OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE 147TH ANNUAL
CONVENTION OF THE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF THE
STATE OF NEW YORK, HELD FROM THE 9TH DAY OF
AUGUST THROUGH THE 11TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2019, AT
HOLIDAY INN, 441 ELECTRONICS PARKWAY, VILLAGE OF
LIVERPOOL, NEW YORK.

August 9, 2019

BEFORE: STEVEN E. KLEIN, President

Jamie J. Woodard
Court Reporter
P.O. Box 59
Ridge, New York 11961
(631) 345-2386
MR. KLEIN: Good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. KLEIN: Welcome to the 147th Annual Convention of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York. The exits are located to your right and to your left. If there is an alarm, it will be announced from the dais. Directions will be given from the podium to exit the ballroom in an orderly fashion.

Before we get started this morning with our regular convention agenda, I would like to take this opportunity to announce that we have utilized the new convention format again this year. We have made several changes from previous years to accommodate a more efficient use of your time. The schedule this year includes an additional morning session on Saturday to allow more time for our speakers' presentations -- which I am just sure everybody is waiting to hear from -- the educational forums will include two this afternoon and two tomorrow afternoon. In addition to this afternoon's education forums, we have also scheduled an "Attorney/CPA Panel Discussion" to be held directly following the Two
Percent Tax Forum.

Also after tomorrow's educational forums there will be another panel discussion on post traumatic stress presented by Chief Bobby Halton and Assistant Chief Jake Oreshan. This presentation will be given in Ballroom West at 4:00 p.m.

At this time I would like to ask that you please silence your cellphones and pagers. There will be absolutely no food or drinks allowed in the meeting room during the memorial service and the general sessions afterwards. During these sessions everyone must be seated.

As you entered the hall you were given a ticket to win a prize -- which I don't know what the prize is, so it's going to be a surprise prize -- At the end of each day's business session we will draw a ticket for a prize. If you did not put one half of the ticket into the receptacle on the table by the door, you're not going to win, so be sure you put your one half of the ticket into that receptacle. Only those that are here at the start and at the finish will be eligible for a prize, except for trustees and
directors, and I believe the office staff doesn't get to get a prize either, so I'm sorry for that.

As part of the memorial service, I would ask that all members of the FASNY Board of Directors and the Trustees from the Home 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.

Thank you very much.

We will now begin the memorial service.

Please welcome Chaplain Reverend Barrie-Lyn Foster.

(Applause.)

REVEREND FOSTER: Thank you, President Klein.

Please rise for the posting of the colors by the Oceanside Fire Department, and remain standing as the National Anthem is performed by Alicia Caron, accompanied by Sharon Palmer on the keyboard.

(Whereupon, the colors were posted by the Oceanside Volunteer Fire Department.)

(Whereupon, the National Anthem was performed by Alicia Caron, accompanied by Sharon
M. Palmer.)

(Whereupon, the Memorial Service was conducted.)

(Whereupon, there was a brief recess.)

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS FARRELL: Can I have your attention please. Good morning, can I have your attention, please. Will the following people please proceed to the dais: Patrick Murphy, Frances Nerney, Ken Bush, Assemblyman DeStefano, Chief Tonya Hoover, Wayne Butts, James Stocker, and Caryn Puzullo. Please come to meet on the dais. Thank you.

MR. KLEIN: Good morning, everyone. Please before we start, anybody that is standing along the wall, you need to find a seat. We don't want anybody standing along the walls or in the aisles.

I will now call on Sergeant-at-Arms Donald Farrell to lead us in a salute to the flag.

(Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Sergeant-at-Arms Donald J. Farrell and the audience members.)

MR. KLEIN: You may be seated.

Mr. Sergeant-at-Arms Farrell, do we have a
quorum?

SGT.-AT-ARMS FARRELL: Yes, sir, you do.

MR. KLEIN: I hereby call the 2019 Annual Meeting to order. So here we are, my first year is done already. Wow. Nothing exciting happened. It was a run of the mill. I thank you all for being here. Thank you all for all your support and well wishes over the last 12 months.

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the FASNY Officers and Directors. Please stand as I call your name, and as usual, hold your applause until the end of all the introductions.

From the FASNY Board of Directors: John P. Farrell, First Vice President; Edward Tase, Jr., Second Vice President; Kenneth Pienkowski, Immediate Past President; Michael R. Caron, Jose DaRocha, Laurie M. Hance, Kenneth J. Holmes, Sr., Eugene J. Perry, Jr., Santo S. "Chan" Rivera -- for the last time -- and Diana Pfersick. One director is not with us. He is undergoing some medical issues. Oh, somebody's missing off the list. Andy Pilecki is not on the list. Mike Krummenacker is undergoing some medical issues, and is unable to attend the convention. We
actually hope that by the end of this week he'll be done with his treatment, and we'll have him back with us soon.

Appointed officers of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York: Secretary, John S. D'Alessandro; Thomas Krawczyk, Treasurer; Brian McQueen, Interim Director of Office Affairs; and our Reverend, Barrie Lyn-Foster.

We also have with us, working the trenches this morning, Sergeant-at-Arms Donald J. Farrell; and Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms Thomas With.

Our association counsel, the Hannigan Law Firm, PLLC, Terence S. Hannigan and Timothy C. Hannigan.

You guys can be seated and gals.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: We also like to recognize our staff because of their hard work and their constant attention to detail -- except for Andy Pilecki's name -- (laughter) -- everything moves off the ground like a smoothed oil machine here. You can see that, right?

We have Jerry Deluca, Director of Member Services and Outreach Programming.
Patricia Phesay, Director of Finance.

James Dorward, Director of Buildings and Grounds.

Harrison Breuer, Member Outreach Coordinator.

Chris Roberson, our Network Manager.

That's the man behind the curtain, hope that everything works well.

Fran Connell, our Senior Executive Assistant.

April Rounds, Special Projects Coordinator/Meetings Planner. Anything that goes wrong here, that's the person you want to see, April Rounds, because this is her convention.

Marti Vandeboagart, our Receptionist.

Jennifer McCann, Associate Accountant.

Patricia MacDonald, Business Office Associate.

Don Mackey, Building Facilitator.

Colleen Simo, Director of Human Resources.

Lacy Florentino-Consolini, Director of Admissions and Business Services.

Thank you all. You may now be seated.

(Applause.)
MR. KLEIN: Now I can introduce First Vice President John P. Farrell for further introductions.

MR. FARRELL: Thank you, Mr. President.

Good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. FARRELL: I would like to recognize the past FASNY Officers and Directors. Please stand as I call your name. I would also ask that you hold your applause until the end of all introductions.

Past Presidents:

Kenneth E. Newton.

Gunnar L. Neilson.

Thomas E. Eiswerth.

James H. Williams.

Joseph A. Finnegan.

Michael P. Wutz.

David Jacobowitz.

James A. Burns.

Robert N. McConville.

Kenneth Pienkowski.

Past Directors:

Stuart L. Gates.
Roy K. Dahlen.
Paul L. Van Arts Dalen.
K. William Grant.
William A. Nichols.
Edward T. Sendlenski.
James E. Cayey.
David J. Sweet.
Michael F. Reid.
Brian F. McQueen.
Robert H. Ottaviano.

Past Officers:
Werner "Zip" Kraemer.
Reverend Wayne Jagow.

Thank you. You may be seated.

(Applause.)

MR. FARRELL: At this time I would like to introduce Trustee President Wayne Butts for introductions.

MR. BUTTS: Good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. BUTTS: I am sure I'll forget somebody, and I apologize for that, and I'm going to give it my best shot.

Past trustees or presidents that are in the
room: Jim Burns, Jose, Paulie O'Brien, Tom McKinney, Jim Farrell, Kenny Pienkowski, and Bob McConville. Stand up. Did I miss anybody?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Bob Darling.

MR. BUTTS: Don't worry about him. I'll take care of him in a minute.

(Laughter.)

MR. BUTTS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. BUTTS: Our residents from the home that are here today, and not in any particular order: Bobby Hicks.

(Applause.)

MR. BUTTS: Bob Funk, Billy Rosenhagen.

(Applause.)

MR. BUTTS: The next gentleman I'm going to introduce, it's his birthday today; and hopefully we are all in the same shape that this guy is at 98 years old, Bob Darling.

(Applause.)

MR. BUTTS: He's also a past trustee.

And we also have our home administrator with us today, Rick Lohne; and we also have our Director of Nursing, Sherry Meyer; Activities
Director -- Stand up -- This is our newest member to our team. He's done a great job. If you have any activities or anything you'd like to see, he'd be more than glad to help you out. And the bus driver, Ed Barnett.

(Applause.)

MR. BUTTS: The trustees -- We're going to see if we can do this right today -- Mike DeVittorio, Peter Cincotta; my Vice President, Jerry Owenburg; Marty, Steve Goodman, Alan Way; Dennis Eickhoff, which is the new secretary of the trustee board; Walt Geidel, Dave Smith, Tony DeMarco, Jim Interdonati, Marilyn Schrader, and Billy Eck. I think I got everybody -- Wait a minute, there's somebody else -- the guy that finds me, Fred Griffiths.

Past trustees: Butch Grella, Paulie O'Brien, Jim Farrell, Tom McKinney, Dave Blair. I probably missed somebody -- Oh yeah, Bill Murray, the guy that looks like -- well, I don't know. Thank you, guys. I appreciate it.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: I don't want to interrupt his report, but John Farrell is the past president of
the Board of Trustees. Thank you very much, and
I am a trustee. Thank you.

(Laughter.)

MR. BUTTS: I also just want to take the
time to thank past secretary, Walt Geidel, for
everything he has done as our secretary. So
anyway, I just want to thank Walt Geidel for all
his secretary work since I've been a trustee of
the board. I know he took over from Steve when
Steve got out, but thank you Walt for everything
you've done.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Wayne.

I would like to introduce the general
manager of the Holiday Inn, James Stocker, and
his Director of Sales and Marketing, Caryn
Puzzulo, please come up to say a few words.

MS. PUZZULO: Good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MS. PUZZULO: It is my great honor to
welcome you to the Holiday Inn, Liverpool, and
welcome to the 147th Annual Convention of the
Firemen's Association of the State of New York.

I would just like to take this opportunity to
thank you, every person in this room, for your
service and your dedication to our communities
and keeping us all safe. God bless all volunteer
firemen, and God bless the state of New York.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Thank you very much. So far so
good, so no complaints. Love the lemonade. Love
the lemonade.

Commissioner Murphy is not with us; is that
right? That's correct, right?

MR. MCQUEEN: Right.

MR. KLEIN: Next on the list, Francis
Nerney, Sr. Come on up.

MR. NERNEY: Good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. NERNEY: Thank you for inviting me to
come join you this morning and join you for the
memorial service. To the chaplains, nice job;
and thank you for being our guardian angels
throughout the year.

The Office of Fire Prevention and Control
has been a pretty busy place lately. We're doing
a lot of work. I never realized I had to work
with so many laws. I never understood how a law
worked until I joined OFPC. And through your audience of united concerns, you have made it so it's one of the things I do a lot now, and I have to congratulate you on all your successes as a group. I think you're doing good stuff for the fire service and firefighters in general. So I do appreciate that.

A lot going on for OFPC at the fire academy. If you haven't been there recently, there's new blacktop going down and driveways with directions, and just look out for the one way signs. Don't go the wrong way, because there's people from fire police who want to write tickets out there. That's going on. And our new, not a firehouse, is being built in the training grounds. It will house six apparatus, have gear storage, and fire gear cleaning equipment. Pretty excited about that also. It has a couple of more classrooms where we can do our lessons, go out and do the job, back and do the lessons, all while still over there. So we'll still use the fire academy for their classes as well. And a lot of work going in the old building as well. We often refer to the old
building and the new building. I realize the new building is 65. That's when it was built. So the new building for a kind of point of reference. So a lot of work is going on, and I appreciate your patience as we remodel and rebuild, and we work on new programs for that as well.

I would also like to make sure that I extend an invitation for all of you to join us at the state fallen firefighters' memorial. That will be October 8th. Twenty-three names will be on the wall this year, added to the wall this year. It's a pretty good ceremony honoring the sacrifices of those who have gone before us and served our state so well and also an honor and celebration of new beginnings from Reverend Jagow.

Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Thank you. Thank you for the update, Skip. Thanks for taking the time to come to be with us. We do have a very good working relationship with Skip's office and our brother and sister organizations in the fire service, and
that's what makes things go great.

Next on my list, Senator Robert Antonacci, New York State Senate District 50. He's unable to join us. He is represented by Ken Bush.

Ken, do you want to say a few words?

MR. BUSH: Sure. Just a few.

MR. KLEIN: Just a few. That's good. The shorter the better.

MR. BUSH: It will be just a few. I promise.

Senator Antonacci unfortunately is not able to be here, but the fire service, the volunteer fire service, has been a particular interest. I am Ken Bush. I work for Senator Robert Antonacci. I'm a current president of the Jordan Fire Department, so we pay close attention to any issues that arise or anything that we do to help going forward. He just wants to make sure you understand he is here working for you, and he appreciates all the efforts you do.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: And finally on my list, Assemblyman Joe DeStefano, New York State
Assembly District Three. For those of you who may recognize the name, Joe was the secretary/treasurer of the Association of Fire Districts' for -- a long time.

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: Joe is a very good personal friend of a lot of us in the room. He is here, so we would honor him to allow him to speak for us today.

Thank you.

MR. DESTEFANO: Thank you, President Klein. They told me about an hour and a half ago they wanted me to come up here and say a few words, so I prepared my speech (Indicating).

(Laughter.)

MR. DESTEFANO: No kidding, this is the amount of bills that came up through the assembly and the senate this year that had bills that were numbered, not necessarily went through and passed or failed, but this is the amount of stuff that affects the fire service, not the entire package of bills, this is everything that has to do with the fire service that was introduced this year and had a bill number. So keep that in mind when
you see everybody going through bills and
wondering how does the bill become a law and that
kind of stuff. They go through each and every
one. They go through committees, and then they
end up on the floor to be voted on, if they get
it out. As the President said, I was the -- you
might remember me as being the past secretary/
treasurer of the New York State Fire Districts'.
I held that job for five and a half years until
they told me I couldn't be it anymore when I
became an assemblyman, because it would be a
conflict of interest. I don't know why, it's not
like we don't see lobbyists every day in our
office up in Albany, but we do, and unannounced I
have seen people from this organization and
others come up, and I've always opened my door,
and that's the one thing I will pride myself in
is that I do have an open door policy, and it's
being one of you, a volunteer in Medford, in
Suffolk County, for 40 years -- I know I don't
look that old, but I am -- I've been a sitting
commissioner for 24 years -- so I get it. I know
what you guys are looking for. I know what you
need, and I'm the first guy to raise my hand and
say, I'm going to try and get it for you.

Working together, as the President said, without working together, the major groups, FASNY, the Chiefs, the Districts, the fire police, the coordinators, all of those groups that have a little piece of the pie, all of them have to come together and come to Albany and say, this is what we need in a unified front. I'm very happy to say that as the rookie in the assembly -- I was one of nine on my side of the aisle -- they come to me, and they say, Joe, what's going on with this bill. I need your advice. You've been here 10 years, you're asking me? It's really an honor to be that person that they come to, because they know that I get what it is that you guys do, and it makes my heart really proud to know that they think that much of me because of my history of where I come from to be able to help them, assisting them in doing the things that we need to do to make the fire service a better place.

One of the personal stories as why I ran for the office in the first place, and this is something that's going to hit all the volunteer fire departments, last year when I decided I was
going to run for the assembly my daughter had
advised me that she was seeking to move out of
New York state, because she's couldn't afford to
live here anymore. Well, two and a half years
ago that reality became true, and she moved to
North Carolina. That has devastated my family.
My wife and I are heartbroken over it, but the
bottom line is it sent to me a message that I
need to work hard to make sure that the families
that still remain here have a better opportunity
down the road to make New York a better place to
live and a more affordable place to live. I know
it sounds crazy. I know it's a big stretch, it's
a big way to go, bottom line is we need to do
everything we can to keep our volunteers here,
because they keep leaving, we need the nation,
not migration. A million people left New York
last year. It's not going to get any better
unless we do something to make it better; and of
course today, being here in Syracuse, the
governor is signing my first bill that became law
back home. So I'm here, he's there, and I'm
going to -- the name of the bill was the Long
Island Expressway Exit 67 overpass is being named
in the honor of Staff Sergeant Louis Bonacasa, who lost his life fighting for our country in Afghanistan in 2015.

So in ending, in closing, I am going to say you have a friend in the fire service. I get it. I've been here, done that, and I'm always having my door open for anybody who wants to contact me. This afternoon some of these bills are going to be talked about in the attorney panel. I'll be there to help out if I can. So I'll be here for another day or so. If you need to talk to me about something, please don't hesitate; and thank you again for the opportunity to say a few words.

(Applause.)

MR. TASE: Thank you, and thank you for your service in the fire service. We appreciate it.

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. TASE: It's my honor this morning to introduce our secretary of the association, John D'Alessandro, for a reading.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: This letter is addressed to Brian McQueen, Interim Director of Office
Operations. "Dear Brian: Thank you so very much for your invitation to the 147th Annual FASNY Convention in Liverpool. I regret that I will not be able to be there, as I will be attending the FRA in Atlanta at that time. Please let me know next year's date so I can attend then as I would love to be with my New York brothers.

Please do let the delegates know this, I am honored to serve as your Chairman of the National Volunteer Fire Council. Far too many firefighters are still dying in line of duty deaths each year in this country. We are making progress, but one is too many. I have made a point of calling all the fire departments that suffer line of duty deaths to learn a little more about our brothers and sisters who have made their final call and about their families whose future has been changed so dramatically. And while we have gotten line of duty deaths on a decreasing trend, those brothers and sisters and their families that suffer from the dreaded cancer continue to see an increase. We are going to fight and win that battle with information, knowledge, and best practices.
I'm sorry that I cannot be with you at the convention as I'm attending another fire service event, but I want you to know that I am there with you with the best of my wishes for your 147th Annual Convention; and my prayers that each of you will be blessed by God in all that you do for the people of New York.

Thank you. My personal best wishes to you.

Steven W. Hirsch, Chairman of the National Volunteer Fire Council."

(Applause.)

MR. TASE: Thank you, John. That's just one small example of the partnership that this association has built with the other fire service organizations across the state. Thank you.

Now it is my distinct honor to invite Colleen Gunnip, Supervisor of Salina.

MS. GUNNIP: Hi. Welcome to the town of Salina. I am town of Salina Supervisor Colleen Gunnip. I am so happy for you to be here in the town of Salina. I first want to say thank you for everything you do to keep our community safe. The town of Salina has four volunteer fire departments, and they do a wonderful job. The
hotel, just want to let you know I had a personal event here on Monday, the food was phenomenal. They did a great job with the service, the food, everything, so you picked a great place. I hope you save a little bit of time to get out and enjoy the town of Salina. We have wonderful restaurants, a beautiful park right down the road. Make sure you stop at Heid's for a hot dog or Destiny, the mall, for food, and the entertainment, and shopping. Salina is a great place to live and raise a family, and I hope you guys enjoy your time here and your convention.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. TASE: Thank you. My wife just sent me a text, she's at the mall.

MS. GUNNIP: Oh, good.

(Laughter.)

MR. TASE: Christina Devaney, Manager of the FASNY Federal Credit Union. Is she in the room with us? She's probably out working for us. We thank her for all the services they do.

Dan Wears, Commissioner of Onondaga County Emergency Management. Thank you very much for
joining us this morning.

Jerry Payne, Onondaga County Fire Coordinator, Liverpool Fire Chief. Would you please join us at the podium, please.

The Firemen's Association of the State of New York would like to say thank you to you, your department, for supporting us in our venue throughout the years here in Syracuse, and this is just a small proclamation of our thanks for your service.

MR. PAYNE: Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

MR. TASE: Tim Boel, Education Specialist, and Joseph J. Giorgi, Regional Vice President of VFIS Firemen's Insurance Services. Thank you for joining this us morning. Thank you for your dedication to the fire service.

Ulrich Mauser, Executive Vice President of Provident Insurance; is he here in the room with us this morning?

Tony Cruz, Director, and Ron Barz and Charlie Murphy, of the Firefighter Cancer Support Network. This is a network that we have grown with, strong with, to support cancer in the
volunteer fire service.

Robert Parese, President of the New York State Fire Chiefs; is he with us here this morning?

Is Lee in the room? Lee, would you like to introduce any of the other officers or staff that are with you this morning? If so, please go to the podium, the microphone at the center isle.

MR. SHURTLEFF: Thank you. Good morning. On behalf of the New York State Association of Fire Chiefs, thank you for the invitation. We give you our best wishes for a successful convention. With me today is Second Vice President Bobby Crawford and the board member Tim Boel.

MR. TASE: Thank you again for joining us, and thank you for the partnership.

(Applause.)

MR. TASE: Fred Senti, President of the Association of Fire Districts.

MR. SENTI: I also would like to thank you for the invitation. I have with me today our First President Ken Preston, Immediate Past President Tom Rinaldi, and Immediate Past President...
Secretary Treasurer Joe DeStefano. Wishing you a successful convention; and just an acknowledgement, it was a pleasure serving back in the early 80's with your President Steve Klein.

Thank you again.

(Applause.)

MR. TASE: We have Ed Tremblay, President of New York State Fire Coordinators' Association. Thank you.

MR. KENNEDY: Ed couldn't be here today.

I'm First Vice President Bill Kennedy. Thank you for the invite. Ed sends his regards that he couldn't make it. Also with us is Second Vice President Bill Streicher. It's been a pleasure working with your organizations and the other ones over the past years as we move forward together with a common message; and good luck on the rest of your convention.

MR. TASE: Thank you. Thank you for joining us.

(Applause.)

MR. TASE: We have Frank Guarino, President of the New York State Fire Police Association and
MR. GUARINO: Good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. GUARINO: I would like to thank you for the invite. None of my officers are here, they're out doing their job; and I wish you a great convention.

MR. TASE: Thank you, and thank you for your service.

(Applause.)

MR. TASE: And also with us we have the Chief Chaplain of the New York State Fire Chaplains' Association, William Mayo. Is he still in the audience with us? There we go.

MR. MAYO: Good morning, and thank you for the invite. Today I have with me my First Deputy Chief Chaplain Leon VanWie, and I have my Second Deputy Chief Chaplain Tom With. In addition, we have Reverend Wayne Jagow and Reverend Barrie-Lyn Foster. Thank you.

MR. TASE: Thank you, and thank you for your support.

(Applause.)

MR. TASE: Scott Magin, New York State
Drill Team. Do you have any of your officers you would like to introduce?

MR. MAGIN: No, sir, I don't. Thank you for the invite.

MR. TASE: Thank you for joining us this morning. Thank you very much.

MR. MCQUEEN: Hey, good morning. How are you today?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. MCQUEEN: At this time I would like to introduce Chief Tonya Hoover as our keynote speaker. Chief Hoover is the Superintendent of the US Fire Administration's National Fire Academy, the NFA. She was named to the position in May of 2017. Ms. Hoover provides leadership for the NFA, focusing on enhancing the ability of fire and emergency services and allied professionals to deal more effectively with fire and related emergencies.

From July, 2009 to July, 2016, Ms. Hoover served as the California State Fire Marshal, where she was responsible for statewide fire prevention, fire service training, pipeline safety, code and regulations development,
analysis, and implementation. Previously, Ms. Hoover served as a fire marshal and battalion chief, and was a deputy campus fire marshal for the University of California at Berkeley. Ms. Hoover served on the Board of Directors for the National Fire Protection Association. She currently serves on the International Fire Service Training Association Board of Directors, the Underwriters' Laboratory Fire Council, and is an active committee member with the International Code Council.

Let us please give a FASNY welcome to Chief Hoover. Chief Hoover, welcome to Liverpool.

(Applause.)

MS. HOOVER: Before I get started, I just want to recognize Roy again for a moment, because I read an article about how to make it to a hundred; and the article talked about dark chocolate once a day, red wine once a day, a good bourbon before you go to bed at night; and so I'm just thinking that Roy put that all together, because I hope I look that good when I'm 65.

(Laughter.)

MS. HOOVER: Congratulations on your
birthday, Roy.

   Also, just a little history about myself, I was telling someone, a couple of people here that I have not been back to the State of New York -- the reason why I say back -- back to the State of New York in almost 30 years. Yes, I started my career when I was five. Back in 1981 I had the privilege and the honor to serve as a summer intern for the Office of Fire Prevention and Control. During that time Chief Frances McGarry was the fire administrator, and I worked for a gentleman by the name of Jerry Clark, who was the state training director, and I had the opportunity to put together training materials for the New York State Fire Service. There was the New York State Fire Service, and then there was the FDNY. And to me that was the introduction to state fire training, because I fast forward after I got out of college, and I had a chance to go to California and work in California, and I spent about 30 years in the California Fire Service. And when I went to California, and then had the chance to go work for the state, it became very evident to me very
quickly that there was the state of California, and then there was San Francisco Fire Department and LA Fire Department. So I feel like, okay, I've adapted. I just went from one state to the other, one side of the country to the other, but it was really New York that I think gave me my start in the state government; and I want to recognize that and thank you all very much for that opportunity. Love Montaur Falls, it's beautiful.

So what I wanted to do this morning with you all is have a little chit chat about the American fire service and the state of New York. Nobody knows the state of New York better than y'all do. I spent some time in Texas, so I'm going to say y'all. I got around a lot. So if I take a moment and I look at the information from 2016 and how many people that have visited the United States Fire Administration's website -- You can't sleep at night, you're bored, you want some information, it's a great website to go out and find and to take a look at what's going on in the nation's fire service, as well as your own state -- but in the 2016 information we look at
67 percent of all fire service being volunteer,
67 percent. Nine percent being career. In New
York, as I said, nobody knows the state better
than you all do, in New York 90.2 percent is
volunteer. New York is fourth in the volunteer
workforce with only 4.2 being career.

So the first slide up here, these are just
tables that I pulled off the internet. The
internet is an amazing place. You find all sorts
of things there. That's why I carry two phones.
These are actually props. I'm not going to look
at them. So these are just examples of
situations that you all are dealing with in New
York every single day. In the center is probably
one of my favorite graphics as it describes the
fire service, because in there there is terms
like emergency management, recovery, assistance,
danger, fire, and in the center is crisis. On
any given day at any given time we in the New
York fire service are dealing with one of those
issues anywhere in the state; and so if you step
back, if you step back a little bit, and you take
a look at the data, what it looked like in 2009,
these are the state of New York data points. So
for folks representing departments, your department I'm sure reports into your state data collection system, and in New York is that called -- it's NFIRS? Okay, reporting into NFIRS, so chief leaders reporting into NFIRS, good data call. Good. I'm looking back here at the boss, and he says, absolutely. So we've got good data points from New York. What 2009 looked like, and then a real quick look at what 2018 looks like; now the numbers aren't off too much. A pretty consistent look in New York, but there are some places where we see upticks. Right? We see upticks in EMS responses. We're going to talk a little bit about the EMS response model. We see upticks in things like false alarms. What does that mean? What does a false alarm mean? Well, when we take a look at data, we've got to really consider how that data is being entered, but I think what's interesting if I look at 2009 to 2018 for the state of New York holistically, 4.6 percent of incidents in the state are fire. EMS accounts for 44.4 percent. So pretty close to 50 percent are EMS calls. False alarms account for 12.7 percent; and what we call
special incidents, 18.5 percent of all calls; with a total incident reporting in a time period from 2009 to 2018 of 15.2 million, 15.2 million; and again, those responses, those incidents, are really not fire. Fire only makes up a little under five percent of our daily calls. So what are we doing? Well, the data tells us we're doing a lot of EMS, it tells me we're doing special situational calls, special incidents. Why is that? So let's take a look at demographics for a second. In 2018, census information tells us that we have about 327 million people in the US. So just a little over 327 million people. For New York, census information tells us 19.5 million live in the state of New York. In 2020, it's estimated -- 2020 is just around the corner. I can't believe that. I am not that old. No, it was not a prerequisite to be the superintendent of the National Fire Academy and have gray hair. I just want to point that out. It was the only color I hadn't tried, my own. But in 2020, just around the corner, New York's expected population is to be over 20 million, 20 million in the state of
New York. So what does that look like? Well, the highest climb in population is going to be that 65 plus age group. Okay. How many of us are going to be in that category? How many don't want to admit it? The highest climb, and that's about 7.8 percent climb in that age group. That 25 to 65 age range, there's a decline in that population, a decline of 3.2 percent. Under 25, minus 4.6 percent, almost five percent drop in that population group. So when we talk about what's going on in the fire service; what's going on in the fire service? In 2020, six million will be over the age of 65. So I remember when baby boomers were not that old. Now my daughter reminds me I'm old-er. Really put the old-er on the end of it. So New York -- just some examples currently, under 65, 16.4 percent; under the age of five, 5.8 percent. The US in comparison, US is 16 percent, under the age of five, 6.1. So New York is pretty lined up with the nation of whole. Again, when we hit that over 65 mark a drastic tick of 18 percent, up 18 percent. Again, by 2040, so the population continues to get older, because we have better access to
things like health care, we eat better, we're able to exercise, we're more mobile, we take care of ourselves. The list goes on and on and on, right? That's why we all want to be like Roy. Remember, red wine, a bourbon, dark chocolate. I'm in. So if we are looking at a population in 2040 of over 379 million, and we have to think about what we're going to do and what impact that has to us, who's going to dominate the environment, and where should be focus our time an energy on it, how should we prepare for the future, what are we going to be up against, what do you think we're going to be up against?

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Old firemen.

MS. HOOVER: Old firefighters.

(Laughter.)

MS. HOOVER: Well, yeah. An older group of individuals, because -- You mentioned, Steve earlier, and I had the luxury of spending yesterday with Steve at FRI, because he came to talk to us, and one of the items on that conversation, one of the pending items is recruitment and retention, the challenges we're having in recruitment and retention to attract
the next generation of this wonderful opportunity
that we call the American fire service, how do we
attract that next generation. So we're going to
be dealing with more EMS calls, right? And we
already see it now that we respond to EMS calls,
because these are our community people, these are
the people that we live with day in and day out
that we want to serve, we want to help those
folks any way we can, so we're not just there to
do EMS. We're also there to change the battery
in smoke alarms. We're there to help get a box
down out of a cupboard. We're there to help
clear a pathway so folks can get in and out of
their home safely. We do more than just fire,
and we will continue to do that as our population
ages. Another thought, we deal with a number, a
number of items. Again, I talk about it's not
just about the fire. So the future of fire and
emergency services what it looks like today.
Some information I thought was kind of
interesting. On the day that Hurricane Sandy
made landfall, if you all remember Hurricane
Sandy, a little over a hundred thousand --
Actually a hundred thousand five hundred calls or
responses were reported through fire EMS in the US during when Sandy hit landfall. Between New York and New Jersey, they accounted for 21 percent of all of those responses when Sandy hit landfall. So what were we doing as the fire service, responding to something other than fire, right? My favorite analogy that I got from the fire service, my medics that I used to work with in local government used to say this all the time. You call, we call, that's all. We're the fire service, right? People call us for everything, everything. Twenty-nine percent of the nation's calls on the day that Sandy hit landfall was in New York and New Jersey; and I betcha you weren't doing fire, right? We were doing shift water rescue. We were doing all sorts of things that were not necessarily what we would call our bread and butter fire.

Here's another area that 10 years ago, 15 years ago, 20 years ago, we probably would have never thought that we would have any levels of involvement with, and if we did, it was only going to be the peripheral, somewhere down the road.
Between 2006 and 2007, from the United States Department of Justice, there were 219 active shooter incidents in the United States, 219. As a result, taking a look at that data, we expect it to continue to increase and in the likelihood that an emergency responder will be actively engaged in the operation of one of these high risk incidents; and it's not just in the big cities. In 2016 and 2017, the FBI noted, and they designated, they assigned the term to 50 incidents as active shooter incidents. 2016, 2017 there were 50 active shooter incidents; and on every one of those active shooter incidents, who was there right next to the brothers and sisters in blue law enforcement? Because now we are like this (Indicating). Who would have ever thought you were going to point your EMTs, paramedics, firefighters in something other than firefighting PPE? Now we're putting them in body armor. They are going to the hot zone with their law enforcement brothers and sisters; and we're having to change our tactics when we respond, because of the changing environment that the fire service is faced with.
A little bit about those active shooters.

When we think about our response time in the fire service, we talk about five minute response times. We know that with the changes in construction, the changes in materials we put in the homes, that that five minute, five to seven minute flashover time has done what? That curve has changed. The typical time passage curve that we know has changed. So we're talking more like a three minute flashover, three to five minute flashover. If you're in a rural area, and you've got a 15 minute response, and I have active fire, what does that mean? By the time I'm there doing my best to get there, I've probably already gotten to that critical point of flashover. So public education and outreach becomes even more important preparing people for that disaster.

But in the active shooter scenario, in that 2000 and 2013 range, 23 of those calls were under two minute duration of the incident, two minutes. We have the three to five minute response. They were under five minutes for about 44 of those calls, time of incident; and then there was an undetermined amount for about 64, which means
they probably feel within the time of that event was maybe five to seven minutes. So the dynamics that were placed under the fire service is much different, and it has an affect, right? So the future of the fire service is not what we remember it to be, but what we're up against now is building materials. When we talk about building materials, we talk about cross laminated timber. You've probably heard that term once or twice. We've been using cross laminated timber for a while. We're starting to use it differently. We're using 3D printing. I want one of those, because I want to make my own shoes.

(Laughter.)

MS. HOOVER: It would be awesome. We're using 3D printing in the built environment, because it's quick. Talking about housing earlier and costs of housing, we're talking about renewable resources and the built environment where we're building tall wood buildings. Is that a bad thing? We use wood in buildings for a very long time. It's what we do with the tall wood buildings to protect it that matters to us
in the fire service, right, but it's a different 
way of doing business. They can put it together 
quicker. They can get it occupied a lot quicker 
than steel buildings. Subterranean buildings, we 
don't have enough room to go out, right, so what 
do we do in the construction environment, 
especially with housing complexes, right, we 
build them up, less space between property, 
right, three foot property line, or we go down. 
Libraries don't go up, they go down now, because 
the subterranean I've got more space. Think 
about exiting a building. What do we tell people 
when they exit a building, go down and out. I'm 
in a subterranean building, do I go down and out? 
No, I'm going up and up. Changes the dynamics. 
Cantilever building, there's this really cool 
picture, and I think it's in Europe, of a 
cantilever building; and basically it reminds me 
of storage containers, the highest storage 
container, sea containers, but they're 
cantilevered out at high rise heights. From an 
operational standpoint, I don't think my truck is 
going to make that; and then how do I 
successfully help people get out of the building?
Shipping containers used as businesses. Drop a shipping container, open a business. Is that a bad thing? Multiple shipping containers stacked upon each other; is that a bad thing? We use shipping containers for training all the time, right? Why? Because they get hot quick.

We need to talk about protection and be aware of the protection that's available. Here's one, renewable energy. Anybody have PV solar on the roof? Off the grid. Yes. I love PV. I love it. Off the grid. They can buy my power, I don't have to buy theirs. But there's a challenge for us in the fire service, right, because what do we like to do when we have a room in contact fire, we go to the roof. You, truck company, go to the roof. Yes, I will go to the roof. We send people to the roof, they ventilate. What happens if I have PV on the roof? I'm not doing a whole lot of ventilation up there, because I don't want them cutting into those PV panels, because it may be a little dark outside, but those panels are live, and I guarantee if they did not have curly hair when they went up there, they will when they come
down.

(Laughter.)

MS. HOOVER: So, as I'm looking at the fire administrator, rules, regulations, laws, what do we do? We build into our regulations safety and construction consideration so that emergency operations can operate safely on top of a roof, because we changed our built environment. PV is great, but there's pieces that we need to be aware of as the operations folks.

The other area I said about, I want the power company to buy power from me, I don't want to buy from them; but what if I'm making so much power that I can store it? That's pretty cool. Yeah, have you ever seen an energy storage fire? Holy Toledo. Talk about making your day. And energy storage locations are not in the middle of your city, right? Energy storage locations are in areas that most of you represent. They're in your backyards. So being able to address those hazards safely. Just some of the things we see out there.

I mentioned construction techniques.

Again, tall wood buildings are ones that comes to
light right now; and New York and the Office of Fire Prevention and Control, has been very active in code development cycle. We talked about regulation and law. I'm a code geek. I'll be the first one to admit it. I love code and standards, but really the impact of code and standards is when we can mesh the code geek people with the operations people that need to work in that environment so that those codes translate to our firefighters, and our firefighters can work safely. So being involved as the firefighter in the build environment is so important, so important. The way we communicate -- I told you I brought props -- How many people don't have one of these (Indicating)? Let's put it that way. I don't see any hands going up. I know one person that doesn't have a cell phone, and that's because she made me return it, that was my mother. She said a few choice words, she called it not really stuff, it was another word that started with an "S" why she needed one of those cellphones. Well, what's become so evident for her now is everywhere she goes to do something, whether it be to sign up
for some membership so she can get a discount of
something or to change -- I got her using an
Ipad. It's amazing. The woman fought me tooth
and nail about the Ipad when I bought it for her.
Why do I need this thing? She called it that
other word that starts with an "S". Why do I
need this thing? I'm not going to use it. Blah,
blah, blah. Now that she's had it for five
years, the minute it doesn't work the way she
wants it to or she can't get her news, there's
something wrong with this piece of stuff, and I
need to fix it right now. I'm already on it,
Mom. You're tied to my Ipad. I know exactly
what you're talking about. I'm doing it right
now. For a woman that didn't want to use an
Ipad, she's all over it, but everything we do is
tied to the cellphone. You know when you update
something you've got to get on the cellphone
number. We communicate using cellphones, right?
We're never without our cellphones. Heaven
forbid somebody takes my device away. My life is
over. I can remember my -- She's 28 now, but I
can remember when she was 17 getting a text
message from my daughter in her bedroom, I was in
the kitchen, asking me when dinner would be ready; and I remember going to the stairs and yelling up the stairs, why don't you come down and find out? Her response, texting me back was, I'm doing homework right now. Okay, but we communicate differently than what we did 10, 5 years ago. We use different words. We use different phrases. People react differently to them; and it's not only how we communicate out within our circle, but again, how we communicate with our public. How many departments have where you can text your area of an emergency, the quote, Ipaul system? Right. That's how we're getting information out now, because a lot of folks, there's a whole group of individuals in our communities that don't have landlines any longer -- My mother does -- that don't have landlines any longer. They have this (Indicating). So we communicate needs differently now. We have to be aware of that. At the same time, again, we have people like my mother -- I love using her as an example, some day she's going to see one of my presentations, and she's going to ground me for the rest of my
life. We have people like my mother that still have a landline, so can we forget about those folks? No. Especially when we think about I've got a whole growing population that will be over a certain age group; and to be honest with y'all, I'm not really sure I'm going to want to use this later in my life, because half the time I can't remember what I did with it anyway. So how do we walk the middle on how we communicate, how we communicate with each other? Another dynamic that is changing for us in the fire service is our legal readiness. As populations change, influx in, influx out, education changes, expectations change the public, we need to be ready. We need to be responsive. We need to understand our legal readiness. We need to be able to address those issues, because on any given day, we could very well be challenged for what we do or what we don't do. You're leaders. As leaders we get challenged. So our responsibility for that legal readiness. There was a time when somebody would not question what the fire service was doing, right, would never question what we're doing. That's not the case
anymore. We get questioned about what we're doing and why we're doing it every single day.

Changes in the workforce. I gave a laundry list of things that we're up against. So what does that do to our workforce? What does that do to our volunteer workforce? What does that do to our paid workforce? What impact does that have on their health and wellbeing? We need to be aware of those things; and are we in a position to be able to address those? Do we understand what's going on today in that person's life, and should we know? It impacts how they work with and for us and in the community.

Expectations, again, I mentioned people come in our communities, people come out of our communities, ages change, they come from different areas. They have different expectations, so we need to understand our communities' expectations; and when you're in the middle of a location where you possibly could be struggling with a workforce and somebody moves into the community, their expecting to call 911 and get somebody in a certain time period, and it doesn't happen, how do we manage expectations?
How do we speak truth to what truly is available in the community, and how do we help our leaders understand that? How do we help our leaders understand what's going on in the fire service impacting their community?

And then technology, oh my gosh. There's so many toys, tools out there, and we all want one. How do we keep up with the technology, and how do we know when and how to use it?

So in closing, I don't want this to sound like all doom and gloom. It's not. There is not a better profession in the world. No disrespect to my brothers and sisters in law enforcement. There is not a better profession in the world, one of the most highly respected professions in the world. This is why we're all here. As leaders it's our job to connect with our community, understand where we are going to be going, to have the end game in sight, and be able to bring our communities and potential new members along and be able to connect with them.

So I encourage you to stay connected. I encourage you to go out there and gather more folks and share with them what a great
opportunity it is to be part of such a great profession.

Thank you so much for allowing me to share some thoughts with y'all, and have a great rest of your conference.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: I can't really express to you the amount of information we just got from this presentation. The folks that are in these first couple of rows, we had a recruitment and retention summit the other day, and one of the main questions was, what does the fire service do other than go to fires; and you just heard. Four percent of what we do is going to fires. This is what is placing so much of a challenge on recruitment and retention.

Chief, thank you so much for your presentation. Please accept this on behalf of our association and appreciate for you being here.

MS. HOOVER: Thank you. It's beautiful.

MR. KLEIN: And we wish you well.

MS. HOOVER: Thank you. Thank you very much.
MR. KLEIN: Everything you do is beautiful.
Thank you very much.
You folks on the dais that are still here,
we realize you're very busy. Joe, thank you
again for being here and speaking with us.
If Sergeant-at-Arms can escort the folks
from the dais, and we will get into the meat of
the meeting.
As we begin our business session,
association members are reminded that if you are
making a motion or a second, please proceed to
one of the microphones in the aisle and state
your name for the record. State it so that the
stenographer can reasonably get an idea of how to
put it down on paper; and if it's a really
difficult name, maybe you should spell it so we
get it right now.
For our first order of business, I will
entertain a motion to adopt the convention agenda
as printed in the official program of the 147th
Annual Convention.
MR. GALVIN: Vincent Galvin, Hudson Valley,
I move that motion.
MR. KLEIN: Do I have a second?
Robert Bettes, I see you coming. Sorry, Mike.

MR. BETTES: Former Chief Robert Bettes, Oceanside Fire Department, Nassau County, Southern New York, I would like to second that motion.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you.

You heard the motion and a second.

All in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Anybody opposed?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: So carried.

The minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting have been posted on the FASNY website.

Mr. Secretary, are there any additions or corrections to the 2018 Annual Meeting minutes?

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, there are no additions or corrections that I am aware of.

MR. KLEIN: Very good.

I'll entertain a motion to adopt the minutes of the 2018 Annual meeting.

MR. KARASHAY: Mike Karashay moves the motion.
MR. KLEIN: Thank you.

MR. GALVIN: Vincent Galvin seconds it.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you.

I have a motion and second to adopt the minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting.

All in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Anybody opposed?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: So carried.

Mr. Secretary, is there any unfinished business that has been carried over from the 2018 Annual Meeting?

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, there is no unfinished business.

MR. KLEIN: Is there any new business?

Yes. During the keynote speech, I did notice that President of the State Chiefs' Association, Chief Rob Parrese, came into the room. I would like to recognize him. Thank you for being here.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: So it's time for my annual address.
My first year as your President has been both busy and exciting. Recruitment and retention are the themes of my term as President. In my opinion, these are the most pressing issues facing the volunteer fire service today. In alliance with the State Association of Fire Chiefs', the Association of Fire Districts' of the State of New York, the New York State Coordinators', and the New York Fire Marshals' Association was established to address this important issue.

Recently, the Fire Coordinators' issued a statewide survey in an attempt to gather real data on the number of active volunteers the state has. We continue to work on developing a multifaceted approach to dealing with these growing problems.

Shortly after I took office, the Board of Directors determined it would be beneficial to refocus our association to keep it moving forward. This resulted in FASNY and Former Chief Administrative Officer David Quinn parting ways. David worked tirelessly for many years, which helped create the foundation of what we are
today. We thank him for his time with us and
wish him well in the future.

Upon David's departure, the Board retained
past FASNY Director Brian McQueen as our Interim
Office Manager while we conduct a search to fill
the open position. Since I wrote this, a little
update. We have done some interviews, and we are
zeroing in on a potential replacement for our
officer, a FASNY manager.

I can feel the glow of the grin.

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: Brian was tasked to conduct a
top to bottom review of all of our office
operations and recommend any changes or additions
to better the association. As a result of this
review, job descriptions have been revised to
better describe the duties performed by staff;
and in some instances, new job titles were
assigned. A weekly report is now prepared for
the board to keep our directors up to date on
staff activities. Directors, who act as liaisons
to our committees, are better able to see how
projects are progressing. Conversely, if a
project or activity is not moving forward, they
can transmit timely information back to committee chairs to keep things on track.

In addition to servicing our membership, FASNY has a large presence in the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC). Director Brian McQueen and Past President Ken Pienkowski are very active on many NVFC committees. Recently, I traveled to the NVFC Spring Meeting, along with the Vice Presidents; and at this meeting, our own Brian McQueen was reelected to the NVFC board; and he also received the James P. Seavey, Sr., Health and Wellness Leadership Award for the work he does to educate the fire service about the dangers of occupational cancer. Even though it's a passion with Brian, Jim Seavey was a very good friend of Brian's, so when they endowed that award in Jim's name the Board of Directors really felt it was appropriate to put Brian in, and he was successful; and we know he is going to keep fighting the fight for cancer. So, Brian, congratulations on that.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Additionally, Robert Dowd, a Long Island Junior firefighter, was awarded the
Junior Firefighter of the Year Award. Robert served as Captain of the Nassau County Junior Firefighters' Association; and as president, he traveled to Germany to help develop a reciprocal training program with German junior firefighters. Because of this visit, a group of German Juniors -- Was it 13?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Eight kids, five adults.

MR. KLEIN: Thirteen German firefighting members, eight students, and five advisors, traveled to New York and trained at the Nassau County Fire Academy this year with the Nassau County Juniors. Do you have that video that you played? Do you have that with you? Maybe we can show that someplace. That was really a great video.

Sorry, I am digressing from the script.

Like I said, because of Robert Dowd's journey to Germany, we did bring these children and their advisor over. Their graduation ceremony was held about two weeks ago, almost two weeks ago. There were 390 people in attendance at the graduation ceremony. It was really impressive, including a representative from the
German chancellor -- It was a long program, because it was done in English and in German, so it was pretty hard for me to follow along.

Our efforts on critical fire service issues also serve to solidify our reputation on the national fire service stage. This year association Secretary D'Alessandro was invited to represent FASNY and speak at the FDIC Conference in Indiana and the NVFC Training Summit in Oregon. And Brian, you're going to be presenting in VCOS, right? That's the Volunteer Chiefs' section of the International Association of Fire Chiefs. So we're out there, and we're spreading our message.

In May, the chapel at the Firemen's Home was dedicated in the name of Chaplain Emeritus Reverend Wayne F. Jagow. As usual, when the Reverend prays for it, the weather was perfect. The weather carried over to the next day as we dedicated a new outdoor dining pavilion for the use of the members at the home and a front portico to keep them out of inclement weather when they get in and out of our vehicles. We are grateful for the many years of the spiritual
guidance Reverend Wayne provided FASNY and the fire service. Current Chaplain Foster and her Chaplains' committee certainly have big shoes to fill, particularly when it comes to conditions for outside activities.

FASNY is very fortunate to have wonderful folks in our employ. Our office staff is the finest team of professional, knowledgeable, and motivated people I know. From the most menial task, to the planning of our largest event, they give their full effort to ensure we remain the premiere fire service organization in the country. Many of them are here today. We introduced a lot of them this morning. If you pass them in the hallway, please express your gratitude. They do a lot of work to make sure that your comfort is priority one here at the convention.

Equally important are our committee members, the eyes and ears of the fire service community. Often because of their monthly committee conference calls, we are alerted to issues of importance early on and can address them before they become problems.
The Firemen's Home, under the supervision of administrator Rick Lohne, and a very capable Board of Trustees led by Wayne Butts, have also seen transformation this year. A number of long time staff have retired or moved on to other endeavors. Rick, Wayne, and the trustees have been instrumental in seeing that this excellent facility maintains its mission to care for our brothers and sisters in their golden years. They employ the best health care personnel, who are all dedicated to the mission of caring for the members; and that's evident in the way you see the folks that come to the convention, how they're taken care of. We appreciate all your efforts there, Mr. Administrator.

I would be remiss if I did not recognize LAFASNY President Jean Christensen and her officers and her members. This group of hardworking, dedicated women do so much for FASNY and the Firemen's Home. Often their efforts go unnoticed. Thank you, Jean, for your ongoing support and commitment.

Vice Presidents Farrell and Tase, Immediate Part President Pienkowski, and the Board of
Directors, have been invaluable to me this year. Their expertise, opinions, support, and encouragement have helped me tremendously. They have helped me and FASNY get through some rocky times, and I consider all of them valued friends.

Finally, I renew my commitment to you, the membership. No association can survive without informed and motivated members. The officers, directors, trustees, staff, and committees, are here to serve you, the needs of the membership.

Thank you. God Bless you, and God bless America.

(Applause.)

MR. FARRELL: For the purpose of a motion, the Chair recognizes FASNY member Kevin Klein, past Chief of Oceanside Fire Department.

MR. KLEIN: Good morning. On behalf of the officers and members of the Oceanside Fire Department and our proud family, whom we have a few here today, I would like to make the motion to accept the President's report.

MR. FARRELL: Motion made. For the purpose of a second, the floor recognizes Charles Daskalakis.
MR. DASKALAKIS: Good morning. It's Charles Daskalakis, D-a-s-k-a-l-a-k-i-s. I'm proud to serve the Oceanside Fire Department as Assistant Chief. I'm also proud to second the motion.

MR. FARRELL: Thank you, sir.
All those in favor say aye.
AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.
MR. FARRELL: And I know there will be no nos. Congratulations, Steve.
MR. KLEIN: Thank you.
(Applause.)
(Whereupon, a video was played.)
(Applause.)
MR. KLEIN: So that was the first viewing of our new recruitment video that we're going to be rolling out, and we'll have available. Not bad.

I now call on John S. D'Alessandro for the Annual Report of the Secretary of FASNY.
MR. D'ALESSANDRO: It's a hard act to follow.
"To serve the volunteer fire and EMS services, and the public they serve, through
education, advocacy, recruitment, and retention, recognition, and community service. To provide a haven at the FASNY Firemen's Home." Those words should be familiar. That's our mission statement; and for almost 150 years these fundamental goals have directed and driven our association. As a result of these efforts, FASNY has grown to be preeminent voice of the volunteer fire service in New York and a respected voice on the national fire service stage. What started as a conversation at a parade in 1872, has evolved into an organization that continues to withstand the test of time. Yet the Firemen's Association of the State of New York is somewhat unique in its own right. This uniqueness is clearly represented in five important words contained in our mission statement, "and the public they serve."

Most membership organizations exist to better their members. We exist to better our members so that they can more effectively protect the lives and property of the people they serve. This is an important distinction and one that we should all be proud of.
As association secretary, I am happy to report that the health of our organization is good and that our commitment to our core mission continues to grow.

Since the 146th Annual Meeting of the organization last August, the Board of Directors has met 12 times. Copies of the meeting minutes are distributed and available for review at FASNY headquarters. The secretary's office also retains transcripts of previous annual meetings, nominating petitions, contact information of all elected officers, listings of appointed committee members, and copies of current corporate documents.

In addition to the recordkeeping duties of the office, the bylaws of the organization state, "the secretary shall assume responsibility for supervising the registration of members entitled to vote and issue voting card ballots or other like documents should a voter election be called at any meeting of the membership."

There are seven offices up for election this year; three seats on the Board of Directors, and four seats on the Firemen's Home Board of
Trustees. All open seats will have uncontested elections.

I also serve as FASNY's Volunteer Programs Coordinator. In this capacity, I assist the recruitment and retention committee in their efforts, and I am responsible for the administration of the FASNY Health Community College Tuition Reimbursement Program.

In 2017, FASNY was awarded its second federal staffing for adequate fire and emergency response, or SAFER Grant, through the US Department of Homeland Security. These funds have enabled us to continue our recruitment and retention efforts. In 2018/19, the SAFER Grant funded the statewide outreach media campaign, which included a website, social media, internet advertising, radio spots, television commercials, and department recruitment kits. This grant also provided resources to promote Recruit New York weekend, which resulted in the highest number of departments participating since its inception.

On January 1, 2019, the presumption cancer coverage law went into effect. As is sometimes the case, the law needed some clarification to
better enable departments to comply with its requirements. I'm happy to report that the legislature passed the amendments to the law we requested, and the bill is on the governor's desk awaiting the signature. Our landmark study of cancer in the volunteer fire service is coming to a conclusion. As I write this report, data collection has ended and the research team is compiling the results. This first of a kind study will enable us to fight for further coverage of volunteer firefighters and to develop protocols to better shield us as we are protecting the citizens of New York.

FASNY has 43,240 members as of July 1st. This is the dividend generated by the hard work of our elected officers, staff, and committee people. While we appreciate your membership, simply paying your dues is not enough. I will say it again, simply paying your dues is not enough. We need you to be individually involved if we are to continue to advocate for New York's volunteer first responders. Join a committee, attend one of the many trainings and seminars; and above all, make your voice heard on
legislative issues that directly affect our health and wellbeing. We also need you to speak to nonmember departments about the benefits of being part of FASNY. Ultimately joining the association produces real results for each and every volunteer department across the state. Today, more than ever, the old adage about strength in numbers is especially true in the current political environment.

As first responders, we know that technology and techniques will change over time. In fact, we embrace those changes, because they enable us to do our jobs better. Yet we must never forget that the foundation of the volunteer fire service is built upon the dedication of trained, motivated individuals who will respond when their communities need them. This is as true on the fire ground as it is in a FASNY meeting room.

As FASNY approaches its 150th anniversary, I commend my fellow brother and sister first responders on a job well done. Be proud, serve well, and remain safe.

(Applause.)
MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Secretary D'Alessandro.

The script says, I call on Thomas L. Krawczyk for the Annual Report of the Treasurer of FASNY and the Annual 519 Report of FASNY; and then when he gets done, I call on the FASNY Foundation Treasurer Thomas Krawczyk for the report on the Foundation 519.

So Tom Krawczyk is here. I'm going to sit down, and he's going to give you all his reports in one shot, and then we'll move on.

MR. KRAWCZYK: I have my reports in the convention book. I would just like to point out a couple of things. We're still taking brick orders at the Firemen's Home. The cost of the bricks are $25.00 each, if you want a brick for your member or your loved one or your office, President, Chief, or time of service, 50 or 25 years, or a family brick. We have a little over a thousand bricks left, so get your orders in.

Next, I would like to thank everyone that donated baskets to last year's scholarship fund. We had 107 baskets. We turned in $4,420.00 for the scholarship fund. Tomorrow's scholarship
fund basket raffle will be next door. We have a little over 90 baskets, and they're still coming in.

On the 519 report for FASNY, we have to do this every year. It's an audited report. "The Board of Directors respectfully submits for your information the following report related to the Firemen's Association of the State of New York for the 12 month fiscal period ending June 30, 2019.

The assets and liabilities, including trust funds of the corporation, as of the end of the said fiscal period, which was June 30th, the assets total $47,206,872.00.

The liabilities total $1,710,171.00.

And nothing available in trust funds.

The principal changes in the assets and liabilities, including trust funds, of the corporation during the said fiscal period were as follows: The assets increased due to the timing of the two percent foreign fire tax receipt.

The revenue of the corporation, both unrestricted and restricted due to particular purposes, during the said fiscal period total
$24,958,734.00. The expenses, or disbursements, of the corporation, for both general and restricted purposes, totalled $17,186,170.00.

Concerning the membership of the corporation: The number of members as of June 30, 2019 is 43,171. The number of members decreased by 927 during the said period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. The names and places of the residences of the current members can be found in the books of the corporation, which are kept at the Firemen's Association of the State of New York at 107 Washington Avenue; and this report has been prepared pursuant to Section 519 of the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law, dated today, Liverpool, New York. It's signed by the President and myself as Treasurer.

Next is the 519 Report for the Foundation; and this is different from FASNY.

The Board of Directors respectfully submits for your information the following report related to the Firemen's Association of the State of New York Foundation, Inc., for the 12 month period ending June 30, 2019.

The total assets for this period total
$138,710,479.00. The total liabilities for this period is $1,000,000.00.

The principal changes in assets and liabilities, including trust funds, of the corporation during the said fiscal period, were as follows: The foundation investment portfolio increased moderately with a favorable stock market performance and expenses increased significantly with additional grand expenditures for major capital projects commencing during this reporting period, financed partially due to the new line of credit. The line of credit was $1,000,000.00.

The revenues and receipts of the corporation, both restricted and unrestricted, during the said fiscal period were $5,717,263.00. The expenses or disbursements of the corporation total $8,820,874.00.

The membership of the corporation as of June 30th is one. The number of members increased by zero during this period; and the names and places of residences of the current members may be found in the books of the corporation, which are kept at 107 Washington;
and the report is dated today in Liverpool, New York, signed by the President, Edward Tase, and myself as Treasurer.

And that concludes my reports, Mr. President.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Mr. Treasurer and Mr. Treasurer.

Jerry DeLuca? Jerry's presentation.

MR. DELUCA: Good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. DELUCA: Welcome to the 147th Annual Convention, but as we celebrate 147th, I ask you to begin to look forward to the next three years as we move towards the 150th anniversary of FASNY.

Starting in 2020, and culminating with a special celebration of our sesquicentennial in 2022, the FASNY Convention will be held in Tarrytown, Westchester County. As we move to Westchester, we look to many opportunities to enhance our convention and our convention experience. We hope to bring back the FASNY Golf Tournament at the Spring Lake Golf Course.

We will offer the ability to enjoy and
participate in activities and sites of the historic Hudson Valley. Our host hotel for the convention will be the beautiful Westchester Marriott. While we've all grown quite comfortable here, we look forward to the Marriott.

We look forward to providing you with a wonderful and unique experience; and we hope not only will you come, but you'll invite your brothers and sisters to join us as well.

Thank you, and I look forward to seeing you.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Jerry.

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

The chair will entertain a motion to accept the printed reports as they appear in the convention ad book.

Vincent Galvin?

MR. GALVIN: I move it as written.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, sir.
MR. PETTINGELL:  Fred Pettingell, Hudson Valley, past president, seconds the motion.

MR. KLEIN:  Fred Pettingell.  Thank you, sir.

I have a motion and a second.

All in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS:  Aye.

MR. KLEIN:  Anybody opposed?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN:  So carried.

MR. TASE:  Welcome again.  Remember this afternoon we will be having at 1:00 p.m. the Two Percent Tax Forum.  That will be held in the convention center.

This afternoon the Michael D. Whelan Walk will take place at 4:00 p.m.  Those that are preparing to go in the dunk tank, please be prepared at 3:45, Brian McQueen.

MR. MCQUEEN:  Rosenhagen.

MR. TASE:  There you go.  Billy says, no.  You may register for this event onsite out through the back doors here under the canopy.

Entries for the donation is $15.00, and that donation goes to the National Cancer Support
Network in memory of our fallen Secretary Michael D. Whelan.

This afternoon at 12:30 p.m. in the ballroom is the first of the four educational seminars. Be certain that you have registered for these programs. Registration is outside these doors for today, please.

Tomorrow's sessions begin -- education sessions begin at 12:30 p.m. in the ballroom. Be aware that your badges will be scanned at all sessions. Your badge must be scanned to receive a certificate of attendance; and also remember, your information, your critique forms that they give you is our information that we need to make sure that we can continue to present these programs, the programs that you need to have, that you're interested in, please. That information just doesn't get filed. We read them. We look at them, and we evaluate them.

Please take time to visit our sponsors in the exhibit area. If it wasn't for these sponsors and exhibitors, we wouldn't be able to put these programs together.

The gold display booths are our convention
sponsors, and we thank them for what they do for us.

In your registration packet you received the FASNY "I am Responding" information form. FASNY is looking to move forward with our technology with "I am Responding". We need to have information so that you can receive the information that we like to get out. Please take time to fill out those information forms, drop them off, and stop by and visit Adam at the "I am Responding" booth.

Tonight is our Second Annual Grub and Pub Crawl. Transportation leaves the hotel at 7:00 p.m., please.

The FASNY Federal Credit Union's Annual Meeting will take place tomorrow morning at 8:00 a.m. in this room.

The second session will begin at 9:00 a.m. The Jerry Buckenmeyer Scholarship raffle. Again, this is an event that allows us to hand out this year not 25, but 26 scholarships, to seniors for their continued education. So this takes place tomorrow night. So get your baskets in next door. If you don't have a basket and you
want to drop some cash off, they'll be glad to
take it. They won't turn it down.

Tonight is the beer tasting -- That's
tomorrow night. The beer tasting with the Empire
Brewing Company, Buried Acorn Brewing, Anything
But Beer, and the Talking Cursive will be there
to join us.

Thank you to our sponsors for what they do
for us, Provident Insurance, DKC, and many other
sponsorships for that evening.

I am going to turn it back to President
Klein.

MR. KLEIN: Mr. Sergeant-at-Arms, you're
supposed to drop off a prize up here?

Are our friends from St. James still in the
room or did they leave? Last year at the
freezing cold winter games in Cortland, where
there is no heat anywhere -- (laughter) -- our
friends from St. James Fire Department had
brought a wood fire pizza oven up there; and as
you can imagine, there were millions of people
crowding around that, but anyway, the pizza is
phenomenal. They have travelled to our
convention with their wood fire pizza oven, and
it will be on the walk. So it's just another added attraction, so I encourage you to come out and walk. It's going to be not too hot, not too cool, except for the people in the dunk tank. We're going to get one of our attorneys. They've been at the front desks all morning and haven't really had to get involved in anything. I guess I didn't say anything inappropriate. I'm in good shape there (laughter.)

Without any further adieu, could you bring the mystery guest prize, whatever it is. Do we know what it is? Can we reveal the secret now? This is a brew bag valued at a hundred dollars, I'm told. There is no red wine in there, so I can't -- (laughter).

John, stand up and pick.

You are not going to believe this. It doesn't have a name on it, but somebody ripped the ticket the wrong way, and I have both sides of the ticket with the number on it, so you're not the winner (laughter.) Actually, look at your half, and if there's no numbers on it, you're a winner, because I got both sides here with the numbers on them. So check your
ticket --

107039 -- Hey, you can't win.

Here we go. This one was ripped right, so we're going to have a winner, 107185. You have to be present. If you left the room --

107097.

107144.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Congratulations, Rich. Enjoy. Are there any announcements?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: No announcements.

I hereby recess the annual meeting until 9:00 a.m. Saturday.

(Whereupon, the meeting was adjourned to Saturday, August 10, 2019, at 9:00 a.m.)
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 9, 2019 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 6th day of December, 2019.

________________________
JAMIE J. WOODARD

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386
OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE 147TH ANNUAL
CONVENTION OF THE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION OF THE
STATE OF NEW YORK, HELD FROM THE 9TH DAY OF
AUGUST THROUGH THE 11TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2019, AT
HOLIDAY INN, 441 ELECTRONICS PARKWAY, VILLAGE OF
LIVERPOOL, NEW YORK.

August 10, 2019

BEFORE: STEVEN E. KLEIN, President

Jamie J. Woodard
Court Reporter
P.O. Box 59
Ridge, New York 11961
(631) 345-2386
MR. KLEIN: Good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. KLEIN: A couple of announcements before we start here. The exits are located in the same place they were yesterday. If there is an alarm, it will be announced from the dais. Directions will be given from the podium to exit the ballroom in an orderly fashion. Right now there is nobody in the front row except for the Court Stenographer. The attorney will be coming around with the release forms. At some point during the day I might have to button my jacket. If somebody gets hit with a projectile when the button pops off, we're not responsible.

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: We eat good when we do these things.

Once again as you entered the hall, you were given a ticket to win a prize. At the end of today's business session, we will draw a ticket. If you did not put one half of the ticket -- and when you tear the ticket, there's a perforation, please don't tear it. If you were here yesterday, you know what happened. Okay?
So you're going to put your ticket in the box. We're going to do a drawing at the end of the day for a prize, a secret prize. I have no idea what it is. You have to be here to get it, so don't put your name on the other half of the ticket like you're going to win so.

At this time I would ask you to please silence your pagers and cellphones. There will be absolutely no food or drinks allowed in the meeting room during the general session. Everybody must be seated.

One other thing, I want to take just two minutes. We had a very successful Mike Whelan walk yesterday. I don't have totals as far as the money raised. I do know that almost $400.00 was raised by the dunk tank and the pizza. So St. James, that pizza is out of this world. You guys are great. They made over 40 pies. It was a busy day for them. Ed Tase, Wayne Butts, Mike Caron, Rob Leonard, and Pat Perry, those were the dunkees. I do think they had a good time. You guys did a very worthwhile thing. You raised some nice funds, and that's what it's all about, raising funds and having fun.
Please stand for the Pledge, and remain standing for the invocation.

Mr. Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, please.

(Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms With and the audience members.)

(Invocation by Reverend Barrie-Lyn Foster.)

MR. KLEIN: Mr. Sergeant-at-Arms, Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, do we have a quorum?

MR. WITH: Yes, Mr. President, we do.

MR. KLEIN: Okay. I hereby call the second session of the 2019 Annual Meeting to order.

We are going to have -- Brian McQueen is going to give us a little presentation on the Lavender Ribbon Report. This is serious stuff, so pay attention. Brian, please.

MR. MCQUEEN: Thank you. Good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. MCQUEEN: What a great day it is in downtown Liverpool, that's for sure. A little bit better than the trip we took to the pub crawl yesterday, but the beautiful rainbow that crossed the 81 South was just absolutely outstanding. It kind of talks a little bit about why we're here
today so.

Each of you that registered -- if you haven't pulled it out yet -- inside of your red folder you have the Lavender Ribbon Report. The Lavender Ribbon Report is a study on cancer on the best practices. It was reproduced by your board for you to take back to your departments.

So let me begin this morning by telling you that challenges are a part of life. There's no question about it. Each of us face a challenge every single day of our life, but challenges make us stronger. It makes us want to get up and go after it every single day; and life sometimes becomes meaningless, and sometimes ask yourself why, and it's because we have nothing to compare the good times to. So I know for a fact that some of you in this room today are facing challenges with cancer. I know it. We've talked, you've called me, we've emailed. I know. I'm a social media geek. I see it on Facebook. However, what we need to realize is that book that you have inside that red folder doesn't do us any good if we don't take it out. Sixty-three percent of the firefighters in the United States
of America are going to come down with cancer, 63 percent if we don't do something about it. You and I, the boots on the ground firefighters, you people that are sitting in the audience today, have got to do something about it. We can recruit all the young firefighters we want, but if we don't take the initiatives as veterans in our fire department to beat this issue, this epidemic of cancer, we're going to have some issues in the future. How many of you here today knew anything about the Lavender Ribbon Report before you got your registration packet? Please raise your hand.

(Audience complies.)

MR. MCQUEEN: Outstanding, outstanding. There's still a lot of you out there that don't know anything about it, and I'm asking you why. How many of you have read it? Raise your hands.

(Audience complies.)

MR. MCQUEEN: The numbers go down. Since August 8th of 2018 this report has been issued to the fire service, career and volunteer, free, free of charge, just like the board did for you for this convention. So how many of you now by
show of hands have begun the implementation of
the Lavender Ribbon Report in your stations? And
let's at it, just one, just one best practice.

(Audience complies.)

MR. MCQUEEN: There is less than six, seven
of you that have raised your hand. Less than
seven of you have raised your hand. I ask you
why? Why? It's not about me. It's not about
you. It's about those boots on the ground
firefighters that are going to be following us,
and that's why we need to do something about it.
So I ask you, those younger firefighters of today
really don't know a lot about cancer, and it
doesn't matter, cancer has no limitations.
White, black, American, Hispanic, Irish, Italian,
cancer has no limitations. So I ask you, when we
go back to our stations, is it the politics of
safety? Is that the reason why we don't do it
because it's politics? It is the it will never
happen to me syndrome? I'm invisible. It's
never going to happen to me. I'm 21 years old, I
won't get cancer. How many times have we heard
it? You know as well as I do it's there. Or is
it when you have the leadership that says it's
the Jimmy crack corn and I don't care mentality. We have it. We know it. We've heard it. I've heard it.

So these challenges that I'm talking to you about today for some reason we have them. Whether it's the challenge of doing work. Whether it's the challenge of getting grips on our financial, work that we have at our home, or is it the challenge of just saying I love you to someone that you do love or to the person sitting next to you. We need to find out that these challenges are here in front of us, and we, those people, you that are sitting in this audience today, the people that are attending this convention need to step up to the plate, buckle the chin straps, and make sure that our future firefighters don't come down with cancer. Doing so is going to make us feel good about yourself. It's going to make us feel that we're doing something; and as you walk through the door after your call and you look at your family straight in the eye, you can say that you've done something to protect yourself from cancer.

Life changes when you least expect it. The
future is uncertain. So I'm asking you to seize the day, seize this moment, and make the most of it. There is a tremendous amount that we don't know about the relationship between cancer and firefighting, but there is also much that we do know, enough that we need to take immediate action about it. We don't think it's important to us. The biggest challenge that we face today in the fire service in addressing the cancer prevention is convincing that fresh-faced department member to be worried about the disease that may not impact him or her for 30 years, but when it does, it changes your life forever. This is where the criticality of leadership genuinely exists. In general, firefighters today have a tendency to believe three things: They are fearless. They are fearless. Look at your social media. Look at firefighters getting back on the apparatus still dirty faced, dirty gear, fearless; or number two, maybe they don't believe that the laws of nature apply to them, that in 30 years, or maybe 10 years, you're going to get cancer. They have an unrealistic perception of their own invisibility. Let's be honest. We
know it. We've been there. I had the dirtiest
gear in the fire station. Ask my past chief. I
had the dirtiest hood in the fire station. That
was me, because I thought it was the coolest
ting in the world to have. Now I look at
myself. What'd I do? You know, we are exposing
firefighters to the most carcinogenic agents that
we have ever had in the fire service today. But
in words of a good friend of mine, Chief Jimmy
Seavey, Sr., we can't look back, but we can
envision the future; and it's because of that
thinking we have the Lavender Ribbon Report. We
have the posters that are in the back. We have
the posters that were at the registration table.
We also know that our own culture is perhaps the
biggest obstacle. We, as firefighters, are
self-determined to define our value and routinely
indicate that as long as we get to decide when to
stop being firefighters, we can accept
consequences of our volunteer profession.
Unfortunately, and we know it quite well, that at
times, we seem to trade our health in exchange
for getting to call ourselves firefighters.

So facing up the challenges and living
through them give us experience that make up our life, but it's important to remember that since Kindergarten we've been taught whatever the problem there is almost always a solution. We have a solution sitting in front of us in our hands. We need to take resolution, that 48 page document, and use it. Don't put it on a shelf. Don't leave it in a drawer, use it, because that's your chance to make sure that the volunteer fire service continues to survive. Some of the challenges we face might be getting a great score on the state firematic test, or putting out a massive industry fire, or learn something that might be enjoyable. So I'm asking you today when you walk out the door, why not give yourself a challenge. Cancer will change you. For those of you that have it or had it, you understand. Without a doubt, as Bobby McConville said, it will shape you and set your course in directions that you never imagined, but in the end, in the end it will not crush you. It will not consume you, and it will not destroy you, because that's the brave volunteer fire service that we have. Jimmy Valvano stated in
his ESPY speech about cancer, cancer can take away all my physical abilities, but it cannot touch my mind. It cannot touch my heart, and it cannot touch my soul. Cancer cannot do that to us.

So in closing, let me say this to you, and believe me when I say it to you that when a doctor tells you you have cancer your life changes forever. Your family's life changes forever. Your friends' lives changes forever. As you lay on that radiation table in a cancer center for six weeks, 25 minutes a day locked into a mask like this (indicating) wondering whether you're going to write your obituary, whether you're ever going to see your grandson, the message hits home. We, the volunteer fire service of this state, needs to step up and do something about it. You wonder every day what's going to happen, and I tell you, it's not easy. Trust me, it is the darkest day of your life.

So I'm asking you as you leave today with this Lavender Ribbon Report, I'm encouraging you, I'm begging you to use it, to share it, to embed it into your daily firefighting routines. Sit
down with your chiefs. Sit down with your leadership and say -- excuse my French -- cut the shit. Let's get to the basics. We need to protect our firefighters. We need to do it now. So remember, tomorrow is never promised. So as you walk out the doors today make a difference in the lives of those that are fighting for their tomorrows.

God bless you. God bless America, and I love each and every one of you.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: You all know that this is Brian's passion, and we have gone out of our way, this association and the other associations in the state, to get the message to the fire service. You all have the book now. We can't go into every firehouse in the state and implement this. You folks have to take this back, and you have to urge your department members, read the book, do what they can do to help themselves. We can't do it for you. You have to do this.

Thanks, Brian. Great speech.

I would like to now call upon LAFASNY President Jean Christensen. I saw her earlier.
Hi. Good morning, girls. Come on up. The ladies just concluded their convention last evening, right? Am I correct?

MS. CHRISTENSEN: Yes.

MR. KLEIN: Congratulations.

MS. CHRISTENSEN: Thank you.

MR. KLEIN: I can't tell you how great it is to work with these ladies, and we've had a very good first year. It can only get better. Jean, please introduce your people.

Thank you.

MS. CHRISTENSEN: Thank you. I have with me First Vice President Diana Balling from Ulster County and Second Vice President Kathleen Heighton from Oswego County. Diana?

MS. BALLING: I just want to wish you and your officers a very productive connection.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you very much, Diana.

MS. BALLING: Great working with you.

MS. HEIGHTON: President Steve, I would like to present you with a copy of our 71st Annual Journal.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you so much.

MS. HEIGHTON: You're welcome.
MS. CHRISTENSEN: I just want to let you know at our convention the ladies donated a basket to the Gerard J. Buckenmeyer scholarship night, and also $2,500.00 to the LAFASNY activities fund that helps take all the residents on their trips. We also do a booster drawing. Two of the winners were in memory of. One was in memory of my cousin, John Champlain, who was a member at the home. It was $15.00; and the other was actually Diana Balling's mother in law, who won $10.00, so that $25.00 is going to go to the butterfly garden; and the Nassau County ladies sold butterflies at their Nassau County hospitality room, and they donated to me $208.00 to go to the butterfly garden, and here is one of the butterflies for you (handing).

MR. KLEIN: I have 11 of them now.

MS. CHRISTENSEN: Now you have 11.

Thank you so much.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: I tell you, having never been over to the other hotel for the Nassau County ladies, I hear it's a pretty good time. Thank you, ladies. I apologize that we couldn't
actually get over to your convention, but we've been a little busy.

Unfinished agenda begins. Our first item on the unfinished agenda is the introduction of candidates for elected office. Secretary D'Alessandro?

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Would the following individuals come up to the dais for the purpose of introducing the 2019 candidates for office: Past Home Trustee James Farrell, Leon Tucholski, David Pilecki, FASNY Past President Joseph Finnegan, FASNY Vice President John Farrell, Father Chris Carrara, and Past Director Brian McQueen.

Leon Tucholski, please approach the podium to make your introduction.

MR. TUCHOLSKI: Good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. TUCHOLSKI: I am here today to introduce a good friend and colleague, Jose DaRocha, who has served as Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms of FASNY. He has served distinction in the following firematic organizations: As a 12 year member of the Board
of Trustees for the Firemen's Home on the Hudson; former member of the Manhasset Lakeville Fire Department Company Number Two; 53 year active member of Albertson Hook and Ladder Engine and Hose Company One, where he has held every office from Second Lieutenant to the office of Chief of the Department and has served on the Board of Trustees for a period of 27 years. In his home county of Nassau, he has held the office of chairman of the Executive Council of Firematic Organizations of Nassau County, which includes the Fire Chiefs' Council; the Nassau County Firemen's Association, the Association of Fire Districts' of Nassau County, the North Shore Fire Council, and the South Shore Fire Department's Association. He has held the office of president of the North Shore Fire Council, the North Shore Holy Name Society, and the Eight Battalion Past Chiefs' Association. Regionally he serves as director at large of the Southern New York Firemen's Association, and he is currently the chairman of the Long Island Day at the home committee.

I am honored to introduce Jose DaRocha to
be elected for the five year term as director of FASNY.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Thank you, Leon.

There are no other candidates for the position of director for the seat now held by Jose DaRocha.

David Pilecki, please approach the podium to make your introduction.

MR. PILECKI: Good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. PILECKI: I am proud to stand before you all and introduce Andrew E. Pilecki to fill the remaining one year term of director that was vacated by current Vice President Edward Tase. Andy Pilecki began his fire career back in January, 1981, joining the active ranks at Columbia Hook and Ladder in North Tonawanda, New York. At Columbia he was president, recording secretary, trustee, lieutenant, and currently a 38 year member. At that time he served as director and auditor of the North Tonawanda Volunteer Firemen's Association. While being active with Columbia Hook and Ladder, he was also appointed by the mayor and the city council to be
the city's assistant director of Emergency
Management. He was also a member of the Niagara
County Fire Advisory Board from 1999 to 2007,
2010 to 2018, and elected Vice Chair from 2016 to
2018. In 1996, Andy became president of the
Niagara County Volunteer Firemen's Association,
and also serving on the executive board,
nominations, legislative steering, and
association club. He is also a past president
and former assistant secretary and life member of
the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's
Association. Andy is also serving on the Bylaws
committee and the Firefighter of the Year
committee.

In 2002, he moved to Pendleton, and Andy
became a member of Wendleville Fire Department.
In 2010, he became a certified New York State
EMT. He is also a past Assistant Chief, First
Assistant Chief, Second Assistant Chief, Third
Assistant Chief, past Captain, and past
Lieutenant.

Andy had moved on to serve the Firemen's
Association of the State of New York. In 2005,
he was asked to organize and chair the sectional
communications committee. He served on that committee for four years. In 2010, he was asked to serve on the Firefighter of the Year committee, where he moved up to be appointed vice chair in 2012 and appointed to chairman in 2013, where he is at that position today.

In addition to the FASNY committee, Andy was elected to serve on the FASNY Federal Credit Union Board in 2005. He has become active on that board as serving as secretary for three years, vice chairman of the board for three years, and has been chairman on the board since 2014.

Andy is also very active in his church and community. Some activities include Eucharistic Minister, past president, past president of the Holy Name Society, alter service coordinator, Boy Scout den leader, Western New York parade judge, Nights of Columbus, Catholic Charities, The United Way, and past chairman of the Parish Council. He also served on the Church of Science Council.

I hope you will keep my dad, Andy Pilecki, as your director of the Firemen's Association of
the State of New York.

Thank you.

(Appplause.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Great job, David, especially this is a tough crowd I know.

There are no other candidates for the position of director for the seat now held by Andrew Pilecki.

Past Home Trustee President James Farrell, please approach the podium to make your introduction.

MR. FARRELL: Good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. FARRELL: Reverend Clergy, honored guests, officers, and members of FASNY. On behalf of the Hudson Valley Firemen's Association and Westchester County Volunteer Firemen's Association, it's my distinct pleasure to introduce my son, Don Farrell, as a candidate for the position of director. Don is seeking to fill the seat currently held by Santo Chan Rivera, who is completing his 10 years of service on the board. Congratulations, Chan, on a job well done.
Don began his firematic career in 1979 when he joined Cataract Hose Company of the Ossining Fire Department. He served on many committees on both company and department levels. He served all the line officers of the company and was elected to second assistant chief in 1999 and chief engineer of the Ossining Fire Department in 2003. He continues to serve the department as the deputy chief and also as the president of our company. Don is a past president of Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association and is currently serving as a director of the Westchester County Volunteer Firemen's Association. Don has been a member of FASNY for 25 years, has served on the prestigious Firefighter of the Year committee for 15 years, and serving as a committee chairman for six years, until he was appointed as Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms in 2012. I might add, Don, along with two other members of the Ossining Fire Department, were co-winners of this award back in around 2000 or so. He was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms in 2017 and is currently serving in that position.
Don is married, has three grown children, and was employed by the Village of the Ossining Police Department holding the rank of detective when he retired after serving 29 years.

We, at Hudson Valley and Westchester County, feel that Don will certainly be an asset to FASNY serving as a member of the Board of Directors and ask for your support.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Thanks, Jim.

There are no other candidates for the position of director for the seat now held by Santo Chan Rivera.

Past President Joseph Finnegan, please approach the podium for the purposes of your introduction.

MR. FINNEGAN: Thank you, John.

Good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. FINNEGAN: I have to say, it's been a while since I stood at this podium, and hopefully it will be while before I stand here again.

(Laughter.)
MR. FINNEGAN: Anyway, it's great to be here. It's truly an honor.

President Klein, Vice Presidents Farrell, Tase, officers, clergy, members, and guests, I have the privilege to stand before you and nominate my long time friend and current home trustee, Dennis Eickhoff, to succeed himself for a second five year term as trustee to the firemen's home. Dennis has a long history of service to his community and the Colton New York Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department. He's also an active member of the St. Lawrence County Chiefs' Association, where he was recently reelected after a brief hiatus to a second round as president of that association. He is very active in the Northern New York Volunteer Firemen's Association, where he has served for many years as the association secretary, as well as on several committees of that association. Dennis also currently serves as chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners at Colton Fire District. He serves as Colton's town historian and is currently employed as a librarian at Colton Hepburn Library. This is only a partial
distinct of the associations and groups that Dennis belongs to, but as you can see, he is a person who believes in sharing his abilities and talents.

Throughout his many years of service to his community and the fire service, he has distinguished himself with his attention to detail and his dedication to the missions of those associations and the welfare of the citizens of his and surrounding communities. Dennis is also one of the original founding members of Believe in NY, which is a spinoff of Brian McQueen's group -- great presentation -- That group has dedicated its efforts to provide financial aid and comfort to members of the emergency services community who have been diagnosed with cancer and other serious debilitating diseases. I can go on listing Dennis's many activities and accomplishments; however, that is not the purpose of these remarks. Dennis has distinguished himself as an active and caring trustee of the firemen's home throughout his first five year term, and I truly believe he will continue to serve the members of
Mr. President, Mr. Vice Presidents, Mr. Secretary, I am honored to nominate Trustee Dennis Eickhoff for a second five year term as trustee of the Firemen's Home of the State of New York.

Thank you very much for the opportunity.

(Applause.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Thanks, Joe.

There are no other candidates for the position of firemen's home trustee for the seat that's currently held by Dennis E. Eickhoff.

First Vice President John P. Farrell, please approach the podium for your introduction.

MR. FARRELL: Thank you, John. Good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. FARRELL: President Klein, Reverend Clergy, officers, delegates, members, and honored guests. I have the distinct honor and pleasure to introduce Marilyn L. Schrader as candidate for her second five year term as trustee for the firemen's home. Marilyn has served on the FASNY membership committee from 2001 to 2014 and was
Vice Chair between the years of 2012 and 2014, prior to being elected as trustee of the firemen's home. Joining the Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association in 1979, Marilyn is a past president, past director, and life member. As a 35 year member of the Green County Volunteer Firemen's Association, Marilyn is a past president, life member, and continues to serve on several committees. Joining the Green County Fire Chiefs' Association in 1990, Marilyn has served as president, director, and served 14 years as secretary. Currently serving as vice president of the West Athens Lime Street Fire Company Number One, Marilyn has been an active firefighter for the past 42 years and has served as fire chief for three terms. Marilyn also served four years as secretary, treasurer of the West Athens Lime Street Fire District and is currently serving in her second term as fire commissioner. Marilyn is also a member of the New York State Association of Fire Chiefs. Recently she retired serving the state of New York for over 35 years, her last 17 years was as Fire Protection Specialist One for the New York
State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, the Office of Fire Prevention and Control, the fire operation and training branch. During Marilyn's first five years on the board, she has served on the following committees: 125th Anniversary FASNY's Firemen's Home, activities, chapel, dining services, and administrative committees. With the excellent qualifications, and most of all, Marilyn's experience over the past five years on the Board of Trustees, it gives the Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's officers and membership, and myself as past president, proudly supports Marilyn for her second term as trustee of the firemen's home.

Thank you.

(Appause.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Thank you, John. There are no other candidates for the position of firemen's home trustee for the seat that is currently held by Marilyn L. Schrader.

Father Chris Carrara, please approach the podium for the purpose of an introduction.

FATHER CARRARA: Good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.
FATHER CARRARA: As mentioned, my name is Father Christopher Carrara, and I served as one of the Jefferson County Chaplains for Fire and Emergency Management. While I proudly serve the fire service in Jefferson County and my home department in Morristown, New York, I was born and raised in Suffolk County, more specifically, in Selden. My memories of growing up in Selden will always remain in my heart, especially my time as a member of the Selden Fire Department. Five years ago, I stood before this venerable organization for the purpose of introducing my best friend, Peter Cincotta, and recommending him for the position of home trustee. Five years later, I once again have the distinct honor of recommending Peter to you, this time for a second term. Peter is charitable, kind, dedicated, hardworking. One of the best -- One of the best -- Pete, I can't read what you wrote here.

(Laughter.)

FATHER CARRARA: I'll go to confession later. Sam, can I see you outside, please.

(Laughter.)

FATHER CARRARA: Many years before we were
born our parents were best friends in Brooklyn. Peter and I have been best friends our entire lives. We know each other well. More than friends, and we consider each other brothers.

In reflecting on two of the most significant aspects of my life and my faith is my faith and my work in emergency services. Peter has been a huge part of both of them. He encouraged me to become an altar server and to join the parish youth group. It was Peter that invited me to join the Selden Fire Department as a Junior member, then as a firefighter. I served as Peter's lieutenant in fire prevention for a short period of time.

Peter has been instrumental in dragging me into many of the great experiences of my life, including some I cannot mention in mixed company.

(Laughter.)

FATHER CARRARA: Five years ago I said Peter was a perfect choice for home trustee. Now with five years under his belt, he is even more qualified for the position. In Peter's almost 40 years of dedicated service to the fire service, he has brought great passion and personal
sacrifice to his work. On the local level he has served as lieutenant, and then captain of fire prevention in Selden, and has been department chaplain for over 20 years, recently being honored with the gift of a gold badge by the department. He was Brookhaven Town Volunteer Firemen's Association President and is once again serving in a leadership role in Suffolk County Volunteer Firemen's Association after ascending through its presidency.

On the state level, Peter served on FASNY's committee for the youth in the fire service for five years and has been a home trustee for the last five.

Before being a home trustee, Peter regularly participated in Long Island Day at the home. After attending each of those days he will speak to me about how much he enjoyed his time there and how important it was to do as much as we could for the residents. He would enjoy his time at the home so much, I found it necessary to remind he didn't live there. I do know that every time he would come up and visit me he would always make it a point to stop at the home, have
a glass of lemonade, a bear claw, or some other
donut, would visit with the staff, and always
talk to the residents. He feels very much at
home at the home; and knowing him and loving him
as a brother, his heart is there.

Over the years he's expressed his desire to
do even more for residents by some day becoming a
home trustee. As that dream came to realization,
I've seen him approach this responsibility with
great dedication and passion, the same passion he
has brought to everything he does. What I said
five years ago is truer now than it was then,
Peter is the right man for the job.

Thank you, and God bless all who serve the
fire service of our great state. It is my
privilege to present to you as a second term for
home trustee Peter Umberto Cincotta.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Thank you, Father. And
after that introduction, I can't wait to get to
the home and hangout with Peter.

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: We have an application right
here.

(Laughter.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: My wife gave it to you.

(Laughter.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: There are no other candidates for the position of firemen's home trustee for the seat that is currently held by Peter U. Cincotta.

Past Director Brian F. McQueen, please approach the podium for the purposes of an introduction.

MR. MCQUEEN: Thank you, John.

Doug, I'm not sure whether you want me to do this or Barrie-Lyn after that introduction. That was outstanding.

I am pleased to share my friend, Doug Van Etten's, name and background for the five year term for trustee of the FASNY Firemen's Home. Doug is more than worthy of your consideration. While he has huge shoes to fill, his predecessor, Walt Geidel, just did an absolutely, outstanding job for us at Central. We know that he will do it with dedication, with desire, and the love of those in the home.
He is in his 30th year as a volunteer firefighter, serving in his hometown department in the Town of Lexington in Greene County, joining the Cortlandville Fire Department as he finished college, and now remaining active as a member of the West Side Hose Company Number Three of the Homer Fire Department in the village where he and his family reside. His time in the fire service has allowed him great opportunities to serve and lead. He has held a variety of positions, including department president, assistant chief, and deputy fire coordinator. He served in key roles in several sizeable capital projects, both in the fire service as well as his educational career capacity, as the Homer Senior High School principal; and knowing quite well as a past school administrator that I'm sure that Doug can bring some of his high school discipline techniques to the home for our good friend, Coach Billy Rosenhagen.

(Laughter.)

MR. MCQUEEN: Doug broadened his service beyond his home community nearly 20 years ago joining the Central New York Firemen's
Association and had served Central as the
director and its treasurer in past years. He
serves FASNY as a member of its legislative
committee and has been involved in the successful
move of the FASNY Winter Games to Cortland in
2008. These roles have let him get to know many
FASNY members across the state. He has fun in
what he does and is not afraid to work hard. He
is a meat and potato type of a guy. He has fun
in no matter what he does, and he does it with
pride and determination. He is willing to listen
and speak up when needed, all key attributes for
what we feel is a great home trustee. His
planning, his logistical planning, and fiscal
effectiveness are truly attributes he will bring
to this table.

He has held his most important title for
the last 15 years, he's a proud dad. He is the
proud father of Zack and Tyler. He is fortunate
to have his wife, Kim, very supportive of yet
another journey in his services to the fire
service. He believes in family. He believes in
FASNY. He believes in the firemen's home. He is
a great candidate to fill Walt's position.
So on behalf of our entire Central New York Firemen's Association, we are honored, and we are proud to present Douglas Van Etten for the position of home trustee.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Thank you, Brian. There are no other candidates for the position of firemen's home trustee for the seat that is currently held by Walter A. Geidel.

President Klein, that concludes the introductions.

MR. KLEIN: Very good. Thank you, sir.

Thank you, John.

Congratulations to all the nominees. The gentlemen in the back row can leave. The gentlemen in the front still have to stay.

Okay, are there are other unfinished agenda items?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: Are there any other unfinished agenda items?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: I guess not.
I call upon Secretary John S. D'Alessandro for a special presentation.

Do we have the ladies in question in the room? They're coming in now. Excellent. Thank you very much.

John?

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Would Sandy Dugan, Debbie Finnegan, Betty Grant, and Sharon Ryan please come up to the dais.

You know, we do a lot of things at the convention every year. Most of it is business related, very cut and dry, but every now and then we get to do something that's fun and enjoyable. It takes a lot of people to make this convention happen. I know everybody here realizes that, but sometimes the people that you see on the front lines year after year after year -- I don't say you take for granted -- but you just assume they're always going to be there, and they're always going to do a good job. Well, these four ladies have been the registration team for the Firemen's Association for the past 20 years, 20 years, two decades. When you come --

(Applause.)
MR. D'ALESSANDRO: When you come to the convention and you approach the registration table and you see a smiling face, you see someone that's going to certainly help you with a problem, you see somebody to get you registered in a minute or two and send you on your way, we probably don't give a second thought that there's a lot of work involved. These ladies have been there. I haven't been secretary for all that long, not 20 years, the last four or five years, but they certainly welcomed me, and they certainly made my job a whole heck of a lot easier; and I'm going to miss them. I tried everything from bribery to blackmail to keep them coming back, but I understand 20 years is enough, but we wanted to bring them up in front of the membership and just say thank you, thank you, thank you, and give them a few tokens of our appreciation.

So ladies, we have some small items of appreciation. We can never really say thanks enough, but we wanted you to think of us every day when you have your morning coffee; and it has their name engraved on the cup, and it says,
"Registration Team Emeritus, August 10, 2019.

There's a little humor there, but there's a lot of truth. Nobody will ever be able to replace these four people.

So once again, thank you. My appreciation, and if there is anything ever that I can do or the association can do for you, please don't hesitate to keep in touch.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: When these ladies did start working for us they all had to get working papers, because they were all under 18.

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: And now that they've grown up -- well, never mind. I was thinking of Debbie when I said grown up, and then I realized I made a mistake.

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: Ladies, if you would please stand up so we have a little token of our friendship and our gratitude for what you have done; and my presidents in charge --

Once again on behalf of the association, ladies, thank you so much.
(Applause.)

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Thank you, ladies.

(Applause.)

MR. FARRELL: Okay, just a couple of items to mention. Please remember that the educational session will begin in the ballroom at 12:30 p.m. Please make certain that you are registered for the sessions. If you have not registered, you may do so at the registration desk.

The second session begins at 2:15, and the final session at 4:00 p.m.

Please be aware that your badge will be scanned at all sessions, and your badge must be scanned to receive a certificate, and the certificates will be available to you at the conclusion of the session.

Tonight will be the Eighth Annual Gerry Buckenmeyer FASNY Volunteer Scholarship Fund raffle. It will be here in this convention center. Beer tasting, entertainment, snacks, and cash bar will be available. Prize winners will be announced later in the evening. This is an extremely important event for FASNY.

Tomorrow morning at 8:00 a.m. in the
ballroom center the chaplains' committee will be conducting an interfaith service prior to the closing session.

Please take the necessary time today to visit our sponsors. These sponsors are a great support to FASNY to make this convention and other events during the year very successful.

Thank you.

MR. KLEIN: Mr. Sergeant-at-Arms, do we have the daily raffle prize? It's not bad, you come here for an hour this morning, and you have an opportunity to win something. It's pretty good.

Royer, stand up and pick a ticket, would you, please?

It looks like a breakfast basket, syrup and Bloody Marys.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: It's a nice little basket. What do we have, Don?

MR. FARRELL: 983096.

MR. KLEIN: 983096. Obviously, whoever it was left the room. Pick another one, please.

MR. FARRELL: 983102.
MR. KLEIN: 983102. We have a winner. Bob Sutton, congratulations. We will bring it out to you.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Okay, are there any announcements we need to make?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: We are going to have two sessions -- three sessions actually today. We are going to have another roundtable discussion this afternoon on recruitment and retention, I believe -- PTSD.

If there's nothing further, I will now recess the annual meeting until 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: So moved.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you very much. Have a great day. Be safe.

(Whereupon, the meeting was adjourned to Sunday, August 11, 2019, at 9:00 a.m.)
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 10, 2019 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 6th day of December, 2019.

________________________
JAMIE J. WOODARD
OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE 147TH ANNUAL
CONVENTION OF THE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF THE
STATE OF NEW YORK, HELD FROM THE 9TH DAY OF
AUGUST THROUGH THE 11TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2019, AT
HOLIDAY INN, 441 ELECTRONICS PARKWAY, VILLAGE OF
LIVERPOOL, NEW YORK.

August 11, 2019

BEFORE: STEVEN E. KLEIN, President

Jamie J. Woodard
Court Reporter
P.O. Box 59
Ridge, New York 11961
(631) 345-2386
MR. KLEIN: Good morning and welcome to the closing session of the 147th Annual Convention of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York.

The exits are still located to your right and left. If there is an alarm, it will be announced from the dais. Follow directions from the podium and exit the convention. I don't know who will be telling you that, because I will be out the door if there's an emergency, so somebody will tell you where to go. Actually, somebody has been telling me where to go all week so, here I am.

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: Once again, as you entered the hall you were given a ticket. We all know that. We've got the routine down now. You tear the ticket in half, you put half in the box and keep the other half. You tear the tickets the long way and not the side way. If you don't put the ticket in the box, you don't get the prize.

I ask you to silence your cellphones and pagers. No food or drink. Same rules as yesterday.
Please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Sergeant-at-Arms Don Farrell, for the last time, and remain standing for the invocation by Reverend Barrie-Lyn Foster.

Thank you.

(Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Sergeant-at-Arms Donald J. Farrell and the audience members.)

(Invocation by Reverend Barrie-Lyn Foster.)

MR. KLEIN: You may be seated. Marsha was taken to the hospital during the night, and she's undergoing some tests right now, and we hope she'll be okay.

Mr. Sergeant-at-Arms, do we have a quorum?

MR. FARRELL: Yes, Mr. President, we do.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you very much.

For the purpose of a special presentation, Secretary John D'Alessandro please approach the podium.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Is FASNY's official pizza maker here in the room? I know over the last several days probably most everybody in here enjoyed the brick oven fire pizza that was graciously provided by the St. James Fire
Department and our pizza maker emeritus, so we just wanted to give him a proclamation, and it says, a proclamation honoring Tonino's brick oven pizza, "Whereas, Tonino's brick oven pizza was an unwavering supporter of the 2019 FASNY Convention; and whereas, the members of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York wish to recognize this contribution.

Now, therefore be it resolved, the Firemen's Association of the State of New York extends its thanks and sincere appreciation to Tonino's Brick Oven Pizza.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Thank you. Thank you, John. I told you it was good pizza. I'm not even going to try to button this button this morning.

All right, first order of business is the report of the resolutions committee consisting of Chairman, Secretary John D'Alessandro; Vice Chair, Diana Pfersick; Director, Andy Pilecki; and Board of Trustee, Vice President Gerard Owenburg.

Mr. Secretary, are you ready?

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: I am ready.
The way we do this is that the reader of the motion will be the maker of the motion, then the President will call for a second, and then we will take a vote.

Mr. President, Resolution Number One, “WHEREAS, the 147th Annual Convention of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York is being held in the Town of Salina, New York, NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the thanks of the Association be extended to the elected officials, convention speakers, invited guests, forum presenters, and representatives of other fire service organizations in attendance.”

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

MR. KLEIN: You’ve heard the reading of Resolution Number One; is there a second?

MR. PIENKOWSKI: Ken Pienkowski seconds it.

MR. KLEIN: Okay. I have a motion and a second on Resolution Number One.

All in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Anybody opposed?

(No response.)
MR. KLEIN: Approved.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President,

Resolution Number Two, "WHEREAS, the 147th Annual Convention of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York is being held at the Holiday Inn, in the Town of Salina, New York,

AND WHEREAS, this venue has accommodated the needs of the attendees of this gathering,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the thanks of the Association be extended to the owners and employees of the Liverpool Holiday Inn."

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

MR. KLEIN: You've heard the reading of Resolution Number Two; do I have a second?

MR. SCHMIDT: David Schmidt seconds.

MR. KLEIN: The motion was made and seconded to adopt Resolution Number Two.

All in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Anybody opposed?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: Passed.
MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President,

Resolution Number Three, "WHEREAS, one of the primary responsibilities of the Office of the Secretary is to supervise and ensure the registration of members entitled to vote at the annual meeting,

AND WHEREAS, this critical function could not be accomplished without the assistance of the volunteer registration team,

AND WHEREAS, the volunteer registration team consisting of Sandy Dugan, Debra Finnegan, Betty Grant, and Sharon Ryan has provided countless hours of service to make more than two decades of FASNY conventions a success;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Secretary John S. D'Alessandro and the officers and members of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York, offer their heartfelt appreciation to Sandy Dugan, Debra Finnegan, Betty Grant, and Sharon Ryan and wish them the best in any and all future endeavors."

Mr. President, I so move the adoption of Resolution Number Three.

MR. KLEIN: You heard the reading of
Resolution Number Three and the motion; is there a second?

MR. WAY: I second the motion.

MR. KLEIN: Alan Way.

All in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Any opposed?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: Motion is carried.

MR. OWENBURG: Resolution Number Four,

"WHEREAS, Article II, Section 1.1 of the By-Laws of the Association provides that the membership shall have the opportunity to approve or reject the annual budget for the Firemen's Home at the annual meeting or convention,

AND WHEREAS, the Firemen's Association of the State of New York Board of Directors has submitted to this convention its budget for the purpose of operating the Firemen's Home for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2019 and ending September 30, 2020 in the sum of ten million, fifty-eight thousand, four hundred and thirty-six dollars ($10,058,436.00),

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that there
be appropriated the sum of ten million, fifty-eight thousand, four hundred and thirty-six dollars ($10,058,436.00) for the purpose of operating the Firemen's Home at Hudson, New York, for the period commencing October 1, 2019 and ending September 30, 2020."

Mr. Chairman, I move to adopt Resolution Number Four.

MR. KLEIN: You heard Resolution Number Four.

MR. BUTTS: Mr. President, I second the motion.

MR. KLEIN: Board of Trustees President Wayne Butts.

All those in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Anybody opposed?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: Thank you very much. The motion is carried.

MR. OWENBURG: Resolution Number Five, "WHEREAS, Walter A. Geidel 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,

AND WHEREAS, he served as Secretary of the Fireman's Home Board 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 Walter A. Geidel, 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 move for the adoption of Resolution Number Five.

MR. KLEIN: You've heard Resolution Number Five.

MR. ECK: Walter Eck, Jr., seconds the motion.

MR. KLEIN: Walter Eck, Jr., seconds the motion.

All in favor?
AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Anybody opposed?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: So carried.

(Standing ovation.)

MR. KLEIN: Great work, Walter. Thank you for your service. You did a great job. We are going to miss you on the board.

MR. FARRELL: Resolution Number Six, "BE IT RESOLVED, that the officers and members of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York extend their sincere condolences to the family of Gerard Buckenmeyer, FASNY Past President, and a member of the Alexander Fire Department on his passing;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the officers, directors, trustees, and members offer their thanks for his service as an advocate for the volunteer fire service in the state of New York."

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

MR. KLEIN: You've heard the reading of Resolution Number Six; is there a second?
MR. PERRY: Eugene Perry seconds the motion.

MR. KLEIN: The motion is seconded by Eugene Perry. Good to see you this morning, Gene. I hope you're feeling better.

MR. PERRY: Thank you.

MR. KLEIN: All those in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Anybody opposed?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: Resolution Number Six is passed.

MR. FARRELL: Resolution Number Seven, "BE IT RESOLVED, that the officers and members of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York extend their sincere condolences to the family of Peter Casey, Past Chairman of FASNY's Legislative Committee and a member of the Brighton Volunteer Fire Company Number Five, on his passing; AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the officers, directors, trustees, and members offer their thanks for his service as an advocate for the volunteer fire service in the state of New York."
Mr. Chairman, I move the adoption of Resolution Number Seven.

MR. KLEIN: You've heard the reading of Resolution Number Seven; is there a second?

MR. SCOTT: Robin Schott, FASNY Legislative Chairman, seconds the motion.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Robin. I have a second on Resolution Number Seven.

All in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Anybody opposed?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: Resolution Number Seven is passed.

MR. FARRELL: Resolution Number Eight, "BE IT RESOLVED, that the officers and members of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York extend their sincere condolences to the family of Frank Hutton, Past Vice Chairman of the FASNY Recruitment and Retention Committee and a member of the Nanuet Fire Engine Company Number One, on his passing;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the officers, directors, trustees, and members offer
their thanks for his service as an advocate to
the volunteer fire service in the state of New
York."

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

MR. KLEIN: You've heard the reading of
Resolution Number Eight.

MR. RUSTON: Rob Ruston seconds the motion.

MR. KLEIN: Robert Ruston seconds the
motion.

All in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Anybody opposed?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: Number eight is passed.

Resolution Number Nine, "WHEREAS, the
Firemen's Home has provided a "home away from
home" for thousands of firefighters who gave
dedicated and committed service to the citizens
of New York,

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

AND WHEREAS, the staff of the Firemen's
Home provides unparalleled care for the residents of the Home,

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 the staff of the Firemen's Home for all they do for the residents of the Firemen's Home and the Association."

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

MR. FARRELL: You have heard the motion for Resolution Number Nine; do I have a second?

MR. SCHMIDT: David Schmidt seconds.

MR. FARRELL: Motions were made and seconded.

All those in favor say aye?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. FARRELL: Opposed?

(No response.)

MR. FARRELL: So carried.

MR. KLEIN: Resolution Number Ten,

"WHEREAS, the officers and committee people and the staff of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York exhibit dedication, commitment,
and professionalism on a daily basis,

AND WHEREAS, the officers, committee people, and staff of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York enables the association to fulfill its mission to train, educate, and advocate for volunteer firefighters across New York,

AND, WHEREAS, the officers, committee people, and staff of the association is a primary reason the Firemen's Association of the State of New York is regarded as one of the premiere volunteer firefighter organizations in the country,

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 the officers, committee people, and the staff of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York for all they do on a daily basis."

Mr. Chairman, I move the adoption of Resolution Number Ten.

MR. FARRELL: You have heard the motion of Resolution Number Ten; do I have a second?
MR. DAROCHA: Jose DaRocha seconds that motion.

MR. FARRELL: You have heard the motion and a second.

All those in favor say aye.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. FARRELL: So carried.

MR. TASE: Good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. TASE: Resolution Number Eleven,

"WHEREAS, Santo Chan Rivera has given 10 years of service as a Director of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York,

AND WHEREAS, his dedicated service, his contribution to improvement of training, health, safety and welfare of the volunteer firefighters across the entire state of New York,

AND WHEREAS, his service as a Director has contributed to the advancement and reputation of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York,

AND WHEREAS, his tenure on the FASNY Board of Directors will end at the conclusion of the 147th Annual Meeting,
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the officers and members of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York offer their appreciation to Santo Chan Rivera."

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

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

MR. DELANEY: Jack Delaney, Hudson Valley, seconds the motion.

MR. KLEIN: Jack Delaney. Thank you, Jack. Motion and a second.

All those in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: Anybody opposed?

(No response.)

(Standing ovation.)

MR. TASE: Resolution Number Twelve, "WHEREAS, past and recent events across the nation have highlighted the danger and threats to personal safety faced by our brothers and sisters in the volunteer fire service, career fire service, and law enforcement community,

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386
AND WHEREAS, individuals in these professions in this state and throughout the nation are routinely called upon to serve and protect their fellow citizens by responding to horrific events acting heroically to serve the lives of others;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the officers and members of the Firemen's Association of the State New York that they declare their support and solidarity with the men and women who serve, or who have served, in the volunteer fire service, career fire service, and the law enforcement community for their distinction service and dedicated efforts, earning our highest respect and deepest gratitude for their efforts to serve their fellow citizens, often while putting their own personal safety in jeopardy."

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

MR. FARRELL: You've heard the reading of Resolution Number 12; is there a second?

MR. CARON: Mike Caron seconds that.

MR. CINCOTTA: Pete Cincotta seconds it.
MR. KLEIN: Let me remind you that if
you're going to make or second a resolution, you
must walk to the microphone in the aisle.

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: The rules have not changed.

Petey, I gotcha. Thank you.

Peter Cincotta.

You heard the motion and the second.

All in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Anybody opposed?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: Thank you.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: The President made me
put my name on this one.

Mr. President, Resolution Number Thirteen,
"WHEREAS, on September 11, 2001, a heinous act of
terrorism on the World Trade Center took the
lives of 343 firefighters and 71 law enforcement
officers,

AND WHEREAS, hundreds of first responders
from around the country immediately went to the
World Trade Center site known as Ground Zero to
conduct rescue and recovery operations,
AND WHEREAS, the dedicated individuals spent weeks at the World Trade Center site carrying out rescue and recovery operations while being exposed to toxic substances and numerous carcinogens,

AND WHEREAS, we have come to know that exposure to these substances have caused and continues to cause the deaths of these selfless individuals,

AND WHEREAS, in 2011 President Obama signed into law the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act to provide for the care and compensation for any individual who suffered physical harm or who killed as a result of the terrorist related aircraft crashes of September 11, 2001 or the debris removal efforts that took place in the immediate aftermath of those crashes,

AND WHEREAS, the extension of the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act is currently being held up in the United States Senate by Senator Rand Paul of Kentucky, who feels that funding for this legislation must be equally offset by budget cuts in other areas,
AND WHEREAS, one of the primary functions of the federal government is to provide a safe and secure environment for all citizens and, by extension, to support the needs of the individuals who protect and serve those citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the members and officers of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York feel that the recent actions of Senator Rand Paul of Kentucky violates the sacred responsibility of the federal government to stand behind America's brave first responders who forever put service over their own personal safety.

AND, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the members and officers of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York condemn the actions of Senator Rand Paul as insensitive, shortsighted, and an insult to all those who answered the call on September 11, 2001 and who are now suffering and dying as a result of that service.

AND, FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Senator Rand Paul and the Kentucky Firefighters' Association."

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

MR. BURNS: Mr. Chairman, that bill has passed and has been signed by the President. I think maybe the wording should be changed somewhat before it's forwarded to Kentucky and to Senator Rand.

MR. KLEIN: Nah, I think we'll leave it the way it is. This was done at my suggestion.

MR. BURNS: I understand.

MR. KLEIN: And when we did it, we knew the bill was most likely going to pass, but I like the way it's worded.

MR. BURNS: There's 200 firefighters since, by the way.

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

MR. MCCONVILLE: As a responder on 9/11, I hope to pass the resolution.

MR. KLEIN: I have a motion and a second by Robert McConville.

All those in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Anybody opposed?

Okay, Jim, I got you. Jim Burns is opposed. One extension or one nah -- What do you
want, a nah vote or an extension?

MR. BURNS: Sir?

MR. KLEIN: You vote nah?

MR. BURNS: Yes.

MR. KLEIN: Okay, one nah.

We're going to send this to Kentucky.

We're going to send it to the Senator, but when you speak to your elected officials tell them that if they don't do the right thing we have no problem putting somebody else's name on that paper then next year. As a matter of fact, maybe we'll have a contest to see who we can -- I'm looking at both attorneys -- Well, I'm looking at one. One attorney didn't say anything, and the other one has his head buried.

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: I'm serious, and this is a serious matter. You know what, it was a no-brainer, and this guy has voted for tax increases and everything to raise money, but he wants to offset the money from the people who are suffering by finding other ways to save the money. I'm wearing a wire so I have to be careful what I say now, because everybody will
hear it.

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: So thank you for the passing of that. I think it's very important.

Thank you.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: What the President meant to say was --

(Laughter).

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: We stand by our friends and we call out our enemies.

Resolution Number Fourteen, "BE IT RESOLVED, that the officers and members of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York extend their sincere condolences to the family of Steven H. Pollard, Fire Department of the City of New York, on his passing.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that we extend our eternal respect and gratitude to our brother who made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting his community."

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

MR. KLEIN: You've heard the reading of Resolution Number 14; is there a second?
MR. GALVIN: Vincent Galvin from Hudson Valley moves to second it.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Vinny. You've heard the reading of Resolution Number 14 and a second.

All in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Anybody opposed?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: Resolution Number 14 is carried.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, that concludes the report of the Resolutions Committee.

MR. KLEIN: Well done, Mr. Secretary. Thank you.

Ron Barz and Charlie Murphy, are you in the room? Ron Barz, Charlie Murphy?

In lieu of Ron Barz and Charlie Murphy, I have Board of Trustees Vice President Gerard Owenburg to receive a check for the Cancer Support Network.

You know, cancer is our big thing -- Hey, give me a minute. I'm talking for a second.
Geez. Gerry, here's the check.

(Laughter.)

(Appplause.)

MR. KLEIN: That's a check for $2,500.00 that you folks helped us raise to continue the fight against cancer and to support those of our brothers and sisters who suffer cancer. It's money well spent to take care of our own.

David Petro, Regional Director of Provident Insurance; are you here?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: Wow, we are batting a thousand. We can't give away money. Okay. David is not here?

MR. MCQUEEN: I don't see him.

MR. KLEIN: Okay. We will skip that.

I am going to call to the podium anybody else who wishes to make donations to the Gerard J. Buckenmeyer Scholarship Fund; and Brian will give you a report on the basket raffle as he stands up to accept checks or cash or credit card numbers. Brian, please.

MR. MCQUEEN: John, would you please come up and accept those checks on behalf of our
scholarship raffle?

You know, I said a couple of days ago this
is going to be just an outstanding convention. I
put my name on it. I just have to tell you, we
had 127 baskets. That's the most baskets that we
have ever, ever had in the history of this
raffle.

(Applause.)

MR. MCQUEEN: That brought in to the
scholarship $5,200.00, which is again, a
convention record. What an outstanding job.
I've got to thank Jennifer McMann in our office.
She was just unbelievable to coordinate
everything and to put it together. And Tom and
Shirley Krawczyk and that committee that worked
tirelessly over the last couple of days to put
this together. I think we need to give them a
nice round of applause for the job that they did,
and we appreciate that so do our future.

(Applause.)

MR. MCCONVILLE: Mr. President, on behalf
of Past Presidents Williams, Finnegan, Wutz,
Jacobwitz, Burns, Pienkowski, and myself, we
thank all of you who supported us in the past and
are honored to present this check of $1,500.00 to
the Buckenmeyer Scholarship Fund.

Thank you.

MR. FARRELL: Thank you, Bobby.

(Applause.)

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Mr. President, on behalf
of the officers and members of the Hudson Valley
Volunteer Firemen's Association, I would like to
present this donation of $500.00 to the
Buckenmeyer Scholarship Fund.

MR. FARRELL: Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Mr. President, on behalf
of the Steering Committee of Western New York, I
would like to present this check for the
scholarship fund.

MR. FARRELL: Mike, thank you very much.

(Applause.)

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: On behalf of Nassau
County Firematic Executive Council -- Excuse
me -- the executive council of Nassau County and
the hospitality room committee, we would like to
present you with this check for the Buckenmeyer
Scholarship Fund.
MR. FARRELL: Thank you very much.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Not a problem.

(Applause.)

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Mr. President, on behalf of the Erie County Fire Chiefs' Association, I would like to present this check to the scholarship fund.

MR. FARRELL: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. FARRELL: Thank you all.

MR. KLEIN: Secretary D'Alessandro, I think you're up next, right?

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: I think so.

MR. KLEIN: Okie doke. Keep it moving.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: We are now going to take the motions for the elections. All the candidates, all seven, are unopposed, so the bylaws require that a motion be made and seconded and passed directing the secretary to cast one ballot on behalf of the membership for each unopposed candidate.

MR. KLEIN: Just as a way of letting you know that it's all written down. You don't have to jump up to make the motion to cast one ballot.
or second it. The candidates have chosen people, so I will recognize the people that they chose to make the motion and second the motion.

I request a single motion directing the secretary to cast a single affirmative ballot for Douglas Van Etten for the five year term as a Firemen's Home Trustee to take effect following the adjournment of the 147th Annual Meeting.

Walter Geidel?

MR. GEIDEL: It's almost done.

MR. KLEIN: And you're a few steps from the back row yourself right now; aren't you?

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: Okay. The motion is made by Walter Geidel. Second? Do I have a second?

MR. MONTROSE: John Montrose,

Mr. President.

MR. KLEIN: John Montrose seconds the motion.

All in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Any opposed?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: The motion is carried.
Mr. Secretary?

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, pursuant to the Association's Bylaws, I hereby cast one ballot for Douglas Van Etten.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Mr. Secretary.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: You're welcome.

MR. KLEIN: Congratulations Trustee Elect Douglas Van Etten.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: I request a motion directing the secretary to cast a single affirmative ballot for Dennis E. Eichkoff for a five year term as Firemen's Home Trustee to take effect following the adjournment of the 147th Annual Meeting.

Motion is made by?

MR. ROLLEY: Nicholas Rolley.

MR. KLEIN: Nicholas Rolley, R-o-l-l-e-y. Nicholas Rolley makes the motion.

Who seconds the motion?

MR. MC ROBBIE: Arthur McRobbie, Northern,

I second the motion.

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

All in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.
MR. KLEIN: Any opposed?

(No response.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, pursuant to the Association's Bylaws, I hereby cast one ballot for Dennis E. Eichkoff.

MR. KLEIN: Congratulations, Dennis, on being elected for your second term.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: And good luck as the new board secretary.

Thank you.

I request a motion directing the secretary to cast a single affirmative ballot for Marilyn L. Schrader for a five year term as Firemen's Home Trustee to take effect following the adjournment of the 147th Annual Meeting.

The Chair recognizes Robert Darling.

MR. DARLING: I vote for Marilyn Schrader. She does a good job whatever she does.

MR. KLEIN: You got that right. Thank you, Bob.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Do I have a second?

MS. DICHIAN: Victoria Dichian, her sister,
and I'm very proud to second that motion.

MR. KLEIN: Motion is made and seconded.

All in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Anybody opposed?

(No response.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, pursuant to the Association's Bylaws, I hereby cast one ballot for Marilyn L. Schrader.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Congratulations, Marilyn, on your second term.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: And Bob Darling is right, you do a great job at whatever you're asked to do, and we appreciate your work.

Thank you.

MS. SCHRADER: Thank you.

MR. KLEIN: I request a motion directing the secretary to cast a single affirmative ballot for Peter U. Cincotta for a five year term as Firemen's Home Trustee to take effect following the adjournment of the 147th Annual Meeting.

MR. OWENBURG: Gerry Owenburg, fellow home
trustee, is honored to make that motion.

MR. KLEIN: Motion by Gerard Owenburg. Do I have a second?

MR. PERRY: Mr. President, Eugene Perry, past president of the Suffolk County Volunteer Firemen's Association, proudly seconds that motion.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Gene.

All in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Opposed?

(No response.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, pursuant to the Association's Bylaws, I hereby cast one ballot for Peter U. Cincotta.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, sir.

Congratulations, Pete.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: I request a motion directing the secretary to cast a single affirmative ballot for Jose DaRocha for the position of Director of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York for a five year term effective immediately following the adjournment of the 147th Annual
Meeting.

Walt?

MR. FRAME: Walter Frame, past president, Nassau County Firemen's Association, is proud to nominate my friend and neighbor, Jose DaRocha, for the appointment as a director of FASNY.

MR. KLEIN: Thanks, Walter.

Second?

MR. KOHLMIEIER: Otto Kohlmeier, past president, Nassau County Firemen's Association, seconds that motion.

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

All in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Anybody opposed?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: Congratulations, Joe.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Thank you.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Let me make it official, Jose.

Mr. President, pursuant to the Association's Bylaws, I hereby cast one ballot for Jose DaRocha.

MR. KLEIN: Okay, thank you, Jose. Lots of
luck there, pal.

MR. DAROCHA: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: I request a motion directing the secretary to cast a single affirmative ballot for Andrew E. Pilecki for the position of Director of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York for a five year term effective immediately following the adjournment of the 147th Annual Meeting.

MR. KISLACK: Mike Kislack, First Vice President of Western New York casts a ballot for -- makes the motion.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Mike. Mike Kislack, K-i-s-l-a-c-k. Second?

MR. SILVAROLI: Rich Silvaroli, President of the Niagara County Volunteer Firemen's Association, seconds it.

MR. KLEIN: All in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Anybody opposed?

(No response.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, pursuant to the Association's Bylaws, I hereby cast one
ballot for Andrew E. Pilecki.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Okay, the motion is passed. Congratulations, Andy. Welcome to your first five year term.

I request a motion directing the secretary to cast a single affirmative ballot for Donald J. Farrell for the position of Director of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York for a five year term effective immediately following the adjournment of the 147th Annual Meeting.

MR. DELANEY: Jack DeLaney, president of Hudson Valley, Westchester County, makes the motion to accept the nomination for Donald J. Farrell for director.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you very much, Jack.

MR. STENECK: Representing the Ossining Fire Department, Fred Steneck, I would like to second that motion.

MR. KLEIN: I have a motion and a second. All in favor of that motion?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Anybody opposed?
MR. KLEIN: The motion is carried.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, pursuant to the Association's Bylaws, I hereby cast one ballot for Donald J. Farrell.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Congratulations, Don. Welcome to the team.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: I now call upon attorney Tim Hannigan to install the newly elected directors and trustees.

Will the newly elected FASNY directors and home trustees please come to the dais and be seated. You will be asked to stand during the installation with a family member or friend. Once you have been installed, please remain seated on the stage.

MR. HANNIGAN: We are going to swear in the new trustees and directors collectively, so I apologize if I turn my back to you, but they're more important.

(Laughter.)

(Whereupon, the Oath of Office was
administered to Douglas Van Etten, Dennis E. Eichkoff, Marilyn L. Schrader, Peter U. Cincotta, Jose DaRocha, Andrew E. Pilecki, and Donald J. Farrell by Attorney Timothy Hannigan).

MR. HANNIGAN: Congratulations.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Congratulations.

I am now going to call on each one of the elected officers to say a few words. The keyword here being a few words.

Doug, we're going to start with you.

MR. VAN ET TEN: With the last name of Van Etten, I'm used to being at the end of the alphabet, so thank you for the opportunity to go first.

MR. KLEIN: I didn't make the list.

MR. VAN ET TEN: Thank you, Secretary D'Alessandro.

(Laughter.)

MR. VAN ET TEN: Good morning, President Klein, Vice President Farrell, Vice President Tase, Reverend Clergy, trustees, directors, members, guests, my family. It is with pride and gratitude that I stand before you as a newly
elected trustee for our Firemen's Home in Hudson. Congratulations to all the others elected today. I look forward to working with everyone.

There are many I need to take a moment to say thank you to. First, the membership of our great association. I thank you for the privilege of being able to serve as home trustee. It's an honor to become part of a long tradition of the home and as caretakers of the caretakers.

Thank you, Walt Geidel, for your service as trustee. You set the bar high for me.

Thank you, John Montrose, for offering a second earlier today, and Brian McQueen for your introduction yesterday.

I've been fortunate that in my time at the Central New York Firemen's Association to have learned from the three of you and many others. I'm grateful for Central's support selecting me for this opportunity. I've been fortunate to have the support of the Homer Fire Department and fire service of Cortland County and many of my friends in that.

I've met many friends and would not be who I am had I not joined the Town of Lexington Fire
Department 30 years ago. I was able to talk to my father last night as he was not up for the trip today. I wish he was able to be here. Dad's service to the community created my own need to serve others and certainly was the key to my joining the fire service.

My sons Zack and Tyler are both here this morning, and I hope that I have an impact on them that dad had on me.

My wife, Kim, is here also. Thanks, Kim, for coming up on the stage. I know how much you love being out in front of everyone.

(Laughter.)

MR. VAN ETTEN: She truly does. Thank you for all your love and your support.

I promise you all my best effort and that I'll remember all that I've learned from each of you as I go forward.

Thank you for the honor of allowing me to serve as a trustee.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Thanks, Doug. I've had the experience of watching you run the FASNY games,
and you do everything good except for the weather up there, but I'm sure you're going to do a great job as our newest trustee.

Dennis Eickhoff?

MR. EICKHOFF: Presidents, directors, trustees, FASNY officers, clergy, FASNY members, friends, and guests, I stand before you ready to start my second five year term as trustee of the Firemen's Home. Where did the first five years go? I've learned many things and have made many great friends during this journey. I enjoy visiting with the members who call Hudson their home. As a trustee I will continue to make sure that our members of the home get the best possible care that can be provided and to make sure their stay with us is a memorable one. The staff at the home are great people as well. The dining staff has come up with some innovative ways to engage the members there with events and theme projects each month. The activities department continues to provide crafts, entertainment, and trips, which include everything from eating meals at local fire departments, to attending ball games and going
shopping. The members always seem to enjoy the Lake George boating excursion. Those who work in nursing are kept busy as well by many health issues facing our members. Our home team works well with Financial Director Phesay to ensure an easier transition for a member to come to the Firemen's Home, be it from leaving their own home or coming from another facility.

For the Firemen's Home to continue to be a premiere facility that it is, we must have the cooperation of everyone, the FASNY presidents, directors, trustees, and staff to be able to work together to provide our members with everything they need to make this truly their home away from home.

Thank you for all the support you've provided to the Firemen's Home.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Dennis. We appreciate your first five years and looking forward to the second five years.

Marilyn Schrader, please.

MS. SCHRADE: President Klein, Vice Presidents Farrell and Tase, Board of Directors,
President Butts, Vice President Owenburg, and Board of Trustees, Reverend Clergy, delegates, members, and guests, I stand before you a very humble and proud FASNY member today. I would like to thank Robert Darling who made a motion and my sister, Victoria Dichian, for seconding it.

I want to thank the officers, directors, members, and steering committee of the Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association for supporting me in my bid for a second term as a five year trustee in the FASNY Firemen's Home.

I would like to personally thank Vice President John P. Farrell, Jr., for his introduction of me, and I greatly appreciate our friendship over the years.

I would like to thank the Green County Volunteer Firemen's Association, the Green County Fire Chiefs' Association, and the many friends from the sectionals, county associations, and fire companies and departments from across the state that submitted endorsement letters on my behalf.

I especially want to thank my home company...
of West Athens Lime Street Fire Company Number One, Incorporated, for their 42 years of support in all the endeavors that I have done. Without their faith, support, and understanding, I would not have been able to do all that I have done.

One cannot achieve anything alone, and I am no different; so at this time, I extend my heartfelt thanks to my family, and especially Andrea for all the help and support they continue to give me each and every day.

I promise you, the membership, that I will do my best to continue working very hard as a trustee with the Board of Trustees and the Board of Directors, the administrators, the department heads for nursing, activities, dining, building and grounds, and the exceptional staff to provide the best facility we can to our senior firefighters, auxiliary members, and spouses, that they deserve at the FASNY Firemen's Home in Hudson.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Marilyn. I really don't want to single people out, but I just have
to comment on a couple of things that Marilyn has
done. First of all, Marilyn was the chair of the
committee that worked on the design for the Wayne
F. Jagow plaque in the chapel and the renaming of
that chapel. She was very involved in that, but
the most important story was when we were in the
process of designing the second large window, and
we had come up with a design, we knew we wanted a
firefighter doing a rescue, we knew what we
wanted, but we couldn't think -- Now this is the
Board of Trustees I am talking about now --
couldn't come up with really a centerpiece, a
focal point of that big window; and Marilyn at
the first meeting said, why don't we use the
gates, the FASNY Firemen's Home gates; and it was
like an ah ha moment when she said that.
Everybody was like, oh, my God, why didn't we
think of that? So Marilyn, you brought some
really good perspective to a couple of projects,
and you do -- Bob Darling said a hundred
percent -- You do a great job, and we do thank
you.

MS. SCHRADER: Thank you.

MR. KLEIN: Okay, another key player on
that chapel committee is Pete Cincotta. Pete, come forward, please.

MR. CINCOTTA: Billy, how we doing, buddy? Brian, I see you under that mask.

Here we are five years, five years later. Wow. I just want to thank certainly my friend, my brother, Father Chris, for making the ride yesterday and for that great introduction. It's all true. Gerry, Gerry Owenburg, Eugene Perry for the nomination, and a second. Thank you, Eugene; and I'm glad to see you're feeling better.

I would also like to thank the members of FASNY, all of you. Without all of you, none of this and none of us could be possible. Why would it? And for the opportunity that you've given me to serve for another five years at our premiere facility called the FASNY Firemen's Home and our members home away from home.

During my first five years I have met many dedicated people, and I am proud to work with this amazing, compassionate, and professional staff and group, and together we will work to maintain this premiere facility.
I need to thank my fellow trustees and the Suffolk County Volunteer Firemen's Association, the Ladies Auxiliary of Suffolk County, the Selden Fire Department, and the Fire District for whom I am appreciatively have been working there for many years, and for their un-tireless support.

May God continue to bless FASNY, our home, and certainly this great country.

So thank you, and I thank you all.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Pete. Like I said, Pete is another very hard worker on the Board of Trustees, and we're glad we got him for another five years.

The next person I'm going to call up served Sergeant-at-Arms trustee -- For how many years, Jose?

MR. DAROCHA: Eleven.

MR. KLEIN: Eleven years as a trustee, and when we needed him again to represent Nassau County, he stood up and said whatever you need us to do. He already had the microphone once this morning, and you saw where that went.
(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: So I'm a little hesitant to call him up here, but Joe, please, come on up, Joe.

MR. DAROCHA: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. DAROCHA: Like Mr. President said, 11 years on the Board of Trustees to the home, Sergeant-at-Arms -- Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, I should say instead -- with Zip, up here again. It's an honor and pleasure to serve all of you in the whole state of New York, and the best part about it is I would like to thank Walter Frame, past president of Nassau County and a member of Albertson Fire Company. Otto, thank you very much, Ex-Chief out of Hewlett. I appreciate it very much. The two guys over here from Manhasset Lakeville, which was my old department. I was in Company Two. One comes out of three, the other one comes out of four. You guys are great, and the house is great. That's where you started from, and that's where I started from, and now I'm in Albertson.

I would like to thank you, everybody,
especially Tucholski, Chairman of the Steering Committee of Nassau County, and the best part is thanking my family for putting up with me going through all this for the state of New York and for the fire service of Nassau County.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: The two gentlemen that Jose was referring to are home members, Bobby Hicks and Bob Funk, both from Manhasset Lakeville Fire Department.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Joe has been very committed, both as a trustee and a director, and he does it for people like his friends there.

Andy Pilecki, please.

MR. PILECKI: Good morning, everybody.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. PILECKI: Let me start first by thanking my son, David, for introducing me yesterday to this fine FASNY family. You know it takes a lot of courage for a 15 year old to come up here on this dais to speak to you. David, you made dad very proud yesterday. Good job.
MR. PILECKI:  Next, President Klein, my fellow FASNY officers and Board of Directors, a sincere thank you for appointing me to the board last year. It has been a great honor to serve on this board, and it has been a tremendous learning experience; and a sincere thank you, thank you to each one of you for accepting me into this fine FASNY family.

It has been said that the officers and board are like family, and today I'm going to let everybody here know that I can truly attest that is it very, very true. We are all like brothers and sisters. The only thing that we don't do is we don't fight like brothers and sisters. We work great together.

Also I'd like to thank my wife, Marion, who was not able to be here today. She's with her sister in Baltimore, because my brother in law was placed in hospice last week.

Also to my son, Andrew, who also could not be here today, because he lives in Vail, Colorado. Also to Katie and David, thanks for all your encouragement and support for covering
me while I attended to this organization's business. A sincere thank you from the bottom of my heart.

In addition to the support from my family, I want to thank my members of the wonderful fire company in Pendleton, New York, and also to Columbia Hook and Ladder Company Number One in the city of North Tonawanda for all of your support that you have given me in all my endeavors. Whenever I go to any meetings or seminars, these individuals from these groups offer me their assistance to make my job easier with FASNY.

I also have to thank Rich Silvaroli, the president of the Niagara County Firemen's Association, and all the members of that association and President Elect Mike Kislack from the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association for endorsing me as director of FASNY. Both of these groups have unanimously sent their support for me and have stood behind me during all my endeavors moving up the ladder here at FASNY. Once again, thank you.

And finally, as I stand here before all of
you, I promise to you that I will continue this organization to best of my ability to promote the volunteer fire service so we as a group can all protect the lives and property in the communities that we serve.

I certainly hope that God will provide me with the wisdom, the ideas, the knowledge, the strength, so I can continue to serve this organization and all the 40,000 plus volunteer firefighters, my brothers and sisters, here in the state of New York.

Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Andy.

Congratulations.

MR. PILECKI: Thank you.

MR. KLEIN: Donald Farrell, please.

MR. FARRELL: Good morning, everyone.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. FARRELL: President Klein, Vice Presidents Farrell and Tase, Reverend Clergy, and the officers and members of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York, I came before this morning to accept the position as
director of this great association. I look forward to serving you, the membership, to the best of my ability over the next five years. There are many challenging issues that are brought before this association on a daily basis, and I look forward to working together with all of the other Board of Directors and the members of the Board of Trustees on all of the issues that are brought before us.

I would like to congratulate and say thank you to my friend, Santo Chan Rivera, upon his completion of 10 years of dedicated service to our association as FASNY Director and wish him well in future endeavors. Thank you, Chan.

I would like to thank the officers and members of the Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association, the Westchester County Volunteer Firemen's Association; and of course, the Ossining Volunteer Fire Department for their support and the faith they've given to me to help me prepare for this position.

In closing, I want to thank my family; my dad, Jim Farrell, who read my introduction letter; my three children, Amanda, Mackenzie,
Dan; of course my wife, Shelley, who all support me and allow me to do what I do in the fire service. Jack DeLaney and Fred Steneck, thank you for the nomination and the second this morning.

Once again, thank you all.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Don.

Okay, these are your newly elected officers and directors. I want to congratulate you again.

You're all excused from the dais.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Don is going to make his way back to get his report ready for us. Gordy, Gordy Kotars, are you here, Gordy? Today is Gordy's birthday. I don't think he's 98, but I can tell you after watching him in the Whelan Walk the other day, Gordy you're working real hard on getting yourself back in shape; and we wish you a happy birthday and many more.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Gordy, for what you do.

(Applause.)
MR. KLEIN: Mr. Sergeant-at-Arms, is your report ready?

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS FARRELL: Of course.

Thank you, Mr. President. Among the duties that are given to the Sergeant-at-Arms at the annual convention is counting the people in attendance at each session.

On Friday morning, August 9th, the Memorial Service, we had 281 people in attendance.

For the Opening Session, there was 223 people in attendance.

And for Friday afternoon seminars: Active shooter for fire and EMS, 94 people in attendance.

"Breaking Through, Recruitment and Retention Challenges," there were 97 people in attendance.

The Two Percent Tax Forum, 183 people in attendance.

And the Attorney CPA Panel Discussion, there were 58 people in attendance.

For Saturday, August 10th, the second session, 157 people in attendance.

And the training seminars, "Every Fire is a

Jamie J. Woodard - (631) 345-2386
“Hazmat,” 130 people in attendance.

"The Responsibilities of Company Officer,"

147 people.

Panel discussion on post traumatic stress,

there was 75 people in attendance.

For this morning's closing session, 141

people in attendance.

And on behalf of the Assistant

Sergeant-at-Arms Thomas With and myself, we would

like to thank President Klein for allowing us to

serve FASNY and the Board of Directors for the

past year. I would like to wish Tom With

success. He graduated to become the new

Sergeant-at-Arms; and good luck in the coming

year.

Thank you.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Don. Good report.

That was almost his last duty as

Sergeant-at-Arms, so thank you for the report.

Thank you.

We're going to take a short break now while

we prepare for the awards' ceremony. Please
don't stray too far, because we want to move forward as rapidly as we can so we conclude on schedule.

    Thank you all, and we need a few minute break.

    (Whereupon, there was a brief recess.)

    MR. KLEIN: Could I ask you all to take your seats, please. We are still waiting a few minutes for the media people. They are running a little bit late.

    What I want to do is before -- We have Mr. David Petro, the Regional Director of Provident Agency, to make a scholarship presentation. So Mr. Petro, please come forward and make the presentation to Vice President Farrell. Thank you.

    MR. PETRO: Good morning. Good morning again. My name is Dave Petro. I'm a Regional Director for Provident Insurance Programs; and again this year on behalf of all of us at Provident, we would like to donate $5,000.00 to your scholarship program, and thank you for your partnership with us in the past and going forward. Thank you.
(Applause.)

MR. FARRELL: Thank you for your continued support.

MR. KLEIN: We're going to vacate, and Chairman Pilecki will be coming to the podium to run the Firefighter of the Year and the EMS program will begin shortly. Thank you.

MR. PILECKI: Good morning, everybody. Can everybody please take your seats. We will start the program in approximately one minute.

Once again, good morning everybody.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. PILECKI: I hope everybody enjoyed a quick relaxing break, but once again, we do have to refocus on what we were thinking about packing up, going back home, thinking about the earlier business agenda, so what we have to do is we have to refocus our thoughts on why we're here at this particular moment, and that is to go ahead and honor two individuals for their heroic efforts in the fire service and the EMS service.

Before we do start the actual program, just to refocus our thoughts, courtesy of our PR people we have developed a brand new video
introducing and promoting our heroes awards program. You individuals here are very honored to be the first ones to take a look at this video as we roll it out. Chris, it's all yours.

(Whereupon, a video was played.)

MR. PILECKI: ABC did a great job developing and producing that video.

(Applause.)

MR. PILECKI: This video will be available to departments, sectional organizations, to promote this particular awards program throughout the state. All you would have to do is contact the folks at 107, at our FASNY offices, and they will be more than happy to forward a copy to you. And here we go.

The 2019 Firefighter Provider and EMS Awards' Ceremony.

Good morning, everybody, once again.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. PILECKI: President Klein, Vice President Farrell, Vice President Tase, our FASNY officers, our LAFASNY officers, Reverend Clergy, our delegates that are here, our members, and our distinguished guests, I would like to welcome
everyone to the 2019 FASNY Heroes Awards Ceremony sponsored by VFIS.

It is truly an honor to stand here before you this morning as Chairman of the Firefighter of the Year Committee and to present the combined awards for the 2019 EMS Provider of the Year and the 2019 Firefighter of the Year.

Sergeant-at-Arms in back of the room, I am going to ask you to assemble our FASNY officers, our committee members, and our awardees.

At this time we do have the honor and the privilege to have the Color Guard of the Melville Fire Department to lead us in for the 2019 Firefighter of the Year and the 2019 EMS Provider of the Year into the hall. Our recipients this morning are going to be escorted by President Steven Klein, our Vice Presidents John Farrell and Ed Tase, and also in attendance is Tim Boel from VFIS who sponsors this award ceremony.

At this time would everybody please rise as our guests enter the hall.

(Whereupon, bag pipes were played and the recipients entered the convention hall.)

MR. PILECKI: Will everyone please be
seated.

(Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.)

MR. PILECKI: Ladies and gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to turn this portion of the program over to the Vice Chairman of our FASNY EMS Committee, Wendi Walker, who will take care of the presentation for the 2019 EMS Provider of the Year award.

Wendi?

MS. WALKER: Good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MS. WALKER: Good morning, President Klein, First Vice President Farrell, Second Vice President Tase, FASNY officers, LAFASNY officers, Reverend Clergy, delegates, members, and guests, I would like to introduce the EMS committee. Unfortunately, our chairman was not able to be with us today. Her name is Meryl Montrose. She's from St. James in Suffolk County. We also have Arthur Scott McRobbie from Colton in St. Lawrence County, Mike Quinn from East Fishkill in Dutchess County, David Simmons from Walton in Delaware County, Royer Pfersick from Rush in...
Monroe County. I'm Wendi Walker from the Town of Wheatfield in Niagara County. Our liaison is our First Vice President John Farrell, and our resource person is Board of Director Diana Pfersick.

Nominations for the EMS Provider of the Year are received and are sent to the entire committee to be reviewed. It is my pleasure to introduce to you Chris Tracey from the Brighton Volunteer Fire Company Number Five in Erie County. With Chris this morning is his Chief, Andy Hallnan and President Rob Mooney. Chris's wife, Jennifer, and his children Alexis, Brandon, and Harper are here with us as well. Christopher was also the recipient of the EMS Provider of the Year from the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association and also the Southwestern New York Volunteer Firemen's Association.

Whether the performance is for an heroic action or always doing more than what is asked, on most occasions performing above and beyond the call of duty occurs when the department is requested. Sometimes members find themselves in situations that require quick action when the
fire department response has not been summoned.

On the evening of July 12, 2018, Chris and his wife had friends over to their house. The kids were playing in the yard, and Chris and his friends stepped into the house for a minute. The kids continued to play in the yard while their mothers were present. Both mothers also had new born babies with them. At some point the friend's female two year old child found her way into an in-ground swimming pool. Chris and his friends came back out of the house and observed the child floating face down in the pool. His buddy jumped into the pool and handed the child off to Chris, who then observed her to be blue in color, lifeless, not breathing, and unconscious. Immediately Chris began CPR while the wife called 911. Chris was able to revive the young girl, who started throwing up fluids, became responsive, and began to breathe on her own before the arrival of the paramedics. The child was transferred to O'Shea Children's Hospital in the city of Buffalo for further evaluation. The on-scene paramedics said Chris's actions directly led to the child's survival.
The child has since recovered with zero affects from the incident. Chris Tracey's actions that day saved that child's life.

I would now like to call upon Tim Boel from the VFIS to present this plaque.

MR. BOEL: Chris, it gives me great pleasure to represent VFIS here today. It's an accomplishment above and beyond the call of duty for sure. Your accomplishments are certainly noted by your peers, and we appreciate everything you do to keep your community safe and to continue the work that you perform on a daily basis to make your community safe. Your family certainly supports you. We support you and commend you for your work above and beyond the call of duty.

MR. TRACEY: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. BOEL: Chris, I'd like to present you with this plaque. "2019 EMS Provider of the Year, presented to Firefighter Past Chief Christopher Tracey, Brighton Volunteer Fire Company Number Five, for the lifesaving action involving saving a child from drowning.

(Standing ovation.)

MS. WALKER: I now would ask President Klein to come forward to present Chris with his Medal of Valor.

MR. KLEIN: Normally when we respond we have time to preplan, think of what we're going to do, and make up in our mind a plan of attack when we get to where we're going. In a situation like this, the immediate reaction, particularly when it was a child that you were familiar with, had to be equally traumatic on you as everything else, and you have certainly earned this award, and I congratulate you, and wish you the best of luck.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Congratulations.

Okay. Thank you. Chris, thank you.

MS. WALKER: I would now like to ask Vice President John Farrell to come forward to present the uniform bar.

MR. FARRELL: Chris, congratulations on a job well done. On behalf of the officers and
members of FASNY, congratulations, and wear this proudly.

Congratulations.

MR. TRACEY: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MS. WALKER: I now ask Vice President Tase to come forward to present the monetary award.

MR. TASE: It's my great honor as Second Vice President of the association to present you with a check for monetary expenses for your trip up here, and thank you for your heroic service and your continued service to the fire service.

MR. TRACEY: Thank you.

MR. TASE: Thank you so very, very much.

(Applause.)

MS. WALKER: Would you like to say anything?

MR. TRACEY: Yes.

I would like to thank the FASNY organization for this award. It's very humbling to me. It was a difficult situation, but I would just like to thank my family for being there for me, my department for all the training that they put me through, and I couldn't have done it
without them with the training; and thank you everybody. Thank you for all being here.

(Applause.)

MS. WALKER: I would now ask President Klein to come forward again. He's going to present the company flag and plaque to Chief Andy Hallnan and President Rob Mooney.

MR. KLEIN: This plague is a recognition of the actions taken by your firefighter. Hang it in your firehouse proudly and display it, and then it will be a memory to the folks in the future of the actions that your firefighter took. We also have a FASNY flag that you can hang on the flagpole over the firehouse denoting that we have an award winner in that company.

Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

MS. WALKER: Ladies and gentlemen, again, I am proud to present the EMS Provider of Year for the FASNY Firemen's Association of the State of New York to Christopher Tracey.

Congratulations on a job well done.

(Applause.)

MR. PILECKI: Wendi, thank you for a great
presentation. And once again, I personally would like to congratulate Christopher Tracey on an outstanding job as being named the 2019 EMS Provider of the Year.

Congratulations.

And now we're going to move on and shift gears and make the presentation to the 2019 Firefighter of the Year.

This year our committee consisted of the following individuals: My co-Chairman, Robert Outhouse, from Croton-on-Hudson, New York, which is located in Westchester, New York; our Secretary, Mr. James Darcey, of East Meadow, New York, and that's located in Nassau County; our Assistant Secretary, Larry Hall, Jr., of West Carthage in Jefferson County; Mr. Tom Pasqual of Ossining, New York, also located in Westchester County. We also have Mr. Peter Holmes. He resides in Rome, New York, in Oneida County. Bill Murray is also a member of our committee. He lives in Bay Shore, New York, located in Suffolk County; and Delbe Spath, lives in Wallkill, New York, located in Ulster County; and I reside in Pendleton, New York, which is located
in Niagara County.

Our liaison for the Firefighter of the Year committee is Mr. Eugene Perry of Patchogue, New York; also located in Suffolk County.

Ladies and gentlemen, once again it is my pleasure as announced earlier to introduce to all of you the 2019 Firefighter of the Year; and his name is Third Assistant Chief Jason Bernfeld from the Melville Fire Department located in Suffolk County, New York. Chief, stand up.

(Applause.)

MR. PILECKI: If everybody could please sit down except for our Third Assistant Chief Jason Bernfeld.

Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to spend a couple of minutes just to read the incidents, or the letter, that was submitted by the Chief of the Melville Fire Department, Chief Christopher Nolan. I realize that today is a bright, sunny day about 80 degrees outside, but I want everybody to revert back to the end of winter in the month of March. Everybody realizes cold, dark mornings, snow covered highways and fields. Well it was that type of a morning, March the
12th, 2018, at about a little bit after 6:00 a.m.

Our Assistant Chief was travelling westbound on Northern State Parkway, and that is just west of Round Swamp Road, if anybody knows that area --

There you go. At least one individual does -- but as Assistant Chief Bernfeld was travelling down that highway he noticed in an embankment a little flash of taillights on a vehicle.

Intuition said to stop that vehicle, and he took a look. Picture this individual getting out of his vehicle and finding a vehicle overturned and into a tree down that embankment. Chief Bernfeld immediately ran down that embankment, found the windows of that vehicle blown out. That's the severity of that crash. He noticed the driver of the vehicle is still in that vehicle, seat belted in. The only way that he could get into that vehicle was crawling on his belly through the rear window. Remember that car is overturned, and he managed to get into that broken rear window and aid that victim still pinned in that vehicle. Chief Bernfeld got into that vehicle, immediately saw that there was fire, live working fire coming up that motor's firewall, starting to
burn the legs of that victim. Chief Bernfeld, due to all his training, ran back to his vehicle, grabbed a fire extinguisher and a seat belt cutter, ran back, once again crawled through that rear window on his belly trying to aid that victim. He used his fire extinguisher, knocked down the fire as quickly as possible just to get that victim out. Used that seatbelt cutter, was able to cut through the seatbelt and start to move that victim. Remember, that vehicle is overturned, not much room. The car seat still there. He had to pull that victim out over those seats through that rear window. He was able to do that just by himself on his own strength. He got that victim out, pulled that individual out. Shortly after he got that victim out in a very, very short, boom, that particular car was fully engulfed in flames. Not a minute sooner both the victim that was inside that vehicle and Chief Bernfeld probably would have perished.

Ladies and gentlemen, because of this incident, because of his heroics, Assistant Chief Jason Bernfeld of the Melville Fire Department has been chosen the 2019 Firefighter of the Year.
by FASNY. Everybody, please, a great round of applause.

(Standing ovation.)

MR. PILECKI: What a great job.

If everybody could please be seated.

And now for the awards that are going to be presented to our Assistant Chief Jason Bernfeld, a member of the Melville Fire Department. First, I would like to call on dear friend Tim Boel from VFIS; and what Tim is going to do is he is going to present the association plaque to our awardee, Jason Bernfeld. Tim, the mic is all yours.

MR. BOEL: Jason, it gives me great pleasure to be here today representing VFIS and the FASNY Heroes program. Your accomplishments that day back in March were certainly worthy of your efforts. The people that surround you, the people that you respond to, the people that you care for, the people you don't even know you respond, as your agency does; and all the agencies here make their lives better. On their worst possible day, you were the person who was there to help. If you weren't there, certainly the outcome would have been dramatically
different. You should be extremely proud, as your agency is, as everybody in this room is, and everybody in your community is, for the accomplishments that you provided. Your service, your valor, your experience, your training, and your heroism certainly got noted in this event, and really appreciate everything you and your agency do in your community; and your family, I am sure, is extremely proud of you too, as we are.

With any further regard, "the 2019 Firefighter of the Year is presented to Third Assistant Chief Jason Bernfeld of the Melville Fire Department for his heroic rescue entering a burning vehicle and pulling the driver to safety on March 12, 2018, presented August 11, 2019, Syracuse, New York."

Congratulations.

(Appause.)

MR. BOEL: Congratulations.

MR. PILECKI: Ladies and gentlemen, this is going to be a proud moment for everybody. This is the highlight of the award's ceremony, and it's also a very happy but respectable time,
because it is not every day that all of us here can witness an individual in our midsts to have the prestigious Medal of Valor placed on them. This morning President Klein is going to come forward and present the Medal of Valor to Third Assistant Chief Jason Bernfeld. President Klein?

MR. KLEIN: This is another case of the incident coming to the responder rather than the responder travelling to the incident; and when that happens basically you react with instinct, and that instinct is the amount and the quality of the training that you receive. So it's a testament to the Melville Fire Department and to the Chief that he learned his lessons well; and because he was well trained and knew what to do, he saved a life, and this medal that I am going to put around his neck is our way of thanking him and recognizing him for what he did.

Chief, congratulations.

(Standing ovation.)

MR. PILECKI: The next presentation is going to be the award bar that is going to be pinned on Jason, and this bar is going to be pinned by our Vice President John Farrell.
MR. FARRELL: Chief, congratulations on a job well done. On behalf of the officers and members of FASNY I present you this pin. Wear it proudly. Congratulations on an outstanding job.

Thank you, Chief.

CHIEF BERNFELD: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. PILECKI: Vice President Farrell, you did a good job. The last time you did it the person drew blood, didn't they?

(Laughter.)

MR. PILECKI: And now finally I am going to ask our Vice President Ed Tase to please step forward and present our recipient with a token of appreciation.

MR. TASE: It gives me a distinct honor to give you this small token of our appreciation to help you with some of your travel expenses to be here to join us today; and thank you tremendously for your service to the state of New York.

(Applause.)

MR. PILECKI: And now it's time to hear a few words from our 2019 Firefighter of the Year, Third Assistant Chief Jason Bernfeld.
(Applause.)

CHIEF BERNFELD: Thank you, everybody. I really appreciate it. It's a very humbling experience. I would like to thank the FASNY organization for organizing this event. I would like to thank the nominating committee for choosing me. I'm sure there was a lot of deserving recipients throughout the state, and I'm truly humbled that you decided to pick me.

I would like to thank the chief of the department, Chris Nolan, for nominating me for this and everything that came along with it, all the travel and everything else. I appreciate it.

I would like to thank my department, the members of the Melville Fire Department, for the support that they've shown. They've been really great, and I really appreciate it. I appreciate my members who came up today.

And I just want to say I feel like I was just lucky to be in the right place at the right time. I'm happy that I could use my training and my experience to good use, and I truly feel that any other firefighter throughout the state, throughout the country, would have done the same
thing in the same situation. If they were there, they would have done it. It's just instinct. It's just what we do. So thank you, everybody. I really appreciate it. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. PILECKI: Jason, you're probably tired, so you can have a seat.

CHIEF BERNFELD: Thank you so much.

MR. PILECKI: Once again I'm going to ask President Klein to step forward, along with the Melville Fire Chief, Chief Chris Nolan, for a presentation to the Melville Fire Department.

MR. KLEIN: Chief, on behalf of the association, I want to present you with this plaque to hang in the firehouse as a remembrance of the actions taken by Chief Bernfeld and as a token to future members as to what your department has done. We also have a flag to fly over the firehouse to indicate that we have a winner.

Thank you. Congratulations. You did a great job.

CHIEF NOLAN: Thank you. I don't have much to say. I had 10 pages, but I know everybody...
wants to eat, so I cut it down to three
sentences. I just want to congratulate Chief
Bernfeld on a job well done. I thank the
committee for choosing him and just mention that
this is not the first time that he has done
something like this. A few years ago he also
pulled somebody out of a house fire out of a
basement. He saved that person's life.

So I just want to again thank FASNY, and
congratulations to Chief Bernfeld.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. PILECKI: Thank you, everybody, for
being here this morning. In a few short moments
we will be closing the program, but once again I
would like to congratulate our winners for a job
well done.

I do want to announce that the names of
both the EMS and the Firefighter of the Year
applications will be submitted to the Eastern
Division of the Association of Fire Chiefs for
their consideration in both awarded categories;
and this is more on the national level. So good
luck, maybe we will have another couple of awards
coming your way. We will also have both the Firefighter of the Year and the EMS Provider of the Year names, and their names are going to be placed on the boards, which are located at the Firemen's Home Museum, which is located in Hudson, New York.

There were many applications that were submitted for both the EMS award and the Firefighter of the Year award, and each one of those individuals will receive a Certificate of Merit from the Firemen's Association of the State of New York.

And at this time I would like to thank several people for their assistance who put this program together.

I do want to thank another member of my committee, Mr. Bob Sutton, who I inadvertently missed. There are too many Bobs in my program, so sorry about that, Bob.

Also for taking time out of their busy schedules, the Color Guard from the Melville Fire Department. Thank you for making the trip up here and making this program a most gracious and respectable program.
The 2019 convention team here at FASNY are always, always on the ball, always able to help our committee to whatever needs that we may have. The bagpiper that is here this weekend with us, Patrick Perry. Thank you for leading our recipients into convention hall this morning and also leading us out in the next couple of minutes.

Tim Boel, thank you, from VFIS, for sponsoring this program.

President Klein, thank you for appointing the members of both committees for this past year. All of us enjoy working together, and thank you again for the appointments.

I know I mentioned some individuals, some groups as thank you's. If I did miss anybody, please, I apologize right now up here for that mistake.

Once again, you saw the video that we are rolling out this weekend. Please, please take that back to your areas in the state. Have it shown.

Once again, any award applications have to be submitted and received in our offices by March
15, 2020. And that's again for any incidents that has occurred in the year 2019 are eligible for the award for next year.

Once again, take the video. Make sure your people, your departments, your sectionals submit applications; and that deadline is March 15th, the year 2020.

At this time you will see that the Color Guard is going to be recessing in one minute. Sergeant-at-Arms, would you come up and lead the committee, the awardees, out of our convention center here this morning.

President Klein, Vice Presidents Farrell and Tase, this concludes the 2019 Firefighter of the Year Heroes Award Ceremony.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: I want to thank Andy and Wendi for really a remarkable ceremony this morning. Two great awardees for some very heroic things that they did. Andy was appointed as a director last year, but we asked him to remain as chairman of the committee, because he does such a great job. This was his last ceremony as the chairman, because we replaced him with Vice Chairman
Outhouse. Andy is now on our Board of Directors. It's really appropriate that we replace him.

Okay, I assume the chair now. Mr. Sergeant-at-Arms, have we got the daily drawing thing? We're winding down, folks. I only have this much left.

A couple of announcements. The Board of Trustees and the Board of Directors will be retiring to Cotillion Room Number One. That's over where the exhibits were. We will have a lunch, and then we'll move from lunch to reorganization meetings.

The Board of Trustees organization meeting will be in Cotillion Three.

The Board of Directors will be in Onondaga F and G where we met the other day.

Since it's a travel home day, casual dress, which includes in my book shorts, will be acceptable today. Because it is a travel day. I'm sure that Wayne feels the same way, because I can see him smiling over there. So make yourselves comfortable. I need you need a few. We'll start lunch around noontime, so you'll have time to change and make preparations to leave.
Are there any other messages we need to --
Mr. Secretary, are there any other messages we need to convey?

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: No, Mr. President.
MR. KLEIN: We need to do the raffle.
MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Yes.

MR. KLEIN: Where is my chaplain? I'm going to need you here in a few minutes, ma'am.

Thank you.

John Farrell, why don't you pull the ticket this morning. What's the prize?

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Ipad. We've got two.
MR. KLEIN: Two? We have two?

Let's hope we do this right today the first time. 145344.

UNKNOWN AUDIENCE MEMBER: I got it.
MR. KLEIN: Good. Yay. All right.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Ed, pull the next ticket.

145120.

UNKNOWN AUDIENCE MEMBER: I got it.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: All right. Very good.

Madam Chaplain, if you will, a benediction.
(Benediction by Reverend Barrie-Lyn Foster.)

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, ma'am.

I will entertain a motion to adjourn the 147th Annual Convention of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York.

UNKNOWN AUDIENCE MEMBERS: So moved.

MR. KLEIN: Chan?

MR. RIVERA: For my last time. Goodbye.

MR. KLEIN: Motion by Chan Rivera. Is there a second by Walt Geidel?

MR. GEIDEL: Second.

MR. KLEIN: Seconded by Walter Geidel. We adjourn this session of the 147th Annual Meeting of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York.

All in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Anybody opposed?

(No response.)
MR. KLEIN: So carried.

Thank you, all. We look forward to seeing you next year in Tarrytown. Get home safe, and be safe. God bless America.

(Whereupon, the convention was concluded.)
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 11, 2019 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 6th day of December, 2019.

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JAMIE J. WOODARD