the FDNY, exhibiting dedication to training, teamwork, cooperation and communication. For their lifesaving actions, they are presented with the World Trade Center Memorial Medal.—*MB*



Ladder 30

Fire Department, City of New York • Medal Day 2021

FF Matthew J. Boney, L-32 FF Michael L. Borriello, L-11 FF Ryan R. Bourke, L-58 Capt. Shaun A. Burgos, D-3 FF Robert Caponigro, L-34 FF Jose A. Castro, L-42 FF Thomas Checco, L-175 FF Joseph P. Coffey, L-113 FF James Coyle, L-134 Lt. George Diaz, L-50 Capt. James P. Ellson, D-15 FF Todd G. Ferguson, R-5 FF Chris F. Filiato, L-119 Capt. James R. Grismer, L-16

FF Matthew M. Antonelli, L-46 FF John R. Biagini, L-24 Proby Craig R. Brown, L-14 FF Timothy C. Clarke, L-12 FF Ronald E. Deaso, Jr., E-79 FF Francis M. Fennelly, L-136 Proby Filipe M. Fernandes, L-160 FF Jose A. Fernandez, L-30 FF Pasquale Foresta, Sq-270 FF Ethan A. Geffen, E-295

#### **SERVICE RATING A**

FF Keith Haberman, L-117 FF Mark C. Heingartner, L-25 FF Philip C. Ingwersen, Sq-41 FF Abijah E. Jarrett, L-175 FF Adam Kirchmann, Sq-41 FF Khalid T. Lee, L-107 Proby Ryan S. Lentz, L-22 FF Khalid A. Lewis, L-107 FF Mathew J. Magee, L-121 FF David I. Maglathlin, R-5 Capt. Daniel J. McEnroe, D-7 Capt. Robert McKeefrey, E-39 FF Brendan G. Mulligan, L-4 FF Michael J. Murray, L-34

#### **SERVICE RATING B**

FF Thomas C. Heedles, L-148 FF Rafael E. Hernandez-Gonzalez, L-144 FF Kyle J. Kleb, L-55 FF Roberto Lacourt, Jr., L-148 FF Robert E. Lee, M-6 FF Brendan G. Lovett, L-14 FF Robert C. Macchia, Jr., R-1 Lt. John W. Norman, Res Bat Proby Christian F. Obregon, L-105 FF Piotr Orlowski, E-202 FF Richard C. Myers, R-2 FF John C. O'Connor, R-1 Lt. William J. Olson, L-55 FF Thomas G. O'Shea, L-59 FF Justin A. Pelka, L-43 Lt. William R. Prange, L-59 FF Robert S. Puckett, L-103 FF Peter J. Quinn, L-41 FF Richard G. Schmidt, R-4 FF Justin L. Tallett, L-107 FF Antonio F. Tarabocchia, R-4 FF Dmitriy Teplitskiy, L-173 Lt. Jason P. Warnken, L-61

FF Lawrence P. Rooney, Jr., L-155 FF Christopher A. Schultz, E-8 Proby Mickey L. Scott, L-29 Lt. Jason N. Serra, B-58 FF Michael D. Sforza, L-43 Proby Joseph T. Todaro, L-20 FF Nicholas J. Velez, L-147 FF Austin Watts, L-134 FF. Denzel A. Wilson, L-113

### **BUREAU OF FIRE INVESTIGATION—BFI**

### **SERVICE RATING A**

Jan 28, 2020 FM Adrian C. Draguc, CWNMay 31, 2020 FM Christopher M. Lucarelli, CWNJuly 18, 2020 FM Michael Pritchett, SIUJuly 18, 2020 FM Jason Blackburn, CWN

#### **SERVICE RATING B**

Jan 21, 2020 FM Robert J. Delancy, CWS Oct 13, 2020 FM James Feeley, AFS

### **UNIT CITATIONS**

Citywide South Command – Squad 35 January 21, 2020 Box 1233

Citywide North Command – Squad 53 January 28, 2020 Box 9810

Special Investigations Unit May 8, 2020 Box 3297

Citywide North Command – Squad 54 May 31, 2020 Box 7924

Citywide South Command – Squad 34 June 11, 2020 Box 3687 Citywide North Command – Squad 54 July 18, 2020 Box 6307

Special Investigations Unit August 30, 2020 Box 1242

Auto Fraud Squad October 13, 2020 Box 1437

Special Investigations Unit November 16, 2020 Box 6068

### **UNIT CITATIONS**

Ladder Company 33 Dec. 8, 2019 Box 75-3148

Ladder Company 26 Dec. 13, 2019 Box 75-1407

Rescue Company 4 Jan. 1, 2020 Box 4420

**Engine Company 22** Jan. 1, 2020 Box 22-1081

Ladder Company 16 Jan. 1, 2020 Box 22-1081

**Engine Company 254** Jan. 4, 2020 Box 75-3406

**Engine Company 225** Jan. 5, 2020 Box 44-2089

**Engine Company 39** Jan. 14, 2020 Box 22-1031

**Engine Company 44** Jan. 14, 2020 Box 22-1031

Ladder Company 16 Jan. 14, 2020 Box 22-1031

**Engine Company 66** Jan. 20, 2020 Box 75-4482

**Engine Company 79** Jan. 21, 2020 Box 33-3712

**Engine Company 205** Jan. 21, 2020 Box 75-0479

**Engine Company 158** Jan. 27, 2020 Box 75-0977

Ladder Company 108 Feb. 2, 2020 Box 7097

**Ladder Company 26** Mar. 5, 2020 Box 7154

**Engine Company 46** Mar. 16, 2020 Box 2942

**Ladder Company 27** Mar. 16, 2020 Box 2942

Ladder Company 37 Mar. 27, 2020 Box 33-3440

**Engine Company 58** Mar. 27, 2020 Box 22-7441

**Engine Company 91** Mar. 27, 2020 Box 22-7441 **Squad Company 41** Mar. 27, 2020 Box 22-7441

Ladder Company 26 Mar. 27, 2020 Box 22-7441

Ladder Company 43 Mar. 27, 2020 Box 22-7441

**Engine Company 233** Apr. 8, 2020 Box 75-0874

Ladder Company 105 Apr. 28, 2020 Box 7027

**Marine Company 9** May 2, 2020 Box 8039

**Engine Company 88** May 16, 2020 Box 75-3324

**Engine Company 316** May 17, 2020 Box 75-7717

**Counter Terrorism Task Force** May 29, 2020 Box CAD3465

**Engine Company 226** June 3, 2020 Box 0586

Ladder Company 138 June 10, 2020 Box 33-7999

**Engine Company 287** June 10, 2020 Box 33-7999

Ladder Company 136 June 10, 2020 Box 33-7999

**Squad Company 41** June 16, 2020 Box 22-2181

**Ladder Company 78** June 20, 2020 Box 75-0062

**Engine Company 314** June 21, 2020 Box 75-2806

Ladder Company 105 June 24, 2020 Box 75-1067

**Engine Company 72** June 30, 2020 Box 4183

Marine Company 6 July 7, 2020 Box 0219

**Engine Company 231** July 22, 2020 Box 22-1674

**Rescue Company 4** July 24, 2020 Box 75-7878 **Engine Company 292** July 24, 2020 Box 75-7878

**Engine Company 325** July 24, 2020 Box 75-7878

**Engine Company 225** July 25, 2020 Box 75-3966

Ladder Company 107 July 25, 2020 Box 75-3966

**Engine Company 306** July 31, 2020 Box 6160

**Engine Company 59** July 31, 2020 Box 7439

Ladder Company 30 July 31, 2020 Box 7439

Ladder Company 119 Aug. 8, 2020 Box 0304

Ladder Company 129 Aug. 9, 2020 Box 75-4446

Ladder Company 156 Aug. 12, 2020 Box 75-3261

Ladder Company 45 Aug. 26, 2020 Box 1741

Ladder Company 134 Aug. 28, 2020 Box 1134

Ladder Company 14 Aug. 30, 2020 Box 1381

Ladder Company 43 Aug. 30, 2020 Box 1381

Ladder Company 30 Sept. 1, 2020 Box 75-1562

**Engine Company 84** Sept. 5, 2020 Box 75-1670

Ladder Company 34 Sept. 5, 2020 Box 75-1670

Ladder Company 25 Sept. 15, 2020 Box 1083

**Rescue Company 1** Sept. 15, 2020 Box 1083

Ladder Company 7 Sept. 19, 2020 Box 0627

Ladder Company 155 Sept. 28, 2020 Box 4707 **Squad Company 270** Sept. 28, 2020 Box 4707

**Engine Company 62** Sept. 28, 2020 Box 75-3499

Ladder Company 32 Sept. 28, 2020 Box 75-3499

**Squad Company 41** Sept. 29, 2020 Box 22-1675

Ladder Company 175 Oct. 5, 2020 Box 75-2060

Ladder Company 20 Oct. 23, 2020 Box 7410

Ladder Company 38 Oct. 24, 2020 Box 3308

Ladder Company 142 Oct. 24, 2020 Box 22-6025

Ladder Company 29 Oct. 26, 2020 Box 8346

**Engine Company 73** Oct. 27, 2020 Box 22-2265

Ladder Company 22 Oct. 29, 2020 Box 7309

**Engine Company 283** Nov. 8, 2020 Box 75-1640

**Engine Company 72** Nov. 16, 2020 Box 33-4040

Ladder Company 109 Dec. 14, 2020 Box 75-1177

Ladder Company 124 Dec. 15, 2020 Box 0722

**Engine Company 287** Dec. 21, 2020 Box 22-8387

**Engine Company 324** Dec. 21, 2020 Box 22-8387

Haz Mat Company 1 Dec. 21, 2020 Box 22-8387

### **CFR-D PRE-HOSPITAL SAVE COMMENDATIONS**

#### **JANUARY 2020**

Engine Company 5, January 12 Engine Company 22, January 28 Engine Company 43, January 30 Engine Company 46, January 30 Engine Company 47, January 17 Engine Company 68, January 2 Engine Company 92, two saves on January 8 Engine Company 97, January 14 Engine Company 159, January 12 Engine Company 162, January 18 Engine Company 201, January 6 Engine Company 222, January 9 Engine Company 225, January 15 and 21 Engine Company 234, January 11 Engine Company 237, January 4 Engine Company 257, January 21 and 26 Engine Company 264, January 28 Engine Company 265, January 5 Engine Company 268, January 22 Squad Company 288, January 25 Engine Company 289, January 8

- Engine Company 297, January 14
- Engine Company 305, January 16
- Engine Company 306, January 28
- Engine Company 307, January 5
- Engine Company 311, January 29
- Engine Company 314, January 9
- Engine Company 324, January 27
- Engine Company 332, January 4 and 12

#### **FEBRUARY 2020**

Squad Company 18, February 27 Engine Company 35, two saves on February 26 Engine Company 82, February 22 Engine Company 88, February 3 Engine Company 92, February 12 Engine Company 157, February 3 Engine Company 161, February 19 Engine Company 162, February 9 Engine Company 220, February 23 Engine Company 225, February 13 Engine Company 240, February 17 Engine Company 248, February 3 Engine Company 255, February 3 Engine Company 257, February 25 Engine Company 264, February 2 Engine Company 271, February 6 Engine Company 275, February 8 Engine Company 280, February 5 Engine Company 298, February 24 Engine Company 303, February 10 Engine Company 309, February 16 Engine Company 321, February 16

#### **MARCH 2020**

Engine Company 34, March 11 Engine Company 45, March 6 Engine Company 59, March 3 Engine Company 62, March 9 Engine Company 65, March 11 Engine Company 89, March 21 Engine Company 96, March 28 Engine Company 97, March 14 Engine Company 222, March 6 Engine Company 225, March 26 Engine Company 255, March 4 Engine Company 257, March 24 Engine Company 281, March 5 Engine Company 286, March 1 Squad Company 288, March 9 Engine Company 298, March 21 Engine Company 301, two saves on March 2 and 14 Engine Company 304, March 4 Engine Company 314, March 27 Engine Company 319, March 12 Engine Company 321, March 20 Engine Company 330, March 6

#### **APRIL 2020**

Engine Company 35, April 30 Engine Company 58, April 27 Engine Company 59, April 19 Engine Company 69, April 19 Engine Company 92, April 20 Engine Company 167, April 15 Engine Company 225, April 11 Engine Company 233, April 20 Engine Company 236, April 17 Engine Company 240, April 10 Engine Company 242, April 28 Engine Company 259, April 23 Engine Company 264, April 29 Engine Company 290, April 2 and 5 Engine Company 303, April 11 Engine Company 309, April 26 Engine Company 314, April 7 and 30 Engine Company 331, April 6

### **CFR-D PRE-HOSPITAL SAVE COMMENDATIONS**

#### MAY 2020

Engine Company 62, two saves on May 19 Engine Company 66, May 12 Engine Company 167, May 4 and 21 Engine Company 201, May 27 Engine Company 241, May 18 Engine Company 266, May 26 Engine Company 295, May 31 Engine Company 318, May 6

#### **JUNE 2020**

Engine Company 5, June 23 Engine Company 7, June 14 Engine Company 9, June 12 Engine Company 24, June 29 Engine Company 28, June 16 Engine Company 37, June 8 Engine Company 53, June 14 Engine Company 63, June 13 Engine Company 74, June 20 Engine Company 83, June 6 Engine Company 95, June 25 Engine Company 153, June 22 Engine Company 161, June 22 Engine Company 221, June 2 Engine Company 233, June 26 Engine Company 243, June 4 Engine Company 245, June 9 Engine Company 263, June 25 Engine Company 271, June 4 Engine Company 277, June 17 Engine Company 283, June 10 Engine Company 284, June 5 Engine Company 298, June 27 Engine Company 332, June 27

#### **JULY 2020**

Engine Company 5, July 13 Engine Company 14, July 14 Engine Company 28, July 10 Engine Company 53, July 9 Engine Company 65, July 29 Engine Company 83, July 15 Engine Company 91, July 17 and 21 Engine Company 214, July 17 Engine Company 225, July 14 Engine Company 250, July 4 and 20 Engine Company 251, July 24 Engine Company 265, July 5 Engine Company 275, July 18 and 27 Engine Company 281, July 11 Engine Company 283, July 19 Engine Company 298, July 1 Engine Company 302, July 17 Engine Company 306, July 6 Engine Company 318, July 8

#### AUGUST 2020

Engine Company 16, August 29 Engine Company 22, August 17 Engine Company 28, August 30 Engine Company 59, August 23 Engine Company 76, August 10 Engine Company 158, August 29 Engine Company 168, August 26 Engine Company 201, August 20 Engine Company 214, August 9 Engine Company 225, August 6 Engine Company 227, August 20 Engine Company 235, August 20 Engine Company 241, August 9 Engine Company 246, August 7 Engine Company 254, August 7 Engine Company 268, August 6 Engine Company 279, August 14 Engine Company 282, August 31 Engine Company 292, August 31 Engine Company 301, August 15 Engine Company 312, August 23 Engine Company 329, August 18 Engine Company 331, August 30

#### **SEPTEMBER 2020**

Squad Company 8, September 17 Engine Company 59, September 2 Engine Company 60, September 28 Engine Company 73, September 27 and 28 Engine Company 152, September 4 Engine Company 221, September 1 Engine Company 222, September 13 Engine Company 234, September 7 Engine Company 235, September 7 Engine Company 255, September 20 Engine Company 257, September 16 Engine Company 273, September 13 Engine Company 281, September 19 Engine Company 283, September 25 Engine Company 290, September 27 Engine Company 295, September 4 Engine Company 297, September 22 Engine Company 298, September 8

### **CFR-D PRE-HOSPITAL SAVE COMMENDATIONS**

Engine Company 306, September 24

Engine Company 310, September 19 Engine Company 312, September 4 Engine Company 315, September 23

#### **OCTOBER 2020**

Engine Company 7, October 1 Engine Company 28, October 15 Squad Company 61, October 7 Engine Company 62, October 11 and 27

- Engine Company 63, October 21
- Engine Company 69, October 8
- Engine Company 71, October 31
- Engine Company 96, October 26
- Engine Company 222, October 17
- Engine Company 227, October 1 Engine Company 235, October 14
- Engine Company 243, October 6
- Engine Company 271, October 4
- Engine Company 277, October 12
- Squad Company 288, October 6
- Engine Company 290, October 7
- Engine Company 292, October 21
- Engine Company 298, October 14
- Engine Company 306, October 27
- Engine Company 307, October 13
- Engine Company 321, October 7
- Engine Company 324, October 26
- Engine Company 332, October 30

#### **NOVEMBER 2020**

Engine Company 16, November 7 Engine Company 23, November 7 Engine Company 24, November 27 Engine Company 53, November 2 Engine Company 69, November 25 Engine Company 83, November 17 Engine Company 84, November 1 and 14

Engine Company 152, November 6 Engine Company 162, November 22 Engine Company 163, November 3 Engine Company 166, November 30 Engine Company 241, November 22 Engine Company 243, November 11 Engine Company 246, November 10 Engine Company 266, November 11 Engine Company 273, November 27 Engine Company 274, November 20 Engine Company 282, November 20 Engine Company 298, November 6 Engine Company 302, November 21 Engine Company 303, November 9 Engine Company 315, November 24 Engine Company 330, November 8

#### **DECEMBER 2020**

Engine Company 5, December 9 Engine Company 15, December 22 Engine Company 45, December 4 Engine Company 52, December 16 Engine Company 74, December 11 Engine Company 94, December 15 Engine Company 155, December 24 Engine Company 167, December 4 Engine Company 206, December 6 Engine Company 216, December 4 Engine Company 221, December 20 Engine Company 236, December 7 Engine Company 247, December 31 Engine Company 248, December 13 Engine Company 251, December 11 Engine Company 255, December 19 and 25 Engine Company 260, December 23 Engine Company 279, December 3 Engine Company 286, December 31 Engine Company 292, December 2

- Engine Company 298, December 11
- Engine Company 301, December 4
- Engine Company 317, December 14
- Engine Company 330, December 10 and 21

#### Number in parentheses indicates multiple saves.

Paramedic Byron Abad (1) Paramedic Iller Abramov (1) Paramedic Antonio Accardo (1) EMT Felicia Accetta (1) EMT Genesis Acevedo (1) EMT Jared Acevedo (1) Paramedic Revman Acuna (3) EMT Christopher Agostino (1) EMT Kelvin Aguilar (1) Lieutenant Juan Aguirre (2) Captain Nicholas Aiello (2) EMT James Aiuto (1) Paramedic Youssef Al Hammami (1) EMT Akram Albaali (1) Paramedic Angie Alburquerque (4) EMT Pierce Allen (1) Lieutenant Farouk Ally (2) EMT Jean Altidor Jr (2) EMT Nicholas Amendola (1) EMT Gregory Amorosso (1) EMT Wallace Andrade (2) Paramedic Reiner Andrew (1) Lieutenant Christopher Ang (1) Paramedic Blair Araujo (1) EMT Gabriel Arce (1) EMT Victoria Ardis (1) EMT Wesly Arias (1) Paramedic Joseph Arnold (1) Paramedic Pietro Arsenault (1) Paramedic Steven Aumoithe (1) Paramedic Carlos Avellaneda (1) Paramedic Babacar Ba (2) Paramedic Lissette Barillas (3) EMT Kenneth Barriteau (1) EMT Dale Bartolomeo (2) EMT Anthony Basil (2) Paramedic Ohnesto Batalla (1) Lieutenant Leonardo Bedova (1) Paramedic Samuel Belton (2) EMT Stephen Benanti (1) EMT Brandon Bentley (1) Paramedic Jennifer Bernstein (1) Paramedic Richard Berroa (1) EMT Storm Berry (1) EMT Stefan Betancourt (1) EMT Matthew Bilgore (1) EMT Johnathan Bilotto (1) Lieutenant Peter Bockwoldt (1) Paramedic Ferdinand Bonifacio (1) EMT Edward Bonilla (1) Deputy Chief Mark Bonilla (1) Lieutenant Peter Borriello (1) Paramedic Yan Borukhov (1) EMT Davon Bradley (1) Lieutenant Kevin Bratholt (2) Paramedic Joel Brathwaite (2) EMT Yahav Brintouch (1) Paramedic Bruce A. Brown (1) Paramedic Bruce C. Brown (1) EMT Christopher Brunke (1) Paramedic Dina Bruno (1)

EMT Darren Buckley (1) EMT Christopher Buder (1) Lieutenant Daniel Burgos (3) Paramedic Richard Burlew (2) Lieutenant Tyisha Burwell (1) Lieutenant Giovanni Caballero (1) Lieutenant Ralph Cabello (3) EMT John Cabezas (1) EMT Cody Cabrera (1) EMT Nicholas Cacciola (2) EMT Stacey Cacho (1) EMT William Cadet (1) Paramedic Yitzchok Cagan (2) Paramedic Christopher Caldwell (1) EMT Mahtik Calhoun (2) Paramedic Julio Camargo (1) Paramedic Daniel Campanelli (1) Lieutenant Jerald Cange (1) EMT Avana Canty (1) EMT Tyrone Capers (1) Paramedic Richard Cappock (1) EMT Marcus Carde (1) EMT Timothy Carey (1) EMT Nancy Carpio (1) Paramedic Efrain Carrasquillo (1) EMT Jean Carrie (1) Lieutenant Mark Carroll (1) Paramedic Dustin Carter (1) EMT Nicole Caruana (1) EMT John Casey (1) EMT Jeremy Caso (1) Lieutenant Diana Cassa-Camarro (1) EMT Tatiana Cassemiro (1) Paramedic Lee Castro (1) Lieutenant Andre Catapano (2) Paramedic Laura Catucci (1) Lieutenant James Cavaliere (1) Paramedic Daniel Cavorsi (1) EMT James Cavuto (1) EMT Ali Cekic (1) EMT Collin Celestine (1) Paramedic Jose Cerda Matos (1) Lieutenant Jorge Chalen (1) Paramedic David Chambers (1) Lieutenant Marvin Chan (2) Paramedic Chin Shan Chan (1) Lieutenant Charles Chapman (1) Lieutenant Pierre Charboneau (3) Lieutenant Dennis Chen (1) EMT Victor Chen (1) EMT Matthew Chesney (2) Lieutenant Dennis Chin (1) Paramedic Jeffery Chin (2) EMT Mister Chisholm (1) EMT Tenzin Chodon (1) Paramedic Garcia Christian (1) EMT Anthony Cicciarello (1) Captain Lizette Claro (2) EMT Christopher Clement (2) Lieutenant Johana Clerge (2) EMT Luke Cohen (1)

Paramedic John Coleman (1) EMT Joseph Collins (1) Paramedic Carlos Colon (1) Lieutenant Danielle Connell (1) EMT Kayla Consuegra (1) Paramedic David Cook (1) Paramedic Zulevka Cordero (1) EMT Ronald Cordova (1) Paramedic Miguel Cornier (1) Paramedic Amanda Cornwall (4) EMT Adrian Corona (1) EMT William Cortes (1) EMT John Costigan (1) Lieutenant Brian Cotiaux (2) EMT Julian Cousineau (1) Paramedic Ali Coutard (1) EMT Connor Coyle (2) Lieutenant Anthony Cozzino (1) Paramedic Jessica Cruz (1) Paramedic Yeny Cruz (3) EMT John Cuccio (1) Paramedic Richard Cuccurullo (1) Paramedic Giovanni Cummings (1) Paramedic William Curley (4) Lieutenant Timothy Cusack (1) EMT Philip Dacey (3) EMT Frank Dades (1) Paramedic Christopher Daley (1) Lieutenant Jonathan Damato (2) Lieutenant Latoya Darden (1) EMT Bernard Dautruche Jr (2) Paramedic Kerry David (1) EMT Hunter Dawkins (1) EMT Dakota Dawkins (1) Lieutenant James Dedonato (1) EMT David Defranco (1) EMT Dominick Defranco (2) Lieutenant Jesus Deinnocentiis (2) Lieutenant David Deleon (1) EMT Jose Deleon Pichardo (1) EMT Richard Delgado (1) Lieutenant Michael Demarco (2) EMT Jonathan Deochan (1) EMT Leo Deraimo (1) Paramedic Anthony Derocco (1) Lieutenant Frederic Desarno (2) Lieutenant Louis Devino (4) Paramedic Rocky Diaz (2) Paramedic Nicholas Diaz (1) EMT Joseph Dibello (1) Paramedic Giselle Diggs (1) Paramedic Trinh Dihn (1) Lieutenant Patrick Dillon (1) EMT Ryan Dilorenzo (1) Captain John P Dimen (1) EMT Kidroy Dixon (1) EMT Ellis Dones (2) Lieutenant Thomas Donofrio (2) Paramedic George Doremus (2) EMT Daniel Doroski (1) EMT Kevin Drummer (1)

Paramedic Christopher Duffus (1) Paramedic Kinessa Duguid (2) Lieutenant Thomas Durkin (2) Paramedic Brian Easop (1) EMT Kristopher Eckert (1) Paramedic Wayne Edgar (1) EMT Timothy Egan (2) EMT Thomas Egan (1) Lieutenant Alicia Elkadi (1) EMT Keisha Ellis (1) Lieutenant Thomas Elwood (1) Captain Christopher Emhardt (1) EMT Martin Escobar (1) Paramedic Liana Espinal (1) Paramedic Jeffery Espinal (3) EMT Tanya Etienne-Gonzalez (1) EMT Edward Evanick (1) Lieutenant Aron Ezagui (1) EMT Ashley Farley (1) EMT Dana Farmer (2) Lieutenant Joseph Farrell (1) EMT Ryan Fee (1) EMT Brian Ferguson (1) Paramedic Elizabeth Ferrin (1) EMT Michael Fields (1) Lieutenant Jerry Figueroa (1) Lieutenant Alvin Figueroa (1) EMT Carlo Finazzo (1) EMT Taylor Finkel (1) EMT Michael Finn (1) Paramedic Josh Fitch (1) EMT Tyler Flanagan (1) Paramedic Iisha Floyd (1) EMT Joseph Flynn (1) Paramedic Michael Fox (1) Paramedic Oral Francis (1) Lieutenant Helen Franco (1) Lieutenant Michael Fregonese (2) Lieutenant John Gagliano (4) EMT Matthew Gaine (1) EMT William Gallagher (1) EMT Bryan Gallagher (1) Paramedic Anthony Gallo (3) EMT Bryant Gambino (1) EMT Joshua D. Garcia (2) EMT Dale Garcia (1) Paramedic Arlene Garcia (1) Paramedic Noe Garcia (1) Lieutenant Joshua Gardiner (2) Paramedic Kelcee Garneau (2) EMT Giovanny Gaviria (1) EMT Anatoliy Gavrilov (2) Paramedic Schuvler Gazzo (2) Paramedic Shewain George (2) Lieutenant Edward Gerber (3) Paramedic James Geronimo (1) EMT Lucas Gerrato (1) EMT Zion Giahn (1) EMT Irene Giambalvo (1) EMT Kimberly Giddings (1) EMT Akeem Gill (2) EMT Anthony Gines (1)

Paramedic Charisse Ginn (1) Paramedic Mark Gioffre (2) Lieutenant Michael Glenn (1) Paramedic Joshua Gluck (2) Lieutenant Alexander Gomez (1) Paramedic Yonh Gomez (1) EMT Francisco Gomez-Rivas (3) Lieutenant Christopher Gonzales (1) Lieutenant Edwin Gonzalez (3) EMT Pablo Gonzalez (1) Paramedic Raymond Gonzalez (2) EMT Joshua Gonzalez (1) EMT David Goodman (1) Paramedic Joshua Goset (2) Lieutenant Steven Graulau (1) EMT Dolores Green (1) Lieutenant David Greenidge (1) Paramedic Michael Gregor (2) Paramedic Jason Greibesland (1) Lieutenant Jeremy Griffel (2) EMT Taras Grynyk (2) EMT Kamil Grzymala (1) Lieutenant Luis Gutierrez (1) Lieutenant Bryant Gutierrez (1) EMT Reinaldo Guzman (1) EMT Jonathan Guzman (1) EMT Jose Guzman (4) Paramedic Richard Guzman (1) Paramedic Joshua Haber (3) Paramedic Lana Hagai (1) Lieutenant Andrew Haley (1) Paramedic Luke Hall (1) Paramedic Daniel Hammett (3) Lieutenant Elise Hanlon (1) EMT Christian Hansen (1) Paramedic Dindeval Harricharan (1) Lieutenant Bevonia Harrison (1) Paramedic Joshua Harrmann (1) Paramedic Robert Hart (1) Paramedic Richard Harvey (2) Lieutenant Krystal Hayes (1) EMT Elliot Havnes (1) EMT Shawn Healy (1) EMT Alex Heany (1) Paramedic Ziquayya Hedrington (1) Paramedic Christian Hehn (1) EMT Ashlev Heinties (2) EMT Tyan Henry (1) Captain Jonathan Herbst (1) EMT David Hernandez (1) Paramedic Henry Hernandez (1) Paramedic Doris Herrara-Lozado (3) EMT Eridania Hichez (1) EMT Austin Higley (1) Paramedic Andrew Hodges (2) EMT Ian Holzmacher (1) Paramedic Nelida Honore (2) Paramedic Michael Hood (3) EMT Michael Hospedales (1) EMT Daniel Howard (1) Paramedic Natasha Howard (1) Paramedic Renzhi Huang (4)

Paramedic Joseph Hudak (1) Paramedic Robert Hunt (1) Lieutenant Oneil Hunter (2) Paramedic Mohammad Hussain (1) Paramedic Michael Hv (1) Paramedic Alix Hyacinthe (1) Paramedic Carlos Illanes (1) Paramedic Justin Imburgia (1) Lieutenant Jennifer Ison (1) EMT Elliot Jacobs (1) Paramedic Christopher Jacobs (3) EMT Matthew Jaget (1) EMT Taylor Jamison (1) Paramedic Ra Jassir (2) EMT Christmarlon Jean (1) Paramedic Dukens Jean Baptiste (1) EMT David Jean-Baptiste (1) Paramedic Marcus Jerome (1) EMT Monica Jimenez (1) Paramedic Daril Jimenez (2) Paramedic Joshua Jimenez (1) EMT Patrick Joblonski (1) Lieutenant Andre Jones (1) EMT Jason Jones (1) EMT Andrew Jones (1) Lieutenant Sean Josten (1) Paramedic Kevin Kahl (1) EMT Mehmet Kalender (1) EMT Raymond Kane (1) EMT Michael Kavanagh (2) EMT Deana Kaygorodova (1) Lieutenant Daniel Keegan (1) EMT Ryan Kelleher (1) Paramedic Matthew Kelleher (1) Lieutenant Anthony Kendall (1) EMT Ryan Kennish (1) Paramedic Travis Kessel (1) Paramedic Adil Khalid (1) EMT Taylor Khan (1) EMT Jamaul Khan (3) EMT William Kim (1) Paramedic Namwu Kim (1) Paramedic Thomas Kimera (1) Paramedic Shaun King (1) Paramedic Jannell King (1) Lieutenant Justin Kinney (2) EMT John Kirk (1) EMT Jordan Kolesar (1) EMT Darren Kondas (2) Lieutenant Peter Koretzky (1) Paramedic John Korinek (1) Paramedic Ewa Koszowska (1) EMT Jessica Kowalska (1) EMT John Kozak (2) EMT Menachem Kramer (1) EMT Thomas Kubisa (3) EMT Yawa Kudzi (1) EMT Marco Lacertosa (2) Lieutenant Erica Laguer (1) Paramedic Joseph Lang (1) Lieutenant Yahki Langford (3) Paramedic Marlene Lantigua (1)

Paramedic Nicholas Larocca (1) Paramedic Eric Laukaitis (1) EMT Nathaniel Laureano (1) Lieutenant Nicole Lawrence (1) Lieutenant Jason Lazar (1) Paramedic Adrian Lazar (1) Lieutenant Kenneth Lebow (1) Paramedic Juan Lebron (1) EMT Ronald Leggiadro (1) EMT Aaron Leizerovici (1) Paramedic Christopher Leon (1) Paramedic Thomas Leto (2) Lieutenant Gary Lewis (1) EMT Jamelia Lewis (2) EMT Quedar Lewis (1) Paramedic Shanice Lewis (1) Paramedic Monica Lewis (1) EMT Xue-Hua Li (1) Paramedic Christine Li (1) Paramedic Ronald Li (1) EMT Gina Liandros (1) Lieutenant Justin Lim (2) EMT Karida Limage (1) EMT Alexander Lina (1) Paramedic Krystle Liz (2) Paramedic Carlos Lizcano (2) Paramedic Anthony Loaiza (2) EMT Moazum Loane (1) EMT Patrick Lonie (1) EMT Jorge Lopez (1) Paramedic Hoover Lopez (2) Paramedic John Lopez (1) Paramedic Michael Loscalzo (2) Lieutenant Alexander Loutsky 5 EMT Robert Lubinski (2) Paramedic Wanda Luciano (1) EMT Efrosini Lucio (1) EMT Zachary Ludewig (3) Paramedic Andrew Mach (1) Lieutenant Richard Machado (1) Lieutenant Elizabeth Mackiewicz (3) Paramedic Kieran Macneil-Lima (2) Paramedic Raymond Magarie (1) Paramedic Daniel Mahlmann (1) EMT Delroy Maitland, Jr. (1) Lieutenant David Malayev (3) EMT Angelika Maldonado (1) Paramedic Jessica Maldonado (1) EMT Jessica Mancino (1) EMT Michael Mancino (1) Paramedic Thameshwar Mangra (2) EMT Steven Mangual (1) Paramedic Wilfredo Manrique (1) Paramedic Anthony Marascia (1) EMT Louis Marin (1) EMT Manuel Marin (1) Lieutenant John Marino (2) EMT Joseph Marino (1) EMT Kyle Marriello (1) Lieutenant Thomas Marsden (1) EMT Luis Martinez-Gutierrez (1) Captain Renae Mascol (1)

EMT Sabrina Mason (1) Paramedic Jordan Matallana (1) EMT Karol Materna (1) Paramedic Daniel Mathieu (2) EMT Dorothea Mattocks (1) Lieutenant Kurt Maurer (3) EMT Brandon Mayes (1) Paramedic Vincent Mazzarella (2) Lieutenant Daniel Mboh (1) Paramedic John McConnell (2) EMT Michael McCormack (1) EMT Sophia McCov (1) EMT Erin McDonough (1) Captain Sean McGrath (1) Paramedic Cullen McGraw (1) Paramedic James McGuire (4) Paramedic Brian McIntvre (2) Paramedic Barbara McKenzie (1) Lieutenant Tyrone McLune (2) EMT David McMinn (1) EMT Aidan McPartland (2) Lieutenant Joe McWilliams (2) EMT Rafael Medina (1) Lieutenant Michael Melas (2) EMT Michelle Melendez (1) Paramedic Byron Melo (1) Captain William Merrins (1) Paramedic Amanda Mezynski (1) Lieutenant Leon Michel (2) EMT Priscilla Millan (1) Lieutenant Matthew Miller (1) EMT Darlene Marie Miller (1) EMT Michael A. Miller (2) EMT Paige Miller (1) EMT Michael S. Miller (1) Paramedic Robert Miller (1) EMT James Mills (1) EMT Michael Mitnick (1) EMT Daniel Moellendorf (1) EMT Liam Monaghan (1) EMT Jefferv Monsen (3) Lieutenant Kevin Montgomery (4) Paramedic Edith Moog (1) Lieutenant Angelo Morales (1) EMT Alejandra Morales-Pedraza (2) EMT Jonathan Morel (1) EMT Silverio Moreno (1) Paramedic Melanie Moreno (2) Paramedic Brian Morrissey (1) EMT Tyler Mott (2) Paramedic Mourtaz Mourtazaliev (1) Paramedic Ludmila Muller (1) EMT John Muniz (1) Paramedic Mark Muratone (1) Paramedic Adries Mustafa (2) Paramedic Said Mustafa (1) Paramedic Steven Myhand (1) EMT Ciro Napolitano (3) EMT Jerrell Nedd (1) EMT Charles Nielsen (1) Paramedic Jessica Nieves (1) EMT Timothy Nimal (1)

Paramedic Nariman Niyazov (1) EMT Taylor Nowak (1) EMT Anthony Nsowa (1) Lieutenant Eric Nunez (2) Lieutenant Marat Nurilov (1) EMT Jonathan Nygard (2) EMT Jack O'Donnell (1) Paramedic Justin O'Grady (1) Paramedic Kevin O'Hara (1) Paramedic James O'Sullivan (1) Lieutenant Jason Ochoa (2) Paramedic Liana Ochoa (1) Paramedic Kevin Oh (1) EMT Carlos Olivera (1) EMT Erickson Olivo (1) EMT Christopher Olsen (1) Paramedic Arelis Oquendo (2) Paramedic Alexander Orive (1) Lieutenant Daniel Ornstein (1) Lieutenant Joel Orr (3) Paramedic Yari Osorio (3) Lieutenant Ricardo Otero (2) Lieutenant Kyle Owens (2) Lieutenant Arnold Pabon (3) EMT Miguel Pacheco (1) EMT Daniel Pachot (1) EMT Victor Pantoja (1) Paramedic Victoria Papazian (2) Paramedic Lennon Parasram (3) Captain Linda Parlamenti (1) EMT Jacob Patane (1) Lieutenant Raymond Patterson (2) EMT Marvin Paul (2) Paramedic Siul Paulino (1) EMT Jake Pearlman (1) Paramedic Jose Pelaez (1) Lieutenant Amaury Pena (1) EMT Sabrina Pena (1) Paramedic Alexandre Pereira (2) Lieutenant Jamil Perez (1) EMT Miguel Perez (1) EMT Matthew Perez (1) Paramedic Anthony Perez (1) Paramedic Johanna Perez (1) Paramedic Ashley Pernice (2) Lieutenant Patrick Perrotta (1) EMT Ian Perry (1) Paramedic Chaz Perry (2) Lieutenant Andre Persaud (1) EMT Nathan Persaud (1) EMT Stephen Peters (1) EMT John Petitto (1) Paramedic Megan Pfeiffer (3) Paramedic Fiorenza Piccorelli (2) EMT Joseph Piche (2) Paramedic John Picone (3) EMT Yves Pierre (1) Paramedic Louis Pierre (1) Paramedic Rodrigo Pinto (1) Paramedic James Pione (1) EMT Alexia Pisano (1) Paramedic Ivan Placido (1)

EMT Karen Polanco (3) Paramedic Yan Hao Poon (1) Paramedic James Porras (1) EMT Robert Portela (1) Paramedic Nicole Powell (2) EMT Kyle Powers (1) Paramedic Janet Puente (1) EMT Daniel Qamar (1) Lieutenant John Quiles (1) Lieutenant Anthony Quinones (1) EMT Anastasia Rabos (1) EMT John Radano-Formisan (1) EMT Joseph Raff (1) Paramedic Lisset Ramdayal (1) Deputy Chief Kevin Ramdayal (1) Paramedic Angel Ramirez (1) EMT Destiny Ramnath (1) EMT Thomas Ramos (1) Lieutenant Vijay Rampersad (5) Paramedic Shaeumos Rand (1) EMT Anthony Randazzo (1) Lieutenant Ronald Ratz, Jr. (1) EMT Kane Raymond (1) Paramedic Briana Reardon (3) EMT Vincent Rebolledo (2) Paramedic David Reeve (1) Lieutenant Craig Roeder (2) Paramedic Edward Reynolds (2) Paramedic Daniel Riccobono (1) Paramedic Kenrov Ricknauth (2) Paramedic Shaun Riley (1) Paramedic Anna Riley (1) EMT Nicholas Rinaldi (1) Lieutenant Cesar Rios (1) EMT Johnathan Rivera (1) EMT Jeremy Rivera (1) Paramedic Rafael Rivera (1) Paramedic David Rivera (3) Paramedic Elda Rizzieri (1) Lieutenant Peter Roberts (3) EMT Richard Robertson (1) EMT Ariana Robinson (1) Paramedic Antione Robinson (3) Lieutenant Juan Rodriguez (1) Lieutenant Jeanine Rodriguez (1) EMT Henry Rodriguez (1) EMT Gianny Rodriguez (1) EMT Cristian Rodriguez (1) EMT Nicholas Rodriguez (1) Paramedic Daniel Rodriguez (1) EMT Timothy Rogers (2) EMT Kristen Rollins (1) EMT Jorge Roman (1) Paramedic Anastasiya Romashchenko (1) EMT Joseph Romeo (1) Paramedic Edgar Romero (1) EMT Jeremy Rondon (1) EMT Kevin Rosado Santillan (1) EMT Javier Rosario (3) Paramedic Nicketo Russell (1) Lieutenant Alison Russo (2)

EMT Thomas Russo (2) Division Chief Stephen Russo (1) EMT Corey Ruth (1) EMT Anthony Sala (1) EMT Paul Saladis (1) Paramedic Elizabeth Salazar (1) EMT Gabriel Samuel (1) Paramedic Ricardo Sanchez (1) Paramedic Maritza Sanchez (1) Paramedic Tenille Sanders (2) EMT Justin Sandler (1) EMT Rick-Adler Sanon (1) EMT Angela Sarcone (1) EMT Shelby Saroka (1) EMT Joseph Sarro (1) EMT Douglas Savitz (1) Paramedic Brent Scheidell (3) EMT Brian Schelling (1) Paramedic Gabrielle Schnitzer (1) EMT Crystal Scognamiglio (1) Paramedic Joao Seabra (3) EMT Nicholas Sears (1) Paramedic Andres Segovia (1) Paramedic Rafael Sequeira (2) EMT Samson Shakarian (1) Lieutenant Chung Hing Sham (2) Lieutenant Ajay Sharma (1) Paramedic Kimberly Sharpe (1) Lieutenant Allison Shaughnessy (1) EMT Hahyung Shim (1) Paramedic Joshua Silver (2) Paramedic Lakeescha Simmons (1) EMT Daniel Simmons (1) EMT Dale Simon (3) EMT John Simonis (1) EMT Bhawania Singh (1) Paramedic Sarbh Singh (1) EMT Zachary Slatnick (1) EMT Frank Smith (1) Paramedic Erika Smith (1) EMT Matthew Snyder (1) Paramedic Ervin Sobiev (3) Paramedic Hector Soho (1) Paramedic Arnaldo Soler (1) Lieutenant Philip Soto (1) EMT Marie Souffrant (1) Lieutenant Jason Spandorf (3) EMT Crist Spencer (1) EMT Conor Spillane (1) Lieutenant Philip Spiro (2) Paramedic Kellan Squire (2) EMT James Staines (1) EMT Thomas Stapleton (1) EMT Elijah Starks (1) Paramedic Timothy Stein (1) Paramedic Jeffery Stenborg (1) EMT Sean Stenson (1) Paramedic Dwayne Stewart (1) EMT Jason Stukes (1) EMT Henry Suazo (2) EMT Robert Sullivan (1)

Lieutenant Jason Sutherland (2) Paramedic Joshua Sutherland (1) EMT Kevin Swayne (1) EMT Kenneth Syrett (1) EMT Vincent Taccetta (1) Lieutenant Seon Taitt (1) Paramedic Gallant Tam (1) EMT Christian Tamarez (1) Lieutenant Patricia Tanis (1) Lieutenant Edwin Tario (1) EMT Caleb Tavarez (1) Lieutenant Christopher Taylor (5) Paramedic Alex Tepliy (1) Paramedic Wayne Thomas (1) EMT Zunxu Tian (1) EMT Joseph Tomaszewski (1) Paramedic Jean Tondreau (1) Paramedic Erin Toner (1) Paramedic Deanna Toone (2) Paramedic Dennis Toral (2) Lieutenant Alberto Torres (2) EMT Megan Torres (2) Paramedic Christopher Torres (1) EMT Miguel Torres (1) EMT Joseph Torrillo (2) Lieutenant Gerald Toyloy (1) Lieutenant George Trager (1) Paramedic Mary Travers (1) EMT Emily Travers (1) EMT Anthony Travieso (1) Lieutenant Timothy Troeber (1) Paramedic Mahaujah Turner (1) Lieutenant Michael Ullman (2) EMT Heidi Umpierre (1) Paramedic Roberto Urena (1) EMT Jason Vacchio (1) Paramedic Wilfred Valdez (1) EMT Daniel Valdina (2) EMT Eric Valentin (1) Paramedic Meagan Valicenti (1) EMT Elizabeth Valladares (1) Paramedic Kyle Van Nostrand (1) Lieutenant Joanna Vanegas (1) Lieutenant Lee Vargas (1) EMT Michael Varriano (1) Lieutenant Leonides Vasquez (3) EMT Sebastian Vasquez (1) EMT Melissa Vaugeois (1) EMT Alexander Velasquez (3) Paramedic Paula Velez (1) Lieutenant Brehene Vice (2) EMT Anthony Vidal (1) EMT Nicholas Villacci (1) Paramedic Lydia Vinas (1) Lieutenant Charles Vitale (1) EMT Jonathan Vukek (1) Paramedic Andrew Vuolo (2) EMT Nicholas Waldrop (1) Lieutenant Robert Walsh (1) EMT Jeannie Walsh (1) Lieutenant William Warr (3)

EMT R'renaw Warren (1) Lieutenant Scott Waryold (2) Paramedic Andrew Wasniewski (3) EMT Samuel Wasserman (1) Paramedic Raymond Wasyl (2) EMT Andrew Weeks (1) Paramedic Kimberly Werner (1) Paramedic Harlan Wernz (2) EMT Justin Westcott (1) EMT Michael White (1) EMT Michal Wierzbicki (1) Lieutenant Marvin Williams (1) EMT Wayne Williams (1) EMT Sheena Williams (1) Paramedic Jennifer Wilson (1) Lieutenant Asher Winik (2) Paramedic Julien Winsley (1) Lieutenant Kam Wong (2) Paramedic Kathleen Wood (1) EMT Brian Wood (1) EMT Isaiah Wright (1) Paramedic Sean Wright (1) Lieutenant Ming Ze Wu (3) Paramedic Jaron Wyche (1) Paramedic Andrew Yen (2) Paramedic Paul Yoon (1) EMT Richard Young (1) EMT Edward Young (1) EMT Dana Yu (1) Lieutenant Paul Yunek (2) EMT Christopher Zambrzycki (1) Lieutenant Mohmedidris Zanpawala (3) EMT Katherine Zeron-Ortega (1) EMT Nicholas Zinzer (1) Paramedic Michael Zummo (1) EMT John Zwilinske (1)

### **OFFICER OF THE QUARTER 2020**

#### 2020 First Quarter

Station 55, C552 Captain Lorena Concpecion-Martinez Lt. Patrick Worms #0197 Lt. Alexandru Mihailescu #0341 Lt. Alicia Elkadi #0609

#### 2020 Second Quarter

Station 39, C393 Captain Jonathan Negron Lt. Peter Borriello #0118 Lt. Glen Taylor #0579 Lt. Ricardo Otero #0627 Lt. Brian W. Cotoaux #0606

#### 2020 Third Quarter

Station 26, C263 Captain Jason Santiago Lt. Edwin Delapaz #0181 Lt. Arnold Pabon #0564 Lt. Christopher Chaplin #0604 Lt. Shawn Conlon #0605

#### 2020Fourth Quarter

Station 16 Harlem, C162 Captain John Paul Dimen Lt. Faisel Abed #0369 Lt. Michael P. Fregonese #0135 Lt. Alexander Gomez #0303 Lt. Brandon A. Rodriguez #0287

### EMS UNIT OF THE MONTH-2020

#### January 2020

Station 4, 81B2 Captain Brendan P. Dean EMT Cody Cabrera, Shield 1097 EMT Timothy Ward, Shield 2786 EMT Alyssa Fiorrante, Shield 1879

#### February 2020

QTRG, 84A2 Captain Matthew Rightmyer EMT Timothy Samson Shakarian, Shield 3191 EMT Tomothy Nimal, Shield 2818 EMT Thomas Kubisa, Shield 3505

#### March/April 2020

#### May 2020

Station 59, Spring Creek, 44H2 Captain Barbara Aziz EMT Vincent Erocolano, Shield 5177 EMT Cody Gottsch, Shield 5154 EMT John Doyle, Shield 1275 EMT Gary Hui, Shield 2399 June 2020 Station 7, 02W2 Captain Scott Roths child Paramedic Raymond Wasyl, Shield 4929 Paramedic Adil Khalid, Shield 4682 Paramedic Terri Ann Cancetty-Melas Shield 4551 Paramedic Darren Lolk, Shield 4346

#### July 2020

Station 3, 03L2 EMT Matthew Baldwin, Shield 1358 EMT Anthony Alfano, Shield 1126 EMT Jeff Benoit, Shield 1492 EMT Nyla Lloyd-Clarke, Shield 3527

#### August 2020

Station 19, 19L2 Captain Leonore Joy Garcia EMT Christian Marte, Shield 3167 EMT Daniel Severino, Shield 1902 EMT Denes Ravel, Shield 5366 EMT Jessica Tabet, Shield 3733

#### September 2020

Station 57, 28A3 Captain Renae Mascol EMT William Cadet, Shield 1847 EMT Jean Christmorlon, Shield 3567 EMT Wendy Alvarado, Shield 1042 EMT Joseph Mora, Shield 3292

#### October 2020

#### November 2020

Station 57 Bedford Stuyvesant, Unit 57B3 Captain Renae Mascol EMT Pierce Allen, Shield 1132 EMT Ricardo Cervoni, Shield 1978 EMT Tiaghe Craine, Shield 1439 EMT Samuel Wasserman, Shield 3342

#### December 2020

Station 27 Woodlawn, Unit 27A2 Captain Norberto Torres EMT Michael J. Brockett III, Shield 1238 EMT William A.Edler, Shield 1652 EMT Kyle P. Garrabrant, Shield 2221 EMT John A. Jonas, Jr. Shield 3038

### **MEDAL AND AWARD DONORS**

#### Dr. Harry M. Archer Medal

his medal was endowed in 1917 by Herman L. Reis, FDNY Medical Officer. The deed of the gift states the medal shall be awarded every three years to a holder of a James Gordon Bennett Medal during the preceding three years. The Fire Foundation of New York, Inc., funds this award, Kenneth Bronstein, President. Also endowed by former First Assistant Fire Commissioner Robert A. Ungar and his wife, Stacy Ungar. (Page 11)

#### **Chief of Department** Peter J. Ganci, Jr. Medal

stablished in 2020, this medal is named for Chief of EDepartment Peter J. Ganci, Jr., the highest ranking uniformed member of the Department killed on September 11, 2001. Chief Ganci is one of 343 FDNY members who made the Supreme Sacrifice that day. He gave his life while leading the rescue effort to the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center. The medal is to be awarded annually for the highest act of bravery by a Firefighter or Fire Officer and takes the place of the James Gordon Bennett Medal, which was awarded annually from 1869 until 2019. The Fire Foundation of New York, Inc., funds this award, Kenneth Bronstein, President. (Page 13)

#### EMT-P Carlos Lillo/Lt. Ricardo Ouinn Medal

his medal was endowed in 2016 (to coincide with This medal was endowed in 2010 (to complete the 20-year anniversary of the Fire/EMS merger) by EMS Local 2507. Named in honor of Paramedics Carlos Lillo, Station 49, and Ricardo J. Quinn, Station 57, who made the Supreme Sacrifice during the 9/11 terror attacks, the deed of the gift states the medal shall be awarded every three years to a holder of a Christopher J. Prescott Medal during the preceding three years (Page 15)

#### **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 Fire Foundation of New York, Inc., funds this award, Kenneth Bronstein, President. The recipient also is awarded the Firefighter Louis Valentino Award, a medal endowed since 1998 by Diane Valentino and the Valentino family. (Page 16)

#### **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. Also endowed by former First Assistant Fire Commissioner Robert A. Ungar and his wife, Stacy Ungar. (Page 17)

#### Hugh Bonner Medal

Named in honor of Chief Hugh Bonner, "a stal-wart Chief of Department who preferred to rule by example." The medal first was awarded in 1897. (Page 18)

#### 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. Also endowed by former First Assistant Fire Commissioner Robert A. Ungar and his wife, Stacy Ungar. (Page 18)

#### Emily Trevor/Mary B. Warren Medal

hese sisters, in their deed of gift, wrote, "for the pur-L pose 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 19)

#### Thomas E. Crimmins Medal

First awarded in 1912. In memory of her father, Thom-as 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. Additional award from Honorary Fire Commissioner Dorothy Marks, in memory of Jeffrey S. Childs, great-great-grandson of Thomas Crimmins. Also funded by the Fire Foundation of New York, Inc., Kenneth Bronstein, President. (Page 20)

Thomas A. Kenny Memorial Medal fonorary Deputy Chief William F. Kenny endowed Honorary Deputy Chief William F. Konny Chief 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. Funded by the Honorary Fire Officers Association of the FDNY. (Page 21)

#### Walter Scott Medal

Volonel 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. The Fire Foundation of New York, Inc., funds this award, Kenneth Bronstein, President. (Page 22)

#### 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 23)

#### 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 24)

#### **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 25)

### Hispanic Society/ 23rd Street Fire Memorial Medal of Valor

ndowed/funded by the Hispanic Society as "a memo-Endowed/funded by the firspanic council and the Supreme Sacrifice at the East 23rd Street fire on October 17, 1966." The Hispanic Society Memorial Medal first was awarded in 1968. An honorarium in memory of Battalion Chief Anthony Mendez, Sr. is given to the medal recipient. (Page 26)

#### 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 27)

#### Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia Medal

The Honorable Fiorello H. LaGuardia, while the May-I or, frequently "turned out" at large fires. He had a keen interest in the problems of fire prevention and extinguishment. First awarded in 1937. (Page 28)

#### 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. Sponsored in memory of Honorary Battalion Chief Paul Sanner. (Page 29)

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

Named in honor of the late Chief and Fire Com-missioner 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. Recipient is awarded cash, donated by Honorary First Deputy Commissioner Brian F. Mulheren, in memory of his father, Joseph A. Mulheren, a friend of the FDNY. (Page 30)

#### **Thomas F. Dougherty Medal**

hief 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 31)

#### Albert S. Johnston Medal

lbert S. Johnston was a Captain in the New York Fire Albert S. Johnston was a Captain in the first service. Ten years after his retirement in 1927, this medal was endowed by William F. Conran. (Page 32)

#### **Bella Stiefel Medal**

n Mrs. Stiefel's 90 years, she came to admire the brav-Lery displayed by firefighters. Medal was first awarded in 1947. Endowed by Mrs. Stiefel and the Uniformed Firefighters Association. An honorarium is provided by Michael Zorek and Jennifer Zorek-Pressman to also honor their parents, Jane and Warren Zorek. (Page 33)

#### **Tracy Allen-Lee Medal**

MT 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. Also endowed by former First Assistant Fire Commissioner Robert A. Ungar and his wife, Stacy Ungar. (Page 34)

#### Vincent J. Kane Medal

'his 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 35)

#### **Pulaski Association Medal**

Endowed by the Pulaski Association of the FDNY in memory of General Casimir Pulaski. At the direction of George Washington, General Pulaski founded the American cavalry during the American Revolution. He died of wounds received leading the charge at the Battle of Savannah. The medal is presented to a member who has upheld the Department's tradition of bravery, valor and service to the citizens of the City of New York in the way that General Pulaski did for our country. First awarded in 1962. Cash award is donated by Honorary Assistant Chief Gary Urbanowicz. (Page 36)

#### **Commissioner Edward Thompson Medal**

This medal, in honor of Commissioner Edward Thompson, was endowed in 1964 by the late Bertram Brummer and his wife, Susie. It is to be awarded to a member exhibiting outstanding courage and fidelity. By endowing this, a second medal, they illustrate their high regard and affection for the Department. (Page 37)

#### **Columbia Association Medal**

Endowed by the Columbia Association since 1966. Medal is awarded in memory of retired Fire Marshal Thomas J. Russo, Sr. (Page 38)

#### Susan Wagner Medal

Endowed by the UFA to honor the memory of Mrs. Susan Wagner, wife of the former Mayor of the City of New York, and to perpetuate the high esteem in which she held the firefighters of the City of New York. This medal is awarded to a member of the Department who has performed an outstanding act of valor. First awarded in 1966. The UFA also endows this medal in memory of the late assemblywoman Eileen Dugan, a prime sponsor of the Cancer Bill. (Page 39)

#### **Steuben Association Medal**

Endowed by the Steuben Association in honor of General Frederick Wilhelm Von Steuben. First awarded in 1967. Endowed by the Fire Department Steuben Association Charities, Inc. (Page 40)

#### **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. Sponsored by the EMS Superior Officers Association.

(Page 41)

#### Dr. J.W. Goldenkranz Medal

Endowed in 1975 by the late Dr. J.W. Goldenkranz, Honorary Assistant Chief, to honor "the heroic efforts of the officers and firemen, all of whom perform their duties at extreme personal risk." Dr. Goldenkranz was affiliated with the FDNY since 1913 and was president of the New York Firemen's Cycle Club. (Page 42)

#### **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 43)

#### Edith B. Goldman Medal

Endowed by the many friends of the late Honorary Deputy Chief Barney Goldman to honor the memory of both his wife, Edith, and him and to illustrate the high regard and affection he held for FDNY members. First awarded in 1978. (Page 44)

#### American Legion Fire Department Post 930/ Mark M. Wohlfeld Memorial Medal

Endowed by American Legion Post 930, this medal is in memory of Mark M. Wohlfeld, a lifelong member of the Fire Department Post, a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves and a retired FDNY Firefighter. The history of this intrepid warrior's exploits is related graphically in the second and third issues of *WNYF* (1945). After his retirement from the FDNY, he continued to serve his country and his fellow man by working for the Veterans Administration. He died on May 24, 1978, and is interred in Arlington National Cemetery. First awarded in 1979. (Page 45)

#### Arthur J. Laufer Memorial Medal

The Laufer Medal, presented for the first time in 1980, is named in honor and memory of the late Deputy Chief Arthur J. "Artie" Laufer, who continually showed his love for firefighters and his fellow man through his actions. Endowed by the UFA and the family of retired Deputy Director of Dispatch Operations, Joseph E. Higgins, Jr. (Page 46)

#### **Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Medal**

This medal, endowed by the members of the Pipes and Drums of the FDNY Emerald Society Bagpipe Band, is awarded to a member of the Department who performs an outstanding act of heroism in keeping with the FDNY's highest traditions. First awarded in 1981. Receipient is awarded cash, donated by Matthew, Susan and Alana Daly. (Page 47)

#### **Company Officers Association Medal**

Endowed by the Company Officers Association in memory of Company Officers in the FDNY who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty. Medal was awarded for the first time in 1982. It is donated this year by Battalion Chief John Dunne, Battalion 2, a former C.O.A. board member. (Page 48)

#### Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn Medal

Adedicated 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. Sponsored in memory of Honorary Battalion Chief Paul Sanner. (Page 49)

#### **Chief Joseph B. Martin Medal**

The Martin Medal is endowed in honor of the legendary Assistant Chief Joseph B. "Smokey Joe" Martin, who served the FDNY with "fidelity and devotion" for 47 years. Awarded for the first time in 1984. \$1000 is donated by the Martin and Canning families, in memory of Frances B. Martin (1905-1996), daughter of "Smokey Joe" Martin. \$100 is donated in memory of Firefighter Anthony D. Buccieri, Engine 75. \$100 is donated in memory of Firefighter Mike Donnelly, Ladder 33, who died in 1983 after a heroic battle with cancer. \$100 is donated in memory of Battalion Chief William C. Rinsdale, 19<sup>th</sup> Battalion, who died in the line of duty in 1971. (Page 50)

#### Police Honor Legion Medal

The Police Honor Legion Medal is endowed by the New York City Police Department Honor Legion. It was first awarded in 1984. (Page 51)

#### 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 70 years of 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 13)

#### Firefighter David J. DeFranco Medal

In honor of the memory of FF David J. DeFranco for his dedicated efforts on behalf of the FDNY. This medal, awarded for a water-related rescue, is in memory of David's father, FF Dan DeFranco. FF Dan DeFranco was assigned to Engine Co. 17 and Ladder Co. 18 on the lower east side for more than 33 years during a period of extremely heavy fire duty. FF Dan DeFranco also served on the executive board of the UFA for eight years at the post of sergeant at arms with honor, dedication and devotion to his Brother Firefighters. (Page 52)

#### Lieutenant James E. Zahn/ Lieutenant Peter L. Troiano Memorial Medal

The Lieutenant James E. Zahn/Lieutenant Peter L. Troiano Memorial Medal has been established in honor of these two beloved "Brothers," who laid down their lives for the people of the City of New York. This medal is awarded to a member of the Department who has performed an act of bravery in the protection of life and/or property while either on or off duty. Endowed by the members of Engine Company 277 and Ladder Company 112. (Page 53)

#### Deputy Commissioner Christine R. Godek Medal

Established and endowed by Honorary Fire Commissioner Dorothy W. Marks and the late 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 54)

#### William Friedberg Medal

The William Friedberg Medal, presented for the first time in 1996, is named in honor and memory of the late William Friedberg. Bill was a respected and beloved elementary school principal who spent 33 years working with the children of New York City and six years as a member of the New York State Industrial Board of Appeals. He believed that early education and instruction were key to fire prevention. Endowed by Mr. Friedberg's late wife, Gertrude, and family. (Page 55)

#### 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 "Proby." (Page 56)

#### Shelly Rothman Memorial Medal

This medal is dedicated to honoring all firefighters who have performed with valor. Awarded for the first time in 2005. Endowed by the members of the New York State Honorary Fire Chiefs Association, Inc., and the Fire Bell Club of New York, in memory of Shelly Rothman, a longtime member and Chairman of the Board of Directors. (Page 57)

#### 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 58)

#### Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal/ Father Julian F. Deeken Memorial Medal

Presented every three years to a unit that received the Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal during the previous three years. Endowed by the New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation. (Page 59)

#### 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 fundraising 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 60)

Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal Endowed by the Uniformed Firefighters Assofighter 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 61)

#### World Trade Center Memorial Medal

Established to honor the bravery and courage for 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 62)

### NOTES

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### **UNIFORMED MEMBERS WHO DIED OF COVID-19**

**Emergency Medical Technician Richard Seaberry** 

**Emergency Medical Technician Gregory Hodge** 

Emergency Medical Technician John Redd

**Emergency Medical Technician Idris Bey** 

**Emergency Medical Technician Evelyn Ford** 

Firefighter Joseph A. Ferrugia

### **CIVILIAN MEMBERS WHO DIED OF COVID-19**

Auto Mechanic James Villecco, Bureau of Fleet Services

Deputy Chief Fire Inspector Syed Rahman, Internal Audit CDA Unit 3

Clerical Associate Kenneth Stubbs, Bureau of Fire Prevention

Principal Administrative Associate Kellie Childs, Revenue Management

> Fire Inspector Edward Mungin, Bureau of Fire Prevention

Supervising Auto Mechanic Thomas Ward, Bureau of Fleet Services

Supervising Fire Inspector Mark Remolino, Bureau of Fire Prevention

### NAC UNIT MEMBER WHO DIED OF COVID-19

Emergency Medical Technician Paul Cary, Ambulnz Company, Aurora Fire Department, Colorado

