

Office of Medical Affairs Commendation



Paramedic William Gettens



Paramedic Mark Peck

William Gettens was appointed to EMS on November 18, 1980. He holds a degree in Emergency Health Care from the University of Southern California, Keck School of Medicine. Recipient of the Distinguished Service Award from the Borough President of Brooklyn and more than 100 pre-hospital save awards. He resides in Walboro, New Jersey, with his wife, Cynthia, and their daughter, Nadalia.

Mark Peck was appointed to EMS on October 19, 1974. Attended the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Recipient of the EMS Medal of Honor, five Vice Presidential Unit Citations and more than 90 pre-hospital save awards. He resides on Staten Island, with his wife, Susan, and their son, Craig, and daughter, Caryn.

Historically, Coney Island Station 43 has been a place to learn and hone one's emergency medical skills. For the wealth of knowledge, exemplary skills and continued commitment to EMS, one team, in particular, has drawn the respect and admiration of many a fledgling EMT. Paramedics William Gettens and Mark Peck make up this team. They are highly decorated, seasoned members who have operated their unit like a well-oiled machine.

Paramedic Gettens has a calm and confident demeanor that puts patients at ease in their time of crisis. His effective communication with both patients and coworkers is another talent. On the scene, Paramedic Gettens excels in translating medical jargon into the essential information patients require to make difficult choices. He has guided

and inspired young EMTs to become Paramedics and acted as a confidant and mentor to many.

Paramedic Peck became a medic during a time when many were enjoying reruns of *Emergency*. In 1977, he graduated from the second Jacobi Paramedic program offered by the City of New York Health and Hospitals Corporation. His continued efforts to improve the work environment for all EMS providers produced many enhancements. Some of his modifications have been adopted by the FDNY and incorporated into the design of the Department's ambulances.

The ambulance he uses is painstakingly stocked and tweaked before each tour. A handy, pocket-sized set of treatment protocol cards, designed by Paramedic Peck, are used by field Paramedics from Staten Island to the

Bronx.

Paramedics Gettens and Peck have a tremendous command of the knowledge and skills needed to be a New York City Paramedic. These attributes are reflected in their performance and the results they achieve. Statistically, they have had more successful pre-hospital resuscitations than any other EMS crew.

During their combined 54 years of service, they have consistently demonstrated a passion for high standards, a dedication to the service of their patients and a clear understanding of the responsibilities of role model and mentor. These outstanding characteristics qualify Paramedics William Gettens and Mark Peck for this year's Office of Medical Affairs Commendation for 2004.--JH