



NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

Phone: 301-447-1365 **E-mail:** FireHero@FireHero.org **Web:** www.FireHero.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT: Donna Clark 240-723-0615

Five New Jersey Fallen Firefighters to be Honored at National Memorial Service October 9

EMMITSBURG, MD – The 35th Annual National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service will honor five firefighters who died in the line of duty from New Jersey. They are among the 79 firefighters who died in 2015 and 33 firefighters who died in previous years who will be remembered at the official national service at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland on Sunday, October 9.

Firefighter Sean M. Benson, Sr., age 50, of the Paramus Fire Department died after he responded to a call for a fire alarm in a commercial structure on September 23, 2015.

Fire Police Officer Gerald M. Celecki, age 70, of the South Amboy Fire Department died after he collapsed at the scene of a gas leak on October 14, 2015.

Deputy Chief Thomas J. Kolarick, age 41, of the Keasbey Fire Department experienced chest pains while responding to a brush fire and later died on November 11, 2015, from post-surgical complications.

Firefighter James P. Reilly, age 85, of the Morris Township Fire Department died after he suffered a heart attack following a response to a reported brush fire on August 12, 2011.

Firefighter Barry W. Van Horn, age 63, of the Somerville Fire Department, West End Hose Company #3 died on March 27, 2015, from a heart attack following a response to a fire alarm call.

Their names will be added to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial on the Academy grounds. The national tribute is sponsored by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) and the Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Fire Administration.

Thousands are expected to attend the service, including families and friends of the fallen firefighters, members of Congress, Administration officials and other dignitaries. Families will receive flags flown over the U. S. Capitol and the National Memorial. Members of the fire service, honor guard units and pipe and drum units from across the country will participate in this national tribute.

For a complete list of fallen firefighters being honored and a widget to display their information on your website, along with Memorial Weekend related videos, photos, media and broadcast information go to www.firehero.org.