



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **FDNY LADDER 3 RETURNS TO WORLD TRADE CENTER SITE FOR PERMANENT INSTALLATION IN 9/11 MEMORIAL MUSEUM**

**Museum Meets Major Construction Milestones as First Responder Vehicles Return to the World Trade Center Site, Engine 21 and FDNY Ambulance also Installed in Museum this Week**

**(New York, N.Y.) July 20, 2011** -The Fire Department of New York's (FDNY) Ladder Company 3 fire truck, which brought to the World Trade Center a company responsible for evacuating civilians from the North Tower on September 11, 2001, returned to the site this morning for permanent installation in the 9/11 Memorial Museum. This monumental artifact commemorates a story of tremendous sacrifice ten years ago and joins other iconic installations such as the "Last Column" - the final steel beam to be removed from the World Trade Center site following the recovery effort.

Having been monitored and maintained by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey in a climate-controlled room at Hangar 17, the fire truck was escorted to the World Trade Center this morning by the current Ladder 3 truck and met by the 9/11 Memorial's Chairman, Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, FDNY Commissioner Salvatore J. Cassano, 9/11 Memorial President Joe Daniels, and 9/11 Memorial Museum Director Alice M. Greenwald, as well as firefighters and family members related to the members of Ladder 3 Company who perished on 9/11. Once there, a crane lowered the approximately 60,000 pound truck, which had been wrapped to protect it from the elements, 70 feet to where the primary exhibition spaces of the Museum will be located.

On 9/11, the fire truck carried eleven members of Ladder Company 3 to the North Tower of the World Trade Center from their firehouse located in Manhattan's East Village neighborhood. All 11 members perished that day.

"We will never forget the heroism of the hundreds of fire fighters and other first responders who rushed into those burning towers on September 11," Mayor Bloomberg said. "The sacrifice of the Ladder 3 Company and the FDNY is something that should be honored by us all. Their names, along with the other courageous first responders who perished, will be permanently etched in bronze on the Memorial and their truck will be preserved in the Museum as a legacy of their heroism."

"Ladder 3, Engine 21, and the FDNY Ambulance are just 3 of the more than 91 vehicles that responded to help New Yorkers and were damaged or destroyed during the attacks on the World Trade Center," said Fire Commissioner Salvatore J. Cassano. "Every person who walks through the doors of the 9/11 Memorial Museum will see these emotional symbols of the supreme sacrifice that the 343 members of the FDNY made that day. The presence of these vehicles at this memorial will ensure that no one ever forgets the dedication of all of our members on September 11th."

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"The enormous sacrifice first responders made on 9/11 is such an important part of our nation's history, and something we all look up to and remember," said Joe Daniels, 9/11 Memorial President. "Ladder 3's return to this sacred site after ten years is a tribute to the FDNY's bravery on that day and every day."

"9/11 was the greatest rescue mission in American history and it was also the largest loss of emergency responders in a single event in the U.S.," Memorial Museum Director Alice M. Greenwald said. "The Memorial Museum will tell the story of the first responders and how their sacrifice saved thousands of lives. In teaching about 9/11, we hope that the stories of Ladder 3, Engine 21, and the ambulance inspire future generations to remember the value of human life and the tremendous capacity of the human spirit to persevere."

Known among firefighters as a "senior house," Ladder 3 was a prized, sought-after assignment for highly skilled, veteran firefighters, many boasting upwards of 20 years of individual experience on the job. Led on September 11, 2001 by their highly decorated and charismatic captain, Patrick "Paddy" Brown, the firefighters of Ladder 3 boarded their rig and urged the FDNY dispatcher to assign them to the unfolding disaster.

The front cab of the truck was shorn off during the collapse of the towers, and its main body and ladders were damaged and contaminated beyond repair. Some of the company's marked rescue tools remain entangled in the crushed vehicle. The surviving members of Ladder Company 3 removed a door and bumper from the truck, to display in their firehouse as a tribute to their fallen colleagues.

In addition to the Ladder 3 fire truck, the Museum will feature remains of other first responder vehicles, including parts of New York Police Department and Port Authority Police Department vehicles that were driven to the site on 9/11, as well as a fire truck from FDNY Engine 21, headquartered in midtown Manhattan on East 40th Street, and an FDNY Ambulance, one of several vehicles that functioned as temporary shelters on September 11. Please see details below for information on the Engine 21 fire truck and ambulance, which are also being lowered into the Museum this week.

### **FDNY Engine 21**

Headquartered in midtown Manhattan on East 40th St., FDNY Engine Company 21 was dispatched to the World Trade Center after Flight 175 struck the South Tower. Chauffeur Sid Parris parked this fire truck on Church and Vesey streets, beneath an elevated walkway that connected the North Tower to the Winter Garden at the World Financial Center.

Led by Captain William F. Burke, Engine 21 firefighters joined the rescue effort in the North Tower. In the lobby, they used a rabbit tool to pry open the doors of an elevator, freeing a woman who had been trapped inside. A Ladder 13 firefighter transported the unit to the 24th floor, using one of the only elevators known to have remained operational after the plane hit the building.

Aware that the South Tower had collapsed, Capt. William Burke ordered his men to start making their way down, promising to meet them at the "rig." When the Engine 21 firefighters eventually regrouped, they discovered that Capt. Burke was not with them. Later, they learned that he had elected to remain behind with civilians in need of assistance. Burke would be the only firefighter from Engine Company 21 to perish on 9/11.

## **FDNY Ambulance**

First responders parked police cars, fire trucks, ambulances, and other vehicles at staging areas around the periphery of the World Trade Center site. As the towers collapsed, the sturdy emergency vehicles functioned as temporary shelters-some individuals dove for cover beneath the vehicles while others entered through unlocked doors to escape dark clouds of debris enveloping the area. Flaming debris damaged or destroyed many of the vehicles, including this ambulance, driven by Emergency Medical Technician Benjamin Badillo and his partner, Edward Martinez.

Dispatched from the Bronx, Badillo and Martinez were directed to a staging area at West and Vesey Streets, while they began readying themselves and their equipment to aid those in need of assistance. As the driver, Badillo was ordered to remain with the ambulance; Martinez placed their gear on a stretcher and headed toward a triage station.

Tending to a wounded civilian when the South Tower collapsed around them, Martinez broke his arm and suffered deep lacerations to his back. Unaware of the extent of his injuries, he continued searching for his partner and their ambulance, stopping to help others in need. Badillo headed toward the WTC Marriott, outrunning the debris cloud but not the ash that filled the hotel lobby. The ambulance was found near West and Vesey streets.

## **ABOUT THE NATIONAL SEPTEMBER 11 MEMORIAL & MUSEUM**

The National September 11 Memorial & Museum is the not-for-profit corporation created to oversee the design, fundraising, programming, and operations of the Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Center. The Memorial and Museum will be located on eight of the 16 acres of the World Trade Center site. The Memorial will be dedicated on the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks and will open to the public the following day, and the Museum will open in September 2012.

The Memorial will remember and honor the 2,983 people who were killed in the horrific attacks of September 11, 2001 and February 26, 1993. The design, created by Michael Arad and Peter Walker, consists of two reflecting pools formed in the footprints of the original Twin Towers and a plaza of trees.

The Museum will display monumental artifacts linked to the events of 9/11, while presenting intimate stories of loss, compassion, reckoning, and recovery that are central to telling the story of the 2001 and 1993 attacks and the aftermath. It will communicate key messages that embrace both the specificity and the universal implications of the events of 9/11; document the impact of those events on individual lives, as well as on local, national, and international communities; and explore the continuing significance of these events for our global community.

When the Memorial opens, construction will continue on surrounding World Trade Center projects and free visitor passes will be temporarily required. For additional information about 9/11 and the Memorial, please look for the upcoming National Geographic book *A Place of Remembrance*, the official book of the National September 11 Memorial. Proceeds support the National September 11 Memorial & Museum. The book is available for pre-order and will go on sale August 15, 2011.

To plan a visit to the Memorial, find out more about *A Place of Remembrance*, or learn how to contribute, go to [911memorial.org](http://911memorial.org).

Follow the Memorial & Museum on Twitter: @sept11memorial  
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