

REPORT OF UNIT CITATION

6. DESCRIPTION OF UNIT OPERATION:

Please note that this unit citation request is being submitted for operations of Marine Co. 1 which operated utilizing 2 vessels, Marine Co 1 Fireboat McKean, and Marine 1 Alpha. Capt. Johnson was the on duty officer for that 9x6 tour who was being relieved by Lt. Piambino who was working that nights 6x9 tour. The operations performed on each vessel are being stated separately for purpose of clarity, but they operated together coordinating there actions as 1 unit.

At 1531 hrs. on 01/15/2009 Marine Co. 1 received a teleprinter message directing us to respond to box 0868 for a plane crash in the water. Reported location "the Hudson River and 50th St."

Weather conditions were as follows: Air Temperature 22 degrees, wind NE@ 10-15 MPH producing a wind chill of 5 degrees F., current was ebbing south at 2 knots, water temperature 40 degrees F.

As Capt. Johnson and members prepared to respond gathering radios, equipment and donning foul weather flotation gear numerous calls were coming in over VHF, Police SOD, and FD dispatch radio reporting an aircraft crash landing in the Hudson River. This many reports indicated a high probability that the original dispatch information was accurate. Capt. Johnson realizing the urgency and potential for mass casualties quickly conferred with Lt. Piambino who had reported early for duty for the 6x9 tour. Both officers agreed that each of them should respond to the incident which would enable them to immediately deploy both vessels of Marine Co. 1. Lt. Piambino responded using the Fireboat McKean and a crew made up of Pilot Spadaro, Marine Engineer Astegher, Marine Engineer Burmester, and Marine Wiper Steinhardt. Capt. Johnson responded using Marine 1 Alpha manned by Helmsman FF Rizzo, and Rescue Swimmer FF Sullivan. Marine 1's operational capabilities include Marine 1 ("Fireboat McKean"), a 129' vessel which cruises at 14 MPH, and or Marine 1 "Alpha" a 27' fast response rescue boat with limited firefighting abilities which cruises at 40+ MPH.

Marine 1 Alpha departed there berth with the fireboat McKean right behind. While responding both vessels continued to receive radio transmissions confirming a plane crash in Hudson. FF Sullivan quickly donned the Mustang cold water rescue suit and gathered the necessary tether line with the anticipation of entering the water. Just prior to M-1A's 10-84 Batt. 9 transmitted a 10-60 for an aircraft crash landed at a revised location of W. 43rd St. and the Hudson River.

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED ADDITIONAL PAGES:

7. RECOMMENDATION:

Deputy Chief

Division

Date