

REPORT OF MERITORIOUS ACT

2002

Date

1. BOX WTC BOROUGH Brooklyn DATE 9/11/01 TIME 1030 Appx (highest alarm)

2. PERFORMED BY: Rank or Grade Name Unit Assigned Detailed

3. DID ANY OTHER MEMBER PARTICIPATE IN THIS ACT? (If Yes) Rank Name Unit

Is Meritorious Act Report being forwarded for participating member? member participate? If not, how did

3a. ARE ANY UNIT CITATIONS BEING RECOMMENDED IN CONNECTION WITH THIS FIRE? (If Yes - List Units) Marine company 1

4. LOCATION OF MERITORIOUS ACT a) If in building: Address Height Area Construction Occupancy Number of apartments in building Floor where act took place Room b) If not in building: Give complete descriptive information so that physical setting can be recreated Foot of Liberty Street @ Hudson River.

5. PERSON(S) AIDED: Table with columns NAME, ADDRESS, AGE - SEX, RESCUE BREATHING, EXTERNAL CARDIAC MASSAGE, RESUSCITATOR APPLIED, HOSPITALIZED, NAME OF HOSPITAL, DIAGNOSIS, LENGTH OF HOSPITALIZATION

6. MEMBER PERFORMING ACT: Did he receive any emergency treatment? No Specify Was medical leave granted? No Diagnosis N/A

7. WHAT SPECIFIC JOB WAS MEMBER PERFORMING AT TIME OF RESCUE? Assisting injured & distraught civilians onto Fire WAS MEMBER ALONE? No (if not, indicate number of fire department personnel in immediate area, and describe their position in #11. WAS A MASK WORN BY MEMBER DURING RESCUE? No WAS CHARGED HOSELINE IN POSITION TO PROTECT MEMBER MAKING RESCUE? No HOW WAS VICTIM REMOVED FROM PREMISE? Carried [] Dragged [] Assisted [] WAS A LADDER USED IN THIS RESCUE? If yes, indicate type, size and placement Jacobs Ladder on starboard side of Fireboat.

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Name of Member

Date of Act

8. **NAME(S) OF TWO MEMBERS WHO ACUALLY WITNESSED ACT(IF AVAILABLE)**

RANK	NAME	UNIT
Firefighte	William Gillman	M-1
Marine Eng	Dennis Thomson	M-1

9. **NAME(S) OF TWO CIVILIANS WHO ACUALLY WITNESSED ACT(IF AVAILABLE)**

NAME	ADDRESS
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None Available

10. **WAS VICTIM REMOVED FROM:** Immediate fire area Directly above fire

Other area (specify in detail):

11. **DESCRIPTION OF ACT:**

While assisting injured & distraught civilians onto Fireboat McKean, members were alerted by NYPD of 2 female civilians, who had jumped into the river to escape area. The women were being carried south by the current toward the fireboat. Ring buoys were thrown to the women and a Jacobs ladder was deployed.

The women were being swept toward the bow and into the area between the sea wall & the boat, where they were certain to be crushed.

It was imperative that the women not be permitted to go past the forward bitts. The freeboard at the forward bitts is longer than the Jacobs ladder and the members improvised by tying a line to the bow monitor and to the ladder, allowing the ladder to reach the water. Seeing that the women were too distraught to effectively help themselves, Marine Niper Greg Woods jumped into the water to assist them.

The smaller of the two women was helped onto the ladder & pulled aboard. However Woods was having difficulty with the heavier woman. Marine Engineer Gulmar Parga jumped into the water to help Woods. Now three people were in danger of being crushed if they lost hold of the Jacobs ladder, for ten feet away the boat was against the seawall with no room for a person in between.

After trying unsuccessfully to get this very large woman onto the ladder, she was giving up and pleaded "I can't do it, I can't do it. Please just let me go".

At this point Greg Woods dove under the water & under the woman and physically raised her enough out of the water, assisted by Parga, to the point where members on deck could reach down and successfully bring her up the Jacobs ladder & on board.