

# MEDAL DAY



June 5  
**2024**





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The FDNY also thanks the Honorary Fire Officers Association for their generous contribution to create this publication.

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**Bravely Serving Since 1865**

**Front cover:** FF Carmelo Bravata (Sq-8) scales the aerial ladder in search of a downed member at Staten Island Box 44-3592 (photo by Steve White, courtesy of the Staten Island Advance).

**Back cover:** Probationary FDNY EMT class during Family Day at the EMS Academy, Sept. 16, 2023. Photo by EMT Jeanne Goldstein.

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



June 5, 2024

Dear Friends:

It gives me great pleasure to join the New York City Fire Department (FDNY) as it holds its annual Medal Day celebration.

New York rises on the foundation of the vital public servants who power the Big Apple and propel our diverse population forward. We owe an enormous debt of gratitude to our city's indispensable first responders and the thousands of courageous women and men of the FDNY who work tirelessly to protect 8.3 million people across the five boroughs. Public safety is the prerequisite to prosperity, and the FDNY plays an indispensable role in my Administration's mission to ensure the wellbeing of all New Yorkers. The members of New York's Bravest and the Best embody the ideals of selflessness and service that define firefighters and health care professionals, and I am proud to applaud them for their invaluable contributions and acts of valor. Together, we will continue to forge a brighter, healthier, and safer future for our global city.

On behalf of the City of New York, congratulations to this year's honorees. I extend my best wishes for an inspiring ceremony and further success.

Sincerely,

Eric Adams  
Mayor



## FIRE COMMISSIONER



**Laura Kavanagh**

**E**very day, FDNY members respond to thousands of calls, encompassing every imaginable emergency: heart attacks, fires, car crashes. The formula for success is the unmatched training, expertise and courage of our members. Each call presents the potential for disaster or for hope. This truth hit home a few weeks ago when a two-alarm fire in the Bronx turned into a mayday situation. One of our firefighters collapsed and stopped breathing. But his fellow FDNY members—firefighters who pulled him out and EMS who treated him with lifesaving drugs—pulled him to safety and brought him back from the brink. On Medal Day, we gather to pay tribute to the extraordinary men and women who embody what it means to be called the Bravest and the Best.

Our highest award for a meritorious act for members of Fire Operations is the Chief of Department Peter J. Ganci Jr. Medal, awarded to Lieutenant Mark H. Russo, Rescue Battalion. On February 17, 2023, Squad Company 8 responded to a house fire on Staten Island. With heavy winds complicating operations, the fire spread quickly to multiple floors of the three-story home. As firefighters attacked the fire from within, winds continued to fuel the flames, causing a collapse and trapping several firefighters. One firefighter bailed out of the second floor, and another trapped firefighter issued a mayday. Lieutenant Russo quickly moved into the burning building behind Engine Company 168's hoseline and located the trapped member lying motionless on the floor. He removed the firefighter from the fire area with help from another Squad 8 firefighter. Lieutenant Mark Russo's quick thinking, bold actions and bravery in a chaotic situation saved the life of one of our own.

Our highest award for a meritorious act for members of EMS Operations is the Christopher J. Prescott Medal, awarded to EMT Emmanuel F. Titus and EMT Shawn M. Griffin of Station 45. Around midnight on April 16, 2023, EMT Titus and EMT Griffin responded to a 911 call for a medical emergency at the Kosciuszko Bridge. When the pair arrived, they saw a man sitting on a metal beam on the edge of the bridge. EMT Titus immediately began talking to the man and connected with him. EMT Griffin then asked if it would be OK for him to climb over the side of the bridge as they continued to talk. The patient agreed. Once they felt they had the patient's trust, the EMTs convinced him to continue the conversation in a safer position. Because of the selfless bravery and compassion exhibited by these two exemplary EMTs, this man's life was saved.

Congratulations to all of our Medal Day recipients whose selfless acts fill the pages of this book. Each day, our members confront unpredictable challenges that would make most hesitate. Yet, the men and women of the FDNY remain unwavering in their dedication to saving lives. On behalf of a grateful city, thank you for always answering the call.

*Laura Kavanagh*

## CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT



**John J. Hodgens**

**T**here are many things repeated in the FDNY: the importance of training, the crucial role of teamwork and the need for a strong foundation when responding to all kinds of emergencies. This work is only made possible through coordinated efforts, through communication and through a shared mission of saving life and property. Today, at FDNY Medal Day, we celebrate our firefighters, EMTs and paramedics who have made an indelible mark on the lives of our neighbors and on our City.

Our highest medal—the Chief of Department Peter J. Ganci, Jr. Medal—is awarded to Lieutenant Mark H. Russo, Rescue Battalion. Lieutenant Russo was among the crew from Squad 8 who responded on February 17, 2023, to a structural fire on Staten Island. Members observed heavy fire on multiple floors of a three-story, semi-attached private dwelling. The wind-driven fire was concentrated in the rear of both buildings, and when the extension in the rear collapsed, several firefighters became trapped. A firefighter bailed out of the second floor, and another issued an urgent mayday. The quick thinking of Lieutenant Russo allowed him to locate the member and get help removing him from the building. This saved the life of another firefighter, and we are incredibly grateful for his bravery.

The highest medal for EMS is the Christopher J. Prescott Medal, presented to EMT Emmanuel F. Titus and EMT Shawn M. Griffin, Station 45. On April 16, 2023, EMT Titus and EMT Griffin responded to a 911 call at the Kosciuszko Bridge. The pair found a man sitting on the edge of the bridge, ready to jump. Their quick thinking, calm demeanors and empathetic approach to this patient allowed him to trust them and remove himself from the danger. Their selflessness and bravery saved a life and showed the importance and impact of our EMTs every day. We are so proud of their efforts.

This year, we have a new medal: the Battalion Chief Thomas J. Neary Bronx/Harlem Firefighter Medal. Its inaugural recipient is Captain Jonathan Shields, Ladder Company 42. On the morning of New Year's Eve, 2023, Ladder Company 42 responded to a fire on the sixth floor of a building in the Bronx. Captain Jonathan Shields and the inside team entered the building and climbed to the sixth floor, encountering heavy smoke. Captain Shields found an unconscious man in the hallway and handed him off to waiting members before reentering the hallway to continue his search—something he did three times, to save three victims, at this fire. He showed selflessness, incredible bravery and courage, and we are so thankful for his efforts.

There are dozens more stories like these in this Medal Day book: our members doing their jobs with professionalism, bravery and skill. I encourage you to read them all and be inspired. It is these stories that remind us we truly are New York's Bravest.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John J. Hodgens". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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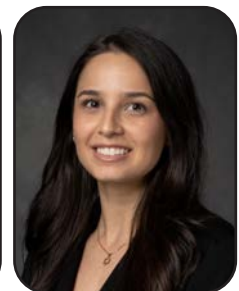
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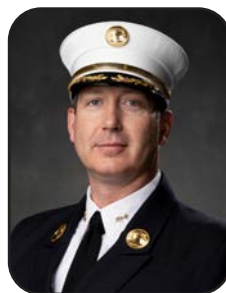


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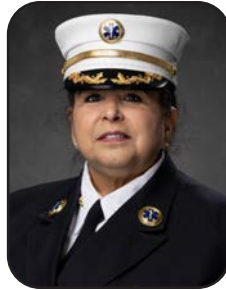


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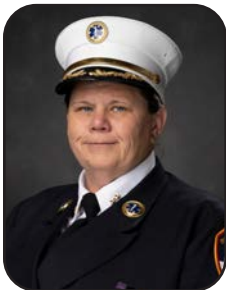
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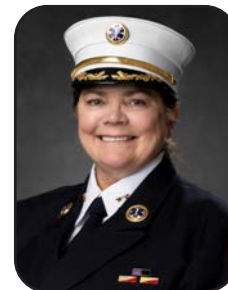
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## DR. HARRY M. ARCHER MEDAL RECIPIENTS

**S**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)	1975 — Firefighter 1st Grade Raymond G. McCann (Ladder Company 40)
1924 — Captain Edwin A.A. Quinn (Engine Company 14)	1978 — Captain Frederick W. Gallagher (Rescue Company 2)
1927 — Firefighter 1st Grade William G.R. Mitchell (Engine Company 18)	1981 — Lieutenant Howard R. Kennedy (Ladder Company 154)
1930 — Firefighter 1st Grade Michael McInerney (Hook & Ladder Company 12)	1984 — Firefighter 1st Grade Kenneth Connelly (Ladder Company 111)
1933 — Captain Albert B. Carlson (Engine Company 66)	1987 — Captain James F. McDonnell (Ladder Company 42)
1936 — Firefighter 1st Grade Rudolph F. Musil (Hook & Ladder Company 12)	1990 — Lieutenant William F. Maloney (Ladder Company 34)
1939 — Firefighter 1st Grade James P. Nevin (Engine Company 201)	1993 — Firefighter Michael M. Dugan (Ladder Company 43)
1942 — Firefighter 1st Grade Charles A. Merz (Hook & Ladder Company 168)	1996 — Lieutenant Albert J. Gonzalez Jr. (Ladder Company 18)
1945 — Acting Deputy Chief John W. Heaney (Headquarters Staff)	1999 — Firefighter Gerard J. Triglia (Ladder Company 132)
1948 — Firefighter 1st Grade Anthony L. Riccardi (Hook & Ladder Company 1)	2003 — Battalion Chief John J. Pritchard (41 Battalion; Formerly Captain of Engine Company 255)
1951 — Lieutenant Wilbur J. O'Donnell (Hook & Ladder Company 1)	2006 — Firefighter James F. Mills (Ladder Company 176)
1954 — Firefighter 1st Grade Victor F. Rossi (Ladder Company 120)	2009 — Firefighter James T. Byrne (Ladder Company 121)
1957 — Firefighter 2nd Grade Michael J. O'Driscoll (Ladder Company 28)	2012 — Firefighter Peter G. Demontreux (Ladder Company 132)
1960 — Firefighter 3rd Grade William V. Russo (Ladder Company 25)	2015 — Firefighter Kevin J. Hogan (2) Ladder Company 114
1963 — Firefighter 1st Grade Joseph E. Almon (Ladder Company 35)	2018 — Firefighter James P. Lee Jr. (Rescue 1)
1966 — Lieutenant David Crowley (37 Battalion; Formerly Firefighter in Ladder Company 14)	2021 — Lieutenant Michael J. Conboy (Rescue Company 3)
1969 — Firefighter 1st Grade Gene P. Dowling (Ladder Company 25)	
1972 — Lieutenant Richard R. Hamilton (Rescue Company 2)	

# Dr. Harry M. Archer Medal

## Firefighter Artur Podgorski

**Ladder Company 108 (assigned)**

**Ladder Company 16 (detailed)**

**November 5, 2022, 1020 hours, Box 33-0877, Manhattan**



*Appointed to the FDNY on November 12, 2019. Previously detailed to Engine Company 55 for a year rotation at the time of the incident. Holds a bachelor's degree in health service administration from Lehman College. Resides in Whitestone, New York, with wife Astrid.*

**F**irefighter Artur Podgorski's detail on Saturday, November 5, 2022, put him at one of the most memorable fires in recent history. Ladder Company 16 was assigned second due to a phone alarm with reports of people trapped by fire on the 20th floor of a high-rise apartment building. First arriving units transmitted a 10-77, and when Ladder 16 arrived, they observed smoke emanating from the building and residents partially hanging out of a window on the 20th floor, one side of which was blocked by a full-size child window guard.

With the elevator no longer working, Ladder 16 ascended the stairs to the floor above the fire. On their way up, Lieutenant Joseph Decker (Ladder 16) and FF Podgorski (can) briefly stopped to help Engine Company 8 free their hoseline by prying the door it was wedged under, allowing it to advance.

On the 21st floor, FF Podgorski joined members from Ladder 16 and Ladder 2 preparing for a life-saving rope (LSR) rescue. He assisted Firefighter Belvon Koranteng (Ladder 16, roof) out of the window, then helped secure Firefighter Christian Wellinger (Ladder 2, roof) as he lowered FF Koranteng. FF Koranteng discovered that the first victim, now hanging completely outside the window, was entangled in the window guard; he reported that an additional member was needed to assist with the other victims.

As additional members arrived in the apartment, the decision was made to lower FF Podgorski. Firefighter Julian Castaneda (Ladder 35, roof) began setting up his LSR in the cluttered apartment. Members navigated around furniture and construction debris to set up the rope operation. Complicating matters was the fact that simultaneous, side-by-side LSR rescues were happening from the same window, in a cluttered apartment, with no substantial object ini-

tially. As the rope was being prepared, FF Podgorski determined the location of the victim, readied the anti-chafing device and placed his bunker coat over the jagged, light-gauge metal frame for added protection. The firefighters knew time was of the essence, so FF Castaneda placed his feet against the bed to brace himself, and—with a Halligan in hand—FF Podgorski exited the window.

The smoke condition intensified as FF Podgorski reached the window, due to the heavy volume of fire ignited by lithium-ion batteries. While FF Koranteng held the victim's legs, FF Podgorski was able to take hold of her and properly secure her. At that point, FF Koranteng was lowered to the floor below. Both securing the victim and freeing her arm proved difficult for one member on a rope, so FF Darren Harsch (forcible entry, detailed to Rescue Company 1) directed the members inside to haul FF Podgorski up and into a better position to secure the victim. FF Harsch then exited the window, and together, the two firefighters worked to free her. Several times during this difficult and coordinated rescue effort, FF Podgorski climbed or was pulled up to get better leverage under the direction of the lowering members. Once the victim's arm was freed, she and FF Podgorski were lowered inside the 19th floor window to start medical treatment.

The actions of Firefighter Artur Podgorski were beyond what he envisioned in "taking the detail." After climbing 21 flights and being lowered on a life-saving rope—without being tied off to a substantial object—to rescue an entangled victim while 20 stories high, FF Podgorski never wavered in his actions. For his extreme bravery and actions, he is hereby awarded the Harry M. Archer Medal. This medal is awarded every three years to a holder of the Chief of Department Peter J. Ganci Jr. Medal and the NYS Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal from the preceding three years.—AP

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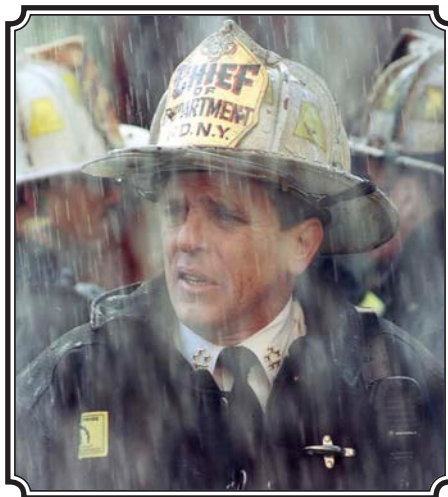
*FF Artur Podgorski secures a victim hanging from a 20th-floor window at Manhattan Box 0877, November 5, 2022. (Photo by Rickie Samson)*



## TOP FIRE OPERATIONS MEDAL RECIPIENTS

Since 1869, the FDNY has awarded annually a medal for the highest act of bravery by a firefighter or fire officer. In 2020, the James Gordon Bennett Medal was renamed in honor of Chief of Department Peter J. Ganci Jr., the highest ranking uniformed member of the Department killed on September 11, 2001. Chief Ganci made the supreme sacrifice while leading the rescue efforts in response to the terrorists attacks at the World Trade Center.

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1869—Lieutenant Minthorne D. Tompkins (L-I)<br>Captain Benjamin A. Gicquel (E-9)                                  | 1924—Hon. Medical Off. Harry M. Archer, MD<br>1925—Captain Thomas J. O'Toole (E-27) | 1983—Firefighter Kenneth L. Connelly (L-111)<br>1984—Firefighter Robert Merkel (L-42) |
| 1870—Lieutenant Charles L. Kelly (E-9)  | 1926—Firefighter William G.R. Mitchell (E-18)                                       | 1985—Firefighter James A. Sollami (E-62)  |
| 1871—Firefighter Ambrose L. Austin (E-15)   | 1927—Firefighter Michael McInerney (L-12)   | 1986—Captain James F. McDonnell (L-42)  |
| 1872—Lieutenant Thomas Henry (L-6)<br>Firefighter Thomas Hutchinson (L-1)   | 1928—Captain James A. Walsh (1) (E-234)   | 1987—Lieutenant William F. Maloney (L-34)   |
| 1873—Battalion Chief William H. Nash (Bn-7)<br>Firefighter Alfred Conner (L-10)<br>Lieutenant Henry Schuck (E-34) | 1929—Firefighter George W. Reilly (L-19)<br>1930—Firefighter Edward V. Conroy (L-I) | 1988—Firefighter John J. McDonnell (L-28)   |
| 1874—Captain William Mitchell (E-10)  | 1931—Captain Albert B. Carlson (E-66)   | 1989—Captain Richard Jacquin (L-59)   |
| 1875—Lieutenant James Horn (E-11)   | 1932—Firefighter Vincent J. Hyde (R-3)  | 1990—Lieutenant Gerard M. Murtha (R-3)  |
| 1876—Firefighter Joseph McGowan (E-6)   | 1933—Captain Cornell M. Garety (R-I)  | 1991—Firefighter William E. Jutt (L-22)   |
| 1877—Firefighter Thomas J. Dougherty (L-1)  | 1934—Firefighter Rudolph F. Musil (L-12)  | 1992—Firefighter Michael M. Dugan (L-43)  |
| 1878—Captain Daniel J. Meagher (L-3)  | 1935—Firefighter George J. Wolken (E-60)  | 1993—Firefighter Albert J. Gonzalez Jr. (L-18)  |
| 1879—Firefighter Paul Bauer (L-4)   | 1936—Firefighter Joseph E. Smith (2) (E-211)  | 1994—Lieutenant John M. Fox (SQ-1)  |
| 1880—Firefighter John Levins (L-2)  | 1937—Firefighter James P. Nevin (E-201)   | 1995—Firefighter Gregory J. Smith Jr. (L-108)   |
| 1881—Firefighter Michael Connerford (E-12)  | 1938—Firefighter Charles G. Roscher (L-1)   | 1996—Firefighter Gerard J. Triglia (L-132)  |
| 1882—Firefighter John L. Rooney (L-10)  | 1939—Firefighter Daniel J. Sullivan (L-3)   | 1997—Firefighter John K. Duddy (L-28)   |
| 1883—Firefighter William B. Kirchner (E-11)   | 1940—Firefighter Charles A. Merz (L-168)  | 1998—Firefighter Stan J. Sussina (R-1)  |
| 1884—Firefighter John Binns (E-32)  | 1941—Firefighter Thomas F. Brennan (L-111)  | 1999—Captain John J. Pritchard (E-255)  |
| 1885—Captain Peter H. Short (L-I)   | 1942—Captain John W. Heaney (Hdq.)  | 2000—Firefighter Stephen P. Fenley (L-78)   |
| 1886—Firefighter Michael Brady (E-34)   | 1943—Firefighter John Colgan (L-2)  | 2001—Firefighter John F. South (L-44)   |
| 1887—Lieutenant Samuel Banta (L-10)   | 1944—Firefighter Harvey W. Crook (R-3)  | 2003—Battalion Chief James Marketti (Bn-48)   |
| 1888—Lieutenant William Quirk (E-22)  | 1945—Captain George H. Winter (L-3)   | 2004—Firefighter James F. Mills (L-176)   |
| 1889—Firefighter William Reilly (L-12)  | 1946—Firefighter Arthur L. Speyer (L-24)  | 2005—Firefighter Victor J. Rosa Jr. (L-138)   |
| 1890—Captain Thomas J. Ahern (E-5)  | 1947—Firefighter Anthony J. Riccardi (L-26)   | 2006—Captain Christopher J. Joyce (E-318)   |
| 1891—Firefighter Patrick F. Lucas (E-30)  | 1948—Captain Patrick T. Green (R-1)   | 2007—Firefighter James T. Byrne (L-121)   |
| 1892—Firefighter Patrick H. Aspell (L-4)  | 1949—Firefighter James S. Norton (L-163)  | 2008—Lieutenant James F. Congema (Bn-19)  |
| 1893—Firefighter John Walker (L-6)  | 1950—Firefighter Wilbur J. O'Donnell (L-111)  | 2009—Firefighter Anthony M. Romano (L-142)  |
| 1894—Firefighter Denis Ryer (L-15)  | 1951—Firefighter Victor F. Rossi (L-120)  | 2010—Firefighter Michael A. Czech Jr. (L-142)   |
| 1895—Firefighter William H. Behler (E-35)   | 1952—Lieutenant John F. McGlynn (L-10)  | 2011—Firefighter Peter G. Demontreux (L-132)  |
| 1896—Firefighter Martin M. Coleman (L-3)  | 1953—Firefighter Angelo Michelini (E-97)  | 2012—Firefighter Kevin J. Hogan (L-114)   |
| 1898—Firefighter James Pearl (L-7)  | 1954—Deputy Chief John T. Oakley (2) (Hdq.)   | 2013—Lieutenant Thomas G. Woods (L-154)   |
| 1899—Firefighter John Hughes (1) (L-14)   | 1955—Firefighter Bernard F. Curran (E-92)   | 2014—Lieutenant Robert E. Lee (L-47)  |
| 1900—Firefighter William Clark (L-14)   | 1956—Firefighter Michael J. O'Driscoll (L-28)                                       | 2015—Captain William J. Grant (E-168)   |
| 1901—Firefighter Thomas J. McArthur (E-29)  | 1957—Firefighter William Von Diezelski (L-4)  | 2016—Lieutenant Brian J. Colleluori (L-174)   |
| 1902—Firefighter Richard Nitsch (E-35)  | 1958—Firefighter Nicholas Sharko (L-11)   | 2017—Firefighter James P. Lee Jr. (R-1)   |
| 1903—Firefighter Charles F. Douth (L-3)   | 1959—Captain Arthur J. O'Connor (SQ-4)  | 2018—Lieutenant Michael J. Conboy (R-3)   |
| 1904—Firefighter James R. McAvoy (L-4)  | 1960—Firefighter William V. Russo (E-254)   | 2019—Lieutenant Patrick T. Mataraza, III (L-56)                                       |
| 1905—Firefighter Michael J. Stevens (L-4)   | 1961—Firefighter Joseph G. Peragine (L-14)  | 2020—Firefighter John H. McCoy (SQ-288)   |
| 1906—Firefighter Cassimer C. Wodzicki (E-17)  | 1962—Firefighter Joseph E. Almon (L-35)   | 2021—Firefighter Abraham G. Miller (L-23)   |
| 1907—Firefighter Michael Nicklaus (L-4)   | 1963—Firefighter Lawrence F. Duenas (E-59)  | 2022—Firefighter Darren J. Harsch (L-270)   |
| 1908—Firefighter John T. Oakley (L-11)  | 1964—Firefighter David Crowley (L-14)   | 2023—Firefighter Artur Podgorski (L-108)  |
| 1909—Battalion Chief George L. Ross (Bn-7)  | 1965—Firefighter James E. Bowler (R-2)  |   |
| 1910—Firefighter John R. Harcke (L-12)<br>Firefighter Frank C. Clarke (L-24)                                      | 1966—Firefighter Robert E. Farrell (L-31)   |   |
| 1911—Firefighter Richard J. Condon (2) (E-12)   | 1967—Firefighter Thomas D. Ferraiuolo (L-28)  |   |
| 1912—Firefighter Robert J. Boyle (L-10)   | 1968—Firefighter Gene P. Dowling (L-25)   |   |
| 1913—Engineer of Steamer Seneca Larke (E-20)  | 1969—Firefighter James N. Tempio (E-217)  |   |
| 1914—Firefighter John F. Mooney (1) (L-4)   | 1970—Firefighter Charles Varner (L-55)  |   |
| 1915—Captain Thomas W. Smith (E-2)  | 1971—Lieutenant Richard R. Hamilton (R-2)   |   |
| 1916—Firefighter James T. Daniels (L-26)  | 1972—Firefighter Steven C. DeRosa (L-102)   |   |
| 1917—Firefighter John Walsh (1) (L-1)   | 1973—Firefighter Raymond G. McCann (L-40)   |   |
| 1918—Firefighter Patrick R. O'Connor (L-14)   | 1974—Firefighter Gilbert J. Murtha (L-108)  |   |
| 1919—Lieutenant Francis Blessing (R-1)  | 1975—Firefighter Thomas J. Neary (L-31)   |   |
| 1920—Firefighter Timothy F. O'Leary Jr. (E-15)  | 1976—Firefighter Martin McGovern (L-114)  |   |
| 1921—Firefighter Frank J. Costello (L-12)   | 1977—Captain Frederick W. Gallagher (R-2)   |   |
| 1922—Firefighter Jacob F. Ferber (E-239)  | 1978—Firefighter James H. Battillo (L-152)  |   |
| 1923—Captain Edwin A.A. Quinn (E-14)  | 1979—Firefighter John J. Pritchard (R-2)  |   |
|   | 1980—Lieutenant Thomas J. Neary (L-28)  |   |
|   | 1981—Lieutenant Howard R. Kennedy (L-154)   |   |
|   | 1982—Firefighter Joseph H. Dirks (L-103)  |   |



Chief of Department Peter J. Ganci Jr.



## TOP FIRE OPERATIONS MEDAL RECIPIENT

# Chief of Department Peter J. Ganci, Jr. Medal & NYS Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal

## Lieutenant Mark H. Russo

**Rescue Battalion (assigned)  
Squad Company 8 (detailed)**

**February 17, 2023, 1326 hours, Box 44-3592, Staten Island**

*Appointed to FDNY on November 19, 2006. Previously assigned to Engine Co. 24 and Squad 1 (FF) and Division 8 (Lt.). Currently assigned to Squad Co. 1. Member of the FDNY softball team. Received two Unit Citations in 2023. Resides on Staten Island with his wife, Emily, and children Nathan, Grady and Jack.*



**O**n February 17, 2023, Squad Company 8 responded to a structural fire at Box 3592 on Staten Island. Upon arrival, members observed heavy fire on multiple floors of a three-story, semi-attached private dwelling, attached on the exposure 4 side. Fire was concentrated in the rear of both buildings.

Squad 8 was ordered to the attached unit where, as conditions worsened, they observed a firefighter bail out of the second-floor balcony, landing on the driveway below. Then, an urgent mayday was transmitted by a member who was trapped on the second floor. His exit route had been cut off by the growing fire, which was spreading quickly due to strong winds. Just moments later, the member issued additional, more deliberate maydays, stating that he was "burning up" as the flames closed in. With heavy fire conditions in the basement and on the first and second floors, as well as a collapse of the one-story extension in the rear, the wind-impacted fire with intense flames and searing heat rapidly extended throughout the structure.

Lieutenant Mark Russo (detailed to SQ-8) and Firefighter Justin McGhie (SQ-8, chauffeur), moved quickly into the burning building behind Engine Company 168's hoseline. The small foyer led to an open, narrow staircase that serviced all floors of the occupancy.

Heavy fire began pushing up from the basement into the crowded vestibule. Lt. Russo knew that to quickly reach the missing firefighter, they needed to aggressively move in front of the hoseline and up the narrow and congested stairwell to the second floor. While surrounded by fire, they removed the spindles adjacent to the stairs and climbed atop furniture, pulling themselves up to the second floor.

At this point, Lt. Russo heard the faint sounds of an SCBA alarm. As he made his way toward the alarm, he heard another urgent transmission informing him that the fire was now blowing up the stairwell,



blocking his exit. Undeterred, Lt. Russo pressed onward and quickly located the trapped member lying motionless on the floor. The firefighter was unresponsive and missing his helmet but was still wearing his facepiece. Knowing that time was of the essence and that fire conditions were growing more dangerous by the second, Lt. Russo quickly grabbed the firefighter and began removing him from the fire area when he was met by FF McGhie.

Engine 165 entered the building with an additional hoseline, which helped extinguish the fire and restore access to the stairway just in time.

Lt. Russo successfully passed the downed firefighter to FF McGhie, who then removed the unconscious member to the first floor and out the door. Together, FF McGhie and members of Rescue 5 safely completed the removal and transfer of the downed member to awaiting FDNY EMS units.

Due to Lieutenant Mark Russo's quick thinking, aggressive actions and bravery amid truly intense circumstances, a firefighter's life was saved. For his valiant efforts under punishing conditions, he is awarded the Chief of Department Peter J. Ganci, Jr. Medal and the NYS Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal.—DB



*The second floor, where the downed member was found by Lt. Mark Russo at Staten Island Box 44-3592. Yellow circle indicates where the spindles were removed. (Photo by Bureau of Fire Investigation)*



*FDNY members arrived to find heavy fire on multiple floors of a three-story, semi-attached private dwelling. (Photo by FDNY Chief Dispatcher James Martin)*

## TOP HONORS AWARDED EVERY 3 YEARS

# EMT-P Carlos Lillo Lt. Ricardo Quinn Medal

April 22, 2020, 1223 hours, Brooklyn



**EMT  
Gary Hui**  
*Medical Equipment Unit*

**D**uring 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-

*Appointed to the FDNY as an emergency medical technician on January 14, 2013. Previously assigned to Station 58 and Station 59. Recipient of the Christopher J. Prescott Medal (2021) and Unit of the Month (May 2023). Member of the FDNY Phoenix Society. Brother-in-law, Firefighter Christopher Schuster, retired in 2021 from Engine Company 309. Resides in Brooklyn with his wife, Helen, and child, Emma.*



*Appointed to the FDNY as an emergency medical technician on February 19, 2019. Previously assigned to Station 59. Holds an associate degree in applied science/fire administration from Central Oregon Community College. Recipient of the Christopher J. Prescott Medal (2021). Resides in Long Beach, New York, with spouse Hope Brenkert.*



**EMT  
Samuel R. Wright**  
*Division 8*

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 EMT-P Carlos Lillo/Lt. Ricardo Quinn Medal, which is awarded every three years to a Prescott Medal holder from the preceding three years.—MV

## PAST RECIPIENTS

**T**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)

2021 — Paramedic Niall C. O'Shaughnessy (Station 4)  
Lieutenant Joshua S. Rodriguez (EMS Division 2)



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



# Christopher J. Prescott Medal

April 16, 2023, 2335 hours, CAD 4585, Kosciuszko Bridge



**EMT**  
**Shawn M. Griffin**  
**Station 45**

*Appointed to the FDNY on June 22, 2020. Holds an associate degree in physical education from Kingsborough Community College. Resides in Rockaway Park, New York.*

*Appointed to the FDNY on June 22, 2020. Holds an associate degree in criminal justice from John Jay College of Criminal Justice (CUNY). Brother, Firefighter Christian Titus, is assigned to Engine Company 314. Resides in Brooklyn, with wife Laura.*



**EMT**  
**Emmanuel F. Titus**  
**Station 45**



**C**lose to midnight on the evening of April 16, 2023, a 911 EMS call came in for an unknown condition. The caller did not provide any information other than emergency medical help was needed on the Kosciuszko Bridge. While EMT Emmanuel Titus and EMT Shawn Griffin responded to the location, they contacted dispatch to see whether any other information could be obtained. The dispatcher was able to ascertain that there was a report of a man sitting on the edge of the bridge. When EMTs Titus and Griffin arrived, the original caller was on scene and told them it was her friend sitting on the edge of the bridge. She said he had told her he was going to jump.

EMTs Titus and Griffin approached the edge of the bridge and saw a man sitting out on a metal beam, legs dangling over the edge, with nowhere else to move. While in an extremely dangerous situation, the man looked down to the ground about 90 feet below and repeatedly stated, "I don't want to live anymore." EMT Titus immediately began talking with the man, asking for his name and engaging him in conversation. Meanwhile, EMT Griffin radioed dispatch and asked them to send an EMS conditions boss, NYPD's Emergency Services Unit and FDNY fire units for backup.

After establishing a rapport with the patient, EMT Griffin asked whether it would be okay for him to climb over the side of the bridge so he could be closer and continue talking. The patient agreed, and EMT Griffin climbed over the side of the bridge. Worried the patient would jump, both EMTs repeatedly encouraged the man to look up at them and not down toward the ground. They continued talking to the man, keeping him focused on them, rather than looking at the darkness below.

Once they felt they had the patient's confidence and attention, these brave EMTs asked him whether he would be willing to grab their hands, come back over the barrier and continue the conversation in a safer position. The man agreed, and shortly thereafter, he grabbed onto EMT Griffin's outstretched hands. EMT Griffin was able to hold the man's upper body and guide

him back to the barrier; EMT Titus guided the patient's legs and feet back over the barrier and got him on his feet. EMTs Titus and Griffin were then able to escort the man into the ambulance and transport him to the hospital for the help he needed.

If not for the selfless bravery exhibited by these two exemplary EMTs, this emergency could have easily resulted in tragedy. For their bravery, composure, reassuring demeanor and professionalism, EMT Emmanuel Titus and EMT Shawn Griffin are awarded the Christopher J. Prescott Medal.—GA



Station 45's EMT Emmanuel Titus (left) and EMT Shawn Griffin



# Brooklyn Citizens Medal & FF Louis Valentino Award

## Firefighter Patrick S. Gale

**Engine Company 282 (assigned)**

**Ladder Company 122 (detailed)**

**June 20, 2023, 0622 hours, Box 75-1206, Brooklyn**

*Appointed to the FDNY on December 28, 2016. Attended College of Staten Island. Member of the FDNY Emerald Society. His brother, Firefighter Chris Gale, is assigned to Ladder Co. 78. Resides on Staten Island with his wife, Kerri.*

**O**n June 20, 2023, at 6:25 a.m., Ladder Company 122 was dispatched for a call for smoke in the area. As units responded, Brooklyn dispatchers received multiple calls for a fire at Box 1206, with reports of people trapped inside. Units arrived to heavy black smoke pushing out from the top-floor front windows and cornice of a four-story Old Law Tenement.

Firefighter Patrick Gale (detailed to Ladder 122, roof) scaled the aerial ladder to the roof, bringing his assignment of tools, including the life-saving rope. FF Gale began his first-due roof firefighter duties, including a quick perimeter search and radioing to Command that heavy fire was venting from the rear. At this time, Firefighter James McHugh (Squad Company 1, roof) arrived on the roof via the adjoining building and found FF Gale forcing open the roof bulkhead door to relieve the heat and smoke from the stairwell. Suddenly, a radio report from the rear indicated that a man was climbing out the fire window in the shaft and onto a narrow ledge. As heavy, black, acrid smoke pushed out from the window behind him, the man stood on top of the 3-inch windowsill. Ladder 122's inside team was being repelled by heavy fire at the door of the apartment, and Engine Company 220 was delayed in getting the line in place due to an extremely long stretch and challenging hydrant placement.

The victim was in an extremely precarious position. With fire venting from the window, he traversed along the windowsill to get away from the heat by clinging to a few cable TV wires. FF Gale knew they had to act quickly, so he informed Battalion 48 that they were going to start a roof rope rescue.

FF McHugh had already started tying off the rope around the bulkhead as FF Gale tied himself into the end of the rope. FF Gale calmed the victim, assuring him he would be down to help him shortly. As they were still the only firefighters on the roof, FF McHugh set up the rope in such a manner that he could both lower and spot as FF Gale was lowered. FF Gale mounted the parapet, told the victim he was on the way and dismounted the parapet into the shaft. At this time, Rescue Company 2's roof firefighter, Joseph Bean, arrived and

took over the spotting duties, which allowed FF McHugh to focus solely on lowering FF Gale.

Heavy, black smoke was now pushing from the window. The victim's feet were bleeding from spikes on the ledge, and he was also burned from being in the immediate fire area. FF Gale verbally gave commands: "LOWER, LOWER, HOLD." Once he reached the victim, he instructed him to wrap his arms and legs around him. FF Gale grabbed the victim and held him tight as his weight shifted from the windowsill into FF Gale's arms. With fire just inches away and the victim secured in his arms, he gave the instruction to

lower them to the ground.

This individual is alive today due to the quick actions of FF Gale. His experience allowed him to perform a life-saving rope rescue without hesitation. He risked his own life to save this victim when he was lowered by FF McHugh. The trust and teamwork these two members had in each other, having never worked together before, is a true testament to the traditions and training in the FDNY. Firefighter Patrick Gale has been awarded the Brooklyn Citizens Medal and FF Louis Valentino Award for his selfless act of bravery.—MD



*Firefighter Patrick Gale (det. L-122) rescues a victim standing on a narrow windowsill to escape encroaching flames and smoke. Brooklyn Box 75-1206 on June 20, 2023; photo from Citizen app.*





# Yadira Arroyo Medal

## EMT Brendan F. Burns

**Station 58**

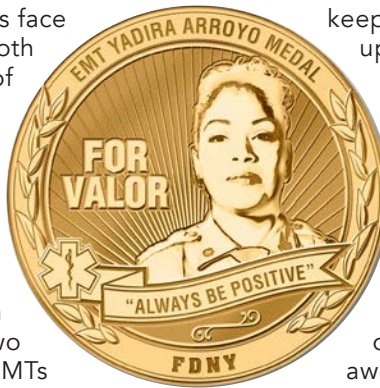
**July 29, 2023, 1939 hours, CAD 4245, Queens**

*Appointed to the FDNY on June 22, 2020. Father, Firefighter William Burns, retired out of Ladder Company 134 in 2018. Brother, Firefighter Liam Burns, is assigned to Engine Company 321. Resides in Rockaway Park, New York.*



Every day, FDNY EMTs and paramedics face uncertain challenges that test them both physically and mentally in a number of different environments. On the evening of July 29, 2023, EMT Brendan Burns (detailled to Station 47 for the tour) and EMT Michael Healey were tested not once, but twice, at the same incident.

While patrolling the beachfront near Beach 94 Street in the Rockaway section of Queens, they were flagged down by civilians who stated that there were two swimmers in immediate distress. The EMTs immediately notified the dispatcher to start sending the appropriate water rescue resources. EMT Burns—a former lifeguard—immediately prepared to enter the water with a rescue torpedo, noticing the victims were fighting to stay afloat approximately 60 feet off the shore. EMT Healey acted as a spotter for both the two victims and EMT Burns as he began to swim out to them. EMT Burns reached the first victim, who was exhausted and struggling to keep his head above water, and gave him the torpedo to cling to. EMT Burns then swam 30 yards in heavy current to the second victim, whom he proceeded to swim back to the first victim so they could both cling onto the rescue torpedo. During this time, EMT Healey was



keeping a watchful eye on the operation and updating incoming resources. Two off-duty lifeguards then entered the water to assist EMT Burns in bringing both victims to the beach. Both patients were treated for extreme exhaustion once on shore.

EMT Brendan Burns acted without hesitation or regard for his personal safety in order to save the lives of two New Yorkers who most certainly would have drowned otherwise. For his selfless dedication and unwavering bravery, he is awarded the Yadira Arroyo Medal.—FW



EMT Brendan Burns (left) and EMT Michael Healey (right)



## Hugh Bonner Medal & Honor Legion Medal

### Firefighter Brendan W. Gaffney

**Ladder Company 36**

**February 5, 2023, Box 75-1802, 0135 hours, Manhattan**

*Appointed to the FDNY on January 21, 2008. Previously assigned to Engine Company 206. Recipient of a Unit Citation in 2023. Member of the FDNY Emerald Society. Brother, Firefighter Shawn Gaffney, is assigned to Engine Company 80. Resides in Monroe, New York, with wife Lindsay and child Declan.*

**O**n a busy night tour, at 0135 hours, the tone alarm sounded for the members of Engine Company 95 and Ladder Company 36, reporting a fire at a residential building in the Inwood section of upper Manhattan. Responding first due and only a few blocks from quarters, the units quickly arrived at the large, irregularly shaped, six-story multiple dwelling. As Ladder 36 entered the lobby, residents yelled to them that there was a fire on the fifth floor with victims trapped in the apartment. The inside team, consisting of Lieutenant Joaquin Melendez (Division 7) and Firefighters Brendan Gaffney (forcible entry) and Andrew Guarrasi (can), ascended the stairs, weaving through numerous fleeing occupants.

As they approached the fifth floor, the members encountered a severe smoke condition and operated in those conditions while forcing the door to the fire apartment. Once the door was forced, the members immediately encountered zero visibility and a high heat condition. As they proceeded down the long hallway into the apartment, conditions began to rapidly deteriorate. Inside the living room they found heavy fire, fueled by an exploding e-bike lithium-ion battery. The bike blocked the occupants' exit and made it challenging for the firefighters to pass. As the inside team neared the end of the hallway, the pressurized water can was discharged in hopes of controlling the intense flames. It had little impact on conditions, and there was no way to confine the fire due to the large, open living room.

Even though the handline was not yet in place, FF Gaffney knew people were trapped and attempted to get past the fire to the rear bedroom. The intensity of the fire made it nearly impossible to do. FF Guarrasi then removed a



*Members who operated at Manhattan Box 75-1802, February 5, 2023, from left to right: FF Emo Soto (E-95); Capt. Chris Kirwan (E-95); Ladder 36 members FF Paul Schaffino, FF Keith Murray, FF Steve Roccabruna, FF Andrew Guarrasi and FF Brendan Gaffney; Lt. Joaquin Melendez (D7), FF Jorge Vasquez (L-45), FF Gabe Soto (E-95) and FF Michael Matteo (E-93).*

door, using it as a shield for FF Gaffney to proceed past the fire and locate the rear bedroom and enter it. Here, he found two unconscious victims on the floor. He quickly transmitted the 10-45 signal and began to remove the first victim, a young child. He shielded the child with his body and removed the victim to the public hallway, where he handed him off to Engine Company 93 to begin first-aid measures.

With a victim still trapped in the rear bedroom, FF Gaffney quickly reentered the apartment and proceeded

back to the room. With no water left in the can to protect him, he once again put himself in a dangerous position. He crawled under the flames and made it back to the rear bedroom, where other members of the inside team were preparing to remove the unconscious pregnant female. With conditions worsening, they shielded the victim with their bodies and removed her from the apartment. Once the victim was in the public hallway, FF Gaffney performed life-saving treatment with the assistance of Engine Company 43. Simultaneous to these heroics, Ladder 36's outside team—FF Paul Schaffino (chauffeur), FF Steven Roccabruna (OV) and FF Keith Murray (roof)—worked together and rescued another trapped victim via the aerial ladder to the window. As the victims were removed, Engine Company 95 advanced down the hallway and extinguished the main body of fire.

Ladder Company 36 rescued three victims that morning. Firefighter Brendan Gaffney put himself at great personal risk at this violent lithium-ion battery fire to successfully rescue two of those victims, and for his heroic efforts, he is awarded the Hugh Bonner Medal and Honor Legion Medal.—MC



# BC Thomas J. Neary Bronx Harlem Firefighter Medal

## Captain Jonathan M. Shields

Ladder Company 42

December 31, 2023, 0815 hours, Box 75-2174, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on August 19, 1990. Previously assigned to Ladder Co. 7 (Lt.) and Ladder Companies 33 and 51 (FF). Holds an associate degree in electrical technology from SUNY Delhi. Recipient of a Class 3 - Emily Trevor/Mary B. Warren Medal (2014), Class 3 - Walter Scott Medal (1999) and a Class A - Uniformed Fire Officers Association Medal (2010). Member of FDNY Emerald Society, FDNY Holy Name Society and FDNY Honor Legion. Resides in Cold Spring, New York, with wife, Guenevere and children Audrey, Tucker and Scarlett.*



As the change of tours approached on the morning of New Year's Eve 2023, Ladder Company 42 was ordered to respond second due to reports of a fire on the sixth floor of a six-story, 200-by-75-foot, non-fireproof multiple dwelling. En route, the Bronx Communications Office notified Battalion Chief Timothy Parker, Battalion 14, that they were receiving numerous phone calls reporting fire. As Firefighter Sean Heater expertly positioned the apparatus, Captain Jonathan Shields and his inside team, Firefighter Terence Squires (can) and Firefighter Tommy Rodriguez (irons), dismounted the rig and entered the building behind the first-due companies, following them up the B stairwell.

A radio transmission from Ladder Company 29's officer reported fire exiting an apartment on the sixth floor into the hallway with an object—an 85-inch flat-screen TV—restricting access to the apartment and blocking the hallway. Understanding that the public hall was compromised, Captain Shields changed tactics and ordered his inside team down the B stairwell to the fifth floor and back up the A stairwell. On the sixth floor, Captain Shields observed heavy black smoke pushing from underneath the door to the public hallway. He donned his facepiece, entered the hallway and began a search toward the fire apartment through high heat and thick, acrid smoke that made visibility near zero. Using the left wall as a guide, he crawled in about 15 feet before coming upon an unconscious adult male lying face down, and he immediately transmitted a 10-45. Captain Shields removed the victim back to the stairwell, handing him off to



FF Squires and FF Rodriguez, before returning to the hallway to continue his search.

Conditions had worsened as Captain Shields made his way back toward the fire apartment, punishing him as he pressed on. About 20 feet from the stairwell door, he encountered another victim, an elderly female lying prone. He transmitted a second 10-45 and began the arduous task of moving the victim back to the stairwell, once again transferring care to his inside team. Understanding the potential for more victims, Captain Shields entered the hallway a third time, concentrating his search on the dead-end side of the hallway. As he searched the nearly untenable hall, he came upon a third victim, an adult female. He transmitted another 10-45, requesting an additional company to the fire floor for searches and victim removal. Removing the woman to the stairs, Captain Shields again passed her to his inside team. He entered the hallway a final time to complete his primary search before dropping down to the fifth floor to meet up with FF Squires and FF Rodriguez.

With the help of members of Squad Company 41 and Rescue Company 3, Captain Shields and his inside team removed the three fire victims down the stairs to the lobby and into the care of awaiting EMS members. Captain Shields displayed courage and perseverance by returning to the severely exposed hallway three times, each time returning with a victim. Captain Jonathan Shields acted within the highest traditions of the Fire Department of the City of New York, and for his efforts, he is the inaugural recipient of the BC Thomas J. Neary Bronx/Harlem Firefighter Medal.—TM



Members of Ladder Co. 42 who worked Bronx Box 75-2174 on December 31, 2023. From left to right: FF Tommy Rodriguez Jr., Capt. Jonathan Shields, FF Sean Heater, FF Terence Squires and FF Raymond Viglietta with firehouse dog "Jamison."



## Emily Trevor Mary B. Warren Medal

### Firefighter Steven D. Withers Jr. Engine Company 283 (assigned) Ladder Company 78 (detailed)

December 15, 2023, 2154 hours, Box 22-0062, Staten Island

*Appointed to the FDNY on October 25, 2021. Holds a bachelor's degree in business management from Adelphi University. Recipient of two Unit Citations (2023) and a Pre-Hospital Save (2022). Uncle, Firefighter John Scanlon, retired from Ladder Company 161. Grandfather, Lieutenant Donald Scanlon, retired from Ladder Company 106. Resides on Staten Island with wife Julie Schneider and children Madison and Sienna.*

Just before 10 p.m. on the night of December 15, 2023, Staten Island Communications dispatched Engine Company 155 and Ladder Company 78 to Box 0062 for a report of fire. As both companies rounded the corner onto the block, they could see fire blowing out of the second floor of a private dwelling. Heavy fire was consuming the second-floor porch, and a panicked civilian stood out front screaming that her mother was still inside.

The electrical service to the house was now involved in fire and was arcing. As Engine 155 began their hoseline stretch, Ladder 78's lieutenant, Daniel Cavanaugh, directed his inside team of Firefighter Steven Withers (can) and Firefighter Anthony Urciuoli (forcible entry) past the raging fire at the front of the building and up the stairs to the immediate fire area in a desperate search for the missing civilian. On the second floor, they were quickly met with a blackout smoke condition and punishing heat that forced them to the floor. Lieutenant Cavanaugh and FF Withers began a left-hand search as FF Urciuoli searched right. Both search teams plunged into the blackened living room. Their search was slowed by extremely heavy clutter throughout the second floor, as well as heavy fire that was now rolling across the ceiling. As FF Withers continued his search, he came across an inward-opening door. He was unable to push it open due to something blocking it from be-



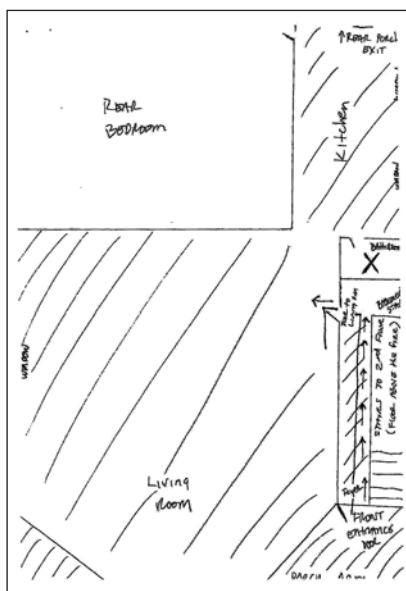
Members who worked in Ladder 78, December 15, 2023, at Brooklyn Box 0062. From left to right: FF Michael Stora, Lt. Daniel Cavanaugh, FF Anthony Urciuoli, FF Steven Withers and FF Steven Leone.

hind. Under extremely high heat and zero visibility, he managed to force the door off its hinges and remove it. He entered what he discovered to be a bathroom and immediately felt a leg.

The 10-45 was transmitted, and FF Withers began the extremely difficult task of removing the unconscious victim toward the door to the stairs while Lieutenant Cavanaugh and FF Urciuoli worked to clear a path through the heavy clutter. FF Withers made his way across the room with the victim despite the fire rolling across the ceiling above him. Just as he got the victim to the door, Engine 155 began their hoseline attack on the heavy fire. An exhausted

FF Withers continued to remove the lifeless victim down the stairs and out of the building, where he was met by FF James Leavey (E-155, control). The two firefighters began life-saving emergency care on the unconscious victim, and their efforts were rewarded when the victim soon regained a pulse. FDNY EMS 22B arrived, and the patient was transported to the hospital.

FF Withers demonstrated selfless courage and placed himself in immediate danger by searching a high-heat area, in zero visibility, without the protection of a hoseline. He acted in the highest traditions of this great Department and saved a life while risking his own safety in the service of others, for which he is receiving the Emily Trevor/Mary B. Warren Medal.—RAW





# Thomas E. Crimmins Medal

## Firefighter Matthew L. Tizol

Ladder Company 50

April 24, 2023, 1234 hours, Box 22-4047, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on July 29, 2013. Previously assigned to Engine Co. 89 and Engine Co. 96. Holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from St. Thomas Aquinas College. Member of the FDNY Hispanic Society. Resides in the Bronx. His children are Matthew and Summer Grace.*



**O**n April 24, 2023, at 1234 hours, Ladder Company 50 responded to a report of fire in a three-story, 20- by 40-foot private dwelling with exposures 2 and 4 being similarly attached. Ladder 50 was first due and had been to this particular house numerous times. The occupant was an elderly male who had a habit of burning trash and wood for warmth. An additional concern was that the house was packed from floor to ceiling with clutter. Members were aware of the hazards, as they were previously added to the Critical Information Dispatch System (CIDS). Adjoining residents would often call about the smoke coming into their homes.

When first-due Engine Company 72 arrived, they found smoke seeping from the front door. Once the door was opened, members were met with heavy, dark-brown smoke throughout. Ladder 50's inside team—Lieutenant Hector Gonzalez, FF Peter Clough and FF Kymani Smith—masked up and entered to locate the fire. They encountered a heavy clutter condition, which made the search extremely difficult. Lieutenant Gonzalez communicated with Ladder 50's outside vent firefighter, Matthew Tizol, requesting that he investigate whether fire was on the first floor in the rear.

FF Tizol knew the building well from previous responses and gained access to the rear through exposure 4. He used an angle grinder to cut an opening in the fence between the houses. After making his way through the fence and through piles of clutter in the rear yard, FF Tizol forced the first-floor rear door by himself. He was immediately met with dark, black smoke and high heat, but he could verify that fire was indeed on the first floor.

At this point, FF Tizol heard coughing coming from inside. He immediately masked up and notified Lieutenant Gonzalez that a 10-45 was inside, making entry alone without the protection of a charged hoseline. The heavy clutter again made navigation difficult due to the narrow walkways. Approximately 15 to 20 feet inside the house, with heat intensi-

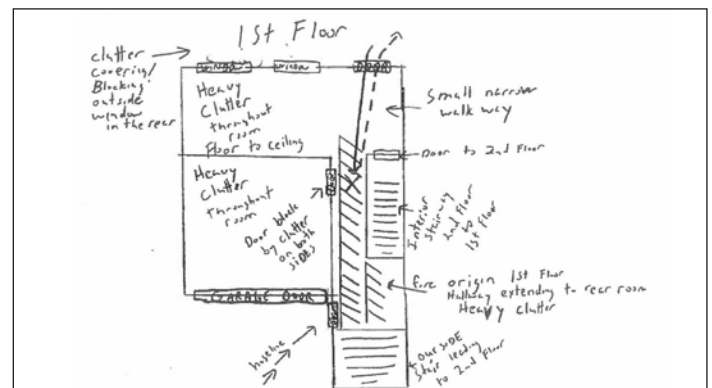
fying the farther he moved inside, FF Tizol found a doorway that connected the rear room to a hallway with more clutter from floor to ceiling. It was there that he found the burning fire, as well as the groaning and coughing victim.

FF Tizol transmitted the 10-45 and, in zero visibility surrounded by extreme heat, began the grueling task of removing the elderly male victim through the narrow walkway and over the clutter. FF Tizol noticed the victim's legs were being burned and hastened his removal efforts. He removed the injured man to the rear yard and used buckets of water he found outside to extinguish the victim's burning legs. The victim was conscious but in need of medical attention. With the assistance of other firefighters, FF Tizol carried the victim through the adjoining building to EMS personnel for treatment and transport to the hospital.

Without the protection of an operating hoseline, FF Tizol operated alone in an extreme environment that included zero visibility, high heat and heavy clutter. He used his knowledge from prior responses to expedite his actions, which resulted in his finding and removing a severely injured, elderly male. For his actions, Firefighter Matthew Tizol is awarded the Thomas E. Crimmins Medal.—AP



FDNY companies operate at a fire in a three-story, private dwelling in the Bronx, April 24, 2023. (Photo courtesy of FirstOnScenePhotos)





# Thomas A. Kenny Memorial Medal

## Lieutenant Ryan W. Daley

**Ladder Company 125**

**January 25, 2023, 1404 hours, Box 75-6593, Queens**

*Appointed to the FDNY on August 8, 1999. Previously assigned to Engine Co. 73 and Ladder Co. 42, and rotated through Ladder 129 (2001). Holds an associate degree in criminal justice from SUNY Farmingdale. Recipient of a Unit Citation (2017) and two Pre-Hospital Saves (2015). Brother, Lt. Christian Daley, is assigned to Division 13. Father, Firefighter George Daley, received the Dr. J.W. Goldenkranz Medal in 1979, retired in 2001 from Ladder Co. 4 and is now deceased. Member of the FDNY Emerald Society and FDNY Holy Name Society. Resides in Lindenhurst, New York, with wife KimMarie and children William and Elizabeth.*

**O**n January 25, 2023, Ladder Company 125 was ordered to respond first due to a report of fire in a private dwelling. While responding, the Queens Communications Office alerted Lieutenant Ryan Daley to reports of an e-bike on fire in the basement of the location. Upon arrival, Engine Company 315 observed black smoke issuing from the front door of a two-story, 20- by 40-foot, Class 3 private dwelling and quickly transmitted a 10-75. The chauffeur of Ladder 125, FF Donald Meyer, positioned the apparatus. Lieutenant Daley and his inside team—Firefighter Jeffrey Dobry (can, detailed from Engine 315) and Firefighter Matthew Newman (forcible entry)—dismounted the rig with their tools, walking with purpose toward the open front door.

As they neared the entrance, the members were assured by two separate bystanders that everyone was out of the building and the fire was in the basement. Lieutenant Daley donned his facepiece and entered the

first floor, crawling through the dense smoke, searching for the basement door and noting a moderate heat condition. After finding the basement door behind a piece of furniture, Lieutenant Daley, along with FF Dobry and FF Newman, cleared the doorway and forced open the door. The members were immediately hit with a blast of searing heat, a strong indication of a basement fire.

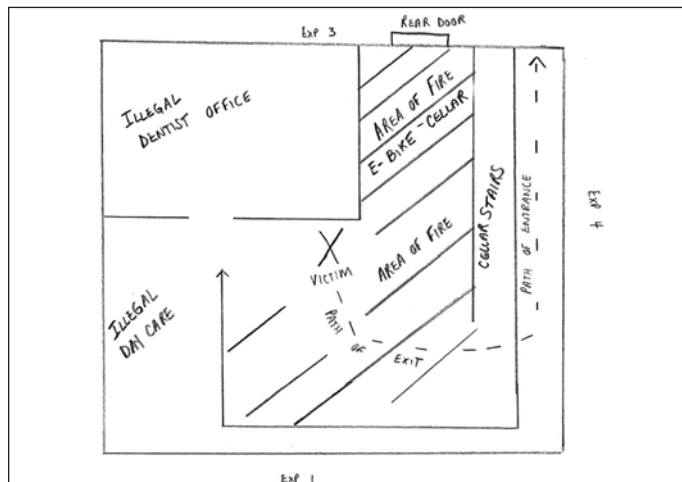


Members of Ladder Co. 125 who operated at Queens Box 75-6593 on January 25, 2023. From left to right: FF Neil St. Hill, FF Matthew Newman, Lt. Ryan Daley, FF Donald Meyer, FF Jeffery Dobry (E- 315) and FF Louis Rom (L-133, not pictured).

Before entering the furnace-like conditions of the stairwell, Lieutenant Daley heard children's music playing in the basement. Without the protection of a hoseline, the inside team crawled down the stairs, Lieutenant Daley leading the way. They immediately started a primary search in the rapidly deteriorating basement. With poor conditions and zero visibility, Lieutenant Daley crawled on his belly, advancing toward the source of the music through the punishing conditions. About 15 feet from the base of the stairs, he came upon a bassinet. He reached into the crib, felt a young infant and transmitted a 10-45. As he removed the infant from the bassinet, the uncontrolled fire in the rear of the basement had extended toward the stairs, their only means of egress. Understanding conditions were becoming untenable, Lieutenant Daley placed his body between the fire and the infant, shielding the baby from the unrelenting heat. At the foot of the stairs, he passed the victim to FF Newman, who removed the infant to the street to awaiting EMS.

Lieutenant Daley remained in the basement, completing a primary search while ensuring the safety of his members, until the fire was extinguished. In his report, Deputy Assistant Chief Brian Russo (Division 13) stated, "If not for the swift actions of Lt. Daley, the victim would have perished." Lieutenant Ryan Daley acted within the highest traditions of the FDNY, risking his life to rescue an infant, and is presented with the Thomas A. Kenny Memorial Medal.—TM

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# Walter Scott Medal

## Battalion Chief Sami Asfar Ladder Company 110

April 19, 2023, 0450 hours, Box 77-0409, Brooklyn

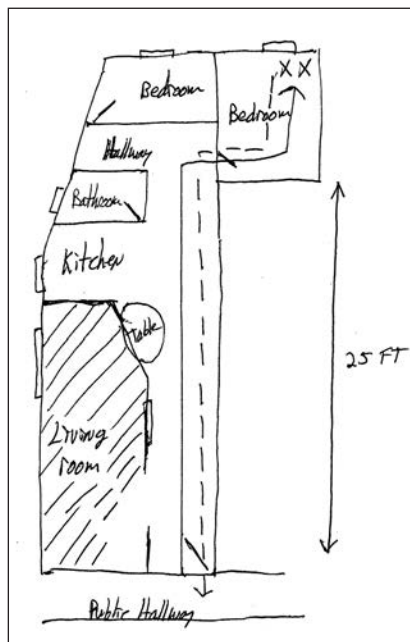
*Appointed to the FDNY on January 26, 1997. Promoted to battalion chief shortly after this incident, on June 17, 2023. Currently working UFO in Battalion 1. Previously assigned to Engine Co. 15 and Ladder Co. 18 (firefighter), and Ladder Co. 110 (lieutenant and captain). Holds a bachelor's degree in emergency management from Metropolitan College. Recipient of two Class A and 3 Unit Citations. Resides in Medford, New York, with wife Natalie and son Ryan.*



**A**t 0450 hours on April 19, 2023, Ladder Company 110 responded first due for a fire with reports of people trapped in an apartment in a 14-story, fireproof residential building. With the building only a few blocks from their firehouse, Ladder 110 arrived in four minutes. Upon arrival, Battalion 31 transmitted a 10-77 for fire out the windows on the seventh floor. Ladder 110's captain, Sami Asfar—who has since been promoted to battalion chief—and the inside team made their way to the fire apartment. Ladder 110's chauffeur informed them that an occupant was at the window, screaming, with heavy smoke pushing around her.

When the inside team reached the fire floor, the public hallway was charged with heavy black smoke. Captain Asfar relayed that information to BC Philip Marino in Battalion 31, and then they masked up and made their way down the hallway to the fire apartment. The apartment door was left open when two occupants evacuated, causing a heavy smoke condition in the hallway. As Captain Asfar crawled into the apartment, he was met with heavy fire and high heat in the living room to his left. He ordered Firefighter Diallo Sambury (irons) to maintain control of the apartment door and Firefighter Ryan Flaherty (can) to hold the fire until Engine Company 207 arrived with the hoseline.

Captain Asfar conducted a right-handed search and crawled about 25 feet down the apartment hallway, past the fire in the living room, through high heat and zero visibility. At the end of the hallway, he located a slightly ajar bedroom door on the right side. He pushed open the door and crawled into the room over heavy clutter, locating a semi-conscious woman and an unresponsive infant on a bed near the window. Captain Asfar informed command that he had two 10-45s. He carried them back



through heavy smoke and clutter, navigating around a table and past the growing fire to the apartment doorway. There, he handed off the victims to Ladder 110's outside vent firefighter, Giorgio Ardamis. Firefighter Ardamis brought them to the stairway, where he met Firefighter Dale Ford, Ladder 110's chauffeur. Together, they removed the two victims to the street. The woman and child were transported by EMS to the hospital. At this time, Engine 207 moved into the fire apartment with a charged hoseline and began knocking down the heavy fire. With more residents reportedly trapped, Ladder 110's inside team returned to the building, but additional searches were negative.

For his bravery and determination in rescuing two people from a heavy fire and smoke condition, Battalion Chief Sami Asfar, the former captain of Ladder Company 110, is being recognized with the Walter Scott Medal.—NG



Members of Ladder 110 at Brooklyn Box 0409, April 19, 2023. From left to right: FF Karim Menard, FF Giorgio Ardamis, Captain Sami Asfar, FF Diallo Sambury, FF Ryan Flaherty and FF Dale Ford.





# John H. Prentice Medal

## Firefighter Kwabena K. Brentuo

**Engine Company 168**

**February 17, 2023, 1326 hours, Box 44-3592, Staten Island**

*Appointed on December 11, 2016. Recipient of one Pre-Hospital Save. Resides on Staten Island.*

**O**n February 17, 2023, Engine Company 168 responded second due to a structural fire at Box 3592 on Staten Island. As the engine approached, members could see heavy smoke and flames emerging from a three-story, semi-attached residential building. By the time they stepped off the rig, it was clear that strong winds were also pushing the blaze into the attached building.

Firefighter Kwabena Brentuo (nozzle) was promptly instructed to stretch a hoseline to the door of the burning structure. This was no easy task, as numerous obstacles stood in his way while advancing the line, including heavy smoke and high heat. Undeterred, FF Brentuo worked quickly to extinguish flames on the exterior of the building before pushing forward.

The main door opened into a small foyer with two short sets of stairs, the first went down and the second went up. FF Brentuo advanced the line down the stairs with his officer, Lieutenant John Sarnes (Div. 8), and Firefighter Lee Megerman (backup). It was here that they encountered more heavy fire, with large flames blowing overhead. FF Brentuo directed the hoseline at the fire both above and below him on the stairs.

By now, fire had spread throughout the building, perilously exposing the hoseline to flames and threatening the safety of firefighters. Just then, a member who was trapped on the second floor transmitted a Mayday. It was quickly followed by a second, more urgent transmission imploring members to "Back out! Back out!"

Back in the foyer, Engine 168 positioned their line up to-

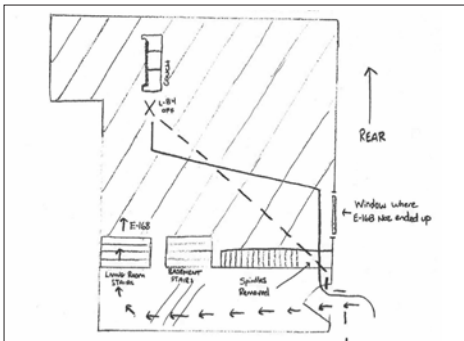
wards the second floor to protect members of Squad 8, who were searching for the trapped member. The engine company continuously hit the flames which were now pushing from above and below them. While this kind of operation would be challenging in most circumstances, limited engine resources on scene made it even more difficult.

Inside the building, members were quickly depleting their air supplies, and vibra-alerts began to sound. Engine 168's officer was eventually forced to leave the hoseline to escort his backup firefighter to safety after he became critically low on air. This left FF Brentuo to operate the hoseline on his own, while still combatting heavy fire conditions in all directions.

Despite running critically low on air himself—and knowing there was no relief in sight—FF Brentuo continued to extinguish the fire until the downed member had been located. By then, his air tank had run completely empty, but he knew remaining in position was critical and continued to operate until the member was successfully rescued.

Exhausted and disoriented, FF Brentuo was eventually able to hand the nozzle over to a squad member but was so overcome by smoke that he collapsed in the stairway and lost consciousness. He was carried out by members of Squad 8 and treated by EMS before being transferred to a hospital, where he remained for several days.

Firefighter Kwabena Brentuo's selfless actions that day undoubtedly played a major role in aiding the rescue and recovery of a downed firefighter, and for that, his bravery is commended with the John H. Prentice Medal.—DB



The first stairwell in the foyer led to the basement (middle photo). The open stairwell led to upper floors (right photo). The circled area is where spindles were removed to gain access to the downed member. (Photo by Bureau of Fire Investigation)



# Henry D. Brookman Medal

## Firefighter Robert L. Wisniewski

### Ladder Company 156

July 2, 2023, 0931 hours, Box 75-3013, Brooklyn



Appointed to the FDNY on October 25, 2021. Holds a bachelor's degree in computer science from Iona University. Recipient of a Unit Citation and a Pre-Hospital Save (2023) for this incident. Resides in Brooklyn.

On the morning of July 2, 2023, Ladder Company 156 was assigned to Brooklyn Box 3013 for a report of a smoke on the top floor of a six-story, non-fire-proof multiple dwelling. Upon arrival, Ladder 156's inside team—Probationary Firefighter Robert Wisniewski (can) and Firefighter Christopher Quintero (irons), led by Lieutenant Brendan Hayden—quickly made their way to the top floor. As the members reached the fifth-floor landing, they encountered a heavy smoke condition indicating a working fire and that the door to the fire apartment was uncontrolled.

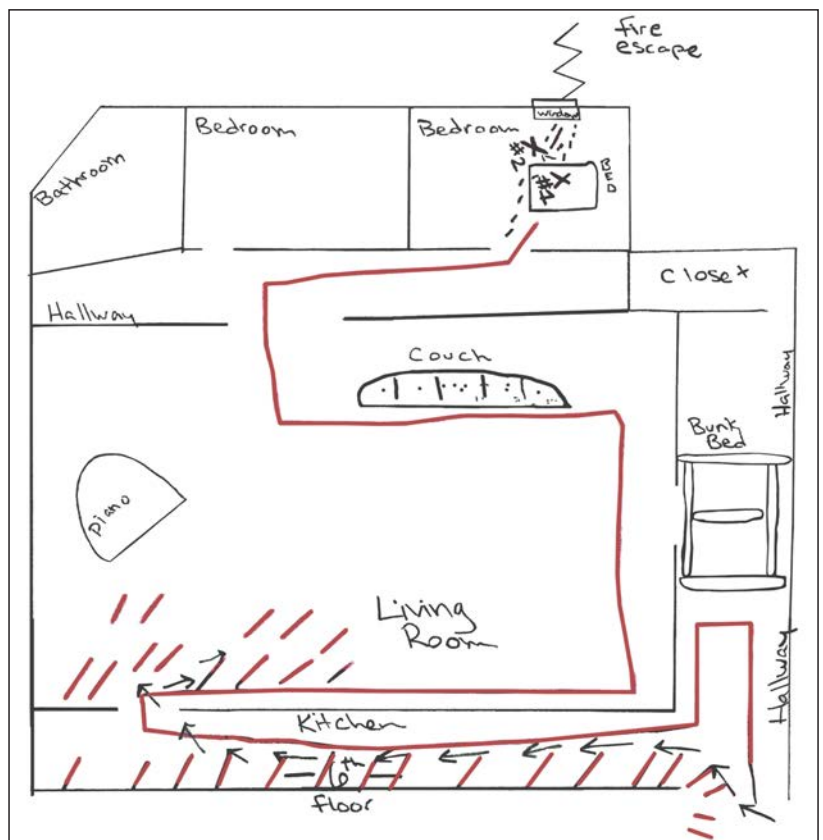
Ladder 156 gained control of the fire apartment door and began an aggressive search for life and fire. The members immediately located the fire in the kitchen, and it was rapidly extending to the rest of the apartment. At this time, Battalion 33 notified the inside team that there were possibly people trapped in the smoke-filled apartment. FF Wisniewski was instructed to use his portable water extinguisher to hold back the rapidly growing fire. By doing this, he was able to keep the fire at bay in the kitchen and quickly pass the fire without the protection of a charged hoseline to continue his search.

Firefighter Wisniewski crawled in zero-visibility conditions through a cluttered living room and was able to find a rear bedroom. He quickly located an unconscious, pregnant female on the bed and immediately transmitted to command that he had found a victim. Given the rapidly growing fire and smoke condition outside the bedroom, FF Wisniewski knew the best way out was out the window and onto the fire escape. While locating the window, he came across a second unconscious victim, a young child. FF Brian Hemsworth (Ladder 156, OV) gained access to the apartment from the fire escape, removing a tedious scissor gate and a window. FF Wisniewski, working alone, then handed the unconscious child to FF Hemsworth on the fire escape. Lieutenant Hayden and FF Quintero then entered the rear bedroom to assist FF Wisniewski with the arduous task of removing the unconscious woman to the fire escape. Both victims were removed to the street, where they received

immediate care from EMS.

As the inside team removed the victims, FF Brian Williams (Ladder 155, chauffeur) followed Engine Company 276's line in as they knocked the fire down. He found another unconscious child under the piano in the living room and brought the victim out of the building to EMS with help from a member from Engine Company 330.

In total, three victims were rescued at this fire, two by Probationary Firefighter Wisniewski. His actions were in the highest tradition of the FDNY. His bravery and commitment to an aggressive search and removal in zero visibility and high heat gave these two victims the best possible chance to survive this fire. For this, he is awarded the Henry D. Brookman Medal.—FW







# Chief Ulyses Grant Leadership Medal

## Lieutenant Kyle Van Nostrand

**Station 44**

**August 24, 2023, 1820 hours, CAD 3539, Brooklyn**

*Appointed to the FDNY on June 24, 2013. Previously assigned to Station 18. Holds an associate degree in emergency management from SUNY Cobleskill. Recipient of a Unit Citation (2015) and multiple Pre-Hospital Saves. Resides in Northport, New York, with wife Michelle.*

In the realm of the unpredictable, where danger lurks behind the most ordinary doors, Lieutenant Kyle Van Nostrand and his crew found themselves on the brink of a life-threatening situation. It was on the 39R3 assignment on August 23, 2023: an innocuous task that soon spiraled into a race against time and an invisible killer.

The assignment began with a simple task of locating an apartment when the initial location was changed mid-response. Lieutenant Van Nostrand placed himself on the assignment to help the crew find their patients. The crew was initially dispatched to an "unconscious call type" for a report of two unresponsive children. As the lieutenant ascended the stairs, his carbon monoxide (CO) meter started to croon an ominous, low alarm. Undeterred, he pressed on, his focus fixed on the task at hand. When he entered the apartment, however, the CO meter's song turned into a dissonant ramble. It was in high alarm mode, a chilling signal of danger ahead. Then it began to scream, indicating more than 400 parts per million. The air was thick with an unseen danger: extreme levels of carbon monoxide.

The lieutenant, realizing the gravity of the situation, quickly directed an immediate evacuation of the apartment. The patients—a mother and two children—were already exposed, with

the signs becoming more apparent. The situation escalated further: As the lieutenant positioned himself on the other side of the patients, his CO meter read "OL"—overloaded. The apartment was a ticking time bomb, the air saturated with lethal levels of carbon monoxide, but Lieutenant Van Nostrand kept his cool, ensuring the safety of his crew and the family.

At this critical juncture, Lieutenant Van Nostrand took command, transmitting the assignment as a 10-80 to indicate a hazardous incident. He assumed the role of Medical Branch, coordinating the situation with precision and calm.

Fire Department resources arrived on the scene and traced the source of the carbon monoxide. Their readings were staggering: around 2,000 parts per million. The apartment was indeed a dangerous IDLH—Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health—environment. Everyone was safely evacuated, and the three patients were transported to the hospital for hyperbaric treatment.

Lieutenant Van Nostrand's quick actions and leadership in the face of imminent danger saved the lives of his crew and the apartment's inhabitants. His unyielding commitment to duty, as well as his ability to stay calm amid chaos, turned a potentially tragic situation into a tale of courage and survival. For his steadfast actions, Lieutenant Kyle Van Nostrand is the 2024 recipient of the Chief Ulyses Grant Leadership Medal.—RL



*Lt. Kyle Nostrand with EMS crew 39R, Rescue Medics Giovanni Cummings (left) and Sharona Hagler (right), who together responded to the C.O. incident, August 24, 2023.*



# Hispanic Society 23rd St. Fire Memorial Medal of Valor

## Firefighter Kevin R. Kuck

**Ladder Company 175**

**December 31, 2023, 1639 hours, Box 75-1885, Brooklyn**

*Appointed to the FDNY on January 14, 2013. Previously assigned to Engine Company 227. Holds an associate degree in airframe mechanics and aircraft maintenance technology from Vaughn College. Brother Battalion Chief Bryan Kuck is assigned to Division 13. Resides in Massapequa, New York, with wife Katie and children Annabelle, Mackenzie and Liam.*

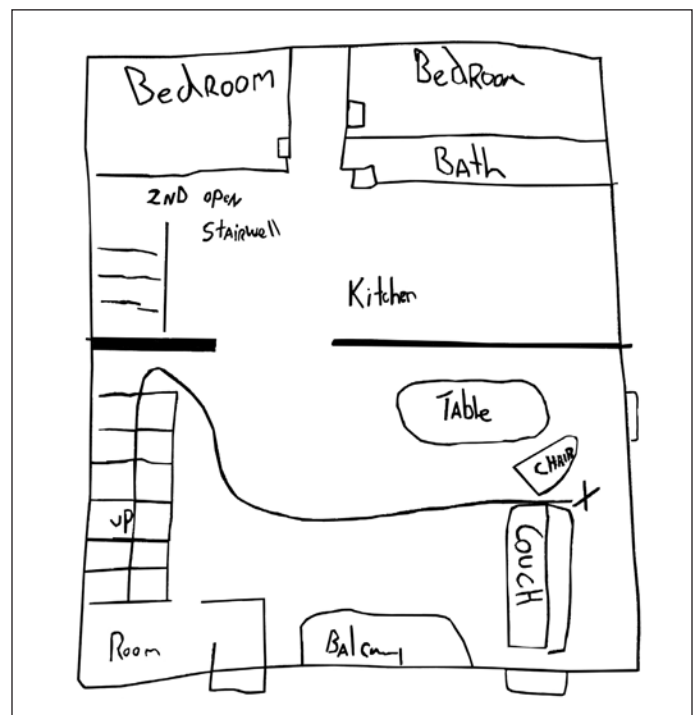


**O**n December 31, 2023, at 1639 hours, Ladder Company 175 was dispatched second due to a two-story private dwelling in Brooklyn for a report of a fire. Upon arrival, units found access to the street difficult due to double-parked vehicles. With reports being received of people trapped on the top floor, members of Ladder 175 proceeded to the building on foot as the chauffeur maneuvered the apparatus around various obstacles.

Upon entering the building, members found heavy fire on the first floor, making access to the second floor extremely tenuous. Due to reports of missing civilians, the inside team of Ladder 175 proceeded to the second floor under high heat and heavy smoke before the establishment of an operating hoseline. Ladder 175's officer, Thomas Murphy; Firefighter Kevin Kuck (irons); and Firefighter Abijah Jarrett (can) carefully searched the apartment. Once the initial hoseline began to operate, conditions on the second floor quickly deteriorated as heat and smoke were being pushed up a second, open stairway. Just before deciding to discontinue the search efforts due to the rapidly deteriorating conditions, FF Kuck heard what sounded like a person moaning. He continued his search under difficult conditions, locating a victim between a chair and a couch in the corner of the living room.

After alerting members on scene that a victim had been found, FF Kuck disentangled the victim from the furniture around her, secured her and transported her down to the bottom of the stairway, toward awaiting EMS members. FF Kuck then immediately, and without hesitation, returned to the second floor to continue his search for additional victims.

The selfless actions of FF Kuck contributed to the rescue of an elderly woman. Based on the reports of people trapped, his choice to operate above the fire, without the protection of a hoseline and under conditions of high heat and heavy smoke, led to the quick and efficient removal of a victim. Firefighter Kevin Kuck's actions exemplify the finest traditions of the FDNY, for which he is receiving the Hispanic Society/23rd Street Fire Memorial Medal of Valor.—MB



*In rapidly deteriorating conditions, FF Kuck found the victim between the couch and a chair in the second-floor living room. (Photo by Bureau of Fire Investigations)*



# Michael J. Delehanty Medal

## Lieutenant Thomas C. Riches

### Rescue Company 2

May 9, 2023, 0214 hours, Box 75-1823, Brooklyn

*Appointed to the FDNY on January 15, 2006. Previously assigned to Ladder Co. 103. Recipient of two Unit Citations (2017 and 2021), a Class B (2021) and a Class A (2023). Brother, FF Jimmy Riches, was killed at the WTC on 9/11; Father, Deputy Chief Jimmy Riches, retired from Fire Operations. Brother, Captain Danny Riches, retired from Ladder Co. 105. Brother, Firefighter Timothy Riches, is assigned Ladder Co. 132. Resides in Brooklyn, with wife Kristin, and children Thomas, Abigail and Luke.*

**O**n May 9, 2023, at 0214 hours, Rescue Company 2 was dispatched to Brooklyn Box 1823, reporting fire in a multiple dwelling. En route, the Brooklyn Communications office notified all units that they were receiving multiple reports of people trapped on the third floor. Upon their arrival, Engine Company 236 transmitted a 10-75 for heavy fire on the first and second floors of a three-story multiple dwelling.

As Rescue 2 arrived, Engine 236's officer was calling for water in the first hoseline. Members of Rescue 2 observed a large volume of fire behind the entrance door, as well as fire out three windows on the second floor. All of the windows on the top floor had heavy black smoke pulsating under pressure. The members of Rescue 2 knew this was going to be a challenging fire, and that time was of the essence for anyone trapped above the two floors of fire. Battalion Chief Edward Walsh (Battalion 39) ordered them to the top floor to search for victims.

Firefighter Matt Waldron (R-2, irons) and FF Edward Dailey (R-2, hook), led by Lieutenant Riches, donned their facepieces in search of the interior stairs to the floors above. As Lieutenant Riches looked up the stairs, he

quickly noticed that the fire had taken possession of the entire second-floor apartment and was venting into the hallway and up the stairs. Engine 236 was able to sweep the stairwell quickly to allow for the members of Rescue 2 to reach the top floor. By advancing into an area with a substantial, uncontrolled volume of fire, the members were in a position of extreme personal risk without the protection of a hoseline.

On the third floor, Rescue 2 encountered zero visibility and high heat. Lieutenant Riches began a determined, systematic right-handed search toward the front of the building, which situated him directly over the uncontrolled fire area below. He entered the bedroom as Firefighter Justin Tallett (Ladder Company 107) was removing a child. Lieutenant Riches transmitted the 10-45 to Battalion 39 and ordered the stairs be cleared to facilitate a timely removal. Knowing there might be additional people trapped, Lieutenant Riches searched deeper into the apartment, leading him to enter a second bedroom. After he swept the bed, he found a second 10-45 (victim) just outside the closet, on the floor. Calling on FFs Waldron and Dailey for assistance, he passed the child

to them. Lieutenant Riches, leaning on his experience, knew that children often hide in closets. He reached into the closet and found a third 10-45. After removing the second child from the closet, he pushed his body through a large volume of clothes to find a fourth unconscious child. Then he thoroughly searched the closet one last time. The members of Rescue 2 carried all three children to the street, delivering them to awaiting EMS.

Throughout this operation, Lieutenant Riches displayed the utmost professionalism. His calm and determined demeanor enabled him to push himself to find three children in zero visibility and punishing fire conditions. Lieutenant Thomas Riches upheld the highest traditions of FDNY. For his extreme bravery and actions, he is awarded the Michael J. Delehanty Medal.—RLL



Members of Rescue Co. 2, from left to right: FF Nick Pearsall, FF Ed Dailey, Lt. Thomas Riches, FF James Lopez, FF Joe Coffey and FF Matthew Waldron. (Photo by Brian Grogan)



# Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia Medal

## Firefighter Justin L. Tallett

**Ladder Company 107**

**May 9, 2023, 0214 hours, Box 75-1823, Brooklyn**

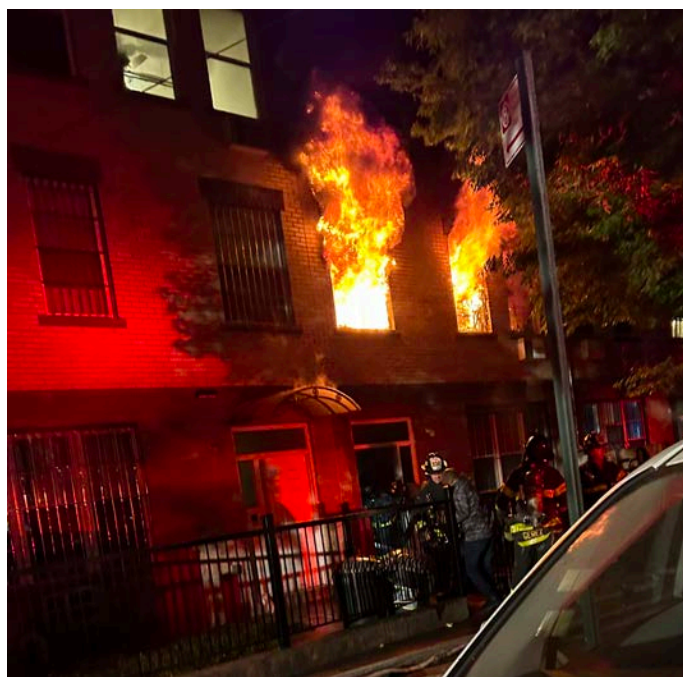
*Appointed to the FDNY on January 27, 2014. Holds an associate degree in business management from Tompkins Cortland Community College. Recipient of a Class III and the M.J. Delehanty Medal (2015), two Unit Citations (2015 and 2016), a Class A (2020) and a Pre-Hospital Save (2021). Served as an Army National Guard combat medic from 2006–2014. Deployed to Afghanistan in 2012 and was a member of the Joint Task Force - Empire Shield (2011/2013). Resides in Whitestone, New York, with fiancée Jennifer Delgado and child Devyn Kurfis.*



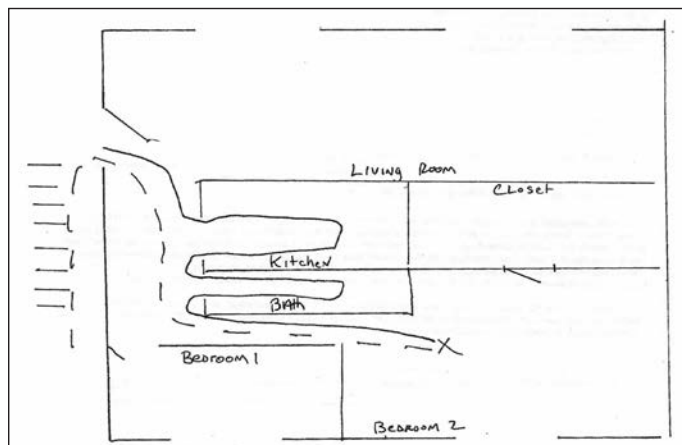
**O**n May 9, 2023, at 0214 hours, Ladder Company 107 was dispatched first due to Brooklyn Box 1823 to a reported fire in a three-story multiple dwelling. While en route to the reported address, the Brooklyn Communications office notified all units that they were receiving multiple reports of people trapped on the third floor. Upon arrival, units were met with fire out the front door, fire out three windows on the second floor and fire extending up the interior staircase to the top floor. Engine Company 236 transmitted a 10-75 for heavy fire on the first and second floors of a three-story multiple dwelling.

Engine 236 was able to knock down the fire engulfing the staircase to the second and third floor before attacking the second-floor apartment, which was fully involved. At this time, Ladder 107's inside team made the decision to push up the stairs to the floor above while the fire on the second floor was being knocked down. On the third floor, the inside team was met with extreme high heat and a heavy smoke condition. Without the protection of a hoseline on the top floor, Ladder 107's forcible entry firefighter, Justin Tallett, searched right, toward the front of the building into a front bedroom.

During the search of the bedroom, FF Tallett discovered a small child lying unconscious on the floor. Knowing that the child needed immediate lifesaving measures, FF Tallett held the child and proceeded to search his way to the top of the stairs. He passed Lieutenant Riches of Rescue Company 2. FF Tallett stated he had a 10-45 (vic-



*On arrival, members of Ladder Co. 107 encountered fire out of three windows on the second floor at Brooklyn Box 75-1823, May 9, 2023.*



tim) and would need the stairs cleared. He shielded the child from the heat and smoke of the second floor before handing the child off to members outside the front door. FF Tallett was aware of possibly more people trapped, so he rapidly ascended the stairs to resume his search. As he arrived at the top floor, multiple 10-45s were transmitted. He assisted in carrying another victim down to the street, making sure they were handed off to EMS. Then, on the brink of exhaustion, he went back to the top floor, where he completed the rest of his duties as the first-due truck.

FF Tallett placed himself in harm's way by entering an extremely dangerous environment with high heat and zero visibility. He showed great skill and never-ending determination, which gave the victims their greatest chance of survival. Firefighter Justin Tallett acted in accordance with the highest levels of tradition of this Department, and for these reasons, he is awarded the Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia Medal.—RLL





# William F. Conran Medal

## Firefighter Jesse Torres

**Ladder Company 17**

**November 24, 2023, 0442 hours, Box 22-2149, Bronx**

*Appointed to the FDNY on June 16, 2017. Holds a bachelor's degree in exercise science from Lehman College (CUNY). Served in the United States Marine Corps (2003–2007), United States Marine Corps Reserve (2009–2012) and National Guard (2020–present). Resides in the Bronx with wife Layla and children Raneen, Laith and Jennah.*

**O**n November 24, 2023, at 0442 hours, Tower Ladder Company 17 was dispatched to a non-fire-proof, seven-story multiple dwelling in the Bronx for a report of a fire. Upon arrival, heavy fire was visible, blowing out of two windows on the sixth floor. Firefighter Jesse Torres, assigned the OV position, assisted with setting up the tower ladder in front of the building before proceeding to the bucket at the tip of the ladder, where he would be positioned to access the fire apartment from the sixth-floor fire escape.

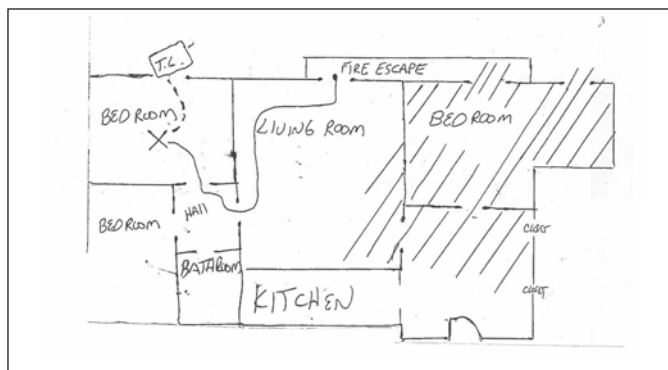
Despite knowing that the critical first hoseline had burst, thus delaying water for fire extinguishment, FF Torres made the decision to enter the fire apartment after receiving reports of victims inside. He entered the living room through the window, where he commenced a search in zero visibility, and under high heat, without the protection of a hoseline. While conducting a right-hand-

ed search, FF Torres made his way to a back bedroom, where he located a semi-conscious, elderly male victim. After transmitting this information to the incident commander over the radio, FF Torres removed the victim to the window and requested that the tower ladder bucket be placed at the bedroom window for victim removal. FF Torres lifted the victim, placing him out of the window and into the bucket of Tower Ladder 14, where he was removed to the street and transported to the hospital for treatment.

FF Torres made the conscious decision to enter the burning apartment from the fire escape and search for victims despite knowing that the first hoseline had burst and water would be seriously delayed. He put his own safety at risk to save the life of another. The actions of Firefighter Jesse Torres reflect the highest standards of the FDNY, for which he is awarded the William F. Conran Medal.—MB



Standing, left to right: Capt. Denis Keating (L-17), FF Richard E. Wahmann (E-60), FF Michael J. Puhli II (L-17), FF Ryan Noll (E-60), FF Alejandro Guerrero (L-17), Capt. Michael Ditaranto (E-60), FF Jesse Torres (L-17) and FF Ellery Liburd (E-60). Kneeling, left to right: FF Steven Kuhn (L-17) and FF Michael J. Duran (E-60). FF Gavin Gonzalez (E-60) not pictured.



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

## Captain Colm J. Brennan

**Division 14 (assigned)**

**Ladder Company 136 (detailed)**

**March 22, 2023, 0442 hours, Box 75-7936, Queens**

*Appointed to the FDNY on February 4, 2001. Previously assigned to Ladder Company 103 (FF) and Ladder Company 46 (lieutenant). Holds a bachelor's degree in social science and master's degree in administration from Marist College. Recipient of a Unit Citation (2014) and a Class A (2023). Member of the FDNY Emerald Society and the FDNY Holy Name Society. Father-in-law, Battalion Chief Brian Dixon, retired in 2003 as a Chief from the FDNY Office of Public Information. Resides in Oakdale, New York, with wife Tara and children Aidan and Riley.*



In the early morning of March 22, 2023, the tones rang in the firehouse on Grand Avenue. The housewatch firefighter read the additional information, and all members of the Elmhurst Eagles—including the covering truck captain, Colm Brennan—knew they were likely heading to a fire. The first-due companies arrived on the scene within minutes of being dispatched. As Captain Brennan dismounted the front seat of Ladder Company 136, he gazed up at the sizable six-story building, hoping everyone had made it safely out of the fire apartment.

Captain Brennan and firefighters Francis Fennelly (can) and James McLaughlin (forcible entry) entered the building and ascended the stairs toward the sixth floor. On the fire floor, Captain Brennan saw black smoke in the common hallway and a woman screaming that her husband was still inside. Knowing there was limited time to save the woman's husband, Captain Brennan announced the information to the entire fire operation via his handie-talkie. He immediately entered the fire apartment to begin his search for the victim.

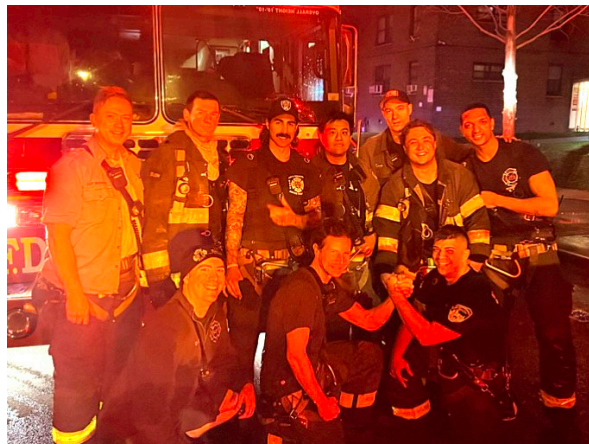
The seasoned captain quickly split up his inside team and sent Firefighters Fennelly and McLaughlin to the left while he stayed to the right. Visibility within the apartment soon diminished as the smoke condition worsened. Captain Brennan navigated around furniture along a 30-foot wall toward the rear of the large apartment. Pausing to use his thermal imaging camera, he saw a wall in front of him that did not extend to the ceiling. He could see flames lapping out from the top of the wall and knew a make-

shift bedroom was just ahead. As Captain Brennan made his way to the bedroom, he heard a faint call for help. He entered the room on fire and found the tall, 200-pound victim wedged between a dresser and the wall. With no time to waste, the captain notified the battalion that he had found a victim and was beginning to extricate him to safety.

Captain Brennan has been fighting fires in New York City for more than 20 years; he knows how difficult it is to stretch a hoseline up six stories in this type of building. Recognizing that the fire would not be extinguished before removing the victim, he placed his body between the fire and the victim, attempting to shield him from further harm. The victim was not only wedged in a precarious position, but also entangled in some wire used to hang clothes. The captain freed the victim and began removing him to the front door.

The limp body of the injured man made it challenging for the captain to remove him. Ultimately, Captain Brennan knelt on the floor with his back to the exit and wrapped his arms around the burned upper torso of the victim. En route to the front door, FF McLaughlin assisted with the removal. FF McLaughlin and Captain Brennan carried the victim to the common hallway and transferred patient care to an awaiting engine. The veteran captain reentered the fire apartment following Engine Company 287 to continue his search for more possible victims.

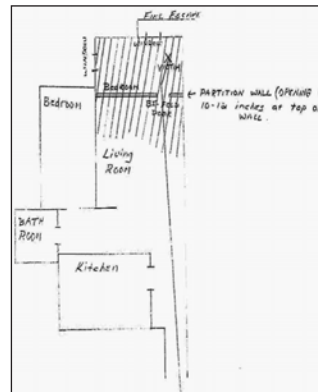
In recognition of his courageous and remarkable rescue efforts, Captain Colm Brennan is being honored with the Chief John J. McElligott Medal and FFs Fitzpatrick and Frisby Award.—SR



Members at Queens Box 75-7936. Top row (left to right), members of Ladder Co. 136: Capt. Colm Brennan (Div. 14), FF James McLaughlin, FF Nicholas Boncimino, FF Kevin Vargas, FF Douglas Chiz, FF Francis Fennelly, FF Harold Rodriguez. Bottom row (left to right), members of Engine Co. 287: FF Timothy Chiarel, Lt. Timothy McCarthy and FF Andy Frias.



View of window of the bedroom from which the victim was rescued.







# Thomas F. Dougherty Medal

## Firefighter Michael P. White

### Ladder Company 129

May 12, 2023, 1133 hours, Box 77-6999, Queens

Appointed to the FDNY on June 27, 2016. Holds a bachelor's degree in Spanish from Siena College. Recipient of a Unit Citation (2023). Brother, Brian White, is assigned to Engine Co. 46. Resides in Bayport, New York, with his wife, Margaret, and children Noelle and Rowan.

On May 12, 2023, Engine Company 273 and Ladder Company 129 received a phone alarm for a fire in a 13-story multiple dwelling. After arriving on scene, the members of Ladder 129 entered the lobby, where two people with smoke stains on their faces stated that there was a fire in an apartment on the eighth floor with an elderly man trapped inside. Ladder 129's inside team—Lieutenant Mike Koesterer and firefighters Mike White (irons) and Kevin Yip (can)—put the elevators in firefighter service. They took the elevators to the sixth floor and located the apartment on the same line, two floors below the fire apartment, before going to the eighth floor. Upon reaching the eighth floor, due to the heavy smoke and zero visibility in the public hallway, the inside team masked up in the stairwell. They made their way down the hallway to the fire apartment to find high heat coming out of the open door.

The members of Engine 273 were connecting the attack hoseline to the standpipe outlet at this time. Ladder 129's inside team decided to enter the fire apartment without the protection of the hoseline to search for the trapped occupant. Lieutenant Koesterer ordered FF Yip to stay at the apartment door and keep it closed while he and FF White made a search. The two began their search in the high heat and zero visibility, with FF White doing a right-handed search.

FF White went past the kitchen and found an open bedroom door with an

extremely high heat condition and fire rolling out of the bedroom. Before he closed the door to isolate the fire room, he swept inside the room with his Halligan and located an unconscious, elderly male who was lying on the floor, past the main body of fire. Without regard for his own safety or the protection of a hoseline, FF White immediately entered the high-heat conditions and was able to pass the main body of fire and grab the unconscious and heavy person. He began to remove the man out of the bedroom

and toward the apartment hallway. Because of the victim's injuries, FF White had to grab him under the armpits in a bear hug. He was then able to remove the victim past the fire and out of the bedroom.

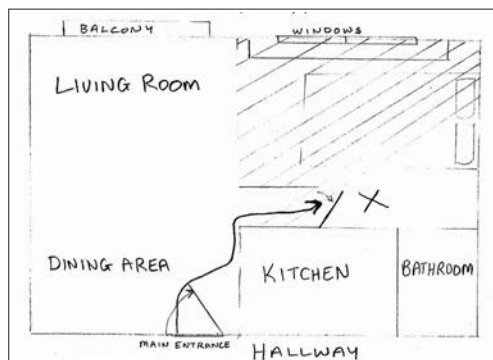
Once outside the room, FF White called for assistance from Lieutenant Koesterer and FF Yip. Together, FF Yip and FF White pulled the man out of the fire apartment and into the public hallway. Lieutenant Koesterer notified Battalion 52 of the 10-45 and the immediate need for EMS. FFs White and Yip carried the victim to the elevator on the seventh floor that was being operated by Firefighter

Edward McGovern (L-129, OV). The unconscious and injured victim was turned over to FDNY EMS, who transported him to the hospital.

Without FF White's courage, perseverance and fortitude, the victim would have not survived this fire. His efforts display the greatest traditions of this Department, for which Firefighter Michael White is awarded the Thomas F. Dougherty Medal.—NG



Members at Queens Box 77-6999, May 12, 2023. Back row, left to right: FF Adam Lanes (L-129), FF Andy Chen (E-273), FF Ed McGovern (L-129), Lt. Kieran Wilhelm (E-273), Lt. Michael Koesterer (L-129), FF Kevin Yip (L-129), FF Michael White (L-129) and FF Dan Going (L-129). Front row, left to right: E-273 members FF Sebastian Medina, FF Alfred Ying and FF Mike Dustin.





# Albert S. Johnston Medal

## Firefighter Jeffrey Rivera

### Ladder Company 41

March 18, 2023, 1606 hours, Box 75-3421, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on February 4, 2001. Previously assigned to Engine Company 72. Served in the U.S. Navy. Recipient of a Class A (2023) and three Unit Citations (two in 2010 and 2011). Member of the FDNY Hispanic Society. Resides in Valley Cottage, New York, with wife Angelica and children Devin and Jathan.*

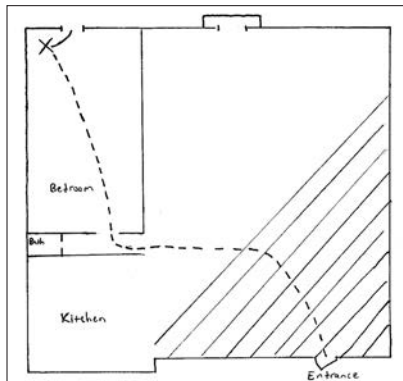


**A**t approximately 1606 hours on March 18, 2023, Tower Ladder Company 41 received an alarm reporting fire on the sixth floor of a multiple dwelling in the Allerton section of the Bronx. En route, the Bronx communications office transmitted that they were now receiving multiple calls for fire and a person trapped at the location. Ladder 41 arrived first due and was immediately met by the building superintendent, who told them which sixth-floor apartment the fire was in and that a disabled occupant was trapped inside.

As the inside team of Ladder 41 ascended the interior stairs to the fire floor, Firefighter Jeffrey Rivera (outside vent) observed smoke showing from a top-floor window and made the appropriate notification over the handie-talkie. As FF Rivera assisted Ladder 41's chauffeur in positioning the apparatus, he observed smoke from the fire apartment window becoming darker and more forceful. Knowing that conditions inside the apartment were worsening, FF Rivera quickly entered the bucket and ascended to the fire apartment.

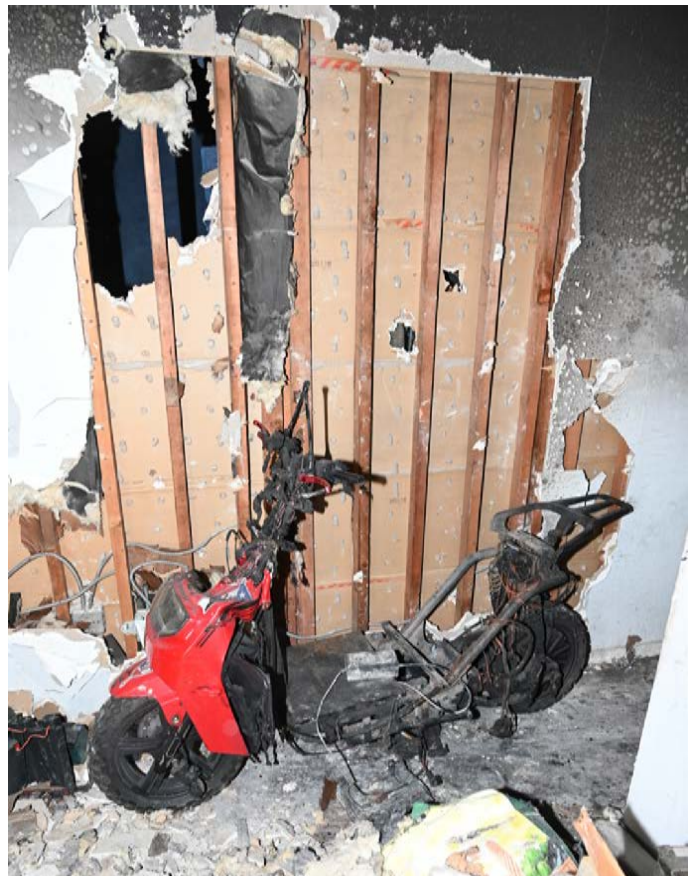
Concurrently, Ladder Company 32's inside team met Ladder 41's inside team in the sixth-floor hallway and assumed first-due responsibilities. Upon forcing the fire apartment door, Ladder 32 reported that the fire was just inside the doorway. This negated any chance an occupant could escape the fire and that members could perform a search until an operating hoseline could control the fire.

Immediately after entering the bedroom, FF Rivera closed the door to isolate the room and performed a rapid search for the victim. Within moments, he came across the unconscious victim, buried under a pile of clothes. Knowing that a hoseline was not yet in position and with fire conditions in the apartment rapidly deteriorating, FF Rivera transmitted the signal 10-45, which would facilitate augmenting the operating forces. Simultaneously, Engine Company 62 was able to knock down the main body of fire. FF Rivera began the arduous task of removing the victim on his own. The



removal process was complicated because the victim was a double-limb upper amputee, causing FF Rivera to use his personal webbing to help better secure the victim and facilitate removal. After moving past the fire, FF Rivera was assisted by Ladder Company 32's inside team in bringing the victim down six floors to the street. He then performed life-saving treatment on the victim until being transferred to the care of EMS.

FF Rivera exhibited tremendous bravery and initiative in effecting this rescue. In the long-standing traditions of the FDNY and due to his valiant efforts, Firefighter Jeffrey Rivera is awarded the Albert S. Johnston Medal.—SI



The battery of an e-bike ignited, which made exiting impossible for the resident and entry difficult for FDNY members. (Photo by Bureau of Fire Investigation)



# Ner Tamid Society Franklin Delano Roosevelt Medal

## Lieutenant Pat Quagliariello

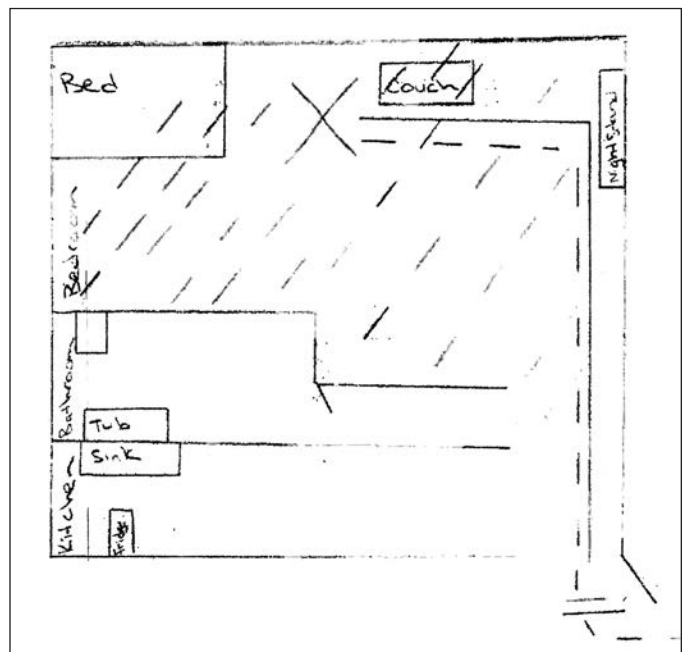
**Ladder Company 156**

**January 16, 2023, 1041 hours, Box 75-2991, Brooklyn**

*Appointed to the FDNY on September 12, 2004. Previously assigned to Ladder Co. 172. Holds an associate degree in fire science and city planning from Columbia Southern University. Member of FDNY Columbia Association and the FDNY Holy Name Society. Works with the FDNY Fire Family Transport Foundation. Resides in Brooklyn.*

**O**n January 16, 2023, at 1041 hours, Engine Company 276 and Ladder Company 156 received a ticket for a phone alarm reporting a fire on the first floor of a multiple dwelling. When the companies arrived, they found nothing showing on the outside of the building. In the lobby, Lieutenant Quagliariello observed a smoke condition and a civilian pointing to an apartment door. When he reached the apartment door, it was obvious there was a fire inside, as smoke was coming from the door and there were burn marks around the top of it. Lieutenant Quagliariello transmitted a 10-75 to Battalion 33 for a fire in the apartment. He then directed his inside team of Firefighter William Brown and Firefighter Manual Rodriguez to force the door.

Once the door was forced, Lieutenant Quagliariello and the inside team were met with black smoke, high heat and no visibility. The lieutenant directed the irons firefighter to conduct a left-hand search and the can firefighter to maintain control of the door while he searched to the right. The search was initiated without the protection of a hoseline, as the line was still in the process of being stretched. As the members pushed into the apartment, searching under the high heat condition and zero visibil-



ity, Lieutenant Quagliariello was forced to his belly as he looked for victims. He moved deeper into the apartment, where he could see fire pushing out of a room and rolling across the ceiling. Without hesitation, he pushed farther and came across the unconscious body of an adult male lying on the floor. He transmitted the 10-45 code via radio to Battalion 33.

Fire conditions had become severe, and Lieutenant Quagliariello knew he had to remove the victim quickly. As he moved the unconscious man down the hall, he was met by FF Brown and FF Rodriguez, who helped get the victim out of the burning apartment. From there, members of Engine Company 250 provided care to the injured man until relieved by EMS personnel. The victim was transported to the Burn Center at Staten Island University Hospital North, where he was treated for his injuries.

Despite severe fire conditions of high heat and no visibility, and with no hoseline for protection, Lt. Quagliariello never hesitated in searching for fire victims and ultimately succeeded in saving an unconscious, injured man. For his actions, Lieutenant Pat Quagliariello is awarded the Ner Tamid Society/Franklin Delano Roosevelt Medal.—AP



Members of Ladder Company 156 at Brooklyn Box 75-2991, January 16, 2023. From left to right: FF Robert Crimmins, FF Brian Hemsworth, FF Christopher Quintero, Lt. Pat Quagliariello, FF Manual Rodriguez and FF William Brown.



# Tracy Allen-Lee Medal

September 14, 2023, 0731 hours, CAD 0901, East River at East 132nd St., Manhattan



**EMT**  
**Matthew J. Kenney**  
**Station 17**

*Appointed to the FDNY on September 30, 2019. Attended St. John's University. Resides in Levittown, New York.*

*Appointed to the FDNY on February 13, 2022. Holds an associate degree in business from Suffolk County Community College. Resides in Holbrook, New York.*



**EMT**  
**Kieran P. Lennon**  
**Station 17**



**T**he members of FDNY EMS respond to a myriad of dangerous and life-threatening situations on a daily basis. It also takes a special and dedicated type of person to become a first responder. The job of EMTs takes tremendous training and dedication, along with the bravery and compassion to put another's life and well-being ahead of one's own. On September 14, 2023, EMT Matthew Kenney and EMT Kieran Lennon of Station 17 displayed all these qualities in a daring rescue.

EMTs Kenney and Lennon were on duty in upper Man-

hattan when they observed a female drowning in the East River, screaming for help. With no other resources on scene, and knowing that quick, decisive action was needed, the two EMTs jumped into the river. From shore, they swam 30 feet to the woman and brought her to safety.

The immediate actions of EMTs Kenney and Lennon prevented what could have been a tragedy. Their actions went above and beyond the call of duty, and for these reasons, EMT Matthew Kenney and EMT Kieran Lennon are awarded the Tracy Allen-Lee Medal.—CB



Station 17's EMT Matthew Kenney (left) and Kieran Lennon (right)







# Vincent J. Kane Medal

## Firefighter Stephen A. Etts

**Ladder Company 120**

**August 20, 2023, 1122 hours, Box 77-1691, Brooklyn**

*Appointed to the FDNY on December 11, 2017. Previously assigned to Engine Co. 308. Holds a bachelor's degree in sports management from Adelphi University. Recipient of a Unit Citation (2018) and a Pre-Hospital Save (2019). Uncle, Firefighter John Burnside, was killed in the line of duty at the WTC on 9/11. Resides in Massapequa, New York, with his wife, Lena, and children, Bella and Gabriella.*

**O**n August 20, 2023, at approximately 1122 hours, Ladder Company 120 was dispatched first due to Brooklyn Box 1691 on Livonia Avenue for a report of fire in a high-rise, fireproof multiple dwelling. A 10-77 was transmitted upon arrival, and after gaining entry to the building, Ladder 120 entered the lobby and attempted to call the elevators. The fire was determined to be on the 11th floor, with unconfirmed reports of victims still inside the fire apartment.

Fire service was inoperable on the elevator, so the company rode "regular service" to the ninth floor. Ladder 120's irons firefighter, Stephen Etts, was first out of the elevator, followed closely by the outside vent, Firefighter Christopher Ferro. The two led the company into the stairwell, where they encountered distressed residents who told them that children were still in the fire apartment. The company found heavy smoke conditions on the fire floor and donned their facepieces. FF Etts and FF Ferro proceeded to conduct a side-by-side search of the hallway from the stairwell to the fire door and, in minutes, arrived at the fire apartment.

The door was unlocked but blocked by clutter behind the door and against the common wall. After confirming the can firefighter was behind him at the door, FF Etts followed FF Ferro into the apartment, making his way through a dark, narrow path and into the rising heat, searching for both the seat of the fire and any victims. He pushed through clutter, furniture and debris until he came upon the living room.

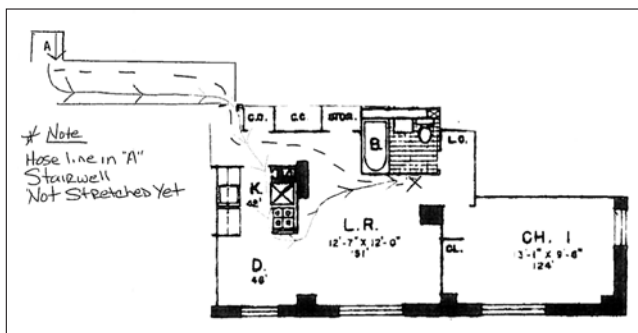
The heat and smoke intensified, causing the bedroom

windows to fail and self-vent in the back bedroom. The bedroom door was also open, which caused the fire to roll overhead, down the apartment hallway and into the living room. Firefighters Etts and Ferro were very exposed, with no direct protection from the extinguisher. The can firefighter and officer were holding fire from entering the public hallway while also clearing the way for Engine 231's line.

At this time, FF Ferro found an unconscious, young child and began removing them from the area. Knowing that reports indicated more children were trapped, FF Etts pressed on and came across another small, unconscious child. FF Etts transmitted the 10-45 to Battalion 44 and pushed back through debris and over furniture to get to the public hallway.

FF Etts carried the child down the A stairwell, past the engine companies stretching lines to the 10th floor. After realizing the elevators were out, he notified the engine officer and ran down 10 more flights, administering emergency care all the way. Outside, FF Etts turned the child over to Engine 283, who continued life-saving operations that were ultimately successful. In total, three children were rescued at the fire, with another found under debris near the front door by Engine 231's officer, Lieutenant James Walker.

FF Stephen Etts moved quickly and without pause into burning, heavy clutter, before the arrival of a charged hoseline, to search for victims in distress. Because of his actions that day, that young child is alive and well. He is receiving the Vincent J. Kane Medal.—JP



Area off the living room where FF Etts found a young child. (Photo by Bureau of Fire Investigation)

# Brummer Medal

## Firefighter Christopher N. Ferro

### Ladder Company 120

August 20, 2023, 1122 hours, Box 77-1691, Brooklyn



Appointed to the FDNY on December 12, 2016. Holds a bachelor's degree in biochemistry from the City College of New York. Father, Captain Neil R. Ferro, retired from Engine Co. 227 and passed away from a 9/11 WTC-related illness; Uncle, Deputy Chief Paul Ferro, retired from the 13th Division; father-in-law, Battalion Chief John (Jack) Oehm, retired from Battalion 32; and cousin Firefighter William P. Ferro is assigned to Engine Co. 332. Resides in North Merrick, New York, with wife Catherine and children Sloane, Dylan and Isla Rose.

On August 20, 2023, Ladder Company 120 responded first due to a phone alarm at Brooklyn Box 1691 on Livonia Avenue, with reports of fire in a high-rise, fireproof multiple dwelling. Ladder 120 arrived on scene within three minutes of receipt of the ticket, and a 10-77 was transmitted immediately. As civilians yelled that kids were trapped on the fire floor, members of Ladder 120 observed violent smoke, pushing under pressure, from the bedroom windows on the 11th floor.

After determining that the fire was in the "C" line of apartments, Ladder 120 made their way to the lobby and attempted to gain control of the elevators. Fire service was inoperable, so FF Christopher Ferro (L-120, outside vent) returned the elevators to normal service and the company took it to the ninth floor, two floors below the fire floor. As the members exited the elevator and headed to the stairwell, they encountered concerned residents who repeated that kids were trapped. Upon receiving the report of the fire apartment's location, FF Ferro and FF Stephen Etts (L-120, irons) noticed smoke pushing around the stairwell door on the 11th floor, masked up and proceeded into the hallway toward the C apartment. Together, the members searched both sides of the hallway, arriving at the fire door in seconds.

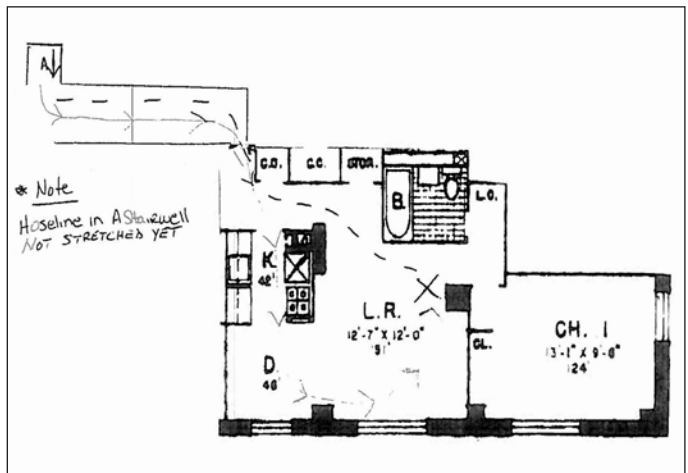
The door was unlocked but blocked from opening all the way. Firefighters Ferro and Etts squeezed through the door and were met with zero visibility, punishing heat and heavy clutter, which lined both sides of the hallway and left only a narrow path. FF Ferro's search was immediately blocked by furniture and clutter, so he notified FF Etts of the obstruction. FF Ferro proceeded through the kitchen instead, knowing it was an alternate path to the living room. But FF Ferro found that his path to the rest of the house was blocked by a large recliner chair and a table stuffed with debris underneath. Knowing that kids were likely inside the apartment, he pushed on. He climbed over the table, crouching from the heat, and into a larger room.

The heat continued to intensify as the back bedroom became heavily involved in fire, causing its windows to fail and self-vent. The bedroom door was also open, and fire rolled overhead and into the living room and down the apartment hallway. FF Ferro and FF Etts did not have the direct protection of Ladder 120's can firefighter, who was with L-120's officer at the entryway, preventing fire from entering the public hallway while also clearing clutter for Engine 231's hoseline.

As the intensity of the heat rose, visibility fell. Searching with his tools and his hands, FF Ferro came across a mattress, flat on the ground, and found a small, unconscious child. The fire was

intensifying, so he immediately made his way back the way he came and transmitted the 10-45.

FF Ferro began administering life-saving care as he removed the young child down to the lobby and out of the building, where the CFR Engine Company 290 took over care. For his actions, which placed him at great personal risk, Firefighter Christopher Ferro is awarded the Brummer Medal.—JP



Area where, in zero visibility and intense fire conditions, FF Ferro found a small, unconscious child. (Photo by Bureau of Fire Investigation)





## Frank W. Kridel Medal

### Firefighter Christopher Ford

**Squad Company 61**

**December 31, 2023, 0035 hours, Box 33-2899, Bronx**

*Appointed to the FDNY on November 18, 2006. Previously assigned to Ladder Co. 56. Served in the U. S. Marine Corps. Member of the Sgt. Christian Engeldrum FDNY VFW Post #12033 and FEMA NY-TF 1. Resides in Port Jervis, New York, with wife Nicole and children Rayleigh and Wyatt.*

It was a Saturday night in the Bronx, and the house watch member had just begun his shift. Just 35 minutes after he took a mark in the journal and squared away his gear, the teleprinter went off with a ticket to fill out for a fire at Box 2899. Squad Company 61 jumped on the rig and navigated the streets of the Bronx, arriving just as Battalion 3 transmitted the 10-75. The "all hands" was transmitted for a fire in the rear of a two-story, attached, flat-roof private dwelling. The building had a one-story set-back with a garage in the rear, which was attached to the basement. There was a heavy fire condition from multiple cars, with the garage area exposing the basement, the first and second floors and the adjoining building. Lieutenant Joe Beltrani split up his members, taking two into the adjoining building and sending Firefighters Christopher Ford and Roger Thompson to the initial fire building.

FF Ford observed an engine and truck operating in the basement and continued to the upper floors, where he assisted in search and overhauling as needed. The fire had extended into the building on both floors. Reports from exposure 3 were that there was still heavy fire in the set-back and garage. Firefighter Ford made the decision to return to the basement.

By now, conditions had deteriorated, with heavy smoke to the floor at the doorway. FF Ford donned his facepiece and slowly made his way through a clutter-filled, maze-like

basement apartment. Halfway through the apartment, he was forced to the ground by the high heat radiating from the back of the building. He continued his search, making his way to a back room where he could see the glow of fire extending into the building from a rear doorway. He maneuvered under the increasing fire to close the door and continued his search in zero visibility. Feeling the wall to his right, he felt a door that accessed another room along the back of the building.

FF Ford forced the door open and continued his search into the room, with fire extending in through the rear windows. Several feet in, surrounded by intense conditions, he found an unconscious and burned victim. He quickly transmitted the 10-45 and began to shield the victim with his body from the fire rolling over his head. FF Ford packaged the victim and began the arduous task of crawling and pulling him out. As he guided the victim through the tight hallways, he was met by Firefighter Gary Thomas (Squad 61, chauffeur) at the front doorway, and together, they began life-saving care.

FF Ford took an extreme personal risk to save this victim's life. He entered the basement with rapidly deteriorating conditions, without a hoseline and in zero visibility. Firefighter Christopher Ford operated in the finest traditions of the Fire Department, for which he is awarded the Frank W. Kridel Medal.—PB



The Bronx third-alarm fire began in the rear (photo on left) of a two-story, attached, flat-roof private dwelling (exposure 1, photo on right). (Photo on left by Joseph John Ramos; photo on right from Citizen app).



# Emerald Society Medal

## Captain Denis G. Keating

**Division 6 (assigned)**

**Ladder Company 17 (detailed)**

**November 24, 2023, 0442 hours, Box 22-2149, Bronx**



*Appointed to the FDNY on February 2, 2003. Previously assigned to Ladder Company 32 and Tower Ladder Company 144. Holds a bachelor's degree in sociology with a concentration in criminology from State University of New York at Cortland. Served as a police officer, EMT-D, Fire instructor I and II, SOC Support and Hazmat, IAFF Emergency Response to Terrorism, boating safety instructor and Probationary Firefighter School instructor. Recipient of a certificate of Merit (2004). Member of the FDNY Emerald Society and FDNY Mentorship Program. Resides in Patterson, New York. His children are Nora and Jack.*

**O**n November 24, 2023, at 0442 hours, Tower Ladder Company 17 was dispatched for a report of fire in a non-fireproof, seven-story multiple dwelling in the Bronx. Upon their arrival, heavy fire was visible, blowing out of two windows on the sixth floor. Tower Ladder 17's inside team ascended the stairway to the sixth floor, making their way past panicked, self-evacuating residents. When they reached the floor, the inside team noticed smoke pushing out from around the door frame of an apartment. One of the occupants of the apartment notified the team that there were still people trapped inside. With the forcible entry firefighter, Alejandro Guerrero, controlling the apartment door, members of the inside team donned their facepieces and prepared to enter.

Captain Denis Keating first entered the apartment, where he encountered heavy, black smoke, high heat and flames rolling overhead. The can firefighter, Steven Kuhn, entered behind Captain Keating and was directed to knock the fire back. This allowed the captain to move past the fire and conduct a left-handed search, leaving FF Kuhn at the front door to serve as a beacon.

While searching the living room, Captain Keating heard a muffled moan; he made his way deeper into the apartment, toward a back bedroom. Under high heat and zero visibility, and without an operating hoseline, he discovered a semiconscious victim. Ordering the can firefighter to assist, Captain Keating managed to remove the victim, who had become fully unconscious, to the front door of the back bedroom. Awaiting members then removed the victim to the street, where he was transported to the hospital for treatment.

Captain Keating made the conscious decision to pass the fire and search for a known life hazard despite knowing that the critical first hoseline had burst, causing a serious delay in putting water on the fire. Entering deep into the cluttered apartment un-

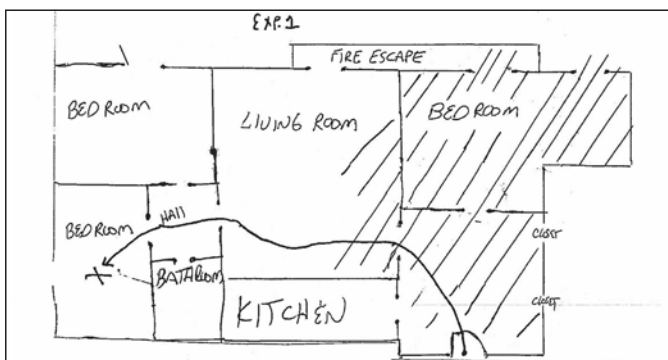
der heavy fire conditions, without the protection of a hoseline, he made the difficult and courageous decision to put his own safety at risk for the life of someone else. Captain Denis Keating's actions are representative of the finest traditions of the FDNY, for which he receives the Emerald Society Medal.—MB



Left to right: Captain Denis Keating (Div. 6/TL 17 det.), FF Steven Kuhn (can), FF Michael Duran (roof), FF Michael Puhi (chauffeur), FF Alejandro Guerrero (irons) and Jesse Torres (OV).



Second alarm, Bronx Box 2149, November 24, 2023—Thanksgiving night tour: fire on the sixth floor of a seven-story, non-fireproof multiple dwelling. (Photo by Joseph John Ramos)





# Chief Wesley Williams Medal

## Firefighter Brian P. Wilson

**Squad Company 252**

**November 4, 2023, 1909 hours, Box 75-0919, Brooklyn**

*Appointed to the FDNY on July 29, 2013. Previously assigned to Engine Company 216 and Ladder Company 108. Served in the U.S. Army Reserves as a combat medic in Afghanistan. Resides in Holbrook, New York, with wife Sara and children Theodore and Franklin Wilson.*

**O**n November 4, 2023, at 1909 hours, Squad Company 252 was dispatched to a two-story, non-fireproof building for a report of a fire with numerous people trapped. Upon arrival, members of Squad 252 discovered intense fire throughout the basement with heavy smoke issuing from all windows on the first and second floors. The incident commander ordered Squad 252 to assist with primary searches of the floors above the fire.

FF Brian Wilson, assigned the “irons” position, was tasked by his officer to attempt a search of the top floor via the interior stairs of the fire building. Due to the intense heat and smoke, FF Wilson donned his facepiece on the outside stoop prior to entering the fire building, then crawled up the interior stairway to the second floor. Under conditions of heavy smoke and zero visibility, and knowing members of Ladder Company 111 were positioning ladders at the top-floor front windows, FF Wilson made the calculated decision to start his search toward the rear of the second floor. He crawled down the interior hall toward the rear, searching only by touch, when he found an inward-opening door that was slightly ajar. He attempted to open the door and felt heavy resistance on

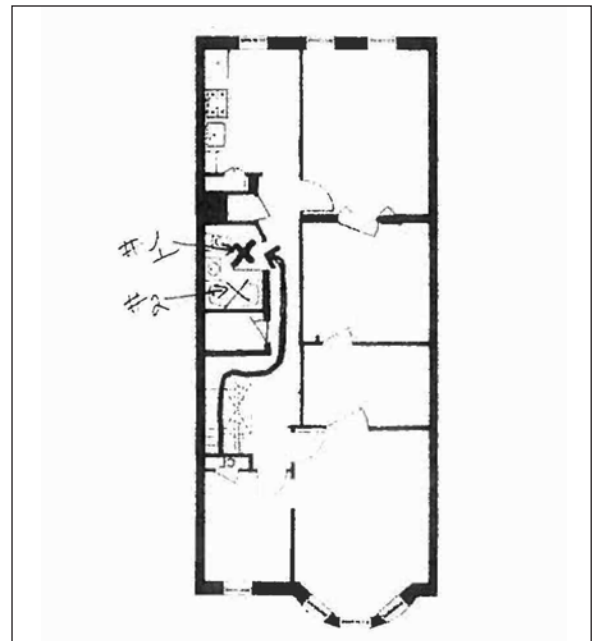
the other side. Reaching through the opening, FF Wilson felt the leg of an unconscious victim behind the door. Knowing he was going to need assistance, he alerted members on scene that a victim had been located and started to singlehandedly force the heavy wooden door off its hinges.

With the arrival and assistance of the officer from Ladder 111, Lieutenant Michael Cooney, the door was forced away enough for FF Wilson to wrap his arms around the unconscious victim and pull her out of the bathroom. FF Wilson, himself a U.S. Army combat medic, removed the victim back down the hall to the interior stairs, and with assistance from Firefighter Michael Esposito (Squad 252, hook) removed the victim to the first floor, where she needed life-saving interventions. The CFR Engine Company 283 aided in removing the victim to the street, where she was treated and revived, then transported by EMS to the hospital.

FF Wilson displayed courage and initiative during a difficult search under hazardous conditions. His professionalism and bravery led to the saving of a life, and his actions exemplify the finest traditions of the FDNY, for which he is receiving the Chief Wesley Williams Medal.—MB



Members of Squad Co. 252 after operating at Brooklyn Box 75-0919, November 4, 2023. From left to right: FF William Gill, FF Ahmed Artis, Lt. Anthony Arroyo (ResBat), FF Michael Esposito, FF Brian Wilson and FF Jason Newhoff.





# Holy Name Society Medal

## Firefighter Joseph P. Masella

Ladder Company 120

July 9, 2023, 2004 hours, Box 75-2106, Brooklyn

*Appointed to the FDNY on December 28, 2015. Previously assigned to Engine Co. 235. Resides in Warwick, New York, with wife Christine and children Jax, Kenzie and Debra-Grace.*



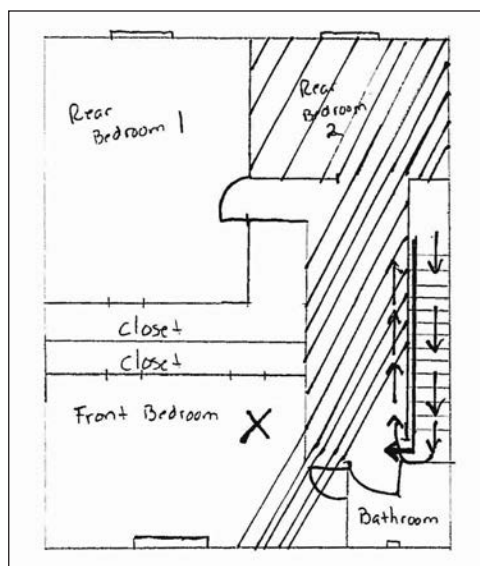
In the early hours of the night tour on July 9, 2023, Ladder Company 120 was dispatched first due for smoke from a two-story private dwelling on Junius Street in Brooklyn. En route, the dispatcher updated that there were reports of a male trapped in the second-floor bedroom.

The 10-75 was given on arrival. Fire was visible from the windows of the second floor and heavy smoke from the floor below. Ladder 120's can firefighter, Joseph Masella, assisted with forcing the door and gained entry. Once inside, FF Masella made his way to the interior stairs, donned his facepiece and immediately recognized the need to clear the heavy clutter on the stairwell, which would impede the advance of all units. He cleared a path behind him on his way to the top landing, where he was met with punishing heat and thick, blinding smoke.

The severe clutter conditions and large furniture pieces blocking the path on the second floor made for challenging and dangerous obstacles for the units, compounded by high heat and heavy smoke. Recognizing that his can would not be able to extinguish the fire, FF Masella instead used it to keep the fire at bay while the line was brought up.



Left to right: FF Devon Philips, FF Matthew Redden, FF Joseph Masella, FF Christopher Geraghty and Lt. Donald Gleason.



He continued his search down a clutter-lined hallway, eventually reaching the front bedroom where the victim was reportedly trapped. There, he traversed more clutter and obstacles to reach to a bed near the window. He probed the surface of the bed with his arm and located an unconscious male who was buried under clothing and debris. He immediately transmitted the 10-45 and began packaging the victim.

With the fire encroaching and fatigue from his limited working space, FF Masella knew he had to get the victim to the stairway landing quickly. He navigated

past Engine Company 231 as they advanced the hoseline to the second floor, carrying the victim downstairs then outside. He administered life-saving rescue treatment before turning the victim over to EMS. Then he returned to the fire floor, where he continued to supplement the efforts of his company for extinguishment.

FF Joseph Masella's extraordinarily aggressive and unwavering efforts undoubtedly contributed to the victim's survival. His actions to secure and protect both the life of the victim and the other members on the fire floor are to be commended. For his actions, FF Masella is receiving the Holy Name Society Medal.—JP



# Chief James Scullion Medal



**July 24, 2023, 1402 hours, CAD 2657,  
Cross Bronx Expressway and Watson Ave., Bronx**

*Appointed to the FDNY on October 31, 2016. Recipient of Unit of the Month (August 2020) and a Pre-Hospital Save. Member of the FDNY Hispanic Society. Resides in Manhattan.*

*Appointed to the FDNY on September 20, 2019. Has served in the U.S. Air Force Reserves from January 2021 to present, and currently deployed until November 2024. Resides in White Plains, New York.*



**EMT  
Denes O. Ravel  
Station 19**

**EMT  
Ada Rosa  
Station 19**

**A**s a first responder, you never know what your next call will be or what type of danger you may face. But one constant is that the FDNY will always rise to the occasion. On the afternoon of July 24, 2023, EMTs Ada Rosa and Denes Ravel, Station 19, were on duty in the Bronx when they were flagged down by a bystander.

The EMTs saw smoke and fire on the second floor of a three-story residential building on Castle Hill Avenue, with a commercial occupancy on the ground floor. The crew

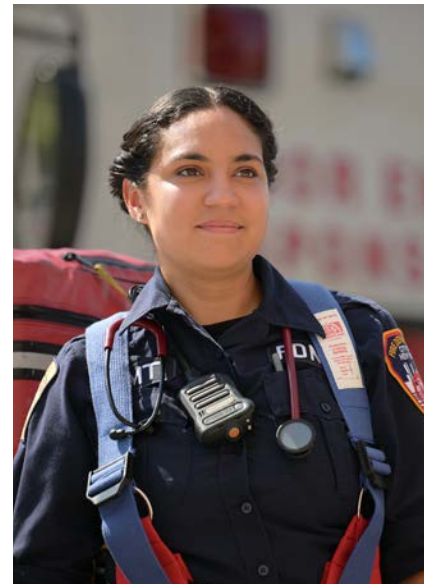
immediately contacted dispatch to inform them of the

fire. Realizing civilians were still inside the building, EMT Rosa and EMT Ravel entered the premises to alert occupants of the fire. They proceeded through the first floor, alerting people and aiding them in evacuation, before proceeding to the second floor. The EMTs encountered thick, black smoke banking down the hallway. They found and helped evacuate an elderly person down the stairs to safety.

At great personal risk, these two EMTs acted quickly and decisively to ensure that all occupants of the building were safely evacuated. For their selfless efforts, which truly exemplify what it means to be a member of the FDNY, EMT Ada Rosa and EMT Denes Ravel are presented the Chief James Scullion Medal.—CB



*Fire conditions shortly after EMT Ravel and EMT Rosa helped safely evacuate the residents.*



*Photos courtesy of Nicholas Truong*

# Captain Denis W. Lane Memorial Medal

## Firefighter Dwayne F. Campbell

Ladder Company 158

June 19, 2023, 2254 hours, Box 22-8664, Queens

*Appointed on June 12, 2017. Holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from Baruch College. Member of the FDNY Soccer Team. Resides in Manhattan with wife Kimberly.*



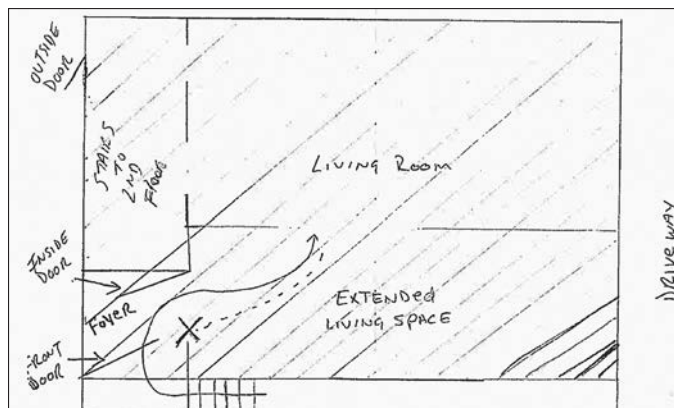
**B**eing trapped in a burning building, surrounded by flame and smoke and without a way to escape, is a terrifying reality that firefighters face every day. It is a rare and harrowing situation that became a certainty for the members of Tower Ladder 158 on the night of June 19, 2023. The quick and decisive actions of Firefighter Dwayne Campbell saved the life of his company officer, who was trapped and cut off from his only means of egress.

Ladder Company 158 arrived first due to an advanced fire in a private home with reports of occupants trapped. Lieutenant Daniel Joyce made entry with his inside team to search for life in high-heat, zero-visibility conditions. With conditions rapidly deteriorating and advancing on his team, Lieutenant Joyce had decided they should double back to the front door when the room suddenly became engulfed in fire. Firefighter Campbell (can), now on the front stoop, realized Lieutenant Joyce was not with them; without a second thought, he rushed back into the building.

Navigating through the fire-filled building, Firefighter Campbell spotted Lieutenant Joyce entangled in the heavily cluttered room, unable to free himself, and devised a plan to get him out safely. Enduring punishing fire conditions as flames rolled over their heads, Firefighter Campbell made multiple unsuccessful attempts to free Lieutenant Joyce. Knowing that time was of the essence and without regard for his own personal safety, Firefighter Campbell stood up in the fire with his knife and cut the shoulder strap off Lieutenant Joyce's self-contained breathing apparatus, freeing and rescuing him out the front door.

This incident serves as a poignant reminder of the dangers firefighters face daily. It also highlights the importance of teamwork and camaraderie within the fire service. Saving the life of another firefighter is about not just

performing a duty, but also the unwavering dedication to each other. For Firefighter Dwayne Campbell's incredible courage and selflessness, we celebrate his act of valor with the Captain Denis W. Lane Memorial Medal.—BC



June 19, 2023: Upon arrival, FDNY members faced advanced fire conditions and reports of people trapped at this two-story private dwelling in Queens. (Photo courtesy of Lloyd Mitchell)





## Uniformed Fire Officers Association Medal

### Lieutenant Josef B. Fischer

**Ladder Company 102**

**January 23, 2023, 0638 hours, Box 22-0335, Brooklyn**

*Appointed to FDNY on August 16, 1998. Previously assigned to Ladder Co. 176. Recipient of three Unit Citations (2002, 2010, 2013) and the WTC Memorial Medal (2014). Resides in Brooklyn with wife Vincenza and children Brianna and Josef.*

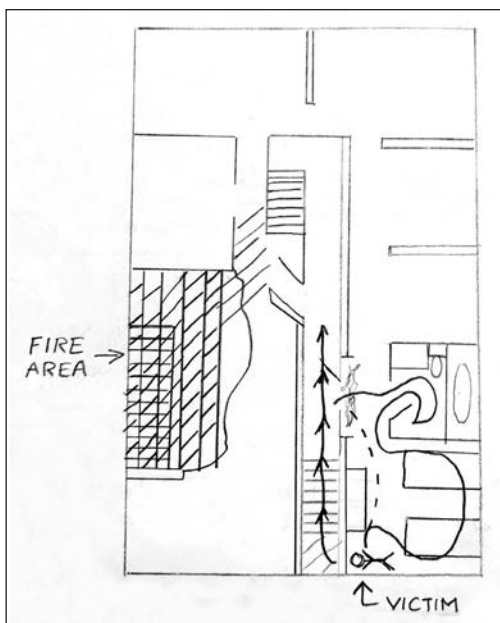
**N**ew York City firefighters know to expect the unexpected, and they depend on their instincts and skills to overcome challenging environments and save lives.

On January 23, 2023, at 0638 hours, veteran firefighter Lieutenant Josef Fischer of Ladder Company 102 tested those instincts when he operated in challenging conditions to save the life of another.

That morning, Ladder 102 was assigned as an additional truck for a fire in a four-story multiple dwelling on Penn Street in Brooklyn. Upon arrival, units encountered heavy fire on the first floor and a heavy smoke condition on the upper floors of the building. Unknown to units at this time, the entire second floor was part of a duplex, and fire had extended up from the first floor through the open interior stairs. This caused all the heat and smoke to become trapped on the second floor.

Ladder 102's inside team, led by Lieutenant Fischer, entered the fire building and quickly ascended the stairs to the floor above the fire. Lieutenant Fischer immediately encountered heavy black smoke and high heat pushing from an open door across the hall. He found the doorway across the hall on the second floor obstructed by furniture and clothes and immediately began pushing through the

clutter to access the apartment. Once cleared, he began to search in zero visibility and high heat conditions, without the protection of a charged hoseline.



Lieutenant Fischer searched ahead into a small bathroom and found a doorway to a bedroom. Inside, he felt two beds and a window, which he vented to relieve the high heat and smoke. He continued his search to find an unconscious female on the floor between the dresser and the bed. He quickly removed the victim toward the hallway, where he was met by Ladder 102's can firefighter, Brandon DiGirolamo. With the help of a member of Rescue 2, the two were able to complete the removal to the street. The victim was immediately treated by EMS members and transported to the hospital.

Lieutenant Fischer continued to search the apartment for more victims through blinding and hot conditions. A total of 17 occupants were rescued and treated by FDNY

members at this fire. Lieutenant Fischer's actions exemplify the proudest traditions of the FDNY, and he operated at great personal risk to save a life. His fast and decisive actions, informed by years of experience, aided him in the successful rescue of this individual. For his act of personal bravery, he is awarded the Uniformed Fire Officers Association Medal.—CB



*Members of Ladder Co. 102 who worked at Brooklyn Box 22-0335 on Jan. 23, 2023, from left to right: FF Sal D'Iorio (LCC), Brandon DiGirolamo (can), Lt. Fischer, FF Kevin Emmanuel (FE), FF Henry Dingman (roof) and FF Mike Scarpa (OV).*



# Dr. Albert A. Cinelli Medal

## Firefighter Alexandre M. Arcuri

Ladder Company 56

March 8, 2023, 1854 hours, Box 22-3351, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on November 12, 2019. Previously detailed to Engine Co. 8 for a year rotation. Holds a bachelor's degree in organizational leadership from the University of Charleston West Virginia. Served in the U.S. Navy and currently serves in the U.S. Navy Reserves. Recipient of a Class A and a Pre-Hospital Save. Resides in New Windsor, New York, with wife Elizabeth and children Chloe, Olivia and Leonardo.*



Critical Information Dispatch System (or CIDS) information is vital to Department operations; it often reveals firefighting tactics or dangerous conditions at a location. This was the case on March 8, 2023, when Engine Company 48 and Ladder Company 56 were dispatched first due to Bronx Box 3351. As they approached the scene, occupants were fleeing the building and informed firefighters of the apartment the fire was in, on the third floor. Lieutenant Kevin Lavelle (L-56) re-emphasized to his inside team, FF Alexandre Arcuri (forcible entry) and FF David Skinner (can), that CIDS stated "heavy clutter—rubbish from floor to ceiling" in this apartment. As the team ascended the stairs, escaping tenants informed them of a trapped occupant in the apartment.

When they reached the third floor, the inside team encountered heavy smoke forcefully pushing from the fire apartment, and the 10-75 was transmitted. Visibility decreased as the door was being forced, making the operation more difficult. Once forced, the door opened only a few inches due to the clutter inside. FF Arcuri tried to push the door open farther by reaching inside to remove debris, but this provided no wider opening. He then attacked the door's hinges in hopes of removing them to allow access into the apartment. When

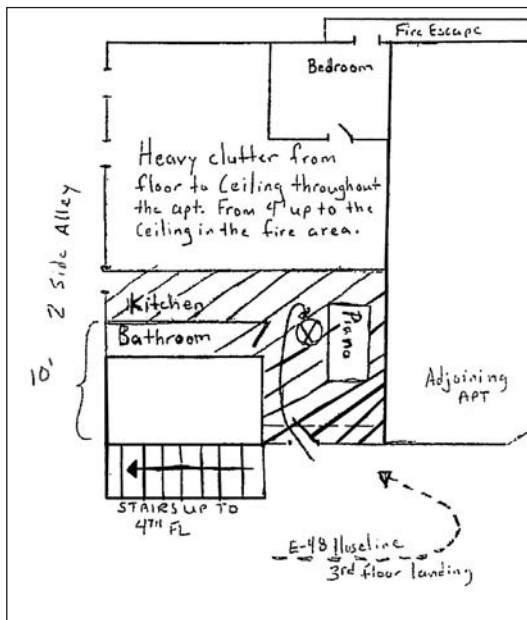
the top hinge released, fire began to exit at the ceiling level toward the members operating on the landing.

As conditions deteriorated in the public hallway, the team coordinated with Engine 48. The inside team forced the bottom hinge of the door but held the door in position until Engine 48 called for water. FF Arcuri knew time was of the essence for the chance of survival for anyone inside the fire apartment. As the door was removed, heavy fire load in the apartment now had full possession of the kitchen and the hallway leading toward the members.

FF Arcuri entered the cluttered apartment and crawled up a 4-foot-high pile of debris to begin his search. With fire over his head, in a high-heat condition and zero visibility, he moved cautiously over the pile of debris as it shifted around. About 10 feet inside the cluttered apartment, he located an unconscious elderly male wedged between the wall and a piano. The victim's clothes were on fire, and FF Arcuri patted out the flames while transmitting the 10-45. Despite the threat of an avalanche of unstable debris pinning him, FF Arcuri used his strength to disentangle the victim and lift him up onto the pile of debris. With fire now rolling over his head, he pulled the victim toward the exit. Ladder's 56 inside team

reached his position and assisted him. With severe conditions inside, Engine 48 operated their hand-line overhead to protect them.

Once the victim was removed out of the apartment, FF Arcuri initiated medical care. He then carried the victim down three flights of stairs to the street to awaiting EMS units. Firefighter Alexandre Arcuri put himself at great personal risk with fire rolling over his head and operating on unstable debris. For his heroic actions, he is awarded the Dr. Albert A. Cinelli Medal.—MC





# Fire Chiefs Association Memorial Medal

## Firefighter Thomas W. Harrington

**Ladder Company 163**

**March 5, 2023, 1949 hours, Box 75-2552, Bronx**

*Appointed to the FDNY on March 8, 2005. Previously assigned to Ladder Co. 137. Holds a Computer Technician certification in CompTIA A+. Recipient of Pre-Hospital Save (2012). Member of FDNY's Columbia Association, Emerald Society, Holy Name Society and Ceremonial Unit. Father, Firefighter Thomas Harrington, retired from Ladder Company 163 in 2008 and was a recipient of the Hugh Bonner Medal in 1996; grandfather, Fire Marshal William Delmore, retired in 1981 from the Bureau of Fire Investigation and is now deceased; cousins Firefighter Amy Delmore and Firefighter William Delmore are assigned to Ladder Company 162 and Engine Company 291, respectively. Resides in Bellerose, New York, with wife Sydney and children Tommy and Billy.*

**T**he saving of lives from toxic smoke, heat and flames is a task that leaves firefighters only a finite amount of time—seconds to a couple of minutes—to be successful. For a firefighter to search, locate, remove and revive a fire victim is an extraordinary effort that takes skill, bravery, training and determination. Sometimes those rescues cause injury to the rescuer themselves.

On March 5, 2023, Ladder 163 was relocated to the quarters of Ladder 31 in the South Bronx. At 1950 hours, just 20 minutes into the re-location, Ladder Company 163 was dispatched first due to Box 2552 for a fire in the basement of a five-story multiple dwelling, with multiple calls and reports of people trapped in the basement apartment.

Upon arrival, Ladder 163's inside team—Lieutenant Matthew DeMatteis, Firefighter Thomas Harrington (forcible entry), and Probationary Firefighter James Spoto (can)—made their way to the exposure 4 side basement entrance. FF Harrington instinctively checked to see whether the door was locked before commencing the longer and more arduous task of forcing entry. Those instincts saved valuable time, as the door was found to be unlocked. Upon opening the door, FF Harrington was met with heavy fire and high heat, which began to extend into the hallway. Lieutenant DeMatteis ordered FF Spoto to expel his extinguisher, which temporarily knocked back the lapping flames. After donning his SCBA facepiece and without the protection of a hoseline, FF Har-

rington pushed past the heavy main body of fire, followed by Lieutenant Michael Conboy of Rescue 3, and conducted a right-handed search.

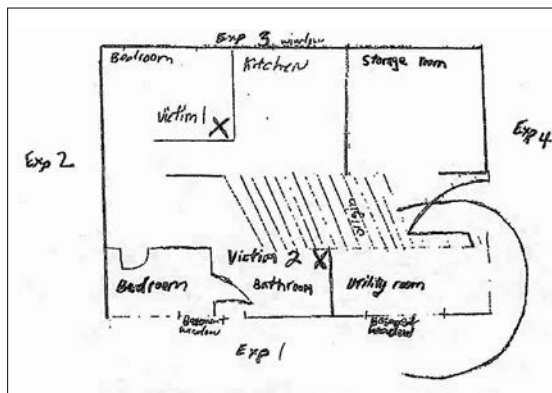
As they made their way around numerous hallway obstacles and entered a rear bedroom in deteriorating black-out conditions, FF Harrington found a large-framed male victim who was prone, unconscious and barely breathing. With a report of window bars surrounding all of the basement windows, the only egress option was to pull the heavy victim back to the main entrance.

FF Harrington turned the victim onto his back and began retracing his route, removing the victim more than 20 feet to the entrance while shielding him from the intense flames. When they reached the exterior entrance, the victim started to regain consciousness and wrapped his arms tightly around FF Harrington's neck, causing him to fall and injure his own neck and back. Both victim and rescuer received medical treatment and were transported to the hospital by FDNY EMS personnel. The Bureau of Fire Investigation found the cause of the fire to be a lithium-ion battery charging in the apartment hallway.

Firefighter Harrington's actions demonstrated courage, initiative and strength while he put himself at great personal risk to ultimately save the life of another human being. For his selfless bravery, Firefighter Thomas Harrington of Ladder 163 is awarded Fire Chiefs Association Memorial Medal of valor in the highest traditions of the FDNY.—SM



Members of Ladder Co. 163 and Engine Co. 325. From left to right, top row: FF James Kelly (received a service rating B for his heroic act on July 8, 2023), Lt. Matthew Dematteis, FF Thomas Harrington, FF Kevin Morrow and FF John Cook. Bottom row: FF Christian Brown and FF James Spoto.





# Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn Medal

## EMT Edward H. Wolf Public Safety Answering Center 2 April 22, 2023, 1338 hours, CAD 2243

*Appointed to the FDNY on June 10, 2019. Previously assigned to Station 39 and Station 30. Grandfather, Ladder Company 8 Firefighter Frank E. Wolf, died in the line of duty in 1951. Resides in Brooklyn with his wife, Celeste. His child is Edward Wolf Jr., and his grandchildren are Jaxon and Camiya.*



On Saturday, April 22, 2023, EMS dispatcher Edward Wolf received a call from a male reporting that his wife was in labor. The patient was a young woman who had received no prenatal care. As EMTs know, this can be a very dangerous situation for both the mother and the child.

EMT Wolf encouraged the father to remain calm while he guided him through first aid instructions to manage the situation as safely as possible. Those instructions included gathering towels, reassuring the mother and preparing the area for a safe delivery. The father then reported that the baby was presenting with two legs—known as a “limb presentation,” this can be not only extremely painful, but also threatening to both mother and baby. EMT Wolf told the father to avoid pulling or pushing the infant. This is extremely important for the survival and safety of the baby.

After talking the father through gently supporting and guiding the child out, EMT Wolf advised him on how to immediately warm and stimulate the newborn to help it breathe on its own. Suddenly, the father informed EMT Wolf that a second baby was beginning to present, headfirst, which is considered the normal position. This was completely unanticipated and a shock to the parents. EMT Wolf quickly shifted his attention to help the father deliver the second child and calmly instructed him, step by step, on how to deliver the baby. As the father followed instructions to stimulate the child to cry and thus breathe independently, EMT Wolf noticed he could only hear one of the two babies crying. Since crying is a newborn’s natural reaction after birth and proves that the child is breathing, the absence of crying must be taken seriously, as it can indicate a life-threatening event or situation.

Without losing his composure, EMT Wolf calmly redirected the father to continue stimulating the quiet baby to cry, firmly encouraging him until he heard the child cry. Once he was sure both children were crying and breathing on their own, EMT Wolf instructed the father to wrap the babies in

warm towels. During this process, the father mistakenly thought a third baby was coming, but it turned out to be the afterbirth being expelled. EMT Wolf was able to talk the father through this part of the delivery process as well. Fire and EMS units arrived shortly after and took over patient care, and the patients were ultimately transported to the hospital.

EMT Wolf performed exceptionally well under extremely stressful circumstances. Dispatchers cannot see what is happening; they have to paint a picture for themselves based on what the caller tells them and what they can hear, and combine that with knowledge of their protocols, no matter how dangerous the situation may be. His guidance potentially saved the lives of one or both newborns.

EMT Edward Wolf’s experience and dedication ensured the safest possible outcome in an inherently dangerous medical situation. He has been awarded the Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn Medal for his stellar performance and for remaining calm under pressure.—GA



EMT Edward Wolf at PSAC 2 in the Bronx. (Photo by EMD Audio Visual Unit)





# BC Frank T. Tuttlemondo Medal

## Firefighter Louis A. Durante

**Ladder Company 131**

**June 20, 2023, 0013 hours, Box 33-0131, Manhattan**

*Appointed to the FDNY on June 27, 2016. Served in the U.S. Navy from 2010–2016. Resides in Port Jervis, New York, with his wife, Sara, and children Luca, Leonardo and Lillianna.*

**L**ithium-ion batteries have become one of the leading causes of fires in New York City. In 2023, these devices caused 268 fires, 150 injuries and 18 resident deaths. The fires are explosive, violent and challenging to extinguish.

On June 20, 2023, Ladder Company 131 relocated to the quarters of Ladder Company 15 in lower Manhattan. At 13 minutes past midnight, Box 0131 was transmitted. Ladder 131 responded second due to a reported fire on the first floor of a six-story multiple dwelling in the heart of Chinatown. Ladder Company 12 arrived first due in fewer than four minutes and transmitted a 10-75 with heavy smoke emanating from behind the roll-down security gates of an e-bike store. Upon arrival, Ladder 131's forcible entry team went straight to the most seriously exposed area, the floor above the well-advanced fire.

In a high-heat, zero-visibility environment, Firefighter Louis Durante forced open the door to the apartment directly above the raging fire. Lieutenant Ryan Phelan instructed FF Durante to conduct a right-handed search while he went left. Due to heavy clutter, high heat and blackout conditions, the Lieutenant ordered Firefighter Jarred Barnes (can, L-118) to remain at the apartment door to sound and help members back.

As FF Durante searched, he saw a faint light through the smoke. He blindly felt his way toward the light and came across the first victim, a female sitting cross-legged and slumped over on the couch. He alerted his officer, and the two of them

moved the unconscious woman toward the apartment door. FF Durante, assisted by another member, removed the victim to the street and awaiting FDNY EMS members. FF Durante then returned to the apartment just in time to assist Lieutenant Phelan in removing a second, male, victim. Once again, FF Durante carried the victim down to the street with assistance. Upon entering the building a third time, FF Durante

joined his team to complete the primary search of the fire apartment. Running low on air, Ladder 131's members retreated to the street, where they exchanged air cylinders before returning into the inferno.

With no improvements in the punishing conditions on the floor above the fire and with time running short, Lieutenant Phelan split his team, sending FF Durante to another apartment while taking FF Barnes to search a third apartment. Upon forcing entry, FF Durante found a third victim lying on a couch. Knowing his location in the building and with no change in the heat and smoke conditions, he radioed Firefighter Anthony Petito (chauffeur) to raise Ladder 131's tower ladder bucket to the window for removal to the street.

During extremely difficult and punishing operations, with heavy fire below and in cluttered conditions, Firefighter Louis Durante located and removed two fire victims and assisted in removal of a third. His focus, determination and resourcefulness in calling for an alternate victim removal have earned him BC Frank T. Tuttlemondo Medal of valor.—SM



*Above: Members of Ladder Co. 131 at Manhattan Box 33-0131, June 20, 2023. From left to right FF Jared Barnes (L-118), FF Danny Rochford, Lt. Ryan Phelan, FF Keith Vonwesterhagen, FF Louis Durante and FF Anthony Petito. Below: Remnants of the e-bike and e-scooter shop where this deadly fire began.*



# Dr. John F. Connell Medal

## Firefighter James M. Lafferty

**Engine Company 76 (assigned)**

**Ladder Company 22 (detailed)**

**August 23, 2023, Box 75-1210, 1906 hours, Manhattan**

*Appointed to the FDNY on August 5, 2007. Recipient of Pre-Hospital Saves and a Unit Citation. Father, Firefighter James Lafferty, retired from Engine Co. 60 in 1998. Resides in Wantagh, New York, with wife Christine and children Ava, Aidan and Liam.*



**O**n the evening of August 23, 2023, dispatch received multiple calls reporting a fire at the top floor of a six-story apartment building on the upper west side of Manhattan. Upon arrival, members smelled smoke, but nothing was visible from the street. When they entered the building, occupants informed them that there was a fire in an apartment on the sixth floor, the top floor. Traveling up the single, isolated stairwell, members of Ladder Company 22 notified Engine Company 76 that there was no "well-hole" and an abnormal stair layout, which could make the stretch to the top floor more challenging.

Although the members still hadn't seen smoke by the time they reached the sixth floor, the odor of fire filled the premises. At the apartment door, Captain Matthew Boone (Division 3, detailed to L-22) tried the apartment door, but it was locked. He then felt the door, which was hot to the touch, and noticed black soot stains around the frame.



Members of Engine Company 76 and Ladder Company 22, from left to right: FF Eric Perez (E-76), FF Frank Piazza (detailed to L-22), FF Andrew Mankowski (L-22), Capt. Matthew Boone (Div. 3), FF James Lafferty (E-76) and FF Patrice Francis (L-22).

The top of the door was also glowing white. While relaying this information to Battalion 11, he directed the irons team to begin forcing entry into the apartment.

After defeating both locks and prying the door from the doorframe, the members were only able to open it a few inches. Heavy smoke began to billow from the apartment as the 10-75 signal was relayed and the members donned their SCBAs. But the door still wouldn't open any farther due to a blockage on the other side.

Firefighter James Lafferty (E-76, detailed to L-22) immediately knelt down, under the thermal layers, and probed behind the door, where he felt a victim on the other side. He was able to communicate with the victim and heard faint cries of "Help me."

Captain Boone immediately transmitted the 10-45 to the battalion as heavy smoke billowed out of the apartment. Unable to reach the victim through the narrow opening in the doorway, FF Lafferty knew he had no choice but to squeeze through the doorway, enter the apartment and pull the victim away from the door so they could open it. Without the protection of a hoseline, he performed a reduced-profile maneuver and was able to squeeze into the apartment.

Once inside, FF Lafferty crawled over to the large victim, who was lying on the floor among cluttered conditions with fire just behind him. FF Lafferty positioned his body between the victim and the fire, which now enveloped the apartment as the flames rolled over their heads. Firefighter Lafferty then lifted the victim under both shoulders and removed him away from the door and closer to the fire, allowing the door to open and give members access.

FF Patrice Francis (L-22) was then able to enter the apartment and help FF Lafferty remove the victim. After bringing him down a flight of stairs to safety, the company returned to the apartment, still without the protection of a hoseline, to complete the primary search for additional victims.

Firefighter James Lafferty's quick recognition of the dynamic situation, followed by both his actions and his communications with other members, facilitated this successful rescue. For his extreme courage at this incident, he is awarded Dr. John F. Connell Medal.—NLG





## Fire Bell Club Medal

### Captain James F. McAlevey

**Ladder Company 117**

**May 25, 2023, 0058 hours, Box 33-7566, Queens**

*Appointed to the FDNY on October 21, 1990. Retired on May 26, 2023, after serving the Department for 32 years. Previously assigned to Ladder Co. 118 (FF), Division 14, Engine Co. 312 and Ladder Co. 117 (Lt.), Division 11 and Division 14 (Capt.). Attended John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Recipient of a Unit Citation and two Pre-Hospital Saves. Resides in Westbury, New York, with wife Genevieve and children, Kyle, Dylan and Jade.*

**O**n May 25, 2023, Captain James McAlevey was well into the last night tour of his 32-year career with the FDNY when Ladder Company 117 received an alarm for Queens Box 7566. The company responded to a report of a fire at the intersection of 23rd Avenue and 24th Street. Upon arrival, Engine Company 312 reported smoke coming from a two-story private dwelling about two houses away from the intersection and transmitted a 10-75.

A sanitation truck parked in front of the building blocked Engine 312 from positioning their apparatus at the hydrant. Ladder 117 was also unable to position their tower ladder at the front of the building for operations. Members of Ladder 117's inside team—Captain McAlevey, Firefighter Joseph Greco (can) and Firefighter John Soukas (irons)—jumped off the rig and made their way to the fire building, where heavy smoke was now coming from the rear and roof.

Ladder 117's outside vent firefighter, Thomas Corona, made his way to the rear of the building and reported heavy fire coming from all of the rear windows on the first floor. Captain McAlevey and Ladder 117's inside team masked up and entered the fire building, knowing that getting a charged hoseline in place would be delayed.

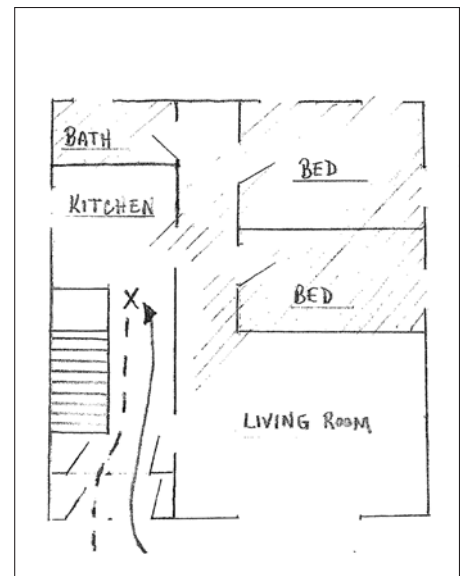
At this time, Battalion 49 transmitted a 10-70 signal and told Engine 312 to use booster water, as there were reports of

heavy fire and members had entered the building. Ultimately, Engine Company 263 relayed water to the first-due engine. Captain McAlevey and Ladder 117's inside team were immediately confronted by high heat and complete black-out conditions at the front door, which forced them to their stomachs to start their search. Members split up to search, and about 10–15 feet inside the first floor, Captain McAlevey came across an unconscious victim and immediately transmitted a 10-45. Conditions in the fire apartment were rapidly deteriorating to near flashover conditions. While Captain McAlevey was removing the victim from the fire area, the ceiling collapsed, and he was struck on his helmet by debris and knocked to the floor. He yelled to his inside team for assistance in removing the unconscious victim. FF Soukas came to his aid, and they carried the victim outside to the sidewalk. At this time, Engine 312 began attacking the main body of fire. Captain McAlevey, with his inside team, continued to search and overhaul until relieved by other units.

We wish Captain McAlevey a well-deserved, happy and healthy retirement. For his bravery, tenacity and experience in rescuing an unconscious victim from a rapidly deteriorating environment, engulfed in extreme heat, Captain James McAlevey is receiving the Fire Bell Club Medal.—KE



After his 32 years with the FDNY, family, friends and colleagues gathered to wish Captain McAlevey a safe last tour and happy retirement.



# Firefighter David J. DeFranco Medal

## Firefighter Nicholas Battaglia

**Ladder Company 169**

**July 10, 2023, 2358 hours, Box 3632, Brooklyn**

*Appointed to the FDNY on November 12, 2019. Member of the FDNY hockey team. Resides on Staten Island.*



**W**ithin minutes of midnight on June 10, 2023, Ladder Company 169 received a response ticket for a water rescue at the Manhattan Beach Promenade in Brooklyn. Responding first due to the end of Ocean Avenue as the assigned water rescue unit, Ladder 169 arrived to pitch-black conditions along a shoreline facing treacherous currents.

According to reports from civilian onlookers and the NYPD, a large, fully dressed adult had been spotted being dragged swiftly out to sea by the current. By the time members reached the water's edge, the current had swept the victim approximately 1,500 feet east, toward the open waters of the Atlantic Ocean.

As the situation rapidly evolved, Firefighter Nicholas Battaglia (rescue swimmer #1) and Firefighter Steven Maceda (tether) hopped a fence and ran down the beach, where they set up a surf rescue operation. FF Maceda attached a safety line to FF Battaglia's life vest, and FF Battaglia headed out with a personal flotation device onto the concrete bulkhead at the ocean's edge. With FF Maceda managing the safety tether from the shoreline, FF Battaglia leapt without hesitation into the water and swam toward the victim through a minefield of jagged rocks, wood pilings and unrelenting rip currents.

Firefighter Battaglia swam about 50 feet before recognizing that his tether line was in danger of becoming entan-

gled in the mess of wood pilings. Thinking fast, he used the quick disconnect feature of his safety vest, continued swimming deeper and farther from shore, and was soon able to reach the victim. It was immediately clear that she

was incoherent, impaired and unable to follow commands or hold on to the flotation device. Battaglia secured the victim's head above water, and with limited visibility, he began pulling the two of them through the fierce waves toward safety.

Meanwhile, Marine Company 3 had responded to the incident, locating the victim under the same pitch-black and wavy conditions, using radar, night vision and a FLIR thermal imaging camera. But the same wood pilings and shallow rocky waters now prevented Marine 3's vessel from moving closer to Battaglia and the victim, so Firefighter Steve Caglione of Marine 3, deployed a rescue throw rope. Battaglia secured himself and the victim to the rope, and FF Caglione pulled the two of them toward the bow of Marine 3.

In a moment of teamwork and true bravery, members of Marine 3 and an exhausted FF Battaglia hoisted the incoherent victim onto the fireboat. FF Battaglia aided in administering patient care while she was transported to the waiting ambulance on shore. In the finest traditions of the FDNY, Firefighter Nicholas Battaglia demonstrated a true act of bravery in the face of challenging conditions, for which he is awarded the Firefighter David J. DeFranco Medal.—NLG



*Ladder Company 169, from left to right: FF John Carlson, FF Frank Dimasi, FF Nicholas Battaglia, Lt. Gordon Reebe, FF Jake Schreiner and FF Jack Kolotov.*



*Members of Marine 3 who responded to Box 3632, from left to right: FF Steve Caglione, FF Chris Mancini and Lt. Shayne LaBianca.*



# Deputy Commissioner Christine R. Godek Medal

January 11, 2024, 1815 hours, Box 3065, Bronx



**Supervising Fire Marshal  
William J. Rohr  
Citywide North**

Appointed to the FDNY on October 15, 1995. Previously assigned to Ladder Co. 157, Citywide North, promoted to SFM in 2019, Citywide South and Special Operations Command. Holds an associate degree in fire protection technology from Suffolk County Community College. Recipient of 11 Unit Citations. Member of the FDNY Steuben Association. Father, FF William Rohr, retired from Engine 299 in 1988. Resides in Setauket, New York, with wife Christine.



**Fire Marshal  
Ian G. Brennan  
Citywide North**

Appointed to the FDNY on August 5, 2007. Previously assigned to Ladder Co. 129. Holds a bachelor's degree in film and television from Fordham University. Member of the FDNY Emerald Society. Brother, Firefighter Colin Brennan, is assigned to Engine Co. 312. Resides in Whitestone, New York. His children are Devin, Kameron and Erin.



**Fire Marshal  
Christopher J. Magas  
Citywide North**

Appointed to the FDNY on May 4, 2000. Previously assigned to Battalion 46, Engine Co. 285, Tower Ladder Co. 142. Attended St. John's University. Recipient of five Unit Citations. Wife, EMT Patricia Magas, is assigned to EMS Division 4. Retired family members are great-grandfather, Foreman John Frankenstein (Fleet Services); uncle, D.C. John Magas (Div-5); grandfather, Fireman Ambrose Magas (L-19); uncle, Fireman Joseph Magas Sr. (E-82); uncle, Lt. James Magas (L-142); cousin, FF Joseph Magas Jr., died while active in Engine Co. 35. Resides in New Hyde Park, New York, with his wife and children, Vanessa and Samantha.



On the night of January 11, 2024, Engine 64, Ladder 47 and Battalion 18 responded to a phone alarm for a reported fire on the first floor of a six-story multiple dwelling at Bronx Box 3065. Upon arrival, they discovered evidence that someone had poured gasoline in front of two apartments and ignited a fire. After confirming the fire was extinguished, Battalion 18 reported a suspicious fire and requested a fire marshal response. The Bureau of Fire Investigation (BFI) dispatched members from the Citywide North Command (CWN) to investigate. Supervising Fire Marshal William Rohr, Fire Marshal Ian Brennan and Fire Marshal Christopher Magas responded to the scene. They immediately began a forensic examination and collected evidence. Interviews were conducted with witnesses, and security camera footage was reviewed to identify the individual responsible for setting the fire.

After completing their investigatory tasks, the team gathered their equipment and exited the building to return to the fire marshal rig. While leaving, Fire Marshal Magas noticed two males up the block, one of whom was behaving suspiciously. As Fire Marshal Magas walked toward the FD vehicle, he heard multiple gunshots from that direction. The team quickly took cover as the two suspects ran toward them. When the perpetrators approached the corner, Fire Marshal Magas drew his firearm and shouted, "Police—don't move!" Simultaneously, Supervising Fire Marshal Rohr and Fire Marshal Brennan turned the corner with their weapons drawn, ordering the suspects to the ground with

their hands raised.

Once the suspects complied with the commands, Supervising Fire Marshal Rohr requested police backup, transmitting a 10-85 over the NYPD frequency. Fire Marshal Magas searched the first male and recovered a loaded firearm with a high-capacity magazine. The suspects were immediately handcuffed and taken into custody. Supervising Fire Marshal Rohr then radioed the Bronx Fire Dispatcher for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to attend to the male victim who had been shot. Multiple NYPD units arrived on the scene, and both suspects were transferred into their custody.

Fire Marshal Magas accompanied members of the NYPD Organized Crime Control Bureau to the precinct, where the NYPD Evidence Collection Team (ECT) took possession of the recovered firearm for processing. Fire Marshal Brennan and Supervising Fire Marshal Rohr also went to the precinct to provide statements and assist with the investigation.

Quick thinking and swift action by the fire marshals brought a potentially dangerous situation under control, preventing further harm and ensuring the safety of all involved. Their bravery and professionalism in confronting armed suspects exemplify the highest standards of service and dedication to duty. In recognition of their valor and commitment to public safety, Supervising Fire Marshal William Rohr, Fire Marshal Christopher Magas and Fire Marshal Ian Brennan are awarded the prestigious Deputy Commissioner Christine R. Godek Medal.—MJK

# Probationary Firefighter Thomas A. Wylie Medal

## Firefighter Matthew Goicochea

**Ladder Company 41**

**August 14, 2023, 0117 hours, Box 75-3211, Bronx**

*Appointed to the FDNY on September 12, 2022. Holds a bachelor's degree in communication arts from St. John's University. Resides in the Bronx.*

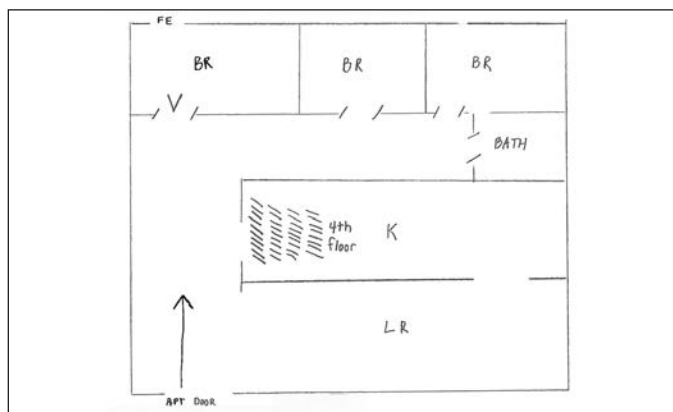


**O**n August 14, 2023, at 0115 hours, Tower Ladder Company 41 received an alarm reporting fire on the fourth floor of a six-story multiple dwelling in the Morris Park section of the Bronx. En route, the Bronx communications office announced to the incoming units they were now receiving multiple calls for multiple addresses, all reporting fire. Tower Ladder 41 arrived first due and was waved down by a civilian in the street who indicated the correct address and the floor on which the fire was located. The inside team—Captain Paul DeLeo, Firefighter Matthew Goicochea (can) and Firefighter Jack Ryan-Ackerman (irons)—along with Lieutenant Chris Lucarelli (Engine Company 90) rapidly ascended to the fourth floor.

While the inside team made their way up, Firefighter Joe Verrino (L-41, outside vent) informed the inside team that he had smoke now showing from a fourth-floor window. FF Verrino helped position the apparatus with Ladder 41's chauffeur, FF John Augeri, and entered the bucket. As Firefighters Goicochea and Ryan-Ackerman forced the apartment door, Captain DeLeo transmitted the signal 10-75, and they began their search.

After locating the fire in the kitchen, Captain DeLeo ordered FF Goicochea to hold the fire back with the can while he and Firefighter Ryan Ackerman searched deeper into the large apartment. As the can extinguisher was fully expended, FF Goicochea continued the primary search of the apartment. In blinding visibility, he came across an unconscious victim in a rear bedroom, and he transmitted the 10-45. Realizing the victim was entangled in a wheelchair, FF Goicochea worked quickly to begin removing the victim. With conditions in the fire apartment rapidly worsening and no hoseline yet in place, FF Goicochea made his move past the now-extending fire while shielding the victim with his body. He removed the victim out of the apartment and into the public hallway, where he was assisted by other members in removing the victim to the ambulance. The victim was transferred to EMS and transported to a local hospital.

At great personal risk, FF Goicochea's quick and decisive actions led to the rescue, removal and prompt emergency medical care of this victim. For this act of bravery in keeping with the highest traditions of the FDNY, Firefighter Matthew Goicochea is awarded Probationary Firefighter Thomas A. Wylie Medal.—SI



Smoke emanates from the fire apartment on the fourth floor as FDNY members put water on the fire. (Photo by Citizen app)





# Firefighter Kevin C. Kane Medal

## Captain Joseph J. Reznick

**Engine Company 304**

**July 11, 2023, 1533 hours, Box 75-6672, Queens**

*Appointed to FDNY on January 27, 2002. Previously assigned to Ladder Co. 125 (FF) and Engine Co. 83 (Lt.). Recipient of five Pre-Hospital Saves. Member of the FDNY Holy Name Society, Pulaski Association and baseball and softball teams. Holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Concordia College. Brother, Battalion Chief Timothy Reznick, is assigned to Division 6, and brother FF Thomas Reznick is assigned to Ladder Co. 150. Resides in Whitestone, New York.*

**O**n Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at 1533 hours, Engine Company 304 responded second due to Queens Box 6672 for a report of a fire on the first floor of a three-story multiple dwelling. The first-due engine, Engine Company 301, transmitted a 10-75 for fire venting out two windows on the first floor. Engine 304 arrived on scene as members of Engine 301 began a lengthy hose stretch from the street through a large courtyard to the fire building. Captain Joseph Reznick (E-304) ordered his members to assist Engine 301 with the stretch and made his way toward the fire building.

In the building's front courtyard, Captain Reznick encountered a frantic woman who screamed that her family was trapped on the second floor. Lieutenant John Hasemann (E-301) notified Captain Reznick that water would be delayed due to the long hose stretch. With the credible report from the family member, Captain Reznick decided to make his way to the floor above the fire and search for the possible trapped family members.

Upon entering the fire building, Captain Reznick was immediately met by thick black smoke and zero visibility. He crawled down the first-floor hallway, past the fire apartment, and hit the base of the open interior stairs. Without a charged hoseline in position, he ascended the stairs to the second floor and began searching the hallway. At this point, Lieutenant Daniel Stanton (L-150) transmitted that the door containing the fire was burning away and that the fire was extending out into the hallway. Captain Reznick

knew time was not on his side and heard Tower Ladder 162's inside team making their way up the stairs to his location. At that same moment, he came across an unconscious victim. He called out to Captain Twomey (L-162) for assistance, and the 10-45 signal was transmitted. Captain Reznick and TL-162's inside team, Firefighters Timothy Brenner and Santino DeGregorio, removed the victim down the stairs and out of the building.

Captain Reznick then heard Captain Twomey transmit a second 10-45 from the second-floor hallway. He made his way back past the fire apartment on the first floor and up the stairs, where he found Captain Twomey pulling the second victim toward the stairs. Captain Twomey handed off the second victim to Captain Reznick and TL-162's inside team again. Once the second victim was safely outside the building, Captain Reznick heard Captain Twomey transmit a third 10-45 from the second-floor hallway. Captain Reznick and TL-162's inside team met Captain Twomey on the second floor yet again, and FF Brenner and Captain Reznick removed the third unconscious victim safely outside the building. Captain Reznick then returned to the fire floor and met up with his company, Engine 304, who were backing up the first hoseline in the fire apartment.

Due to the teamwork and tremendous efforts of Engine 304 and Tower Ladder 162, all three victims survived this incident. For his initiative and bravery at this incident, Captain Joseph Reznick is being awarded the Firefighter Kevin C. Kane Medal.—KC



*Operations at Queens Box 75-6672, July 11, 2023. Photo from Citizen app.*



*Members at Queens Box 75-6672, July 11, 2023, from left to right: Captain Joseph Reznick (E-304), FF Michael Hannan (E-251), FF Jon-Erik Banninger (E-304), FF Anthony Baker (E-304) and FF Daniel Ford (E-304).*

# Captain John J. Drennan Memorial Medal

## Captain Michael G. Twomey

**Division 14 (assigned)**

**Ladder Company 162 (detailed)**

**July 11, 2023, 1533 hours, Box 75-6672, Queens**

*Appointed to the FDNY on February 4, 2001. Previously assigned to Engine Co. 231 and Ladder Co. 120 (FF), and to Ladder Co. 136 (Lt.). Holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Fordham University. Recipient of two unit citations, four Pre-Hospital Saves and a Class A. Member of FDNY Emerald Society and FDNY Holy Name Society. Uncle, Lieutenant Dennis Twomey retired from Engine Co. 297 in 1991. Resides in Floral Park, New York, with his wife, Katie, and children, Brendan and Declan.*



On June 11, 2023, at 1533 hours, Tower Ladder Company 162 was assigned second due to a report of a fire in a three-story, non-fireproof multiple dwelling. The Queens dispatcher advised all responding units that multiple calls were being received, all reporting a fire with people possibly trapped. Engine Company 301 and Ladder Company 150 arrived first due and transmitted the 10-75 for fire venting out the windows on the first floor.

Tower Ladder 162 arrived just after the 10-75 was transmitted, and Captain Michael Twomey (Division 14), Firefighter Santino DeGregorio (irons) and Firefighter Timothy Brenner (can) quickly made their way to the entrance of the building and were met by a frantic resident who screamed that people were trapped on the second floor. Upon receiving this report and seeing that the first hoseline would be delayed due to a very long stretch, Captain Twomey and TL-162's inside team entered the fire building and were immediately met with thick smoke and zero visibility.

Without the protection of a charged hoseline, the team crawled down the first-floor hallway and past the fire apartment door in high heat, heading toward the open interior stairs. After ascending the stairs and reaching the second-floor landing, they encountered Captain Joseph Reznick (E-304), who had just located an unconscious woman in the hallway. The signal 10-45 was transmitted for the victim, and TL-162's inside team assisted Capt. Reznick in removing the victim.

While they removed the vic-

tim down the stairs, Captain Twomey continued searching the second-floor hallway. Even though he was searching in blackout conditions, with high heat coming from the fire apartment below, he located a second victim in the hallway. He transmitted the 10-45 signal and began removing the unconscious victim back down the hallway, toward the stairs. Captain Reznick and TL-162's inside team headed back upstairs and helped remove the second victim to the street.

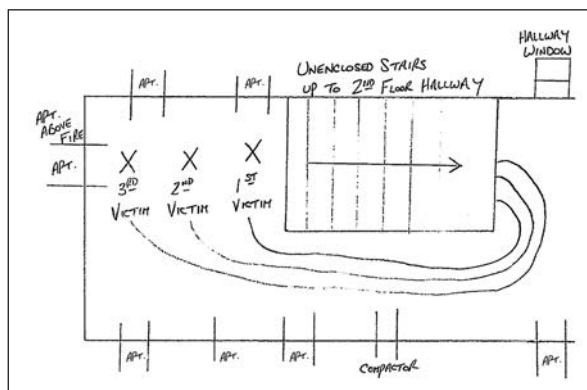
Captain Twomey returned to the second-floor hallway yet again and located a third unconscious victim at the far end of the hallway. After transmitting another 10-45, he began removing the victim down the hallway toward the stairs. Captain Reznick and TL-162's inside team, yet again, helped Captain Twomey remove the victim to the street.

The nearly exhausted inside team then returned to the second floor, forced entry to the exposed apartments above the fire and conducted primary searches until later relieved. All the victims were treated by Engine Company 326 and EMS units on scene and transported to local hospitals. All three victims survived.

As stated by Deputy Chief McBride, Division 14, "Captain Twomey put himself at risk by going above the fire without the protection of a charged line. He found not one, but two unconscious victims and, with the assistance of his inside team and Captain Reznick of Engine 304, quickly and seamlessly removed three total victims to the front of building." It is for these heroic actions that Captain Michael Twomey is receiving the Captain John J. Drennan Memorial Medal.—KC



Ladder Co. 62's inside team from Queens Box 75-6672, July 11, 2023. From left to right: FF Timothy Brenner, Capt. Michael Twomey (Div. 14, L-162 UFO) and FF Santino DeGregorio.





# Jack Pintchik Medal

March 16, 2023, 1000 hours, CAD 1309, Bronx



**Paramedic**  
**Alexander J. Bases**  
**Station 4**

*Appointed to the FDNY on September 13, 2021. Previously assigned to Station 19. Holds a bachelor's degree in paramedicine and an associate degree in fire science from the University of New Haven. Recipient of a Pre-Hospital Save and COVID-19 ribbon. Resides in Scarsdale, New York.*



**EMT**  
**Paolo Samaritano**  
**Queens Tactical Response Group**

*Appointed to the FDNY on October 11, 2022. Previously assigned to Station 19. Resides in Garden City, New York, with wife Hailey.*

**T** rue to the Bronx Station 19's motto, "Never Tell Us the Odds," CAD 1309 on Thursday, March 16, 2023, posed challenging odds for the crew of 19E2. EMTs Paolo Samaritano, just three months into his internship, and Alexander Bases—since promoted to paramedic on November 19, 2023—tackled dangerous odds, leveraged unique problem-solving and risked their lives to save a patient suffering from acute, dangerous, suicidal behavior.

A social worker, who was the on-site director of an in-patient facility, contacted 911 to relay that a patient residing on the top floor of a four-story multiple dwelling was expressing concerning visual/auditory hallucinations and in need of acute treatment and assistance. When EMTs Alexander and Paolo arrived on scene, NYPD informed the crew that the patient had barricaded themselves behind a locked apartment door.

While awaiting the arrival of NYPD's ESU, EMT Bases noticed the door's handle was unlocked and a door chain was in place, preventing access to the patient. Leveraging both creativity and ingenuity, as well as a desire to assure their patient's safety, EMT Bases used roller gauze to unhook the door chain. With the obstacle resolved, EMT Samaritano and NYPD members attempted to gain access to the patient's apartment; however, they discovered the patient had moved the refrigerator in front of the door. In spite of this physical barrier, and thanks to EMT Bases' quick thinking in removing the door chain,



both the NYPD and EMT Samaritano were able to glance into the patient's unit. What they saw immediately elicited both urgency and concern: The patient was beginning to climb outside his window. Thanks to an appropriate scene size-up, all first responders were aware that there was no fire escape or ledge on the building's exterior. The patient was in imminent danger of plummeting four floors.

Through the persistence of NYPD and EMT Samaritano, the refrigerator was pushed with enough force to allow entry into the patient's unit. NYPD and EMT Samaritano immediately rushed toward the patient, now dangling outside the window, and grabbed the patient's hands to prevent an imminent fall. Realizing the patient needed additional support to prevent a fall, EMT Samaritano immediately opened the parallel window, which allowed him to provide additional stability to the still-dangling patient. EMT Samaritano braced himself against the wall and reached out, placing his whole upper body outside the window to further stabilize the patient and provide additional support to the ongoing rescue.

Thanks to the quick thinking of all first responders, who worked seamlessly together to overcome physical barricades and an imminent fall from the fourth floor, the patient was pulled back into their unit and provided immediate care. For their coordination, resilience and determination against steep odds, EMT Paolo Samaritano and now-Paramedic Alexander Bases have been awarded the Jack Pintchik Medal.—BR

# Captain Alison Russo North Star Medal

## Lieutenant Justin P. O'Grady

Station 18

May 22, 2023, 1630 hours, CAD 3203, Bronx

*Appointed to the FDNY on September 27, 2010. Previously assigned to Station 26 and Station 55. Holds an associate degree in automotive technology from Lincoln Tech. Recipient of the Tracy Allen-Lee Medal (2014). Has a child named Arianna. Resides in the Bronx.*



**O**n May 22, 2023, a seemingly ordinary day at the St. Barnabas Hospital, FDNY ambulance 19C2 pulled into the emergency bay when an unexpected turn of events unraveled. The patient of 19C2, in an apparent state of distress, leaped out of the ambulance and bolted toward the hospital's retaining wall. This is not just any wall, but one with a daunting 20-foot drop to the concrete sidewalk below. The patient, now drenched from standing in the sprinkler that lined the retaining wall, contemplated the precipice before him. He perched himself and prepared to leap.

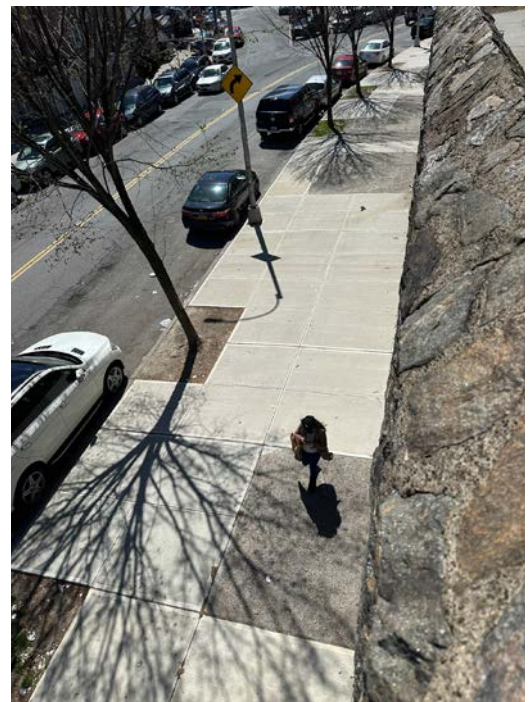
At that moment, Lieutenant Justin O'Grady, operating as C182, along with Lieutenant Miguel Flores, started moving toward him. They requested NYPD backup, as the urgency of the situation was palpable. Though Lieutenants O'Grady and Flores attempted to calm the patient, he was seemingly oblivious to how perilous his position was and attempted a reckless plunge over the wall. With his body halfway over the edge and legs flailing in the open air, Lieutenant O'Grady reached out and pulled him back from the brink.

The patient's response to his life being saved was combative; a punch aimed at the lieutenant's face, however, failed to connect. Together, Lieutenant O'Grady, Lieutenant Flores and the crew of 19C2 safely restrained him before he could harm himself or anyone else. Amid the chaos, they placed an-



other call for additional backup and alerted the NYPD once more. An employee from SeniorCare Logistics emerged from the crowd, wheeling out a stretcher from a spare St. Barnabas unit. The saviors carefully placed the patient on the stretcher and wheeled him back into the emergency room for evaluation.

This incident serves as a stark reminder of the unpredictable nature of emergency medical services and the courageous efforts made every day by those committed to preserving life. A routine day at St. Barnabas Hospital turned into a life-saving intervention, proving that heroism can indeed be found in the most unexpected of places. For his quick actions and selfless deed, Lieutenant Justin O'Grady receives the Captain Alison Russo North Star Medal.—RL



The retaining wall where Lt. Justin O'Grady saved a patient from falling 20 feet to the street below.



**AWARDED EVERY 3 YEARS**

## **Lieutenant James Curran/NYFFs Burn Center Foundation Father Julian F. Deeken Memorial Medal**



Left to right: Lieutenant David Wirta, FF Brendan Lorino, FF Christopher Carlin, FF Nicholas Rose-Meyer and FF Michael LaPietra.

### **Engine Company 48**

**Lieutenant David J. Wirta  
Firefighter Christopher G. Carlin  
Firefighter Michael A. LaPietra  
Firefighter Brendan T. Lorino  
Firefighter Nicholas L. Rose-Meyer**

**January 9, 2022, 1058 hours, Box 55-3162, Bronx**

On Sunday, January 9, 2022 at 1058 hours, Engine Company 48 responded first due to Bronx Box 3162 for a reported fire on the third floor. Engine 48 turned onto the fire block and transmitted a 10-77 for fire in a high-rise residential building. Members witnessed thick, black smoke pushing from the third-floor windows, with numerous panicked residents screaming for help on multiple floors, from the front of the 19-story building.

FF Brendan Lorino (chauffeur) positioned the rig in front of the building and immediately communicated to Engine 75 that a positive water source would be delayed because the hydrant was out of service. As Engine Company 75 (second-due engine) worked to supply Engine 48, FF Lorino stretched three lengths of 3 1/2-inch hose to supply the standpipe Siamese. Having knowledge of the building, FF Lorino communicated with Engine Company 88's chauffeur to charge the supply line to the building Siamese, then ran inside to the fire pump room to activate the fire pumps.

Arriving on the third floor, Lieutenant David Wirta found thick, black smoke pulsing from around the door jamb of the stairwell door, rapidly filling the stairwell and exposing the floors above. Companies knew the fire apartment door was open and that the movement and color of smoke indicated a rapidly deteriorating fire. Ladder Company 56 entered the third-floor hallway to locate the fire apartment. From the standpipe outlet in the A-wing lobby, FF Michael LaPietra (nozzle), FF Christopher

Carlin (back-up), FF Nicholas Rose-Meyer (control) and members of Engine 75 connected and operated their hoseline. Positioning their line was challenging, as members of the nozzle team encountered an overwhelming number of fleeing occupants, along with members entering to perform their duties, making the narrow hallway nearly impassable.

With an open fire apartment door, the nozzle team entered the third-floor hallway with a charged hoseline. Heavy radio traffic made it difficult for Engine 48 to talk to Ladder 56 and establish their location or the location of the fire apartment. Making a left out of the stairwell on the third floor, Engine 48 was met with thick black smoke, zero visibility and high heat conditions as they worked their way down the hallway. The progress of the hoseline was again impeded by the numerous rescues being made. During their advance down the public hallway, the nozzle firefighter operated the hose stream at the ceiling to cool down the extreme heat. The heat drove them closer to the floor, and Lieutenant Wirta called for a backup line stretched to his location. Through punishing and crowded conditions, Engine 48 arrived at the fire apartment door at the same time Ladder 56 was removing six unconscious victims.

Engine 48 advanced into the fire apartment, knocking down fire and cooling the superheated gasses being fueled by the broken front window when conditions rapidly deteriorated. Fire rolled across the ceiling from an apartment across and down the hallway, forcing Engine 48 to back their line out and turn the hoseline 180 degrees, reversing the direction of the stream to aggressively push down the hallway.

At this point, members of Engine 48 fought the fire in both directions, knocking down fire in each apartment and saving countless lives. Exhausted and nearly out of air, Lieutenant Wirta called for relief on the line and ordered FF LaPietra and FF Carlin to swap positions so they could make one final push on the fire across the hall.

Engine 48 operated until visible fire was knocked down in the two apartments and hallway. At this tragic fire, against tremendous adversity, Engine Company 48's dedication, training and bravery were on display. Their actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the New York City Fire Department, for which they are being awarded For these reasons, Engine Company 48 is awarded the Father Julian F. Deeken Memorial Medal. This medal is awarded every three years to one of the Lieutenant James Curran/NYFFs Burn Center Foundation Medal holders from the preceding three years.—RLL



Public hallway of the third floor at Bronx Box 55-3162 on January 9, 2022.  
(Photo by the FDNY Bureau of Fire Investigation)

# Lieutenant James Curran

## New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal

### Engine Company 38

**Lieutenant Thomas P. Corrar**

**Firefighter Jason Diaz**

**Firefighter Omar Gonzalez**

**Firefighter Andrew P. Perez-Irizarry**

**Firefighter John C. Sun**

**May 24, 2023, 0529 hours, Box 75-4469, Bronx**



Left to right: FF Andrew Perez-Irizarry, FF John Sun, FF Omar Gonzalez, Lt. Thomas Corrar and FF Jason Diaz.

On May 24, 2023, at 0529 hours, Engine Company 38 and Ladder Company 51 were dispatched to Bronx Box 4469 for a report of a vehicle fire at the intersection of Dyer Avenue and Light Street. Upon arrival, Engine 38 observed a large box truck on fire, with a river of fire running under approximately eight parked cars. Compounding the severity, the scene was below an elevated transit line, with primary and secondary power lines arcing around them. As the thick, black smoke shifted, Lieutenant Thomas Corrar noticed the fire impinging on a row of attached private dwellings and a scrap tire yard nearby. Knowing this was going to be a rapidly expanding incident, he transmitted a 10-75.

The chauffeur, Firefighter Jason Diaz, secured a positive water source. Knowing the demand for water could increase, he also augmented the apparatus by hooking two hoses from the hydrant into the rig. Lieutenant Corrar ordered the remaining members to stretch a 1 ¾-inch hoseline then searched for the truck's driver to determine whether they were OK and whether he was carrying any hazardous materials that would cause the abnormal fire load. The driver stated that there was a large number of LPG (liquid petroleum gas) cylinders in addition to large containers of high-grade epoxy. Then Lieutenant Martin McParland (Ladder Co. 51) reported to Lieutenant Corrar that the occupied homes and the elevated train line were now severely exposed.

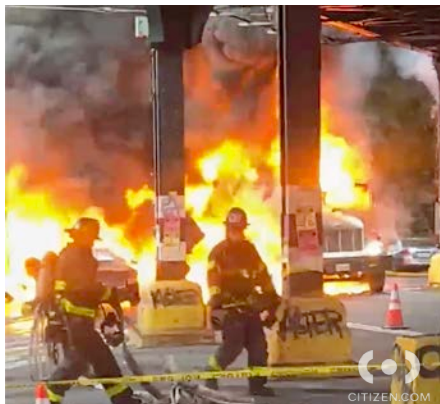
FF Andrew Perez-Irizarry (nozzle), FF John Sun (back-up) and FF Omar Gonzalez (control) stretched enough hose to begin extinguishing the fire. Lt. Corrar instructed FF Perez-Irizarry to position the handline on the sidewalk between the private dwellings

and the main body of fire, attempting to cool the propane cylinders and prevent an explosion until additional resources arrived. Siding on multiple dwellings began to melt, and windows began to shatter due to the radiant heat. Although the handline was effectively protecting life in the dwellings, it did not extinguish the river of burning epoxy coming from the box truck and running underneath the cars. The nozzle team remained on the sidewalk, alternating the direction of the hose stream between the front of the row of occupied dwellings, eight burning vehicles, the large pile of exposed car tires, trees in front of the homes, an electric pole, the box truck and the structural steel of the elevated train line.

With no additional engines on the scene and the fire rapidly escalating, time was of the essence. Lt. Corrar ordered FF Gonzalez and FF Diaz to stretch and set up a foam line. FF Perez-Irizarry and FF Sun continued to operate on the sidewalk near the burning primary and secondary wires, successfully protecting the occupied exposures. Once the foam line was set up, FF Gonzalez directed the stream into the box truck, blanketing the boxes of flammable epoxy that was flowing down the street under the cars. Engine 38 then operated both handlines until the additional units arrived.

Engine 38 operated as two attack teams in extremely unusual conditions that required forward thinking. Their

decisions saved property and, most importantly, saved people from imminent harm. For their outstanding actions and exemplary teamwork at Bronx Box 4469, Engine Company 38 is awarded the Lieutenant James Curran/New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal.—RLL



Engine 38 arrived on scene to find a box truck on fire and a stream of fire running under approximately eight parked cars. In addition, the fire affected an elevated train line, numerous power lines, trees and nearby homes. Photo from Citizen app.





# Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal

## Squad Company 8

**Lieutenant Mark H. Russo, ResBat**  
**Firefighter Carmelo F. Bravata Jr.**  
**Firefighter Anthony M. DeCicco**  
**Firefighter Justin N. McGhie**  
**Firefighter Shawn A. Miro**  
**Firefighter Robert W. Brunone, R-5**



Left to right: Lieutenant Mark H. Russo, FF Carmelo F. Bravata Jr., FF Anthony M. DeCicco, FF Justin N. McGhie, FF Shawn A. Miro and FF Robert W. Brunone.

**February 17, 2023, 1326 hours, Box 44- 3592, Staten Island**

**O**n February 17, 2023, Squad Company 8 was assigned to Box 3592 for a fire in a private dwelling where wind-impacted fire conditions were consuming all three floors in the rear of both of dwellings.

The company was immediately put to work on exposure 4 of the three-story attached occupancy. Due to rapidly intensifying fire conditions, a member jumped from the second floor, landing on the driveway below. Shortly thereafter, a trapped firefighter transmitted a mayday, saying he was cut off by fire in exposure 2. Soon after, he transmitted another, more deliberate mayday, stating that he was “burning up” and trapped on the second floor, exposure 4 side. Due to the heavily advanced and intense fire conditions in both buildings, Squad 8 knew they needed to take an all-sides approach to find the trapped member.

Firefighter Shawn Miro (irons) scaled a portable ladder to the second floor while Firefighter Carmelo Bravata (hook) entered the second floor on exposure 1 via the aerial ladder, but both were quickly driven back by intense heat. Firefighter Robert Brunone (roof) remained in the exposure 2 fire building and performed an exhaustive search, since the exact location of the missing member was still unclear.

Entering the high heat and blowtorch conditions in the small foyer of exposure 4, Squad 8's officer, Lieutenant Mark Russo, and chauffeur, Firefighter Justin McGhie, followed behind Engine Company 168's hoseline as they pushed to protect the narrow interior stairwell to the second floor. Heavy fire then began pushing out of the basement and into the staircase, extending upward behind the nozzle team. As heavy fire blowtorched out of the basement, Lt. Russo and FF McGhie removed spindles adjacent to the basement stairs and climbed on furniture through the opening to quickly access the second floor.

On the second floor, FF McGhie helped aid Engine 168's backup, who was running out of air, by guiding him to the portable ladder at the window. Lt. Russo then heard a PASS alarm sounding. As

he made his way toward it, he heard an urgent transmission that fire was spreading up the stairwell. He quickly located the downed officer, who was unresponsive and injured, and began removing him from the fire area.

Conditions in the basement had intensified, making exit through the interior impassable. Engine Company 165 then entered the building with the second handline and, together with Squad 8's Firefighter Anthony DeCicco (can), made a push into the basement, which helped restore the interior stairs as the main means of egress. Lt. Russo and FF McGhie removed the officer to awaiting EMS. After returning to Engine 168's line, Lt. Russo noticed their nozzle firefighter seemed disoriented and distressed, having valiantly stayed at the nozzle with no backup and with little air. He fell unconscious, and FF McGhie transferred him to awaiting EMS.

Squad 8 displayed a high level of cohesive teamwork at this fire, which led to the successful rescue of a trapped, unconscious firefighter. They worked to assist their fellow firefighters in every facet of this challenging fire, and their all-out effort to save a fellow firefighter was truly heroic. For their efforts, Squad Company 8 is awarded the Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal.—FW



Left: FF Carmelo Bravata (Sq-8) scales the aerial ladder in search of a downed member but is driven back by heat and flames. Photo by Steve White, courtesy of the Staten Island Advance. Right: Exposure 4 entrance to the fire building. (Photo by FF Juliane Forsyth)



# World Trade Center Memorial Medal

## Ladder Company 112

**Lieutenant Gregory M. Leinz**

**Firefighter Alan C. Acuna-Luciano**

**Firefighter Matthew M. Marketti**

**Firefighter Christopher D. Saccenti**

**Firefighter Robert J. Scanlon**

**Firefighter Walter S. Williams**

**October 17, 2023, 0448 hours, Box 75-0770, Brooklyn**



Left to right: Lt. Gregory Leinz, FF Alan Acuna-Luciano, FF Walter Williams, FF Matthew Marketti, FF Christopher Saccenti and FF Robert Scanlon.

In the early morning hours of October 17, 2023, Ladder Company 112 responded to a fire at Box 0770 in Brooklyn. Upon arrival, Lieutenant Gregory Leinz saw people trapped on the second floor, with heavy smoke pushing out behind them, and a child's hand reaching out from behind the child gate. He immediately relayed this information to the outside team and continued into the building with Firefighter Walter Williams (can), and Firefighter Robert Scanlon (irons).

Simultaneously, Ladder 112's chauffeur, Firefighter Christopher Saccenti, and outside vent, Firefighter Matthew Marketti, set up to rescue the trapped victims from the outside. FF Saccenti attempted to maneuver around several cars that were blocking access before raising a 24-foot portable ladder to the second floor. FF Marketti ascended the ladder and encountered choking smoke as he began to remove the child gate, which was made of heavy-gauge steel. The gate was challenging to remove with the Halligan, but he was

able to cut through the metal bars with the portable saw and removed the gate to free two victims. FF Marketti passed a small child to FF Saccenti; FF Saccenti removed the child to the ground before climbing back up the ladder to help FF Marketti remove an adult victim from the apartment to awaiting FDNY EMS. FF Marketti then entered the apartment through the window to search for more victims.

Inside the building, Firefighter Alan Acuna-Luciano (roof) made his way to the apartment above the fire, forced entry and conducted a primary search. On the fire floor, the inside team rapidly forced entry into the fire apartment and were met with high heat and zero visibility. They made an aggressive push past the living room, which was fully involved in fire. The fire was blowtorching across the ceiling and into the apartment hallway. A lithium-ion battery was generating an intense amount of fire and heat, creating dire conditions. The inside team knew that people were trapped inside and



An illegal lithium-ion battery ignited inside an apartment in Brooklyn, causing an aggressive fire that trapped the residents inside.

made the decision to move past the raging fire without the protection of a hoseline. FF Williams used his handheld extinguisher to hold the fire at bay while Lieutenant Leinz and FF Scanlon searched the apartment. FF Williams heard a noise coming from the hallway and alerted Lieutenant Leinz. They made their way to a bedroom, where they discovered an unconscious victim on the bed.

Lieutenant Leinz and FF Williams removed the unconscious victim down the hallway, past the intensifying fire and out of the apartment into the public hallway, where members of Engine Company 222 performed life-saving care before transferring the victim to EMS. Lieutenant Leinz and FF Williams returned to the fire apartment to continue searching.

The extraordinary actions of Ladder 112 saved the lives of three people, including a young child, under hazardous fire conditions. For their heroics, the FDNY is proud to present the members of Ladder Company 112 with the World Trade Center Memorial Medal.—CB



## **SERVICE RATING A**

FF Alexandre M. Arcuri, L-56  
Capt. Sami Asfar, L-110  
FF Nicholas Battaglia, L-169  
Capt. Colm J. Brennan, D-14 (L-136)  
FF Dwayne F. Campbell, L-158  
Lt. Michael J. Cooney, L-111  
FF Louis A. Durante, L-131  
FF Stephen A. Etts, L-120  
FF Christopher N. Ferro, L-120  
Lt. Josef B. Fischer, L-102  
FF Christopher Ford, Sq-61  
FF Matthew Goicochea, L-41  
FF Thomas W. Harrington, L-163  
Capt. Denis G. Keating, D-6 (L-17)  
FF Kevin R. Kuck, L-175  
FF James M. Lafferty, E-76

FF Joseph P. Masella, L-120  
Capt. James F. McAlevey, L-117  
FF James McHugh, Sq-1  
Lt. Pat Quagliariello, L-156  
Capt. Joseph J. Reznick, E-304  
Lt. Thomas C. Riches, R-2  
FF Jeffrey Rivera, L-41  
FF Justin L. Tallett, L-107  
FF Jesse Torres, L-17  
Capt. Michael G. Twomey, D-14  
Lt. James J. Walker, E-231  
FF Michael P. White, L-129  
FF Brian P. Wilson, Sq- 252  
FF Robert L. Wisniewski, L-156

## **SERVICE RATING B**

FF Donald Campbell, R-5  
FF Liall A. Clarke, L-26  
Capt. John A. Demarco, E-314  
FF Marc DeMaria, E-160  
Lt. Matthew E. DeMatteis, L-163  
FF Joseph C. DiScepolo, L-41  
FF Patrick F. Donohue, L-56  
FF Robert F. Fucci, R-5  
FF Joshua D. Garcia, L-12  
FF James E. Gleissner, L-33  
FF James B. Gorman, L-104  
FF Nicholas J. Gregoreadis, L-104  
FF John A. Hambrook, E-231  
Lt. Scott A. Hickey, B-19 (L-45)  
FF Carlton C. Hilliard III, M-6  
Lt. Luke A. Jackson, E-210

FF Craig S. Kander, L-110  
FF Bryan E. Kearon, L-119  
FF Andrew B. Kellier, L-12  
FF James J. Kelly, E-325  
Lt. John B. McEneaney, L-127  
FF David M. Pennolino, L-104  
FF Glenn C. Perry, L-34 (L-45)  
Lt. Ryan T. Phelan, L-131  
FF Darrell A. Riddick, R-2  
FF Evan R. Santana, E-21  
FF Kyle P. Scanlon, E-210  
FF Jorge A. Vasquez, L-45  
FF Christian D. Wellinger, L-16  
FF Brian J. Williams, L-156  
Capt. Robert S. Wind, L-125

## UNIT CITATIONS

<b>Engine Company 247</b> January 13, 2023, Box 2806	<b>Engine Company 96</b> April 24, 2023, Box 4047	<b>Ladder Company 4</b> July 26, 2023, Box 0782	<b>Ladder Company 176</b> November 28, 2023, Box 0818
<b>Engine Company 283</b> January 13, 2023, Box 1637	<b>Engine Company 314</b> April 24, 2023, Box 5998	<b>Squad Company 18</b> July 26, 2023, Box 0782	<b>Ladder Company 169</b> December 9, 2023, Box 3639
<b>Ladder Company 13</b> January 19, 2023, Box 1156	<b>Ladder Company 16</b> May 3, 2023, Box 1047	<b>Ladder Company 129</b> August 4, 2023, Box 9407	<b>Ladder Company 136</b> December 12, 2023, Box 4213
<b>Engine Company 316</b> January 20, 2023, Box 7743	<b>Engine Company 236</b> May 9, 2023, Box 1823	<b>Ladder Company 142</b> August 11, 2023, Box 2147	<b>Ladder Company 78</b> December 15, 2023, Box 0062
<b>Engine Company 82</b> January 29, 2023, Box 3012	<b>Engine Company 284</b> May 14, 2023, Box 2999	<b>Ladder Company 28</b> August 23, 2023, Box 1670	<b>Engine Company 231</b> December 31, 2023, Box 1999
<b>Ladder Company 36</b> February 5, 2023, Box 1802	<b>Marine Company 6</b> May 23, 2023, Box 8047	<b>Engine Company 301</b> September 3, 2023, Box 5357	<b>Engine Company 236</b> December 31, 2023, Box 1999
<b>Rescue Company 5</b> February 13, 2023, Box 8132	<b>Engine Company 38</b> May 24, 2023, Box 4469	<b>Ladder Company 117</b> September 6, 2023, Box 7458	<b>Engine Company 257</b> December 31, 2023, Box 1999
<b>Squad Company 8</b> February 13, 2023, Box 8132	<b>Marine Company 3</b> May 28, 2023, Box 8300	<b>Engine Company 63</b> September 29, 2023, Box 8940	<b>Engine Company 283</b> December 31, 2023, Box 1999
<b>Engine Company 222</b> February 14, 2023, Box 0774	<b>Engine Company 24</b> May 29, 2023, Box 0324	<b>Ladder Company 39</b> September 29, 2023, Box 8940	<b>Engine Company 332</b> December 31, 2023, Box 1999
<b>Squad Company 8</b> February 17, 2023, Box 3592	<b>Squad Company 288</b> June 18, 2023, Box 4252	<b>Ladder Company 112</b> October 17, 2023, Box 0770	<b>Ladder Company 103</b> December 31, 2023, Box 1999
<b>Engine Company 94</b> March 3, 2023, Box 8902	<b>Squad Company 18</b> June 20, 2023, Box 0131	<b>Marine Company 1</b> October 18, 2023, Box 0050	<b>Ladder Company 107</b> December 31, 2023, Box 1999
<b>Engine Company 55</b> March 7, 2023, Box 0176	<b>Squad Company 18</b> June 22, 2023, Box 0265	<b>Ladder Company 125</b> October 22, 2023, Box 9888	<b>Ladder Company 120</b> December 31, 2023, Box 1999
<b>Ladder Company 20</b> March 7, 2023, Box 0176	<b>Engine Company 234</b> June 24, 2023, Box 1624	<b>Ladder Company 151</b> October 27, 2023, Box 9544	<b>Ladder Company 103</b> December 31, 2023, Box 1999
<b>Engine Company 48</b> March 8, 2023, Box 3351	<b>Ladder Company 44</b> June 28, 2023, Box 2397	<b>Rescue Company 4</b> October 27, 2023, Box 9544	<b>Squad Company 252</b> December 31, 2023, Box 1999
<b>Engine Company 275</b> March 20, 2023, Box 5007	<b>Ladder Company 156</b> July 2, 2023, Box 3013	<b>Squad Company 270</b> October 27, 2023, Box 9544	
<b>Engine Company 298</b> March 28, 2023, Box 9823	<b>Engine Company 21</b> July 6, 2023, Box 0608	<b>Engine Company 283</b> November 4, 2023, Box 0919	
<b>Ladder Company 56</b> March 28, 2023, Box 3321	<b>Ladder Company 7</b> July 6, 2023, Box 0608	<b>Ladder Company 111</b> November 12, 2023, Box 0920	
<b>Engine Company 236</b> April 14, 2023, Box 1892	<b>Engine Company 231</b> July 10, 2023, Box 2106	<b>Engine Company 290</b> November 13, 2023, Box 2004	
<b>Rescue Company 1</b> April 18, 2023, Box 0086	<b>Engine Company 54</b> July 26, 2023, Box 0782	<b>Engine Company 246</b> November 18, 2023, Box 8627	



## CFR-D PRE-HOSPITAL SAVE COMMENDATIONS

### **January 2023**

Engine Co. 48, January 4  
Engine Co. 52, January 8  
Engine Co. 60, January 18  
Engine Co. 83, January 30  
Engine Co. 90, January 4  
Engine Co. 155, January 5  
Engine Co. 156, January 10  
Engine Co. 163, January 4  
Engine Co. 163, January 12  
Engine Co. 166, January 17  
Engine Co. 205, January 22  
Engine Co. 211, January 13  
Engine Co. 217, January 9  
Engine Co. 228, January 30  
Engine Co. 229, January 30  
Engine Co. 231, January 24  
Engine Co. 246, January 9  
Engine Co. 259, January 7  
Engine Co. 281, January 14  
Engine Co. 293, January 1  
Engine Co. 293, January 3  
Engine Co. 295, January 29  
Engine Co. 316, January 26

### **February 2023**

Engine Co. 28, February 1  
Engine Co. 40, February 5  
Engine Co. 53, February 6  
Engine Co. 65, February 27  
Engine Co. 73, February 1  
Engine Co. 92, February 7  
Engine Co. 95, February 14  
Engine Co. 96, February 10  
Engine Co. 156, February 22  
Engine Co. 214, February 9  
Engine Co. 220, February 27  
Engine Co. 241, February 13  
Engine Co. 257, February 11  
Engine Co. 274, February 7  
Engine Co. 289, February 2  
Engine Co. 289, February 11  
Engine Co. 302, February 24  
Engine Co. 330, February 15

### **March 2023**

Engine Co. 28, March 9  
Engine Co. 63, March 27  
Engine Co. 79, March 25  
Engine Co. 93, March 18  
Engine Co. 94, March 20  
Engine Co. 167, March 5  
Engine Co. 201, March 21  
Engine Co. 247, March 13  
Engine Co. 255, March 18  
Engine Co. 279, March 28  
Engine Co. 285, March 12  
Engine Co. 289, March 4  
Engine Co. 314, March 10  
Squad Co. 1, March 24

### **April 2023**

Engine Co. 14, April 19  
Engine Co. 46, April 8  
Engine Co. 50, April 22  
Engine Co. 53, April 17  
Engine Co. 55, April 8  
Engine Co. 68, April 16  
Engine Co. 96, April 19  
Engine Co. 160, April 4  
Engine Co. 202, April 14  
Engine Co. 240, April 14  
Engine Co. 246, April 5  
Engine Co. 246, April 23  
Engine Co. 264, April 12  
Engine Co. 268, April 19  
Engine Co. 275, April 5  
Engine Co. 290, April 4  
Engine Co. 302, April 14  
Engine Co. 330, April 13  
Squad Co. 288, April 19

### **May 2023**

Engine Co. 28, May 31  
Engine Co. 39, May 14  
Engine Co. 53, May 16  
Engine Co. 60, May 28  
Engine Co. 64, May 13  
Engine Co. 82, May 23  
Engine Co. 155, May 9  
Engine Co. 167, May 11  
Engine Co. 167, May 20  
Engine Co. 168, May 21  
Engine Co. 210, May 28  
Engine Co. 211, May 25  
Engine Co. 217, May 11  
Engine Co. 222, May 18  
Engine Co. 227, May 10  
Engine Co. 239, May 29  
Engine Co. 255, May 26  
Engine Co. 263, May 20  
Engine Co. 284, May 6  
Engine Co. 284, May 10  
Engine Co. 290, May 9  
Engine Co. 292, May 7  
Engine Co. 301, May 24  
Engine Co. 302, May 8  
Engine Co. 302, May 11  
Engine Co. 303, May 28  
Engine Co. 307, May 30  
Engine Co. 309, May 27

### **June 2023**

Engine Co. 14, June 19  
Engine Co. 40, June 28  
Engine Co. 43, June 17  
Engine Co. 71, June 25  
Engine Co. 73, June 11  
Engine Co. 93, June 19  
Engine Co. 216, June 25  
Engine Co. 222, June 8

Engine Co. 226, June 18  
Engine Co. 234, June 4  
Engine Co. 238, June 20  
Engine Co. 240, June 19  
Engine Co. 242, June 11  
Engine Co. 243, June 6  
Engine Co. 246, June 1  
Engine Co. 248, June 21  
Engine Co. 248, June 22  
Engine Co. 281, June 15  
Engine Co. 290, June 27  
Engine Co. 302, June 19  
Engine Co. 314, June 21  
Engine Co. 318, June 5  
Squad Co. 8, June 21

### **July 2023**

Engine Co. 34, July 4  
Engine Co. 50, July 11  
Engine Co. 58, July 6  
Engine Co. 93, July 8  
Engine Co. 93, July 29  
Engine Co. 201, July 31  
Engine Co. 201, July 31  
Engine Co. 224, July 21  
Engine Co. 230, July 17  
Engine Co. 233, July 9  
Engine Co. 262, July 17  
Engine Co. 285, July 14  
Engine Co. 293, July 20  
Engine Co. 303, July 31  
Engine Co. 311, July 12  
Engine Co. 315, July 4  
Squad Co. 18, July 23  
Squad Co. 41, July 11

### **August 2023**

Engine Co. 28, August 19  
Engine Co. 39, August 15  
Engine Co. 63, August 23  
Engine Co. 93, August 1  
Engine Co. 216, August 9  
Engine Co. 264, August 5  
Engine Co. 284, August 9  
Engine Co. 287, August 19  
Engine Co. 309, August 2  
Engine Co. 310, August 2  
Squad Co. 288, August 18

### **September 2023**

Engine Co. 68, September 20  
Engine Co. 76, September 3  
Engine Co. 80, September 28  
Engine Co. 96, September 30  
Engine Co. 243, September 29  
Engine Co. 257, September 14  
Engine Co. 290, September 1  
Squad Co. 41, September 30  
Squad Co. 252, September 12

### **October 2023**

Engine Co. 6, October 17  
Engine Co. 7, October 17  
Engine Co. 8, October 18  
Engine Co. 68, October 2  
Engine Co. 68, October 31  
Engine Co. 79, October 9  
Engine Co. 156, October 13  
Engine Co. 285, October 18  
Engine Co. 293, October 6  
Engine Co. 306, October 14  
Engine Co. 309, October 20

### **November 2023**

Engine Co. 3, November 8  
Engine Co. 39, November 6  
Engine Co. 54, November 2  
Engine Co. 59, November 18  
Engine Co. 59, November 22  
Engine Co. 63, November 13  
Engine Co. 71, November 13  
Engine Co. 82, November 27  
Engine Co. 152, November 8  
Engine Co. 275, November 15  
Engine Co. 281, November 6  
Engine Co. 302, November 29  
Engine Co. 320, November 25  
Engine Co. 320, November 28

### **December 2023**

Engine Co. 15, December 14  
Engine Co. 43, December 2  
Engine Co. 46, December 15  
Engine Co. 55, December 28  
Engine Co. 72, December 24  
Engine Co. 83, December 8  
Engine Co. 151, December 22  
Engine Co. 158, December 7  
Engine Co. 163, December 31  
Engine Co. 233, December 3  
Engine Co. 243, December 15  
Engine Co. 253, December 3  
Engine Co. 282, December 30  
Engine Co. 299, December 4  
Engine Co. 306, December 27  
Engine Co. 330, December 23

## BUREAU OF FIRE INVESTIGATION—BFI

### SERVICE RATING A

June 4, 2023, FM Joseph M. Chidichimo, SIU  
June 4, 2023, FM Ian G. Brennan, CWN  
October 2, 2023, FM David Leibowitz, SIU  
January 11, 2024, SFM William J. Rohr, CWN  
January 11, 2024, FM Christopher J. Magas, CWN  
January 11, 2024, FM Ian G. Brennan, CWN

### SERVICE RATING B

March 17, 2023, FM Thomas F. Boland, CWN  
June 1, 2023, FM Thomas F. Boland, CWN  
October 26, 2023, FM Edwin B. Vega, CWN  
November 19, 2023, FM John C. Murray, CWN

### UNIT CITATIONS

Citywide South  
November 18, 2022, Box 2201

Manhattan/Queens Serial Arson  
March 20, 2023, Box 0694

Brooklyn Serial Arson  
November 2, 2023, Box 3310

Human Trafficking/Arson  
January 29, 2023, Box 3012

Citywide South/SIU  
September 26, 2023, Box 2056

Citywide South/SIU  
November 11, 2023, Box 1467

### EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL CARE AWARD (ECCA)

Number in parentheses indicates number of awards

Lieutenant Faisel Abed  
EMT Bernadette Acosta  
EMT John Beltram  
Firefighter Jacqueline Benel  
Lieutenant Peter Bilardello  
Paramedic Jonathan Billian  
Paramedic Jessica Breier  
EMT Kyle Brown  
Paramedic Bruce Brown  
EMT Jerry Butler Jr.  
EMT Joseph Canzoneri  
EMT John Carozza II  
Firefighter Matthew Carroll  
Paramedic Tatiana Cassemiro  
Paramedic Ruben Castillo  
Paramedic David Chambers  
EMT Jillian Clementi  
EMT Brandon Contreras  
Firefighter Joseph Costanz  
Lieutenant Brian Cotiaux (2)  
EMT Loribeth Cusumano  
Lieutenant Sencia Datilus  
Paramedic Richard Forrester  
Paramedic Michael Fox  
Paramedic Japhet Gaengan (2)  
Lieutenant John Gagliano  
EMT Michael Gallo  
Paramedic Kelcee Garneau  
EMT William Graziano Jr.  
EMT James Hardy  
EMT Robert Healy  
Lieutenant James Hollywood

Paramedic Shoshana Holzberg-Pill  
Paramedic Michael Hood  
EMT Patrick Jablonski  
EMT Edward Karasik  
Paramedic Robert Kelly  
EMT Adeola Koiki  
Paramedic Brendan Konrad  
Paramedic Juan Lebron  
EMT Nathania Lerouge  
Paramedic Josef Lisoski  
EMT Jared Long  
Paramedic Andrew Mach  
Lieutenant Elizabeth Mackiewicz  
Paramedic Nicholas Magro  
Lieutenant David Marks  
EMT Sabrina Mason  
Firefighter Christopher McCrorie  
Lieutenant Theodore Melnick  
EMT Megan Millman  
Firefighter Brendan Mohan  
Paramedic Michael Montemorano Sr.  
Paramedic Sharif Moussa  
Paramedic Adries Mustafa  
EMT Vincent Nerone  
Paramedic Christina Newman  
Paramedic David Ocasio  
Paramedic Liane Ochoa  
EMT Ericksson Olivo  
Paramedic James Oneill  
EMT Bruny Ortega-Garcia  
EMT Alonzo Perkinson  
EMT Anthony Pieters

EMT Angel Reyes  
Paramedic Anna Sadowska  
Paramedic Paul Saladis III  
EMT Paolo Samaritano  
Lieutenant Charles Santangelo  
Firefighter Aron Shamayev  
Paramedic Daniel Sieger (2)  
Paramedic Hugh Smith II  
Paramedic Kenneth Syrett  
EMT Jessica Tabet  
Lieutenant Christopher Taylor  
EMT Matthew Urena  
Paramedic Charles Valicenti  
Paramedic Jessica Vega  
Paramedic Andrew Vuolo  
Deputy Chief Vincent Walla  
EMT Justin Weber  
Paramedic Andre Wilson  
Lieutenant Shlomo Winkler  
Paramedic Maggie Wit



## 2023 PRE-HOSPITAL SAVE AWARDS

*Number in parentheses indicates number of saves.*

EMT Dominick Abbriano (2)	EMT Jean Bonilla Rosario (2)	ELT Marvin Chan (4)	EMT Shemar Decamry (1)
EMT Michael Abbriano (1)	ELT Frantz Bonneau (1)	ELT Christopher Chaplin (2)	EMT Sergio Decastro (1)
Paramedic Iller Abramov (1)	Paramedic Ariana Borrero (1)	ELT Charles Chapman (1)	Paramedic Dominick Defranco (2)
Paramedic Antonio Accardo (1)	ELT Yan Borukhov (3)	ELT Pierre Charboneau (2)	Paramedic Ryan Dejesus (1)
EMT Jared Acevedo (2)	EMT Jazmin Bourdier (1)	EMT Joseph Chasse III (1)	Paramedic Leslie Delahoz (2)
ELT Pedro Acosta (1)	EMT Brett Boyle (1)	ELT Dennis Chen (2)	ELT David Deleon (2)
EMT Wendy Acosta (1)	EMT Victoria Bradford (1)	EMT Kai Chen (1)	Paramedic Jose Deleon Pichardo (1)
Paramedic Reyman Acuna (3)	Paramedic Frederick Brandt (1)	ELT Zhen Huan Chen (4)	EMT Christian Delisio (2)
ELT Brandon Adams (1)	ELT Joel Brathwaite (1)	ECP Stuart Chenkin (3)	Paramedic Bryan Deliz (1)
EMT Maxx Adorno (1)	EMT Sherwin Brathwaite (1)	EMT Brandon Chiacchiaro (1)	ECP Michael Demarco (1)
Paramedic Julianne Agosta (1)	EMT Shane Braun-Hanlon (1)	EMT Anthoniel Chin (1)	EMT Zane Denoon (1)
EMT Paul Agulo (1)	EMT Gonzalo Bravo (1)	Paramedic Jeffrey Chin (1)	Paramedic Peter Dermody (1)
EMT James Aiuto (2)	Paramedic Harry Brenkert (2)	EMT Mister Chisholm (1)	ELT Fredric Desarno Jr. (2)
Paramedic Angie Albuquerque (1)	Paramedic Benjamin Briu (4)	ELT Nazbi Chowdhury (1)	EMT Jeffrey Diaz (1)
EMT Christopher Alfonso (1)	ELT Artur Bronshteyn (2)	Paramedic Amela Cirikovic (1)	EMT Kevin Diaz (1)
EMT Badilia Algarin (1)	EMT Stephen Brothers (2)	EMT Christopher Clement (2)	Paramedic Natalie Diaz (1)
EMT Mir Ali (1)	EMT Matthew Brower (1)	ELT Ryan Clunes (1)	Paramedic Rocky Diaz (1)
EMT Xavier Altamirano (1)	Paramedic Bruce Brown (1)	EMT Michael Coakley (1)	EMT Xylina Diaz (1)
Paramedic Abdul Alvarado (4)	EMT Casey Brown (1)	Paramedic Nikko Coccilillo (1)	EMT Roland Diaz Jr. (1)
EMT Jonathan Alvarez (1)	EMT Daneshia Brown (1)	Paramedic Scott Cohan (1)	EMT Dillon Digenova (1)
EMT Marissa Amaya (1)	EMT Eric Brown (1)	EMT Damoni Collazo (1)	EMT Jonathan Dilan (1)
EMT Magdalena Apollon (1)	EMT Joseph Brown (1)	EMT Joseph Collins (1)	Paramedic Ketchia Dillon (1)
EMT Michael Anderson Jr. (1)	EMT Tavanie Brown (1)	EMT Brendan Colonna-Fahey (1)	EMT Kenneth Domenech (2)
Paramedic Samuel Andrews (2)	EMT Rebecca Browne (1)	Paramedic Gerard Colvert (1)	EMT Rudy Dominguez (3)
ELT Christopher Ang (2)	Paramedic Kaylie Bruce (3)	ECP Eric Colvil (2)	ELT Thomas Donofrio (1)
EMT Bryan Antolos (1)	Paramedic Emmanuel Bruno (1)	EMT Jonathan Combe (1)	ELT George Doremus (1)
EMT Yvonne Aparicio (1)	Paramedic Kelvin Bruno (1)	EMT Steven Conboy (2)	ELT Anselmo Dos Santos (2)
Paramedic Natalie Apollon (1)	Paramedic Lauren Bryan (1)	ELT Shawn Conlon (1)	ELT Erin Doyle-Pinson (1)
Paramedic Alexis Aponte (1)	EMT Derron Bucknor (1)	EMT Sattwa Conrad (1)	ELT Ian Dsouza (1)
Paramedic Jonathan Armijos Torres (1)	EMT Alfonso Buoninfante (1)	Paramedic Jenniffer Constanzo (1)	Paramedic Christopher Duffus (3)
EMT Nicole Arocho (1)	Paramedic Keil Burey (1)	EMT Anthony Contreras (1)	ELT Jessica Duffy (1)
EMT Josias Arrastia (1)	EMT Stephanie Burke (2)	Paramedic Sergio Contreras (1)	Paramedic Brendan Duggan (1)
ELT Lloyd Arscott (1)	EMT Brendan Butler (1)	EMT Robert Coppola (1)	Paramedic Kinessa Duguid (4)
EMT Magdalena Arvelo (1)	Paramedic Alexis Buttermark (2)	EMT Ryan Cordeiro (1)	Paramedic Robert Dupree (1)
EMT Nathanael Augustin (1)	Paramedic Alex Byrd (3)	Paramedic Zuleyka Cordero Lozada (1)	Paramedic Jason Dwyer (1)
EMT Raheem Austin (1)	Paramedic William Byrnes (1)	Paramedic Amanda Cornwall (2)	ELT Bryan Easop (2)
ELT Gilberto Aviles (4)	Paramedic Joseph Caba (1)	Paramedic Desiree Corsello (1)	EMT Alexander Eckardt (1)
EMT Octavia Bailey (1)	ELT Giovanni Caballero (1)	ELT Gary Cortes (2)	Paramedic Kristopher Eckert (1)
EMT Troy Baker (1)	EMT Jordan Caceres (2)	EMT Justin Cosoleto (1)	Paramedic Wayne Edgar (3)
EMT Matthew Baldwin (1)	EMT William Cadet (1)	EMT Conor Costello (1)	EMT Iyanla Edwards (1)
Paramedic Cedric Banton (4)	ELT Steven Caggiano (1)	Paramedic Jason Costello (1)	EMT Brent Ehlberg (1)
EMT Elizabeth Barrant (1)	Paramedic Jahvorn Caldwell (1)	EMT Sandra Cotton (1)	EMT Luca Eisen (1)
ELT Anthony Bartolomey (2)	EMT Brandon Camacho-Iglesias (1)	EMT Nicholas Covino (1)	Paramedic Jamaal El Shabazz (1)
Paramedic Alexander Bases (2)	Paramedic Michelle Campbell (1)	Paramedic Jillian Cox (2)	EMT Griffin Ellams (1)
ELT Ohnesto Batalla (2)	EMT Justin Cancel (1)	EMT Wadia Craan-Munro (1)	Paramedic Doraun Ellis (1)
EMT Gaston Bedford (1)	ELT Teri Ann Cancetty Melas (1)	Paramedic Dina Crespo Bruno (1)	EMT Ryan Engberg (1)
EMT Jeremiah Belcher (1)	ELT Gene Canel (3)	Paramedic Christopher Cruthchfield (4)	EMT Michael Englehart (1)
EMT Antonio Belzair (1)	EMT Joseph Canzoneri (1)	ELT Jessica Cruz (1)	EMT Gabriel Espinal (2)
EMT Justin Bellamy (1)	Paramedic Alberto Caraballo (1)	EMT Joseph Cruz (1)	ELT Liana Espinal (1)
Paramedic Christopher Belle (1)	EMT Nicholas Caracciolo (1)	Paramedic Stephanie Cruz (1)	Paramedic Julio Espinoza (1)
EMT Ryan Bello (1)	EMT William Cardone (1)	Paramedic Veronica Cruz (1)	ELT Aron Ezagui (1)
EMT Marcos Bencosme (1)	Paramedic James Carlson (3)	EMT Melody Cruz Stallworth (1)	EMT Ana Fajardo (1)
ELT Jose Benitez (1)	EMT John Carozza II (3)	Paramedic Kathy Cubias (1)	Paramedic Michelle Fallon (3)
EMT Tiffany Benjamin (1)	EMT Antoine Carroll (1)	EMT Christopher Cuenca (1)	EMT Dana Farmer (1)
ELT Victor Berrios (2)	ELT Dustin Carter (1)	EMT John Culmine (1)	EMT Madelyn Fernandez (1)
EMT Joseph Besignano (1)	ELT Jaquan Carter (4)	EMT Justin Cuomo (3)	Paramedic Philip Ferrara (1)
EMT Justin Besignano (1)	ELT Diana Cassa (2)	EMT Gregory Curiel (2)	Paramedic Thomas Ferrara (2)
ELT Peter Bilardello (3)	Paramedic Tatiana Cassemiro (1)	ELT William Curley (7)	Paramedic Romario Ferreira (2)
Paramedic Jonathan Billian (2)	EMT Joseph Castelli (1)	ELT Timothy Cusack (2)	Paramedic Elizabeth Ferrin (1)
EMT Johnathan Bilotto (2)	Paramedic Sidney Castiblanco (2)	EMT Philip Dacey (2)	EMT Daniel Fetchik (1)
EMT Jahlesha Bishop (1)	Paramedic Ruben Castillo (2)	ECP Michael Daddona (1)	EMT Chad Fields (1)
EMT Ronique Blake (1)	ELT Andre Catapano (1)	Paramedic Shizam Dalbarry (1)	EMT Michael Fields Jr. (1)
Paramedic Robert Boardman (5)	Paramedic Laura Catucci (2)	EMT Kevin Daly (2)	ELT Alvin Figueroa (2)
EMT Issak Bodon (1)	Paramedic Daniel Cavorsi (1)	ELT Sencia Datilus (2)	ELT Jerry Figueroa (2)
Paramedic James Bolger (2)	EMT Ian Celentani (1)	Paramedic Calin David (2)	Paramedic Claire Fitzgerald (1)
Paramedic Christina Boncimino (1)	Paramedic Joel Cerizier (1)	Paramedic Kerry David (1)	Paramedic Elizabeth Flores (1)
Paramedic Ferdinand Bonifacio (3)	ELT Chris Chan (2)	EMT Hunter Dawkins (2)	EMT Justin Flores (2)
Paramedic Michael Bonilla (3)	Paramedic Kenny Chan (1)	ELT Gonzalo De Jesus (1)	ELT Miguel Flores (1)

## 2023 PRE-HOSPITAL SAVE AWARDS

EMT Michael Florez (1)	Paramedic Christopher Hagemann (2)	Paramedic Paul Jordan (1)	EMT Matthew Lobaton (1)
Paramedic Paul Florida (1)	EMT Konstantinos Halkias (1)	ELT Henderson Joseph (1)	EMT Tenzin Lodoe (1)
EMT Christopher Florio (1)	EMT Cassidy Hallahan (2)	Paramedic Joel Joseph (2)	ELT Kyle Logiudice (2)
ELT Richard Flower (1)	EMT Ryan Hammerton (1)	Paramedic Eduardo Juarez Garcia (3)	EMT Wanya Long (1)
Paramedic Ilisha Floyd (1)	Paramedic Daniel Hammett (2)	ELT Philip Jugenheimer (1)	EMT Joseph Longo III (1)
Paramedic Bruce Fonseca (1)	EMT Daniel Hanlon (1)	Paramedic Winsley Julien (1)	ELT John Lopez (1)
Paramedic Michael Fox (1)	Paramedic Lorena Hanton (1)	ELT Treyvia Kadin (1)	ELT Lisa Lopez (1)
Paramedic Michael Frail (2)	ELT Luke Hardcastle (1)	Paramedic Kevin Kahl (2)	Paramedic Missael Lopez-Sanchez (1)
Paramedic Oral Francis (1)	Paramedic Richard Harvey (1)	ELT Ravivarman Kailayanathan (1)	EMT Jack Lopopolo (1)
ELT Helen Franco (2)	EMT Lila Hauck (1)	Paramedic Jessica Kaldor (1)	Paramedic Michael Loscalzo (1)
Paramedic Jewel Fraser (1)	ELT James Hayter (1)	EMT Mehmet Kalender (1)	ELT Alexander Loutsky (3)
ELT Michael Fregonese (4)	EMT Shawn Healy (1)	EMT Edward Karasik (1)	EMT Christopher Love (1)
EMT Anthony French (1)	Paramedic Alex Heaney (3)	EMT Andrew Katsanos (1)	EMT Noah Love (1)
EMT Ryan French (2)	Paramedic Ziquayya Hedrington (1)	EMT Michael Kavanagh Jr. (1)	EMT Edwin Lozada (1)
ECP Joshua Frumer (1)	EMT Evan Heegan (1)	EMT Daniel Keary (1)	EMT Ethan Lu (1)
Paramedic Syreeta Fullard (1)	Paramedic Christian Hehn (2)	ELT Edward Keenan (1)	EMT Robert Lubinski (1)
EMT Colin Furlong (1)	EMT Scott Hene (1)	EMT John Kelly (3)	EMT Efrosini Lucio (1)
EMT Ryan Gagliardi-Rivera (1)	EMT Alexander Hernandez (1)	EMT Kevin Kelly (1)	Paramedic Tanya Lugo (2)
EMT Jonpaul Galindo (1)	Paramedic Brittany Hernandez (2)	EMT Lamar Kelly (1)	Paramedic Winslow Luna (1)
EMT James Gallo (2)	EMT David Hernandez (1)	EMT Mark Kelly (2)	EMT Aaron Ly (1)
EMT Michael Gallo (1)	Paramedic Henry Hernandez (1)	Paramedic Robert Kelly (2)	Paramedic Paul Lynch (1)
EMT Bryan Gambino (1)	EMT Irving Hernandez (1)	EMT William Kelso (1)	EMT Ross Lynch (1)
EMT Christopher Garcia (1)	EMT Matthew Hernandez (1)	EMT Joseph Kessler (1)	Paramedic Andrew Mach (1)
ELT Jessy Garcia (1)	EMT Noe Hernandez Mendoza (1)	ECP Alexander Khalef (1)	ELT Elizabeth Mackiewicz (1)
Paramedic Kelcee Garneau (1)	EMT Josue Hernandez-Torres (1)	ELT Omran Khan (2)	Paramedic Nelson Madrigal (1)
ELT Bruce Geiser (2)	Paramedic Joshua Herrmann (1)	EMT Michael Kiesel (1)	EMT Derrick Maher (1)
EMT Sarah Geldard (1)	Paramedic Austin Higley (1)	Paramedic Ki Hyun Kim (2)	Paramedic Ralph Maisonneuve (1)
EMT Michael Gennaro (1)	EMT Komla Hlomawou (2)	ELT Namwu Kim (4)	ELT Valeri Makarets (1)
Paramedic Shewain George (3)	EMT Connor Hoban (1)	EMT James King (2)	ELT David Malayev (1)
EMT Lucas Gerrato (1)	Paramedic Edward Hochhauser (1)	Paramedic Roderick King (1)	Paramedic Jessica Maldonado (2)
Paramedic John Gilbert (2)	Paramedic Andrew Hodges (1)	ELT Justin Kinney (2)	Paramedic Mabel Maldonado (1)
EMT Daniel Gilder (1)	EMT Ceasar Holloway (1)	Paramedic Andrey Kirichenko (1)	EMT Matthew Mancini (1)
EMT John Glidden IV (1)	Paramedic Simon Holyland (1)	Paramedic Sergiy Kiseliuk (2)	Paramedic Michael Mancino (1)
Paramedic Joshua Gluck (4)	Paramedic Shoshana Holzberg-Pill (1)	Paramedic Melissa Klein (1)	ELT Neil Mancuso (1)
Paramedic Shirah Goldstock (1)	Paramedic Ivan Hom (1)	ELT Moshe Klein (2)	Paramedic Anthony Marascia (2)
ELT Alexander Gomez (1)	Paramedic Jimmy Hong (1)	EMT James Kleisler (1)	Paramedic Kevin Marcellus (1)
EMT Edwin Gomez (1)	Paramedic Michael Hood (2)	EMT Stephen Koester (1)	ELT John Marino (1)
ELT Yonh Gomez (2)	EMT Maggie Hope (1)	ELT Christian Komondorea (1)	EMT Joseph Marino III (1)
EMT Kandis Gonzales (1)	EMT Michael Hospedales (2)	Paramedic John Korinek (3)	Paramedic Christian Marte (3)
Paramedic Enrique Gonzalez (3)	EMT Daniel Howard (1)	Paramedic Daviti Korinteli (1)	EMT Marquand Martin (1)
EMT Imani Gonzalez (1)	ELT Andriy Hrycyk (1)	Paramedic Marc Krokowski (1)	EMT Robert Martin (1)
Paramedic Jason Gonzalez (1)	EMT Robert Hunt (1)	ELT George Kroustallis (2)	EMT Larry Martinez (1)
EMT Joseph Gonzalez (1)	Paramedic Mohammad Hussain (1)	EMT Daniel Kulesa (1)	Paramedic Noe Martinez Garcia (3)
EMT Julian Gonzalez (1)	EMT Syed Hussain (1)	Paramedic Franklin Kupferberg (1)	EMT Gabriel Martinez-Perry (1)
Paramedic Justin Gonzalez (1)	EMT Jaeson Hutchinson (1)	ELT Josephine Kwok (3)	ELT Anthony Marullo Jr. (1)
EMT Kenneth Gonzalez (1)	EMT Kerona Hutchinson-McCrea (1)	EMT Amy Lagaris (1)	ECP Renae Mascol (1)
Paramedic Bernard Gordon (1)	Paramedic Robert Hyde (2)	EMT Jonathan Lamar (1)	EMT Peter Massimillo (1)
ELT Valerie Gosling-Martinez (1)	EMT John Iannuzzi (1)	Paramedic Nicholas Larocca (2)	EMT Jeffrey Mathews Jr. (2)
EMT Justin Granados (3)	EMT Hernan Ibanez Ramirez (1)	Paramedic Eric Laukaitis (1)	Paramedic Eric Matonis (1)
EMT Michael Grant (1)	EMT Sean Immel (2)	EMT Annmarie Lavelle (1)	Paramedic Peter Matura (1)
Paramedic Erin Greaney (3)	EMT Ryan Infante (1)	ELT Crystal Lawrence (2)	Paramedic Leswin Matute (1)
ELT David Greenidge (1)	ELT Eric Ingram (1)	Paramedic Adrian Lazar (1)	EMT Nolan May Odle (1)
EMT Jermaine Gregg (1)	ELT Amanda Isenberg (3)	ELT Jason Lazar (1)	EMT John Mayrose (1)
EMT Gregory Griesmer (1)	ELT Matt Jachyra (1)	ELT Kevin Lebbby (1)	EMT Bryan Maza (1)
EMT Irving Grullon (1)	Paramedic Christopher Jacobs (2)	ELT Kenneth Lebow (1)	EMT Jackson Mazariegos (2)
EMT Alessandro Guerrero (1)	EMT Jerome Jacobs (1)	ELT Warren Lees (1)	ELT Christopher Mazziotti (1)
Paramedic Daniel Guillen (2)	EMT Akeem James (1)	EMT Ciara Lennon (1)	Paramedic Amanda McCarthy (2)
ELT Magdalena Guirand (2)	Paramedic Dennis Jamieson (1)	Paramedic Alexa Leo (1)	Paramedic David McCarthy (1)
Paramedic Roland Guirand Jr. (1)	Paramedic Timothy Janis (1)	ELT Christopher Leon (2)	Paramedic Dylan McCoy (2)
ELT Bryant Gutierrez (1)	Paramedic Jose Jaquez (1)	Paramedic Jessica Leon (1)	Paramedic Angela McCray (1)
EMT Yanibell Gutierrez (2)	ELT Samuel Jaroslawicz (1)	EMT Cameron Lett (1)	Paramedic Christopher McDaniels (2)
Paramedic Brian Gutkin (1)	Paramedic Dukens Jean Baptiste (1)	Paramedic Jason Lew (1)	EMT Matthew McDonagh (2)
Paramedic Cecil Guy (2)	EMT Junon Jean Baptiste (1)	Paramedic Shanice Lewis (1)	ELT Chante McDonald (1)
EMT Douglas Guzman (1)	Paramedic Joshua Jimenez (1)	EMT Sushawna Lewis (1)	EMT Sophia McDonnell (1)
EMT Jose Guzman (1)	ELT Ramon Jimenez (1)	Paramedic Ron Li (1)	ELT James McGee (2)
EMT Kathleen Guzman (1)	Paramedic Victoria Johnson (1)	EMT Alexander Lina (1)	Paramedic Cullen McGraw (1)
EMT Kevin Guzman (1)	EMT Anthony Jones (1)	Paramedic Jesse Lipton (1)	Paramedic Brian McIntyre (2)
Paramedic Joshua Haber (1)	EMT Earl Jones Jr. (1)	EMT Nyla Lloyd-Clarke (3)	ETR Michael McKenna (1)
Paramedic Lana Hagai (1)	ELT Ian Jordan (1)	Paramedic Anthony Loaiza (1)	EMT Matthew McKinnon (1)



## 2023 PRE-HOSPITAL SAVE AWARDS

EMT Shaun McMahon (1)	Paramedic Abidemi Olatunbosun (1)	ELT Kim Quigley (1)	EMT Luis Sanchez (1)
Paramedic Francisco Medina (1)	EMT Lysthensia Olivier (1)	ELT John Quiles (2)	ELT Ryan Sanchez (1)
Paramedic Freddy Medina (1)	EMT Colleen Onderdonk (1)	Paramedic Kevin Quiles (2)	EMT Riquiel Sanchez Matos (1)
Paramedic Brian Melaragno (1)	Paramedic Arelis Oquendo (2)	EMT Christopher Quinn (1)	Paramedic Justin Sandler (1)
Paramedic Jolissa Mendez (2)	Paramedic Hakeem Orelaja (1)	EMT Tanvir Rafid (1)	EMT Miguelin Santana (1)
EMT Michael Meyer (1)	EMT Frantz Oriol (1)	Paramedic Lisette Ramdayal (1)	Paramedic Veronica Santiago (1)
Paramedic Scott Michels (1)	ELT Christopher Orlik (2)	EMT Arlene Ramirez (1)	Paramedic Mario Santiago III (2)
ELT Joshua Midgett (1)	EMT Krystale Ortiz (2)	ELT Veronica Ramos (1)	ELT Nicolas Santini (3)
EMT Michael Migliozi (1)	Paramedic Michael Ortiz (1)	EMT Gerardo Ramos Jr. (1)	EMT Calvin Santos (1)
ELT Alexandru Mihailescu (2)	Paramedic Niall Oshaughnessy (1)	ELT Vijay Rampersad (1)	EMT Kristina Santos (1)
EMT William Millan (1)	EMT Gregory Ostrove (1)	EMT Denes Ravel (1)	EMT Rupert Savage (1)
EMT Thomas Miller (1)	Paramedic James Osullivan (1)	Paramedic Andrew Redwood (1)	EMT Dominick Scala (1)
Paramedic Cilla Miller Richards (1)	ELT Ricardo Otero (1)	Paramedic Eric Reilly (1)	EMT John Scanlon (1)
EMT Megan Millman (4)	EMT Anthony Othman (1)	EMT Scott Rest (1)	EMT Zelman Schapira Jr. (1)
EMT Kyle Milone (1)	ELT Kyle Owens (3)	EMT Dennis Reyes (1)	EMT Paul Schmalzried (2)
Paramedic Malathia Mobley (1)	EMT Jennifer Pace (1)	Paramedic Edward Reynolds (1)	EMT Frank Schulz (1)
Paramedic Steven Moise Jr. (2)	EMT Jose Pacheco (1)	Paramedic Christopher Reynoso (3)	ELT Hervin Scott (1)
EMT Arnette Montague (1)	Paramedic Luis Pacheco (6)	EMT Kenneth Richards (1)	EMT Kelly Scott (2)
Paramedic Michael Montemorano Sr. (2)	EMT Miguel Pacheco (1)	Paramedic Alexa Riggio (1)	EMT Odonai Seaforth (1)
EMT Aaron Montes (2)	Paramedic Nyla Page Waltrus (1)	Paramedic Shaun Riley (2)	Paramedic Rafael Sequeira (1)
ELT Kevin Montgomery (2)	EMT Kristen Panarella (1)	EMT Juan Rios (2)	Paramedic Nelson Seto (2)
ELT Mario Montoya Sr. (1)	Paramedic John Pangal (1)	ELT Diane Rivas (1)	EMT Oneal Severin (2)
EMT Emilia Moore (1)	EMT Michael Paniagua (1)	EMT Alexis Rivera (1)	EMT Anil Shahi Thakuri (1)
EMT Ryan Moore (1)	Paramedic Victoria Papazian (1)	Paramedic Jennifer Rivera (1)	ELT Chungching Sham (1)
ELT Shavone Moore (1)	EMT Vanessa Paradise (1)	Paramedic Lisette Rivera (1)	ELT Ajay Sharma (1)
EMT Julian Morales (1)	ELT Lennon Parasram (1)	Paramedic Rafael Rivera (1)	EMT Jason Sharp (1)
EMT Michael Morales (1)	Paramedic Jose Parra (1)	EMT George Rivero (1)	ELT Kimberly Sharpe (2)
Paramedic Jonathan Morel (6)	ELT Gregory Partch Jr. (3)	ELT Ronald Rizzo (1)	Paramedic Hahyung Shim (1)
EMT Ted Morency (1)	Paramedic Eyisett Patino (1)	Paramedic Richard Robertson (1)	EMT Frank Sikorski (3)
EMT Sean Moss (1)	EMT Christian Patten (1)	EMT Shameeka Rochford (1)	Paramedic Kenneth Silas (1)
Paramedic Mourtaz Mourtazaliev (1)	ELT Anthony Paulino (1)	EMT Christopher Rodgers (1)	Paramedic Joshua Silver (1)
ELT Emily Moy (1)	Paramedic Siul Paulino (1)	EMT Julia Rodgers (1)	ECP Suchingh Singh (1)
ELT Ludmila Muller (2)	EMT Robert Pav (1)	EMT Jermaine Rodney (1)	EMT Mamadou Sissoko (2)
Paramedic Brendan Mulroy (2)	EMT Kevin Pearson (1)	ELT Brandon Rodriguez (3)	EMT Frank Smieya Jr. (1)
EMT David Mumford (2)	Paramedic Ronald Peifer II (1)	EMT Cristian Rodriguez (1)	Paramedic James Smith (3)
Paramedic Marc Muratore (1)	ELT Jose Pelaez (1)	Paramedic Cristino Rodriguez (2)	Paramedic Lucey Snyder (1)
Paramedic Said Mustafa (1)	EMT Sean Pendola (1)	ELT Edward Rodriguez (1)	Paramedic Ervin Sobiev (2)
Paramedic Diana Muyudumbay (1)	EMT Toni Pepia (1)	EMT Ezequiel Rodriguez (1)	EMT Al Soto (1)
Paramedic Samerah Nagi (1)	ELT Esmerelda Pepper (3)	ELT Jeanine Rodriguez (1)	EMT Michael Spalletta (1)
EMT Emmanuel Napoleon (1)	Paramedic Francisco Peralta (1)	ELT Juan Rodriguez (1)	ELT Jason Spandorf (2)
Paramedic Igor Negelev (1)	Paramedic Alexandre Pereira (1)	EMT Karen Rodriguez (1)	Paramedic Daniel Sparnroft (2)
EMT Ciana Negron (3)	Paramedic Anthony Perez (1)	Paramedic William Rodriguez (1)	EMT Thomas James Spedaliere (1)
Paramedic Andrew Nellen (1)	EMT John Perez (1)	EMT Brian Rodriguez Yanez (2)	ELT Philip Spiro (1)
EMT Henry Nemorin Jr. (1)	ELT Jose Perez (1)	Paramedic Michael Rojas (1)	EMT Salvatore Sportiello (1)
EMT Christopher Nicholas (2)	EMT Madelyn Perez (1)	EMT Nicha-Marie Rojas (1)	Paramedic Kellan Squire (1)
EMT Thomas Nicholas (1)	ELT Andre Persaud (2)	Paramedic Angel Roldos Jr. (1)	ELT Soraya Squire (1)
EMT John Nicosia (1)	Paramedic Nathan Persaud (1)	Paramedic Daniel Rollero (1)	Paramedic Laura Squire (1)
Paramedic Jessica Nieves (1)	Paramedic Rameshwar Persaud (2)	EMT Jorge Roman (1)	EMT Jeani St Clair (1)
EMT Christopher Nigro (1)	Paramedic Megan Pfeiffer (2)	EMT Jason Romero (2)	ELT Jeffrey Stenborg (1)
ELT Vladimir Nikulin (1)	Paramedic Piotr Piechota (1)	Paramedic Nicole Rosales (1)	Paramedic Dwayne Stewart (2)
Paramedic Alexander Nunez (1)	ELT Christopher Pierce (3)	EMT Gabriel Rosario (1)	Paramedic Casey Stiller (1)
ELT Eric Nunez (1)	EMT Ronald Pinales Jiminian (1)	EMT Matthew Rose (1)	EMT Michael Streim (1)
EMT Lewis Nunez (1)	Paramedic James Pione (1)	Paramedic Ryan Rose (1)	Paramedic Michael Strobel (1)
EMT Orlando Nunez (1)	Paramedic Ivan Placido (1)	ELT Andrew Rosenthal (4)	Paramedic Maggie Studsrud (2)
ELT Marat Nurilov (2)	ELT John Pneuman (3)	Paramedic Christopher Roshore (1)	ELT Danny Suarez (1)
EMT Stephen Numberberger (1)	ELT Bernard Pogrebinsky (2)	Paramedic Paul Rufrano (1)	EMT Jason Suarez (1)
EMT Dylan Nuzzi (1)	EMT Alcibiades Polanco (1)	EMT Jeffrey Ruggiello (1)	EMT Darshan Surprenant (2)
Paramedic Mark Obrien (1)	EMT Anthony Polanco (2)	EMT Melanie Ruiz (1)	ECP Jason Sutherland (1)
EMT Patrick O'Brien (2)	ELT Vadim Polishchuk (2)	Paramedic Xavier Rush (1)	ELT Joshua Sutherland (1)
Paramedic David Ocasio (3)	EMT Joshua Porras (1)	ELT George Russo (1)	EMT Johanna Swiderski (1)
ELT Jason Ochoa (2)	ELT Michael Potasso (1)	Paramedic Corey Ruth (1)	Paramedic Slominski Sylvain (1)
Paramedic Liane Ochoa (1)	Paramedic Deanna Powers (1)	EMT Marquiza Rutherford (1)	Paramedic Kenneth Syrett (1)
EMT Kerry Oconnor (2)	Paramedic Alessandra Prestigiacomo (2)	Paramedic Anna Sadowska (2)	EMT Josephine Tabara (1)
EMT Christopher O'Connor (1)	EMT Andrew Preus (1)	Paramedic Anthony Sahagun (2)	Paramedic Gallant Tam (1)
EMT John O'Connor (1)	EMT Jeremy Prieto (1)	Paramedic Kevin Saint-Dic (1)	EMT Anthony Tarasi Jr. (1)
ELT Kevin Oh (1)	EMT Katherine Prisco (1)	Paramedic Abraham Salih (1)	EMT Marlene Taveras (2)
Paramedic Brandon Ojeda (2)	Paramedic Kaylan Prosper (2)	Paramedic Ciara Sally (1)	EMT Dominic Tavitian (1)
Paramedic Charles Okai (1)	Paramedic Nicole Pucciarelli (2)	EMT Paolo Samaritano (1)	EMT Erick Tenempaguay (1)
EMT Ryan Okane (1)	EMT Sean Pyatt (2)	EMT Gabriel Samuel (2)	Paramedic Lorna Tennant (2)

## 2023 PRE-HOSPITAL SAVE AWARDS

EMT Jasper Tenorio (1)  
Paramedic Alex Tepliy (1)  
ELT Elwood Thomas (6)  
EMT Jallin Thomas (1)  
Paramedic Wayne Thomas (1)  
Paramedic Phillip Thompson (1)  
EMT Richard Thompson (1)  
Paramedic Julianne Tien (1)  
ELT Brandon Tishim (1)  
EMT Paul Toell (2)  
ELT Alberto Torres (1)  
Paramedic Christopher Torres (2)  
Paramedic George Torres (2)  
EMT Jeremyah Torres (1)  
Paramedic Madeline Torres (2)  
EMT Neil Torres (2)  
Paramedic Anthony Tortorici (1)  
Paramedic Stephen Tortoriello (1)  
EMT Davidson Tout-Puissant (1)  
Paramedic Anaxenia Toyloy (1)  
ELT Gerardo Toyloy (1)  
Paramedic Michael Travers (1)  
ELT Timothy Troeber (3)  
EMT Ronald Tropea (1)  
EMT Simeon Trotman (1)  
EMT Juan Trujillo-Fuentes (1)

ELT Giovanni Tumbaco (1)  
Paramedic Koray Turhan (1)  
Paramedic Mahaujah Turner (1)  
EMT Matthew Tynan (1)  
ELT Michael Ullman (1)  
Paramedic Mariano Uraje Barroso (2)  
Paramedic David Urrea (1)  
ELT Peter Vaccaro (1)  
EMT Laurenann Valdez (1)  
Paramedic Ricardo Valencia (1)  
ELT Chez Valenta (1)  
Paramedic Robert Vales (1)  
Paramedic Charles Valicenti (2)  
EMT Ian Valle (1)  
Paramedic Kenneth Valle (2)  
ELT Kyle Van Nostrand (5)  
EMT Barry Vanterpool II (1)  
EMT Kelvin Vargas (1)  
ELT Lee Vargas (2)  
EMT Austin Vargo (1)  
EMT Charles Vasser (1)  
EMT Jose Vazquez Sanchez (1)  
Paramedic Jessica Vega (2)  
Paramedic Paula Velez (1)  
EMT Hilario Veliz (2)  
EMT Mitchell Vergara (1)

EMT Nicholas Villacci (1)  
Paramedic Kaylie Vines (2)  
ELT Charles Vitale (1)  
EMT Matthew Vitale (2)  
Paramedic Edgar Vormnadiryan (1)  
ELT Antonios Voxakis (1)  
EMT Jonathan Vukek (1)  
Paramedic Andrew Vuolo (2)  
EMT Isaac Wainston (1)  
EMT Eric Walker Jr. (2)  
ELT Robert Walsh (2)  
EMT Matthew Warnock (1)  
EMT Michal Wasilewski (1)  
EMT Owen Waters (1)  
Paramedic Rashard Watts (1)  
Paramedic Nicholas Webb (1)  
ELT Rebecca Weisman (1)  
Paramedic Kevin Wells (1)  
Paramedic Harlan Wernz (1)  
Paramedic James Wheaton (1)  
ELT Alwain White (2)  
EMT Anthony White (1)  
EMT Matthew Williams (1)  
Paramedic Rose Wilmarth (1)  
Paramedic Andre Wilson (2)  
Paramedic Jennifer Wilson (1)

EMT Jonathan Wilson (1)  
EMT Tyliiek Wilson (1)  
ELT Asher Winik (1)  
ELT Shlomo Winkler (1)  
EMT Brian Winter (1)  
Paramedic Ronald Wolfe (1)  
ELT Kam Wong (5)  
Paramedic Brian Wood (1)  
Paramedic Delilah Woods (1)  
EMT Nicholas Worms (1)  
Paramedic Jaron Wyche (1)  
EMT James Yap (3)  
EMT Yui Yeh Vaca (1)  
Paramedic Andrew Yen (2)  
EMT Thomas Yeno Jr. (1)  
EMT Thomas York (1)  
Paramedic Wayne Young Jr. (2)  
Paramedic Kenny Yu (3)  
EMT Kimberly Zamorano (1)  
ELT Mohmedidris Zanzpawala (7)  
ELT Evgeni Zenkovich (1)  
Paramedic Martin Zienkiewicz (2)  
EMT Jonathan Zuckerman (1)  
Paramedic Marvin Zuniga (3)  
EMT Michael Zwiilinske (1)

## OFFICER OF THE QUARTER 2023

### 2023 First Quarter

Station 13, C132  
Captain Glen Taylor  
Lieutenant Tyisha D. Burwell, Shield 0223  
Lieutenant Lee Vargas, Shield 0409  
Lieutenant George A. Rodriguez, Shield 0652  
Lieutenant Kimberly N. Sharpe, Shield 0674

### 2023 Second Quarter

Station 39, C392  
Captain Robin M. Printy  
Lieutenant Chris C. Chan, Shield 0120  
Lieutenant Kenny Chen, Shield 0237  
Lieutenant Brenda M. Morciglio, Shield 0436  
Lieutenant Ricardo Otero, Shield 0267  
Lieutenant Diane Rivas, Shield 0575

### 2023 Third Quarter

Station BXTRG, C823  
Captain Caesar Rios  
Lieutenant Anthony Bartolomey, Shield 0491  
Lieutenant Ryan Sanchez, Shield 0206  
Lieutenant Yan S. Borukhov, Shield 0110  
Lieutenant Nazbi Z. Chowdhury, Shield 0347

### 2023 Fourth Quarter

Station 17, C173  
Captain Michael A. DeMarco  
Lieutenant Jose R. Cruz, Shield 0607  
Lieutenant Lennon C. Parasram, Shield 0479  
Lieutenant Xhen Huan Chen, Shield 0126  
Lieutenant Yonh Gomez, Shield 0144

## EMS UNIT OF THE MONTH 2023

### January 2023

Station BXTRG, 82K3  
Captain Cesar Rios Sr.  
EMT Daniel R. Fetchik, Shield 1130  
EMT Mathew Olsziewski, Shield 3350  
EMT Julian Feliciano, Shield 2491  
EMT Eduardo Ortega-Reyes, Shield 3372

### February 2023

Station 19, 19L3  
Captain George Traegar  
EMT Dominic Angelella, Shield 1093  
EMT Dayra Antunez-Saldana, Shield 1228  
EMT Johnathan Aucacama, Shield 1263  
EMT Pierse Spillane, Shield 5821

### March 2023

Station 46, 46B3  
Captain Jennifer Ison  
EMT Marciej Cichosz, Shield 2831  
EMT Joanna L. Connors, Shield 2113  
EMT Gregory M. Ostrove, Shield 2135  
EMT Kevin Pearson, Shield 5013

### April 2023

Station 40, 42B2  
Captain Katherine J. Frawley  
EMT Christopher Echevarria, Shield 5739  
EMT Mir M. Ali, Shield 2982  
EMT Thomas M. Gintoli, Shield 3891

### May 2023

Station 07, 07C2  
Captain Scott E. Rothschild  
Station 07/Midtown West  
EMT Thomas G. Derienzo, Shield 2184  
EMT Wendy N. Markert, Shield 5683  
EMT William Millan, Shield 3537  
EMT Kristen M. Panarella, Shield 5596

### June 2023

Station 14, 14B2  
Captain Yahki L. Langford  
EMT Leon Goldson, Shield 3402  
EMT Jailene Rosario, Shield 5799  
EMT Alcibiades Polanco, Shield 3600  
EMT Dennis Reyes, Shield 3024

### July 2023

Station 10, 10H2  
Captain James D. Rawcliffe  
EMT Philip Dacey, Shield 1212  
EMT Sean Ismaili, Shield 2131  
EMT Jeffrey Diaz, Shield 1234  
EMT Frank Sikorski, Shield 3192

### August 2023

Station 23, 23H3  
Captain Linda M. Parlamenti  
EMT Hunter C. Dawkins, Shield 2539  
EMT Joshua Valdes, Shield 1614

### September 2023

Station BXTRG, 82D2  
Captain Caesar Rios Sr.  
EMT Brian C. Ferretti, Shield 2219  
EMT Spencer J. Roveto, Shield 1859  
EMT Roland Diaz, Shield 1160  
EMT Zaquan Linzy, Shield 2227

### October 2023

Station 50, 52H3  
Captain Samuel Jimenez  
EMT Brandon E. Demulder, Shield 1716  
EMT Kevin Mckee, Shield 5758

### November 2023

Station 07, 71Q2  
Captain Scott Rothschild  
EMT Anthony F. Dias, Shield 1611  
EMT Daniel W. Moellendorf, Shield 2969  
EMT Peter R. Cirelli, Shield 2106  
EMT Joseph J. Scparta, Shield 5250

### December 2023

Station 13, 13B2  
Captain Glen G. Taylor  
EMT Marian D. Meinen, Shield 2183  
EMT Bryan A. Antolos, Shield 1052



## MEDAL AND AWARD DONORS

### **Dr. Harry M. Archer Medal**

This medal was endowed in 1917 by Herman L. Reis, FDNY Medical Officer. The medal is awarded every three years to a holder of a Chief of Department Peter J. Ganci 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 13)

### **Chief of Department Peter J. Ganci, Jr. Medal & NYS Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal**

Since 1869, the FDNY has awarded annually a medal for the highest act of bravery by a firefighter or fire officer. In 2020, the James Gordon Bennett Medal was renamed in honor of Chief of Department Peter J. Ganci, Jr., the highest ranking uniformed member of the Department killed on September 11, 2001. Chief Ganci made the supreme sacrifice while leading the rescue efforts in response to the terrorists attacks at the World Trade Center. The Fire Foundation of New York, Inc., Kenneth Bronstein, president, and the NYS Honorary Fire Chief Association Glenn Zarogen, president, funds this award. (Page 15)

### **EMT-P Carlos Lillo**

#### **Lt. Ricardo Quinn Medal**

This 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 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 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)

### **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 18)

### **Yadira Arroyo Medal**

The Yadira Arroyo Medal is named for the courageous EMT who died in the line of duty in March of 2017. EMT Arroyo, a 14-year veteran of the FDNY, lost her life after she and her partner were overtaken by a combative patient who then struck her with their ambulance. This medal is awarded in her name to members of EMS who display extraordinary bravery. Awarded for the first time in 2022. Endowed by EMS Local 2507. (Page 19)

### **Hugh Bonner Medal & Honor Legion Medal**

Named in honor of Chief Hugh Bonner, "a stalwart Chief of Department who preferred to rule by example." The medal first was awarded in 1897. (Page 20)

### **BC Thomas J. Neary Bronx Harlem Firefighter Medal**

BC Thomas J. Neary served the FDNY from 1963 to 1994 with high valor, distinction and honor. BC Neary worked in busy areas of the City including East New York and Corona, but served the majority of his career in the South Bronx and Harlem. BC Neary was the first firefighter to be awarded the James Gordon Bennett Medal on two separate occasions for extraordinary acts of bravery. His sterling career is an example every member of the Department should try to emulate. The BC Thomas J. Neary Medal is endowed in 2024 by Friends and Brothers of Thomas J. Neary "to be awarded annually to a member of the Department whose distinguished service in the line of duty receives recognition of Class III or higher by the Board of Merit of the FDNY." (Page 21)

### **Emily Trevor**

#### **Mary B. Warren Medal**

These sisters, in their deed of gift, wrote, "for the purpose 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 22)

### **Thomas E. Crimmins Medal**

First awarded in 1912. In memory of her father, Thomas 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. (Page 23)

### **Thomas A. Kenny Memorial Medal**

Honorary Deputy Chief William F. Kenny endowed 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 24)

### **Walter Scott Medal**

Colonel 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 25)

### **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 26)

### **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 27)

### **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 28)

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

Endowed/funded by the Hispanic Society as "a memorial tribute to the 12 brother firefighters who made 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 29)

#### **Michael 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 30)

#### **Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia Medal**

The Honorable Fiorello H. LaGuardia, while the mayor, frequently "turned out" at large fires. He had a keen interest in the problems of fire prevention and extinguishment. First awarded in 1937. (Page 31)

#### **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 32)

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

Named in honor of the late Chief and Fire Commissioner 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 awarded in 1937. Recipient also is awarded the Fitzpatrick and Frisby Award, a medalion 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 the Brian F. Mulheren family in memory of his father, Joseph A. Mulheren, a friend of the FDNY. (Page 33)

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

Chief 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 34)

#### **Albert S. Johnston Medal**

Albert S. Johnston was a captain in the New York Fire Patrol with a record of 50 years of faithful service. Ten years after his retirement in 1927, this medal was endowed by William F. Conran. A \$100 cash award in honor and in memory of Fire Patrolman Keith Roma, Fire Patrol 2, who died in the line of duty at the WTC on 9/11/01. #344 Never Forgotten. (Page 35)

#### **Ner Tamid Society Franklin Delano Roosevelt Medal**

In this medal was endowed by the officers and members of FDNY'S Ner Tamid Society in honor of the late president. First awarded in 1946. (Page 36)

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

EMT 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 37)

#### **Vincent J. Kane Medal**

This 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 38)

#### **Brummer Medal**

The late Bertram Brummer and his wife, Susie, had a long-standing interest in the FDNY. Bertram, a member of the New York Stock Exchange, received training during World War II at the Fire Department College and was assigned to Engine Company 44 in the Auxiliary Corps. In 1961, Bertram and Susie Brummer endowed this medal to be awarded annually for an act of bravery. First awarded in 1962. Endowed by the New York City Fire Department. (Page 39)

#### **Frank W. Kridel Medal**

Awarded by the Hotel Association of New York City to a member of the FDNY in recognition of an act of valor above and beyond the call of duty. First awarded in 1962. Endowed by the New York City Fire Department. (Page 40)

#### **Emerald Society Medal**

Endowed/funded by the Emerald Society and awarded to an FDNY member whose distinguished service in the line of duty receives recognition by the Department's Board of Merit. First awarded in 1965. (Page 41)

#### **Chief Wesley Williams Medal**

Endowed/funded by the Vulcan Society. Awarded to an FDNY member whose distinguished service in the line of duty receives recognition by the Department's Board of Merit. First awarded in 1966. (Page 42)

#### **Holy Name Society Medal (Brooklyn/Queens)**

Endowed/funded by the Holy Name Society (Brooklyn-Queens) in memory of Chaplain Emeritus Very Reverend Monsignor Merrit E. Yeager. First awarded in 1967. (Page 43)

#### **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 44)

#### **Captain Denis W. Lane Memorial Medal**

Endowed in honor of the late Captain Denis W. Lane. Established by the Honorable Joseph M. Lane and Ms. Joan M. Lane. Captain Lane was appointed to the Department in 1913. A lifelong member of the FDNY Anchor Club, he retired in 1958 after a long and dedicated career. Awarded to a deserving member of the uniformed force in recognition of an outstanding act of bravery. First awarded in 1976. Endowed by the New York City Fire Department. (Page 45)

#### **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 46)

#### **Dr. Albert A. Cinelli Medal**

Endowed/funded by the UFA in memory of Dr. Albert A. Cinelli, a longtime friend of the FDNY. Dr. Cinelli was responsible for founding both the Medical and Surgical Specialists Plan and the Surgical Assistance Fund. Serving without salary as the director of both programs, Dr. Cinelli won the admiration and respect of every member of the FDNY. In keeping with these thoughts, this medal has been dedicated to his memory. Awarded for the first time in 1978. (Page 47)

#### **Fire Chiefs Association Memorial Medal**

The Fire Chiefs Association has endowed this medal to honor the memory of those chief officers of the FDNY who, from volunteer days to the present, have given leadership, inspiration, courage and, sometimes, their lives to the development of the finest firefighting force in the world. First awarded in 1979. Endowed by the New York City Fire Department. (Page 48)

#### **Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn Medal**

**A** dedicated 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)

#### **Battalion Chief**

##### **Frank T. Tuttlemondo Medal**

**T**his medal is endowed/funded by the members of the 44th Battalion in honor and memory of their late, beloved chief, who served the Brownsville area of Brooklyn most of his firefighting career and gave his life to save his men. The medal was designed by then-Firefighter George Guinan, formerly of Ladder 120. It is presented annually to a member of the Department who performs an act of bravery and courage in keeping with the highest traditions of the FDNY. First awarded in 1982. (Page 50)

##### **Dr. John F. Connell Medal**

**A**warded since 1983 in honor of the late Dr. John F. Connell, adopted in 1923 by Engine 2, in what was then Hell's Kitchen. With encouragement of firefighters who became his substitute fathers, he received his medical degree. He attended thousands of fires, treating firefighters and civilians without a thought of personal recognition. Endowed/funded by his son, the late John F. Connell Jr., and first awarded in 1983, the award continues from Rosemary Connell, the widow of John F. Connell Jr. (Page 51)

##### **Fire Bell Club Medal**

**T**he Fire Bell Club, the oldest and largest such group in the New York City area, consists of individuals, both in and outside of the fire service, who have an interest in the FDNY. The Fire Bell Club awards this medal biannually as an expression of their admiration and appreciation of the camaraderie that has existed between the FDNY and the Club since its founding in 1939. First awarded in 1984. Funded by the Fire Bell Club. (Page 52)

##### **Firefighter David J. DeFranco Medal**

**I**n 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 53)

#### **Deputy Commissioner Christine R. Godek Medal**

**E**stablished 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)

##### **Probationary Firefighter Thomas A. Wylie Medal**

**T**his 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 55)

##### **Firefighter Kevin C. Kane Medal**

**T**his medal has been established in honor of Firefighter Kevin C. Kane, who made the supreme sacrifice in the discharge of his duties, protecting life and property on September 13, 1991. This medal is awarded biannually to a member of the Department who performs an act of outstanding bravery and courage as deemed by the Board of Merit. Funded by Engine 207. (Page 56)

##### **Captain John J. Drennan Memorial Medal**

**E**ndowed/funded by the Viking Association of the FDNY in memory of Captain John J. Drennan, who sacrificed his life in the line of duty. This medal is awarded to members of the Department who perform acts above and beyond the call of duty. (Page 57)

##### **Jack Pintchik Medal**

**F**ollowing 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)

##### **Captain Alison Russo North Star Medal**

**N**amed in honor of Captain Alison Russo, a 24-year veteran officer and rescue medic who was killed in the line of duty September 29, 2022. This award

recognizes an FDNY EMS officer who, in the performance of duty, performs an act of distinguished bravery and stamina under adverse or extreme conditions. This award is endowed by Deputy Chief (ret.) Zachary Goldfarb in memory of Captain Russo, a "North Star" who, through her life of service to the citizens of New York City, exemplified leadership through responsibility, tenacity, resilience, decisiveness, compassion and courage. (Page 59)

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

**P**resented 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 60)

##### **Lieutenant James Curran New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation Medal**

**T**he 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 61)

##### **Firefighter Thomas R. Elsasser Memorial Medal**

**E**ndowed by the Uniformed Firefighters Association, this medal is named in honor of Firefighter 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 62)

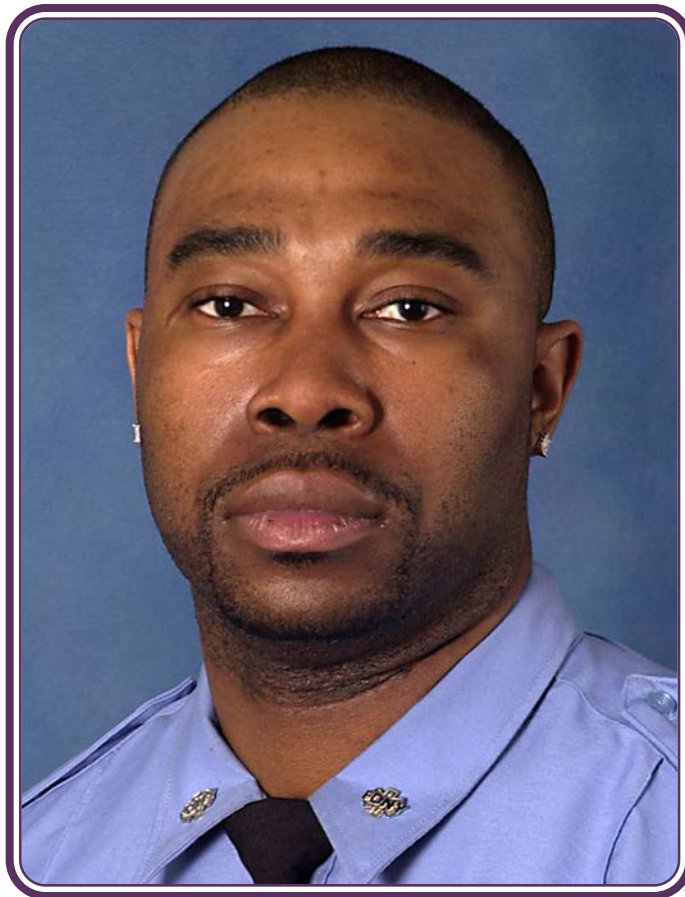
##### **World Trade Center Memorial Medal**

**E**stablished to honor the bravery and courage of 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 63)



**5-5-5-5**

**Died in the Line of Duty**



**EMT FREDERICK D. WHITESIDE**  
**Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD), PSAC II**

**Died Friday, Nov. 17, 2023, while on duty  
and operating at PSAC II in the borough of the Bronx.  
Appointed to the FDNY on April 19, 2002.**

# Notes





