

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

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Jersey City to Host “Reflections” 9-11 Memorial Service In Observance of the 11th Anniversary of the Attack on America

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy, the Municipal Council, the Department of Health and Human Services/Division of Cultural Affairs and the Jersey City 9/11 Memorial Committee will observe the 11th anniversary of the terrorist attacks with the annual 9/11 Memorial Service “Reflections” at **8:20 a.m. on Tuesday, September 11, 2012**, at the foot of Grand Street on the Jersey City Waterfront. The public is encouraged to attend the patriotic ceremony.

On September 11, 2001, Jersey City lost 37 residents in the devastating terrorist attacks. After the towers fell across the Hudson River, the Jersey City waterfront became a staging ground for recovery and relief efforts. Today, the 9/11 monument stands directly across the river from where the World Trade Center towers once stood and where the new tower, One World Trade Center, has risen. The names of the 37 residents of Jersey City are etched on the monument as a memorial for future generations to remember with respect and honor.

“It was a tragic day in which the whole world stood still and offered prayers and condolences to the people of the United States of America,” said **Mayor Healy**. “Every year, Americans across the country stand united with remarkable spirit, compassion, and patriotism. We continue to salute the many brave men and women who protect our lives and our liberties abroad and at home.”

The Mayor noted that contingents of Jersey City firefighters, police officers, doctors, nurses and medical technicians were among the first responders to Ground Zero. A triage center was established in Liberty State Park and New York Waterway ferried thousands of injured people and workers from the devastated area in Lower Manhattan to safety in Jersey City. The Jersey City Medical Center, Greenville Hospital, Christ Hospital, and Saint Francis Hospital were the medical facilities where most of those brought to Jersey City were treated. Local funeral homes were called upon to offer assistance with the bodies of the victims.

“On September 11th, we shall honor the great sacrifices made by our first responders and our brave men and women in the United States Armed Forces who continue to protect our country at home and abroad,” said **Mayor Healy**. “I also thank the various city agencies, such as the Jersey City Fire Department and the Office of Emergency Management, who work tirelessly every year to coordinate this event of reverent reflection in which we honor the victims and heroes of that day.”

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The 9/11 ceremony will feature remarks by Mayor Healy and other officials. There will be two moments of silence to remember the victims. Special songs and inspirational music will also be part of the remembrance program. Continuing a spiritual custom started in 2002, there will be the recitation of the names of the residents of Jersey City killed in the attack. The chiming of a bell will accompany each name spoken. The invocation will be led by **Father Joseph D' Amico** of Saint Aloysius Roman Catholic Church, and the benediction will be led by **Deacon Steven Sansevere**, a retired member of the JCPD.

Since 2002, the **Jersey City 9/11 Memorial Committee**, the **Office of the Mayor** and the **Division of Cultural Affairs** have observed the anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, and the forced crash of a commercial aircraft, Flight 93, in a Pennsylvania field which had been commandeered by terrorists.

For more information, please call the Division of Cultural Affairs at (201) 547-6921 or visit jerseycitynj.gov

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///