

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE 146TH ANNUAL
CONVENTION OF THE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF THE
STATE OF NEW YORK, HELD FROM THE 10TH DAY OF
AUGUST THROUGH THE 12TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2018, AT
HOLIDAY INN, 441 ELECTRONICS PARKWAY, VILLAGE OF
LIVERPOOL, NEW YORK.

August 10, 2018

B E F O R E: Kenneth M. Pienkowski, President

Jamie J. Woodard
Court Reporter
P.O. Box 59
Ridge, New York 11961

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

2

1

2 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Good morning.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

4 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Welcome to the 146th

5 Annual Convention of the Firemen's Association of

6 the State of New York. The exits are located to

7 your right and to your left. If there is an

8 alarm, it will be announced from the dais.

9 Directions will be given from the podium to exit

10

the ballroom in an orderly fashion.

11

Before we get started this morning with our

12

regular convention agenda, I would to take this

13

opportunity to announce a new schedule for this

14

year's convention. We have made several changes

15

from previous years to accommodate a more

16

efficient use of our attendees' time. The

17

schedule this year includes an additional morning

18

session on Saturday to allow more time for our

19

speakers' presentations. The educational forums

20

will include one this afternoon and two tomorrow

21

afternoon. Each will include an afternoon break

22

so everyone has a chance to visit our exhibit

23 area and support our sponsors and our
24 contributors. Our sponsors can be identified by
25 the gold color displays.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

3

1

2

At this time I would like to ask that you
3 please silence your cellphones. There will be
4 absolutely no food or drinks allowed in the
5 meeting room during the memorial service and the
6 general sessions. During these sessions,
7 everyone must be seated. Please, everyone must
8 be seated.

9

10

11

12

13

14

As part of the memorial service, I ask that
all members of the FASNY Board of Directors and
the Board of Trustees from the Firemen's Home,
please rise when a past president, a member of
the Board of Directors, or a trustee from the
Firemen's Home is named in the necrology.

15

Thank you.

16

17

18

We are now about to begin our Annual
Memorial Service. Please welcome FASNY Chaplain
Reverend Wayne F. Jagow. Reverend Jagow.

19

(Applause.)

20 REVEREND JAGOW: Thank you, President Ken.

21 Good morning.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

23 REVEREND JAGOW: As you know, we are making

24 a transition as far as the chaplaincy is

25 concerned, and I am very pleased to have the

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

4

1

2 ability to announce the incoming chaplain,

3 Reverend Barrie-Lyn Foster, who will share with

4 you a couple of very important announcements.

5 Barrie-Lyn put together this very significant

6 service for you this morning, and you will find

7 it very, very rewarding. Barrie-Lyn.

8 REVEREND FOSTER: Good morning.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

10 REVEREND FOSTER: We're here today to give

11 honor to whom honor is due, and part of that

12 honor is, of course, the extinguishing of the

13 candles. You will be able to find all the

14 candles in the Onondaga room after the service.

15 They are in Onondaga Room E. This room also has

16 a screen with the names of all of our deceased

17 members rotating. If you'd like to sit there and

18 have some quiet time for meditation, it's the
19 room right passed the hall here across the
20 bathrooms. So you can pick up your candles after
21 the service.

22 We would also like to let you know that
23 there will be a difference in the way Taps is
24 experienced today. Instead of us standing and
25 saluting for what we usually do as Taps, we will

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

5

1
2 have a salute and a moment of silence, and then
3 you will be seated. As a special treat today,
4 you will hear Taps, the long version, also
5 entitled "Il Silenzio", so please be seated for
6 that portion of the service. Reverend Wayne.

7 REVEREND JAGOW: Thank you, Barrie-Lyn.
8 This is going to be a special moment for us, and
9 we want to take a moment to remember. I am going
10 to ask you now to please rise for the
11 processional.

12 (Whereupon, the colors were posted by the
13 Cicero Volunteer Fire Department.)

14 (Whereupon, the National Anthem was

15 performed by Sharon M. Palmer and Melissa
16 Gardiner.)

17 (Whereupon, the Memorial Service was
18 conducted.)

19 MR. PIENKOWSKI: We have some guests with
20 us this morning. I would like to take the time
21 to introduce them. The supervisor from the Town
22 of Salina, Mark Nicotra. Is Mark here?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Kenny Askew, First Vice
25 President of the Volunteer Fire Police

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

6

1
2 Association of the State of New York. I think
3 he's working ways and means.

4 Christina Devaney, manager of the FASNY
5 Federal Credit Union. I haven't seen her this
6 morning.

7 William Mayo, Chief Chaplain of the New
8 York Association of Fire Chaplains', who
9 participated in the memorial service this
10 morning.

11 Joe Rinefierd, Fire Coordinator from
12 Onondaga County. Is Joe with us this morning?

13 MR. RINEFIERD: I am.
14 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thanks, Chief.
15 Vincent Kearney, the fire chief of the
16 Belgium Cold Springs Volunteer Fire Department.
17 Tim Boel, the Educational Specialist for
18 VFIS Volunteer Firemen's Insurance Services.
19 Timmy is probably out there working his exhibits.
20 Tony Cruz, the National State Director East
21 for the Firefighter Cancer Support Network. Is
22 Tony with us?
23 (Applause.)
24 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Charlie Murphy from the
25 Firefighter Cancer Support Network. Thank you

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

7

1
2 for being here this morning.
3 (Applause.)
4 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Please stand for the
5 Pledge of Allegiance led by Sergeant-at-Arms
6 Donald J. Farrell.
7 (Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was
8 recited by Sergeant-at-Arms Donald J. Farrell and
9 the audience members.)

10 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Please be seated.

11 Sergeant-at-Arms Farrell, do we have a
12 quorum?

13 MR. FARRELL: Yes, sir.

14 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you.

15 I hereby call the 2018 annual meeting to
16 order of the Firemen's Association of the State
17 of New York. At this time I would like to
18 introduce Secretary John D'Alessandro for remarks
19 on the new youth in the fire service video.

20 Secretary D'Alessandro, please.

21 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Thank you, Mr.
22 President.

23 Those of you that have attended the
24 convention in the past know that for the last
25 several years we've asked ABC Creative, our

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

8

1

2 creative and marketing partners, to do a
3 different video, highlighting aspects of the
4 volunteer fire service. We didn't plan this, but
5 I think the fact that this year's, which is
6 exceptionally well done, is about youth in the
7 fire service, and I think the pleasant irony is,

8 for those of you that were here for the memorial
9 service, during the litany for firefighters one
10 of the responses was, inspire us to serve future
11 generations, and that's maybe the most important
12 response that we made today during the memorial
13 service, because our future, our lifeblood, is
14 the youth, our Rams, our Juniors, our Explorers.

15 So I hope everybody enjoys this video.
16 It's very well done. It's very personalized, and
17 if you want to use it in the future, please
18 contact myself or David Quinn, CAO Quinn, and
19 we'd be happy to get a copy to you.

20 (Whereupon, a video was played.)

21 MR. PIENKOWSKI: What a powerful video.
22 Chief Perkins from Boonville, Chief Felice from
23 Mottville, thank you for your full cooperation
24 and understanding in working with ABC to produce
25 a video that is going to reach out to the

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2 firefighters in the future and bring them in to
3 get involved with their fire department and their
4 youth program or their explorer program. Thank

5 you very much Boonville and Mottville Fire
6 Departments for their full cooperation.
7 It's an honor to be standing in front of
8 you this morning as your President for the past
9 two years and moving the 146th Annual Convention.
10 What a powerful memorial service this morning.
11 FASNY Reverend Jagow. People working for and
12 helping people. Leadership working for the
13 betterment for the boots on the ground
14 firefighters across the state of New York.
15 That's what it's all about. We all know as
16 volunteer firefighters somewhere in our areas
17 there's departments that are struggling. I wish
18 we had the answers, we don't, but we're all
19 working together to assist everybody out there,
20 and the only way we can be efficient if
21 organizations out there that are struggling come
22 forth and say, I have a problem, or I need help,
23 so we can provide help.

24 I would like to introduce the current FASNY
25 officers and directors. Please stand as I call

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

3 applause until the end of all introductions.
4 My First Vice President, Steven E. Klein;
5 Second Vice President, John P. Farrell; and
6 immediate past President, Robert N. McConville.
7 Directors, Michael R. Caron, Jose DaRocha, Laurie
8 M. Hance, Kenneth J. Holmes, Sr., Michael K.
9 Krummenacker, Eugene J. Perry, Jr., Santo S.
10 "Chan" Rivera, Diana Pfersick, and Edward Tase,
11 Jr.

12 Appointed officers of the Firemen's
13 Association of the State of New York: Secretary,
14 John S. D'Alessandro; Treasurer, Thomas Krawczyk;
15 and our Chief Administrative Officer, David A.
16 Quinn.

17 Additional appointed officers: Our
18 chaplain, Reverend Wayne F. Jagow;
19 Sergeant-at-Arms, Donald J. Farrell; and Thomas
20 With, our Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms.

21 Board appointed positions: Our legal
22 counsel, the Hannigan Law Firm, Terence S.
23 Hannigan and Timothy C. Hannigan.

24 Association key staff: Colleen Simo,
25 Director of Human Resources; and Patricia Phesay,

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1

2 our Director Finance.

3 Thank you. You may be seated.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. PIENKOWSKI: For your information only,

6 I introduced Director Laurie Hance and past

7 President Bob McConville, they did not stand.

8 They're not present with us. They're at the

9 Syracuse Fire Department Training Center for

10 youth in the fire ground training, the session

11 that is presently going on.

12 Thank you. Vice President Klein.

13 MR. KLEIN: Good morning.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

15 MR. KLEIN: As a matter of clarification,

16 as in the earlier part of this program where I

17 was reading your name and you weren't able to

18 stand, when I call your name now, it's okay to

19 stand. Thank you.

20 I would like to recognize past FASNY

21 officers and directors. Please stand as I call

22 your name. I would also ask that you hold your

23 applause until the end of all the introductions.

24 Again, as a matter of clarification, I am

25 going to read all of our past presidents and all

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

of our past directors and officers. Thank you.

Past Presidents: Kenneth E. Newton, Gerard J. Buckenmeyer, Gunnar L. Neilson, Thomas E. Eiswerth, James H. Williams, Joseph A. Finnegan. Michael Wutz was supposed to be with us, but unfortunately he was in an accident on the way coming here. Michael P. Wutz is not going to be in attendance. David Jacobowitz, James Aloysius Burns. Top of the morning to you.

MR. BURNS: And the rest of the day.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, sir.

And Robert N. McConville, who is on assignment.

Past Directors: Stuart L. Gates, Roy K. Dahlen, Paul L. Van Arts Dalen. He recently celebrated 94 years of being on the earth. Happy Birthday.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: K. William Bill Grant, William A. Nichols, Edward T. Sendlenski, James E. Cayey, David J. Sweet, Michael F. Reid, Brian F. McQueen, and Robert H. Ottaviano.

Past Officers: Sergeant-at-Arms, Werner

25 "Zip" Kraemer.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

13

1

2 Thank you. You may be seated.

3 (Applause.)

4 MR. KLEIN: It is my honor to introduce the
5 President of the Board of Trustees, David
6 Schmidt, to introduce his trustees.

7 MR. SCHMIDT: Before I introduce our
8 current Board of Trustees, I would like to
9 introduce four important guests we have with us
10 from the Firemen's Home. Over here we have Mr.
11 Bob Funk, Bobby Hicks, Frank Roberts, and Billy
12 Rosenhagen.

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. SCHMIDT: Accompanying them on this
15 trip for the weekend is CNA Ed Barnett.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. SCHMIDT: Our current Board, Vice
18 President Wayne Butts, Secretary Walt Geidel,
19 Junior past President David Blair, David Wolf,
20 Fred Griffiths, Steve Goodman, Alan Way, Michael
21 De Vittorio, Gerry Owenburg, Peter Cincotta,

22 Dennis Eickhoff, Marilyn Schrader, Jim
23 Interdonati, Bill Eck, and President Ken
24 Pienkowski is a member of our Board.
25 Thank you.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

14

1

2 (Applause.)

3 MR. SCHMIDT: Past trustees that are with
4 us today, please stand. Jim Burns, Fred
5 Scheider, Jose DaRocha, Jim Farrell, John
6 Montrose, John Farrell, Steve Klein, Paul
7 O'Brien, Bill Murray, and Butch Carella. We also
8 have past presidents from the association who are
9 members of the Board are Tom Eiswerth, Jim
10 Williams, Joe Finnegan, Dave Jacobowitz; and Bob
11 McConville was here earlier, but again, he had to
12 leave.

13 Gentlemen, thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 MR. SCHMIDT: If anybody knows anybody that
16 needs use of the facility, we have a premiere
17 facility 40 miles south of Albany in Hudson, New
18 York. One year of fire service is all that's
19 required. If you know somebody, please contact

20 one of the trustees. Thank you.

21 MR. FARRELL: Those state agencies across
22 the state that are representing your association
23 if you're going to say a few words, please come
24 up front.

25 First on the list our first speaker is

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

15

1

2 Nikita Jankowski from Visiting Syracuse.

3 MS. JANKOWSKI: Good morning, everyone.

4 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

5 MS. JANKOWSKI: How you guys doing today
6 this fine summer morning?

7 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good.

8 MS. JANKOWSKI: My name is Nikita
9 Jankowski. I'm here on behalf of Visit Syracuse,
10 and we would love to welcome you to the Salt
11 City. We have lots of things going on in this
12 city, and we are thrilled to have you here. We
13 are so glad that you chose to have your
14 convention here for three years, and for us, that
15 is nothing to sneeze at, so we're happy to see
16 all of you here. I have a question for you guys.

17 How many of you are from western New York?
18 (Audience complies.)
19 MS. JANKOWSKI: How many of you are from
20 the Catskill area?
21 (Audience complies.)
22 MS. JANKOWSKI: Okay. Adirondacks?
23 (Audience complies.)
24 MS. JANKOWSKI: New York City?
25 (Audience complies.)

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

16

1
2 MS. JANKOWSKI: Central New York?
3 (Audience complies.)
4 MS. JANKOWSKI: Okay. Thousand Islands?
5 (Audience complies.)
6 MS. JANKOWSKI: Southern Tier?
7 (Audience complies.)
8 MS. JANKOWSKI: Okay. So the state is
9 represented very well in this room. Give
10 yourselves a round of applause.
11 (Applause.)
12 MS. JANKOWSKI: But I'm going to keep this
13 short, and I just want to say, welcome to
14 Syracuse. We have a lot of things going on as I

15 mentioned. If you haven't been here before, or
16 if it's a while since you've been here, you may
17 have noticed that our downtown is going through
18 an urban renaissance, and we have a lot of new
19 restaurants, a lot of new activities going on,
20 and even outside of the cities, we have a lot of
21 different museums and things like that. So what
22 we ask of you when you're here, is when you're
23 not in your meetings and you have some down time,
24 get out and explore the city a little bit,
25 because we are more than happy to welcome you

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

17

1
2 into our community and into our city, because we
3 are thrilled to have you here; and if you have
4 any questions about what's going on in Syracuse,
5 this booklet right here you can find this on one
6 of the tables outside of this door. When you
7 walk out of the door, make a left, and you'll see
8 our booth. Ask for Ron, and he will give you all
9 the information that you need for Syracuse. If
10 you have any questions, see Ron; and once again,
11 welcome to Syracuse, and thanks again.

12 (Applause.)

13 MR. FARRELL: Representing the sales
14 manager and the Holiday Inn from Liverpool
15 Convention Center, Rachel Bliss.

16 MS. BLISS: Good morning, everybody.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

18 MS. BLISS: Welcome back. I can't tell you
19 how wonderful it is to see everybody, and what a
20 great feeling it is to walk out of my office and
21 be greeted with your happy faces and smiles and
22 hugs and kisses and jokes, and I just love having
23 you guys here, and I'm so glad you're back. I'm
24 so glad you're coming back next year. I just
25 want to reiterate what a great, great job your

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

18

1
2 organization does for you putting on this
3 convention. It is so much hard work, and they
4 just give it everything that they have, and they
5 do a wonderful job. So I always want to
6 recognize that, because this is not easy.

7 You're going to have a great time today on
8 the fun walk, on the 5k. I will be out there,
9 and we'll have a booth. We will have a game for

10 prizes. A few housekeeping notes. We will be
11 doing a renovation this fall, so when you come
12 back next year, we will be shiny and new and
13 probably even a Wyndham instead of a Holiday Inn,
14 but most importantly, we will have a bigger bar,
15 so we cannot wait for you guys to come back and
16 enjoy that. Okay? So thank you, everybody.
17 Welcome back, really happy to have you.

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. FARRELL: Next is our assemblyman from
20 the State of New York Assembly, Al Stirpe.

21 (No response.)

22 MR. FARRELL: Next, the President of the
23 New York State Association of Fire Chiefs, Julius
24 Leone.

25 MR. LEONE: Good morning.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

19

1

2 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

3 MR. LEONE: Thank you very much for the
4 invitation. First, I would like to comment on
5 the memorial service and how special it was that
6 you were able to recognize past members that have

7 gone before us. What a phenomenal job. What a
8 moving experience. It was really, really good.
9 Secondly, I would like to comment on the video.
10 The video was phenomenal. We're all experiencing
11 the same things at fire stations. It's going to
12 be important that we all work together to try to
13 overcome the shortages that we have. I'd like to
14 introduce our Second Vice President Lee
15 Shurtleff. Lee, if you could raise your hand,
16 please.

17 (Applause.)

18 MR. LEONE: I would also just like to take
19 a moment and congratulate outgoing President
20 Pienkowski, and it's special for us from the New
21 York State Fire Chiefs, because as you know, Ken
22 also served as President of the New York State
23 Fire Chiefs. You're probably thinking, why would
24 somebody want to take on those tasks that takes a
25 lot of time, a lot of effort, and a lot of time

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

20

1
2 away from your family, a lot of travelling. The
3 answer is pretty simple, because it's his love
4 and caring for the fire service and how we serve

5 our communities. And what a special obligation
6 that is that you've taken upon yourself, so I
7 want to thank you for that from the New York
8 State Fire Chiefs and what you've done for our
9 organization and what you've done for FASNY.
10 Congratulations on a wonderful job.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you.

13 MR. LEONE: I would like to take the
14 opportunity to congratulate the incoming
15 officers, Steve Klein, incoming President Steve
16 Klein is also a member of the New York State
17 Association of Fire Chiefs' committee, and works
18 extremely hard for us during our conference, and
19 I want to congratulate him and thank you for
20 everything you do for us, and thank you for
21 everything you do for the FASNY organization.

22 MR. KLEIN: Thank you.

23 MR. LEONE: Just outstanding. Again, those
24 that do that are here for only one reason, to
25 make our organizations better, to make the fire

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

2 service better in the state of New York.

3 So congratulations on a great convention.

4 Congratulations on the business that you'll be
5 undertaking this weekend, and I think the thing
6 that we need to keep in mind based on the video
7 that we've just seen, we all recognize the fact
8 that not a single fire station -- there may be a
9 few of us -- a single fire station in the state
10 isn't looking for members. We have a lot of work
11 to do in the future. Our organizations work so
12 closely to identify the needs of the fire
13 service, particularly to try to move legislation
14 through that will have a positive impact on the
15 fire service in the future. We look forward to
16 working together on that endeavor and others.

17 Congratulations, and have a wonderful
18 convention. Thank you.

19 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 MR. FARRELL: Next is the President of the
22 Association of Fire Districts of the State of New
23 York, Thomas Rinaldi.

24 MR. RINALDI: Well, you don't know how
25 wonderful it is to be here today, and I'm very

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2 glad that my name wasn't included on the memorial
3 service, but we came close a couple of times this
4 year. I'm glad to be standing here before you
5 today. I'd like to first introduce my First Vice
6 President, Fred Senti.

7 (Applause.)

8 MR. RINALDI: And Second Vice President,
9 Ken Preston.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. RINALDI: It's been a tumultuous two
12 years. I've also been president alongside of Ken
13 and all the folks from the State Chiefs, and it's
14 been a tumultuous two years, but I'll tell you,
15 it's been enjoyable, and we've made a lot of
16 friends, and we've made a lot of progress. One
17 of things that we've done and attested to the
18 video we have here today, we all have come to the
19 realization that we need to work harder to bring
20 new people into our fire station, and it's not
21 just a problem here in New York. It's a problem
22 all over the United States. I see articles in
23 the magazines from everywhere where we're having
24 the same problems. So I congratulate the
25 leadership of FASNY for taking this step and

1
2 getting this video and getting the recognition
3 that people need to make that the youth are our
4 future.

5 I want to thank especially Ken Pienkowski
6 and all the leadership of FASNY for the working
7 relationship that we have had over the last
8 couple of years. We had some challenges, and
9 we're meeting those challenges, I think, and we
10 certainly still have more to do; and Ken, thank
11 you very much for your leadership and your vision
12 and to try to meet the challenges that we have in
13 the fire service here in New York state.

14 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, Tom. It's an
15 honor.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. RINALDI: It's certainly been a
18 pleasure and an honor working with everybody here
19 and with all the people that are trying to
20 address the problem. We worked very hard
21 together on the cancer legislation, the cancer
22 benefit. I know Dave is familiar with this, some
23 of the opposition that we have seen out there,

24 but I think it's a lack of understanding and a
25 lack of information. We're going to continue to

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

24

1
2 work on that. So I think we're going to continue
3 to work forward.

4 But again, I want to just wrap this up, and
5 again, thank you for the leadership. Thank you
6 for what you've done, and thank you for working
7 together and becoming great partners in the
8 challenges that we meet in New York State. Thank
9 you.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. FARRELL: Representing the Second Vice
12 President of the County Fire Coordinators
13 Association of the State of New York, William
14 Streicher.

15 MR. STREICHER: Good morning, everyone.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

17 MR. STREICHER: First I would like to
18 introduce our First Vice President of our county
19 association, Bill Kennedy, from Central District.

20 (Applause.)

21 MR. STREICHER: As I recognize here this

22 morning there's a common goal that we face in
23 fire service making our future survivable. I'm
24 very happy to be working with the FASNY group;
25 and Ken, I thank you for the invitation here

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

25

1

2 today.

3 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thanks for being here.

4 MR. STREICHER: It's a great, great
5 conference. We have a lot of work ahead of us in
6 the recruitment end. The movie that was shown
7 here earlier is a huge start. I'm proud to say
8 working with all the associations across New York
9 state we meet many times during the course of the
10 year working on different ideas and trying to
11 come forth with a positive outcome. We have a
12 lot of hard work ahead of us. All these
13 associations have committed to working hard on
14 this main topic of recruitment for your fire
15 service. So we look forward to working with you.
16 Thank you, and have a great convention.

17 (Applause.)

18 MR. FARRELL: Next is our State Fire

19 Administrator from the New York State Division of
20 Homeland Security and Emergency Services, Frances
21 Skip Nerney, Jr.

22 MR. NERNEY: Good morning.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

24 MR. NERNEY: I'm honored to join you today,
25 and we would like to congratulate Ken and his

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

26

1
2 team and the members of FASNY and all the work
3 you're able to accomplish for the fire service.
4 We do appreciate it. They are out there working
5 hard for you, I can tell you that. I've had the
6 privilege to work many different topics and
7 projects over the last four years since I joined
8 the state service, and they are working hard to
9 make the fire service safer here, and I
10 appreciate that.

11 I'm equally honored today to be able to
12 introduce to you my boss, Commissioner Roger
13 Parrino, who will speak to you in a second here.
14 I think it's important that you kind of
15 understand where he's coming from, so I'm going
16 to read a little bit about him. Roger Parrino

17 was appointed by the Governor, Andrew Cuomo, to
18 serve as the Commissioner of New York State
19 Division of Homeland Security and Emergency
20 Services in May of 2017. Immediately he dealt
21 with water issues across the state, something we
22 talk about constantly. As Commissioner, Mr.
23 Parrino provides overall direction and leadership
24 and the state's efforts to protect against,
25 prepare for, respond to, and recover for manmade

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

27

1
2 and natural disasters. The DHS currently has 465
3 employees and an annual budget of just over 1.6
4 billion dollars. Commissioner Parrino has nearly
5 40 years of service, or public service, starting
6 in 1980 when he enlisted in the Marine Corp
7 reserve and reported to Paris Island. He served
8 in New York's Police Department for 21 years,
9 where he was promoted to Lieutenant commander of
10 detectives and was a member of the hostage
11 negotiation team for over 10 years. Commissioner
12 Parrino most recently served as the senior
13 counselor to the US Department of Homeland

14 Security Secretary Jay Johnson, where he provided
15 operational crisis management to all levels of
16 the leadership in the cabinet level agency of
17 232,000 persons responsible for boarder security,
18 counter terrorism, immigration, aviation
19 security, cyber security, infrastructure
20 protection, and emergency management. He's been
21 busy there. While serving in DHS, Mr. Parrino
22 managed a counterterrorism policy portfolio that
23 included the national terrorism advisory system,
24 the People's Republic of China, active shooter
25 complex attacks, and state and local enforcement

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

28

1
2 coordination. Before joining the USDHS, Mr.
3 Parrino was employed by -- Inc., and worked as a
4 civilian advisory to the US Marine Corp., during
5 which he served four combat deployments in Iraq
6 and Afghanistan. Commissioner Parrino also
7 served as a member of the defense legal policy
8 board, an independent board tasked by Defense
9 Secretary Leon Defendant Panetta to review the
10 application of military justice in deployed
11 areas. The Board served as a federal advisory

12 committee responsible for providing the Secretary
13 of Defense with informed, important advice and on
14 issues relating to the Department of Defense.
15 Commissioner Parrino is a recipient of the NYPD
16 Medal of Honor for his actions on September 11,
17 2001, and the DHS Distinguished public service
18 medal. He is a 1979 graduate of the Valley Forge
19 Military Academy. In 1989, he graduated from the
20 Regents College, and is a lifetime member of the
21 Council on Foreign Relations. I think it's
22 important when you hear him speak and understand
23 where he comes from, and he's walked the walk,
24 obviously. So that is important to me. In my
25 short time working with the commissioner for just

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

29

1
2 over a year, I found his leadership and mission
3 intensity, blended with the compassion for
4 victims of the disasters and compassion for his
5 employees as well, has served and made a
6 difference in New York state and what we're able
7 to do at OFPC improving the lives of New Yorkers.

8 It is my pleasure to invite the DHS

9 Commissioner Roger Parrino for a few comments.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. PARRINO: Thank you, and good morning.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

13 MR. PARRINO: So I can judge an
14 organization by how they judge people that go
15 before them and the next generation that's
16 coming. I'm very pleased to be a part of that
17 very powerful memorial service this morning on
18 taking care of those that have gone before you
19 and then to watch the youth recruitment video of
20 your next generation. To be that says a lot
21 about you and your organization, and you have my
22 respect. Hats off. So to get Skip to say more
23 about me than I'm actually going to say is a
24 little confusing, so Skip and I will have to work
25 on that, but he gives me -- So you think you're

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

30

1
2 boss, and you show up to something like this, and
3 Skip gives me like five or six pages that I have
4 to talk about because it's going to become an
5 OFPC advertisement while I'm up here. If you
6 could just bear with me. To tell you a little

7 bit about the stresses of my job, yesterday I get
8 a call at about four o'clock in the morning for
9 the derailment in Deposit, and I show up. I
10 think I get there around 7:00. Skip comes around
11 8:00, 8:30 -- I'm trying to figure out how that
12 happened, but that's okay, but after being there
13 for a couple of hours, which was phenomenal
14 seeing everybody playing well in the sandbox, all
15 the locals and state, and eventually the feds
16 when they showed up. It was all very good. Now
17 I'm driving up here, because I know I have this
18 today. I have about a two hour drive, I'm
19 exhausted thinking about pulling over and taking
20 a nap, and I get a call from the Governor's
21 office, they want me at a prison about four hours
22 away. I GPS it. I tell them the time it's going
23 to take me to get there, and then I tell them
24 forget about -- not that important. So then now
25 I know I left the derailment before Skip, and

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

31

1
2 this is where the real stress comes in, I want to
3 nap. I don't think I can make it to the hotel.

4 It's only a two hour drive. I'm about an hour
5 in, and I can't keep my eyes open, and I'm trying
6 to find a place where I can pull over and sleep
7 where Skip can't come up and take a picture and
8 blackmail me or anything. So that is the real
9 stress of this job, not the call from the
10 Governor or four o'clock wake up. OFPC provides
11 basic exterior and interior firefighter training,
12 fire officers and specialized firefighter
13 training at the fire academy and regionally. We
14 also have our fire investigators that work with
15 both the fire departments and controllers to
16 determine cause and origin of fire. Our teams of
17 investigators in our accelerant detention K9
18 teams have proven to be extremely helpful in
19 uncovering the cause of fires across the state,
20 and we look forward to continuing with your
21 partnership. OFPC has a longstanding
22 relationship with FASNY and has proven beneficial
23 to both organizations, including regular meetings
24 to discuss topics such as training, staffing, and
25 firefighter safety, and I would like this strong

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

2 relationship to continue obviously.

3 This morning I would like to share some
4 exciting news that would benefit the state's
5 firefighters and EMS personnel. I would like to
6 talk about the swift water rescue training
7 facility, which recently opened at the state
8 preparedness center in Oriskany. This week we
9 will complete our second technical level water
10 rescue training class. This is a nine million
11 dollar training facility that is the first of its
12 kind in this country, because it's full time just
13 for first responders. There is one in Colorado,
14 but they share it with the Olympic training team.
15 So firefighters can deal with water and cops and
16 EMS personnel can deal with fast moving water
17 coming in, dealing with overflowing rivers. In
18 town we have a little town set up or two or three
19 buildings. We have the ability to have a car
20 float. We have this lego man so we change how
21 the river flows so everybody gets a different
22 experience every time they do it. Tomorrow ABC
23 news is going to come and do a feature on it. So
24 we're hoping we can get as many firefighters
25 trained as possible over the next couple of

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

years. I encourage you and your fire companies to find an opportunity to train at this first of a kind in the nation training facility. I think you will be as impressed with this facility as I am.

The next thing I would like to talk about is our fire academy in Montaur Falls. We are now in our 48th year of operation. We recently have begun to replace the main academy roof. By the time we replace the roof we'll have something else to do. Replace the pavilion roof, and we'll be wrapping up a multi year effort to replace the windows. We continue to upgrade the academy's training equipment and will help with the assistance of the firefighters' grant program. These upgrades help improve the fire training experience and benefit the state's firefighters. OFPC recently announced they will receive \$437,000.00 in grant funds to upgrade the flammable liquid response training equipment. These funds will allow OFPC to purchase two trailer mounted flammable liquid fire trainers to replace the outdated equipment we use today. Fueled by propane, the new trailers will simulate

1
2 a liquid fire onboard tanker. The new trailers
3 will allow OFPC to increase its capacity to
4 provide flammable liquid response training to
5 more firefighters throughout the state.

6 I would also like to mention the
7 application period is now open for fiscal year
8 '18, '19 for the recruitment and retention grant
9 program, which I'm getting the gist of something
10 that you might be something -- This program will
11 focus on the leadership training support and
12 recruitment and retention of volunteer
13 firefighters and EMS personnel across the state.
14 Our program is designed to compliment rather than
15 compete with FASNY's "Is there a fire in you"
16 recruitment effort. This is another example and
17 testament of our ongoing working relationship
18 with FASNY in the support of the New York fire
19 service. Please submit your applications by
20 September 14, 2018. Our grant's team will know
21 that this issue is a priority, and it will
22 shorten the review time so that you can get
23 rewards and applications as quickly as possible.

24 I assure you Skip put that paragraph in.

25 In closing, I look forward to a continued

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

35

1
2 working partnership to raise awareness about the
3 critical importance volunteering plays in the
4 state's role in the fire service. I also welcome
5 your thoughts and ideas so we can improve on what
6 we can do; and if that's the case, I want you to
7 get ahold of Skip and be frank with him and
8 candid and tell him what you need. If you need
9 to have a conversation with me and want to up
10 that level, I am always available for a candid
11 and truthful conversation. I'm not going to sit
12 there and tell you I am going to do something
13 when I can't.

14 And again, have a great convention, and
15 thank you for having me.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. FARRELL: The President of the
18 Volunteer Fire Police Association of the State of
19 New York, Frank Guarino.

20 MR. GUARINO: Good morning, everybody.

21 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.
22 MR. GUARINO: My First Vice President, Ken
23 Askew. Mr. Ken Pienkowski, it's been a pleasure
24 working with you. You've done a great job for
25 FASNY. I look forward to working with you after

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

36

1
2 this, because I'm sure you're not going anywhere.

3 On behalf of the Volunteer Fire Police
4 Association, I give you this achievement award
5 for your excellence for the FASNY association.
6 Please take this, hang this in your firehouse.
7 It's been a pleasure.

8 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you.

9 (Applause.)

10 MR. GUARINO: Steve Klein, you have big
11 shoes to fill, and I know you will.

12 MR. KLEIN: I'll do my best.

13 MR. GUARINO: John, good luck. Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Next we have
16 representing Onondaga County, Director of
17 Emergency Management, Dan Wears.

18 MR. WEARS: Good morning.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

20 MR. WEARS: On behalf of County Executive
21 Joann Mahoney and our Director of Fire, Joe
22 Rinefierd, I would like to welcome you all to
23 Onondaga County, and thank you for coming. It's
24 been said multiple times this morning already
25 that there are a number of challenges that we

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

37

1
2 face in the fire service across the state, and I
3 would also say nationally as well and locally.
4 Whether it's a decrease in the volunteers,
5 increase in training requirements, we all share
6 those similar challenges. And these conventions
7 like this are a great opportunity to meet, learn
8 from each other, learn from where we've had a
9 challenge in meeting those goals and continue
10 that discussion so we can all work to improve our
11 local fire departments.

12 So again, welcome to Onondaga County.
13 Thank you for coming, and we hope you enjoy your
14 convention.

15 (Applause.)

16 MR. FARRELL: Past President, Cumberland
17 Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association, Steve
18 Heefner.

19 (No response.)

20 MR. FARRELL: Thank you.
21 Executive Committee member of the National
22 Volunteer Fire Council, one of our own, an
23 outstanding leader, Brian McQueen.

24 (Applause.)

25 MR. MCQUEEN: Good morning, everybody.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

38

1

2 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

3 MR. MCQUEEN: Now you know that I had a
4 full knee replacement, so really my orthopedic
5 doctor didn't think it would be a good idea for
6 me to fly to Dallas this week and be with the
7 NVFC Executive meeting, so yup, you're stuck with
8 me.

9 So how many of you here today, by a show of
10 hands, are members of the NVFC, the National
11 Volunteer Fire Council.

12 (Audience complies.)

13 MR. MCQUEEN: We have 80,000 members,

14 80,000 volunteer firefighters in New York State;
15 and as of this past week, the office staff from
16 the NVFC told me that we only have 466 members
17 from New York state. I can't encourage you
18 enough how important it is for you to be on board
19 and be a member of the National Volunteer Fire
20 Council. You know, whether it's through your
21 application through FASNY, the cost is only
22 \$15.00. Let me share some of the things that we
23 do through the NVFC and how it impacts you.
24 Through our advocacy group on Monday, July 6,
25 2018, the National Cancer Registry was signed

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

39

1
2 into the law. We, the volunteers of this nation,
3 will have a place on the development of this
4 registry through the NVFC. We, the volunteers.
5 Yes, members here in New York state will have a
6 voice on that registry. The NVFC and Safer
7 grants were funded for three hundred and fifty
8 million dollars this year, which is a five
9 million dollar increase over last year. The
10 volunteer responder incentive program, VERPA,

11 passed the Senate earlier this year as part of a
12 larger tax bill. The version that passed the
13 Senate will allow volunteers to receive up to
14 \$600.00 per year in recruitment and retention
15 incentives, without being subject to income tax
16 report or withholding. Our health and safety
17 initiatives are very important and are crucial to
18 us. Our serve strong program for healthy
19 firefighters. Our share the load program dealing
20 with mental health issues and the increase in
21 PTSD in fire and emergency services. And a new
22 report on both career and volunteer firefighters
23 titled the Lavender Ribbon Report on firefighter
24 cancer was introduced yesterday morning in Dallas
25 as a joint effort between the National Volunteer

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

40

1
2 Fire Council and the volunteer combination
3 officer's section of the IAFC. As one of the
4 co-authors of this report, I can truthfully say
5 that if used properly in every one of our fire
6 stations across the United States of America,
7 firefighters will be more cognizant of the issues
8 that they face with the cancer issue. Please,

9 don't let this report sit on your fire chief's
10 desk. We sent this information in the link to
11 our social media experts at ABC to have that
12 publicized throughout and through our web, so
13 hopefully that will be up shortly.

14 Recruitment and retention, the National
15 Volunteer Fire Council has the Make Me a
16 Firefighter campaign, and you can do that by
17 going to MakeMeaFirefighter.org.

18 Scholarships. We offer two scholarships
19 from Columbia Southern University. Each one will
20 cover \$13,500.00 for an online degree. Deadline
21 is September 15th. So if you want to apply and
22 you're not a member of the NVFC, now is the time
23 to join.

24 Our Globe gear giveaway. You can win your
25 department sets of Globe turnout gear provided by

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

41

1

2 Globe Dupont Solutions and the NVFC.

3 John Cellars. You heard a lot about John
4 Cellars this week. The NVFC has developed an
5 excellent partnership with John Cellars and their

6 celebration of our heroes. You'll hear more
7 about that throughout the week here, and
8 especially at our scholarship raffle on Saturday
9 evening.

10 And in training, this past June we held our
11 fourth annual training summit in North Carolina.
12 There were 124 attendees from 28 states. We want
13 you to stay tuned for the 2019 summit. We do
14 offer \$500.00 scholarships to attend the summit.

15 Our virtual classroom continues to grow
16 daily with many leadership, administrative, and
17 boots on the ground fire ground classes.

18 The National Volunteer Fire Council is
19 working with the IAFC and other fire service
20 organizations to provide free hazmat training for
21 volunteer and remote emergency responders
22 activities involving the transportation of crude
23 oil, ethanol, and flammable liquids.

24 I thank you for this time to share this
25 great organization with you. I encourage you if

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2 you're not a member to please, for \$15.00, make
3 yourself a member of this great organization.

4 NVFC works with fantastic state
5 associations like you have here today in front of
6 you, and we hope through your joining and your
7 involvement in the NVFC this can continue.

8 President Pienkowski, thank you for this
9 invitation and the best to you.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. FARRELL: Next, representing the County
12 Executive of Onondaga County, Joann Mahoney.

13 She is not here.

14 At this time, past Chief and current
15 President of Liverpool Fire Department, Peter
16 Vassallo. Is Peter here?

17 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: He was here earlier.

18 MR. FARRELL: Next I have Michael Monds,
19 Fire Chief for the City of Syracuse Fire
20 Department.

21 MR. MONDS: Good morning, everybody.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

23 MR. MONDS: I would like to welcome
24 everybody, and on behalf of the City of Syracuse
25 and Mayor Ben Walsh and our Syracuse Fire

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2 Department, it's always great to be amongst
3 firefighters, especially at a convention like
4 this where there is so many issues to tackle to
5 improve the fire service. So I would like to
6 give you guys a round of applause for continually
7 trying to make the fire service better. Right
8 now our fire department is hosting the youth
9 training day at our training facility, and I
10 think it's a great day for the youth. Our fire
11 explorers throughout the state and our junior
12 firefighters, I think they are the future of our
13 fire service, and we've been working in our
14 department to try to get more youth involved in
15 being firefighters. I went over this morning,
16 and I met some of the young firefighters get off
17 the bus this morning and some of our staff and
18 the volunteers who are making that day possible,
19 and I'm talking to my deputy Chief of training,
20 do we have another way we can recruit some of
21 these firefighters and take some of our fire
22 entrance exams over the next few years, because
23 we have many firefighters who have been a part of
24 FASNY, and they've been in the volunteer service,
25 and when they come and join our department, they

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2 are really, really great firefighters. So I have
3 been in communication with Dan Wears and Joe
4 Rinefierd, and we've been trying to figure out a
5 way to get more involved with our training
6 facility to make things better for the fire
7 service as whole in our area. So I just want to
8 thank everybody for coming today and coming to
9 our area, and I hope you enjoy the conference.
10 Have a good day, and have a good weekend.

11 Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 MR. FARRELL: Chief, I would just like to
14 take this opportunity to say thank you for
15 allowing us to use your facility and work
16 together to try to bring the youth into service.

17 Thank you very much.

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. FARRELL: Mr. President, that is all
20 the guests we have.

21 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Brothers and sisters, I
22 have the distinct honor of introducing our
23 keynote speaker for today. I will have to
24 deviate a little bit from the script here. I was
25 given a note. This is how he wanted me to

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22

introduce him. "Here's Bobby. He went to a bunch of fires and learned some stuff."

(Laughter.)

(Applause.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Now everybody laughed, but I have to tell you seriously. When you say what you see is what you get, that is Bobby Halton. He is a firefighter's firefighter. He may carry the title of Chief in several departments that you're going to hear, but he is a firefighter's firefighter.

Chief Bobby Halton is a native New Yorker whose family has deep roots in the fire service and law enforcement communities. He began his career in the Albuquerque Fire Department in New Mexico, retiring in 2004 as Chief of Operations. He then became Chief of the Coppell Fire Department in Texas and currently serves as Assistant Chief of Training for the Limestone Volunteer Fire Department in Oklahoma.

In addition to his operational experience,

23 Chief Halton is editor in chief of Fire
24 Engineering Magazine and the editorial director
25 for Fire Rescue magazine, Fire Apparatus

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

46

1
2 magazine, and the Firefighter Nation website. He
3 has been the education director of the Fire
4 Department Instructors' Conference, FDIC, since
5 2005. Bobby is a graduate of the University of
6 New Mexico and a proud member of the
7 International Association of Firefighters and the
8 International Association of Fire Chiefs. He has
9 served on several NFPA technical committees. He
10 has worked as a subject matter expert in NIOHS
11 firefighter line of duty death investigations,
12 worked with the US Department of State Diplomatic
13 Security Antiterrorism Assistance Program and is
14 seated on the National Advisory Board of the
15 Congressional Fire Service Institute.

16 Chief Halton is active with the National
17 Fallen Firefighters Life Safety Initiatives
18 Program, the Firefighter Cancer Support Network,
19 which is near and dear to FASNY's heart, the Fire
20 Smoke Coalition, the Florian Program for

21 substance abuse treatment and mental health
22 issues, and the advocate for Fire-Based EMS.
23 Chief Bobby Halton is a respected and sought
24 after speaker throughout the national and
25 international fire service, and we are truly

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

47

1

2 grateful that he is here today.

3 Chief Halton.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. HALTON: I want to make a quick comment

6 before I begin. It was impressive to see that

7 collection of clergy that you had up here this

8 morning. That was amazing, and I was reminded of

9 a story, an incident actually. My wife is a

10 member of one of these ladies reading groups

11 where a bunch of the gals get together, and I

12 think Oprah or somebody tells them to read

13 something, and they do. After the Shades of Grey

14 thing I was nowhere. Just kidding.

15 (Laughter.)

16 MR. HALTON: Like I said, anyway, they're

17 all together a few days ago, and one of the

18 ladies said, you know, my son is a Baptist
19 minister and every time he walks in the room the
20 ladies say, oh, good morning, minister. The
21 other lady says, oh, you know, my son is a
22 Catholic priest, and every time he walks in the
23 room the ladies all say, oh, good morning,
24 father. And another lady says, oh, well my son
25 is a monsignor, and he walks in the room they

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

48

1
2 say, oh, your holiness. My wife finally couldn't
3 take it any longer, she stood up and said, well
4 my son is six foot three, a United States Naval
5 Aviator and a Lieutenant Commander, and when he
6 walks in the room, woman say, oh my God.

7 (Laughter.)

8 (Applause.)

9 MR. HALTON: So all you guys sitting down
10 there in our Japanese Admiral costumes, good
11 luck.

12 (Laughter.)

13 You know I was having a conversation with
14 Jimmy Burns this morning, and we were watching
15 everybody having coffee, and that video struck me

16 from our conversation that it just continued what
17 Jimmy and I were saying. It's about community.
18 It's about community. You heard that one young
19 man say, I was having trouble finding friends.
20 Boy, that's a word that gets thrown around a lot
21 today, isn't it? Friends. Friends on Facebook.
22 I've got 10,000 friends on Facebook. My wife
23 claims I have two in real life, and the dog
24 really doesn't like me.
25 (Laughter.)

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

49

1
2 MR. HALTON: Jimmy and I were looking and a
3 young firefighter -- I'm not sure where he was
4 from -- bumped into an older firefighter -- not
5 sure where he was from -- and they really didn't
6 know each other, but they were here. That's
7 community. That's what's missing. The second
8 thing was the fact that they're here. As we talk
9 about recruitment and retention, we do not have a
10 problem recruiting and retention in the American
11 volunteer fire service. I would not have another
12 man or woman join today if they weren't of the

13 caliber that are in this organization and in this
14 room today. We don't want numbers. We want
15 quality, and that's what that young man meant.
16 He probably has 10,000 friends on Facebook, but
17 the ones on that volunteer fire company, those 8
18 or 10, he can count on. So it's interesting.
19 It's undeniable though lately firefighters,
20 especially volunteer firefighters, men and women
21 like us, increasingly feel woefully out of place
22 in most civilian and social settings often made
23 to feel out of step as if we should apologize for
24 our opinions, our beliefs, or our dearly held
25 values. Some folks say that our morals are

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

50

1
2 vintage in character, that volunteers are dead,
3 that we were born too late, we belong to another
4 generation. Others are much less diplomatic.
5 You know, we never feel out of place or
6 uncomfortable in rooms like this or among our
7 fellow cops and war fighters where words like
8 duty, honor, country, and God need no
9 explanation, need no apologies, and where it's
10 okay to disagree, at least most of the time for

11 most of us. Occasionally one of us feels
12 compelled, perhaps entitled, to shame another one
13 of us or call another one of us out or question
14 why we're volunteering, especially the two
15 hatters. The reason we're having some of these
16 tough conversations in parts of the service is
17 difficult, it's complicated, but it is
18 explainable. Most of us in this room can count
19 how many times we were asked or we asked others
20 why, why did you want to be a volunteer
21 firefighter. The most authentic answer for most
22 of the time for us was simply just because I like
23 people. We all know this answer to be honest,
24 unequivocal truth. We just like to help people.
25 The problem is it's not true. We don't like to

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

51

1
2 help people. Volunteer firefighters don't like
3 to help people. We must help people. We are
4 compelled to help people. We can't help
5 ourselves, like the swallow, like salmon swimming
6 upstream, like politicians lying to us. It's an
7 unstoppable force of nature. We accept that

8 we're obligated to help people. To say that it
9 exists within all of us a sense of obligation is
10 to say that some aspects of our morality are
11 universal, but that universality does not mean
12 that we all lift that burden together or that we
13 all share a universal world view. Nothing could
14 be further from the truth. Scholars,
15 philosophers, great thinkers, over time had no
16 problems spousing their thoughts and obligation.
17 They have understood and believe that certain
18 persons are motivated by it. We know that the
19 volunteer firefighter is, but that sense of
20 obligation, volunteerism, is now being
21 misunderstood and confused. We see it online.
22 We read it in the papers, and we see it
23 elsewhere. Vilified, especially in hindsight
24 when things didn't go as well as they should have
25 as a way of being which is antiquated, sometimes

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

52

1
2 called regressive and ignorant, this is
3 understandable given the current assault on the
4 achievements of western society. This driven
5 to -- the growing influence of the post modernist

6 people who are an intolerant minority who believe
7 in subjective reality and collectivism and
8 promote secularism, which would have gone over
9 really well in this morning presentation.
10 Strikingly for the first time in our western
11 culture and here in the United States we're
12 experiencing a movement of postmodernism, which
13 is competent of its moral and intellectual
14 superiority to all who came before them, and
15 these intolerant people do not tolerant
16 dissension. Some of those attitudes are creeping
17 into the volunteer fire service. Our beloved
18 fire service as a western cultural identity is
19 under the same assault, under the same ridicule,
20 under the same attack. From this lofty perch on
21 the track you see our traditions volunteering,
22 our proven and then in tactical profiles, our
23 cultural ones, historical legend, our relentless
24 innovation, creativity, our sense of obligation
25 to our neighbors; and by default, corrupt and

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

3 increasingly. The confused polite people who
4 lacking skin in the game have no concept of our
5 sense of obligation to our sacred covenant with
6 our fellow citizens. They confuse it with our
7 social contract with our subscribed customers,
8 neither malicious or evil. The polite critics
9 are convinced that they're doing good, protecting
10 us from our vintage selves, enlightening us,
11 informing us, saving us from our outdated morals.
12 They ever have a well intention, wrong. They're
13 confusing our scared covenant with our social
14 contract. We can blame it on one of the most
15 famous opening lines of all literature. It was
16 Jean-Jacques Rousseau, the man who by the way
17 corrupted the entire French Revolution and
18 destroyed that dream. At the beginning of his
19 book, the Social Contract, he says, man is born
20 free yet everywhere he is in chains. In fact the
21 opposite is true. Rousseau was wrong and the
22 postmodernist is wrong. We're not in chains.
23 True firefighters are grateful for the
24 opportunity to volunteer, to give back freely, to
25 be part of something greater, something unique,

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2 something special. We see it in that young man's
3 face on the video. True firefighters embrace
4 this obligation, embrace this chance to be part
5 of a community. They use it to honor the social
6 contract between the customers that we have and
7 that we serve, and they also use it to honor that
8 sacred covenant. All the while they understand
9 it doesn't interfere with that obligation to
10 honor that covenant when called upon to do so,
11 like the first Jews and the first Americans, the
12 volunteer firefighters have first a covenant, a
13 sacred obligation; and second, a social contract
14 or a fiduciary obligation. A fiduciary
15 obligation is different. A scared covenant is
16 different. There's a difference between a
17 taxpaying customer and a social provider and a
18 threaten citizen and a fellow citizen and a
19 sacred covenant. It's a little -- theory from
20 Rabbi Jonathan Sacs, which kind of explains why
21 so many are confused about the volunteer fire
22 service today and our sacred sense of obligation.
23 In biblical Israel, the people came to Samuel and
24 said, appoint us a king. Now Samuel got really
25 upset. Samuel was a prophet. He was talking to

1
2 God. So he got really ticked off and went to God
3 and started complaining to God. If you read
4 Samuel chapter one, they start talking back about
5 the Jewish people as if they were bad kids. They
6 keep going back and forth, and God got really
7 pissed off, and he goes, well, he's gone. So he
8 got really pissed off about it. So finally God
9 settles down and says, spell out what having a
10 king will mean, and if they're willing to pay the
11 price, give them a king, which is what happened.
12 In the days of the Prophet Samuel precisely a
13 social contract laid out exactly in the lines of
14 the Leviathan by Thomas Hobbes, people are
15 willing to give up certain of their rights. Give
16 a loaner to a king, a government, whatever it
17 takes to insure protection of the world
18 externally and the world of law internally. One
19 Samuel chapter eight is the first recorded
20 incidence of a social contract. Like the first
21 Jews, America's volunteer firefighters entered
22 first into a sacred covenant. The social
23 contract like in one Samuel chapter eight came
24 second, and those two things are certainly

25 confused. In a contract you make an exchange.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

56

1
2 You dial the plumber, you bill the plumber, you
3 make an exchange. A covenant isn't like that.
4 It's more like a marriage. A covenant is sacred,
5 respecting the dignity and integrity of others in
6 a bond of mutual trust and loyalty. A covenant
7 isn't about me. A covenant isn't about interest.
8 It's about identity. It's what those young
9 people are looking for. Thomas Paine pointed it
10 out. They're different. The first society
11 contracts, covenants. Covenants are about our
12 desires. The latter government, that's about
13 a -- neither side are bad or wrong. It all has
14 to do with misunderstanding when we're respecting
15 the social contract and when we're honoring our
16 sacred covenant. It was John Stuart Mill who
17 wrote, one of the worst offenses against freedom
18 is to stigmatize those who hold the contrary
19 opinion as bad or immoral men. Firefighters have
20 to be completely aware at all times between the
21 difference of our sacred covenant and our social
22 contract. One, to protect us from our weakness

23 and our faulty; and the other one to raise up our
24 internal souls. The firefighters have contracts
25 with governments, take prescribed pay, show up at

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

57

1
2 certain hours, do specific tasks, but we have a
3 sacred covenant with one another. As volunteers
4 we have first a sacred covenant with our fellow
5 citizens and especially our brother and sister
6 firefighters, and covenants are sacred, because
7 they involve sacrifice, real sacrifice, real
8 blood and treasure sacrifices. You know back in
9 the 1920's a german teenager named Viktor Frankl
10 was writing a paper on psychology. It was so
11 good that it caught the attention of one Sigmund
12 Freud. Viktor would go off and become a
13 psychiatrist, and he worked with adult women who
14 had suicide ideation. In the 30's Viktor
15 recognized the rising threat of the national
16 socialist, the early postmodernist, and he
17 said -- to his wife and to immigrate to the
18 United States to be safe and free, but at the
19 last moment he recognized his obligation to his

20 aging parents, and he stayed behind in Germany.
21 The entire Frankl family would end up in
22 concentration camps. Viktor would be in three,
23 including Auschwitz. All of the Frankls except
24 Viktor and his sister would die in those inhumane
25 death camps. Viktor suffered incredible

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

58

1
2 indignities. He was beaten. He was starved. He
3 was stripped of everything he had worked a
4 lifetime for. All he loved was taken from,
5 including his precious wife. Everything he had
6 was taken, except his sense of purpose, except
7 his sense of identity, except his sense of
8 obligation to his fellow prisoners. Viktor
9 recognized those tyrannical socialist could strip
10 him of everything you could see, of everything
11 physical and earthly, but not of his morality,
12 not of his sense of obligation. Viktor
13 volunteered to support his fellow prisoners.
14 Viktor volunteered to counsel his fellow
15 prisoners. Viktor volunteered to treat his
16 fellow prisoners, and he did this at tremendous
17 risk. It made him a target for the Nazis, for

18 the socialists. He knew that the national
19 socialists wanted him, his faith, and his fellow
20 prisoners, their community, dead and discounted.
21 Volunteering defied those masters. After his
22 liberation Viktor would write one of the most
23 important perennial books of all time, "Man's
24 Search For Meaning." Every volunteer firefighter
25 needs to read this book. It's a short book. In

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

59

1
2 that perennial book he tells us that life is
3 meaningless without obligation. Having
4 obligation is what makes life meaningful. In our
5 voice of obligation the American volunteer
6 firefighters are not doing anything unusual.
7 We're not special in our own eyes, nor do we seek
8 that recognition from others, but that
9 notwithstanding, we are for the most attainable
10 degree possible among the most honored and
11 respected of all our fellow citizens. Not for
12 what we do, not for our skill and expertise, but
13 rather the fact that we have freely chosen to be
14 among those few dating back to ancient Greece who

15 have taken an oath, who made a covenant, who
16 accepted obligation, who have pledged as the
17 Ancient Athenians did to fight for the ideals and
18 sacred things of our city, to obey and revere our
19 cities laws and to do our best to insight a life
20 respect in others. Pledging this freely to God
21 and one another firefighters make living our
22 obligation and committing to our obligation and
23 seeking an endless and to honor our obligation,
24 our number one purpose in life. That takes
25 character, vintage moral character. That demands

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

60

1
2 accepting consequence. That demands in facing
3 randomness, understanding complexity, and above
4 all, honoring humanity. It was March, 2004, a
5 Huntington Manor two hat, Brian Windsor, was
6 responding to a call on Hickory Place and Fourth
7 Avenue in Huntington Station, Long Island. On
8 this day in March, 2004, he had seven years as a
9 volunteer. He had also just come off probation
10 with the FDNY. Huntington Manor received a
11 dispatch at 14:58 for a mattress fire, 2054.
12 Units arrive on scene, reports a working fire on

13 a third story residential. The first crew
14 arrives, reports heavy conditions on the floor,
15 fire venting out of the A exposure. Crews on
16 engine nine stretching to the front door. Brian
17 arrives on the truck and stretches a second line,
18 advancing in behind engine nine. Engine nine had
19 a long hallway to advance. He had to make a 180,
20 so it took a little while to reach the scene of
21 the fire. Brian and the crew from Ladder Six
22 stood back in the hallway until engine nine had
23 reached the scene of the fire. As the fire
24 started darkening down they started to search for
25 extension. He reached the second floor, and

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

61

1
2 Brian encountered a heavy smoke condition. He
3 had to search the floor. As he was searching, he
4 made inspection holes along the way. He was met
5 up by a second firefighter, and they completed
6 the search of the second floor. The second line
7 went up, and that's now on the second floor.
8 Brian went up to the second floor, and he found
9 no fire there. Communication told him that there

10 was heavy fire now being reported on the third
11 floor with heavy smoke conditions. Brian locates
12 the stairs to the third floor. He goes to the
13 third floor, makes his way up where he finds
14 heavy fire and heavy smoke conditions. They
15 continue to look for active fire and knock it
16 down. At this time they had two lines in place
17 on the third floor. Brian's -- starts going off.
18 So he goes outside, he changes his cylinder. He
19 hears that other officers and other firefighters
20 are starting to have low air, so he goes back up,
21 and he relieves the firefighter on the third
22 floor. At this time there is an increase of heat
23 and smoke, traumatically. The amount of heat and
24 smoke was so much that the men and women were
25 operating their hand lines just to cool down the

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

62

1
2 environment around them. There is no progress in
3 sight, he decides to go defensive. Everybody
4 starts backing out. Brian starts making a search
5 of the area to make sure that no one was left
6 behind. The lines were shut down. The lines
7 were backed out. As Brian is searching making

8 sure everybody has left the third floor, suddenly
9 in this out roaring the fire flashes over. Brian
10 is caught off. The fire completely engulfs him,
11 the hallway, and that stairs. Brian knew he was
12 burning alive. His first instinct, grab his
13 radio and call a mayday. He never did. The fire
14 was too intense. Every move he made was
15 excruciating. He was burning. He was hot. He
16 was tired. Every time he moved he could feel the
17 fire impinging through his gear. He made a move
18 for the exposure of one window, despite the
19 incredible pain, opened and jumped out the window
20 to escape. As he struggled to get to the window
21 the floor below him gives way and drops him on
22 fire between the beams. He was in pain. He is
23 terrified. He knows he is going to die when
24 suddenly two other volunteer firefighters
25 starting pulling on him from below trying to

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

63

1
2 extract him from the third floor. He's released
3 from the third floor, and he is taken out, and
4 he's placed on a backboard and carried down an

5 aerial ladder. Brian Windsor was airlifted to
6 Stony Brook Medical Center and then transferred
7 to Cornell due to the severity of his burns. He
8 spent 18 days in the intensive burn unit. In the
9 hospital for many, many, many days after, with
10 second and third degree burns to his face, his
11 back, his neck, his arm, his stomach. Brian
12 would need skin grafts to come back on his arm,
13 his stomach, his face, his back. Many, many,
14 many painful surgeries, but seven months later
15 Brian Windsor was back at Huntington Manor as a
16 volunteer. Brian Windsor was back at the FDNY,
17 and eight months after that, that proud volunteer
18 responded to my mother, at my mother's home, on
19 Long Island. Today that proud volunteer is a
20 lieutenant with Huntington Manor and a lieutenant
21 on the FDNY. He continues to honor his
22 obligation. Brian Windsor, Viktor Frankl, you
23 are persons of vintage moral character who accept
24 the risks, who celebrate volunteers, who
25 understand honor and obligation to their fellow

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

3 That character and consequence. That honor and
4 dedication is what this merry band of volunteers
5 gather here today to represent, all of you, the
6 best in the American fire service, her
7 volunteers, men and women that recognize that
8 accepting obligation doesn't fall equally. As a
9 matter of fact, it doesn't fall at all. It's
10 sought after. It's fought for. It's competed
11 after, and I don't want you to ruin your
12 standards to get more recruits, I want you to
13 raise your standards to get the very best, those
14 who find meaning in covenants, not in contracts,
15 in people, not in systems, in human creation, not
16 in human endeavor.

17 (Applause.)

18 MR. HALTON: Fine tools, advanced
19 equipment, the latest gear, all of that helps us
20 meet our mission, but that self-imposed
21 obligation to our covenant, that critical
22 intersection of life and death, that's a matter
23 of character, vintage moral character, like
24 Brian, like Viktor. Each of us must honor that
25 covenant each and every moment of each and every

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2 day. We expect nothing less of one another, and
3 that's the highest standard you can lead. As
4 such, it is critically necessary that we come
5 together and celebrate this covenant, as you have
6 done for a 146 years, and 146 years from now we
7 will be here. We cannot allow those intolerant
8 people with no skin in the game who misunderstand
9 covenants and contracts, who misunderstand
10 callings and careers to confused obligation with
11 opportunity to get between us and our mission, to
12 get between us and one another. Those intolerant
13 people have been deluded by academia, the so
14 called experts, the postmodernists. You see that
15 these academics there's no difference between
16 academia in the real world. Hey, in the real
17 world there is. Our American fire service
18 operates forward in the real world not in a
19 laboratory or classroom, not in some elaborate of
20 elitist construct of how the world should work,
21 we operate forward in the real world with real
22 problems and real time against real threats, and
23 those real threats require that we're morally
24 rounded and spiritually prepared for if the time
25 should come where we have to place mission over

1
2 self and honor our ancient obligations, we will
3 not hesitate. Viktor and Brian, they were not
4 fulfilling a contract. Viktor and Brian were not
5 in some quid pro quo exchange. They were leaving
6 it up to principal. They were respecting a
7 covenant. They were respecting an obligation.
8 They were volunteering. Like Viktor and Brian,
9 we can never accept defeat. We must always
10 improvise, adapt and fight; and when necessary,
11 honor that obligation with our last defying
12 breath. And it is right, and it is necessary
13 that we do so. Quite honestly, I don't give a
14 damn if it's PC in among social settings, and we
15 don't care if we make the so called progressive
16 people uncomfortable. Maybe we were born a
17 generation or two too late. I really don't care.
18 As such we refuse to apologize for our beliefs,
19 our values, or our volunteerism, our vintage
20 moral character. Quite frankly, I would prefer
21 they just say thank you and go on their way, and
22 let us judge ourselves, allow us to protect our
23 community, allow us to respond to our
24 neighbors --

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

67

1

2

MR. HALTON: (Continuing) -- allow us to

3

honor our God. Regardless of the intolerance, we

4

continue to enthusiastically embrace our drive to

5

conform to our ancestral ancient and classical

6

notions of justice and honor. We thoroughly

7

reject postmodernist thinking. We are proud of

8

our vintage and moral character. We accept, we

9

embrace, and we celebrate that we have a covenant

10

that volunteers must defend American citizens,

11

her towns, her villages, her visitors, her

12

guests, her principals, her vision, and her

13

honor. You're damn right that duty, honor, and

14

country don't need any explanations in this room.

15

We're volunteer firefighters, and we're

16

unapologetically patriotic, we're

17

unapologetically religious, and we are

18

unapologetically vintage in character. In this

19

house we fly one flag. We are America's

20

volunteer firefighters, and this house is the New

21

York contingent. God Bless you, and God bless

22 the United States of America.

23 (Applause.)

24 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Wow.

25 (Applause.)

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

68

1

2 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: And now you all know why
3 we brought Bobby to New York.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: I've had the privilege
6 of watching him speak three times now, the first
7 time two years ago at FDIC and then this past
8 year at FDIC. Brought tears to my eyes, blood to
9 a boil, energy. He's just a fantastic human
10 being. So Bobby, if you could come up here for a
11 minute.

12 MR. HALTON: I apologize. I'm sweating
13 like Mike Tyson.

14 MR. QUINN: It is my obligation to present
15 to you as our keynote speaker in recognition of
16 your dedication and value commitment to the fire
17 service and your outstanding presentation given
18 here today to the Firemen's Association of the
19 State of New York on August, 2018. Thank you.

20 (Applause.)
21 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Bob, thank you. On behalf
22 of the Firemen's Association of the State of New
23 York it gives me an honor to present to you with
24 the Firemen's Association challenge coin for this
25 year, and it's building a healthier, stronger,

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

69

1
2 and safer volunteer fire service in the State of
3 New York. Thank you for being here. It was
4 greatly appreciated.

5 (Applause.)

6 MR. PIENKOWSKI: I know you all have a busy
7 schedule, would the Sergeant-at-Arms or the
8 Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms please come forward
9 and escort our guests that are left here off the
10 dais, please.

11 As we begin our business session, we're
12 running a little late. We're going to have to
13 make some alterations.

14 Association members are reminded that if
15 you are making a motion or a second, please
16 proceed to one of the microphones in the aisle

17 and state your name for the record.
18 For our first order of business I will
19 entertain a motion to adopt the convention agenda
20 as printed in the official program of the 146th
21 Annual Convention. And as I just said, we're
22 going to make some modifications and move some of
23 the things until tomorrow, but we will stick to
24 the agenda.
25 MR. SCHMIDT: David Schmidt so moves.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

70

1
2 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Do we have a second?
3 MR. RINALDI: Tom Rinaldi seconds.
4 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Motion by Dave Schmidt,
5 second by Tom Rinaldi.
6 On a question?
7 (No response.)
8 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Hearing none.
9 All in favor?
10 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.
11 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Opposed?
12 (No response.)
13 MR. PIENKOWSKI: So carried.
14 The minutes of the 2017 annual meeting have

15 been posted on the FASNY website.

16 Secretary D'Alessandro, are there any
17 additions or corrections to the 2017 annual
18 minutes?

19 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, there are
20 no additions or corrections.

21 MR. PIENKOWSKI: I will entertain a motion
22 to adopt the minutes of the 2017 annual meeting.

23 MR. TASE: Mr. President, make a motion to
24 accept them as supplied.

25 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Motion by Ed Tase.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

71

1

2 MR. RINALDI: Second by Tom Rinaldi.

3 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Second by Tom Rinaldi.

4 On a question?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Hearing none.

7 All in favor?

8 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

9 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Opposed?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. PIENKOWSKI: So carried.

12 Mr. Secretary, is there any unfinished
13 business that has been carried over from the 2017
14 annual meeting?

15 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, there is
16 no unfinished business to be carried from the
17 2017 annual meeting.

18 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Is there any new business
19 to come forth of the annual meeting?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Hearing none, we are going
22 to take the annual address message for the
23 President and move it to tomorrow morning. Yes,
24 I am prepared. I have it here if anybody likes
25 to read it. It's quite lengthy, but due to time,

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

72

1
2 we'll take care of that tomorrow.

3 I would call secretary John D'Alessandro
4 for the Annual Report of the Secretary of FASNY.

5 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, the
6 Secretary's Annual Report has been published in
7 the committee book, which is available at the
8 registration table.

9 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, Secretary

10 D'Alessandro.

11 I now call on Thomas Krawczyk for the
12 Annual Report of the Treasurer of FASNY.

13 MR. KRAWCZYK: My report is also in the
14 committee book. Please pick one up and take one
15 back with you. Take one back to your home
16 company.

17 Thank you, Mr. President.

18 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, Treasurer
19 Krawczyk.

20 I now call upon our Chief Administrative
21 Officer, Chief David Quinn, for the Annual 519
22 Report for FASNY.

23 MR. QUINN: Good morning, everyone.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

25 MR. QUINN: The Annual Report of the Board

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2 of Directors of the Firemen's Association of the
3 State of New York, the 12 month fiscal period
4 ending June 30, 2018 under Section 519 of the not
5 for profit corporation law. To the members of
6 the Firemen's Association of the State of New

7 York. "The Board of Directors respectfully
8 submits for your information the following report
9 related to the Firemen's Association of the State
10 of New York for the 12 month fiscal period ending
11 June 30, 2018. One, the assets and liabilities
12 including trust funds listed separately of the
13 corporation at the end of said fiscal period are
14 as follows:

15 Assets, total, \$39,176,959.00.

16 Liabilities, total, \$1,524,798.00.

17 Trust funds, not applicable.

18 The principal changes in the assets and
19 liabilities, including trust funds, of the
20 corporation during said fiscal period were as
21 follows: Assets decreased due to the timing of
22 the two percent foreign fire tax program
23 receipts.

24 Three, the revenue or receipts of the
25 corporation, both unrestricted and restricted to

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2 particular purposes, during the said fiscal
3 period were as follows: Unrestricted revenues or
4 receipts, \$10,496,437.00. Revenues or receipts

5 restricted to a particular purpose is not
6 applicable.

7 Four, the expenses or disbursements of the
8 corporation, for both general and restricted
9 purposes, during said financial period were as
10 follows: Expenses for general purposes,
11 \$15,943,245.00. Expenses for restricted purposes
12 are not applicable.

13 Concerning the membership of the
14 corporation: The number of members as of June
15 30, 2018 is 44,098. The number of members
16 decreased by 590 during the period of July 1,
17 2017 through June 30, 2018. The names and places
18 of the residences of the current members may be
19 found in the books of the corporation, which are
20 kept at the Firemen's Association of the State of
21 New York office at 107 Washington Avenue, Albany,
22 New York."

23 This report has been prepared pursuant to
24 Section 519 of the Not-for-Profit Corporation
25 Law, dated August 9, 2018, and it's signed by

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

2 President Ken Pienkowski and Treasurer Tom
3 Krawczyk.

4 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, CAO Quinn.

5 I now call upon FASNY Foundation Treasurer,
6 Thomas Krawczyk for the foundation Annual 519
7 Report.

8 MR. KRAWCZYK: This is the Annual 519
9 report as prepared by our auditors pursuant to
10 the Section 519 of the not-for-profit corporation
11 law for the dates June 30, 2018.

12 "The Board of Directors respectfully
13 submits for your information the following report
14 related to the Firemen's Association of New York
15 Foundation, Inc., for the 12 month fiscal period
16 ending June 30, 2018. Assets and liabilities
17 including trust funds of the corporation of the
18 said period are as follows: The assets total
19 \$140,814,090.00. Liabilities, none; and trust
20 funds, none.

21 Principal changes in assets and liabilities
22 including trust funds of the corporation during
23 the said fiscal period were as follows: The
24 foundation investment portfolio increased with
25 the favorable stock market performance and

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2 expenses increased during the period with
3 additional grand expenditures for capital
4 projects.

5 Revenues and receipts of the corporation,
6 both restricted and unrestricted, to particular
7 purposes during the said period amounted to
8 \$10,659,481.00. Revenues restricted to
9 particular purposes is N/A. The expenses and
10 disbursements of the corporations for both
11 general and restricted purposes during the said
12 period was \$6,597,435.00.

13 The number of members as of June 30th is
14 one. Number of members increased by zero during
15 this period of time. The names and places of
16 residences of the current members may be found in
17 the books of the corporation, which are kept at
18 the Firemen's Association of the State of New
19 York Foundation, Inc., at the office at 107
20 Washington Avenue in Albany, New York." And it's
21 signed by the President, Steve Klein and myself
22 as Treasurer.

23 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, Treasurer
24 Krawczyk.

25 I now call upon the Chairman of the

1
2 reorganizational committee, Timothy Hannigan, for
3 a report.

4 MR. HANNIGAN: Good morning.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

6 MR. HANNIGAN: President Pienkowski, Vice
7 President Klein, Vice President Farrell,
8 Directors, Trustees, and fellow members of FASNY.
9 Thank you for the opportunity to address you this
10 morning. My name is Tim Hannigan. I'm a
11 volunteer firefighter with the Elsmere Fire
12 District in Albany County. My father and I now
13 serve as general counsel to this great
14 organization.

15 If you recall, a few years ago my good
16 friend, Joe Finnegan, made a proposal at a past
17 convention regarding possible reorganization of
18 FASNY. Not necessarily a reorganization, but a
19 reevaluation of how we're conducting our
20 business, how we're structured, and how we can
21 better engage our fellow 40,000 members of FASNY.
22 That thought, that suggestion, came through this
23 body last year and was reviewed again by a

24 committee of Bob McConville, Laurie Hance, Steve
25 Klein, John Farrell, Ken Pienkowski, John

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

78

1
2 D'Alessandro, and myself regarding what proposals
3 that the membership last year liked, tweaks they
4 thought that we could make and suggestions as to
5 how we can better improve our engagement on
6 activation of our membership base. With that, we
7 decided on five proposals. We provided those to
8 Secretary D'Alessandro, and they have been posted
9 in accordance with our current bylaws.

10 I want to run through the proposals briefly
11 with you, and Director Tase will come forth
12 momentarily to make a motion in regard to each
13 proposition.

14 The first item that we discussed was
15 amending the current way the petitions are
16 required in order to run for office in FASNY. We
17 wanted to incentivize our perspective officers of
18 FASNY to reach more members of FASNY, communicate
19 the good things that FASNY does across the state
20 through multiple fire companies, multiple
21 regions, talk with as many members as they can.

22 And in that vain, what the committee determined
23 was that 200 signatures of members and 10 fire
24 service organizational endorsements would be a
25 positive step in that direction for communicating

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

79

1
2 to our members, and the fire service generally,
3 about all the good things that FASNY does and all
4 the things that FASNY has available to the
5 volunteer fire service in New York State.

6 The second component of our committee
7 proposal is in regard to the implementation of
8 electronic voting. By last count, we had about
9 174 members present in the room right now, and
10 like I said, we have about 40,000 plus members
11 statewide. As a young working professional for
12 myself, I can tell you if I wasn't working here,
13 I wouldn't be able to be here. We have that
14 younger voice, and we have the older voices that
15 deserve to be heard with respect to the matters
16 before this body, the election of the trustees,
17 the election of the directors; and the committee
18 wanted to bring that motion forward as well to

19 allow electronic voting so all of our members can
20 participate in the process that we will
21 participate in here momentarily.

22 With respect to items three, four, and
23 five, they're essentially the same resolution,
24 but they apply at different levels. First would
25 be for officers of FASNY. Second for directors,

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

80

1
2 and third for trustees. I will remind you of the
3 quote, it's famous, and can attribute to pretty
4 much anybody, because you don't really know a man
5 until you've walked a mile in his shoes. And
6 that identifies the volunteer fire service. I
7 don't think we truly know what it is to be a
8 volunteer firefighter until you've left your
9 family in the middle of the night, or gotten back
10 from a call right before you need to go into
11 work, or left work early to go to a call, trained
12 on your own time. In that regard, the committee
13 proposed that we set as a minimum requirement
14 five years of service as a volunteer firefighter
15 in order to serve as a director, trustee, or
16 officer of FASNY.

17 So with that, that concludes the
18 committee's report. I thank many past committee
19 members that I see here today, as well as the
20 committee that I mentioned previously that served
21 on this review, and Mr. Finnegan for his initial
22 comments that started this thing many years ago.

23 Thank you very much.

24 (Applause.)

25 MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Tim.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

81

1
2 I've been coming to these conventions for a
3 long time, and I have never heard a speaker like
4 we heard this morning. Really dynamic. He
5 really put it all out there, and I think it was a
6 great choice as our keynote speaker, and thank
7 you guys for bringing him on board.

8 I now call on Ed Tase, Chairman of the
9 By-laws Committee, for reading the proposed
10 change to the By-laws.

11 MR. TASE: Thank you, Steve.

12 Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

14 MR. TASE: As chairman of the By-Laws
15 Committee, on May the 3rd of 2018, I received
16 proposals for By-Laws changes from the secretary
17 of the association, John D'Alessandro. Those
18 changes were supplied to the committee for
19 review, and after reviewing the committee, we
20 found that there is no conflicts in regard to
21 Article Eight, Section 1.1, of our current
22 by-laws.

23 With that being said, today's motion number
24 one, would be motion to amend Article Two,
25 Section 6.3 of the By-Laws of the Firemen's

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

82

1
2 Association of the State New York as posted on
3 the association's website, to require candidates
4 for elected officers, directors, trustees be
5 required to get 200 signatures and membership
6 numbers of regular members of the corporation and
7 the endorsement of 10 fire service organization
8 members of this association.

9 Mr. President, I so move for the adoption
10 of motion number one.

11 MR. KLEIN: You've heard the reading of

12 motion number one; is there a second?

13 MR. PETTINGELL: Mr. Vice President, Fred
14 Pettingell, President of Hudson Valley, seconds
15 the motion.

16 MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Fred. We have a
17 motion and a second.

18 Anything on discussion?

19 (No response.)

20 MR. KLEIN: Seeing nothing on discussion,
21 I'm going to call for a standing vote. All those
22 in favor of the proposed amendment, please stand.

23 Bear with us while we count.

24 (Whereupon, the Sergeant-at-Arms did a
25 count of those in favor.)

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

83

1

2 MR. KLEIN: Mr. Sergeant-at-Arms, have you
3 completed your count?

4 MR. FARRELL: Yes.

5 MR. KLEIN: Folks, you can be seated.

6 All those opposed, please stand.

7 (Whereupon, the Sergeant-at-Arms did a
8 count of those in opposition.)

9 MR. KLEIN: Have you completed your count,

10 Don?

11 MR. FARRELL: Not yet -- Okay.

12 Mr. President.

13 MR. KLEIN: You can be seated, folks.

14 MR. FARRELL: Seventy-five in favor,
15 fifty-six against.

16 MR. KLEIN: The motion is not carried.

17 For the record, it requires a two thirds
18 vote of the members present.

19 MR. TASE: Motion number two, motion to
20 amend Article Two, Section 6.5 and 6.51, of the
21 By-Laws of the Firemen's Association of the State
22 of New York as posted in the association website
23 to implement electronic voting.

24 MR. KLEIN: You've heard the reading of
25 proposal number two; is there a second?

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

84

1

2 MR. NORWOOD: Michael Norwood -- Corners,
3 seconds the motion.

4 MR. KLEIN: Thank you.

5 Anything on a question?

6 MR. ALBERT: Jerry Albert, Suffolk County.

7 It's not about -- it's the way it's written, a
8 question on; what's a meeting, a member's
9 meeting? Is it the annual meeting? There's a
10 confusion there. And why is it 16/5 says proxy
11 before it, what does that mean? Is it the annual
12 meeting that they want this at or meeting on Long
13 Island?

14 MR. HANNIGAN: We can meet on Long Island
15 if you want, that works for me.

16 Your first question was in regard to the
17 annual meeting, but yes, that is the meeting.

18 With respect to the term proxy, that is the only
19 term that is available to us in the
20 not-for-profit corporation law that would permit
21 us to implement electronic voting. So the law as
22 you might imagine is somewhat behind modern day.
23 Proxy voting is similar to what you do, if any of
24 you hold stocks or anything, you obtain that
25 proxy ballot, and you submit it. It's that same

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2 mechanism, but for purposes of the way FASNY
3 would implement it here it would be by electronic

4 ballot.

5 MR. ALBERT: It was just confusing when it
6 said members' meeting. It didn't say at the
7 convention or general meeting.

8 MR. HANNIGAN: Yes, it is.

9 MR. ALBERT: That's kinda of any meeting,
10 any meeting of members.

11 MR. HANNIGAN: If there was a special
12 meeting called to membership, that would be
13 available there, but for all intents and
14 purposes, we're talking about the annual meeting
15 for this one. Thank you for your question, sir.

16 MR. KLEIN: Any other questions?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. KLEIN: Any other questions?

19 (No response.)

20 MR. KLEIN: All in favor, please stand.

21 (Whereupon, the Sergeant-at-Arms did a
22 count of those in favor.)

23 MR. KLEIN: Okay, folks. Please be seated.

24 Those opposed to the motion, please rise.

25 (Audience complied.)

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

2 MR. KLEIN: Okay, you don't have to count.

3 The motion is defeated.

4 MR. TASE: Motion number three, motion to
5 amend Article Three, Section Three, of the
6 By-laws of the Firemen's Association of the State
7 of New York as posted on the association's
8 website to require the candidates for the
9 position of director must have served a minimum
10 of five years as a volunteer firefighter in the
11 State of New York.

12 MR. KLEIN: We have a motion. Harold?

13 MR. WOLLABER: Yes, sir, I will second the
14 motion. Harold Wollaber, past President of
15 Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association.

16 MR. KLEIN: Thanks, Harold.

17 Are there any questions on the motion?

18 (No response.)

19 MR. KLEIN: All those in favor, please
20 rise.

21 (Audience complied.)

22 MR. KLEIN: Okay, we don't have to count
23 this either. Thank you very much.

24 Motion passed.

25 MR. TASE: Motion number four, motion to

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

amend Article Four, Section Three, of the By-laws of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York as posted in the association's website to require the candidate for the position of a trustee of FASNY's Firemen's Home must have served a minimum of five years as a volunteer firefighter in the State of New York.

Mr. President, I move for the motion.

MR. KLEIN: Yes, sir.

MR. SCHOTT: Robin Schott, Hutchinson Hose Company, beautiful downtown Williamsville, New York, seconds the motion.

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: Thanks, Robin.

Are there any questions on the motion?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: All those in favor, please rise.

(Audience complies.)

MR. KLEIN: You may sit down. Motion carried. Thank you.

MR. TASE: One more, please.

Motion number five, motion to amend Article Five, Section Three and Section 3.1 of the

1
2 By-Laws of the Firemen's Association of the State
3 of New York as posted on the association's
4 website to require the officers of the
5 corporation must have served a minimum of five
6 years of service as a volunteer firefighter in
7 the State of New York.

8 Mr. President, I move for the adoption of
9 five.

10 MR. KLEIN: You've heard the reading.
11 Tony?

12 MR. DEMARCO: Anthony DeMarco, Caledonia
13 Fire Department, seconds the motion.

14 MR. KLEIN: I have a motion and a second.
15 Anything on a question?

16 (No response.)

17 MR. KLEIN: Please rise one more time.

18 (Audience complies.)

19 MR. KLEIN: Okay, we don't have to count
20 again. Motion carried.

21 Before I step away from the podium, I just
22 want to make one comment. Two hundred people is
23 one half of one percent of the membership. It's

24 not hard to get 200 people to sign the petition.

25 I think that was the one motion that was not

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

89

1

2 carried that I think is a grave mistake, but
3 that's just a political point, and we will talk
4 on it. I plan as President to reconvene the
5 committee to continue working to make the by-laws
6 more friendly to more of our members. One half
7 of one percent.

8 Thank you.

9 MR. TASE: Mr. President, that concludes
10 the report of the by-laws committee.

11 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, Chairman Tase
12 and Secretary D'Alessandro and attorney Tim
13 Hannigan.

14 The officer and committee reports are
15 printed in the convention ad book, which is
16 available at the Office of the Secretary and at
17 the registration desk.

18 The chair will entertain a motion to accept
19 the printed reports as they appear in the
20 convention ad book, which are available in the

21 Office of the Secretary and at the registration
22 desk.

23 I'll entertain a motion.

24 MR. DE VITTORIO: Mr. President, Mike De
25 Vittorio, Port Chester Fire Department,

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

90

1

2 Westchester County, makes that motion.

3 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, Chief.

4 Second?

5 MR. BUTTS: Wayne Butts.

6 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Motion by Chief De

7 Vittorio. Second by Wayne Butts.

8 On a question?

9 (No response.)

10 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Hearing none.

11 All in favor?

12 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

13 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Opposed?

14 (No response.)

15 MR. PIENKOWSKI: So carried. Thank you.

16 Vice President Farrell?

17 MR. FARRELL: Thank you, Mr. President.

18 Remember the two percent tax forum this

19 afternoon at 1:00 p.m., also here in the
20 convention center. Your credentials will be
21 scanned, and your certificates will be made
22 available this evening and the remainder of the
23 convention. Certificates will be located in the
24 ballroom foyer.

25 This afternoon the "Michael D. Whelan Walk"

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

91

1
2 for the fight against cancer will take place at
3 4:00 p.m. here at the convention center.

4 You may register onsite or save time and
5 register at the Ways and Means checkout in the
6 Cotillion Room. Individual entries are a
7 donation of \$15.00.

8 All donations and proceeds from this event
9 will go to the Firefighters Cancer Support
10 Network in the memory of Secretary Michael D.
11 Whelan.

12 This afternoon at 12:30 -- in a few
13 minutes -- in the ballroom begins our first of
14 three educational sessions here at the convention
15 center. Please make certain that you are

16 registered for your educational sessions. If you
17 have still not registered, you may still do so at
18 the registration desk. Tomorrows sessions begin
19 at 12:30 p.m. right here in this room.

20 Please be aware that your badge will be
21 scanned at all sessions. Your badge must be
22 scanned to receive a certificate. And again, the
23 certificates will be available in this room
24 during the "Scholarship Fun Night."

25 Please take the time to visit and give a

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

92

1
2 quick thank you to our sponsors and supporters
3 located both in the Cotillion Room and in the
4 foyer. Their contributions to FASNY help make
5 this convention and events during the year a
6 success. The gold display booths represent our
7 sponsors. During your visit beginning at 2:00
8 p.m., you can enjoy a special reception sponsored
9 by Cool Insurance Agency, Visual Technologies,
10 First Net/AT&T, Syracuse Visitors Bureau, and
11 Provident. Outside in the parking lot you will
12 notice a display from Turtle Plastics. Turtle
13 Plastics is one of our two-alarm bronze sponsors

14 and contributors. After the convention is over,
15 the model, Auto X Tool Kit B, which is on
16 display, will be donated to FASNY for future
17 training. Turtle Plastics has information
18 available on the table at the ballroom entrance.

19 For those that have purchased tickets, the
20 First Annual Grub and Pub Crawl will take place
21 tonight in Armory Square. Transportation will be
22 available at 7:00 p.m. at the ballroom parking
23 lot entrance. This event is sold out.

24 The FASNY Federal Credit Union Annual
25 Meeting of the membership will be held tomorrow

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

93

1
2 at 8:00 a.m. right here in the convention center.

3 Our second session tomorrow begins at 9:00
4 a.m.

5 The Gerard J. Buckenmeyer FASNY Volunteer
6 Scholarship Fund raffle will be Saturday here in
7 the convention center. Games, music,
8 complimentary desserts, ice cream sundaes, and
9 wine tasting. There will be a cash bar
10 available. The excitement begins at 6:00 p.m.

11 Winners of the prizes will be announced later in
12 the evening. This is an extremely important
13 event for FASNY.

14 We have a special event during the
15 Scholarship Night for your enjoyment. Josh
16 Cellars will be hosting a wine tasting event.
17 The first 100 attendees who sample three sips of
18 wine will receive a complimentary glass of wine.
19 You will have a choice of Cabernet, Rose, or
20 Chardonnay. The wine tasting event opens at 7:00
21 p.m. The founder of Josh Cellars will be in
22 attendance during the event. Please make every
23 effort to attend and show your appreciation to
24 Josh Cellars, one of our largest sponsors.

25 The scholarship raffle committee wishes

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

94

1
2 those that have brought in baskets on raffle
3 items to bring them next door as soon as you can.
4 At this time we have a total of 70 raffle items,
5 and we thank everybody for their appreciation in
6 that area.

7 At this time I would like to move forward
8 by recessing the annual meeting until 9:00 a.m.,

9 tomorrow morning.

10 Thank you very much.

11 (Whereupon, the meeting was adjourned to

12 August 11, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.)

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

95

1

2 CERTIFICATION

3

4 STATE OF NEW YORK)

5) SS.:

6 COUNTY OF SUFFOLK)

7

8 I, JAMIE J. WOODARD, a Court Reporter and

9 Notary Public, for and within the State of New

10 York, do hereby certify:

11 THAT the above and foregoing contains a

12 true and correct transcription of the proceedings

13 held on August 10, 2018 at the Firemen's

14 Association of the State of New York Annual

15 Convention, Village of Liverpool, New York, and

16 were reported by me.

17 I further certify that I am not related to

18 any of the parties to this action by blood or by

19 marriage and that I am in no way interested in

20 the outcome of this matter.

21 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my

22 hand this 23rd day of January, 2019.

23

24

25

JAMIE J. WOODARD

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE 146TH ANNUAL
CONVENTION OF THE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF THE
STATE OF NEW YORK, HELD FROM THE 10TH DAY OF
AUGUST THROUGH THE 12TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2018, AT
HOLIDAY INN, 441 ELECTRONICS PARKWAY, VILLAGE OF
LIVERPOOL, NEW YORK.

August 11, 2018

B E F O R E: Kenneth M. Pienkowski, President

Jamie J. Woodard
Court Reporter
P.O. Box 59
Ridge, New York 11961

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

97

1

2 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Good morning.

3 The exits are located to your right, my
4 right, your left. If there is an alarm, it will
5 be announced from the dais. Directions will be
6 given from the podium to exit the ballroom in an
7 orderly fashion.

8 At this time, I would like to ask that you
9 please silence your cell phones; and please,
10 there will be absolutely no food or drinks
11 allowed in the meeting room during this second
12 general session. During the session, everyone
13 must be seated. If anybody is going to make a
14 motion, second a motion, or make a comment, you
15 must use the microphone, please. Yesterday some
16 people did not use the microphone, and we did not
17 pick up the recording what you had to say. Thank
18 you.

19 Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance
20 led by Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms Thomas With,
21 and remain standing for the invocation by
22 Chaplain Wayne F. Jagow.

23 Thank you.
24 (Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was
25 recited.)

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

98

1
2 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Call upon FASNY Chaplain
3 Reverend Wayne Jagow, please, for the invocation.
4 (Invocation by Reverend Wayne F. Jagow.)
5 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Mr. Sergeant-at-Arms, do
6 we have a quorum?
7 MR. WITH: Yes, we do, Mr. President.
8 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, Tom.
9 I hereby call the second session of the
10 2018 annual meeting to order. Welcome. Good
11 morning. Yesterday was a great day. We took
12 care of some business. We had the two percent
13 forum, which I understand we have some new
14 questions circulating from our attorney this
15 morning; and also we had a great presenter for
16 training. Last night was a great walk in honor
17 of past secretary Michael Whelan, who left us too
18 early due to that nasty disease of cancer. FASNY
19 remembers Michael every year doing the walk. All

20 proceeds from that walk go to the Firefighter
21 Cancer Network. We tried to change it up a
22 little bit and put a little fun along the walk,
23 and all the money that was collected for that
24 also goes to the Firefighter Cancer Network. I'm
25 here to tell you that I was stationed at the dunk

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

99

1
2 tank, and there's some people in here that better
3 stick to their professional jobs and not want to
4 go out and become a ballplayer. Some people
5 couldn't hit it.

6 (Laughter.)

7 MR. PIENKOWSKI: We're going to have a good
8 day this morning. We have a speaker. We're
9 going to have the introduction of officers that's
10 going to lead the association for the two years,
11 but this morning it gives me great honor and
12 great pleasure of introduce the president of the
13 Ladies Auxiliary of the Firemen's Association of
14 the State of New York, Dianne Werner. Dianne,
15 please.

16 (Applause.)

17 MS. WERNER: Thank you, Ken. Good morning,

18 everyone.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

20 MS. WERNER: It is a real honor to be here
21 today, and I truly have enjoyed my association
22 with FASNY this passed two years as I served as
23 president of LAFASNY, and I do believe that our
24 two organizations have worked well together, and
25 we have shared a great respect for one another,

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

100

1

2 and I do believe this will continue with Jean and
3 Dianna.

4 President Pienkowski, congratulations to
5 you on your two successful terms. You've done a
6 great job, and I also would like to extend my
7 best wishes to Steven who is the president, and
8 to John as well.

9 MR. KLEIN: Thank you very much.

10 MS. WERNER: I hope you guys have a great
11 year, and I hope you enjoy the rest of the
12 convention and for a very successful upcoming
13 year.

14 I would like to introduce my First Vice

15 President Jean Christiansen, who technically is
16 the president now, but it's just the timing.
17 Jean?

18 (Applause.)

19 MS. CHRISTENSEN: Good morning. I just
20 want to say congratulations, Ken. I enjoyed
21 working with you, and I'm not going far. Steve,
22 I am looking forward to two amazing years with
23 you. We have a history, for those that don't
24 know. Steve was a trustee with my dad at the
25 Firemen's Home, so it's very special that I get

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

101

1
2 to serve as president with him. I'm around if
3 anyone ever has any questions or anything, I will
4 be there, and enjoy the rest of the convention.

5 (Applause.)

6 MS. WERNER: And Second Vice President
7 Diana Balling, technically First Vice President.

8 (Applause.)

9 MS. BALLING: Good morning. And again,
10 Ken, it's been great the last two years. I look
11 forward to working with Steve; and John we will
12 be doing it together in another couple of years.

13 (Laughter.)

14 MS. BALLING: No, no, no. I'm Ulster
15 County, he's Green County. We're neighbors. I
16 also belong to Green County -- so that's what I
17 meant, so don't go the other way.

18 (Laughter.)

19 MS. BALLING: Ken, I would like to present
20 to you our 2018 convention journal.

21 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you.

22 MS. BALLING: You're very welcome.

23 (Applause.)

24 MS. WERNER: And just one last thing, FASNY
25 of course is always very supportive to the

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

102

1
2 volunteer firefighters in the state, and
3 especially to our youth, and it is my pleasure on
4 behalf of LAFASNY to present FASNY with a check
5 for \$500.00 for the Gerard Buckenmeyer
6 Scholarship Fund.

7 (Applause.)

8 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you very much,
9 Dianne and LAFASNY, for this donation. I have a

10 witness. I turn it over to our CAO, so I am no
11 longer responsible for losing a check. Dianne,
12 congratulations on your tenure, and I want to
13 publicly apologize to LAFASNY that we could get
14 over to your opening session or to your meeting
15 yesterday. We had a Board meeting on Thursday.
16 I was hoping to get over quickly, but by the time
17 our Board got over with, you were enjoying lunch.

18 MS. WERNER: That's all right.

19 MR. PIENKOWSKI: And then yesterday we had
20 opening session, but I apologize, and wish you
21 all the luck, Jean, Diana. It's always been a
22 pleasure working with the girls. I know we both
23 had things we carried over from when Bob was
24 president with the multipurpose building and the
25 125th Anniversary that we could not pick a

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

103

1
2 project to work on together, because there was so
3 much going on, our plates were full for both of
4 us. It was an honor working with you at the same
5 timeframe.

6 MS. WERNER: Thank you, Ken.

7 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you. You may be

8 excused. I know you have a lot of stuff.

9 (Applause.)

10 MR. KLEIN: Good morning.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

12 MR. KLEIN: Before we start, my voice may
13 sound a little rusty today because I inhaled some
14 rusty water yesterday. I would like to publicly
15 thank the president of the Board of Trustees,
16 Dave Schmidt, for co-dunking with me and Pat
17 Perry. We raised about \$190.00 just in the
18 dunking tank, so thank you all.

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. KLEIN: We will be doing it next year,
21 but we will be picking different dunkees. It
22 won't be Laurie Hance, because the water is too
23 deep, so she's out of it.

24 (Laughter.)

25 MR. KLEIN: Sorry. Okay. It gives me

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

104

1

2 great pleasure to introduce for the purposes of a
3 report, your president, Ken Pienkowski.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, Vice President
6 Klein. For those of you that were here yesterday
7 you know that this was supposed to have been read
8 yesterday, but due to time constraints, we moved
9 it to today.

10 On behalf of the officers, directors, and
11 trustees, I would like to welcome you to the
12 146th annual meeting of the Firemen's Association
13 of the State of New York. It seems that another
14 year in our esteemed history has gone by in the
15 blink of an eye, but it was a year of great
16 accomplishments. Yes, much still needs to be
17 accomplished, and we can only do this by working
18 together and communicating amongst ourselves. If
19 you see something or have an idea, please say
20 something. If you have a question, please ask
21 it. Communication is a major component in
22 today's society, whether it be by computer,
23 cellphone, or by the tried-and-true method of
24 having a personal conversation with someone. In
25 addition, social media is rapidly becoming an

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

3 responders. This past year has been both busy
4 and enjoyable as I represented FASNY across our
5 great state communicating with FASNY members and
6 first responders. Unfortunately, throughout my
7 travels it was apparent that most emergency
8 service organizations are experiencing the same
9 critical dilemma, the declining rate of
10 volunteers. This was a topic of discussion
11 between the fire service organizations at the
12 recent State Chiefs' conference. Declining
13 personnel forces a volunteer fire department to
14 do a lot more with less. Overwhelmingly,
15 volunteers are dedicated and committed to serve,
16 but as we ask them to push their limits further
17 and further, burnout will eventually take its
18 toll. The old adage that many hands light your
19 glow is especially true in the volunteer fire
20 service and EMS. If you have a successful
21 recruitment program, please share it with FASNY
22 and other departments, because the mission to
23 protect the residents of New York falls on all of
24 us. I urge you to participate in the FASNY
25 Annual Recruit New York Open House weekend. This

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2 event has proven to be very successful for many
3 departments, but you must have a plan to achieve
4 success. On a positive note, all the statewide
5 organizations agree that something needs to be
6 done to address the key problems we face and that
7 something needs to be done now. Toward this
8 goal, incoming President Klein will be hosting a
9 summit for all state organizations to discuss
10 recruitment and other issues facing New York's
11 volunteer and EMS services. As state leaders we
12 realize that finding solutions to these statewide
13 problems is not going to be easy, but we readily
14 accept this challenge. In addition, the
15 leadership of the state organizations need to
16 hear it from you about your issues. Not every
17 group has the same organizational issues. If you
18 don't come forward and participate in dialogue,
19 it becomes increasingly difficult to assist you.
20 As many of you are aware, FASNY's mission
21 statement directs us to maintain, support, and
22 protect the public they serve through education,
23 legislation, communications, recruitment, and
24 retention, recognize, and community service to
25 promote a haven to the FASNY Firemen's Home for

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

our volunteer firefighters. That mission statement says a lot, and FASNY works very diligently in pursuing this mandate.

In October of 2017, the presumption cancer legislation was signed into law by Governor Andrew Cuomo. This was a great accomplishment for the volunteer fire service as we all worked very hard in convincing our elected officials to support his legislation. We fought for this protection for many years, and we were successful only because we worked together. This law takes effect January 1, 2019. We understand there are some questions surrounding it, but by continuing our practice of working together, we will develop answers. In the end, this law will be a significant protection and deserved benefit for our current and future volunteer firefighters.

Although our desire is that no firefighter should ever have to file a claim, under this law we all know unfortunately this will not be the case.

While many of our brothers and sisters will fall pray to this terrible disease, we can all rest a little better knowing that they will have some

25 financial peace of mind. Congratulations to all

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

108

1

2 who helped move this legislation across the
3 finish line.

4 For the past two years, my theme for
5 presidency has been building a healthier,
6 stronger, and safer volunteer fire service. We
7 have made some great strides during this time,
8 but much needs to be done to advance our goal. A
9 healthier and safer environment for volunteer
10 firefighters goes far beyond having presumption
11 cancer coverage. It requires individual
12 responsibility and commitment to eat healthier,
13 stay in top condition, and take the necessary
14 precautions to protect ourselves and the people
15 around us. FASNY will continue to commit its
16 assistance to assist our members and all
17 emergency service personnel to achieve these
18 goals.

19 As an organization, we continue to fight
20 for requirement of sprinklers in residential
21 buildings. On a positive note, there is a strong

22 indication that Albany County will be adopting a
23 proposal of this nature. This would be a huge
24 benefit to homeowners and first responders. Let
25 us all hope that the Albany County legislator

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

109

1
2 does the right thing and that their action paves
3 the way for other municipalities to follow suit.

4 Training, both hands-on and classrooms, is
5 offered by different fire service organizations
6 across the state. This training is offered to
7 benefit you, the first responders. FASNY will
8 continue to work hard to offer intuitive and
9 relevant training classes, and I urge you and
10 your departments to take advantage of them.

11 Training makes us more capable and efficient
12 firefighters. This, in turn, enables us to
13 better protect the public we serve.

14 I would like to thank the many
15 organizations and fire departments that extended
16 an invitation to FASNY officers to join them for
17 their annual dinners, inspections, about
18 individual, and service recognition events.

19 I also thank you for the support I received

20 from FASNY communication and legislative
21 partners. They do a lot of work behind the
22 scenes that contribute to FASNY's reputation as a
23 premiere membership organization. Dan Klores
24 Communications, DKC, does all the press releases
25 and media outreach for FASNY, and they make us

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

110

1
2 shine on a regular basis. Thank you Rob Leonard
3 and staff. Albany Strategic Advisors, ASA,
4 represents FASNY in the legislative and
5 government arenas. They also work with the State
6 Fire Chiefs and the Association of Fire
7 Districts. Thank you Paul Zuber and your team
8 for your work. While it often takes time to
9 score a legislative victory, the team at ASA and
10 FASNY never gives up. As I mentioned earlier,
11 communication and the flow of information is
12 critical for us to represent our members to the
13 best of our ability. ABC Creative maintains our
14 websites and Facebook pages, produces our monthly
15 e-blasts, and is responsible for laying out our
16 association magazine, The Volunteer Firefighter.

17 Thank you to Travis Board and your dedicated
18 team.

19 Last year I reported there would be changes
20 in the landscape at the FASNY Firemen's Home.
21 This past May the new multipurpose building was
22 dedicated, and it's being used for many of your
23 sectional, county, or fire department days for
24 the residents of the Firemen's Home. This
25 facility is a major improvement over the old

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

111

1
2 pavilions and provide many more opportunities for
3 everyone to enjoy. Recently we began work on the
4 phase two projects I described last year, the
5 construction of a portico over the main entrance
6 and the ambulance entrance and the pavilion
7 outside the dining room has begun with an
8 expected completion date of November 23rd.
9 Unfortunately, with the construction of any
10 project there will be inconveniences. If you go
11 to the home to visit or for a meeting, we
12 apologize for inconvenience during this period.
13 We all owe a round of thanks to the capital
14 projects committee for their hard work that will

15 result and the benefits to all.

16 As I stand here in front of the FASNY
17 membership this morning, I want to express my
18 sincere appreciate to the outstanding team of
19 people I had the pleasure of working with for the
20 past year. I was very blessed. I am proud to
21 say the leadership of FASNY is a great team,
22 working together to achieve great things. I
23 would like to express my sincere appreciation to
24 Vice Presidents Klein and Farrell, the FASNY
25 officers, Board of Directors, committee members,

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

112

1
2 and the Board of Trustees of the FASNY Firemen's
3 Home for all the support and dedication they give
4 to FASNY membership. Hard work and long hours
5 melt away when you know you are doing it for
6 great members and the boots on the ground
7 firefighters.

8 I also owe a depth of gratitude to past
9 president Bob McConville as he leaves the FASNY
10 board after serving as a director, second vice
11 president, first vice president, president, and

12 the past two years on the board as past
13 president. Bob, you had a vision and were a
14 great leader and a true friend.

15 Also to David Blair for his 10 years as
16 trustee to the FASNY Firemen's Home. Thank you
17 for your time, your dedication, and commitment to
18 FASNY and the home residents.

19 This past year two very dedicated
20 individuals with many years of service announced
21 their retirement. Attorney Ed Cooke retired as a
22 FASNY attorney on May 1, 2018. Ed, thank you
23 very much for your years of legal counsel to
24 FASNY. Truthful, I missed your phone calls the
25 past three months, and I hope you remember that I

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

113

1
2 was the one that gave you those good laughs. Ed,
3 best of luck in your retirement and good health.

4 Reverend Wayne Jagow, a good friend to
5 everyone announced that he will be retiring as a
6 FASNY Chaplain on August 12, 2018, after serving
7 for 28 years. Reverend Jagow was always
8 available to have discussions with everyone and
9 anyone or needed a good talk. Reverend Jagow,

10 thank for your service; and more importantly,
11 your friendship. Enjoy retirement, and we all
12 know, you're still around. Good health to you
13 and your family. Thank you.

14 My sincere and deepest appreciation goes
15 out to FASNY CAO Dave Quinn and the great FASNY
16 office staff for everything that you do on a
17 daily basis for the FASNY membership and the
18 FASNY officers. The FASNY office staff are
19 exceptionally talented.

20 To FASNY COA, Chief, all I have to say is a
21 big thank you. You were of great assistance to
22 me as President, and you know you are the person
23 that keeps us all going in the right direction.
24 Your dedication to FASNY is greatly appreciated.

25 Finally I thank my lovely wife, Barb, for

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

114

1
2 her dedication and commitment to FASNY and for
3 being my travelling companion as we covered many
4 areas in New York state. I would not have been
5 able to do this, to do things I did if it wasn't
6 for her full support and understanding. They say

7 behind every good man is a strong, supportive,
8 and loving wife. There is no better example of
9 that than my partner, Barb.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR PIENKOWSKI: Many thanks goes to my son
12 Jamie and his family and my daughter Jenn for
13 their support and understanding. I love them
14 all.

15 To incoming President Steve Klein, I wish
16 you well and turn the leadership of this great
17 organization over to you to begin the 79th
18 chapter of FASNY's legacy.

19 In closing, the final chapter as your 78th
20 president of FASNY, I would like to say thank
21 you. Stay safe, and God bless you all, your
22 families, and our great nation. Thank you.

23 (Applause.)

24 MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Ken. That was truly
25 a great speech. You were a fantastic president,

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

115

1
2 a great mentor. You've got big shoes for me to
3 fill.

4 For the purpose of a motion to accept this

5 report, I call on FASNY member Barbara

6 Pienkowski.

7 MRS. PIENKOWSKI: I make a motion to accept

8 the President's annual report.

9 MR. KLEIN: For the purpose of a second,

10 Brian McQueen.

11 MR. MCQUEEN: On behalf of Marty Kotar, who

12 is unable to be here today, a good friend of

13 Kenny, I second that.

14 MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Brian.

15 You heard the motion to accept. Anything

16 on discussion?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. KLEIN: All in favor?

19 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

20 MR. KLEIN: Does anybody oppose?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. KLEIN: Thank you.

23 MR. QUINN: Good morning.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

25 MR. QUINN: You know when I set the agenda

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

2 with you I had not realized what I had done. Not
3 only do I have to follow speaking after Bobby
4 Halton yesterday, now I have to follow speaking
5 after you.

6 (Laughter.)

7 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Nobody to blame but
8 yourself.

9 MR. QUINN: So it's my privilege this
10 morning, we have a guest speaker this morning to
11 talk about some of the things we've been talking
12 about yesterday and today, which of course, is
13 the cancer bill, cancer law. We have a gentleman
14 here with us who has been helping us. We started
15 this process, I guess back in January, when we
16 first met at the New York State Association of
17 Counties, who brought someone to us who had
18 helped the state firefighters migrate through
19 their cancer law and their cancer bill,
20 shepherding them through that process, and it is
21 a very vast undertaking. A lot of questions. A
22 lot of unanswered questions and trying to get
23 things through administratively through the
24 Department of Financial Service and other
25 regulatory agencies, OFPC, through their

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2 regulations; and this gentleman, we could not
3 have done it without him and our partners. We've
4 been working closely with NISAC, with the
5 Association of Counties, our partners, Tom
6 Rinaldi and his crew at the Fire District
7 Association, Jerry DeLuca and the New York State
8 Chiefs, and other municipalities from the New
9 York State conference and theirs and others so,
10 it's my pleasure this morning to introduce to you
11 John Hanson, who is a senior consultant with
12 Willis Towers Watson for a special presentation
13 on the cancer law.

14 Willis Towers Watson is a leading global
15 advisory brokering and solutions company that
16 helps clients around the world turn risk into a
17 path for growth. With roots dating to 1828,
18 Willis Towers Watson has over 40,000 employees
19 serving more than 140 countries. John Hanson is
20 a senior consultant with Willis Towers Watson and
21 has worked in law and insurance industries for
22 over 30 years with his focus on public policy.

23 John lives in Atlanta, Georgia with his
24 wife, Simone, a novelist, and their three sons.

25 Please give a big, warm welcome to John

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23

Hanson.

(Applause.)

MR. HANSON: Good morning, everyone.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. HANSON: I have to tell you, the comments this morning resonate with me. As Dave mentioned, a great deal of my work is focused on public policy, but specially in first responder issues, which includes firefighter cancer, which we will talk about today, but also PTSD. I spent time earlier this week meeting with a group of folks who are very interested in addressing that issue as well. And the reason I mentioned that is these are issues that draw everyone of us together. If you think of some of the divisiveness that squirrels around us in the media, in the capital, just about everywhere. These sorts of programs in many ways give us an opportunity to truly draw together, to be stakeholders in the success of a program that is designed, that will impact the lives of 110,000 people. So you think about in your career -- and

24 you guys do a lot of very good things, no doubt
25 about it -- but in your career, and in my career,

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

119

1
2 I never hesitate to remind myself that this work
3 impacts a lot of people and a lot of families in
4 a very positive way. And today when we go
5 through the program, you'll have questions. The
6 good news is these questions are starting to
7 truly draw good answers to them, though the
8 elements of it, which you'll feel in some way,
9 you'll see immediately as confusing, partly
10 because it's insurance, and no one should be an
11 insurance expert, but also because you have a
12 number of organizations that are working in the
13 best interest of the volunteer firefighters in
14 the state of New York to be certain that this
15 program is a success, which includes not only
16 FASNY, the Fire Districts, the Fire Chiefs, and
17 the five municipal associations, which covers
18 every town, city, county, and the state are all
19 drawn together in this program to provide the
20 coverage that will be a success in the state of
21 New York. And not only that, like FASNY, this

22 program is a national leading program. And in my
23 travels earlier this week with some national
24 folks, who work in public policy, they're very
25 attuned to FASNY's role in the creation of this

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

120

1
2 program; and in so many ways, it points to or
3 demonstrates in the future, an approach to
4 providing benefits to folks like you, to the
5 volunteer firefighters of the State of New York,
6 and the volunteer firefighters frankly across the
7 nation. So whether you know it or not, and I
8 know you all have questions, you bare the torch
9 of the success of this program, and there is no
10 question about that.

11 All right, we're going to get started. I
12 have one more comment I will make, I've been
13 travelling -- I think too much -- David will tell
14 me I travel too much, but -- I've been travelling
15 a great deal across the state over the course of
16 the last two months presenting, and I presented
17 to a lot of big groups, a lot of districts and
18 fire companies, fire departments, that come

19 together to listen. And I've presented to
20 smaller groups as well; and last week I was in
21 two spots. I was in Batavia. I had very good
22 inspired conversation, and then I presented
23 later, just outside of Ithaca. And in that
24 conversation a fellow came up to me. He had a
25 number of questions. He came up to me afterward

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

121

1
2 and asked me a few questions specific to his
3 cancer. So this is a firefighter who was
4 diagnosed with cancer, recovered, and then is now
5 actively serving within the force with one of the
6 departments around Batavia; and he brought his
7 wife to the presentation as well and asked me
8 some specific questions about eligibility. And
9 it turns out he's recovered from cancer, so he's
10 covered under the program, and he made it very
11 clear, and this was after a very spirited
12 discussion, he made it very clear, as a cancer
13 survivor, that this program is exactly the
14 program that he would have required while he was
15 recovering from his cancer. So it's one thing
16 for me to stand here and discuss insurance

17 aspects with you and the program. It's another
18 thing all together to see an absolute application
19 to someone who was diagnosed with cancer who has
20 served faithfully in the New York Volunteer Fire
21 Service for two decades. And I have to tell you,
22 after answering a lot of questions and pacing
23 back and forth, it occurred to me after that
24 conversation that this was exactly the reason
25 we're doing this. It didn't need to be a big

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

122

1
2 meeting. It didn't need to be a meeting where
3 you have too many questions in the room. It
4 didn't need to be some sort of broad media
5 discussion. It needed to be a discussion with
6 one person and his spouse to be certain, for me
7 to understand that this program allows us -- and
8 then the Reverend's comments earlier today -- to
9 protect those that protect us. And if you think
10 of 146 years, FASNY's legacy is truly, clearly,
11 centrally a part of this program. And the very
12 good work that FASNY does is represented in the
13 application of the best work of the New York

14 State volunteer firefighters. And I'll remind
15 you at the end of the discussion that we are in
16 this together, but here's the good news, I have
17 never met in my travels a more decisive group of
18 people. So as we discuss this program, you'll
19 have questions about it, and in the midway the
20 program will ask you to use your best judgment in
21 certain determinations, and we'll get to that,
22 but I'll remind you that you are trained to make
23 very decisive decisions in very difficult
24 situations. And I have to tell you, so I work in
25 the insurance consulting industry, not nearly

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

123

1
2 what you do, but I have to tell you, I have all
3 the faith in the world that in these situations
4 as we move through this, move to success of this
5 program, it's your decisiveness, it's your
6 training that at the end of the day makes this
7 program a success. And as stakeholders in that,
8 I want you to remind yourselves that we can get
9 it done together. Okay? So is everybody ready?

10 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Yes.

11 MR. HANSON: Here's the program logo. So

12 again, this program is a partnership between
13 FASNY, the Fire Districts, the Fire Chiefs, and
14 with sponsorship with five associations,
15 municipal associations in the State of New York.
16 So it's a lot of entities that have joined
17 together to create that program. That's your
18 logo. So as you look at material and somehow
19 it's confusing and you're getting materials from
20 five to ten different sources, and I hear that a
21 lot, that's your logo.

22 All right. Let's move on. So a little bit
23 of background information here. And again, we
24 won't spend a lot of time on it, but I addressed
25 part of this in my opening comment, what were the

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

124

1
2 reasons or motivations to create this sort of
3 program, and in many ways, there are clearly --
4 and you'll see at the bottom of the comment about
5 some financial issues, or some balancing of costs
6 against the benefits -- but in so many ways the
7 program itself is designed to move beyond
8 traditional methods of providing benefits for

9 volunteer firefighters, and that tradition method
10 is either using a cost systems or a very minimal
11 benefits program. So the idea here was to gather
12 a better understanding of the benefit systems
13 throughout the state to determine what specific
14 benefits would fit best to help supplement those
15 benefits that are already in place. They're not
16 designed to replace them or upend programs, but
17 rather it's designed to supplement. So as you
18 look at it, remember that that's truly the
19 process here. It's designed to provide you
20 additional benefits that you require when you're
21 diagnosed with cancer. And we'll walk through
22 those.

23 We're going to cut talks in three different
24 segments, so bear with me here. The first
25 segment we're going to talk about is eligibility.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

125

1
2 How do we determine whether a volunteer
3 firefighter is eligible for the program? So
4 there's a requirement of certain elements that
5 we'll talk to that must be demonstrated in some
6 fashion to be certain that that firefighter is

7 correctly added to the roster and covered under
8 the program.

9 The second piece we're going to talk about
10 are the benefits themselves, and there are three
11 parts to the benefits, and I promise we won't dig
12 into a lot of insurances, but we'll walk very
13 briskly through what the benefit program is or
14 what those benefits are when a firefighter is
15 diagnosed with cancer. And then finally, we'll
16 talk a little about how the product itself
17 continues, because it's one thing to provide a
18 benefit for a firefighter when active, it's
19 another thing to allow that firefighter to have
20 access to those benefits when he or she retires,
21 because cancer isn't necessarily a one day sort
22 of thing where you fight a fire and you're
23 diagnosed the next day. As everyone knows,
24 cancer has a certain timeframe to it, so it
25 stands to reason that you would build a certain

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

126

1
2 continuation element in the program itself.
3 Okay?

4 So let's move to eligibility first, and as
5 the law specifically states, an eligible
6 firefighter must have five years of interior
7 firefighting experience as evidenced by mask fit
8 tests, five years of mask fit tests. That's the
9 first piece. The second piece, is that
10 firefighter must have had a physical upon entry
11 to the fire service with no demonstration of
12 cancer. And that's really it. So you're looking
13 at firefighters who are active firefighters who
14 have had at least five years of mask fit records.
15 And I recognize that recordkeeping isn't
16 consistent across the state, and I also recognize
17 that we have folks in this room who were interior
18 firefighters 20 years ago who now are doing other
19 duties at the fire station or within that
20 department, but nevertheless will be eligible for
21 the program, and I'll talk about that in a
22 second. Okay. But that's it, right? So as you
23 think about your roster, the determining of the
24 folks who are on that roster, you have really
25 those three elements; and one quick note here,

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

2 OFPC has done a fantastic job of providing
3 additional regulations and a certification for
4 the program. So they are very much attuned to
5 the need to define some of these moving parts.
6 Specifically their point in those OFPC
7 regulations states that this program is designed
8 to cover active firefighters, but most important
9 is it hinges on and provides further definition
10 on this issue of interior firefighting. There
11 are a lot of folks, again as I mentioned, who
12 fought interior fires five, ten years ago.
13 Here's the guideline. Once eligible, always
14 eligible. So if an active firefighter who 20
15 years ago fought five years of interior
16 firefighting, has a mask fit test, and maybe or
17 maybe they didn't do that mask fit test 20 years
18 ago, and I get that question a lot. If once
19 that's satisfied, and if that firefighter
20 satisfied that eligibility 20 years ago, that
21 firefighter is eligible for the program provided
22 that firefighter is active in the department.

23 Let's talk about the term active. In the
24 OFPC regs it has some language about faithfully
25 serving, and in many ways, it points to the need

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2 for a requirement when you make a determination
3 as to whether that firefighter active. In many
4 ways it requires your discretion, your judgment
5 that that firefighter is active in your
6 department. So the program is not designed to
7 cover retirees. It's not designed to cover folks
8 who frankly are not active in your department,
9 but as you think of your roster, one aspect of it
10 is you need to make that determination as to who
11 is an active firefighter. You'll know the
12 interior firefighting element of it. That's the
13 easy one, and that's the objection one that
14 allows you to measure five years or five mask fit
15 tests over five years, but the one that requires
16 your judgment is to be absolutely certain you're
17 making a very good decisive decision as to who is
18 an active firefighter and eligible for the
19 program. That's the piece. Right? So all the
20 things you'll talk about and all the questions
21 that you'll have, this one, this question of
22 active firefighters is the central question; and
23 that requires your judgment. So that's
24 eligibility. That's the first piece.

25 Here's the second piece. We're going to

1
2 talk about the benefits. Okay. So GML205CC --
3 Thank you, Terry -- Terry reminds me to be
4 accurate in my description -- that specific law
5 mandates the creation of a benefit program with
6 three elements to it. The first element -- and
7 before we begin, they all trigger specifically on
8 a diagnosis of cancer, and those cancers are
9 specifically listed in 205 CC. It only triggers
10 on cancer, and it only triggers on cancer
11 diagnosed after January 1, 2019, the first day of
12 coverage. Said another way, it is not designed,
13 nor will it cover cancers that are diagnosed
14 prior to 1/1/2019. Three parts. First part,
15 you're diagnosed with cancer, and your diagnosis
16 is either severe or less severe. In the law it
17 provides specific guidance as to how to determine
18 what is severe and what is less severe, but it's
19 your diagnosis. You're diagnosed with cancer,
20 and let's assume for conversation, it's a severe
21 form of cancer, the first benefit would provide
22 you a lump sum benefit of \$25,000.00. That
23 benefit is designed to provide you with the means

24 to cover co-pays, co-deductibles, co-insurance.

25 Those are the expenses that you have as part of

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

130

1
2 your treatment and part of your recovery. You
3 have other expenses as well that that \$25,000.00
4 will help you balance again. Why is that
5 important? This program is designed to provide
6 you the comfort and the ability to focus on your
7 recovery after diagnosis. So it's very important
8 that you receive a benefit within days after your
9 diagnosis. So this lump sum benefit pays once
10 the insurer has the paperwork, has the claim
11 form, pays within five to seven days assuming
12 they have everything. So this first piece is
13 that immediate benefit, because you'll have
14 immediate needs after your diagnosed. Assume
15 again that your cancer is less severe, you will
16 receive a benefit of \$6,250.00, or 25 percent of
17 the \$25,000.00 for a less severe form of cancer;
18 and finally, under that benefit, under that
19 program, you essentially have -- and think of it
20 as a bank of dollars -- under the lump sum

21 program, the lump sum benefit, you have a bank of
22 \$50,000.00. Assume you're diagnosed first for a
23 severe form of cancer, and as we discussed, that
24 provides a benefit of \$25,00.00. You recover,
25 you're back in service, five years in the future

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

131

1
2 you're diagnosed with a second cancer that's
3 severe, you would receive a second benefit of
4 \$25,000.00 to provide you the same support that
5 you needed on your first diagnosis. Why is that
6 important? It is important, because cancers
7 recur, and in so many ways the need for assurance
8 that in the event of recurrence you have the
9 means to go back to the program to access the
10 same benefits. It's built in to do that. Very
11 important. But once that's paid, \$50,000.00 --
12 remember, that's your bank -- then that benefit
13 is exhausted. And it may pay a number of
14 different ways where you have a severe diagnosis
15 that's \$25,000.00, and then you have a less
16 severe that's \$6,250.00. So then you still have
17 a bank leftover in the event you're diagnosed
18 further, a third, fourth, fifth time provided

19 that \$50,000.00 is not exhausted. That's the
20 first benefit. Here's the second one.

21 Assume your cancer diagnosis and your
22 treatment is severe, and it will not allow you to
23 go back to work to perform the duties as a
24 volunteer firefighter, and let's assume that's
25 six months, that's probably the eligibility

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

132

1
2 period or the waiting period, so in six months
3 you have not returned to work, you have not
4 recovered from your cancer, the second benefit
5 begins, and that is the income protection
6 benefit. That benefit is designed because you
7 are not returning to work, and in your job beyond
8 the fire service you may not be able to return to
9 that job, but this benefit is to provide you an
10 additional benefit in the event -- you may be
11 receiving benefits elsewhere, and you may return
12 to work, but you'll simply not be able to return
13 to work as a firefighter -- so this benefit
14 protects your income. The benefit is
15 \$1,500.00 monthly and will pay up to 36 months or

16 three years. Why is three years important? The
17 first two years are recovery, that's your
18 recovery period; and then the third year, in the
19 event that your cancer is severe and you're not
20 returning to work, you have an extra year to
21 begin to file within the federal government for
22 social security disability insurance, SSDI.
23 That's an actual program, but that's to provide
24 you, in addition to your other benefits, with an
25 additional disability benefit through the federal

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

133

1
2 government. So two years to recover, a third to
3 begin filing in the event that you're not going
4 to return to work; and then finally -- that's the
5 disability benefit, that's the second benefit --
6 and then finally, there is a death benefit. In
7 the event that you pass away from cancer, your
8 beneficiaries would receive \$50,000.00 upon your
9 death. So it's a basic benefit, but it's
10 designed like the other benefits to offset costs.
11 There are always costs involved with a funeral,
12 with transition, with family needs, and that
13 death benefit is designed to provide to your

14 loved ones in the event that you pass away.
15 That's the third benefit. First benefit is lump
16 sum when you're first diagnosed. The second
17 benefit is an income protection, or disability
18 benefit, if you're severely disabled and you
19 cannot return to work as a firefighter. And then
20 finally, the third benefit, when you pass away,
21 if you pass away from a diagnosis of cancer, we
22 provide your loved ones with \$50,000.00. When
23 you think of this, think of this as one program.
24 This is one benefit program for a number of
25 reasons, but as you leave today and you think of

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

134

1
2 this conversation that we've had, I want you to
3 think of it in terms of a timeline, that has
4 specific designs beneath it. It isn't just about
5 selling insurance or here's one more thing maybe
6 you want to buy. It isn't that sort of thing.
7 The design beneath this program is chronological.
8 It works over time. And if you think about it --
9 and again, David, John, and others spend an
10 enormous amount of time making sense as to when

11 and what do you need, with input from the fire
12 service to be certain that the benefits
13 addressed, the specific needs of a firefighter
14 when diagnosed with cancer. So when you think of
15 these three benefits, it pays over time. Your
16 diagnosed, you continue to be disabled, and God
17 forbid you pass away. So as you think about it
18 and you try to make sense and others come to you
19 and ask for guidance as to what the benefits are
20 and how do they work, I want you to remind them
21 of that metaphor or that example of time. And I
22 find that those presentations in places like
23 Batavia that when you speak of it in terms of a
24 timeline it starts to make sense, it starts to
25 click. So this isn't about selling insurance.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

135

1
2 This is about providing a structured program that
3 addresses your needs when diagnosed with cancer.
4 That's our second piece. That's the benefit
5 program.

6 And then finally, talking about
7 continuation. So the law, GML205CC, specifically
8 states and mandates that when a firefighter

9 leaves the service the entity providing coverage
10 at that time is mandated to continue two of the
11 three benefits under the program, the lump sum
12 benefit and the life insurance benefit. So when
13 you retire or you stop service as a volunteer,
14 the entity under which you were working, or with
15 which you were working at the time, has the
16 responsibility of continuing that coverage for
17 five years. In this program, we built in an
18 additional feature, which is not mandated by
19 205CC, but is required as we determined under the
20 program to allow a firefighter to take the
21 coverage after five years and just take that
22 coverage and provided the firefighter pays for it
23 are able to continue that coverage without an age
24 cap. So the law does not specifically mandate
25 that, but we determined as a group it was a need

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

136

1
2 to allow a firefighter to take that coverage
3 beyond five years. There is no additional cost
4 for it. It actually works a very simple way
5 where if you choose to continue that coverage,

6 you simply pay the premium to the insurance
7 company. The fire service is no longer involved
8 in it, but the good news is the rates, the costs
9 to continue that coverage beyond the five years,
10 is the same costs as if it would be under the
11 program. So when you make that decision to
12 continue that benefit, you're taking advantage of
13 that same pricing that allows for affordability
14 when you were within the program and active
15 within the service. And as you see the material
16 that will be begin to come out here in two weeks
17 or so and the communication strategies that will
18 not only communicate the program and announce it
19 and then talk about costs and those sorts of
20 things, they will begin to highlight these unique
21 features of the program. But I will tell you
22 that this most unique feature of this program, of
23 this program, is this is a program that's
24 designed by firefighters for firefighters.

25 So we have gone through a lot of these

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

137

1
2 slides. And again, as you look at these, I added
3 these slides, and you'll have access to them if

4 you need them, and I'll leave cards, and you can
5 call me. I'm actually going to be sitting in a
6 room around the corner for part of the day today
7 to answer any specific questions you have, but
8 this program itself, together with -- and if you
9 don't have them, I would ask David or John to
10 direct you to them, is that we have an exhausted
11 work to create an FAQ, and I know we're running
12 about eight, nine pages now, but we have had a
13 number of meetings, together with Tom and Jerry
14 DeLuca, to take the program from the start, from
15 the initial part of the program, walk all the way
16 through it, answer all of the unique questions
17 that will come about in an FAQ. So all of those
18 questions that you might feel are different or
19 off the mark in some way, shape, or form are
20 captured well within those FAQs. Together with
21 these basic slides will just give you a good
22 understanding.

23 So at this point, that's a basic
24 understanding of the eligibility, of the
25 benefits, and how the benefits continue.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

So we have a little bit of time for questions -- Do we? All right. We'll do questions after.

With that said, I want to thank you all for the opportunity to sit with you today to talk. I never hesitate to remind you that it is my privilege to sit with you. And in so many ways you think of the comments that we discussed in the opening, and even the comments today and Ken's comments as well, you think of the good work that you do every day. And sometimes I recognize it seems thankless, and there were conversations about budgets, and specifically about attraction and retention of volunteer firefighters. I can absolutely assure you that this program, communicated correctly, will assist in that very measure that is at the top of the agenda in all of your conversations, because one thing that is very critical in the state of New York is that the volunteer fire service needs not only to grow, but to thrive. And to use the word thrive is to denote not only a willingness to put one's live in danger for the property and for others, but in many ways, it's a kinship, it's a

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2 brotherhood, it's a joining together of a
3 partnership at the state level to do the right
4 thing.

5 And with that said, thank you for your
6 time. As I said, I will be available, and I'm
7 always available for any questions you might
8 have.

9 So thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. QUINN: John, don't go away. We want
12 to thank you this morning for introducing that.

13 As I said earlier, there's lots of questions.

14 Everything that John went over, there's probably
15 6 to 12 questions that could be under each topic
16 that I'm sure many of you have, which is why we
17 have him here today. He'll be in Onondaga F and
18 G behind the corridor here for a good part of the
19 rest of the morning and the afternoon. So please
20 ask questions, ask questions.

21 John, we have some of our exhibitors here
22 who are going to be offering programs as well
23 that I know some of you use. Feel free to ask
24 them questions. We're all kind of waiting for
25 DFS to get that final stretch done and get that

1
2 program signed for the entire state. So I know
3 all the carriers are waiting for that so. John,
4 you certainly helped us meet the challenges that
5 we're facing with this and shepherding us through
6 that, and for that, we have a challenge coin for
7 you, as Ken mentioned in his speech, which has
8 the saying on it of building a healthier,
9 stronger, and safer volunteer fire service, which
10 is very appropriate to give to you, and that's
11 exactly what you're doing for us.

12 (Applause.)

13 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, John, and I
14 encourage anybody in the audience that does have
15 questions or concerns to go sit with John, and
16 hopefully get your answers.

17 Our first item under the unfinished agenda
18 items is the introduction of candidates for
19 elected office.

20 At this time I would like to call upon
21 Secretary John D'Alessandro to come to podium,
22 please.

23 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: I would like to ask the
24 following individuals to come to the dais: Chris
25 Klein, George Stacey, Brian McQueen, Steve

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

141

1
2 Goodman, Jim Cayey, Paul Ryan, past President
3 Robert McConville, Bruck Mack, and David Blair.

4 Chris Klein, could you please approach the
5 podium for the purposes of making an
6 introduction.

7 MR. KLEIN: Good morning, President
8 Pienkowski, Vice President Farrell, Directors,
9 Trustees, FASNY committee members, and my fellow
10 firefighters. My name, for those of you who
11 don't know me, is Christopher Klein. I am a
12 firefighter with the Oceanside Fire Department,
13 but more importantly, I am the grandson of your
14 candidate for President of FASNY, Ex-Chief Steven
15 Klein.

16 When I was asked to introduce my
17 grandfather here today, I was both excited and
18 honored. His last two introductions were done by
19 my father, Chief of the Oceanside Fire
20 Department, Kevin Klein. He was supposed to give

21 this speech, but I got the job for two reasons.
22 The first being I'm a third generation of Kleins
23 to join the fire department, the other being that
24 my family and I are expecting our newest addition
25 to our family within the next four days, and with

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

142

1
2 the proximity of the due date, my father would
3 possibly not be able to make the convention.

4 On a different note, it is almost
5 impossible to list my grandfather's
6 accomplishments in one simple speech, but I will
7 most certainly try. Steven joined the Oceanside
8 Fire Department in 1965; and even after 53 years,
9 he remains as active and committed as ever.

10 After serving as lieutenant and captain of
11 Oceanside Hose Company Number One, he was elected
12 as third assistant chief, rising to the ranks of
13 becoming Chief of the Department in 1984. After
14 serving as chief and while still being one of the
15 most active members in our company, he began
16 serving the fire service in a different capacity.
17 Some of these include being both president of the

18 Nassau County Firemen's Association, trustee of
19 the FASNY Firemen's Home, and Vice President of
20 FASNY. During his two five year terms as
21 trustee, he also served for a number of years as
22 secretary of the Board of Trustees.

23 Besides his firematic accomplishments and
24 goals, my grandfather has an even more important
25 job, and that is being a grandfather, a job in

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

143

1
2 which he excels and goes above and beyond what
3 most grandparents do on a consistent basis.

4 It is my pleasure to present to you your
5 candidate for President of the Firemen's
6 Association of the State of New York and my
7 grandfather, First Vice President Steven E.
8 Klein.

9 (Applause.)

10 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: President Pienkowski,
11 there are no other candidates for the position of
12 President for the seat now held by yourself.

13 George Stacey, would you please approach
14 the podium for the purposes of making an
15 introduction.

16 MR. STACEY: Good morning.
17 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.
18 MR. STACEY: Reverend Clergy, officers,
19 members, guests, it is an honor and privilege to
20 me to be here this morning to introduce a
21 lifelong friend, John P. Farrell, Jr., for the
22 position of First Vice President of the Firemen's
23 Association of the State of New York.

24 John has been a volunteer firefighter since
25 1971. In 1974 to 1975 he was captain of the

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

144

1
2 Citizen's Hose Rescue squad in Catskill, New
3 York. In 1977, John joined the West Athens Lime
4 Street Fire Company. He served as President,
5 Assistant Chief for four years, and then served
6 as Chief for five years. John has been an active
7 fire commissioner since 1993 and is currently
8 serving as Chairman. On a county level, in 1995
9 through 2001, John served as a member of the
10 Green County Fire Advisory Board. In 1991, John
11 served as president of the Green County Fire
12 Chiefs' Association. In 1992, he served as Green

13 County Volunteer Firemen's Association President.
14 In 1999, John served as President of the Hudson
15 Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association and is
16 currently serving as Chairman of the Steering
17 Committee. He is a member of the Royal Order of
18 Blue Vests, the Royal Order of Red Vests. John
19 currently sits on the revolving loan committee
20 for the New York State Fire Coordinators. He
21 serves on the FASNY Real Estate Holding Company
22 as secretary of the board for 10 years. In 2001
23 to 2014, he served as trustee of the Firemen's
24 Home and later as president. John was elected
25 Second Vice President of this great organization

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

145

1
2 in August of 2016. John continues to work on
3 many committees within FASNY.

4 On the home front, since 2002 to present,
5 John is employed as director of Green County
6 Emergency Services, which entails emergency
7 procedure functions, fire coordinator functions,
8 communications, director functions, 911 director
9 functions, code compliance technicians. John
10 served on the zoning board of appeals for 12

11 years as Chairman for 10 of those years. He is a
12 past town councilman for the Town of Athens,
13 serving two terms.

14 I think that John has the leadership
15 skills, communication skills, people skills,
16 problem solving skills, that it takes to serve as
17 your First Vice President; therefore, I introduce
18 John P. Farrell, Jr., First Vice President.

19 I thank you for your consideration.
20 Respectfully, George S. Stacey.

21 (Applause.)

22 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, there are
23 no other candidates for the position of First
24 Vice President for the seat now held by Steven
25 Klein.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

146

1

2 Brian McQueen, please approach the podium
3 for the purposes of making an introduction.

4 MR. MCQUEEN: Thank you, John. President
5 Pienkowski, Vice President Klein, Vice President
6 Farrell, FASNY officers, LAFASNY officers,
7 Reverend clergy, delegates, members, and

8 distinguished guests. It gives me great pleasure
9 to introduce Edward Tase, Jr., for the position
10 of Second Vice President of the Firemen's
11 Association of the State of New York. At the
12 April 2, 2017 meeting of the Western New York
13 Volunteer Firemen's Association, the membership
14 unanimously voted to place Ed's name in the
15 nomination for this prestigious position of
16 Second Vice President of the greatest
17 organization in the United States of America, the
18 Firemen's Association of the State of New York.
19 Ed's diligent work as director with FASNY has
20 provided him with a great foundation to lead
21 FASNY. Ed began his fire service career in July,
22 1971 with the Frontier Volunteer Fire Company as
23 a junior firefighter. On his 18th birthday, Ed
24 became an active firefighter for Frontier. He
25 joined FASNY as a member in August, 1975, and

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

147

1
2 became a member of the Western New York Volunteer
3 Firemen's Association in July of 1976.
4 Throughout the years, Ed has been very active
5 with the fire service in Niagara County and the

6 Frontier Volunteer Fire Company. While at
7 Frontier, he has held the positions of financial
8 secretary, trustee; and for 11 years, was the
9 recording secretary. Additionally, his
10 involvement didn't stop at the executive level,
11 but also has been an integral part of various
12 other committees. Ed is presently a life member
13 of the Frontier Volunteer Fire Department. As a
14 member of the Niagara County Volunteer Firemen's
15 Association, Ed has held the office of financial
16 secretary, and also worked his way up to being
17 elected president in 1998. In addition to his
18 elected offices, Ed also served on numerous
19 Niagara County Volunteer Firemen's Association
20 Committees, as well as serving on the Niagara
21 County Fire Advisory Board for 15 years. Ed also
22 served on various committees of the Western New
23 York Volunteer Firemen's Association, including
24 Chairman of their legislative committee and
25 currently serves as their Vice Chairman.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

3 serve on the membership committee of FASNY and
4 was appointed Chairman in 2002. Ed is very proud
5 to have been able to work with the late Mike
6 Whelan to create the status of full company
7 membership. Ed held this position of Chairman of
8 the membership committee until 2010 when he was
9 elected as a member of the Board of Directors of
10 FASNY. As a member of the Board, he is very
11 proud to have served on the following committees:
12 Conventions, resolutions, liaison to the
13 legislative committee, vice chairman of the
14 membership service committee, and chairman of the
15 by-laws committee. Since the reorganization of
16 the media communications committee, Ed is the
17 print projects manager for the media
18 communications committee. Ed also serves on the
19 FASNY foundation board as its vice president.

20 Ed and his wife, who I call a saint, Linda,
21 live in Lockport, New York. They've been married
22 38 years. They are the proud parents of two
23 married daughters and enjoy three grandchildren.
24 Ed is employed by -- Department Stores as a
25 senior loss prevention agent.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

In closing, let me say, the quality of a leader is reflected in the standards they set for themselves. If you know Ed, you know he continues to set a high standard in leadership throughout the fire service in New York state.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to present Edward Tase, Jr., for the office of Second Vice President of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York.

(Applause.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Thank you, Brian.

Mr. President, there are no other candidates for the position of Second Vice President for the seat now held by John P. Farrell, Jr.

Jim Cayey, please approach the podium for the purpose of making an introduction.

MR. CAYEY: Good morning, everyone.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. CAYEY: President Pienkowski, Vice Presidents Klein and Farrell, Reverend Clergy, officers, members, and friends of FASNY. I am pleased to represent the Northern New York Volunteer Firemen's Association today to nominate

1
2 our candidate, Mrs. Laurie Hance, from Hannawa
3 Falls Fire Department for her reelection as
4 candidate as a director of the Firemen's
5 Association of the State of New York. Laurie has
6 been a member of the Hannawa Falls Department for
7 28 years. She has been a special assistant chief
8 for several years and served as treasurer for
9 over 15 years and currently serves in that
10 position. She has also been a number one
11 responder as an EMT. She has received numerous
12 awards from her fire department, including the
13 1998 outstanding service award, 1999 Chief's
14 award, 2005 Chief's award, 2009 EMS award, and
15 2010 Firemen of the Year. She also serves as
16 treasurer of the St. Lawrence County Chiefs'
17 Association and treasurer of Northern New York.

18 Laurie resides in Canton, New York, and has
19 been married to Wayne for 30 years. They have
20 two children and two grandchildren. Laurie is a
21 life member of the Northern New York Volunteer
22 Firemen's Association and serving on numerous
23 committees and has been a treasurer for that
24 association for the past 15 years. She is also a

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

151

1
2 New York Volunteer Firemen's Association and is
3 secretary of that committee. She is a member of
4 the New York State Fire Police Association,
5 secretary of that association of the fire police
6 of St. Lawrence County. Laurie is also a member
7 of FASNY and serves on numerous committees
8 including the budget and finance, by-law's, fire
9 service achievement award, member services,
10 strategic planning, and she is also liaison for
11 the youth in the fire service, and the public
12 relations committee. As you can see, she is a
13 busy girl working for you and FASNY. She shows a
14 lot of dedication to the fire service.

15 Laurie has worked for the town of
16 Pierrepont for 28 years. She's employed as the
17 Administrative Assistant to the Pierrepont County
18 Court and the town supervisor. Her public
19 service has all been within the county
20 government. Laurie is certified with the New
21 York Office of Court Administration and the New
22 York State Department of Criminal Justice. She's

23 a member of the St. Lawrence County Municipal
24 Clerk's Association and the St. Lawrence County
25 Magistrate's Association, as well as the New York

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

152

1

2 State County Clerks Association.

3 It is our sincerest belief that Laurie will
4 represent with distinction not only the Northern
5 New York Volunteer Firemen's Association, but
6 also the volunteer fire service of New York will
7 benefit from her experience.

8 Mr. President, it gives me great pleasure
9 to place the nomination for the name of office
10 Mrs. Laurie Hance for the reelection to the
11 position she now holds a director for the
12 Firemen's Association of the State of New York.

13 Thank you. Jim Cayey.

14 (Applause.)

15 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Thank you, Jim.

16 Mr. President, there are no other
17 candidates for the position of director for the
18 seat now currently held by Laurie Hance.

19 Steven Goodman, would you please approach

20 the podium for the purpose of making an
21 introduction.

22 MR. GOODMAN: Reverend Clergy, President
23 Pienkowski, Vice Presidents Klein and Farrell,
24 executive members of the board, members of the
25 Board of Directors, Board off Trustees, members

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

153

1
2 of FASNY, my most respected friends. Six years
3 ago I stood here for the first time, and I told
4 you that those of you who know me know I'm a man
5 of few words. I lied. I can't give you few
6 words to describe how proud that I am and honored
7 to nominate Mike Krummenacker to the position of
8 Director of the Firemen's Association of the
9 State of New York. Mike is an active member of
10 the Hicksville Fire Department protecting Hook
11 and Ladder Company One since 1972. He's served
12 the company as department secretary. He served
13 as lieutenant and captain of the company. He
14 served on many of the committees in the
15 department. He's been chairman of so many
16 committees, it's too many to name. He's been
17 vice president and president of the Hicksville

18 Fire Department Volunteer Exempts. He's
19 currently a trustee of that association for over
20 30 years. Mike was elected fire commissioner for
21 the district and has held that position for 10
22 years. He has been active in so many
23 associations that serve the volunteer fire
24 service that on some level it may be too numerous
25 to mention. He has been secretary, treasurer,

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

154

1
2 and two time president of the Long Island
3 Association of Firematic Benevolent Associations,
4 a member of the Long Island Fire Districts' Law
5 and Legislative Committee for over 36 years.
6 He's current financial secretary for South Shore
7 Volunteer Fire Department Association of Long
8 Island. He has risen through the ranks in the
9 Nassau County Firemen's Association. He served
10 me as one of my best vice presidents, and is now
11 president of the Long Island group, the Nassau
12 County Firemen's Association.

13 He is a retired Nassau County Fire Marshal.
14 He was fire inspector. He was liaison to the

15 Nassau County Office of Emergency Management.
16 He's been president of the Fire Marshal
17 Benevolent Association Nassau County for eight
18 years and also president of New York State
19 Fraternal Order police lodge 128 for eight years.
20 Aside from what Mike does in the fire service, he
21 is very active in his church community. He is a
22 member of the Nights of Columbus, where he has
23 served the Joseph Barry Council, number 2520, as
24 a member of their Board of Directors. He is
25 parish trustee and a member of the finance

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

155

1
2 community and an usher for St. Ignatius de Loyola
3 Church in Hicksville, New York. Mike's wife,
4 Fran, is an angel, strong supporter of Mike. I
5 guess an inspiration for his journey. I'm not
6 sure if she just wants him out of the house or
7 not.

8 (Laughter.)

9 MR. GOODMAN: We will take it that she is a
10 supporter. Mike's education, his experience, his
11 knowledge, his certifications, his dedication and
12 commitment to the volunteer fire service will be

13 an unbelievable asset and benefit to FASNY and
14 the FASNY family.

15 I take great honor and great pride in
16 nominating and introducing you to a very dear
17 friend, Michael Krummenacker, for the position of
18 Director of the Firemen's Association of the
19 State of New York.

20 (Applause.)

21 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Thanks, Steve. Okay,
22 Mike, before I say this, trustee or director?

23 (Laughter.)

24 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Do you want to sit in
25 the middle?

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

156

1

2 (Laughter.)

3 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, there are
4 no other candidates for the position of director
5 for the seat that was formally held by Robert H.
6 Ottaviano currently held by Michael Krummenacker.

7 Past president Robert McConville, please
8 approach the podium for the purposes of an
9 introduction.

10 MR. MCCONVILLE: Good morning.
11 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.
12 MR. MCCONVILLE: It is my honor to speak on
13 behalf of our good friend, Gerry Owenburg. This
14 is formal setting, normally if anybody asks me
15 about Gerry Owenburg, I would tell them he's a
16 great leader. He will a do a great job as a home
17 trustee. He has done a great job as a home
18 trustee, and he will continue to do a great job
19 as a home trustee, but we're a little more formal
20 today, so I will move on, but that's how I feel
21 about Gerry Owenburg.

22 (Laughter.)

23 MR. MCCONVILLE: Gerry is currently
24 completing his five year as a FASNY Home trustee.
25 He was elected to this position replacing Ted

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

157

1
2 Rosko of North Sea, who passed away while in
3 office. Gerry took on this new endeavor and has
4 become a dedicated and hardworking member of the
5 Board. He has served on numerous committees,
6 including administrative committee, activities
7 committee, budget, public relations, and

8 environmental committees. Gerry is also the
9 nominated candidate to become Vice President of
10 the Board of Trustees on Sunday at their
11 reorganization meeting.

12 Back home, Gerry is involved in many
13 firematic activities. He is past president of
14 Suffolk County Volunteers, board member and
15 former treasurer of the Suffolk County Burn
16 Center, board member of the Cancer
17 Support Network Association, past chief of the
18 West Babylon Fire Department, and treasurer of
19 the West Babylon Benevolent Association.

20 He is supported by his wife of 48 years,
21 Ellen, their three children, and seven
22 grandchildren.

23 We, in Suffolk County, are confident,
24 without a doubt, that Gerry will continue to
25 represent the volunteer fire service and continue

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

158

1
2 to represent the members of the home and continue
3 to make the FASNY Firemen's Home a home away from
4 home. No one will do that any better than Gerry

5 Owenburg.

6 In closing, we thank you for your continued
7 support of Gerry; and as always, God bless Gerry,
8 God bless you all, and God bless America.

9 Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Thank you, past
12 President McConville. Mr. President, there are
13 no other candidates for the position of Firemen's
14 Home trustee for the seat that is currently held
15 by Gerry Owenburg.

16 Paul O'Brien, please approach the podium
17 for the purposes of an introduction.

18 MR. O'BRIEN: Good morning.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

20 MR. O'BRIEN: President Ken, Steve, John,
21 esteemed clergy, officers and fellow members,
22 guests of FASNY. I speak to you this morning to
23 once again introduce Mike Di Vittorio at this
24 time for a second term of the Board of Trustees
25 of the Firemen's Home. My remarks this morning

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1

2 will be brief, to the point.

3 Mike has served on the Board for the last
4 five years, being an active participant as a
5 ferocious advocate for the members of the home
6 and their wellbeing making that his chief mission
7 as a member of the Board of Trustees. He has
8 brought knowledge and experience in property
9 management to the Board in a constructive way and
10 adds to the Board's diverse know how and wisdom.

11 We appreciate all the endorsements we
12 received across the state, and we know Mike is
13 eager to serve the members at the home and the
14 members of the association for another five
15 years. We are certainly looking forward to the
16 next five years of Mike's activity. In addition
17 to his membership at the Board of Trustees, Mike
18 is a 32 member of Reliance Engine and Hose
19 Company Number One and is currently holding the
20 rank of Chief of the Portchester Fire Department.
21 Mike is also past president of the Westchester
22 County Firemen's Association, the Southern New
23 York Volunteer Firemen's Association, and serves
24 on the FASNY recruitment and retention committee,
25 as well as the 2017 reorganization committee.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1

2 Thank you for your consideration in
3 reelecting Mike as trustee.

4 Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Thank you, Paul.

7 Mr. President, there are no other
8 candidates for the position of Firemen's Home
9 Trustee for the seat that is currently held by
10 Mike Di Vittorio.

11 Bruce Mack, could you please approach the
12 podium for the purposes of making an
13 introduction.

14 MR. MACK: Good morning.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

16 MR. MACK: President Pienkowski, Vice
17 Presidents Klein and Farrell, our Board of
18 Directors, President Schmidt, Vice President
19 Butts, Trustees of the Firemen's Home, Reverend
20 Clergy, members, delegates, friends, and guests
21 of this association.

22 It is my honor to come before you today to
23 introduce a candidate for the position of trustee
24 of the Firemen's Home, Tony DeMarco.

25 Tony began his career in the fire service

1

2 in 1976 by joining the Caledonia Fire Department.

3 Once a member there, he worked diligently to

4 become an educated firefighter and leader of the

5 organization. Tony has held every administrative

6 office and line office in the organization,

7 including several terms as President and Fire

8 Chief. Tony has also been active in the

9 Caledonia Ambulance Squad as a member and

10 Director of the board.

11 Tony's enthusiasm for the fire service took

12 him next to the county associations for

13 Livingston County. As a member of both the

14 Firemen's and Chiefs' associations, Tony has

15 chaired and served on many committees for both

16 organizations.

17 Tony became active in the Western New York

18 Volunteer Firemen's Association and has served on

19 and chaired several committees and held the

20 offices of Vice President and President, which

21 led to his joining this association, the

22 Firemen's Association of the State of New York,

23 and he has served on the two percent tax

24 committee.

25 Tony is not only active in the fire

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

162

1

2 service, but he has a passion for helping people.

3 He is also a member of the Caledonia Mumford

4 Lions Club, serving as a director, vice

5 president, and president of the organization, in

6 addition to chairing many committees. He is also

7 very active in his church, the St. Columbia

8 Church.

9 Tony has worked at Beam Mack Truck Sales

10 and Service for the past 25 years as the parts

11 manager. And although he is in the auto

12 industry, he is a terrible go-kart driver.

13 (Laughter.)

14 MR. MACK: Tony is married to his wife,

15 Kathy, for the last 40 years; and the DeMarcos

16 have three children and seven grandchildren.

17 In closing, Tony's drive and dedication and

18 his experiences will make him a great trustee

19 candidate for the Firemen's Home.

20 Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Thank you, Bruce. Mr.
23 President, there no other candidates for the
24 position of Firemen's Home Trustee for the seat
25 that is currently held by David Wolf.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

163

1
2 David Blair, please approach the podium for
3 the purposes of making an introduction.

4 MR. BLAIR: Good morning.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

6 MR. BLAIR: FASNY Presidents, Board of
7 Directors, trustees, members of the dais, members
8 of FASNY. I've been extended the honor of
9 introducing Onondaga County's candidate for the
10 position of trustee of the Firemen's Home for the
11 class of 2018. Marty J. Thomas began his career
12 in 1971 with the Memphis Fire Department, where
13 he has served his department as lieutenant,
14 captain, and assistant chief. He also served as
15 president of the Memphis Fire Department; and
16 most recently as the president of the
17 Warners-Memphis Fire Company. Marty is currently
18 a member of the Onondaga County Volunteer
19 Firefighters Underwater Rescue team, where he

20 continues to serve as a rescue diver since 1973.
21 He is also past president of this underwater
22 team. He served as a first aid and CPR
23 instructor and currently is an active EMT with
24 the Jordan Fire Department. He has also served
25 in several sectional organizations, including

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

164

1
2 Central New York Firemen's Association, Northern
3 Central New York Volunteer Firemen's Association,
4 where he was president, director, and is a
5 current life member, and OCVFA as their current
6 Sergeant-at-Arms.

7 Since 1980, Marty has been a member of
8 Onondaga County Volunteer Firemen's Association.
9 Marty has served on many OCVFA committees and has
10 held several offices, including secretary, vice
11 president, and president.

12 Marty graduated from the Jordan-Elbridge
13 Central School District and Auburn Community
14 College. He is employed by Crucible Industries,
15 and has been for the last 44 years. Marty has
16 followed the path of his parents, Herb and Pat

17 Thomas, who were both very involved with the fire
18 service throughout the state and at many levels.
19 Herb Thomas was the secretary of the board of
20 trustees during his term as a trustee.

21 Marty and his wife, April, live in Warners,
22 New York, and are the proud parents of three
23 married children and four wonderful
24 grandchildren.

25 Mr. President, on behalf of the members and

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

165

1
2 officers of the Onondaga County Volunteer
3 Firemen's Association, I'd like to put forth the
4 name of Martin J. Thomas for the position of
5 trustee for the FASNY Firemen's Home.

6 Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Thank you, Dave.

9 Mr. President, there are no other
10 candidates for the position of Firemen's Home
11 trustee for the seat that is currently held by
12 David Blair.

13 Just as a note, the installation will be
14 tomorrow for the officers, we'll have the

15 election and then the installation.

16 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, John. Thank
17 you to the people that did the introductions.

18 You may be excused from the dais.

19 Secretary D'Alessandro, is there any other
20 unfinished agenda items?

21 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: There are no unfinished
22 agenda items, Mr. President.

23 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, sir.

24 Is there any unfinished business for our
25 opening session of the convention to come from

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

166

1
2 the floor?

3 (No response.)

4 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Hearing none, I'll turn
5 this part of the program back over to First Vice
6 President, soon to be President, Steven Klein.

7 MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Ken.

8 A president is only as good as the people
9 behind him. I want to thank you all for
10 endorsing and supporting the slate that was just
11 read off. They're all good friends of mine or

12 soon to be good friends of mine.

13 (Laughter.)

14 MR. KLEIN: And hopefully stay good friends
15 of mine, and I'm sure that with their support,
16 I'll have a very successful term. And I
17 congratulate all of you on being nominated or
18 elected or whatever to your first or second term,
19 and good luck on your endeavors supporting our
20 association.

21 Now's it's time for a commercial break.

22 Please remember that the educational
23 sessions will begin here at 12:30. Please make
24 certain you are registered for this session. If
25 you're not, it's not too late. We are always

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

167

1

2 happy to take your donation. The second session
3 will begin at 2:30, and the final session at
4 4:00. Please be aware that your badge will be
5 scanned at both sessions. You must be scanned to
6 receive a certificate. Certificates will be
7 available in the ballroom foyer and at the
8 scholarship fun night. The Seventh Annual Gerard
9 J. Buckenmeyer FASNY Volunteer Scholarship Fund

10 raffle will be tonight right here in the
11 convention. Games, music, wine tasting,
12 complimentary desserts, and make your own
13 sundaes. There will be a cash bar.

14 Once again, I remind you to join the
15 scholarship night. Josh Cellars will be hosting
16 a wine tasting event. The first 100 attendees
17 who have three samples of wine will receive one
18 complimentary glass of wine. So if you drink
19 three little sips, you get a big sip. This is
20 sounding better all the time.

21 (Laughter.)

22 MR. KLEIN: You will have your choice of
23 Cabernet, Rose, or chardonnay. So basically
24 Cabernet is it, but --

25 (Laughter.)

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

168

1

2 MR. KLEIN: The wine tasting event opens at
3 7:00. The founder of Josh Cellars, Joseph Carr,
4 will be in attendance. I urge you to attend and
5 meet this fellow. He's quite a guy. I actually
6 had the opportunity. I'm like an honorary member

7 of his wine club or whatever, but anyway, he will
8 be here, and he's a very, very admirable guy,
9 easy to get along with, and he's going to make a
10 very nice donation to FASNY as one of our
11 sponsors. I urge you to be there.

12 Okay. Let's move forward.

13 Winners of the prizes will be announced
14 later in the evening. This is an important event
15 for FASNY. You don't have to be present, but you
16 should be present, because if you're not, your
17 phone is going to ring around 11:30 or 12:00
18 telling you you won a prize. So if you don't
19 want to be woken up, you might as well be there
20 and pick it up in person.

21 Tomorrow morning at 8:00 a.m. in the
22 ballroom center the Chaplains' Committee will be
23 conducting an interfaith service prior to the
24 closing session.

25 Please take the time to visit and give a

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

169

1
2 quick thank you to our sponsors and the
3 contributors located both in the Cotillion Room
4 and in the foyer. Their contributions to FASNY

5 help make this convention and events during the
6 year a success. During your visit, beginning at
7 2:00 p.m., you can enjoy a special reception
8 sponsored by Cool Insurance Agency, Visual
9 Technologies, First Net/AT&T, Syracuse Visitors
10 Bureau, and Provident Insurance. Also, the
11 display outside for Turtle Plastics will be still
12 available until 2:00 p.m.

13 And finally, candles from the memorial
14 service need to be picked up. Fourteen counties
15 still have not picked up their candles. And you
16 can do that in Onondaga E, which is right out
17 here around the corner.

18 That takes care of all of my announcements.

19 I hereby recess the Annual Meeting until
20 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning.

21 Thank you very much.

22 (Applause.)

23 (Whereupon, the meeting was adjourned to
24 August 12, 2018, at 9:00 a.m.)

25

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

2 CERTIFICATION

3

4 STATE OF NEW YORK)

5) SS.:

6 COUNTY OF SUFFOLK)

7

8 I, JAMIE J. WOODARD, a Court Reporter and

9 Notary Public, for and within the State of New

10 York, do hereby certify:

11 THAT the above and foregoing contains a

12 true and correct transcription of the proceedings

13 held on August 11, 2018 at the Firemen's

14 Association of the State of New York Annual

15 Convention, Village of Liverpool, New York, and

16 were reported by me.

17 I further certify that I am not related to

18 any of the parties to this action by blood or by

19 marriage and that I am in no way interested in

20 the outcome of this matter.

21 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my

22 hand this 23rd day of January, 2019.

23

24

25

JAMIE J. WOODARD

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE 146TH ANNUAL
CONVENTION OF THE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF THE
STATE OF NEW YORK, HELD FROM THE 10TH DAY OF
AUGUST THROUGH THE 12TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2018, AT
HOLIDAY INN, 441 ELECTRONICS PARKWAY, VILLAGE OF
LIVERPOOL, NEW YORK.

August 12, 2018

B E F O R E: Kenneth M. Pienkowski, President

Jamie J. Woodard
Court Reporter
P.O. Box 59
Ridge, New York 11961

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

172

1

2 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Do we have everybody in,
3 Chief?

4 MR. FARRELL: Yes, sir.

5 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Good morning.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

7 MR. PIENKOWSKI: And welcome to the closing
8 session of the 146th Annual Convention of the
9 Firemen's Association of the State of New York.

10 The exits are located to your right and to
11 your left. If there is an alarm, it will be
12 announced from the dais. Follow directions from
13 the podium and exit the convention center in an
14 orderly fashion.

15 At this time I would like to ask you to
16 please silence your cellphones. There will be no
17 food or drink allowed in the meeting room during
18 the morning session and the awards' ceremony.

19 Thank you.

20 Please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance
21 led by Sergeant-at-Arms Donny Farrell and remain
22 standing for the invocation by Chaplain Wayne F.

23 Jagow.
24 (Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was
25 recited.)

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

173

1
2 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Call upon FASNY Chaplain
3 Reverend Wayne Jagow, please, for the invocation.
4 (Invocation by Reverend Wayne F. Jagow.)

5 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Mr. Sergeant-at-Arms, do
6 we have a quorum?

7 MR. FARRELL: Yes, sir.

8 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you.

9 It gives me great honor and pride this
10 morning to introduce Joseph Carr, founder of Josh
11 Cellars. After 20 years in the industry, first
12 as a sommelier and then as an industry executive,
13 Joseph Carr followed a dream to own his own
14 winery. In 2007, he launched Josh Cellars Wines.
15 Sourced from across many great California wine
16 growing regions, every vintage represents a labor
17 of love, a commitment to quality, and a very
18 personal promise to make great wine, in honor of
19 his dad, Josh, who was a soldier in the U.S. Army

20 and a volunteer firefighter.
21 Josh Cellars is a generous supporter of the
22 National Volunteer Fire Council and Operation
23 Gratitude and recently sponsored a Father's Day
24 sales event in Grand Central Station to benefit
25 the Firemen's Association of the State of New

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

174

1
2 York. Last night, Josh Cellars supported FASNY
3 again with a complimentary wine tasting at the
4 scholarship night.

5 It is now my great honor to introduce Josh
6 Cellars' founder, Joseph Carr.

7 (Applause.)

8 MR. CARR: Good morning.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

10 MR. CARR: I'm going to give him a check
11 here in a second, but I want to tell you just a
12 brief story. It was an honor and privilege to
13 meet many of you last night, but I see some new
14 faces in the audience. My father didn't own a
15 winery. My father was a lumberjack from upstate
16 New York, a little town called Berlin; and my
17 grandfather was a volunteer fireman, as was my

18 father and my uncles and my cousins and my
19 neighbors. And in 1962, a propane gas truck came
20 down the mountain and blew up, and it burned down
21 half the town and volunteer firemen came out of
22 the lumber yards, and they came off the farms and
23 they fought that fire alongside my grandfather
24 and my father. I lived across the street from a
25 firehouse. As a little boy, the treat was to go

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

175

1
2 over there and help clean the trucks. These
3 things that we're doing with you folks is not
4 just some marketing plan, it's a very personal,
5 very personal commitment, and I want to thank you
6 for your commitment, because you're the guys,
7 you're the men and women that work full time
8 jobs, and then when you're done with your full
9 time job you go and you train so you're able and
10 ready to protect your neighbors and your friends.
11 And then you help somebody paint their house or
12 put on their roof. That was the culture and the
13 kind of community that I grew up in. So when I
14 started Josh Cellars with my wife we worked in

15 our garage. That's where we began. We shared a
16 laptop computer, and I flew to California to make
17 wine and came back, and we worked together on our
18 company, and when the opportunity arose to get
19 involved in the communities with wine and
20 supporting organizations such as yourself, it was
21 really a great honor and privilege. Now it gives
22 us the chance to not just be involved in our
23 communities, but communities throughout New York
24 state and the nation. Like I said, I know what
25 it's like to be in a firehouse. I know what it's

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

176

1
2 like to see the bravery and the courage of people
3 in the room. As I said last night, I remember
4 what it was like to be a seven year old boy
5 dressed in his pajamas being carried outside a
6 house when the sawmill next door was on fire.
7 It's something I'll never forget.

8 So it's an honor and privilege to be here.
9 That being said, I'd like to give you a check.

10 So on behalf of Josh Cellars, the Deutsch
11 family, we would like to give you this check for
12 \$17,492.09.

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. CARR: Thank you very much.

15 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Joe, on behalf of the
16 Firemen's Association of the State of New York
17 and its entire membership, we would like to thank
18 you for all you do to support the volunteer fire
19 service in the United States.

20 Thank you very much. It's greatly
21 appreciated.

22 (Applause.)

23 MR. PIENKOWSKI: What a great presentation,
24 huh? I would just like to thank First Vice
25 President Klein and Gina for going down to Grand

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

177

1
2 Central Station and being there when this was
3 happening and have the representation of FASNY at
4 that event.

5 The first order of business is the report
6 of the resolutions committee. I would like to
7 introduce Chairman John D'Alessandro.

8 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Thank you,
9 Mr. President. I would like to have the rest of

10 the committee come up; Director Pfersick,
11 Director Tase, Trustee Butts, and Dave Schmidt
12 please.

13 Okay. The way we're going to do it, I'm
14 going to call for each resolution individually.
15 The reader of the motion is the maker -- The
16 reader of the resolution will be the maker of the
17 motion to adopt. Then we will need a second from
18 the floor. We will vote. There are 18
19 resolutions.

20 Resolution Number One, "WHEREAS, the 146th
21 Annual Convention of the Firemen's Association of
22 the State of New York is being held in the Town
23 of Salina, New York,

24 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the
25 thanks of the Association be extended to the

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

178

1
2 elected officials, convention speakers, invited
3 guests, forum presenters, and representatives of
4 other fire service organizations in attendance."

5 Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption of
6 Resolution Number One.

7 Do I have a second?

8 MR. SCHMIDT: David Schmidt, Niagara

9 County, seconds proposition one.

10 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: All in favor?

11 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

12 Resolution Number Two, "WHEREAS, the 146th

13 Annual Convention of the Firemen's Association of

14 the State of New York is being held at the

15 Holiday Inn, in the Town of Salina, New York,

16 AND WHEREAS, this venue has accommodated

17 the needs of the attendees of this gathering,

18 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the

19 thanks of the Association be extended to the

20 owners and employees of the Liverpool Holiday

21 Inn."

22 Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption of

23 Resolution Number Two.

24 Do I have a second?

25 MR. SCOTT: I second that motion. Rob

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

179

1

2 Scott, East Dunkirk, Chautauqua County.

3 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Thank you.

4 All in favor?

5 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.
6 MR. BUTTS: Good morning.
7 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.
8 MR. BUTTS: Resolution Number Three,
9 "WHEREAS, Article II, Section 1.1, of the

10 By-Laws of the Association provides that the
11 membership shall have the opportunity to approve
12 or reject the annual budget for the Firemen's
13 Home at the Annual Meeting or convention,

14 AND WHEREAS, the Firemen's Association of
15 the State of New York Board of Directors has
16 submitted to this convention its budget for the
17 purpose of operating the Firemen's Home for the
18 fiscal year commencing October 1, 2018 and ending
19 September 30, 2019 in the sum of nine million,
20 nine hundred ninety-five thousand, and thirteen
21 dollars (\$9,995,013.00),

22 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that there
23 be appropriated the sum of nine million, nine
24 hundred ninety-five thousand, and thirteen
25 dollars (\$9,995,013.00) for the purpose of

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

3 for the period commencing October 1, 2018 and
4 ending September 30, 2019."

5 Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption of
6 Resolution Number Three.

7 MR. PIENKOWSKI: You heard Resolution
8 Number Three; do I have a second?

9 MR. SCHMIDT: David Schmidt, President of
10 the Board of Trustees, second.

11 MR. PIENKOWSKI: I have a second.

12 On a question?

13 (No response.)

14 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Hearing none.

15 All in favor?

16 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

17 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 MR. PIENKOWSKI: So carried.

20 MR. BUTTS: Resolution Number Four,

21 "WHEREAS, David J. Blair has been, and

22 continues to be, a friend and outspoken advocate

23 for the members of the Firemen's Home,

24 AND WHEREAS, he served for 10 years as a

25 dedicated member of the Firemen's Home Board of

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1

2 Trustees,

3 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the
4 officers and members of the Firemen's Association
5 of the State of New York offer their heartfelt
6 appreciation to Trustee David J. Blair, who has
7 served the members of the Firemen's Home and this
8 organization to the best of his ability,

9 AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the
10 Association and Board of Directors commends him
11 for his service and that the membership affords
12 him a rising vote of thanks."

13 Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption of
14 Resolution Number Four.

15 MR. PIENKOWSKI: You heard the reading of
16 Resolution Number Four; do I have a second?

17 MR. CARON: Mr. President, Mike Caron,
18 Onondaga County, Volunteer Firemen's Association
19 and FASNY director, I second that motion.

20 MR. PIENKOWSKI: On a question?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. PIENKOWSKI: All in favor?

23 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

24 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Opposed?

25 (No response.)

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

MR. PIENKOWSKI: So carried.

(Applause.)

MR. BUTTS: Resolution Number Five,

"WHEREAS, David J. Wolf has been, and continues to be, a friend and outspoken advocate for the members of the Firemen's Home,

AND WHEREAS, he served for 10 years as a dedicated member of the Firemen's Home Board of Trustees,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the officers and members of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York offer their heartfelt appreciation to Trustee David J. Wolf, who has served the members of the Firemen's Home and this organization to the best of his ability,

AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Association and Board of Directors commends him for his service and that the membership affords him a rising vote of thanks."

Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption of Resolution Number Five.

MR. PIENKOWSKI: You heard the reading of Resolution Number Five; do I have a second?

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

183

1

2 from St. Lawrence County, seconds that.

3 MR. PIENKOWSKI: We have a second.

4 On a question?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Hearing none.

7 All in favor?

8 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

9 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Opposed?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. PIENKOWSKI: So carried.

12 (Applause.)

13 MR. BUTTS: Resolution Number Six, "BE IT

14 RESOLVED, that the officers and members of the

15 Firemen's Association of the State of New York

16 extend their sincere condolences to the family of

17 David W. Schultz, a member of the Rochester Fire

18 Department Protector, past President of Monroe

19 County Volunteer Firemen's Association, and a

20 resident of the Firemen's Home,

21 "And be it further resolved that the

22 officers, directors, trustees, and members offer
23 their thanks and services to past member of the
24 FASNY Firemen's Home Board of Trustees."

25 Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption of

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

184

1

2 Resolution Number Six.

3 MR. MCCONVILLE: You've heard the reading
4 of Resolution Number Six; do I have a second?

5 MR. WAY: Alan Way, First Vice President of
6 Monroe County Firemen's Association and Home
7 Trustee, seconds the motion.

8 MR. PIENKOWSKI: We have a second.

9 On a question?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Hearing none; all in
12 favor?

13 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

14 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 MR. PIENKOWSKI: So carried.

17 MR. BUTTS: Resolution Number Seven,
18 "WHEREAS, the Firemen's Home has provided a "home
19 away from home" for thousands of firefighters who

20 gave dedicated and committed service to the
21 citizens of New York,

22 AND WHEREAS, the staff of the Firemen's
23 Home exhibits extreme dedication and
24 professionalism on a daily basis.

25 AND WHEREAS, the staff of the Firemen's

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

185

1
2 Home provides unparalleled care for the residents
3 of the Home,

4 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the
5 officers and members of the Firemen's Association
6 of the State of New York offer their heartfelt
7 appreciation to the staff of the Firemen's Home
8 for all they do for the residents of the
9 Firemen's Home and the Association."

10 Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption of
11 Resolution Number Seven.

12 MR. PIENKOWSKI: You heard the reading of
13 Resolution Number Seven; is there a second?

14 MR. OWENBURG: Gerry Owenburg, Trustee,
15 Suffolk, I am proud and honored to pass this as
16 second.

17 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you.
18 On a question?
19 (No response.)
20 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Hearing none; all in
21 favor?
22 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.
23 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Opposed?
24 (No response.)
25 MR. PIENKOWSKI: So carried.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

186

1
2 Resolution Number Eight, "WHEREAS, the
3 officers and committee people and the staff of
4 the Firemen's Association of the State of New
5 York exhibit dedication, commitment, and
6 professionalism on a daily basis,
7 NOW WHEREAS, the officers, committee
8 people, and staff of the association is a primary
9 reason that the Firemen's Association of the
10 State of New York is regarded one of the premier
11 volunteer firefighter organizations in the
12 country,
13 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the
14 officers and members of the Firemen's Association

15 of the State of New York offer their heartfelt
16 appreciation to the officers, committee people,
17 and the staff of the Firemen's Association of the
18 State of New York for all they do on a daily
19 basis."

20 Mr. Chairman, I move the adoption of
21 Resolution Number Eight.

22 MR. KLEIN: You heard the reading of
23 Resolution Number Eight; is there a second?

24 MR. PERRY: Mr. Chairman, Eugene Perry,
25 Patchogue Fire Department, FASNY Director,

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

187

1
2 seconds the motion.

3 MR. KLEIN: Thank you.

4 Motion and second.

5 All in favor?

6 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

7 MR. KLEIN: Anybody opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 MR. KLEIN: The motion is carried.

10 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Resolution Number Nine,
11 "WHEREAS, Robert N. McConville has given more

12 than four decades of service to the volunteer
13 fire service and the Firemen's Association of the
14 State of New York,

15 AND WHEREAS, his dedicated service has
16 strengthened the foundation of the fire service
17 for generations of firefighters and for those
18 that are yet to come,

19 AND WHEREAS, he has greatly advanced the
20 accomplishments and reputation of the Firemen's
21 Association of the State of New York, FASNY, as
22 its director and as its 77th president and as
23 part president,

24 AND WHEREAS, his tenure on the FASNY Board
25 of Directors will end at the conclusion of the

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

188

1

2 146th Annual Meeting,

3 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the
4 officers and members of the Firemen's Association
5 of the State of New York offer their heartfelt
6 appreciation to Robert N. McConville,

7 AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the
8 association of the Board of Directors welcomes
9 his continued participation, advice, and

10 counsel."

11 Mr. Chairman, I so move for the adoption of
12 Resolution Number Nine.

13 MR. KLEIN: You heard the reading of
14 Resolution Number Nine; is there a second?

15 MR. PERRY: Mr. Chairman, Eugene Perry,
16 Suffolk County, FASNY director, proudly seconds
17 that motion.

18 MR. KLEIN: I have a motion and a second.

19 All in favor?

20 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

21 MR. KLEIN: Is anybody opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. KLEIN: Motion carried. Thank you,
24 Bob.

25 (Applause.)

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

189

1

2 MR. KLEIN: Resolution Number Ten,

3 "WHEREAS, Kenneth Pienkowski has given

4 decades of service to the volunteer fire service,

5 making it a safer and more respected profession,

6 AND WHEREAS, his calm and reason of

7 leadership has greatly advanced the
8 accomplishments and reputation of the Firemen's
9 Association of the State of New York as its 78th
10 president,

11 AND WHEREAS, under his leadership the
12 Firemen's Association has secured important
13 protections for firefighters, including
14 presumptive cancer coverage,

15 BE IT RESOLVED, that the officers and
16 members of the Firemen's Association of the State
17 of New York offer their heartfelt appreciation to
18 Kenneth Pienkowski, President of FASNY, who has
19 served this organization to the best of his
20 ability and is leaving office at the conclusion
21 of the convention,

22 AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the
23 association and Board of Directors welcomes his
24 participation, advice, and counsel as he
25 continues his service as FASNY past President and

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

190

1
2 that the membership afford him a raising vote of
3 thanks."

4 Mr. Chairman, I move for the adoption of

5 Resolution Number 10.

6 MR. FARRELL: You have heard Resolution
7 Number 10; do I have a second?

8 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman, Ken Holmes,
9 Oneida County, Director of FASNY, proudly seconds
10 this motion.

11 Thank you, Ken.

12 MR. FARRELL: Thank you.

13 All those in favor say aye.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

15 MR. FARRELL: Any opposed?

16 (No response.)

17 MR. FARRELL: So carried.

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. KLEIN: Resolution Number 11,

20 "WHEREAS, Thomas J. Cuff has given a
21 lifetime of service to the volunteer fire service
22 both as an advocate for his brother and sister
23 firefighters and the general public,

24 AND WHEREAS, he worked tirelessly to ensure
25 that smoke detectors became required in homes,

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

2 AND WHEREAS, he was a national leader to
3 change building codes so that hotels were
4 required to have safer exit routes,

5 AND WHEREAS, he spent more than three
6 decades helping families of deceased firefighters
7 obtain the state and national benefits they
8 deserve,

9 AND WHEREAS, he was awarded the 2017 FASNY
10 Fire Service Achievement Award,

11 AND WHEREAS, Thomas J. Cuff served as
12 President of the Firemen's Association of the
13 State of New York from 2008 to 2010 with grace,
14 compassion, and reverence for the volunteer fire
15 service,

16 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the
17 officers and members of the Firemen's Association
18 of the State of New York honor the memory of past
19 President Cuff and offer our heartfelt
20 condolences to his family on his passing."

21 Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption
22 Resolution Number 11.

23 MR. FARRELL: You have heard the motion of
24 Resolution Number 11; do I have a second?

25 MR. KRUMMENACKER: Michael Krummenacker,

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

President of Nassau County Firemen's Association
and Director of FASNY, seconds the motion.

MR. FARRELL: Thank you, Mike.

All those in favor say aye.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. FARRELL: Opposed?

(No response.)

MR. FARRELL: So carried.

MS. PFERSICK: "WHEREAS, Edward M. Cook has
served as Counsel to the Firemen's Association of
the State of New York from May 15, 1987 to March
23, 2018,

AND WHEREAS, he provided reasons and
judicial service and advice to protect the
interest of the association and the volunteer
firefighters across the State of New York,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the
officers and members of the Firemen's Association
of the State of New York offer their sincere
thanks to attorney Edward M. Cook and wish him a
healthy and happy retirement."

Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption of
Resolution Number 12.

MR. FARRELL: You have heard Resolution

1

2 Number 12; do I have a second?

3 MR. PETTIGEL: Fred Pettigel, President of
4 Hudson County, proudly seconds the resolution.

5 MR. FARRELL: Thank you, Fred.

6 All those in favor say aye.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

8 MR. FARRELL: Opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 MR. FARRELL: So carried.

11 MS. PFERSICK: "WHEREAS, Michael Quinn has
12 been and continues to be an outspoken advocate
13 for the volunteer emergency medical services
14 community,

15 AND WHEREAS, he has served on the New York
16 State Emergency Medical Service Council for 29
17 years,

18 AND WHEREAS, he has represented the
19 Firemen's Association of the State of New York
20 and been a member of FASNY's EMS committee for 30
21 years,

22 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the
23 officers and members of the Firemen's Association

24 of State of New York offer this heartfelt
25 appreciation to Michael Quinn, who has served

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

194

1

2 this organization to the best of his ability,

3 AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the
4 association and Board of Directors commend him
5 for his continued service and that the membership
6 afford him a rising vote of thanks."

7 Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption of
8 Resolution Number 13.

9 MR. FARRELL: You have heard the motion on
10 Resolution Number 13; do I have a second?

11 MR. GALVIN: Mr. President, Vincent Galvin,
12 past president of Dutchess and Hudson Valley,
13 proudly seconds that nomination.

14 MR. FARRELL: Thank you, Vin.

15 All those in favor say aye.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

17 MR. FARRELL: Opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 MR. FARRELL: So carried.

20 (Applause.)

21 MR. TASE: Good morning, ladies and

22 gentlemen.
23 For Resolution Number 14, I ask Reverend
24 Wayne Jagow to join me at the podium, please. If
25 the presidents would also join behind Wayne.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

195

1
2 We've got Wayne on a spot. It's not usual
3 to get Wayne on the spot.
4 Ladies and Gentlemen, I am proud to read
5 Resolution Number 14. Resolution Number 14,
6 "WHEREAS, Wayne F. Jagow has served as
7 Chaplain of the Firemen's Association of the
8 State of New York for almost three decades,
9 AND WHEREAS, he has provided wise and
10 reasoned counsel to generations of leadership of
11 this association,
12 AND WHEREAS, he has been a spiritual and
13 moral foundation of this association through good
14 times and the bad,
15 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the
16 Firemen's Association of the State of New York
17 Board of Directors has unanimously voted to
18 bestow upon Wayne Jagow the title of Chaplain

19 Emeritus,
20 AND FURTHER BE RESOLVED, that the chapel at
21 the FASNY Firemen's Home be hereby known as the
22 Reverend Wayne F. Jagow Chapel,
23 AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the
24 officers and members of the Firemen's Association
25 of the State of New York offer their sincere

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

196

1
2 thanks to Wayne F. Jagow and wish him a healthy
3 and happy retirement."

4 I so move the adoption of Resolution Number
5 14.

6 MR. FARRELL: You have heard Resolution
7 Number 14; do I have a second?

8 MR. MACK: Bruce Mack, Niagara County, past
9 President of Western, is honored to make a second
10 for Resolution Number 14.

11 MR. FARRELL: All those in favor say aye.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

13 MR. FARRELL: And I'm not even going for --
14 (Applause.)

15 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Reverend Jagow, it gives
16 me great honor and a pleasure to present you with

17 your pocket badge, FASNY Wayne Jagow, Chaplain

18 Emeritus.

19 Congratulations. Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you for everything

22 you've done for the Firemen's Association of the

23 State of New York for 30 years. We will never

24 forget you, my friend. We're very proud.

25 REVEREND JAGOW: Thank you. God bless you

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

197

1

2 all.

3 MR. PIENKOWSKI: He speaks less for once.

4 (Laughter.)

5 (Applause.)

6 MR. TASE: Thank you for bearing with us on

7 that one. We appreciate it.

8 Resolution Number 15, "WHEREAS, Davey Jean

9 Beska had given a lifetime of service to the

10 volunteer fire service,

11 AND WHEREAS, Davey Jean Beska served as

12 president of the Mahopac Falls Volunteer Fire

13 Department Ladies Auxiliary, was the charter

14 president of the ladies auxiliary of the Putman
15 County Volunteer Firemen's Association, and
16 served as chairman and vice president of the
17 ladies auxiliary of the Hudson Valley Volunteer
18 Firemen's Association,

19 AND WHEREAS, she has served as the
20 president of the ladies auxiliary of the
21 Firemen's Association of the State of New York
22 from 1980 to 1981,

23 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the
24 officers and members of the Firemen's Association
25 of the State of New York honor the memory of past

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

198

1
2 president Davey Jean Beska and offer their
3 heartfelt condolences to her family on her
4 passing."

5 Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption of
6 Resolution Number 15.

7 MR. FARRELL: You have heard the Resolution
8 of Number 15; do I have a second?

9 MS. DICHIAN: Mr. Chairman, Victoria
10 Dichian, Rensselaer County and past president of
11 Hudson Valley Ladies Auxiliary and Chaplain for

12 LAFASNY, I am very proud to second that

13 Resolution Number 15.

14 MR. FARRELL: Thank you, Vickie.

15 All those in favor say aye.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

17 MR. FARRELL: Opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 MR. FARRELL: So carried.

20 MR. KLEIN: Resolution Number 16, "WHEREAS,

21 Gregory S. Turell has given a lifetime of service

22 to the volunteer fire service,

23 AND WHEREAS, Gregory S. Turell served as

24 president of the Eastern Division of the

25 International Association of Fire Chiefs and as a

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

199

1

2 past Chief of the Malverne Fire Department,

3 AND WHEREAS, he served as a FASNY director

4 and was a long member of the EMS committee,

5 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the

6 officers and members of the Firemen's Association

7 of the State of New York honor the memory of past

8 FASNY Director Gregory S. Turell and offer their

9 heartfelt condolences to his family on his
10 passing."

11 Mr. Chairman, I so move for the adoption of
12 Resolution Number 16.

13 MR. FARRELL: You heard the motion of
14 Resolution Number 16; do I have a second?

15 MR. KRUMMENACKER: Michael Krummenacker,
16 President Nassau County Firemen's Association and
17 director of FASNY, is honored to make the second.

18 MR. FARRELL: Thank you, Mike.

19 All those in favor say aye.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

21 MR. FARRELL: Opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. FARRELL: So carried.

24 MR. TASE: Resolution Number 17, "WHEREAS,
25 past and recent events across the nation have

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

200

1

2 highlighted a danger and threats to personal
3 safety faced by our brothers and sisters in the
4 volunteer fire service, career fire service, law
5 enforcement community,

6 AND WHEREAS, individuals in these

7 professions in this state and throughout the
8 nation are routinely called upon to serve and
9 protect their fellow citizens by responding to
10 horrific events acting heroically to serve the
11 lives of others,

12 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the
13 officers and members of the Firemen's Association
14 of the State New York that they declare their
15 support and solidarity with the men and women who
16 serve and who have served in the volunteer fire
17 service, career fire service, and the law
18 enforcement community,

19 AND THEREFORE, for their distinction,
20 service, and dedicated efforts earning their
21 highest respect and deepest gratitude for the
22 efforts to serve their fellow citizens, often
23 while putting their own personal safety in
24 jeopardy."

25 Mr. Chairman, I so move for the adoption of

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

201

1

2 Resolution Number 17.

3

MR. FARRELL: You heard the motion of

4 Resolution Number 17; do I have a second?

5 MR. SCOTT: I second that motion. Rob
6 Scott, East Dunkirk Fire Department, Chautauqua
7 County.

8 MR. FARRELL: All those in favor say aye.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

10 MR. FARRELL: Opposed?

11 (No response.)

12 MR. FARRELL: So carried.

13 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Resolution Number 18,
14 "BE IT RESOLVED, that the officers and members of
15 the Firemen's Association of the State of New
16 York extend their sincere condolences to families
17 of Ronald W. Hinkle Loch Sheldrake Fire
18 Department; David E. Carr, Brasher-Winthrop Fire
19 Department; Robert A. Fitch, East Herkimer Fire
20 Department; David L. Jahnes, Nyack Fire
21 Department; Michael R. Davidson, Fire Department
22 of the City of New York; M. Kent Stillwagon,
23 Greenlawn Fire Department; Mark A. Graziano, City
24 of Hudson Fire Department; Michael F. Cherubini,
25 Hague Fire Department; and Zachary J. Fazeksa,

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

2 New Hyde Fire Department, on their passing.

3 FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that we extend our
4 eternal respect and gratitude to our brothers who
5 made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting
6 their communities."

7 Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption of
8 Resolution Number 18.

9 MR. FARRELL: You have heard the motion on
10 Resolution Number 18; do I have a second?

11 MR. RIVERA: Chan Rivera, past president of
12 Hudson Valley, Ulster County, seconds it.

13 MR. FARRELL: Thank you, Chan.

14 All those in favor say aye.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

16 MR. FARRELL: Opposed?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. FARRELL: So carried.

19 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, that
20 concludes the report of the resolutions
21 committee.

22 (Applause.)

23 MR. PIENKOWSKI: For the report of our
24 Sergeant-at-Arms, Sergeant-at-Arms Farrell,
25 please.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

SERGEANT FARRELL: Good morning, Mr.
President.

Among the duties that are given to the
Sergeant-at-Arms at the annual convention is
counting the number of people in attendance for
each session.

For Friday, the Memorial Service: 247.

The Opening Session for the 146th Annual
Convention: 176.

Youth in the Fire Service: 47.

Friday afternoon training session: 105
Taxable Education Tips, 54.

The Two Percent Tax Forum: 193.

For Saturday, August 11th, second session:
176.

And the training seminars in the afternoon:
Lost in the Fog of Fire Ground: 114.

See something, Say something: 117.

And issues facing the fire service: 98.

And this morning's final session of the
146th Annual Convention: 167 people in
attendance.

On behalf of Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms
Thomas With and myself, we would like to thank

1
2 President Pienkowski for allowing us to serve
3 FASNY and the Board during the past year, and
4 we're looking forward to serving FASNY and the
5 Board in the upcoming year.

6 Respectfully submitted.

7 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you.

8 On behalf of the officers and the Board of
9 Directors and the membership present for the
10 146th Annual Convention, Sergeant-at-Arms Farrell
11 and Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms With, thank you.
12 Thank you for everything you have done for the
13 past couple of days. Two busy gentlemen there,
14 making sure everything works perfectly. It's
15 greatly appreciated.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Would Gerry Owenburg, Bob
18 Sutton, and Dave Petro come to the dais, please.

19 I would like to introduce Dave Petro,
20 Regional Director for Provident Insurance Agency
21 for a presentation.

22 Dave, welcome.

23 MR. PETRO: Thank you.

24 Good morning.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

205

1

2 MR. PETRO: It is again an honor and a
3 privilege to be here for my second year here at
4 this conference. We are your provider for your
5 accidental death and dismemberment policy that
6 all the membership has with FASNY, and we are
7 proud and honored to provide to you. At
8 Provident we believe one of the best ways to
9 prevent claims, prevent injuries in the fire
10 service is through training and education. So
11 with that, it is again my honor and privilege on
12 behalf of all of us at Provident we will be
13 donating \$5,000.00 to your scholarship fund again
14 this.

15 Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Dave, on behalf of the
18 membership of the Firemen's Association, thank
19 you very much. FASNY will be able to move
20 forward and continue giving away 25 \$1,500.00

21 scholarships to a graduating senior. This is
22 greatly appreciated. Thank you Barry and his
23 staff.

24 MR. PETRO: Thank you.

25 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Over 100 witnesses, I am

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

206

1

2 presenting that check to the CAO so.

3 (Laughter.)

4 MR. PIENKOWSKI: I would like to introduce

5 Gerry Owenburg and Bob Sutton from the

6 Firefighter Cancer Support Network for a check

7 presentation.

8 As in the past years, the Firemen's

9 Association of the State of New York works very

10 closely with the Firefighter Cancer Support

11 Network, and annually we make a presentation to

12 them for everything they do for the benefit of

13 the firefighters across New York state, and it

14 gives me great honor that the Board of Directors

15 voted to continue that donation of \$2,500.00

16 again this year. So Vice President Klein and

17 Vice President Farrell and our CAO make a

18 presentation to Gerry and Bob.

19 MR. OWENBURG: It's been a journey on this
20 fight, to fight this deadly disease. We need
21 everybody in their hometowns to be vigilant on
22 this and be a pest. Get after those young guys;
23 and the older guys that don't help you, be a
24 pest, don't be a friend. Tell them to clean
25 their gear. The fight is not over. We have to

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

207

1
2 fight every day. I thank the Board for this
3 donation to keep this fight going.

4 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you for everything
5 you do.

6 MR. SUTTON: Mr. President, on behalf of
7 the Firefighters Cancer Support Network, I would
8 like to read this plaque presented to FASNY
9 President Kenneth Pienkowski. In recognition of
10 your ongoing support for the Firefighters Cancer
11 Support Network of New York in helping us with
12 our mission statement and assisting firefighters
13 and EMS personnel with cancer 2016 to 2018. Sir,
14 it's an honor to have worked with you, and we
15 greatly appreciate all the help you and your

16 board and the FASNY membership in general have
17 done for our association. Thank you.

18 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you very much.

21 For your information, Bob Sutton was also
22 the Fire Educator of the Year this year for
23 FASNY.

24 (Applause.)

25 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Anybody else in the room

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

208

1

2 who wishes to make a donation to the FASNY Gerard
3 J. Buckenmeyer Scholarship Fund please come up to
4 the dais.

5 Past President McConville.

6 MR. MCCONVILLE: Good morning. On behalf
7 of the FASNY past presidents, we would like to
8 donate \$1,500.00 to the scholarship for FASNY.
9 You're doing a great job.

10 And thank you, Brian McQueen.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, past President
13 McConville and the rest of the past presidents

14 for your generous donation.

15 MR. MCCONVILLE: You got it.

16 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Director Mike
17 Krummenacker.

18 MR. KRUMMENACKER: On behalf of the
19 officers and members of the Nassau County
20 Firemen's Association, make a presentation of a
21 check for \$250.00 towards the scholarship fund.

22 Thank you.

23 (Applause.)

24 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Mr. Chan Rivera.

25 MR. RIVERA: Thank you. On behalf of the

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

209

1

2 Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association we
3 would like to give you a check for \$500.00 to the
4 scholarship fund.

5 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thanks very much, Chan.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Chief Bruce Mack, Niagara
8 County.

9 MR. MACK: On behalf of the Western New
10 York Volunteer Firemen's Association past

11 presidents' club, we would like to make this
12 donation of \$150.00 to the scholarship fund.

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you.

15 Marty Thomas, Onondaga County.

16 MR. THOMAS: On behalf of the Onondaga
17 County Volunteer Firemen's Association we would
18 like to make a donation of \$500.00 to the
19 scholarship fund.

20 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 MR. PIENKOWSKI: On behalf of the complete
23 FASNY membership, we would like to thank
24 everybody that made donations and supported the
25 scholarship fund last night. It goes to a great

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

210

1
2 cause, as I said. We will continue giving away
3 25 scholarships to graduating seniors coming this
4 June.

5 Our next order of business is the election
6 of unopposed candidates for the office; and I
7 would like to introduce our secretary, John
8 D'Alessandro.

9 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Thank you, Mr.

10 President.

11 For the 2018/2019 year, there were nine
12 offices open for election. There was only one
13 candidate for each office. Those offices are:
14 FASNY President, First Vice President, Second
15 Vice President, two seats on the Board of
16 Directors, and four seats on the Firemen's Home
17 Board of Trustees.

18 As we've done in past years, we have a
19 process established in the by-laws that governs
20 the election of unopposed candidates, which we
21 are going to go through right now.

22 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, Secretary
23 D'Alessandro.

24 I request a motion directing the Secretary
25 to cast a single affirmative ballot for Martin

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

211

1

2 Thomas for a five year term as a Firemen's Home
3 Trustee to take effect following the adjournment
4 of the 146th Annual Meeting.

5 MR. BLAIR: Motion by Trustee Dave Blair,

6 Onondaga County.

7 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, Dave.

8 Do I have a second?

9 MR. CARON: Mike Caron, FASNY Director and
10 past President of Onondaga County Volunteer
11 Firemen's Association, proudly seconds that
12 motion, Mr. President.

13 MR. PIENKOWSKI: We have a motion and a
14 second.

15 On the motion, all in favor?

16 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

17 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Motion is passed.

20 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, pursuant
21 to the association's by-laws, I hereby cast one
22 ballot for Martin Thomas.

23 Congratulations.

24 (Applause.)

25 MR. PIENKOWSKI: I request a motion

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1

2 directing the Secretary to cast a single

3 affirmative ballot for Anthony DeMarco for a five

4 year term as a Firemen's Home Trustee to take
5 effect following the adjournment of the 146th
6 Annual Meeting.

7 MR. MACK: Bruce Mack, past President of
8 Western, makes the motion.

9 MR. PIENKOWSKI: We have a motion. Is
10 there a second?

11 MR. WOLLEBER: Harold Wolleber, past
12 President of Western, seconds the motion.

13 MR. PIENKOWSKI: We have a motion and a
14 second.

15 All in favor?

16 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

17 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 MR. PIENKOWSKI: So carried.

20 (Applause.)

21 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, pursuant
22 to the association's by-laws, I hereby cast one
23 ballot for Anthony DeMarco.

24 Congratulations.

25 (Applause.)

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

MR. PIENKOWSKI: I request a motion directing the Secretary to cast a single affirmative ballot for Michael J. De Vittorio for a five year term as a Firemen's Home Trustee to take effect following the adjournment of the 146th Annual Meeting.

MR. OTTAVINO: Robert Ottavino, past President of Nassau County, past FASNY Director, is honored to make the motion to cast one ballot for my friend Michael J. De Vittorio.

MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you.

We have a motion. Is there a second?

MR. BATTA: Juan Batta, Second Vice President, Southern New York Volunteer Firemen's Association, proudly seconds that motion.

MR. PIENKOWSKI: We have a motion and a second.

All in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. PIENKOWSKI: Opposed?

(No response.)

MR. PIENKOWSKI: So carried.

(Applause.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, pursuant

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

to the association's by-laws, I hereby cast one
ballot for Michael J. De Vittorio.

Congratulations, Michael.

(Applause.)

MR. PIENKOWSKI: I request a motion
directing the Secretary to cast a single
affirmative ballot for Gerard Owenburg for a five
year term as a Firemen's Home Trustee to take
effect following the adjournment of the 146th
Annual Meeting.

Do I have a motion?

MR. PERRY: Mr. President, Eugene Perry,
past President of Suffolk County, makes the
motion.

MR. PIENKOWSKI: We have a motion. Is
there a second?

MR. CINCOTTA: Peter Cincotta, past
President of Suffolk County Volunteer Firemen's
Association, proud Trustee of the Firemen's Home,
gladly seconds that motion.

MR. PIENKOWSKI: We have a motion and a
second.

On the motion, all in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

1

2 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 MR. PIENKOWSKI: So carried.

5 (Applause.)

6 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, pursuant

7 to the association's by-laws, I hereby cast one

8 ballot for Gerard Owenburg.

9 Congratulations.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. PIENKOWSKI: I request a motion

12 directing the Secretary to cast a single

13 affirmative ballot for Michael K. Krummenacker

14 for the position of Director of the Firemen's

15 Association of the State of New York for a five

16 year term effective immediately following the

17 adjournment of the 146th Annual Meeting.

18 MR. DAROCHA: Jose DaRocha, member of the

19 Nassau County Firemen's Association and Director

20 for FASNY, makes the motion.

21 MR. ZENLENSKI: Edward T. Zenlenski, member

22 of Nassau, past Board of Directors, seconds it.

23 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you.
24 We have a motion and a second.
25 All in favor?

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

216

1
2 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.
3 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Opposed?
4 (No response.)
5 MR. PIENKOWSKI: So carried.
6 (Applause.)
7 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, pursuant
8 to the association's by-laws, I hereby cast one
9 ballot for Michael K. Krummenacker.
10 Congratulations.
11 (Applause.)
12 MR. PIENKOWSKI: I request a motion
13 directing the Secretary to cast a single
14 affirmative ballot for Laurie M. Hance for the
15 position of Director of the Firemen's Association
16 of the State of New York for a five year term
17 effective immediately following the adjournment
18 of the 146th Annual Meeting. Jim Cayey.
19 MR. CAHEY: Mr. President, Jim Cayey, past
20 President of Northern New York Firemen's

21 Association, past Director, proudly nominates or
22 seconds that motion.
23 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, Jim.
24 Wayne?
25 MR. HANCE: Past President of Northern,

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

217

1
2 seconds the motion for her being a director and
3 her husband.
4 (Laughter.)
5 MR. PIENKOWSKI: There's a motion and a
6 second.
7 All in favor?
8 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.
9 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Opposed?
10 (No response.)
11 MR. PIENKOWSKI: So carried.
12 (Applause.)
13 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, pursuant
14 to the association's by-laws, I hereby cast one
15 ballot for Laurie M. Hance.
16 Congratulations, Laurie.
17 (Applause.)

18 MR. PIENKOWSKI: I request a motion
19 directing the Secretary to cast a single
20 affirmative ballot for Edward Tase, Jr., for the
21 position of Second Vice President of the
22 Firemen's Association of the State of New York
23 for a two year term effective immediately
24 following the adjournment of the 146th Annual
25 Meeting.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

218

1

2 MR. PILECKI: Mr. President, Andy Pilecki,
3 past President of Western New York Firemen's
4 Association do hereby ask Secretary D'Alessandro
5 to cast one ballot for Edward Tase, Jr., for the
6 office of Second Vice President of this great
7 organization.

8 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, Andy.

9 We have a motion. Is there a second?

10 MR. MACK: Bruce Mack, past President of
11 Western, seconds the motion.

12 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, Chief.

13 We have a motion and a second.

14 All in favor?

15 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

16 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Opposed?
17 (No response.)
18 MR. PIENKOWSKI: So carried.
19 (Applause.)
20 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, pursuant
21 to the association's by-laws, I hereby cast one
22 ballot for Edward Tase, Jr.
23 Congratulations, Ed.
24 (Applause.)
25 MR. PIENKOWSKI: I request a motion

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

219

1
2 directing the Secretary to cast a single
3 affirmative ballot for John P. Farrell, Jr., for
4 the position of First Vice President of the
5 Firemen's Association of the State of New York
6 for a two year term effective immediately
7 following the adjournment of the 146th Annual
8 Meeting.
9 On the motion.
10 MS. SCHRADER: Past Chief, past President
11 of the West Athens Lime Street Fire Company
12 Number One, makes the motion that the Secretary

13 cast one ballot for John P. Farrell, Jr., a good
14 friend and past President, past Chief, past
15 Commissioner of the West Athens Lime Street Fire
16 Company.

17 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you.

18 We have a motion. Is there a second?

19 MS. GASHON: Mr. President, Victoria
20 Gashon, Treasurer and Chaplain of West Athens
21 Lime Street Fire Company, I proudly second that
22 motion.

23 MR. PIENKOWSKI: We have a motion and a
24 second.

25 All in favor?

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

220

1

2 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

3 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. PIENKOWSKI: So carried.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, pursuant

8 to the association's by-laws, I hereby cast one

9 ballot for John P. Farrell, Jr.

10 Congratulations, John.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. PIENKOWSKI: I request a motion
13 directing the Secretary to cast a single
14 affirmative ballot for Steven E. Klein for the
15 position of President of the Firemen's
16 Association of the State of New York for a two
17 year term to take effect immediately following
18 the adjournment of the 146th Annual Meeting.

19 Do I have a motion?

20 MR. KLEIN: Mr. President, Christopher
21 Klein, Nassau County, grandson, I hereby make a
22 motion that the Secretary cast one affirmative
23 ballot for Steven Klein.

24 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, Chris.

25 Do we have a second?

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

221

1

2 MR. BETTES: Mr. President, Chief Robert
3 Bettes, Oceanside Fire Department, Nassau County,
4 proudly seconds the nomination of President
5 Steven Klein.

6 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, Chief.

7 (Applause.)

8 MR. PIENKOWSKI: We have a motion and a
9 second for Steven E. Klein for President of the
10 Firemen's Association of the State of New York.

11 All in favor?

12 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

13 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Opposed?

14 (No response.)

15 MR. PIENKOWSKI: So carried.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, pursuant
18 to the association's by-laws, I am proud and
19 honored to cast one ballot on behalf of the
20 membership of the Firemen's Association of the
21 State of New York for Steven E. Klein as our 79th
22 President.

23 Congratulations.

24 (Applause.)

25 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Congratulations to all the

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

222

1
2 newly elected officers that's going to lead the
3 Firemen's Association of the State of New York
4 ahead.

5 At this time we will doing our

6 installation. I would like to call upon our
7 attorney, Timothy Hannigan for the installation
8 of officers.

9 Will all of the newly elected FASNY
10 Presidents, Directors, Trustees, please come to
11 the dais and be seated. You will be asked to
12 stand during the installation with a family
13 member or your friend. Once you have been
14 installed, please remain seated on the dais.

15 Marty Thomas, Tony DeMarco, Michael De
16 Vittorio, Gerry Owenburg, Michael Krummenacker,
17 Laurie Hance, Edward Tase, JP Farrell, Steven E.
18 Klein.

19 MR. HANNIGAN: Martin Thomas, you're up
20 first.

21 (Whereupon, the Oath of Office was
22 administered to Martin Thomas by Attorney Timothy
23 Hannigan).

24 MR. HANNIGAN: Congratulations.

25 (Applause.)

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

3 (Whereupon, the Oath of Office was
4 administered to Anthony DeMarco by Attorney
5 Timothy Hannigan.)

6 MR. HANNIGAN: Congratulations.

7 (Applause.)

8 MR. HANNIGAN: Mr. De Vittorio.

9 (Whereupon, the Oath of Office was
10 administered to Michael J. De Vittorio by
11 Attorney Timothy Hannigan).

12 MR. HANNIGAN: Congratulations.

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. HANNIGAN: Mr. Owenburg.

15 (Whereupon, the Oath of Office was
16 administered to Gerard Owenburg by Attorney
17 Timothy Hannigan).

18 MR. HANNIGAN: Congratulations.

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. HANNIGAN: Mr. Krummenacker.

21 (Whereupon, the Oath of Office was
22 administered to Michael K. Krummenacker by
23 Attorney Timothy Hannigan).

24 MR. HANNIGAN: Congratulations.

25 (Applause.)

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

MR. HANNIGAN: Laurie Hance.

(Whereupon, the Oath of Office was administered to Laurie Hance by Attorney Timothy Hannigan).

MR. HANNIGAN: Congratulations.

(Applause.)

MR. HANNIGAN: Lockport's own, Edward Tase, Jr. I was baptized in Lockport so.

(Whereupon, the Oath of Office was administered to Edward J. Tase, Jr., by Attorney Timothy Hannigan).

MR. HANNIGAN: Congratulations.

(Applause.)

MR. HANNIGAN: Mr. John Farrell.

(Whereupon, the Oath of Office was administered to John P. Farrell, Jr., by Attorney Timothy Hannigan).

MR. HANNIGAN: Congratulations.

(Applause.)

MR. HANNIGAN: Steven Klein.

(Whereupon, the Oath of Office was administered to Steven E. Klein by Attorney Timothy Hannigan).

MR. HANNIGAN: Congratulations.

1

2 (Applause.)

3 MR. PIENKOWSKI: My shoulders feel so much
4 better.

5 MR. KLEIN: The best kind of president is a
6 past president.

7 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Congratulations to
8 everybody that was installed and will lead FASNY
9 in a motion.

10 Now some remarks from our elected and
11 installed candidates.

12 First we will hear from Trustee Martin
13 Thomas.

14 MR. THOMAS: Good morning.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

16 MR. THOMAS: FASNY Presidents, Board of
17 Directors, Trustees, FASNY members, family,
18 friends, guests. Last October, I was honored to
19 be endorsed by Onondaga County Volunteer
20 Firemen's Association for the nomination of
21 trustee of the Firemen's Home. I wish to thank
22 my fellow OCVFA members, past President Mike
23 Caron, the steering committee, and the Chairman
24 Rick Nemeyer for your confidence in me to serve

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

226

1

2 Thanks to my own fire department as well as
3 Central and Northern Central for your support and
4 letters of endorsement, Dave Blair for presenting
5 my nomination speech, and all the members of
6 FASNY for electing me to this position today.

7 I want to thank my fellow board members for
8 your guidance and friendship, especially a big
9 thanks to outgoing trustee David Blair. You have
10 been truly a great friend and mentor.

11 I would also like to thank my personal
12 secretary and travelling companion, my wife,
13 April, for her love and encouragement. She's
14 awesome with the details, and she does all the
15 typing about a hundred times faster than I do.
16 Thank you, dear. I thank my family for their
17 love and support, especially my grandchildren for
18 their enthusiasm. Finally, I would like to thank
19 my parents, Burt and Pat Thomas, for leading by
20 example and installing in me a deep appreciation
21 of the fire service. My dad set a high standard
22 as a trustee, and it is my privilege to follow in

23 his footsteps.
24 I stand before you ready to meet the
25 challenges that come with being a trustee, and I

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

227

1
2 will do my very best to be a good steward for our
3 Firemen's Home, the best facility in the nation
4 for our retired brothers and sisters of the
5 volunteer fire service in the State of New York.

6 Again, I thank you the members of FASNY for
7 electing me to the Board of Trustees for the
8 Firemen's Home.

9 (Applause.)

10 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you Marty.

11 Trustee elect, Tony DeMarco.

12 MR. DEMARCO: I had a long speech, but then
13 I decided to keep it short and sweet like myself.

14 To outgoing President Pienkowski, incoming
15 President Klein, Vice President Farrell, incoming
16 Vice President Ed Tase, President Schmidt,
17 Trustees, Board members, Chaplain Jagow,
18 officers, members, friends, and guests. I would
19 like to thank past President Bruce Mack from the

20 Western New York City Firemen's Association for
21 introducing me and Harold Wolleber for seconding
22 the nomination. I would like to thank Caledonia
23 Fire Department, Livingston County Firemen's
24 Association, Western New York Firemen's
25 Association for their endorsement and support. A

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

228

1
2 special thanks to Dave Wolf for his 10 years as
3 trustee and all the guidance that he gave me and
4 pushing me, the envelope open for me and helping
5 me get this position.

6 I would like to say a few words. I walked
7 through the halls of the Home, of the new Home
8 here a few months ago for the first time in the
9 new Home. I was wondering to myself, is this a
10 resort or is this an actual home. A great job
11 the Board and trustees did building this facility
12 for our brothers and sisters. I would like to
13 let them know that I am going to give them all
14 the help and support that I can give them, and I
15 would like to give a special thanks to my best
16 friend, wife of 40 years, for all her support and
17 endorsements, my wife, Kathy. I love you.

18 Thank you.
19 (Applause.)
20 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Congratulations, Tony.

21 Board of Trustee elected for his second
22 five year term, Michael Di Vittorio.

23 MR. DI VITTORIO: Thank you, Mr. President.
24 And if you'll excuse, with your permission, I
25 would like to digress from my written remarks for

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

229

1
2 one second.

3 MR. PIENKOWSKI: You have the mic. You're
4 in control.

5 MR. DI VITTORIO: Mr. Hannigan, President
6 Elect Klein, in the words of my last mother who
7 barely stood five foot one at her best day and my
8 younger sister who was barely five foot, she put
9 her on top of a box, be very careful when you
10 pick on Laurie, great things come in small
11 packages.

12 (Laughter.)

13 MR. KLEIN: They don't get bad, they get
14 even.

15 MR. DI VITTORIO: Believe me, they do.
16 Mr. President, Vice Presidents, President
17 Elect Klein, President Elect Tase, Reverend
18 Clergy, Reverend Jagow, officers of FASNY,
19 Trustees of FASNY, ladies and gentlemen, my
20 fellow members of FASNY, I would like to start my
21 remarks I would like to thank past Trustee Paul
22 O'Brien for the wonderful introduction and for
23 the support he has given me that have made my way
24 to this point. Paul, still trying to figure out
25 which of the meetings are the four meetings of

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

230

1
2 the year that I have to attend. At some point,
3 somebody will tell me which are the four.
4 I am going to keep my remarks this morning
5 brief, and I would like to thank you, my fellow
6 members, for having the confidence in my ability
7 to reelect me to a second term on the Board of
8 Trustees. I'd also like to thank all of you for
9 trusting me with a small portion of the
10 responsibility for caring for our most valuable
11 asset, our members of the Home, the finest group
12 of guys and gals you'd ever want to meet. And in

13 the words of Port Chester's most famous son, Ed
14 Sullivan, some of who are here with us today, so
15 thank you guys, all of you.

16 I look forward to continuing to represent
17 the best interest of our members at the Home and
18 the best of our general membership in the years
19 to come. I would like to thank everyone who
20 signed my nominating petitions, all those members
21 and organizations that sent their endorsements,
22 and the officers and members of the Southern New
23 York, the Hudson Valley, and Western County
24 Volunteer Firemen's Associations, and especially
25 their steering committees for all their support.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

231

1
2 I would also like to send a big thanks to the
3 past President of the Board of Trustees Jim
4 Farrell for all his support as the Westchester
5 County Volunteer Firemen's Association chair,
6 another team member of it's only four meetings a
7 year club.

8 (Laughter.)

9 MR. DI VITTORIO: So let's have a great day

10 today. I'll stop it here. Let's all work
11 together to keep the FASNY Firemen's Home what
12 it's always been, the greatest facility of its
13 kind in the nation, our home away from home.

14 Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Chief, I have an answer to
17 that when are the four meetings a year going to
18 come, after your second five year term.

19 (Laughter.)

20 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Firemen's Home Trustee for
21 a second five year term, Gerry Owenburg.

22 MR. OWENBURG: I would like to thank FASNY
23 and all the members for having this opportunity.
24 I started this journey unfortunately by losing a
25 close friend, Teddy Rosko. I hope I did the

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

232

1
2 first five years to honor him, and I promise I'll
3 do the second five years the same. I am looking
4 forward to doing this term, taking care of the
5 brothers and sisters at the Home. Five years ago
6 I made the promise to you to keep the Home the
7 best there is. I hoped I lived up to it, the

8 members.

9 UNKNOWN AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes, you did.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. OWENBURG: Eddie, I thank you, the
12 staff. They're the best. They make the place
13 what it is. Those of you who know me, when I get
14 to the Home I walk the halls. It's an amazing
15 place. Talking to the members and the staff.
16 It's the best part of the whole thing. The staff
17 is great. Any time you travel upstate always
18 stop at the Home. I urge anyone that travels to
19 stop at the Home, talk to the brothers and
20 sisters. They're amazing people with a great
21 history of the fire service, great history
22 happening around us.

23 County days, tell everybody. Go to their
24 County days. Go up and talk to these people.
25 All the residents love the visitors, parades, and

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

233

1
2 of course, the food the drinks. On your way
3 home -- If you've never been to the Home, what
4 have you been doing? Make this a year to start

5 visiting the Home. If you're passing the Home on
6 your way home, stop there. The Home is now 125
7 years old. We ask all in the fire family to keep
8 our brothers and sisters safe.

9 I would like to thank the trustees, the
10 past trustees and the trustees I will be working
11 for now. I sound like the Luke Gehrig here.
12 They became more than trustees, friends and
13 family, and their families became friends of
14 mine, and I thank you all for that.

15 I would like to thank past President Robert
16 McConville for introducing me and all the
17 mentoring that you have done. Thank you very
18 much, Bob. Thank you Suffolk County Vollies for
19 putting me on this journey. Unspoken heroes,
20 LAFASNY, they work behind the scenes, and they do
21 so much for the Home, and they ask for no
22 recognition. The things they do are amazing for
23 our brothers and sisters, and they ask for no
24 rewards, but thank you very much for what you do.

25 And last I thank my wife and family for

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

3 I thank you all. Thank you very much.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, Gerry.

6 Board of Director Elect Michael

7 Krummenacker.

8 MR. KRUMMENACKER: Thank you. Just before

9 I read my prepared statement, yesterday was the

10 nomination process, for those of you that weren't

11 here yesterday, and after that was over I was

12 approached by a group of fellow firefighters,

13 members from my department, and I said, oh, they

14 must be coming to congratulate me. So they're

15 coming up to me, Mike, can we ask you a few

16 questions? I said, oh, sure, sure, sure. They

17 said, when did you get appointed to Board? I

18 said, well, I was appointed to a vacancy in

19 December. They said, yeah, yeah, okay. You get

20 there in December, first thing that happens is

21 longtime legal counsel Ed Cook announces his

22 retirement. They hire, not one, but two

23 attorneys to watch over you then, and they said

24 the real kicker was the longtime spiritual leader

25 and Chaplain Reverend Jagow announces his

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1

2 retirement. What are you going to do after that?

3 (Laughter.)

4 MR. PIENKOWSKI: And the President leaves.

5 MR. KRUMMENACKER: Yeah, and the President
6 leaves too.

7 Just want to state, to the executive
8 officers, Presidents, Vice Presidents, Board of
9 Directors, Board of Trustees, Reverend Clergy,
10 past officers, Ladies Auxiliary, members,
11 delegates, and guests, I am very proud, honored,
12 and humbled to accept the position of your
13 Director of the Firemen's Association of the
14 State of New York. First, my wife, Fran, for all
15 her support and endurance during the course of my
16 excursion through the volunteer fire service.

17 And we're working that same question that comes
18 up time after time over time, how many meetings
19 do you have this week? And I would go through
20 the list. She goes, no, no, I just want to know
21 do I have to feed you, or they are going to feed
22 you?

23 (Laughter.)

24 MR. KRUMMENACKER: To the officers, Board
25 of Directors, and members of Nassau County

1
2 Firemen's Association, thank you for your
3 nomination, support, and endorsement, help, and
4 guidance in attaining the position of FASNY
5 Director. Your trust is sincerely appreciated.
6 Thank you also to the other counties, sectionals,
7 and associations for your support. My fire
8 company, Protection Hook and Ladder Company
9 Number One, to the officers and members, I could
10 not say enough. Your help and support exceeds my
11 expectations. To the Hicksville Fire Department
12 District Board of Fire Commissioners, Chiefs'
13 officers, and company members of the department,
14 ladies auxiliary, the Junior firefighters, and
15 the exempt members, your aide assistance has not
16 gone unnoticed, and I extend my sincere thank you
17 for that and what you have done to help and
18 support me.

19 Throughout my career and involvement in
20 volunteer fire service for over 45 years, I never
21 had the vision that I would one day attain this
22 position and stand here before you as a Director
23 for FASNY. I make this commitment to you that I
24 will work for the benefit of the New York State

25 Volunteer Fire Service. I will be a diligent

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

237

1

2 force working within the structure of FASNY to
3 help advance the causes of the volunteer fire
4 service. Let it be known that there is no other
5 association that does more for the volunteer
6 firefighters in State of New York than FASNY. My
7 commitment is true.

8 In closing, I thank you all for this
9 opportunity to work for you. Thank you for your
10 support, confidence, and most importantly, your
11 friendship.

12 Thank you for you this opportunity. God
13 bless, and God bless America.

14 (Applause.)

15 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Thank you, Mike.

16 Board of Director elect for her second five
17 year term, Laurie Hance.

18 MS. HANCE: President Pienkowski, Klein,
19 Farrell, Board of Directors, Trustees of the
20 Firemen's Home, clergy, fellow brothers and
21 sisters, and invited guests. Five years ago I

22 ventured into a leadership role with FASNY
23 running for a five year term as Director upon the
24 retirement of James Cayey. I was fully confident
25 that this endeavor should not be taken lightly

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

238

1
2 and required great commitment. I can earnestly
3 state that my role as Director of FASNY has been
4 the most challenging, but also the most rewarding
5 thing that I have undertaken in the volunteer
6 fire service. It remains as one of the top life
7 experiences that have been of major importance to
8 me and impacted me forever. I have gained true
9 and strong bonds with fellow directors, officers,
10 and appointed leaders of this great family known
11 as FASNY, and I look forward to the opportunity
12 of continuing this path for my next term of
13 office.

14 One does expect that challenges and
15 differences when in a leadership role.
16 Differences and a wide range of attitudes always
17 come in play at times when trying to ensure that
18 you are doing what you feel is best for the
19 members.

20 Leadership in FASNY seemingly has given us
21 the ability to have a variety of opinions, but
22 still be able to maintain one self. The main
23 objective for us is that we are all in these
24 rooms to do whatever is best for this
25 association.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

239

1

2 I extend my sincere gratitude and
3 appreciation to the leaders that I have served
4 during my term, Presidents Burns, McConville,
5 Pienkowski, all Board of Directors and Trustees.
6 You all have shaped and influenced how I served
7 as Director, and I truly thank you for your
8 support and guidance.

9 I cannot omit the Northern New York
10 Volunteer Firemen's Association officers and
11 members, along with Joseph Finnegan, James Cayey,
12 Bill Grant, and many others. It was with your
13 full support that I was able to achieve this
14 accomplishment. I wish to extend sincere
15 appreciation to all of you.

16 Last of all, I need to say thank to the

17 main supporters of me, which is my children and
18 my husband, Wayne. You have been there for me
19 for all the challenges and never quivered -- I
20 love you, and thank you with all my heart.

21 Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Wayne, you need some
24 brownie points after this morning.

25 (Laughter.)

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

240

1

2 MR. HANCE: Thanks, Ken.

3 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Laurie made a statement
4 when she came up and gave her acceptance speech
5 about no comment. I'm the type of guy I could
6 have made a comment about every one of the people
7 that gave their acceptance speech today, but very
8 seriously -- I'm trying to behave, especially for
9 my friend, Mike Krummenacker --

10 Now we will hear an acceptance speech from
11 Second Vice President Edward Tase.

12 MR. TASE: Thank you, Ken.

13 Officers, member, guests of the Firemen's
14 Association of the State of New York, I stand

15 before you today to proudly accept the office of
16 Second Vice President of the Firemen's
17 Association of the State of New York. I accept
18 this position with great pride and honor to be
19 elected to serve you. I want to say thank you to
20 my home base fire department, the Frontier
21 Volunteer Fire Company, Oneida County Volunteer
22 Firemen's Association, the Western New York
23 Volunteer Firemen's Association, for all and all
24 other sectionals who have supported me through
25 this journey. I truly appreciate all the support

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

241

1
2 throughout the years, this path that led me to
3 this office I am now being elected to. I will to
4 the best my ability serve as your Second Vice
5 President of FASNY.

6 Also thank you to Brian McQueen for my
7 introduction to this office. Also, it goes
8 without saying, that the love and support of
9 family is what enables us to achieve our highest
10 goals in life, and that includes the fire
11 service. It started with my parents who were

12 very active in the fire service who brought me to
13 many FASNY conventions through the years who were
14 very active as we went through the line.

15 To my very supportive wife, Linda, 38 years
16 of love and support every step of the way and who
17 also kept me straight and narrow.

18 (Laughter.)

19 MR. TASE: Thank you to my wonderful
20 daughters, Amanda and Kristin, to their husbands,
21 and my three wonderful, precious grandchildren.
22 My girls have grown up attending all of these
23 conventions and helped me all tremendously over
24 the years.

25 To the FASNY family and friends who have

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

242

1
2 supported me, continue to support me in
3 everything I do, you must like me.

4 (Laughter.)

5 MR. TASE: I want to say thank you to all
6 of you.

7 In conclusion, as I move forward as your
8 Second Vice President, I cannot stress enough
9 that I will continue to be your voice for all of

10 you who are part of the FASNY membership. I am
11 here to serve each and every one of you. Please,
12 if you any questions, concerns, or suggestions,
13 don't ever hesitate to contact us.

14 Thank you. God bless you and God bless
15 American and the Firemen's Association of the
16 State of New York.

17 (Applause.)

18 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Acceptance speech from
19 First Vice President John P. Farrell, Jr.

20 MR. FARRELL: Good morning.

21 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

22 MR. FARRELL: Reverend Clergy, President
23 Klein, Vice President Tase, Board of Directors,
24 Board of Trustees, delegates, and most of all,
25 the membership of the Firemen's Association of

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

243

1

2 the State of New York.

3 Thank you for you giving me the honor to

4 serve this past two years as your Second Vice

5 President and thank you for allowing me to

6 continue on as First Vice President. To my true

7 friend and mentor, George Stacey, thank you for
8 the warm introduction on Saturday morning. It
9 truly means a lot to me. These past two years
10 under the leadership of President Pienkowski I've
11 learned so much of the operation of this
12 organization. I want to congratulate President
13 Ken on his accomplishments these two years.
14 Under your leadership the multipurpose facility
15 was completed, and most of all, a 125th
16 anniversary celebration at the Firemen's Home was
17 a resounding success, but most of all, thank you
18 for your guidance and for your encouragement as
19 we work together as a team for the betterment of
20 this great association; and I wish you and your
21 wife, Barbara, the best in the future.

22 I want to take this opportunity as well to
23 say thank you to the sectional associations for
24 their support and encouragement. A special
25 thanks to the Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

244

1
2 Association for their support, and many thanks to
3 my own company, West Athens Lime Street, Green
4 County Firemen's Association, Fire Police, and

5 Fire Chiefs for the many years of support, but of
6 course to a special lady in my life, Marilyn,
7 thank you for your support, encouragement, and
8 most of all being my travelling partner over the
9 years. I can still remember back in 1971 when I
10 first got into the fire service, and I left you
11 at the rescue squad building for several hours, I
12 knew you were the lady. Thank you so much.

13 And today I just want to take a little bit
14 also to say my daughter Michelle is here, came up
15 from Washington D.C., her husband, Brian, and of
16 course, what keeps us all going is our children,
17 Sierra, Kelen, and Shaylyn, and I think they are
18 right there.

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. FARRELL: Over the last two years under
21 President Ken is one thing family comes first,
22 and that's what it's all about, so thank you,
23 Michelle.

24 President Klein, I know your number one
25 goal during your administration is recruitment

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

2 and retention, and I agree that this topic is
3 affecting all the fire districts throughout the
4 state of New York, and I'm looking forward to
5 working with you, the officers, the committees,
6 and membership of this great association as well,
7 along with our united concerns state
8 organizations to find ways to address this issue.

9 It is extremely necessary that we find
10 initiatives for the fire districts in this time
11 of need.

12 In closing, I accept the position of First
13 Vice President of the Firemen's Association of
14 the State of New York, and I pledge to you that I
15 will perform my duties of this office to the best
16 of my ability.

17 Thank you so much.

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Now the acceptance speech
20 from your President, Steven Klein.

21 (Applause.)

22 MR. KLEIN: Good morning.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

24 MR. KLEIN: A president can only do a job
25 if he has a great team behind him, and I want to

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2 thank you, the members, for electing the team
3 that is sitting behind me and next to me now,
4 because I am just -- Well, I will read my speech.
5 Never mind.

6 (Laughter.)

7 MR. KLEIN: Good morning.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

9 MR. KLEIN: I would like to start with a
10 quote -- Don't take this personally. It's a
11 quote -- "I am not a politician, no professional
12 man, no lawyer, judge, or anything like the
13 others have been. I am a common everyday mail
14 carrier." That quote is from the acceptance
15 speech of President John Mahaney, who was sworn
16 in as president of this association at the 1918
17 convention, and that convention was held in
18 Lockport. So today, a hundred years later,
19 you've got a letter carrier standing up here, and
20 a Vice President from Lockport, and the kid. You
21 get the kid too. That's a bonus.

22 (Laughter.)

23 MR. KLEIN: We've come a long way in a
24 hundred years. Although in this day and age
25 being a letter carrier is probably a little more

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23

respected than being a politician or a judge or a lawyer. Okay. It was tough, but I got it out.

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: All kidding aside, as I take office as your president, there are many people I have to thank, and I will start with the officers and members of the Oceanside Fire Department, particularly those members from Terrace Hose Company Number Three and Ocean Fire Hose Company Number One, the two companies that I have had the pleasure to serve in during my fire service career. The Board of Fire Commissioners and the Chiefs have also supported me through the years. To all the firefighters in Nassau County and the Southern New York Firemen's Association, many of whom I have debated on a lot of issues, thank you for your friendship and support. I have had the good fortune to serve as a trustee of the Firemen's Home for a period of 10 years, still the most rewarding 10 year period of my life. The people I met and privilege to work with and for became wonderful friends and teachers. Thank

24 you to all the trustees for your dedication for
25 the members of the Home. To the past presidents

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

248

1
2 I have worked with, thank you for your advice and
3 support. Past President McConville and Virginia
4 and Pienkowski and Barbara, thanks so much for
5 your patience with me and my somewhat crazy
6 schedule for accepting my posse as part of your
7 entourage. Bob and Ken, your outstanding
8 leadership have moved our association to a level
9 never before reached by FASNY. Our relationship
10 with our fire service partners and with state
11 government has never been better.

12 Finally, my family, some of whom are still
13 here. Thank you for your understanding and
14 support when I miss an event. Yesterday was my
15 daughter's birthday. Thank you.

16 To my son, Kevin, and grandson, Chris, who
17 did my introduction, thank you for being here.

18 In closing, it was during President
19 Mahaney's term that the officer of the State Fire
20 Marshal was created and the creation of the fire
21 service museum was first proposed. I would also

22 like to mention that past President Buckenmeyer
23 and President Burns were both letter carriers and
24 employees of the postal service. Very big shoes
25 to fill indeed. I promise you I will do my best

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

249

1
2 to fill them.

3 God bless you all, and God bless America.

4 Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Members of FASNY, your
7 elected Presidents, Directors, and Trustees for
8 the Firemen's Association of the State of New
9 York for the next two and five years.

10 Congratulations.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Please remain seated or
13 stand in place while we prepare for the Annual
14 FASNY Heroes Award Ceremony sponsored by VFIS,
15 where we honor the firefighter of the year and
16 the EMS provider of the year.

17 Thank you. We will take a couple of
18 minutes to change the hall around and for the

19 procession to line up.

20 (Whereupon, there was a brief recess.)

21 MR. PILECKI: Good morning, everyone. I
22 would like to take a moment to welcome everybody
23 to the 2018 Firefighter and EMS Provider of the
24 Year Awards. President Pienkowski, Vice
25 President Klein, Vice President Farrell, Second

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

250

1
2 Vice President Elect Tase, our FASNY officers,
3 our LAFASNY officers, our Reverend Clergy that
4 are present here, all our delegates, members, and
5 distinguished guests. Welcome, everyone, and a
6 very good morning to all of you once again.

7 It is truly an honor to stand here before
8 you this morning as the Chairman of the
9 Firefighter of the Year Award Committee and to
10 present the combined awards for the 2018 EMS
11 Provider of the Year and the 2018 Firefighter of
12 the Year. I would like to take a moment and ask
13 our Sergeant-at-Arms in the back to assemble our
14 FASNY officers, our committee members, and our
15 special awardees this morning.

16 And now I am going to ask the Color Guard

17 from the Brookhaven Fire Department to lead the
18 2018 Firefighter of the Year and the 2018 EMS
19 Provider of the Year into the main hall. This
20 morning our recipients are being escorted by
21 President Pienkowski, our Vice Presidents Klein
22 and Farrell; Joseph Giorgi, our Regional Vice
23 President from VFIS; and members of our
24 committees.

25 Welcome, and let us begin.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

251

1

2 (Whereupon, bag pipes were played and the
3 recipients entered the convention hall.)

4 MR. PILECKI: Color Guard, post the colors,
5 please.

6 Please be seated. At this time it gives me
7 great pleasure to turn this portion of the
8 program over to member of the EMS committee,
9 Mr. David Van Slyke, for the presentation of the
10 2018 EMS Provider of the Year award. Dave.

11 MR. VAN SLYKE: Thank you. Good morning.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

13 MR. VAN SLYKE: President Pienkowski, Vice

14 President Klein, Vice President Farrell, FASNY
15 Directors, LAFASNY Officers, Reverend Clergy,
16 delegate members, and guests, welcome to the EMS
17 Provider of the Year portion of the heroes
18 program. The EMS committee, consisting of
19 Chairwoman Meryl Montrose of Suffolk County,
20 Michael Quinn from Dutchess County, Scott
21 McRobbie of St. Lawrence County, David Simmons
22 from Delaware County, Royer Pfersick from Monroe
23 County, Wendi Walker of Niagara County; and
24 myself, David Van Slyke, from Onondaga County,
25 and I have to mention our liaison, Second Vice

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

252

1
2 President John Farrell, from Green County. Thank
3 you for all your efforts in the last year.

4 The EMS committee accepted nominations
5 until March 15, 2018, then they were graded by
6 the committee for selection.

7 Ladies and Gentlemen, it is my pleasure and
8 honor to introduce this year's FASNY EMS
9 Providers of the Year, Ian King EMT-CC and Shane
10 Sharkey EMT-B, of the Southampton Volunteer
11 Ambulance Corp.

12 (Applause.)

13 MR. VAN SLYKE: At this time I will ask Ian
14 and Shane to remain standing as I read an excerpt
15 of the nomination provided by Tom Nanos, First
16 Assistant Chief of the Southampton Volunteer
17 Ambulance Corp.

18 "At approximately 0248 hours on June 18,
19 2017, the Town of Southampton Police dispatch
20 received a call concerning a motor vehicle
21 accident in the vicinity of 400 Noyac Road,
22 Southampton, New York. The Southampton Volunteer
23 Ambulance Corp (SVA), along with Southampton Town
24 Police, and the North Sea Fire Department, was
25 activated. At approximately 0251 hours, the

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

253

1
2 Southampton Volunteer Ambulance unit 7-14-80
3 arrived with King and Sharkey aboard, arrived on
4 the scene and notified dispatch that the vehicle
5 was on fire with an occupant trapped within.
6 Without hesitation or regard for their personal
7 safety, without personal protective equipment or
8 a hose line to protect them from the flames, King

9 and Sharkey descended a small embankment,
10 traversed a dense thicket of vines, and proceeded
11 towards the burning vehicle.

12 The vehicle appeared to have rolled several
13 times and came to rest on the passenger side of
14 the vehicle. The engine compartment was well
15 involved with fire. An arriving firefighter
16 deployed a small fire extinguisher in an attempt
17 to aid King and Sharkey by pushing the fire away
18 from the passenger compartment. King and Sharkey
19 entered the heavily damaged cab of the vehicle
20 and made contact with the occupant. While inside
21 the cab, King and Sharkey deployed a small fire
22 extinguisher to drive back the flames and
23 facilitate patient extraction, as the fire had
24 gained intensity and advanced to the vehicles
25 firewall and threatened all within.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

254

1
2 Working as a team, King and Sharkey managed
3 to pull the victim from the vehicle and deliver
4 him to a safe location, carrying him through the
5 thicket and up the embankment to the shoulder of
6 the roadway. They immediately began assessment

7 and treatment of the patient.

8 Moving the victim required great physical
9 effort as the brush was dense and their path
10 uphill, along with the patient weighing 190 to
11 200 lbs., was altered and unable to assist in his
12 own rescue. This was no small task.

13 Approximately six minutes later, the flames
14 from the vehicle reached 12 to 25 feet in height
15 and were extending to the overhanging cedar
16 trees. King and Sharkey had to retreat with
17 their patient to the opposite shoulder of the
18 roadway as the fire gained intensity and
19 threatened their location. The responding
20 Southampton Volunteer Ambulance Corp and crew
21 arrived to assist with treatment and transport of
22 the patient to the Southampton Hospital. Due to
23 dense fog conditions, the Suffolk County Police
24 Department Aviation was unable to respond.

25 The actions of Southampton Volunteer

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

255

1
2 Ambulance Corp EMT-CC King and EMT-B Sharkey
3 directly resulted in saving the life of the

4 vehicle occupant at great personal risk,
5 reflecting great credit upon themselves."

6 I now call upon President Pienkowski to
7 present the Medal of Valor to Ian King and Shane
8 Sharkey.

9 (Applause.)

10 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Congratulations. On
11 behalf of the membership of the Firemen's
12 Association for what you did, it was greatly
13 appreciated by all. You can wear this medal at
14 all times, and wear it proudly.

15 Congratulations.

16 MR. VAN SLYKE: Thank you.

17 I now call upon Vice President Klein to
18 present the uniform bar to Ian King and Shane
19 Sharkey, please.

20 MR. KLEIN: We give you this bar to wear on
21 your uniform. I see it's not your first. I wish
22 you good health, and good luck in the future.
23 Keep doing what you're doing, because you're a
24 testament to us all. Thank you so much.

25 Chief, congratulations. Keep up the great

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

2 work. Giving credit to the fire service and EMS
3 service. Too often we get a lot of bad
4 publicity, and we like to have good publicity,
5 and we thank you for what you've done.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. VAN SLYKE: I now call upon Vice
8 President Farrell to present a gift from the
9 association to Ian King and Shane Sharkey.

10 MR. FARRELL: Congratulations to both of
11 you. Job well done. This is from the officers
12 and members of FASNY, just a small gift.

13 MR. KING: Thank you.

14 MR. SHARKEY: Thank you.

15 MR. FARRELL: Thank you very much.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. VAN SLYKE: Ladies and gentlemen, I
18 again present to you the 2018 EMS Providers of
19 the Year for the Firemen's Association of the
20 State of New York.

21 (Applause.)

22 MR. VAN SLYKE: I now call upon President
23 Pienkowski and Mr. Joseph Giorgi, Jr., Regional
24 Vice President of VFIS, to present the department
25 flag to Chief Shane Sharkey.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

MR. PIENKOWSKI: Display it proudly.

MR. VAN SLYKE: And now for the flag
presented by President Pienkowski to Ian King.

(Applause.)

MR. VAN SLYKE: At this time I call upon
Ian King and Shane Sharkey to say a few words.

MR. SHARKEY: Just first I just want to
thank everybody for being here and thank FASNY
for the award. It's an honor. It wasn't really
expected, but it's nice to be able to represent
everybody working EMS and to be here today.

(Applause.)

MR. KING: I just want to start off
thanking everybody. It's a great honor. It
actually means a lot putting in the work and time
throughout the year just to keep our
certifications and stuff like that, but I also
want to apologize because Tom Hance wasn't able
to make it. It had something come up, and that's
why I accepted the department flag.

(Applause.)

MR. VAN SLYKE: Once again, I would like to
congratulate our 2018 Providers of the Year on a
great job.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23

(Applause.)

MR. VAN SLYKE: At this time I would like to turn the program over to Andrew Pilecki for the Firefighter of the Year presentation.

Thank you very much.

MR. PILECKI: Dave, once again, thank you for a great representation, and I would personally like to congratulate both Ian and Shane for an outstanding job as being named the 2018 EMS Providers of the Year.

And now we are going to continue on with the Firefighter of Year presentation. This year's FASNY appointed the following committee members to this committee: Our co-Chairman is Mr. Tom Pasquel from Ossining, New York, located in Westchester County. Our Secretary is Mr. James Darcey of East Merrick, New York; and that's located in Nassau County. Mr. Peter Holmes of Rome, New York, in Oneida County; our Assistant Secretary is Mr. Lawrence Hall, Jr., of West Carthage; and that's located in Jefferson County; William Murray of Bay Shore, New York;

24 and that's in Suffolk County; Delbe Spath, also
25 in our committee, of Wallkill, New York; and

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

259

1
2 that's located in Ulster County. Robert Sutton
3 of Islandia, also located in Suffolk County; and
4 I'm Andy Pilecki of Pendleton, New York; and
5 that's located in Niagara County. Also our
6 liaison from the Board of Directors is Mr. Eugene
7 Perry of Patchogue, New York; and once again,
8 that's in Suffolk County.

9 Ladies and gentlemen, it is my pleasure to
10 introduce the 2018 Firefighter of the Year,
11 Firefighter Peter DiPinto, Sr., of the Brookhaven
12 Fire Department. Peter, please stand up.

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. PILECKI: You may be seated, but Peter,
15 you're not done. Please stand up.

16 At this time, I am going to take a moment
17 to read the letter that was submitted from the
18 Brookhaven Fire Department, the Chief of the
19 department, Chief Giuseppe Loiacono.

20 "It was the night of October 10, 2017 at

21 about 10:15 p.m. Firefighter Peter DiPinto, Sr.,
22 of the Brookhaven Fire Department, and his wife,
23 were just settling into bed. Suddenly there was
24 a loud noise that Firefighter DiPinto immediately
25 recognized, the sound of a motor vehicle

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

260

1
2 accident, and that was in the vicinity of Montauk
3 Highway and Arthur Avenue. Peter, living right
4 around the corner, jumped out of bed in his
5 pajamas and t-shirt, threw on his sneakers, and
6 grabbed a flashlight. As he ran to the door, his
7 wife, Laura, said that she was going with him.
8 Both of them jumped in their car and raced around
9 the corner, and the first thing they noticed when
10 they arrived they saw a vehicle by the railroad
11 crossing whose front end was very smashed in.
12 Firefighter DiPinto stopped his car just behind
13 that railroad crossing and told his wife, Laura,
14 to move that vehicle so that they would not block
15 any responding emergency vehicles. Then
16 Firefighter DiPinto ran to that first car, and
17 that driver was just exiting that vehicle, and he
18 asked if she was hurt. That lady kept on saying

19 that she was hit by another car, and it was her
20 fault. That lady, that victim, was more
21 concerned about that other driver. Firefighter
22 DiPinto said, what other car; and at that,
23 Firefighter DiPinto's wife, Laura, said, look,
24 there was a car down those railroad tracks. She
25 saw the headlights on that vehicle. Firefighter

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

261

1
2 DiPinto turned and saw that vehicle sitting
3 perpendicular across those tracks with the
4 driver's side facing towards Bellport.
5 Firefighter DiPinto ran down those tracks to the
6 car, and upon arriving to it, could see with his
7 flashlight that it had sustained a tremendous,
8 tremendous amount of damage, and that vehicle was
9 hit on the driver's side door. He also noticed
10 that the driver's airbag curtain and the steering
11 wheel airbag was also deployed. Firefighter
12 DiPinto banged on that window. Are you okay?
13 Are you okay? The lady in that vehicle, with a
14 very low voice, said she didn't know what had
15 happened, and she kept on saying that she thinks

16 that she was hit by another vehicle. Firefighter
17 DiPinto said, honey, you were hit by another
18 vehicle, and you're on the railroad tracks, and
19 we have to get out. Suddenly, the sound of the
20 Arthur Avenue railroad crossing bells and gates
21 were activated. He could also remember hearing
22 the sounds of the train horn blaring coming at
23 them. Once again, without any regard for his own
24 safety, he had nothing more than the flashlight
25 in his hands and wearing pajamas, t-shirt, and

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

262

1
2 sneakers, Firefighter DiPinto ran around that
3 vehicle to the passenger side, and the only thing
4 that was going through his mind was he was hoping
5 that that victim was not pinned under that
6 steering wheel. Firefighter DiPinto opened that
7 door, but the sound of the train's horn was
8 blaring in the still of the night. As he opened
9 the front door the first thing Firefighter
10 DiPinto saw, he saw a child's car seat in the
11 back of that SUV. He screamed to that lady, to
12 that victim, is anyone else in that vehicle? The
13 woman was still dazed, and apparently in shock,

14 and said, what? Firefighter DiPinto, now can see
15 the train's bright light come speeding towards
16 that vehicle that he was in. He again screamed
17 to that lady in that vehicle, is there anyone
18 else in that car? Then the woman responded, no,
19 he was at home with her husband. The train was
20 still coming closer and closer to them.
21 Firefighter DiPinto reached in and saw that that
22 victim had undone her safety belt. He screamed
23 to her, we have to go now, and she tried to move
24 from her seat, but she was having much
25 difficulty. Firefighter DiPinto looked up and

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

263

1
2 saw the bright light of the train and the horn
3 blasting. He realized it was now or never. He
4 grabbed that lady's right wrist, leaned into that
5 car, grabbed her left arm, and pulled as hard as
6 he could. They almost fell backwards, but now
7 she was out of that vehicle and on to the tracks.
8 That train was almost upon them. Firefighter
9 DiPinto, holding that victim's arm and almost
10 dragging her to the signal hut that was nearby

11 those tracks. He knew he had to get them some
12 kind of shelter knowing that that train was just
13 about to collide with that vehicle. Firefighter
14 DiPinto was afraid of flying debris. They ran
15 about 10 to 12 steps and then heard a tremendous
16 noise as that train totally, totally destroyed
17 that vehicle. The car was a ball of metal on the
18 south side of the tracks. The smoke was all
19 around them from that train locking up its brakes
20 and hitting that vehicle. All of a sudden
21 Firefighter DiPinto saw his wife. She was
22 screaming down those tracks. She thought that he
23 was killed. Then a vehicle from Montauk Highway
24 had stopped. Firefighter DiPinto yelled to him
25 to call 911. That passerby had already dialed

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

264

1
2 911. He saw what was going on. Firefighter
3 DiPinto and his wife, Laura, then took the two
4 victims into their own vehicle just to keep them
5 safe. Both of those victims were dazed and
6 possibly going into shock. And then emergency
7 vehicles and the emergency responders arrived.
8 The Suffolk County Police then arrived with the

9 Brookhaven Chief, First Assistant Chief, and
10 Second Assistant Chief, and also responding was
11 the MTA Police. According to what the MTA Police
12 could figure, it was approximately five to seven
13 seconds after Firefighter DiPinto pulled that
14 victim out of the vehicle and that train collided
15 and destroyed that car.

16 Everybody has to recall that this entire
17 rescue happened without the aid of any emergency
18 equipment or other firefighters at that scene.
19 Firefighter DiPinto believes that this was divine
20 intervention, and he is so happy that that victim
21 is still alive and she is able to live with her
22 family."

23 For courage, bravery, heroism, above and
24 beyond the call of duty, it is my honor to
25 nominate Firefighter Peter DiPinto, Sr., for the

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

265

1
2 award of Firefighter of the Year.

3 Ladies and gentlemen, our awardee,
4 Firefighter Peter DiPinto, Sr.

5 (Applause.)

6 MR. PILECKI: And now you may be seated
7 once again. At this time, I am going to call
8 Mr. Joseph Giorgi, Jr. He is a Regional Vice
9 President of VFIS, and I am going to ask him to
10 present the association flag with President
11 Pienkowski to Firefighter Peter DiPinto. Just as
12 a side note, Mr. Giorgi is no stranger to the
13 fire service. He's been involved in the fire
14 service for 40 years, been responsible for
15 representing VFIS in seven states, and he was
16 also a Commissioner in New Jersey. So once
17 again, President Pienkowski, Mr. Giorgi, please
18 step forward.

19 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Congratulations.

20 (Applause.)

21 MR. PILECKI: Ladies and gentlemen, and now
22 we have come to highlight of this ceremony, and
23 probably the highlight of this entire convention.
24 Firefighter Peter DiPinto, Sr., are you ready?

25 MR. DIPINTO: Yes, sir.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1

2 MR. PILECKI: President Pienkowski, I am
3 going to ask you to step forward and place the

4 prestigious Medal of Valor to Firefighter Peter
5 DiPinto, Sr. Now you have to remember all of you
6 this morning are going to be part of history in
7 the making. It is not every day that all of us
8 can witness the Medal of Valor being bestowed an
9 individual. So not only is it an honor for our
10 recipient, but it's an honor for each and every
11 one of you here today to take part in this
12 ceremony. President Pienkowski.

13 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Congratulations. Devine
14 intervention wasn't the word for it. You put
15 your safety and your concerns above and beyond to
16 save the lives of two ladies. Very proud. All
17 your training and everything kicked in. You
18 stopped. You thought. You did what you had to
19 do, and you accomplished it. Congratulations.

20 MR. DIPINTO: Thank you.

21 MR. PIENKOWSKI: It gives me great pleasure
22 to present you with the Medal of Valor.

23 (Applause.)

24 MR. PILECKI: You may be seated.

25 President Elect Klein is now going to go

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

ahead and present the awards bar to our recipient.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Andy. It never ceases to amaze me that most of the people that are up here on the stage would rather be in a much different environment than to face the cameras and talk into the microphone. We all get uncomfortable. We'd rather be someplace else doing something else. So I can see by the front of your uniform, Pete, that is not the first award that you have won. You have had a pretty good career apparently, but I want you to take this bar and wear it with pride, and hopefully in a prominent spot on your uniform, as a token of our appreciation for what you did. I don't know, I've been in a lot of hazardous places over my career, but five seconds away from being on the front of a Long Island Railroad, probably a good thing it was late that day.

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: Keep up the good work.

(Applause.)

MR. PILECKI: Vice President Farrell, now it's your turn to award a gift from our

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

association. Vice President Farrell.

MR. FARRELL: Congratulations on a job well done. Listening to the reading, seconds. It's unbelievable.

MR. DIPINTO: Thank you, sir.

MR. FARRELL: And on behalf of the association, I would like to present also a small gift from the officers and members of the Firemen's Association.

MR. DIPINTO: Thank you, sir.

MR. FARRELL: Congratulations again.

(Applause.)

MR. PILECKI: Ladies and gentlemen, once again, Firefighter Peter DiPinto, Sr.

(Applause.)

MR. DIPINTO: President Pienkowski, Vice Presidents Klein and Farrell, Board of Directors, Trustees, honored guests. I would just like to take a few seconds to thank everyone for this prestigious award. I still believe it was divine intervention. I was guided to do the job that I was trained and succeeded. I am so happy that the young lady is alive and has the rest of her life to spend with her family. I also would like

1

2 to thank my wife who was with me at that time.
3 She's the one who yelled to me that the car was
4 on the tracks, which as I was busy talking to the
5 other lady. I'd also like to thank both of my
6 sons who I am extremely proud of, my older son,
7 Peter DiPinto, Jr. He was 30 already, and he's
8 31 again. And my youngest son, Daniel DiPinto,
9 both Chiefs of the Brookhaven Fire Department. I
10 am extremely proud of their service and their
11 commitment to our community. I would like to
12 thank my family for attending. This is an honor,
13 as I said, a very prestigious award. Every day
14 any one of us in this room, any one of us in the
15 state, could be called to do what we do every
16 day. It's our job. We never know when we're
17 going to be called upon to do something, and
18 that's why training is so important, and as been
19 mentioned, my training kicked in and whatever
20 that was, it helped me to succeed in doing that
21 rescue.

22 So again, I would like to thank FASNY for

23 the time and the hundreds of hours that they put
24 in for making this convention such a success, in
25 addition to the awards' committee for spending

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

270

1
2 many hundreds of hours pouring through these
3 applications for this award. I'm sure all of the
4 other ladies and gentlemen who were nominated for
5 this have done such remarkable things also.

6 So again, I would like to thank everybody
7 for their time and dedication and their
8 commitment. The volunteer service is something
9 special that we don't see much anymore today.
10 Volunteerism is something that is unique and is
11 necessary, and I believe everybody should
12 volunteer to do something in their lives, because
13 without volunteerism, there wouldn't be many good
14 things going on.

15 So thank you again very much for your time,
16 and I appreciate from FASNY everything that I
17 have done.

18 Thank you very much.

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. PILECKI: Please be seated once again.

21 Ladies and gentlemen, throughout this morning
22 during this presentation you have heard the name
23 of Laura DiPinto, Peter's wife, who was also,
24 besides being married to him, was on that rescue
25 with Peter. A couple of hours ago our committee

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

271

1
2 awarded or presented a crochet to Laura DiPinto
3 on behalf of FASNY for your involvement in that
4 rescue and also for lending Peter DiPinto, your
5 husband, to the volunteer fire service. Laura,
6 please stand up.

7 (Applause.)

8 MR. PILECKI: And now I am going to ask
9 President Pienkowski and Joseph Giorgi to please
10 step forward and the assistant Chiefs of the
11 Brookhaven Fire Department; Assistant Chief Peter
12 DiPinto, Jr., and Assistant Chief Dan DiPinto. I
13 don't know if you realize the correlation.

14 (Laughter.)

15 MR. PILECKI: And I thank you for having
16 them as Assistant Chiefs, this way I did not have
17 to go ahead and figure out how to pronounce last

18 names. So we were able to use the same names
19 through the whole program.

20 President Pienkowski, the floor is yours.

21 (Applause.)

22 MR. DIPINTO: Good afternoon. My name is
23 Pete DiPinto, Jr., First Assistant Chief of
24 Brookhaven Fire Department, alongside my brother,
25 Dan DiPinto, Second Assistant Chief of the fire

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

272

1
2 department. As you know now, we're the sons of
3 Pete DiPinto, Sr. On behalf of the entire
4 DiPinto family and the Brookhaven Fire
5 Department, I want to express our appreciation
6 for your recognition of our father, Peter
7 DiPinto, Sr., for his decisive actions, courage,
8 and 34 years of service as a volunteer member of
9 the Brookhaven Fire Department. Growing up in
10 our household, it was very common to see our dad
11 in the fire department uniform, as well as him
12 leaving the house in the middle of the night
13 answering the call of service. So it's not
14 surprising to us to learn that he once again
15 answered the call that night and rescued the

16 woman trapped in her car on the railroad tracks,
17 put himself in danger as he struggled to release
18 her while a Long Island Railroad train was
19 bearing down on him, staying with the trapped
20 woman and thankfully successfully rescuing her
21 moments before the train struck. Pete DiPinto,
22 Sr., then just went home and completed his
23 night's sleep after the call of duty, as only a
24 volunteer firefighter would consider routine
25 service. His anonymity did not last long

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

273

1
2 following the heroic rescue. Our father's life
3 of dedication to the fire department inspired my
4 brother and myself to follow his footsteps.

5 Dad, you've always been a hero, long before
6 this publicized event gave you and all the
7 volunteer firefighters the grateful recognition
8 you deserve.

9 I would like to thank FASNY, FASNY's
10 nominating committee, for nominating our father,
11 Peter DiPinto, Sr., for Firemen of the Year.

12 Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. PILECKI: Ladies and gentlemen, once
15 again, I would like to congratulate our winners
16 on a great job.

17 I do have to announce that both the EMS and
18 the Firefighter of the Year applications will be
19 submitted to the Eastern Division of the
20 International Association of Fire Chiefs' for
21 their consideration in both awarded categories,
22 and that's going to be on that national level.

23 We are also going to have the Firefighter
24 of the Year and the EMS Provider of the Year
25 boards and books at the Firemen's Home Museum

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

274

1
2 updated with this year's winners. So when you do
3 go ahead and visit the Home, check out the two or
4 the three names from this year will be listed on
5 that board.

6 In addition, all the other departments and
7 individuals that submitted applications or
8 nominated individuals or teams for this year's
9 award, each and every one of them, or their
10 departments, will receive a certificate of merit

11 on behalf of the Firemen's Association of the
12 State of New York.

13 And now we're drawing to the close of this
14 year's ceremony, but I do have to acknowledge and
15 thank several individuals before we conclude this
16 morning's program. First of all, the Brookhaven
17 Fire Department and their Color Guard for sending
18 their individuals, their Color Guard, and their
19 members, down to represent their department this
20 morning.

21 Also, we had great, great assistance from
22 the 2018 general convention team that hosted this
23 convention in this facility this year.

24 Our bagpiper, who led us in this morning,
25 Patrick Perry. Thank you once again, Pat.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

275

1

2 Also finally, Joseph Giorgi, Jr., we would
3 not able to award these individuals this morning
4 if it were not be for him or his company for
5 sponsoring this program this year. Joe, thank
6 you, and you do deserve a round of applause.

7 (Applause.)

8 MR. PILECKI: President Pienkowski, finally
9 I would like to thank you for reappointing our
10 committee this year. It was a great pleasure to
11 work with the individuals on the Firefighter of
12 the Year committee and also all the individuals
13 on the EMS committee. You guys do one hell of a
14 job. Thank you.

15 And if I did miss anybody, I do apologize.
16 I'll be in the hallway at the end so you can yell
17 at me.

18 (Laughter.)

19 MR. PILECKI: Just a reminder that
20 submissions for next year's awards, the deadline
21 is always the 15th of March. So if any incident
22 does arise, occur in your town, village, or
23 department, in the calendar year of 2018, please,
24 please, go on the website, download the form,
25 submit that individual, or that team, for

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

276

1
2 consideration for the 2019 heroes award.

3 At this time I would ask our committee
4 members to please escort our recipients from our
5 convention hall.

6 Ladies and gentlemen, President Pienkowski,
7 this concludes the 2018 Firefighter of the Year
8 Awards ceremony.

9 Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. PIENKOWSKI: What a great ceremony put
12 on both by the EMS committee and the Firefighter
13 of the Year committee for three very deserving
14 individuals.

15 The Board of Trustees Reorganizational
16 meeting will be in Ballroom West immediately
17 following the adjournment of the convention.

18 The FASNY Board of Directors
19 Reorganizational meeting will be in Onondaga F &
20 G immediately following the adjournment of the
21 convention, and when called to order by President
22 Klein.

23 I ask for a motion declaring the 146th
24 Annual Convention of the Firemen's Association of
25 the State of New York adjourned.

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

277

1

2 MR. CARON: Mike Caron makes that motion.

3 MR. RIVERA: Second by Chan Rivera.

4 MR. PIENKOWSKI: We look forward to seeing

5 everyone once again right here in Syracuse next

6 August. As always, stay safe.

7 I have a motion and a second.

8 All in favor?

9 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

10 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Opposed?

11 (No response.)

12 MR. PIENKOWSKI: Hearing none. Motion

13 carried.

14 For those of you that are driving, please

15 travel safely.

16 Thank you for being here.

17 (Applause.)

18 (Whereupon, the meeting was concluded.)

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF NEW YORK)

) SS.:

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK)

I, JAMIE J. WOODARD, a Court Reporter and
Notary Public, for and within the State of New
York, do hereby certify:

THAT the above and foregoing contains a
true and correct transcription of the proceedings
held on August 12, 2018 at the Firemen's
Association of the State of New York Annual
Convention, Village of Liverpool, New York, and
were reported by me.

I further certify that I am not related to
any of the parties to this action by blood or by
marriage and that I am in no way interested in
the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my
hand this 23rd day of January, 2019.

JAMIE J. WOODARD

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386