



Board of Chosen Freeholders

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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Led by U.S. Congressman Leonard Lance, Hunterdon County Sheriff Fred W. Brown, and Prosecutor Anthony P. Kearns, III, officials and First Responders on Monday honored the memory of those who perished in the September 11, 2001 attacks, during a Remembrance Ceremony on the steps of the Historic Courthouse in Flemington.

Nearly 3,000 souls were lost on September 11, 2001, at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and on Flight 93 outside Shanksville, Pa., including 16 residents of Hunterdon County, and nearly 400 First Responders.

Congressman Lance told the attendees, "What happened 16 years ago is a recognition that there is evil in the world. It is our responsibility, working together, to overcome that evil. Seeking total victory against terrorism anywhere it exists in the world, particularly when visited upon the United States."

Chiefs and officers from Flemington and several other Police Departments in the County, the Chief of the Flemington Rescue Squad #49, former Chief of Flemington Volunteer Fire Company #49, and a representative of the NJ State Police, attended the ceremonies to represent First Responders throughout the County.

Hunterdon County First Responders answered the call to action on 9/11. The County and multiple towns sent Emergency Services personnel to Liberty State Park during the terrorist attack. Stationed in the County Command vehicle, Emergency Personnel were on-site and assisted in the response for several weeks.

Sheriff Brown said, "I want to give special acknowledgment to all the First Responders who have joined us today. As a long time law enforcement officer and a former Police Chief, I know that we never know when duty may call us into a situation where our lives may be on the line. Thank you for your dedication and willingness to serve and protect your fellow citizens."

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Prosecutor Kearns stated, “The way we best honor those that perished on 9/11 is to work diligently to preserve the great quality of life we enjoy in Hunterdon County, the state and the nation. When we work together, as citizens and law enforcement, we do the greatest harm to the terrorists, to the evil, that wanted to take away the very liberties we enjoy.”

County Officials in attendance included, County Clerk Mary Melfi, Surrogate Susan Hoffman, Freeholder Board Director John E. Lanza, Deputy Director John W. King, and Freeholder Suzanne Lagay. Reverend David Errickson of Old Rocks Church provided the invocation and benediction at the event. Sheriff’s Officer Maria Dulmer performed an acapella version of the National Anthem to lead off the ceremonies.

The pinnacle of the ceremony was the tolling of the bell in the Historic Courthouse 16 times for the 16 Hunterdon County residents who were lost in the September 11th attacks, followed by a bagpipe rendition of Amazing Grace, by James Curry of the Somerset County Pipes and Drums.

Sheriff Brown, in concluding the ceremonies, told the assemblage, “We are here today, as Americans, to remember September 11, 2001. It is my sincere hope that this ceremony is the beginning of an annual Remembrance event in our County, because too much was sacrificed that day to ever forget.”