

Tracy Allen-Lee Medal

*September 9, 2004, 1315 hours
1355 St. Marks Avenue, Brooklyn*



Paramedic Joseph R. Losquadro

Joseph R. Losquadro was appointed to EMS in February of 1989. Assigned to Station 57. Previously worked in EMS Station 46 and Emergency Medical Dispatch. He is the recipient of the Certificate of Merit--Excellent Duty and numerous pre-hospital saves. He is a member of the Centereach Fire Department, where he received the Medal of Honor. He resides in Centereach, Long Island, with his wife, Pam, their sons, Tom and Matt, and their daughter, Gianna.

Within the mosaic of New York City, EMS personnel are confronted with various circumstances and environments that occasionally require independent action and initiative far exceeding their primary mission. Just such an incident occurred during the early afternoon of September 9, 2004.

The Brooklyn ambulance crew of unit 35Z2, staffed by Paramedics Joseph Losquadro and Abraham England, were dispatched at 1315 hours from their cross street location of Metropolitan and Union Avenues to a call for a trauma. The location of the call was at a construction site at 1355 St. Marks Avenue.

Arriving within six minutes, the crew was briefed by the FDNY Incident Commander regarding a trench rescue. Paramedic Losquadro immediately entered the trench where Firefighters and police officers had been actively digging and using a bag-valve-mask in a desperate attempt to get air to the male victim, who was buried nearly to the top of his head in the dirt.

Employing specialized training in collapse medicine that he received from the FDNY Special Operations Command, Paramedic Losquadro was able to successfully perform endotracheal intubation on the patient while he was still buried in the trench. The intubation provided high-concentration

oxygen to the trapped worker. The medic remained in the unsafe and unstable trench with his patient for nearly 40 minutes until the patient was removed by Firefighters who had been shoring up the caved-in area.

Subjecting himself to great personal risk, Paramedic Losquadro assisted in the trench cave-in rescue. He is commended for his quick thinking and courageous act. In spite of the coordinated and Herculean efforts by all, the victim ultimately died.

The Department proudly awards Paramedic Joseph R. Losquadro with the Tracy Allen-Lee Medal for 2004.--
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