

**PASSAIC COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PUBLIC SAFETY ACADEMY**

26th COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES



Firefighter One and Two

Monday, November 19, 2018 8PM

Passaic County Mutual Aid Association

Passaic County College Board of Trustees

Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders

Celebrating 26 years of Service!

Program

Processional **Passaic County Pipes and Drums**

Fire Chiefs, Guests, Instructors, Graduates

Welcome Chief Michael Wanklin

Pledge of Allegiance Captain James Hearney

“National Anthem”

Invocation Chaplain Russ Stammer

Director’s Comments Chief Michael Wanklin

President’s Comments Dr. Steven Rose

Freeholder Director Cassandra “Sandy” Lazzara

Introduction of the New Fire Academy Director

Class Presidents

FF1-18-01-01 FF Andrew Lojik-Harvey

FF1-18-01-02 FF Brian D. Murphy

FF2-18-02-01 FF Tammy L. DeHann

Presentation of Certificates Fire Chiefs

Benediction Chaplain Russ Stammer

“Amazing Grace”

Fire Instructors

Edward Ball	Tom Bakker
James Bonelli	Jospeh Cirasa
Gene DeAugustine	Robert DeVirgilio
Jack Decker	Thomas Dyk
Chris Di Bella	Bart Giaconia
Harvey Goodman	James Hearney
Michael Hook	Andrzej Kalata
Kenneth Klosz	Eric Lema
Dr. James Lampariello	Jason Macones
Joseph Macones	Chris Mandeville
Charles Manneback	Kevin McCarthy
John Neukum	Chris Page
Steve Pellington	Joseph Parkin
Matt Post	Michael Predojevic
John Riker	Samuel Shakkour
Steven Shattls	William Siegrist
Bruce VanderVoort	Frank Vittorio
Michael Wanklin, Sr	Michael Wanklin, Jr
Scott Wilson	John Wozniak
Robert Ziedler	

Passaic County Public Safety Academy

In the late 1980's, there became a need to address fire training availability in Passaic County. Most fire departments at that time were either sending their recruits out-of-county or to the North Jersey Volunteer Firemen's Training Center in Wayne. The need for a county-sponsored training facility was long overdue. Most fire department recruits were put on a waiting list to attend other facilities and training was difficult to obtain.

After the incorporation of the Passaic County Mutual Aid Association in 1988, an education committee was appointed by then-President James Berry of North Haledon, which was chaired by Vice-President and Pompton Lakes Fire Chief Albert Evangelista. This committee along with the Fire Chiefs from each of the 16 municipalities in Passaic County met with the Law and Public Safety Committee of the Freeholder Board in Paterson. It was at this meeting that the Freeholders present were convinced that firefighter training should be a county responsibility, and consequently a resolution was passed by the Board of Chosen Freeholders establishing the Passaic County Fire Academy and appointing Chief Evangelista as signator. Chief Evangelista was voted Director of the Academy by the Mutual Aid Association.

The first several years of classes were held in the Passaic County Vocational and Technical High School in Wayne, with outdoor training areas provided at the Sheriff's training tower by Sheriff Edwin Englehardt. Some outdoor sessions were also held at the North Jersey Volunteer Firemen's Training Center in Wayne, as well as a training tower at the Clifton Fire Department. However, operations were difficult due to the lack of a centralized training area, office space and much needed storage space.

Several years later, the former site of the original Passaic County Police Academy in Pompton Lakes became available after being vacated by the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office. Director Evangelista requested the use of this site for the fire academy and the Freeholders concurred. It improved the overall operation of the academy by providing a classroom, three offices, restrooms, and limited storage space. Training was still difficult because of the need to travel to outdoor training sites.

Around the year 1999, talks began with the Passaic County Community College about the possibility of merging our operations into a new facility that would be built for the purpose at a location yet to be determined. Through the efforts of then Freeholder Scott Rumana, who was Chairperson of the Law and Public Safety committee of the Freeholder Board, the Mutual Aid Association, Freeholder Board, and the College agreed to partner and locate the academy at what would become the Passaic County Public Safety Academy located in Wayne, N.J.

Through a combined effort of the Passaic County Community College Board of Trustees and the guidance of college President Steve Rose and the Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders, an 8.5 million dollar state-of-the-art facility was built to house both the Fire and EMS programs that the college would offer. The new facility opened in 2000 and has been growing steadily over the last 17 years.

We are extremely grateful for the opportunity afforded the firefighters of Passaic County as they can now train in a centralized location with adequate equipment and supplies. Our instructor staff is fully certified by the Division of Fire Safety and most of them have years of on-the-job experience as well as rank in their respective departments. All instructors must complete annual C.E.U. courses to maintain their certification.

Most recently in 2014, the State of New Jersey Division of Fire Safety was notified that our state training standards and curriculum meet Proboard and IFSAC standards making our fire certificates valid in 33 of the 50 United States. Proboard is an accreditation agency that evaluates and certifies fire training standards. IFSAC is the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress. Again, thank you to everyone for your support of our academy!

Firefighter's Prayer

When I am called to duty God
Wherever flames may rage
Give me strength to save some life
Whatever be its age
Help me embrace a little child
Before it is too late
Or save an older person from the horror of that fate
Enable me to be alert
And hear the weakest shout
And quickly and effectively
To put the fire out
I want to fill my calling
And to give the best in me
To guard my every neighbor
And protect his property
And if according to your will
I have to lose my life
Please bless with your protecting hand
My children and my spouse.
Amen

Special Recognition and thank you for your dedication, commitment and service...

Albert Evangelista was chosen as director of the Passaic County Fire Academy in 1992 and has served in that capacity until his retirement on June 30, 2018. He has lead his staff of instructors from doing classes at PCTI, to a classroom in the County DPW Complex in Pompton Lakes, to the Sheriffs Drill tower on Garrett Mountain and was the driving force in the conception, planning and construction of our current state of the art academy.

Steven Pellington is an original instructor from 1992 and thru the years taught many classes and topics, and established our PT program when no other academy had one. He eventually took charge of booking the burn building and props until his retirement on June 30, 2018.

Frank Vittorio another long time instructor, who when the burn building and props first came on line undertook the responsibility for their maintenance and service, working closely with Kidde Systems, who manufactured them. There was no part of the building or props that Frank did not know about and always had them running in tip top shape. Frank moved to South Carolina earlier this year, but we still have his number written on the wall of the burn building just in case!

These three individuals are part of the success story that is the Passaic County Fire Academy/PCCC-PSA-Fire Training Division. They all made so many valuable contributions in the effort to make Passaic County firefighters the best trained firefighters in New Jersey.

We thank you for your service!

The Fire Instructors

Tammy L. DeHann *	Bloomingtondale	FF 2
James Luski	Bloomingtondale	FF 2
Jack Weinberg	Bloomingtondale	FF 1
Dakota W. Sheehan	Butler	FF 1
Miranda R. Sheehan	Butler	FF 1
Victor E. Castro	Cedar Grove	FF 1
Robert T. Lynch	Cedar Grove	FF 1
Ryan T. Pagano	Cedar Grove	FF 1
Dominick V. Riccelli	Cedar Grove	FF 1
Yvonne K. Retamar	Haledon	FF 1
Malcolm J. Waite	Haledon	FF 1
Brandon J. Adair	Hawthorne	FF 1
Christopher J. Di Bella, Jr	Hawthorne	FF 1
Brandon M. Frei	Hawthorne	FF 1
Matthew J. Garrison	Hawthorne	FF 1
Matthew M. Ryan	Hawthorne	FF 2
Brandon P. Terrizzi	Hawthorne	FF 1
Anthony F. Englehardt	Little Falls	FF 1
Kevin L. Sayad	Little Falls	FF 1
Lilly Val Rose	Little Falls	FF 1
Brendan B. Buck	North Haledon	FF 1
Michael A. Ferrante	North Haledon	FF 1

Michael Pressler	Pequannock Co.1	FF 1
Angel F. Barrionuevo	Prospect Park	FF 1
Jose Maldonado	Prospect Park	FF 1
Tatiana Toribio	Prospect Park	FF 1
Leonardo A. Valverde	Prospect Park	FF 1
John Villon	Ringwood-Erskine Lakes	FF 1
Nathaniel J. Kaplan	Totowa	FF 1
Giovanni Madrid	Totowa	FF 1
Stephen A Stonebridge	Totowa	FF 1
Luis C. Velazquez	Totowa	FF 1
Shea X. Herko	Verona	FF 1
Brandon L. Hendricks	Wayne 1	FF 2
Thomas G. Laskowski	Wayne 1	FF 1
Thomas J. Seals	Wayne 1	FF 1
Adem Ceca	Wayne 2	FF 1
Chris Fernandez	Wayne 2	FF 2
Chris Paulison	Wayne 2	FF 1
Chris Cingari	Wayne 3	FF 1
Andrew Lojik-Harvey	Wayne 3	FF 1
John C. Duncan	Wayne 5	FF 1
Brian D. Murphy	Wayne 5	FF 1
Michael O'Brien	Wayne 5	FF 1
Brian M. Bifalco	West Caldwell	FF 1
Joseph P. Bradley	West Caldwell	FF 1
John N. Schlomann	West Caldwell	FF 1

Brandon A. Zyla	West Caldwell	FF 1
Leo V. Peterson	West Milford 1	FF 1
Sean D. Timoney	West Milford 1	FF 1
Rita M. Vander Stad	West Milford 2	FF 2
Israel Vargas-Reyes	West Milford 2	FF 2
John T. Simon	West Milford 3	FF 1
Aron L. LeMay	West Milford 4	FF 1
Michael D. Nowicki	West Milford 4	FF 1
Christopher J. Capuzzo	West Milford 6	FF 1
James R. Dygos	West Milford 6	FF 1
Rocco J. Gerace	West Milford 6	FF 1
Eric J. Lindstrom	West Milford 6	FF 1
Christopher J. Zaleski	West Milford 6	FF 1
Reyniel T. Irizarry	West Paterson	FF 1
Chris Luncero	West Paterson	FF 1
Josch V. Navales	West Paterson	FF 1
Christian F. Negron	West Paterson	FF 1

Congratulations firefighters!
Best wishes and stay safe!
“Everyone Comes Home”



Excellence in Education!

A special thank you to the Passaic County Technical Institute for the use of their facility.