

FALLEN FINEST

POLICE OFFICER ANTHONY O. MCLEAN Police Service Area #3

On Wednesday, April 13, 1988, Police Officer Anthony McLean was shot and killed while searching a building for a missing young girl.

Officer McLean and his partner were assigned to check buildings in the Samuel J. Tilden Housing Development, in the Brownsville section of Brooklyn, in an effort to find a ten-year-old girl who had been reported missing. At approximately 1:45 am, they entered one of the buildings, located on the Dumont Avenue side of the complex, and began to search, starting from the 16th floor and working their way down to the lobby.

While searching one of the stairwells, Officer McLean interrupted criminal activity on the second floor. One of the men involved opened fire on Officer McLean, striking him in the neck, just above his vest, and fled. His partner heard the shots and ran to McLean's aid while calling for assistance.

Officer McLean was transported to Brookdale Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries less than two hours later. The missing girl turned up at another family member's home.

The suspect was apprehended a month later in Philadelphia. In 1989, he was convicted of first degree murder and sentenced to a minimum of 120 years in prison. At the time of the incident, he was out on parole for another murder he had committed in 1979.

Police Officer Anthony O. McLean, who was 27 years old, served with the New York City Housing Authority Police Department for 2 years and nine months. He was a US Army veteran having served with the elite Special Forces. Officer McLean was survived by his parents, Eleanor and Oswald; his four brothers, Garth, Michael, Sean and Marcus; and his fiancé, Nadine who served as a NYC Corrections Officer.

