



# Fire Department City of New York



## *26th Second Chance Ceremony*

**May 18, 2022**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Liberty Warehouse**

**260 Conover Street**

**Brooklyn, NY**

## PROGRAM

Master of Ceremonies: **Battalion Chief Mark Guerra**

*FDNY Ceremonial Unit*

National Anthem: **Firefighter Bryan Robinson**

INVOCATION: **Monsignor Jamie Gigantiello**

*FDNY Chaplain*

REMARKS: **Laura Kavanagh**

*Acting Fire Commissioner*

**John J. Hodgens**

*Acting Chief of Department*

INTRODUCTION **Dr. Glenn H. Asaeda**

OF SURVIVORS: *Chief Medical Director*

*Office of Medical Affairs*

BENEDICTION: **Monsignor Jamie Gigantiello**

*FDNY Chaplain*

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*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this annual event was cancelled in 2020 and 2021.*

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**SECOND CHANCE CEREMONY 2022**

# WILLIAM BAUMANN

**W**illiam Baumann, 63, of Queens was at work on December 15, 2019, when he started to feel nausea and a burning in his chest. He finished out his shift and went home, where he continued to have severe heartburn.

At approximately 3 a.m., Mr. Baumann's wife suggested he go downstairs and sit in a recliner chair. He walked downstairs and collapsed in his kitchen. His wife heard the noise, rushed downstairs and found him unresponsive on the floor. She immediately called 911 and was given CPR instructions by Assignment Receiving Dispatcher Benjamin Lerich. With his guidance, Mrs. Baumann performed CPR for six minutes until the arrival of Lieutenant Jason Ochoa from Station 50 and Emergency Medical Technicians Madeline Miranda and Muthadun Rahman from Flushing Hospital. They took over CPR and shocked Mr. Baumann with an AED. Still, Mr. Baumann remained in cardiac arrest.

Members of Engine Company 320—including Lieutenant Christopher O'Connell and Firefighters Anthony Conti, Mathew Liu, Alex Vollmer and Lenin Deliz—arrived to assist with CPR. Paramedics Daniel Rojas and Kevin Garcia of New York Hospital Medical Center Queens arrived next, attached their cardiac monitor and shocked Mr. Baumann one final time with an AED, returning his pulse. They placed a breathing tube, established an IV line and administered medication.

Mr. Baumann was transported to NY Presbyterian Hospital in Queens, where he had two cardiac stents placed in his heart. Thanks to his wife, who performed CPR, and the FDNY members who worked so hard to save his life, Mr. Baumann is doing very well and enjoying his second chance.

# TODD BERKO

Todd Berko, 63, was having lunch with his daughter and her fiancé in Brooklyn on March 21, 2019, when he collapsed in cardiac arrest. His daughter called 911 for the Millburn, New Jersey, resident, and his future son-in-law began CPR with the help of Assignment Receiving Dispatcher Adolfo Bonafoux.

Paramedics James Porras and Evandale Sajo of Station 57 were first to arrive. They were joined seconds later by Lieutenant David Gold and Firefighters Antwoyne Fowler, Cesar Sosa, John Moore and Michael Dolan of Engine Company 238. The arriving FDNY members took over CPR and attached their cardiac monitor. Mr. Berko was in ventricular fibrillation. The members shocked him once with the defibrillator, established an IV and administered resuscitative medications.

Emergency Medical Technicians Marshall Hunt and Felipe Sangurima from Station 59 and Captain Yahki Langford from Station 57 arrived and joined in patient care. CPR continued for several minutes, and Mr. Berko received seven additional shocks from the AED before he regained a pulse. The patient assessment revealed he was having a heart attack.

Mr. Berko was transported to NYU Hospital with the STEMI team notified and was admitted for several weeks. A stent was placed in his heart, and he made a full recovery. He has returned to his normal life and was able to see his daughter marry the man who helped save his life. Every day, Mr. Berko and his family are grateful for his second chance.

# MEGAN DAWE

Megan Dawe, 30, of Manhattan was sound asleep next to her husband on July 9, 2021, when he noticed her breathing was unusual and labored. Eleven weeks pregnant, Megan did not respond when he tried to wake her up, and her husband realized she was having a seizure. He immediately dialed 911 and explained his wife's condition to Assignment Receiving Dispatcher Timothy Hack, who recognized that Megan was in cardiac arrest. EMT Hack provided pre-arrival CPR instructions, which Mr. Dawe frantically performed for four minutes until responders arrived.

FDNY Emergency Medical Technicians Felicitas Martin Jr. and Nolan May Odle from Station 10 arrived on scene, along with Mount Sinai Paramedics Luis Castillo and Brian Holloway. They confirmed that Mrs. Dawe was in cardiac arrest and took over resuscitation efforts. Engine Company 22—with Captain Brian Walters and Firefighters Dustin Fure, John McAuliffe, Michael Galluccio and Andrew Black—and Lieutenant Kevin Bratholt of Station 10 arrived next to assist with patient care. Megan was connected to an EKG monitor, which revealed she was in ventricular fibrillation. She was successfully defibrillated, a breathing tube was placed to protect her airway, and an IV was placed in her arm.

Just eight minutes after her husband began CPR, Megan had a pulse and her heart was beating normally. However, there was still tremendous concern for her unborn child. Megan was transported to Metropolitan Hospital, where she stabilized and remained for 11 days. A defibrillator was implanted, and she made a full recovery with no neurological damage and no damage to her child during the cardiac episode.

Six months later, on January 31, 2022, Megan gave birth to a healthy baby boy named Owen. Megan and her husband marvel at his birth and have unending gratitude for the first responders who saved not just her, but her child as well. Their new family is rejoicing at her second chance.

## BERNADETTE ELSTEIN

**B**ernadette Elstein, 59, an NYPD dispatcher, showed up for her night shift in Brooklyn on March 13, 2018. While on her way to her locker to change, she collapsed into cardiac arrest. She had no previous symptoms. CPR was immediately initiated by the staff at Emergency Medical Dispatch, including Captain Hugo Sosa, Deputy Chief Norman Ortiz, Lieutenant Ron Salguera and Emergency Medical Technicians Zamari Murrell, Modesto Gonzalez and Aquawasi St. Hillaire. The members applied an AED and delivered one shock to Ms. Elstein.

Members from Engine Company 207—including Lieutenant Gregory Broms and Firefighters Thomas McPherson, Joseph Starna, Robert Benjamin and Terry Lafontant—arrived on scene to assist. They were joined by Paramedics Keino Watson and Anthony Hadjimanolis from Brooklyn Hospital and Lieutenant Moshe Klein and Emergency Medical Technicians Frank Maynard and Dujohn Roberts from Station 31.

The responding members attached their EKG monitor and confirmed that Ms. Elstein still did not have a pulse and was not breathing. They placed a breathing tube, established an IV and administered a variety of resuscitative medications. After being in cardiac arrest for 15 minutes, Ms. Elstein finally regained her pulse. She was transported to Brooklyn Hospital and then transferred to Cornell Hospital, where she had double-bypass surgery and was later discharged home. Thanks to the collective efforts of so many highly trained first responders, Ms. Elstein has a well-deserved second chance.

# JANE HARRIS

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**O**n October 27, 2019, 70-year-old Jane Harris of Brooklyn was attending a “mother’s blessing” party at her friend’s house. At the party, she started to feel very sick and ran to the bathroom, where she told her friend she believed she was having a heart attack and then collapsed. Her friends called 911 for help.

Members from EMS Station 31, including Lieutenant Elwood Thomas and Emergency Medical Technicians Harry Marthone and Brian Melaragno, arrived along with Paramedics Sadikov Parviz and Julius Kisson from Brooklyn Hospital. Mrs. Harris was in cardiac arrest, and units immediately began CPR. They inserted a breathing tube, established an IV and administered resuscitative medications.

Members from Engine Company 210—including Captain Michael Romano and Firefighters Jean Pierre, Lorenzo Salcedo, Timothy Chiarel and Carlos Denys—arrived next to assist in medical care. After several minutes of CPR, Mrs. Harris regained her pulse. She was then transported and admitted to New York Methodist Hospital. During her long and arduous recovery at the hospital, she battled illness and had a stent placed in an artery of her heart. Thanks to the responding members and the care administered at the hospital—and after a long recovery—Mrs. Harris was finally discharged and is gratefully celebrating her second chance every day.

## RALPH LANZIANO

**R**alph Lanziano, 49, was walking to a local car rental company in Queens on May 11, 2019, when he started feeling pain in his chest. He knew there was a firehouse two blocks away and walked there for help. He found the members of Engine Company 263—Lieutenant John O'Connor and Firefighters Scott Miller, Humberto Diaz, Thomas Corona and Bryan Murphy—ready to assist.

The firefighters jumped into action, seating him and placing him on oxygen. They took his vital signs and called for an ambulance. Paramedics Joshua Gardiner and Alexander Nunez from Station 49 quickly arrived and loaded him onto a stretcher. Mr. Lanziano told them he felt dizzy and like he was going to pass out. Seconds later, he collapsed into cardiac arrest. The FDNY members applied defibrillation pads and delivered one shock from an AED, which immediately brought back Mr. Lanziano's pulse. He regained consciousness in minutes.

He was transported to Mount Sinai Queens Hospital, and after that day was transferred to Mount Sinai Manhattan. One cardiac stent was placed in his heart, and he was sent home the next day. He has returned to his normal routines and is planning a trip to Italy, where he says he will celebrate his second chance.



# ELLIOTT ORTIZ

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**E**lliott Ortiz, 64, from Manhattan, had just finished playing handball with some friends at the Coney Island Handball Courts on May 20, 2019, when he started to feel ill. He sat down on a bench and collapsed without warning in cardiac arrest. Bystanders quickly called 911, and off-duty NYPD Officer Cynthia Johnson began CPR.

Engine Company 245—including Lieutenant Kevin Sheehan and Firefighters Belindus Thompson, Henry Babushkin, Bradach Walsh and Briana Ciurcina—arrived first and could see that Mr. Ortiz was still in cardiac arrest. They took over CPR and delivered two shocks with their AED. Despite their efforts, Mr. Ortiz remained unresponsive in cardiac arrest.

Members from Station 43, including Lieutenant Louis Devino and Paramedics Anthony Marascia and Valeri Makarets, as well as Emergency Medical Technicians Marbeth Coulanges and Richard Hannafey from Brooklyn Mount Sinai, all arrived on scene to continue patient care. They provided one additional manual defibrillation to Mr. Ortiz, and he began a normal heart rhythm. They also placed a breathing tube, established an IV and administered additional resuscitative medications.

Mr. Ortiz was taken to NYU Langone Lutheran Medical Center, where he was admitted for several days. He was transferred to another hospital, where he had bypass surgery. Mr. Ortiz is doing well and is extremely grateful for his second chance.

## DELANEY SOTO

**D**elaney Soto, 7, of the Bronx, was with her mother, Kathrin Rivera, at a friend's apartment on July 23, 2019, eating ice cream when she started to feel sick. She began vomiting and collapsed to the floor without warning. Her mother rushed to her side and found her blue and unresponsive. She called 911 and began doing CPR under the guidance of Assignment Receiving Dispatcher Chelsea Ochoa.

Members from Engine Company 43—including Lieutenant Kevin Mahoney and Firefighters Andrew Ramos, Kheilen McHenry, Diocar Vega and Daniel Moynihan—arrived first on scene. A quick assessment by the firefighters revealed that Delaney was in cardiac arrest. They continued CPR, attached their AED and delivered one shock. They resumed CPR, and on the next rhythm check, Delaney had a pulse.

Paramedics Frederick Dorner and Travis Kessel from Station 18 arrived next. They placed a breathing tube, established an IV and prepared Delaney for transport to the hospital. Next on scene were Emergency Medical Technicians Shakeel Ajaz and Sandra Henriques from Station 14, along with Lieutenants Joseph Farrell and Omran Khan from Station 18. Together, they all continued critical care for their young patient.

Delaney was then transported to Bronx Lebanon Medical Center. During transport, she began breathing on her own and became more responsive. She was later transferred to The Children's Hospital at Montefiore, where she had an internal defibrillator implanted after it was found that she suffered from ventricular fibrillation cardiac arrest. Her mother is incredibly grateful for her daughter's second chance every single day.

## TODD SPODEK

**O**n August 26, 2019, 40-year-old Todd Spodek of Brooklyn returned home from a long day of work, kissed his kids goodnight and went downstairs, where he sat on his couch and suddenly collapsed. His wife, Victoria, quickly called 911 and initially thought her husband was having a seizure.

Paramedics Kevin Oh and Patrick Donawa from Station 32 arrived to find Mr. Spodek in cardiac arrest. Seconds later, Engine Company 239 arrived, including Captain James Schatz and Firefighters Darren Harris, Khalid Martin, Anthony O'Carroll and Jonathan Debellis. Together, the paramedics and firefighters provided urgent medical care, including CPR, attaching a cardiac monitor and delivering a total of five shocks from an AED. They placed a breathing tube, established an IV and administered resuscitative medications.

Emergency Medical Technicians Gary Luten and Skakeem Goines from Station 38 and Lieutenant Ryan Clunes from Station 32 arrived next and worked with the members on scene to continue resuscitative efforts. After approximately 20 minutes of care, Mr. Spodek finally regained his pulse.

Mr. Spodek was transported to New York Methodist Hospital, where he stayed in a comatose state for one week before regaining consciousness. He was later transferred to NYU Hospital, where he had an internal defibrillator placed. After weeks of rehab, he was finally sent home. He has since returned to work full-time as a defense attorney, and he and his family are extremely grateful for his second chance.

## DANIELLE WALKER

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**D**anielle Walker, 37, of Manhattan, was at dance practice on March 11, 2020, when she began to feel lightheaded while practicing her dance routines. Moments later, she was on the floor in cardiac arrest. Dance instructor Xianix Barrera called 911 immediately, and Alcira Jaar, a bystander, began CPR.

Engine Company 65 was located directly across the street from the dance studio and arrived quickly. Captain Philip Polemeni and Firefighters Mark Browne, Sandy Zorrilla, Michael Keenan, Prem Nair and Sharif Farrow responded and took over CPR. They were soon joined by Lieutenant Christopher Taylor and Paramedics Erin Toner and Dustin Carter from Station 8, as well as Emergency Medical Technicians Daniel Doroski and Nicholas Villacci from the Queens Tactical Response Group.

Together, the responding members performed CPR and applied a defibrillator. Ms. Walker was defibrillated five times before regaining her pulse. Paramedics placed a breathing tube and administered various resuscitation medications to Ms. Walker. During transport to NYU Hospital, she began to open her eyes. She remained at the hospital for 11 days, where she had an internal defibrillator placed and surgery on her heart. Thanks to the collective efforts of first responders and bystander CPR before their arrival, she has made a full recovery and is dancing once again and enjoying her second chance.

# 2022 EMS WEEK

RIISING TO  
THE CHALLENGE



Eric Adams  
Mayor

Laura Kavanagh  
Acting Fire Commissioner

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*A special thank you to  
the FDNY Foundation  
for its generous support.*

# **PINTCHIK**

## **WE FDNY EMS**

The Pintchik Family's devotion to FDNY EMS dates back to 1980 when New York City Paramedics Ken Honig and Carl Tramontana performed advanced life support techniques and revived then-58-year-old Jack Pintchik after suffering cardiac arrest. Since then, the Pintchik family has been proud to honor EMS members annually for their hard work, dedication and ability to profoundly touch the lives of so many fellow New Yorkers and visitors.

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*The Fire Department  
would like to thank  
the Pintchik Family  
for their generous support  
in making this  
annual event possible.*

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# **FDNY EMS WEEK**

## **May 15-21, 2022**

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**National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week is designed to bring public attention to the life-saving work that more than 750,000 men and women provide to millions of Americans each year.**

**The Department honors all FDNY EMS members and salutes them for their commitment and dedication.**

**EMS Week also features special events and forums that seek to educate the public.**

**Honorable Eric Adams**  
*Mayor*

**Laura Kavanagh**  
*Acting Fire Commissioner*