

# MEDAL DESCRIPTIONS

## CHRISTOPHER J. PRESCOTT MEDAL



**E**mergency Medical Technician Christopher J. Prescott had embarked on a career of public service dedicated to the preservation of human life. It was in the pursuit of that noble endeavor while operating at a motor vehicle accident that he lost his life after being struck by a drunk driver. He became the first member of the Emergency Medical Service to make the Supreme Sacrifice in the line of duty.

Serving with EMS for just more than a year, EMT Prescott already had made a lasting impression on everyone who worked with him. The consensus of his peers was that this young man was as compassionate and skilled as anyone in the field, including the most seasoned veteran. His coworkers at Brooklyn Station 34 (now Station 39) recognized him as *Rookie of the Year* in 1993. His expertise and dedicated commitment to his colleagues and profession went well beyond his youthful 22 years. In his relatively short time on the job, EMT Prescott was credited with several pre-hospital save citations, underscoring the level of commitment and expertise he quickly demonstrated as an EMT. This year, we mark the 11th anniversary of EMT Prescott's death, but the passage of time has not lessened his place in EMS history. Untold numbers of New Yorkers have been deprived of the skills and dedication that he possessed. His legacy lives on in the highest honor for EMS--the Christopher J. Prescott Medal. There is a cash award of \$500, donated by Robert Ungar.--Sponsored by the EMTs and Paramedics Union

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## TRACY ALLEN-LEE MEDAL



**E**MT Tracy Allen-Lee was a vibrant young woman, whose life was tragically cut short in 1997 at the age of just 34. EMT Allen-Lee had been working with the Emergency Medical Service for approximately 18 months in 1989 when she was injured on the scene of an assignment. During the call, EMT Allen-Lee cut her hand while treating a patient in a single-room occupancy residence. Her interaction with this

patient led to her unfortunate contraction of the HIV virus and ultimately her death in 1997 of AIDS. Throughout her professional life, EMT Allen-Lee met each challenge with commitment and perseverance and the same is true of her battle with this deadly disease. Though EMT Allen-Lee lost her battle with AIDS, ironically, another battle was won for her posthumously by her family and friends in FDNY. Through the efforts of EMS professionals at FDNY and EMT Allen-Lee's husband, Victor, her injury was recognized by the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, and she was posthumously awarded the Public Safety Officer's Benefit. This landmark award recognized EMT Allen-Lee as the first EMS professional in the country to be awarded this benefit after dying from a communicable disease sustained in the line of duty. Today, the Department is proud to honor the memory of EMT Tracy Allen-Lee with the awarding of the Tracy Allen-Lee Medal. There is a cash award of \$500, donated by Robert Ungar.

—Sponsored by the EMTs and Paramedics Union

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## CHIEF JAMES SCULLION MEDAL



**C**hief James Scullion began his career with EMS as a motor vehicle operator. His responsibilities included driving the doctors who rode the ambulances at the time to the scenes of injury or sudden illness. In 1970, when New York State initiated its innovative program of training individuals who rode the ambulances as Emergency

Medical Technicians, James Scullion was among the first selected from the ranks of EMS to receive such training and subsequent certification. Chief Scullion's tenure also included a lengthy tour as the Assistant Chief in charge of the EMS Communications Center. As more sophisticated communications equipment became available, Chief Scullion made sure it was employed by EMS, long before it became an industry standard. With the advent of Paramedic training within the system in the early '70s, Chief Scullion was assigned as the administrative supervisor in charge of overseeing Paramedic instruction and field operations. Chief Scullion was actively involved in ensuring New York City's Paramedic program was second to none, up to the time of his unfortunate passing. The original success of the City's first Paramedic training program can be attributed to Chief Scullion's dedication and commitment. His memory and commitment to excellence are honored in the Chief James Scullion Medal. There is a cash award of \$500 (split among recipients), donated by the Superior Officers Association and Robert A. McCracken.—Sponsored by the Superior Officers Association

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## LIEUTENANT KIRBY McELHEARN MEDAL



**L**ieutenant Kirby McElhearn probably is best remembered for his knowledge of and interest in the communications field. During his tenure as an EMS Communications Tour Supervisor, Lieutenant McElhearn was instrumental in assisting in the research and development and subsequent implementation and operation of one of the first EMS Field Communications Units. The

Field Communications Unit (FieldComm) was designed to respond directly to the scenes of multiple-casualty incidents and special events to coordinate EMS resources via dedicated radio frequencies, freeing up regular dispatch operations to focus on other 911 emergencies. Lieutenant McElhearn's vision and dedication to this project led to the development of an innovative and highly advanced FieldComm unit which, at the time, quickly became the flagship communications vehicle within the City of New York. In honor of his commitment to bringing the project to fruition, the vehicle proudly bore his badge number as its vehicle number. Today, we continue to honor his memory and dedication in the Lieutenant Kirby McElhearn Medal. There is a \$400 bond (split among recipients), donated by Paul Sanner.

—Sponsored by the Lieutenants and Captains Union

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## JACK PINTCHIK MEDAL



**T**wenty-four years ago, Paramedics Kenneth Honig and Carl Tramontana resuscitated a cardiac arrest victim, Mr. Jack Pintchik, founder of Pintchik Home Improvement Stores chain. Despite a pronouncement of death by a physician who happened to be on the scene, these Paramedics fought against the odds and won, successfully resuscitating Mr. Pintchik. The following

year, with a donation from the Pintchik family, the EMS Awards Ceremony was initiated to honor EMS professionals whose actions were deemed worthy of praise and recognition. Although Jack Pintchik since has passed away, the Pintchik family continues to show their support and respect for EMS professionals through generous support of the EMS Medal Day. As a testimony to the Pintchik's appreciation for the men and women who dedicate their lives to New York, the Department proudly awards the Jack Pintchik Life Saving Medal. There is a cash award of \$500, donated by Matthew Pintchik.—Sponsored by the Pintchik family