

Uniformed Firefighters Association



2022 Seminar Program Journal

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Editor-in-Chief Andrew Ansbro, President, Uniformed Firefighters Association

Managing Editor Vincent Speciale, Recording Secretary, Uniformed Firefighters Association

Copy Editor Antoinette Fatone, Communications Assistant to the Recording Secretary, Uniformed Firefighters Association

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VICE PRESIDENT



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REPRESENTATIVE

ANDREW ANSBRO
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ROBERT C. EUSTACE
Vice President LAD. 27

VINCENT SPECIALE
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Sergeant-at-Arms
Health & Safety Officer LAD. 116



OF GREATER NEW YORK

Local 94, I.A.F.F. AFL-CIO

204 EAST 23rd STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10010

TEL. (212) 683-4832 • FAX (212) 683-0710 • www.ufanyc.org

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ERIC BISCHOFF
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Chairman of the Board RETIRED

DOUGLAS CARROLL
Brooklyn Trustee LAD. 119

DENNIS TVETER
Queens Trustee LAD. 127

JAMES J. EGAN
Fire Marshal Representative

The Uniformed Firefighters Association would like to welcome you to our 2022 Delegate Education Seminar at the Tropicana Casino and Resort in Atlantic City, New Jersey. As we know all too well, the COVID-19 Pandemic and gathering restrictions impeded our ability to host a Delegate Education Seminar these last two years. Fortunately, that is no longer the case, and on behalf of the UFA Executive Board, we are happy to announce that we are back and ready to go!

The mission of the UFA's Delegate Education Seminar is to educate our delegates on all UFA initiatives, and to provide insight and knowledge needed for delegates to be effective union liaisons for their members. In this way, we can ensure that all members are educated on the best ways to provide security for themselves and their families. To aid delegates in their advocacy efforts, we have carefully selected courses and workshops that we anticipate will provide you with the tools and knowledge to better prepare you to serve your members.

Please take some time to review this Seminar Program that we have curated for your reference at this year's seminar. It includes the week's agenda, along with a guide detailing the customized classes and workshops prepared for you. While we hope you enjoy your stay, we urge you to sit in on as many workshops as possible. Below are some of the more essential workshops that we recommend attending.

- HEALTH & SAFETY
- COLLECTIVE BARGAINING
- KNOW YOUR MEMBERS' RIGHTS
- LEGISLATION
- DISABILITY PROCESS
- PENSION & RETIREMENT

In addition to the schedule, the Seminar Program will also serve as a directory for our sponsors and exhibitors, which you are encouraged to visit throughout the course of the seminar. Their exhibit tables have informative hand-outs and opportunities that may prove beneficial to you and your family. It is a perfect time to meet with the company representatives and ask any questions that you may have. All the exhibitors are here to provide services tailored to the needs of New York City Firefighters.

We would also like to express our appreciation to all our sponsors who support our seminar each and every year. Their contributions, both at the seminar and all year long, help us to provide the best services and programs to our membership.

Even though gathering restrictions and pandemic protocols prevented us from hosting our annual seminar in 2020 and 2021, your work on the frontlines never stopped. While it seemed like the world shut down, our members kept showing up every single day for the people of New York City, putting themselves at risk to protect others. This is not unnoticed, and we hope that this year's seminar will be an enjoyable and rewarding experience for all our guests and attendees who truly deserve our gratitude for their work during these unprecedented times.

Fraternally,

Vincent Speciale
Recording Secretary
Uniformed Firefighters Association

Andrew Ansbro
President
Uniformed Firefighters Association

AGENDA

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

4:00 PM - 9:00 PM Seminar Registration & Delegate Gift Distribution

LOCATION Ballroom Foyer | SPEAKER Vincent Speciale | SPONSOR LION

Delegate ID Badge, Delegate Gift and Seminar Materials Pick Up will be at the Seminar Registration Counter. All attendees are asked to check in at the Seminar Registration Counter.

4:00 PM - 9:00 PM Welcome Reception Suite

SPONSORED BY Express Scripts | LOCATION Rooftop Lounge

4:00 PM - 9:00 PM Atlantic City Local 8

SPEAKER Andrew Ansbro | LOCATION Rooftop Lounge

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM Defensive Driving Class

SPEAKER Mike Chierico | LOCATION Pageant A-C

Pre-registration is required for this class! To register, delegates can call Mike Chierico directly at 631-587-2435 or 516-527-5838, or email fastcons@cs.com. Please clearly leave your name, unit and telephone number to register.

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Field Safety Committee Meeting

SPEAKER Michael Schreiber | LOCATION Pageant A-C



AGENDA

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

7:45 AM - 9:00 AM Breakfast

SPEAKER Vincent Speciale | SPONSORED BY Empower | LOCATION Salon 3-4

8:00 AM - 1:00 PM Seminar Registration & Delegate Gift Distribution

SPEAKER Vincent Speciale | SPONSORED BY LION | LOCATION Ballroom Foyer

Delegate ID Badge, Delegate Gift and Seminar Materials Pick Up will be at the Seminar Registration Counter. All attendees are asked to check in at the Seminar Registration Counter.

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Morning General Sessions LOCATION Salon 1-2

9:00 AM State of the Union

SPEAKER Andrew Ansbro | SPONSORED BY NY Bravest Federal Credit Union | LOCATION Salon 1-2

UFA President Andrew Ansbro will open the seminar with an overview of what the new Executive Board has been fighting for on behalf of our membership. Current objectives and issues facing NYC Firefighters, both today and in the future, will be discussed.

9:45 AM 2022 Legislative Outlook

SPEAKER Robert Eustace | SPONSORED BY NY Bravest Federal Credit Union | LOCATION Salon 1-2

UFA Vice President Bobby Eustace will discuss UFA legislative activities and challenges in City Council, Albany, and Washington, D.C., including recent legislative wins and initiatives.

10:15 AM Coffee Break

10:30 AM UFA General Counsel Report

SPEAKER Michael Block | SPONSORED BY NY Bravest Federal Credit Union | LOCATION Salon 1-2

UFA General Counsel Michael Block will address legal issues regularly faced by NYC Firefighters, and will discuss the ongoing legal matters that our Counsel brings to the courts.

11:00 AM What To Do When a Member Is Arrested

SPEAKER Robert Gallo | SPONSORED BY NY Bravest Federal Credit Union | LOCATION Salon 1-2

UFA Criminal Counsel Robert Gallo will explain what to do when a member is arrested, along with the range of legal services covered by the UFA. The session will also address dealing with BITS Interviews and EEO Investigations.

AGENDA

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

11:30 AM CD-72 Disability Process

SPEAKER Edward Brown | SPONSORED BY NY Bravest Federal Credit Union | LOCATION Salon 1-2

UFA Treasurer Eddie Brown will advise members on the CD-72/73 and Disability Processes to ensure proper documentation of Line-of-Duty injuries and how they occurred, a crucial process for financial protection with a disability pension. Eddie sits on the Board of Trustees and deals with our members' CD-72/73's each month.

12:00 PM Public Sector Legal Proceedings

SPEAKER Paul Linzer | SPONSORED BY NY Bravest Federal Credit Union | LOCATION Salon 1-2

UFA Labor Counsel Paul Linzer will discuss the various legal mechanisms available to enforce and protect the contractual and legal rights of the UFA membership through challenges to violations or wrongful applications of the Union's Collective Bargaining Agreements or FDNY policies, or when asserting violations of the New York City Collective Bargaining Law by the City and Department.

12:30 PM IAFF Outlook

SPEAKER James Slevin | SPONSORED BY NY Bravest Federal Credit Union | LOCATION Salon 1-2

First District IAFF Vice President James Slevin will provide members with an introduction to the IAFF and overview as to how they support UFA membership.

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM **Lunch** | SPEAKER Vincent Speciale | SPONSORED BY Healthplex | LOCATION Salon 3-4

2:00 PM - 6:30 PM Seminar Registration & Delegate Gift Distribution

SPEAKER Vincent Speciale | SPONSORED BY LION | LOCATION Ballroom Foyer

Delegate ID Badge, Delegate Gift and Seminar Materials Pick Up will be at the Seminar Registration Counter. All attendees are asked to check in at the Seminar Registration Counter.

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM **Afternoon Workshops**

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM NYC Fire Pension Fund

SPEAKER Patrick Dunn | SPONSORED BY Cpsoptical | LOCATION GEC 3

NYC Fire Pension Fund Executive Director Patrick Dunn will review the NYC Fire Pension Fund procedures and policies.

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM Understanding Tier 3

SPEAKER Albert Connolly | SPONSORED BY Cpsoptical | LOCATION Salon 1-2

NYC Fire Pension Fund Director of Administration Albert Connolly will discuss current Tier 3 retirement benefits. Members appointed on or after July 1, 2009 are in Tier 3. This is an opportunity for you to understand the tier retirement structures, dispel the myths, and get the facts. All delegates are strongly encouraged to attend this workshop.

AGENDA

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM UFA Compensation Accrual Fund (Annuity)

SPEAKER Carl Wagner | SPONSORED BY Cpsoptical | LOCATION GEC3

Carl Wagner of Empower, the company that manages your annuity contribution investments and administers the plan, will explain Empower's asset allocation program, GoalMaker. He will also help members understand the ins and outs of directing annuity contribution investments and the type of investment funds offered in the plan.

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM NYS 529 Program

SPEAKER Lissette Johnson | SPONSORED BY Cpsoptical | LOCATION Carousel

Lissette will give a presentation and answer questions concerning FDNY's voluntary benefit: the NYS 529 College Savings Program Direct Plan. Find out how to save for college through payroll deposit, who you can use the funds for, and valuable tax incentives for both contributions and withdrawals.

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM Friends of Firefighters

SPEAKER Nancy Carbone | SPONSORED BY Cpsoptical | LOCATION Pageant A & C

Friends of Firefighters will provide a review of their free services and programs offered to active and retired firefighters and their families.

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Exhibit Tables & Booths (Open to Delegates Only)

SPONSORED BY Winston Benefits | LOCATION GEC Halls 1 & 2

Delegates are given the opportunity to meet with our sponsors exclusively for the first hour of the Exhibit Tables.

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Exhibit Tables & Booths (Open to All Guests)

SPONSORED BY Winston Benefits | LOCATION GEC Halls 1 & 2

All other seminar attendees are invited to visit our sponsors at their Exhibit Tables.

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Reception Dinner Buffet + Raffles

SPEAKER Vincent Speciale | SPONSORED BY Certilman Balin Adler & Hyman, LLP | LOCATION GEC Halls 1 & 2

9:00 PM Michael Boyle Hospitality Suite

SPONSORED BY Sullivan Papain Block McGrath Coffinas & Cannavo P.C. | LOCATION TBA

AGENDA

Thursday, May 12, 2022

7:45 AM - 9:00 AM Breakfast

SPEAKER Vincent Speciale | SPONSORED BY Express Scripts | LOCATION GEC Halls 1+2

8:00 AM - 1:00 PM Seminar Registration & Delegate Gift Distribution

SPEAKER Vincent Speciale | SPONSORED BY LION | LOCATION Ballroom Foyer

Delegate ID Badge, Delegate Gift and Seminar Materials Pick Up will be at the Seminar Registration Counter. All attendees are asked to check in at the Seminar Registration Counter.

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Morning General Sessions LOCATION Salon 1-2

8:00 AM - 2:00 PM Exhibit Tables & Booths SPONSORED BY Winston Benefits LOCATION GEC Halls 1&2

All seminar attendees are invited to visit our sponsors at their Exhibit Tables.

9:00 AM FDNY Safety Unit

SPEAKER Chief Michael Meyers & Captain Matthew Quinn | SPONSORED BY Mid Island Mortgage | LOCATION Salon 1-2

Chief Meyers and Capt. Quinn will both provide informational updates of the Safety Command and how this unit works to protect our members.

9:30 AM FDNY Research & Development Unit

SPEAKER Captain Joseph Canale & Battalion Chief Kevin McNamara | SPONSORED BY Mid Island Mortgage | LOCATION Salon 1-2

Captain Joseph Canale & Battalion Chief Kevin McNamara will present on the current affairs within the FDNY Research and Development Unit.

10:00 AM Firefighter Health & Safety

SPEAKER Lieutenant Robert Brown, RPA-C | SPONSORED BY Mid Island Mortgage | LOCATION Salon 1-2

Director of the NY Firefighter Heart & Lung Institute, Lt. Robert Brown Jr. RPA-C, will discuss different types of medical conditions that are being diagnosed and treated in the firefighter community. Learn the importance of early diagnosis and give yourself the best outcome for a long and healthy career.

10:30 AM Firefighter Cancer Awareness

SPEAKER Christine Speciale, NPR | SPONSORED BY Mid Island Mortgage | LOCATION Salon 1-2

Christine Speciale, Nurse Practitioner at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center will examine studies that link cancer and the fire service. Information will be provided regarding cancer risks and the need for prevention, screening, and early detection.

AGENDA

Thursday, May 12, 2022

11:00 AM FDNY Fire Family Transport Foundation

SPEAKER Daniel Prince | SPONSORED BY Mid Island Mortgage | LOCATION Salon 1-2

Fire Family Transport Foundation Treasurer Danny Prince will give an overview of the work that is done by the Foundation and how it depends on volunteers to help our own.

11:30 AM Employer Support of the Guard

SPEAKER Mike Chierico | SPONSORED BY Mid Island Mortgage | LOCATION Salon 1-2

Mike is the area chair for ESGR of New York. He will speak about issues affecting our FDNY members that are active Reservists or are in the National Guard.

12:00 PM Family Assistance Unit

SPEAKER Gary Miller | SPONSORED BY Mid Island Mortgage | LOCATION Salon 1-2

The Family Assistance Unit (FAU) is a joint uniformed/civilian unit that assists FDNY families when there is a death, accident, or serious illness. Members make hospital visits to support families, coordinate transportation, help with notifications and funeral arrangements, and sit and listen.

12:30 PM Counseling Services Unit

SPEAKER CSU | SPONSORED BY Mid Island Mortgage | LOCATION Salon 1-2

A speaker from CSU will highlight the specific behavioral health challenges that firefighters face and will discuss the services they offer to help combat this.

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM **Lunch** | SPEAKER Vincent Speciale | SPONSORED BY EmblemHealth | LOCATION GEC Halls 1 & 2

2:00 PM - 5:00 PM **Afternoon Workshops**

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM UFA Retiree Planner

SPEAKER Marty Tighe | SPONSORED BY Nassau County PBA | LOCATION GEC 3

Aimed at retirees and those about to retire, this workshop will address SBF questions and the changes you should be informed of before you retire, especially those pertaining to healthcare and benefits. UFA Retiree Liaison Marty Tighe will present a clear overview of the retirement process and the necessary steps for retirement planning.

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM Understanding Tier 2

SPEAKER Albert Connolly | SPONSORED BY Nassau County PBA | LOCATION GEC 3

NYC Fire Pension Fund Director of Administration Albert Connolly will discuss current Tier 2 retirement benefits. This is an opportunity for you to understand the tier retirement structures, dispel the myths, and get the facts.

AGENDA

Thursday, May 12, 2022

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM 457 & 401(k) NYC Deferred Compensation Plans

SPEAKER TBA | SPONSORED BY Nassau County PBA | LOCATION Pageant A & C

This workshop will explain the advantages members receive by participating in the 457, 401(k), ROTH 401(k) and NYCE IRA Plans, as well as investment choices and how retiring members can roll their final pension payments into the 401(k) Plan and save on taxes today.

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM Disability Pensions

SPEAKER Louis Sforza | SPONSORED BY Nassau County PBA | LOCATION GEC 3

UFA Pension Consultant and Former UFA President Lou Sforza will explain the process of documenting and navigating the FDNY disability pension application system. His expertise will make the difference if you should find yourself in the unfortunate position of having to retire due to a career-ending Line-of-Duty injury.

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Banquet Cocktail Hour

SPEAKER Vincent Speciale | SPONSORED BY Hi-Tech Fire & Safety for Honeywell First Responders | LOCATION Ballroom

7:30 PM - 10:00 PM Banquet Reception

SPEAKER Vincent Speciale | SPONSORED BY EMPIRE BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD | LOCATION Ballroom

7:30 PM - 10:00 PM Dinner Wine & Refreshments + Raffle Winner Announcements

SPEAKER Vincent Speciale | SPONSORED BY Napoli Shkolnik PLLC | LOCATION Ballroom

8:00 PM Bagpipers & Honoree Ceremony

SPONSORED BY Tunnel to Towers Foundation | LOCATION Ballroom

10:00 PM - 11:30 PM Music and Entertainment

SPONSORED BY Symetra | LOCATION Ballroom

10:00 PM Michael Boyle Hospitality Suite

SPONSORED BY Sullivan Papain Block McGrath Coffinas & Cannavo P.C. | LOCATION TBA

AGENDA

Friday, May 13, 2022

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM Seminar Registration & Delegate Gift Distribution

SPEAKER Vincent Speciale | SPONSORED BY LION | LOCATION Ballroom Foyer

Delegate ID Badge, Delegate Gift and Seminar Materials Pick Up will be at the Seminar Registration Counter. All attendees are asked to check in at the Seminar Registration Counter.

8:45 AM - 10:00 AM Breakfast

SPEAKER Vincent Speciale | SPONSORED BY Express Scripts | LOCATION Salon 1-3

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Union Meeting + Closing Remarks

SPEAKER Andrew Ansbro | LOCATION Salon 1-3

12:00 PM **Seminar Concludes**





Uniformed Firefighters Association 2022 Seminar Schedule

Refer to the agenda on the following pages for speakers, sponsors and class descriptions.

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

4:00 PM – 9:00 PM: SEMINAR REGISTRATION | Ballroom Foyer

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM: DEFENSIVE DRIVING CLASS | Pageant A-C

4:00 PM – 9:00 PM: WELCOME RECEPTION | Rooftop Lounge

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM: FIELD SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING | Pageant A-C

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

7:45 AM – 9:00 AM: BREAKFAST | Salon 3-4

8:00 AM – 1:00 PM: SEMINAR REGISTRATION | Ballroom Foyer

9:00 AM: 1:00 PM: **GENERAL SESSIONS** | Salon 1-2

9:00 AM: STATE OF THE UNION

9:45 AM: 2022 LEGISLATIVE OUTLOOK

10:15 AM: COFFEE BREAK

10:30 AM: UFA GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT

11:00 AM: WHAT TO DO WHEN A MEMBER IS ARRESTED

11:30 AM: CD-72 DISABILITY PROCESS

12:00 PM: PUBLIC SECTION LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

12:30 PM: IAFF OUTLOOK

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM: LUNCH | Salon 3-4

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM: **WORKSHOPS**

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM: NYC FIRE PENSION FUND | GEC 3

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM: UNDERSTANDING TIER 3 | Salon 1-2

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM: ANNUITY | GEC 3

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM: NYS 529 PROGRAM | Carousel

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM: FRIENDS OF FIREFIGHTERS | Pageant A-C

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM: EXHIBIT TABLES (DELEGATES) | GEC 1-2

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM: EXHIBIT TABLES (ALL) | GEC 1-2

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM: RECEPTION DINNER | GEC 1-2

9:00 PM: MICHAEL BOYLE HOSPITALITY SUITE

Thursday, May 12, 2022

7:45 AM – 9:00 AM: BREAKFAST | GEC 1-2

8:00 AM – 1:00 PM: SEMINAR REGISTRATION | Ballroom Foyer

8:00 AM – 2:00 PM EXHIBIT TABLES (ALL) | GEC 1-2

9:00 AM: 1:00 PM: **GENERAL SESSIONS** | Salon 1-2

9:00 AM: FDNY SAFETY UNIT

9:30 AM: FDNY RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

10:00 AM: FIREFIGHTER HEALTH & SAFETY

10:15 AM: COFFEE BREAK

10:30 AM: FIREFIGHTER CANCER AWARENESS

11:00 AM: FIRE FAMILY TRANSPORT

11:30 AM: EMPLOYER SUPPORT OF THE GUARD

12:00 PM: FAMILY ASSISTANCE UNIT

12:30 PM: CSU SERVICES

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM: LUNCH | GEC 1-2

2:00 PM – 5:00 PM: **WORKSHOPS**

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM: UFA RETIREE PLANNER | GEC 3

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM: UNDERSTANDING TIER 2 | GEC 3

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM: 457/401K DEFERRED COMP | Pageant A-C

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM: DISABILITY PENSIONS | GEC 3

6:30 PM – 7:30 PM: BANQUET COCKTAIL HOUR | Ballroom

7:30 PM – 10:00 PM: BANQUET RECEPTION | Ballroom

8:00 PM – 11:30 PM: BAGPIPERS, MUSIC, ENTERTAINMENT | Ballroom

10:00 PM: MICHAEL BOYLE HOSPITALITY SUITE

Friday, May 13, 2022

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM: SEMINAR REGISTRATION | Ballroom Foyer

8:45 AM – 10:00 AM: BREAKFAST | Salon 1-3

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: UNION MEETING | Salon 1-3

FIRE MARSHAL NOMINATION MEETING

12:00 PM: SEMINAR CONCLUDES

Honorees



FIREFIGHTER SERVICE AWARD

BENICIO ORTIZ

ENGINE COMPANY 277

FIREFIGHTER SERVICE AWARD

PETER DISALVO

ENGINE COMPANY 219



LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD

THERESA CARAPELLA



In Memoriam: Line of Duty

The UFA honors all those that have made the ultimate sacrifice in the Line of Duty since our last Delegate Seminar publication in 2019.



FIREFIGHTER / US MARINE STAFF SERGEANT
CHRISTOPHER SLUTMAN
LADDER COMPANY 27
APRIL 8, 2019



LIEUTENANT
BRIAN SULLIVAN
SQUAD COMPANY 41
AUGUST 10, 2019



PROBATIONARY FIREFIGHTER
VINCENT MALVEAUX
PROBATIONARY FIREFIGHTER SCHOOL
DECEMBER 3, 2021



LIEUTENANT
JOSEPH MAIELLO
LADDER COMPANY 83
DECEMBER 26, 2021



FIREFIGHTER
JESSE GERHARD
LADDER COMPANY 134
FEBRUARY 17, 2022



FIREFIGHTER
TIMOTHY KLEIN
LADDER COMPANY 170
APRIL 24, 2022

In Memoriam: WTC

The UFA remembers all those who made the ultimate sacrifice on September 11, 2001, and all those who continue to do so in the aftermath of the attacks on New York City. We honor the members we have lost in the wake of 9/11/01 since our last Delegate Seminar publication due to injuries and illnesses sustained in the rescue and recovery efforts at the World Trade Center. For a complete listing, visit: www.ufanyc.org/wtc/

RETIRED CAPTAIN
ROBERT E. COLLIS
ENGINE COMPANY 304
MAY 11, 2019

RETIRED LIEUTENANT
JOHN T. MORAN
LADDER COMPANY 41
JUNE 21, 2019

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER
JOSEPH WALSH
LADDER COMPANY 32
JUNE 28, 2019

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER
LLOYD W. STUART
ENGINE COMPANY 3
JULY 7, 2019

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER
KEVIN J. NOLAN
ENGINE COMPANY 79
JULY 16, 2019

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER
RICHARD N. DRISCOLL
ENGINE COMPANY 91
JULY 17, 2019

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER
ROBERT B. FITZGIBBON
ENGINE COMPANY 47
AUGUST 14, 2019

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER
WALTER E. MCKEE
BATTALION 39
AUGUST 18, 2019

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER
JOHN W. BOYLE
RESCUE COMPANY 1
AUGUST 24, 2019

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER
ROGER ESPINAL
ENGINE COMPANY 320
SEPTEMBER 14, 2019

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER
RICHARD J. TANAGRETTA
RESCUE COMPANY 5
SEPTEMBER 24, 2019

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER
JAMES BOYLE
ENGINE COMPANY 217
OCTOBER 27, 2019

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER
ANDREW S. GARGIULO
ENGINE COMPANY 160
NOVEMBER 6, 2019

RETIRED LIEUTENANT
RICHARD G. ESTREICHER
ENGINE COMPANY 248
NOVEMBER 11, 2019

In Memoriam: WTC

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

CLIFFORD R. DIMURO

LADDER COMPANY 137

NOVEMBER 22, 2019

RETIRED CAPTAIN

DENNIS M. GILHOOLY

ENGINE COMPANY 67

NOVEMBER 30, 2019

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

BRIAN W. CASSE

ENGINE COMPANY 294

DECEMBER 4, 2019

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

MICHAEL L. FELDMAN

LADDER COMPANY 161

FEBRUARY 1, 2020

RETIRED LIEUTENANT

PAUL W. DEO JR.

ENGINE COMPANY 317

FEBRUARY 7, 2020

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

RICHARD B. JONES

LADDER COMPANY 25

FEBRUARY 7, 2020

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

JOSEPH A. HATZELMAN

ENGINE COMPANY 218

FEBRUARY 18, 2020

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

DANIEL R. FOLEY

RESCUE COMPANY 3

FEBRUARY 22, 2020

RETIRED BATTALION CHIEF

DENNIS J. MOYNIHAN

BATTALION 18

MARCH 21, 2020

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

ANTHONY R. IRACI

ENGINE COMPANY 155

MARCH 26, 2020

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

JOHN H. MARR

ENGINE COMPANY 34

APRIL 7, 2020

RETIRED LIEUTENANT

KEVIN C. DUNN

ENGINE COMPANY 251

MAY 6, 2020

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

PAUL J. GRECO

SQUAD COMPANY 270

MAY 6, 2020

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

ANTHONY J. CATAPANO

ENGINE COMPANY 202

MAY 30, 2020

In Memoriam: WTC

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

PAUL A. MCMANAMAN

SQUAD COMPANY 252

JUNE 5, 2020

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

JOHN P. FOGARTY

LADDER COMPANY 3

AUGUST 25, 2020

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

TIMOTHY J. BURKE

RESCUE COMPANY 5

SEPTEMBER 12, 2020

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

JOSEPH R. LOSINNO

ENGINE COMPANY 302

SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

RETIRED LIEUTENANT

JOHN P. POULOS

ENGINE COMPANY 266

NOVEMBER 1, 2020

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

WILLIAM HODGENS

ENGINE COMPANY 160

NOVEMBER 17, 2020

RETIRED FIRE MARSHAL

ROBERT J. KELLY

ADMBFI

DECEMBER 20, 2020

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

RONALD P. STORTZ

LADDER COMPANY 107

JANUARY 16, 2021

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

GERARD C. MCGIBBON

ENGINE COMPANY 217

JANUARY 24, 2021

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

DENNIS FARRELL

LADDER COMPANY 59

FEBRUARY 23, 2021

RETIRED LIEUTENANT

MARTIN FARRELL

ENGINE COMPANY 253

MARCH 2, 2021

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

GEORGE H. WILTON, JR.

LADDER COMPANY 84

MARCH 5, 2021

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

JOSEPH M. BOYLE

ENGINE COMPANY 38

MARCH 10, 2021

RETIRED CAPTAIN

FRANK A. PORTELLE

DIVISION 6

MARCH 13, 2021

In Memoriam: WTC

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

JOSEPH K. DALY

ENGINE COMPANY 218

MARCH 24, 2021

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

JAMES D. SHAUGHNESSY

BATTALION 11

APRIL 1, 2021

RETIRED LIEUTENANT

JAMES J. WINTERS

ENGINE COMPANY 278

APRIL 11, 2021

RETIRED CAPTAIN

JOHN J. GALVIN

DIVISION 8

APRIL 29, 2021

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

SEAN D. KENNY

ENGINE COMPANY 155

MAY 5, 2021

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

THOMAS G. OELKERS

LADDER COMPANY 44

MAY 16, 2021

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

ANTHONY MALFI

LADDER COMPANY 168

JUNE 8, 2021

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

WAYNE T. GOEHRING

ENGINE COMPANY 311

JULY 19, 2021

RETIRED LIEUTENANT

PATRICK J. WHALEN

LADDER COMPANY 83

AUGUST 22, 2021

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

STEPHEN J. REILLY

ENGINE COMPANY 155

AUGUST 24, 2021

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

DENNIS B. MCCLEAN

LADDER COMPANY 137

SEPTEMBER 6, 2021

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

MICHAEL J. TOAL

LADDER COMPANY 20

SEPTEMBER 29, 2021

RETIRED BATTALION CHIEF

ARTHUR LAKIOTES

BATTALION 32

OCTOBER 23, 2021

RETIRED BATTALION CHIEF

RONALD KEMLY

SAFETY BATTALION

NOVEMBER 7, 2021

In Memoriam: WTC

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

ANDREW HORNBUCKLE

LADDER COMPANY 109

DECEMBER 12, 2021

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

FRANK GASPARINO

ENGINE COMPANY 234

JANUARY 19, 2022

RETIRED BATTALION CHIEF

EDWARD TIERNEY

BATTALION 11

FEBRUARY 20, 2022

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

FREDERICK GALLAGHER

LADDER COMPANY 103

MARCH 1, 2022

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

GREGORY LAMANNA

ENGINE COMPANY 313

MARCH 15, 2022

RETIRED CAPTAIN

MICHAEL LYONS

DIVISION 15

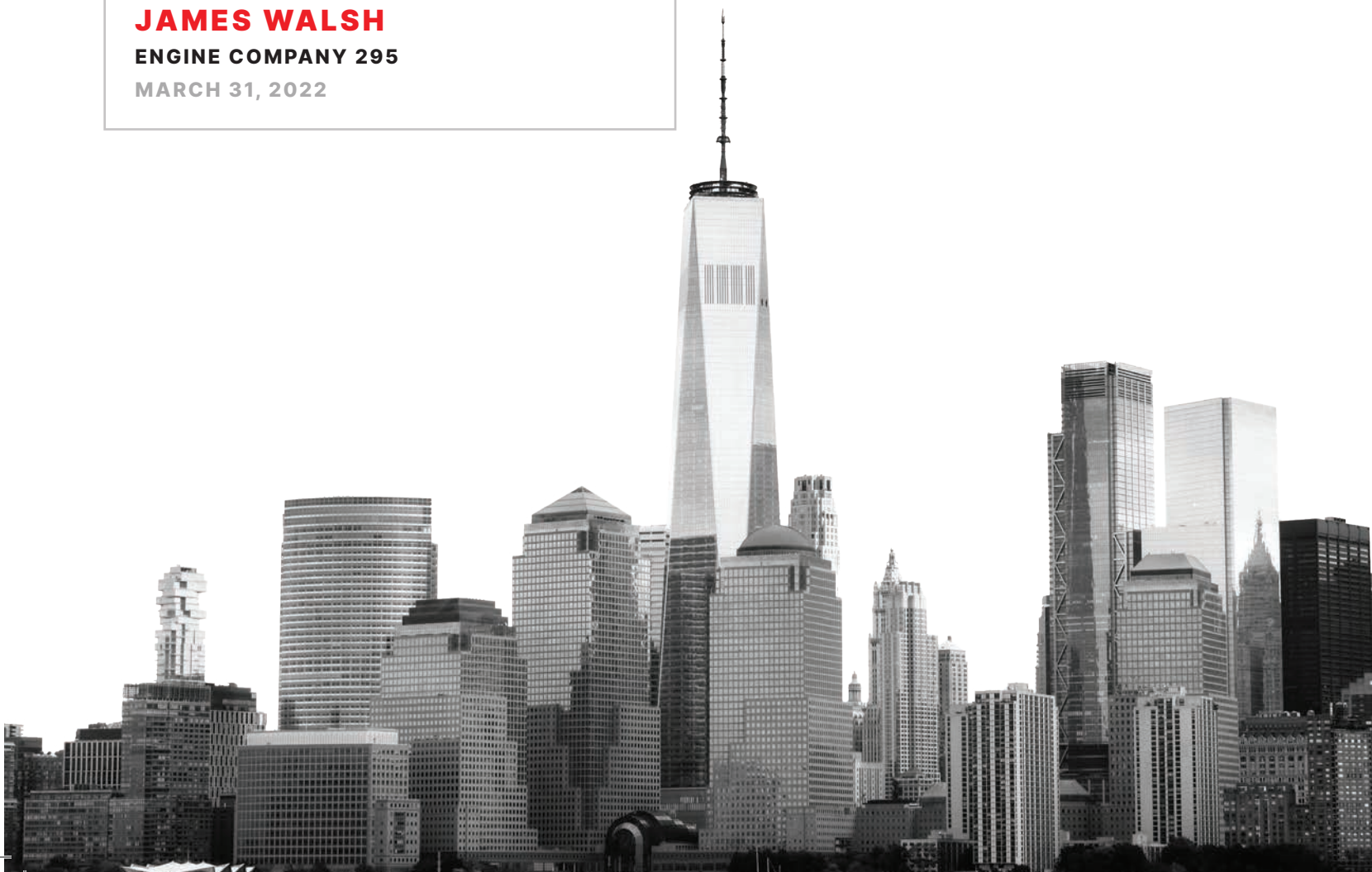
MARCH 29, 2022

RETIRED FIREFIGHTER

JAMES WALSH

ENGINE COMPANY 295

MARCH 31, 2022



In Memoriam - Active Duty Members

The UFA honors all Non-Line of Duty active members who have lost their lives while active members of the Department since our last Delegate Seminar publication in 2019.

CAPTAIN

MICHAEL THOMAS

DIVISION 8

AUGUST 6, 2019

BATTALION CHIEF

JOHN NYKIEL

COUNTER TERRORISM & DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

SEPTEMBER 14, 2019

FIREFIGHTER

MATTHEW MCDEVITT

LADDER COMPANY 135

OCTOBER 29, 2019

FIREFIGHTER

CHRISTIAN MURPHY

LADDER COMPANY 6

JULY 13, 2020

FIREFIGHTER

JASON MCNAMEE

LADDER COMPANY 134

AUGUST 26, 2020

FIREFIGHTER

JAMES MARSHALL, JR.

LADDER COMPANY 84

OCTOBER 8, 2020

FIREFIGHTER

JOSEPH FERRUGIA

REBREATHERUNIT 1 / LADDER COMPANY 142

JANUARY 31, 2021

FIREFIGHTER

CARMINE BARRESI

ENGINE COMPANY 64

FEBRUARY 25, 2021

PROBATIONARY FIREFIGHTER

NORMAN ZUNIGA

PROBATIONARY FIREFIGHTER SCHOOL

JUNE 1, 2021

FIREFIGHTER

MICHAEL KATZ

ENGINE COMPANY 24

SEPTEMBER 18, 2021

LIEUTENANT

THOMAS KEERY

LADDER COMPANY 48

DECEMBER 28, 2021

FIREFIGHTER

CHRISTOPHER VIVIANO

LADDER COMPANY 157

JANUARY 19, 2022

LIEUTENANT

ROBERT CRUZ

BATTALION 7

FEBRUARY 17, 2022

Long Standing Delegates

The UFA would like to recognize those that have served as union delegates for over a decade. We thank you for all of the hard work you have put in over the years.

18 YEAR DELEGATES

SALVATORE ARGANO	1/1/2003	ENG010
ROBERT GOETZ	1/1/2003	ENG312
PETER MORRISSEY	1/1/2003	ENG008
DOMENICK PASTORE	1/1/2003	ENG295
JOHN SMITH	1/1/2003	ENG259
LAURIE GALIOTO	2/1/2003	LAD037
MICHAEL COOGAN	10/1/2003	ENG264

17 YEAR DELEGATES

FRANCIS BEIRNE	1/1/2005	ENG047, BFCWS + BFISOC
JAMES MCNAMARA	6/1/2005	LAD026

16 YEAR DELEGATES

WILLIAM BENITEZ	2/9/2006	LAD001
CHRISTOPHER MEEHAN	10/12/2006	ENG222

15 YEAR DELEGATES

SCOTT GABOFF	1/11/2007	ENG070
ROBERT RYAN	1/11/2007	ENG276
STEVEN TOMICIC	1/16/2007	LAD115
GARY SMALDON	2/7/2007	ENG324



Long Standing Delegates

15 YEAR DELEGATES

JAMES MCDONALD	6/14/2007	ENG246
DANIEL GORWITZ	9/20/2007	ENG262
ANTHONY DEPELLEGRIN	10/1/2007	ENG263
THOMAS MCALLISTER	10/5/2007	ENG308

14 YEAR DELEGATES

ROBERT OROURKE	3/1/2008	LAD118
RICHARD BOERI	3/25/2008	ENG044
GREGORY EMBRIANO	5/13/2008	ENG076
PHILIP BEVILACQUA	7/7/2008	LAD029
RICHARD MENESES	8/26/2008	ENG083
TIMOTHY RICHES	8/26/2008	LAD132
JAMES HORAN	10/15/2008	ENG069
THOMAS DOHERTY	10/23/2008	LAD176

13 YEAR DELEGATES

ROBERT MCGINTY	1/1/2009	LAD033
RICHARD MERCADO	1/1/2009	LAD124
DEVIN POWERS	3/1/2009	LAD007
ROBERT WHITE JR	6/11/2009	LAD058
FRANK CRISCUOLO	9/10/2009	LAD043
SALVATORE DAGOSTINO	9/22/2009	LAD006



Long Standing Delegates

13 YEAR DELEGATES

ROBERT BRENNAN	11/5/2009	LAD142
ANDREW BURNS	11/5/2009	ENG210

12 YEAR DELEGATES

PATRICK DEMIC	1/7/2010	LAD104
FRED DICRESCENTO	1/21/2010	LAD108
RONALD DALY	3/4/2010	RES004
MARC DORE	3/4/2010	ENG046
JAMES HENKEL	5/1/2010	ENG016
ERIC DIOGUARDI	5/11/2010	ENG072
GERARD SCOTTO	9/16/2010	ENG034
PATRICK BERGIN	11/18/2010	ENG096

11 YEAR DELEGATES

MICHAEL GRIECO	4/14/2011	ENG015
STEPHEN NEUMANN	5/26/2011	LAD133
DOUGLAS CAFFARONE JR	6/16/2011	LAD143
THOMAS FORDE	6/24/2011	LAD105
WILLIAM BENNER	7/28/2011	ENG009
SETH DIAMOND	7/28/2011	LAD031



Long Standing Delegates

11 YEAR DELEGATES

GARY MANCINI	9/8/2011	ENG313
JAMIE PLANTZ	9/8/2011	ENG221
RICHARD HILL	9/21/2011	LAD175
ANTHONY ORSOGNA	9/26/2011	LAD128
KEVIN CURRY	10/13/2011	LAD083
JASON DELNICKI	10/18/2011	ENG242
JAMES FERCHLAND	11/17/2011	ENG266
BRIAN GIBBONS	11/17/2011	ENG217

10 YEAR DELEGATES

GARRY CORRIGAN	1/12/2012	ENG274
JOSHUA GALLO	1/12/2012	ENG258
ROBERT YULI	3/5/2012	ENG230
STEPHEN KIERNAN	3/8/2012	ENG075
ANTHONY PICOZZI	9/20/2012	LAD084
ROBERT UNGER	9/20/2012	RES005



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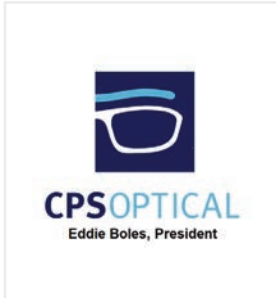


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Joseph Marblo
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EMAIL: MHAYASHI@NAPOLILAW.COM

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WORK PHONE: 212-397-1000
CELL PHONE: 917-805-5758
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CELL PHONE: 718-314-6945
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WWW.AFLAC.COM
INSURANCE

Aracelie Rivera

WORK PHONE: 917-541-7328
EMAIL:
ARACELIE_RIVERA@US.AFLAC.COM

Jane Spillane

EMAIL: SPILLANEJANE1@GMAIL.COM



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Kenneth Larkin

**WORK: 516-496-0400 EXT 4550
CELL PHONE: 516-426-6072
EMAIL: KLARKIN@FBRLAW.COM**

John Hewson

**WORK: 516-496-0400 EXT 4404
CELL PHONE: 516-946-5608
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EMAIL: JMINOGUE@FIREHERO.ORG**

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**WORK PHONE: 516-357-8777
CELL PHONE: 631-383-0722
EMAIL: MROGERS@NYSPINE.COM**

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Addison, TX 75001
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RETIRED LADDER 108
CELL PHONE: 631-834-3803
EMAIL: TOM.WESTMAN@NTAREP.COM



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Ryan Goudie
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CELL PHONE: 201-456-0997
EMAIL: RGOUDIE@RMRWEALTH.COM

Matthew Levens
WORK PHONE: 201-836-2460
CELL PHONE: 917-415-9074
EMAIL: MLEVENS@RMRWEALTH.COM



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WORK PHONE: 631-467-4515
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Labor Counsel to the Uniformed Firefighters Association

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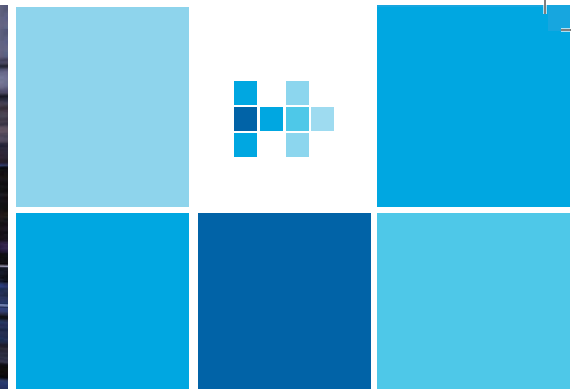
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January 20, 2022: Firefighters are at an increased risk of cancer because they are more likely to be exposed to a variety of different hazardous substances on the job. These toxins can cause many types of cancer, including thyroid cancer.

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WHAT IS PFAS?

Also known as the “Forever Chemicals”, Perfluorooctanoic acid (“PFOA”) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (“PFOS”) (collectively “PFAS”) are part of a group of man-made perfluorinated chemicals that were used in firefighting foam.

This firefighting foam, or Aqueous Film Forming Foam (“AFFF”) was widely used particularly at municipal airports and military bases for training purposes and to combat jet fuel spills. The foam seeped through the soil at these sites and, through migration and runoff, leached into underground aquifers and surface water bodies used for drinking water.



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WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

PFOA was produced by eight major U.S. companies, including: Arkema, Asahi, Ciba, Clariant, Daikin, DuPont, 3M/Dyneon, Solvay, and Solaxis. PFOS was solely produced by one company in the United States: 3M Company. Although these manufacturers agreed to phase-out AFFF containing PFAS several years ago, recent testing has led to the discovery of widespread contamination in drinking water supplies in many states.

PLAINTIFFS INVOLVED IN PFAS LITIGATION

The cases in the MDL involve a variety of plaintiffs and claims, including class actions brought on behalf of firefighters, including FDNY members for AFFF exposure involving individual personal injury claims, and actions brought on behalf of states, municipalities, and public water districts for costs associated with treating contaminated water systems.



STEPHEN HOLIHAN *Attorney*

9/11 FIRST RESPONDER and
RETIRED FIREFIGHTER
(FDNY Ladder 146, Engine 204
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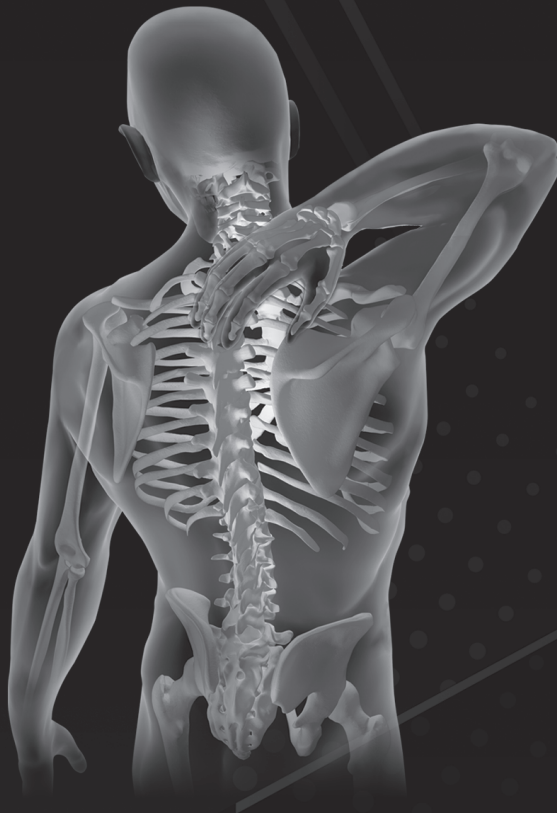
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UFA History

The inherent danger of the job, coupled with poor working conditions, inadequate wages, no discernible benefits or legal protections for firefighters, led to the eventual formation in 1917 of the Uniformed Firemen's Association (UFA). For many years after the advent of the paid New York City Fire Department in 1865, numerous efforts were made by employees to organize into benevolent or fraternal associations.

1917 - FF Albert Guinness formed the Uniformed Firemen's Association of the FDNY, which became Local 94 of the International Association of Firefighters the following year. Firemen were working "continuous duty" of 151 hours per week with 3 hours off each day. Annual salary was \$1,500.

1920 - The UFA won a 27% increase to a more livable annual salary of \$1,900.

1921 - The Honor Emergency Fund was created to provide financial assistance to active & retired firefighters and their families due to death, illness or injury.

1922 - UFA pressure resulted in a two-platoon system of 84 hours per week.

1927 - Due in large part to the lobbying efforts of the UFA, "Right of Appeal Law" legislation was passed, granting civil service employees the right to appear before legislative bodies to express grievances. Prior to the enactment of this particular measure, civil service employees could be denied the right by departmental edict.

1928 - The UFA won the right for referendum vote, raising annual salaries to \$3,000.

1930s - As the Great Depression was taking hold, Mayor Jimmy Walker pressured city workers to take a "payless furlough," claiming the city was on the verge of bankruptcy. The UFA was the only group to refuse to submit. Mayor LaGuardia had a bill passed reducing the salaries of all city employees. The UFA fought the measure until it was rescinded.

1936 - The UFA succeeded in achieving the three-platoon system (or eight-hour day) through a referendum of the voters during the general election and passage of a local law granting a disability pension for firemen with line-of-duty injuries.

1937 - The UFA inserted a provision in the state Constitution, making public employee pensions a contractual requirement of the state.

1939 - Voters then passed a UFA-sponsored resolution reducing a fireman's work week from 84 to 50 hours.

1940 - Two major pension systems were installed: Article 1, whereby members appointed prior to April 1940 were to pay in 5% or 6% of their salaries, and Article 1B under which new appointees were required to contribute 9% to 14% on an actuarial basis.

1943 - The UFA and FDNY established the Medal of Supreme Sacrifice. Some 1,800 members of the Fire Department served in the armed forces during World War II.

1944 - The three-platoon system was suspended, and the remaining members worked 84 hours per week.

1946 - The work week was gradually reduced to 60 hours per week. First grade FFs earned \$3,900 per year.

1947 - A 28-day vacation for firefighters was established and numerous pension improvements went into effect.

1948 - The UFA negotiated a 20-year retirement and a return to the two-platoon system, although the City had the right to keep the three-platoon system. (More improvements came in the 1960s.)

1950 - First grade firefighters earned \$4,400 a year.

1953 - The Mayor's Management Survey Committee recommended the elimination of 52 firehouses. The UFA opposed the plan, and it was disapproved. The 46-hour work week won. Uniform allowance was established. The UFA started its first Political Action program.

1957 - A Constitutional Convention came up for approval by the voters; the UFA campaigned against it, and the Convention was defeated. The intention was to invalidate the contractual obligations on pensions.

The UFA successfully led the battle for increased pensions of widows and retired men.

1961 - A 40-hour work week was mandated by referendum. A 1/60th pension benefit was secured for all firefighters and four paid holidays were successfully negotiated, as well as emergency overtime paid in cash. The UFA abolished three-platoon system both legislatively at the state level and by voter referendum in NYC.

1962 - Equalized vacations for all first grade FFs was established. Residency restrictions were liberalized. Paid holidays increased to six. Dues check-off was inaugurated. Prior to this time, all dues had been collected by delegates.

1963 - Ten paid holidays were secured. A two and one-half percent reduction in pension rate was achieved. Improved 1/60th bill for Article 1 members and half final pay for Article 1 B members was established. The Honor Emergency Death Benefit increased. The UFA's Security Benefit Fund was established.

1965 - Paid holidays increased to 11 annually. Dental and Optical Plans were added to UFA Security Benefit Fund. 965 Members and families were given choice of health plans. The Death Gamble was provided. Payment of time-and-a-half for OT gained. First grade FFs earned \$8,483 base pay.

1967 - Pension contributions were reduced by 5%. Longevity was established. Pension escalation for disability retirements and service retirements after age 62. A personal leave day was granted.

1968 - The UFA successfully got the "no strike" clause eliminated from the IAFF Constitution, then seeks approval of the membership to order a strike. This was prompted by the city's foot dragging in negotiating a new contract. Threats lead to negotiations and a contract within two months. The UFA and the City reached agreement on a new benefit for members who retire after 20 years of service-the Variable Supplements Fund (VSF). (Legislation was signed by the Governor in 1970, and the first payments were made in 1973.) First grade FFs base pay reached \$10,325. The union name was changed from the "Uniformed Firemen's Association" to the "Uniformed Firefighters Association."

1969 - A permanent "Lung Bill" was signed into law by Gov. Rockefeller. The Heart Bill, an original goal of the UFA, beginning with its first President Albert E. Guinness, was signed into law. The UFA achieved vested pension option for members after 15 years of service. Through negotiations, the UFA obtained overtime pay for ordered overtime work, as well as night differential.

1970 - The City agreed to increase companies and manning, and created one new division, five battalions and eight companies. Manning increased to 11,891 Firefighters. The UFA-sponsored "one-man, one vote" resolution was adopted by the IAFF, giving New York City's Local 94 greater representation in the international. Contract demands again fall on deaf ears at City Hall, prompting yet another strike threat from the UFA. A \$25,000 line-of-duty death benefit was achieved for New York City Firefighters.

1972 - A new contract guaranteed five-man manning on all apparatuses. Night differential increased from 5% to 10%. Portal-to-portal & "clean-up" pay was secured. The number of FFs reached its highest - 12,500. The Rand Corporation was retained by the City to study the fire service and recommended closing six companies and relocating seven others. The plan was implemented, and the UFA responded by holding mass rallies and filing a lawsuit.

1973 - After several threats to hold a job action in response to the City's unwillingness to negotiate a new contract, the UFA went on strike. Members walked out at 8:30 AM on Nov. 6, but returned to work five-and-a-half hours later after Supreme Court Justice Sidney A. Fine ordered the City to negotiate with the union. By December, the union had reached an agreement with the City on a one-year contract. The UFA won an increase in compulsory insurance (compensation insurance) coverage for active FFs from \$2,000 to \$5,000. The City disbanded 8 companies citing fiscal crisis. The UFA unsuccessfully sued to stop the closings. Base pay of a first grade FF increased to \$17,458.

1975 - The City's fiscal problems worsened and more than 40,000 city workers are laid off, including 1,600 firefighters. However, 700 were hired back within 3 days. The UFA continued to provide health, hospital and dental care to those members and their families. The union also was instrumental in getting Federal jobs for 250 brothers, and in having another 300 hired in temporary jobs as bus drivers for the Transit Authority. The City reneged on minimum manning provisions, and reduced to 42 the number of five-man engines. By 1982, the number of engines riding with five firefighters increased to about 140, leaving 71 four-man engines.

1976 - The UFA established a Security Benefit Fund for retired members. Federal legislation was passed to provide assistance to the family of a LODD Firefighter: \$50,000 to surviving dependents. The first annual Delegates Seminar was held.

1977-1978 - As the number of fires soared in the mid-1970s and the fiscal crisis began to abate, the City agreed to restore five-man manning on 20 engines. By this time, all firefighters who had been laid off and wanted to return were rehired by the FDNY. New programs were created by the UFA and included free legal consultation and voluntary group life insurance program. The UFA achieved an increase in pensions for line-of-duty widows through legislative actions signed by Gov. Carey. The Union negotiated increases in compulsory insurance coverage for active firefighters from \$5,000 to \$7,500, and for retired firefighters from \$2,000 to \$4,000.

1980 - The UFA played a key role with Uniformed Forces Coalition two-year contract, including salary raises of 9% and 8% and no give-backs. Members voted to end the union's 63-year affiliation with the IAFF. Problems at the Medical Office, which had been brewing for years, came to a head, and the UFA and 1,000 Firefighters rallied outside the Medical Office to protest mistreatment and improper care rendered. The protest led to the appointment of a special panel by Mayor Koch, which recommended several operational changes at the Bureau. The UFA filed for a court injunction to halt the retest of women who failed the FD physical.

1981 - After many years of struggle, a supplemental cost-of-living increase was passed by the state legislature, providing pension increases of 3 % to 29% for retirees.

1982 - Unified, more than 10,000 firefighters, police officers and correction officers marched on City Hall, negotiating once again under the umbrella Uniformed Forces Coalition, resulting in a two-year contract of 8% per year, one-percent higher than the civilian coalition.

1983-1984 - The UFA secured law for FFs laid off in 1975 and later rehired the right to buy back time for pension credit, which effected about 950 firefighters. Back wages deferred as a result of the mid-70s fiscal crisis were negotiated by the UFA. The union sued to bring five-firefighter minimum manning level to the remaining 71 engine companies still riding with four firefighters. UFA lobbying resulted in a \$5.2 million boost in the FDNY budget, including the creation of two new engine companies, two truck companies, one battalion and the Haz Mat unit.

1985-1989 - A negotiated contract was rejected by the Executive Board and the delegates. The sticking point was the City's offer to restore five-firefighter manning to only six additional engine companies, out of 73 that still had four-firefighter manning. The membership rejected 2 negotiated agreements. The UFA was forced into an arbitration. The City's Office of Collective Bargaining "scoped out" several key provisions, including minimum manning, vacation, the group chart and the firefighter's job description. It took several years and several negotiated contracts to win back some of these important provisions.

1990-1991 - Calling it unsafe for firefighters and citizens, the UFA urged the City's Office of Collective Bargaining to eliminate the Fire Department's roster manning program, which, despite promises to the contrary, had failed to provide promised manning levels on engines (five firefighters) the majority of the time.

1991 - The UFA launched a political action committee, Fire PAC, to fund effective lobbying efforts in City Hall, Albany and Washington, DC. The union purchased a five-story building in Manhattan as its new Headquarters. Proposed draconian cuts of 10% of the FDNY budget, including firehouse closings, were avoided due to intense UFA lobbying efforts. The department took only a \$1.3 million budget hit, out of a proposed \$57 million cut.

1993 - A pilot CPR program began in Brooklyn, where FF respond to medical emergencies. The program, established without union input due to the loss of the firefighter's job description in the '87-90 arbitration, was expanded a year later to include the use of defibrillators.

1994 - The Cancer Bill, allowing for line-of-duty pensions for members disabled by six different types of cancer was signed into law by Gov. Cuomo, capping an eight-year struggle to protect firefighters and officers.

1995 - The UFA settled Roster Staffing hearings, restoring five-man manning to 61 engine companies. In conjunction, 96 hours of RSOT was guaranteed for every firefighter. Members voted 2-1 to re-affiliate with IAFF. The first Legislative Day in Albany was sponsored by UFA and attended by several dozen members.

1996 - A major UFA victory was won with the elimination of the Home Visitation and PMLA programs through a federal lawsuit. The Compensation Accrual Fund (CAF), or annuity, was converted into a self-directed plan. Members now have direct control over their investment funds.

1997-1998 - The UFA negotiated a five-year contract, which included chauffeur pay and restoration of several key provisions lost in disastrous 1987-90 arbitration decision: 39 hours vacation leave, increased longevity and annuity pay. In addition, the contract included provision for a Safety Committee comprised of department and union officials, which resulted in additional five-man engine companies, bringing UFA-negotiated number up to 66 five-man engines. UFA negotiated and members ratified the CFR-D agreement, including a 3% pay differential, retroactive pay, training for ladder company members, and a voluntary feature that ultimately makes the program optional for all firefighters. Unfortunately, the civilian pattern that included two years of zero, was part of the deal.

The early 2000's were some of the most challenging years for the UFA, continually fighting for Firefighter's Rights and Restitution.

2001 - Terrorists attacked World Trade Center. The UFA, in partnership with the IAFF, established the 9-11 Fund, and dispensed millions to our families in need. The years of persistence through political efforts and the courts won the UFA and PBA the absolute right to arbitrate impasse contracts through state PERB.

2002 - A LOD Funeral Fund was established to provide for members to travel to firefighter memorials and funeral services nationwide. Unified, more than 10,000 firefighters & police rallied in sweltering summer heat in Times Square. The results were contracts that eliminated six months of zeroes. Historic first PERB award granted to PBA. Leveraging that award, the UFA negotiated contract, which exceeded the uniform coalition pattern, was established by civilian unions.

2002-2003 - The UFA harnessed the newest communication technology and launched telephone, fax and e-mail broadcast systems to firehouses, delegates and the entire membership to provide instantaneous information to the field. The UFA website was enhanced to include the most up-to-date information about union initiatives. A major UFA legislative win expanded the Cancer Bill to include cancers involving the neurological, breast and reproductive systems as presumed LODI. UFA efforts through public rallies and successful lobbying stopped the closing of two of the eight firehouses Mayor Bloomberg had on the chopping block.

2004 - Pension loans legislative win allows retiring members to borrow up to 90% of contributions.

2005 - In May, the UFA reactivated the legislative/lobby day program in Albany with busloads of FFs to push for the WTC Presumptive Illness bill's passage. The WTC Presumptive Bill was signed into law on June 15, 2005. This Landmark Bill, which was secured because of the tireless lobbying efforts of the UFA and its members of Fire PAC, allows for firefighters who become injured as a result of the work performed at the attacks and later on, the clean-up, at the World Trade Center to be eligible for accidental disability pension, even if already retired. A new contract was overwhelmingly ratified by the membership. The four-year contract was retroactive to 2002 and provided a compounded 17.5% raise for NYC firefighters. Civilians agreed to 4% over three years. The 2005 contract extended the roster staffing agreement another five years and increased the number of engines operating citywide with five firefighters, a critical win for New York's firefighters.

2006 - The Stroke Bill was signed by Governor Pataki. The UFA was successful in its lobbying efforts of the State Assembly, Senate and Governor's offices. UFA members who suffer from strokes are now protected with LODI pensions. The Bill retroactively covered 4 members. The UFA was successful in getting the WTC LOD Death Pension bill signed into law, Families of members who die as a result of a WTC presumed illness now receive full LOD pensions - even if the death occurs after the member is retired. This law retroactively applies to families of all members who died prior to its signing into law. WTC LODI Prescription Drug Card was approved and the UFA was successful in convincing the City to provide LODI drug cards for all members who are ill as a result of exposure at WTC. Members no longer use UFA SBF money, or cash out of their own pockets.

2007 - The UFA led the Uniformed Unions in setting the CBA pattern by settling its contract first. For the first time ever, the contract contained re-opener language for the current and previous contracts. This contract was ground-breaking because it secured a 12% increase in the base pay for special assignment duty to Haz-tech companies, the Squads, and Rescue Companies (a total of 17 Companies). This increase was at no cost to our members. The contract also eliminated Extra-Departmental Employment filing requirements.

2008 - The UFA was successful in getting the 2004-06 contract reopened and increased by 3.48% retroactively the base salary of all first-grade firefighters. The re-opener was achieved due to unique language the UFA negotiated in the 2006-08 contract in order to maintain parity with the PBA if the PERB arbitration award exceeded the UFA agreement for the same period. Thus, the parity that has existed between firefighters and police for 140 years remains.

2008-2010 - Contract two 4% raises over 24 months, with additional benefits, including a longevity escalator, with automatic increases and compounding of all existing longevity steps. For the first time ever, firefighter longevity pay will increase and compound at the same percent rate as all future base salary increases.

2011 - After many years of lobbying by the UFA, Congress passed and the President signed The James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2010. This important legislation provides funding for health screening and treatment for firefighters that responded to the 9/11 terrorists attacks. In addition, it re-opened the Victim's Compensation Fund for firefighters who have suffered an injury and for the families of firefighters that have succumbed to those injuries. Albany passed the Pension Protection Bill. This is the first time firefighters are guaranteed to not lose their pensions as a result of a disciplinary matter unless convicted of a felony. On June 3, 15,000 firefighters and supporters protesting the threatened closings of 20 firehouses were led by the UFA across the Brooklyn Bridge to City Hall Park. The UFA was joined by IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger, as well as dozens of federal, state, and city politicians supporting us. This was a turning point in convincing the Bloomberg Administration that closing firehouses was a mistake.

2012 - New Board members joined the UFA. In August 2012, LeRoy McGinnis, E-266 was elected UFA Recording Secretary. He previously served as Queens Trustee since 2009. Matthew DesJardin, E-325, was elected UFA Queens Trustee in September 2012. In October 2012, Eric Bischoff, E-161 was elected UFA Staten Island Trustee; and Gerard Fitzgerald, E-318 was elected UFA Sergeant-at-Arms/Health & Safety Officer.

2013 - In January, Governor Cuomo signed the Legacy Credit Bill that made technical corrections to the existing credits. As a result, 13 candidates, each of whom had a parent die as a result of a WTC illness, were able to enter the FDNY training academy on January 27. In March, Vincent Speciale, E-55, was elected UFA Manhattan Trustee.

2014 - After his 5th consecutive election win, UFA President Stephen Cassidy, E-236, became the longest-termed President in UFA history. Vice President James Slevin, L-7, was also reelected for his 5th term, as was Brooklyn Trustee John Kelly, E-201. Former Bronx Trustee Edward Brown, L-48, was elected to Treasurer, and William Greco, E-68, was newly elected as Bronx Trustee.

2015 - The UFA ratified the union's 2010-2017 collective bargaining agreement (CBA) with the de Blasio Administration. The new contract permanently increased by 20 the number of five-firefighter engine companies in the city and also permanently guaranteed five-firefighter staffing levels on all FDNY ladder companies. The agreement mandated that these increased staffing levels remain in place, even after the expiration of the current contract.

2016 - In May, NYS Gov Andrew Cuomo signed the Military Buyback bill into law. The bill, S7160, allows all public employees to obtain up to 3 years additional retirement credit for their military service, with no restrictions based on where or when they served. For the first time, women will also be eligible. The New York State Assembly and Senate unanimously approved legislation in June granting New York City Firefighters, hired since June 2009, similar disability protections to more senior FDNY firefighters. The bills, A10567/S08015 restored disability protections to New York City Firefighters that were lost after former Governor David Paterson vetoed Tier II disability extender legislation for New York City Firefighters. Gov Cuomo signed into law the restoration of real disability protections for all New York City Firefighters. In September, following Steve Cassidy stepping down as union President after 14 years, UFA Vice President James Slevin assumed the duties as President for the remainder of the term that concluded on April 30, 2017. After a second ballot, Gerard Fitzgerald, who was serving as interim Vice President, was elected UFA President and began serving his term on May 1, 2017.

2017 - UFA Executive Board General Elections were held, electing Gerard Fitzgerald as President, LeRoy McGinnis as Vice President, Robert Eustace as Recording Secretary, Edward Brown as Treasurer, Michael Schreiber as Health & Safety Officer/Sergeant at Arms, John Kelly as Brooklyn Trustee, Matthew DesJardin as Queens Trustee, Eric Bischoff as Staten Island Trustee, Vincent Speciale as Manhattan Trustee and William Greco as Bronx Trustee for the next 3 years.

2019 - James J Egan elected as Fire Marshal Representative. LeRoy McGinnis vacated the position of UFA Vice President to begin his role as Deputy Pension Director with the NYC Fire Pension Fund. President Gerard Fitzgerald appointed UFA Recording Secretary Bobby Eustace to Interim Vice President, Manhattan Trustee Vincent Speciale appointed Interim Recording Secretary, Christopher Viola appointed Interim Manhattan Trustee. All appointed officers were officially elected in the following Special Election.

2020 - Michael O'Neill, Interim Staten Island Trustee, was promoted to Fire Marshal, resulting in President Gerard Fitzgerald appointing Erik Bille as Interim Staten Island Trustee. UFA efforts help lead to The COVID Death Benefit Bill (S.8427/A.10528) being signed into law today by Gov. Cuomo, establishing a COVID-19 public employee death benefit for the families of frontline workers who died in the line of duty in COVID-19 response efforts. General Elections are held, resulting in the elections and reelections of new President Andrew Ansbro, Vice President Robert Eustace, Recording Secretary Vincent Speciale, Treasurer Edward Brown Health & Safety Officer / Sergeant-At-Arms Michael Schreiber Brooklyn Trustee Douglas Carroll, Queens Trustee Dennis Tveter, Manhattan Trustee Christopher Viola, Bronx Trustee William Greco and Staten Island Trustee Eric Bischoff.

2021 - After much lobbying, the members vote in favor of an active member dues increase for the first time in 17 years. The UFA announced that Senate Bill S6405 for the 2021-2022 Legislative Session, the Tier II Final Annual Salary 3 Year Average Bill, was signed by Governor Kathy Hochul in November. This bill affects members in Tier 2, including anyone hired on or after July 1, 2000, and reflects a big win for the UFA and our members. Additionally, the UFA announced that Senate Bill S4233A for the 2021-2022 Legislative Session, the Parkinson's Presumptive Bill was signed by Governor Kathy Hochul on December 21, 2021. This Parkinson's Presumptive Bill covers all firefighters while they are active, and for up to two years after they retire.

2021 - 2022 - The UFA reached an agreement with the City of New York in settlement of a new three-year contract (2017 - 2020) for all UFA members, securing wage increases of 7.95% for all Firefighters, Fire Marshals, Wipers, Marine Engineers, and Pilots, and 2.25% service and longevity differentials for our members. The CBA was ratified by an overwhelming majority of voters - 96.81%.



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Fax: 631-777-5171

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