

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and FDNY to Hold Special Tribute for Heroes Lost to Post-9/11 Illnesses

EMMITSBURG, MD (August 4, 2025) More than two decades after the tragic events of September 11, 2001, the legacy of that day continues to live on in the unwavering courage and devotion to duty shown by FDNY firefighters. These American heroes answered the call without hesitation, standing in defense of our nation during one of its darkest hours. In the years that followed, many faced devastating health challenges due to their work at Ground Zero—sacrifices made in the line of duty that serve as a lasting testament to the true meaning of heroism.

On October 18, 2025, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF), in partnership with the Fire Department of the City of New York (FDNY), will host a heroic tribute on Staten Island, New York, to honor FDNY firefighters who died as a result of post-9/11-related illnesses. These firefighters, until now, had not been formally recognized at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

The tribute will ensure that their names are etched alongside their fellow fallen heroes, permanently remembered by a grateful nation.

"These firefighters exemplified unwavering courage and devotion to duty—not just on 9/11, but in the days, months, and years that followed," said FDNY Fire Commissioner Robert Tucker. "Their sacrifices must never be forgotten, and this tribute ensures their place in history is secured with honor and dignity."

The event on Staten Island will include a formal memorial service, the unveiling of a commemorative plaque, and the reading of each firefighter's name. Family members, colleagues, and supporters from across the country will gather to pay tribute and remember these heroes.

The following FDNY firefighters will be honored during the ceremony and their names permanently added to the National Memorial:

Firefighter Vincent J. Albanese Firefighter Michael J. Arriaga Firefighter Alfred J. Artesona Lieutenant Stephen Asaro Firefighter Keith E. Atlas

Firefighter Christopher J. Bach Firefighter William Bartholomew

Captain Steven Berube

Battalion Chief Kevin S. Blaine Lieutenant Andrew M. Borgese Firefighter Daniel C. Bove

Firefighter Ronald R. Brenneisen Firefighter Russell C. Brinkworth

Lieutenant Joseph Brosi Lieutenant Richard M. Burke Firefighter Timothy J. Burke Lieutenant James J. Burns II Battalion Chief Kevin R. Byrnes Firefighter Frank A. Caputo

Captain Peter J. Casey
Captain Kevin J. Cassidy

Firefighter Anthony J. Catapano Firefighter Peter A. Chiodo Firefighter Michael J. Cioffi Firefighter James J. Cody Jr. Firefighter John F. Connolly Sr. Lieutenant James S. Cooney Sr.

Battalion Chief James N. Costello Firefighter Joseph P. Costello Firefighter Brent G. Crobak

Firefighter Michael T. Costa

Firefighter Andrew D. Dal Cortivo

Lieutenant Arthur J. Darby Firefighter Harry L. Davis

Rev. Monsignor John E. Delendick Firefighter Nicholas J. DeMasi Lieutenant Paul W. Deo Jr. Supervising Fire Marshal James E. Devery

Firefighter Robert F. DiGiovanni Firefighter Robert W. Dillon Lieutenant James K. Donohue Firefighter Richard N. Driscoll Firefighter Michael L. Duffy Firefighter John A. Dunn Lieutenant Kevin C. Dunn Lieutenant Martin K. Farrell Firefighter Thomas J. Farrell

Fire Marshal Michael J. Federowski

Lieutenant Cruz A. Fernandez

Lieutenant Peter J. Farrenkopf

Captain Neil R. Ferro Firefighter Albert A. Filosa

Firefighter Robert B. Fitzgibbon

Firefighter Robert A. Ford
Firefighter Willie T. Franklin Jr.
Firefighter Robert V. Fulco
Captain John J. Galvin

Firefighter Andrew S. Gargiulo Firefighter Frank J. Gasparino Lieutenant Gary J. Gates

Firefighter Thomas H. Gavitt Jr. Battalion Chief Stephen J. Geraghty

Captain Dennis M. Gilhooly
Lieutenant Thomas J. Greaney
Firefighter Paul J. Greco
Lieutenant John K. Gremse
Lieutenant Michael G. Hance
Battalion Chief James J. Hanley
Firefighter Joseph A. Hatzelman
Firefighter Thomas D. Healy
Firefighter James M. Hicks

Firefighter James M. Hicks Firefighter Jose L. Hickson Lieutenant Michael J. Higgins Firefighter William Hodgens Lieutenant Thomas J. Hodges Firefighter Andrew J. Hornbuckle Firefighter Edward V. Hronec Firefighter Robert Hughes Firefighter William M. Hughes Firefighter James J. Hurson

Firefighter James J. Hurson Firefighter Anthony R. Iraci Firefighter James B. Johnsen Firefighter Robert W. Johnson Firefighter Harold J. Johnston Firefighter Richard B. Jones

Lieutenant Donald J. Kelly Firefighter Kevin R. Kelly Lieutenant William J. Kelly

Firefighter Sean D. Kenny Lieutenant Richard Kobbe Firefighter Dennis J. Komar Captain Thomas S. Labarbiera

Battalion Chief Arthur S. Lakiotes Firefighter Gregory J. LaManna Firefighter Patrick J. Lauro

Firefighter Gregg Lawrence Firefighter Kevin E. Lennon

Firefighter Timothy G. Lockwood Lieutenant Keith M. Loughlin

Captain Luke M. Lynch Firefighter Thomas A. Lynn Captain Michael J. Lyons

Battalion Chief Vincent G. Lyons Lieutenant Baudon C. Malmbeck Deputy Chief Vincent J. Mandala Lieutenant Charles J. Maniscalco

Firefighter John H. Marr

Firefighter Anthony F. Mastrelli

Supervising Fire Marshal John J. McCauley

Firefighter Dennis B. McClean

Firefighter Christopher W. McCormack

Firefighter John F. McDonnell Firefighter Thomas J. McDougall Lieutenant Gerard C. McGibbon Firefighter Walter E. McKee
Battalion Chief Joseph A. McKie
Firefighter Paul A. McManaman

Battalion Chief Robert P. Miuccio Sr.

Firefighter William E. Moreau Firefighter Joseph A. Morstatt Firefighter Lawrence T. Murphy

Lieutenant Reinaldo Natal Firefighter Richard E. Nogan Firefighter Kevin J. Nolan Captain Gary A. Nybro Firefighter John B. O'Brien Firefighter Adolfo Otaño

Firefighter Edward R. Pecoroni

Pilot Thomas P. Phelan

Firefighter William H. Quick Firefighter Peter A. Quinn Firefighter Steven G. Radich Firefighter Edward F. Reilly Jr. Firefighter Dennis J. Reilly Firefighter Stephen J. Reilly Firefighter Robert R. Reynolds Lieutenant Thomas G. Roberts Firefighter Stephen E. Russack

Firefighter James J. Ryan Firefighter Thomas E. Ryan Firefighter Paul F. Santoro

Battalion Chief Christopher D. Scalone

Captain Paul W. Schmalzried Firefighter Mark R. Senno Firefighter Michael J. Shagi Lieutenant Michael J. Shanley Firefighter James D. Shaughnessy

Firefighter Michael Sofia

Lieutenant Joseph R. Stach Jr. Lieutenant Robert J. Stegmeier Firefighter Ronald P. Stortz Firefighter John P. Sullivan Jr. Lieutenant Vincent J. Tancredi II Firefighter Edward D. Thompson Captain Thomas J. Thompson
Battalion Chief Edward J. Tierney
Firefighter John A. Tiska Jr.
Firefighter Michael J. Toal
Firefighter Richard C. Toshack
Firefighter George J. Tripptree
Firefighter Joseph F. Tumulty
Firefighter John Tyrell Jr.
Battalion Chief John J. Vaughan
Firefighter Michael Verzi
Lieutenant John A. Vigliotti

Firefighter Walter Voight
Firefighter Michael A. Wallace
Firefighter James Walsh
Lieutenant Harry Wanamaker Jr.
Firefighter Robert E. Welsh III
Firefighter Charles Williams
Fire Marshal William Wilson Jr.
Firefighter George H. Wilton Jr.
Firefighter James P. Wind Sr.
Lieutenant James J. Winters
Firefighter Keith R. Young

"Each firefighter we honor today exemplifies the true spirit of sacrifice and dedication," said Troy Markel, Board Chairman of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. "This tribute is our solemn commitment to ensure their stories live on, their families are supported, and their legacies inspire future generations."

"Honoring these brave firefighters is more than recognition—it's a promise that their sacrifice will never be forgotten and their families will always have our support," said Victor Stagnaro, CEO of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation.

This recognition is made possible through the generosity of our supporters. Your contribution helps us continue to honor these fallen heroes and support their families at no cost. To join us in this effort, visit https://www.firehero.org/donate/.

Media interviews with NFFF leadership and FDNY officials will be available. To coordinate access or request additional information, please contact:

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About the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF)

The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) was established by the United States Congress in 1992 to lead a national effort in honoring America's fallen firefighters. Since then, the Foundation has created powerful programs that pay lasting tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice while providing meaningful support to their families and colleagues. Through its close partnership with the fire service and its affiliate, the First Responder Center for Excellence (FRCE), the NFFF is also deeply committed to reducing firefighter line-of-duty deaths and injuries. To learn how you can support this important mission, visit www.firehero.org.