

## Cold Water Rescue

### *Ladder 15 and Marine 1 Rescue Two in Manhattan*

Members of Ladder 15 and Marine 1 rescued two people from the North Cove, at 375 South End Ave., on the Lower West Side of Manhattan on Dec. 16.

A call was received at approximately 12:45 a.m. for a person in the water.

Firefighters from Ladder 15 and Ladder 1 arrived on the scene to find two people clinging to a rope on the sea wall. The woman was unconscious and the man was holding her head above water, as he was being tossed into the wall due to the windy conditions and choppy waters.

Firefighter Norbert Tuma from Ladder 15, donning a scuba suit, jumped into the water and supported the female victim as members of Marine 1 arrived.



*Ladder 15 (left) and Marine 1*

Tethered to the fireboat, Firefighter John Rizzo then jumped into the frigid waters and supported the victims with Firefighter Tuma as the group was pulled to the boat.

“It was handled very professionally and [Firefighter Tuma] did a great job,” said Lt. Patrick Carew of Ladder 15.

The victims, as well as Firefighter

Tuma, were taken to Beekman Downtown Hospital.

“It was a very positive operation that was coordinated well with both companies,” Marine 1 Lt. James Zodkovic said. “Nobody got seriously hurt and two people were saved.”