



DIA



REPORT

DETECTIVE INVESTIGATORS' ASSOCIATION
of the District Attorneys' Offices, City of New York

Vol. 2 Issue 1

Winter 2010

Christmas Miracle

Champion for the
9/11 Zadroga Bill
Senator Kirsten
Gillibrand speaks at
a December press
conference after
the bill passed
both Houses in
Congress. See
page 4 for story.

911



Photo by Andre Walker Photography

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JOHN FLEMING



On behalf of the Executive Board, I want to wish all our members, both active and retired, a safe and happy holiday season. This is the time of year where we look back to

analyze the past year accomplishments and look ahead to plan a course of action to tackle unfinished business.

Of all the achievements we experienced, the recent passage of the James Zadroga 9/11 bill was our most important (see page 4 for complete story). For the first time, the DIA actively participated in Washington for the purpose of protecting the health and welfare of our members. The events of 9/11 changed our lives forever; never had our country come under such an attack. The heroes of that day are numerous, their sacrifices legendary. That they would have to wait nine years for assistance from the very government their actions preserved is scandalous.

Each and every argument against the 9/11 bill represented a breakdown in our system of government. Never has there been a bill whose purpose was so clear and honorable. The benefits received from this bill are an inalienable right for each and every first responder.

We must recognize the tremendous support the New York delegation showed in bringing this matter to closure. In my trips to Washington with Tony Franzolin, we joined other first responder union officials to force the Senate to recognize this not as a New York issue but a national issue with national repercussions. In the end, the 9/11 bill will provide a secure funding source for those workers sick from their exposure to toxins in and around 9/11 sites.

We must never lose sight of the vital necessity of individual and group persistence. Eventual

victory becomes more meaningful and fulfilling. The DIA will remain vigilant in 2011 as we pursue matters still before us. There has been much struggle and sacrifice by our members this year, but still we remain without a contract for two years.

At a recent gathering of the New York State Public Employee Conference, of which the DIA is a member, the theme of UNITY prevailed throughout each meeting. This coming year is going to be one of the toughest we've seen in a long time for labor unions. While it's hard to imagine, especially in our position without a contract, that things could get any worse, I can tell you that they can. One most recent example is the snow storm that blanketed our City with almost two feet of snow at the end of December. Since this Mayoral administration has cut more than 400 Sanitation Workers and Supervisors in the last two years, and is now in the process of slashing even further, there was not enough manpower to get the roads cleared in a timely fashion. Of course, who got blamed? Civil servants. The Bloomberg Administration is so good at pointing fingers and making the public believe him, it's no wonder the average New Yorker thinks civil servants are to blame for this economic meltdown.

You are the force that drives your office. Never forget that it is your determination to get the job done that preserves justice in our community. As I talk to members from each office, I can see that morale is low and the uncertainty about a contract is the main reason why. It is the same sentiment I saw in Washington during the campaign to pass the 9/11 bill. It is important to remember that we will use the same steadfastness to secure for you the contract you deserve. Just like our campaign in Washington, we will work with other unions who share a common interest in this cause and we will be successful.



DETECTIVE INVESTIGATORS' ASSOCIATION

DISTRICT ATTORNEYS' OFFICES – CITY OF NEW YORK, INC.

PO Box 130405
New York, NY 10013

646.533.1341
800.88.DEA.88

www.nycdia.com

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RWD Group
(845) 364-0222 • info@rwdgroup.com

DIA Collective Bargaining Rights Still Being Ignored

As you know the DIA has been unsuccessful in our two-year attempt to negotiate a successor agreement to our last contract which expired in January of 2010. Our lawyers filed for Impasse on April 5, 2010 with the State Public Employment Relations Board (PERB). As a result of legislation passed in 2007 by then-Governor Eliot Spitzer, the DIA no longer falls under the Office of Collective Bargaining (OCB) for the City of New York when we reach impasse. The DIA now falls under the State Taylor Law and has a right to binding arbitration like every other district attorney investigator in the State.

This change was precipitated by decades of unfair treatment at the bargaining table by the City of New York. The State Legislature and Governor Spitzer both agreed with our claim that the DIA is the only union of detective investigators so harshly treated at the bargaining table that our rights were totally ignored as police officers.

It is well recognized that the ability to have a say in one's working conditions and salary is fundamental. That's why we have the right to form a union and engage in collective bargaining. So why is it that year in and year out we are ignored and treated like second class citizens? The answer is simple; the laws are easily manipulated and the City is very good at avoiding meaningful bargaining at all costs.

Since we filed for impasse, we have attempted to have three mediation sessions but no one from the City or any of the six prosecutors offices showed up.

After the union filed a bad faith bargaining claim with PERB, the City sent letters to PERB saying they refuse to participate in the process because the DIA is now covered by the State Taylor Law for impasse as opposed to the New York City Collective Bargaining laws. As a result they say it is now up to the "employer" to carry on. What happened next is something which even PERB is confused over. The five District Attorneys' and Narcotics Prosecutor sent identical letters to PERB saying they too will not participate because they are not "the bargaining agent." Under NYS labor law the term bargaining agent mean employer.

Furthermore when we asked PERB to decide who the employer is the City complained saying PERB has no jurisdiction. Therefore, I instructed our lawyers to tell the City we will let the NYC Office of Collective Bargaining decide what I believe is common knowledge to us all; and that is we are employed by the District Attorney. Only they have the right to hire, promote, demote, transfer, or fire us.

What is even more compelling is each DA, as per section 12-304(c) of the NYC Collective Bargaining law brought the City into the bargaining relationship to bargain in their behalf. Under the law only the employer can do this.

Your trustee has copy of that law with a letter signed by the DA agreeing to such provisions.

For the past two years we have attempted to secure for you a contract. One which 95% of all City workers have already been offered and agreed to. The trustees tell me, and I am keenly aware that the absence of such a deal is destroying morale. Many young career investigators have told me they are looking to leave the job. Many others are retiring. The long term impact is real.

I have been told by our lawyers who combined have more than 100 years of experience that this has never happened before. As of today there is no one looking to sit down with us and negotiate. No one wants to even say they are the employer.

In my opinion that is the ultimate in bad faith bargaining. We are like orphans, abandoned and truly on our own.

Once the employer is identified we will proceed to the next step in the impasse process. That process will revert back to PERB, not OCB. That may be in the form of a mediation session where all parties are compelled to participate, or we begin the

The events that took place on September 11, 2001, have not only become a part of history but an everyday health issue for our members across the United States.



JAMES ZADROGA BILL

Better late than never. That's the sentiment first responders felt as Congress gave the ultimate Christmas miracle and finally passed at the end of December the 9/11 Zadroga Health Care bill. The legislation will cover the cost of medical care for rescue workers and others who became sick from toxic fumes, dust and smoke after the 2001 attack on the World Trade Center.

On Wednesday, December 22, 2010, the U.S. Senate passed the bill by voice vote. The last part of the deal required House Speaker Nancy Pelosi calling vacation-bound lawmakers back to Washington to sign off on

the Senate version of the bill. The House quickly gave the measure its final stamp of approval. Rep. Nydia Velazquez (D-Brooklyn) cast the final vote in the 206-60 party line tally giving the Zadroga bill the go-ahead. President Obama signed the bill on January 2.

The votes came after prolonged aggressive lobbying by top New York officials and lawmakers, police and firefighter groups and 9/11 families, who argued that the nation had a moral obligation to provide medical assistance to rescue workers who spent days, weeks and even months at Ground Zero.

DIA President John Fleming said

that while the bill should have been passed and signed into law years ago, political gamesmanship held it up at the same time first responders continued to succumb to their 9/11-related illnesses.

"It's a shame that so many politicians didn't understand the urgency in getting this bill passed," he said. "Our own union traveled to Washington many times in unity with other unions to continually stress the need for this bill. Politicians far removed from the New York area just didn't seem to understand. It shouldn't matter in what part of the country you live and represent, the terrorist attacks of 9/11 affected us all."

The bill's passage was greatly reliant on the support provided by New York's Senators Kirsten Gillibrand and Charles Schumer, as well as Harry Reid (Nevada), and Mitch McConnell (Kentucky), New York Representatives Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney, Congressman Peter King and Congressman Jerry Nadler.

After the Senate vote, a celebration broke out in a room in the Capitol that was packed with emergency



workers and 9/11 families, as well as the two senators from New York, Charles E. Schumer and Kirsten E. Gillibrand, and the two senators from New Jersey, Frank R. Lautenberg and Robert Menendez. The senators, all Democrats, were greeted with a huge ovation and repeated chants of "U.S.A.! U.S.A.!"

Schumer, New York's senior Senator, allowed Gillibrand to address the group first, in deference to the role she took in the Senate on the 9/11 legislation.

"Our Christmas miracle has arrived," she said to applause and cheers. "To the firefighters here, the police officers here, everyone involved in the recovery, all the volunteers, the family members: Thank you!" she continued. "It was your work, it was your heroism, it was your dedication that made the difference. It was your effort, coming here week after week to tell senators and Congress members about your stories and what you went through."

The new bill will reduce the cost of the original legislation to \$4.3 billion, \$3.1 billion less than a recent \$7.4 billion deal. The 9/11 health measure calls for providing \$1.8 billion over the next five years to monitor and treat injuries stemming from exposure to toxic dust and debris at Ground Zero; New York City would pay 10 percent of these costs. There are nearly 60,000 people enrolled in health-monitoring and treatment programs related to the 9/11 attack. The legislation also sets aside \$2.5 billion to reopen the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund for five years to provide payment for job and economic losses. The Victims Compensation Fund (VCF) will be permanently closed after five years as opposed to keeping the VCF open until 2031. Also included in the bill will be a limit of attorney's fees, reinstatement of civil claims and a limitation on infrastructure cost. More accountability will be

included and individuals will not be allowed to "double-dip" on benefits.

In September, after years of negotiation and debate, the House passed legislation that called for providing \$7.4 billion over eight years to cover the medical care of 9/11 rescue workers and others. But this month, Republicans derailed that legislation in the Senate, expressing concern about its cost. Senate Republicans finally budged, following a barrage of criticism over the last few days — not just from Democrats, but also from allies, including former Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani of New York and conservative news outlets like Fox News. The 9/11 health care issue also became a cause of Jon Stewart, who used the platform of his program, "The Daily Show," to bring national attention to the bill.

The bill is formally known as the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, named after a New York Police Detective who took part in the rescue efforts at Ground Zero and later developed breathing complications. He died in January 2006. The cause of his death became a source of debate after the City's medical examiner concluded that it was not directly related to the attack.



COMEDY CENTRAL'S JON STEWART SPARKS CONGRESS TO ACT

Jon Stewart, host of the channel's "The Daily Show," was outraged about Republican efforts to block a bill that would provide more medical care to first responders to the World Trade Center terrorist attack in 2001. He called the Republican filibuster "an outrageous abdication of our responsibility to those who were most heroic on 9/11."

Stewart was also angry about the lack of television coverage. "None of the three broadcast networks have mentioned any of this on their evening newscasts for two and a half months," he said, seemingly trying to shame them into covering the bill. He also contrasted the Fox News Channel's extensive coverage of the controversy over the wrongly called "9/11 mosque" with its little coverage of the first responders bill. So he donned a newsman hat himself, inviting four first responders to discuss the need for medical care. For nine minutes — an eternity on television, particularly on "The Daily Show" — the men said they were fighting for their health.

Stewart had edged into an advocacy role, just as in October when he held a "Rally to Restore Sanity and/or Fear" in Washington.

And it made an impression on the news media. The next day on the Fox News Channel Shepard Smith called the delays "shameful" and asked, "Are we going to leave these American heroes out there to twist in the wind?" He said Stewart had been "absolutely right" to challenge Congress on the issue.

LUCRATIVE HEROIN RING SHUT DOWN

DOZENS ARRESTED INCLUDING ALLEGED LEADERS OF THE ORGANIZATION THAT EARNED AS MUCH AS \$280,000 A WEEK IN PROFITS



Bronx District Attorney Robert T. Johnson announced today the seizure of more than one and a half million dollars in cash and a large quantity of heroin during the execution of 15 search warrants and dozens of arrest warrants for alleged members of a lucrative heroin distribution ring in the Fordham section of the Bronx. This resulted in the arrests of 31 individuals. The investigation is continuing and more arrests are expected.

The grand jury returned an 82 count indictment charging most of the arrested defendants with conspiracy to distribute narcotics and varying counts of the possession and sale of heroin. The alleged leaders of the so-called "La Perla Organization" also have been charged with Enterprise Corruption and Operating as a Major Drug Trafficker (the Drug Kingpin Statute). According to investigators the overwhelming majority of those arrested are either Latin King gang members or gang associates.

Charged with Enterprise Corruption and Operating as a Major Drug Trafficker are: Wilson Guerrero (aka Wilson) 48, of 1023 Tiffany Street, the Bronx; Antonio Carasquillo (aka Tony) 51, of 1405 Rosedale Avenue, the Bronx; Enrique Esquillin (aka Rick) 45, of 2194 Barnes

Avenue, the Bronx; and Luis Esquillin (aka Gabe) 47, of 295 Main Street, Eastchester, New York. These defendants have also been charged with Conspiracy in the 2nd degree, and varying degrees of Criminal Sale and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance. They are facing a maximum sentence of up to life imprisonment if convicted of the most serious charge under the Drug Kingpin Statute.

These charges are merely accusations and the defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

This indictment is the result of a 9-month-long joint investigation involving the Bronx D.A. Gangs / Major Case Bureau, the NYPD Gang/Major Case Division, the NYPD Bronx D.A. Squad, and the Bronx District Attorney Detective Investigators.

The investigation was conducted with the use of court ordered wiretaps on 28 telephone lines, video surveillance, observations by detectives and heroin "buys" made by undercover detectives. During the course of the investigation detectives recovered 4 kilograms of heroin including heroin in thousands of glassine envelopes that was sold under the brand names LaPerla,





Tuna, Salsa, and Sabroso. Detectives also recovered four guns and confiscated twelve vehicles, and jewelry, including diamond earrings, a Cuban link chain, and Breitling watches.

According to the indictment, the alleged criminal enterprise spanned a period of five years from July 23, 2005 through July 22, 2010. It is alleged that the La Perla organization sold heroin at three locations, a two block stretch on Valentine Avenue between 194th and 196th Streets, 157th Street and Gerard Avenue, and 180th Street and Mohegan Avenue. The sales were primarily street level transactions that generated earnings of between \$25,000 and \$40,000 dollars a day with customers coming from as far away as Connecticut. The sales occurred during two five hour shifts Monday through Friday from 4:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. There was one shift on weekends between 1:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

District Attorney Johnson thanked the following for the hard work and dedication that led to these arrests: Chief Robert Boyce and Sgt. Frank Guarino, NYPD Major Case Division; Detective Raymond Burke, NYPD Gang Major Case Squad; Detective Brian O'Loughlin, Bronx D.A. Gang Investigation Task Force; Chief Bronx D.A. Detective Investigator Frank Chiarrà; Lt. Rocco Galasso, Supervisor Bronx D.A. Gang Investigation Task Force; Assistant District Attorney Edward Talty, Chief Gangs / Major Case Bureau; Assistant District Attorney Edward Friedenthal, Counsel, Gangs/Major Case Bureau; Assistant District Attorney Christine Scaccia, Director Gang Prosecutions; and Assistant District Attorney Lisa Davis, Gangs/Major Case Bureau. Mr. Johnson also thanked the NYPD Bronx Gang Division and NYPD Bronx Homicide Task Force for their assistance.

DIA CHALLENGE COIN FOR SALE



Challenge coins are a memento that gives personnel pride and affinity for an officer's agency or department.

Challenge coins are traced back to the military. Soldiers used these as a source of pride and were used to recognize the actions of soldiers who go above and beyond the call of duty.



Today many police agencies have designed challenge coins for the very same purpose. The DIA has designed its first challenge coin to coincide with the 10 year anniversary of 9/11.

These coins will be available in early 2011 at a cost of \$15.

2011 MEMBERSHIP CARDS

2011 Membership Cards are included with the newsletter for Retirees. Active members already received theirs. Any Active member who did not receive one should contact their Trustee. Retirees who do not get one with their newsletter should contact President John Fleming.



IMPORTANT

PENSION

By John Murphy, DIA Pension Consultant

Recently NYCERS sent a DIA retiree a pension revision letter dated October 21, 2010. The retiree had retired five years earlier in 2005 under the DIA 20 Year Plan.

NYCERS was notifying him that they were permanently reducing his annual pension from \$39,924 to \$36,165 retroactively to 2005 and that they were going to recover \$18,915 in overpayments by further reducing his monthly pension check by \$378 (\$4,536/yr.) over the next 4 years.

The letter said that the reason for the reduction was that NYCERS had used the wrong required contribution percentages for the member when NYCERS was calculating his required contributions. NYCERS had originally used 4.45% effective as of the retiree's membership date in 1982 and 4.25% as of June 30, 1997.

NYCERS was now saying that it should have used 6.45% (the rate for the 20 Year Plan) all the way back to 1982. This increased his required contributions from \$42,979 to \$77,325 and in turn reduced his pension benefit.

NYCERS gave no rationale for using any of these rates. NYCERS did not state a reason why it reviewed the retiree's case five years after retirement. NYCERS also did not provide the retiree with a copy of the new calculation of his required amount or the history of his pension contributions and the interest he earned.

The retiree immediately contacted DIA President John Fleming, who forwarded the NYCERS letter to me. From the specific rates quoted in the letter, I guessed NYCERS was incorrectly applying the 20-year plan rate to the period from 1982-2002. The statute for the

20-year plan, however, specifically limits that plan rate to only service credited after June 30, 2004.

After phone conversations with me, the retiree and I decided to make a preliminary phone call to NYCERS. We also agreed to visit the NYCERS customer service center on November 9, 2010 to follow up on the problem. The retiree called NYCERS on October 29, 2010 asking for further explanation for this significant reduction. The call center agent told him that he would get a call back within 3 business days explaining the revision.

By November 9, 2010, the retiree had not received the promised phone call. When we visited the NYCERS customer service center on November 9, 2010, the customer representative indicated that the inquiry had been misdirected and maybe that was why NYCERS had not returned the retiree's call. During the meeting, it became clear that NYCERS had not scanned the October 21, 2010 letter into the agency's imaging system until November 8, 2010,

the day before our visit. This two and half week delay may have contributed to the failure to call back the retiree.

After we showed the representative the applicable section of law limiting the 20 Year Plan contribution rate to post 2004 service, he promised to get an answer from the officials upstairs and call the retiree the very next morning.

The retiree, however, did not receive a call the next morning. He waited until 3:00 p.m. and called the NYCERS call center, which eventually connected the retiree to the representative from the previous day. The representative stated that he had not called back because he was waiting for an answer from upstairs. He put the retiree on hold for about 15 minutes while he got an answer. The representative then told the retiree that the October 21, 2010 letter was in error. The representative also stated that NYCERS would send an explanatory letter and that NYCERS would cancel the scheduled changes to his November pension check.



NEWS

Let's hope that this story ends well. The retiree did receive a letter on November 19, 2010 confirming that the original letter was in error and that there would be no change to his pension check. There was, however, no explanation of the cause of the error. Everyone makes mistakes. It's how one handles the mistake that defines you.

I suspect that that without my help this retiree would have lost a lot of money. I have been trying for many years to get NYCERS to provide a rationale for their interpretation of the rates used in the DIA pension plans. NYCERS has, however, refused to provide their rationale.

The lesson here is to be skeptical when dealing with NYCERS. The DIA pension plans are not the relatively simple Tier 4 plans that most NYCERS members have. As time goes on, NYCERS will have less and less experience with Tier 2 plans. The benefits are good but you need to be on your guard when dealing with NYCERS. They seem to have a policy of evasion on details which are crucial in determining the correctness of your pension calculations. Always ask for the details on all calculations. You are entitled to full disclosure on all aspects of your case. Disclosure tends to make people very careful about what they are doing.

AN IMPROVED HEALTH BENEFIT FOR ACTIVE MEMBERS



In the last 12 months we have seen this recession change many of the things that we thought would never change. Between job buy-outs and Article 80 labor is being confronted with many new challenges. Regardless of how this recession ends one thing is certain, without our health dealing with

these challenges will become more difficult.

Our goal has been to keep you healthy and as competitive as possible. Because the public sentiment may be down don't let this affect the way you deal with your health. We need you stronger and healthier than ever. If you haven't done these three things this year then make it a point to have them done before year-end:

- A thorough Physical Exam
- A complete Blood Panel
- A Body Scan with Inner Imaging (212-991-5445)

These are the only tools we have to find disease early. By finding disease early we can prevent disability and other factors that affect our quality of life. For those of you who smoke, it was recently noted in the New York Times that CT Lung Screening cut cancer deaths by 20%.

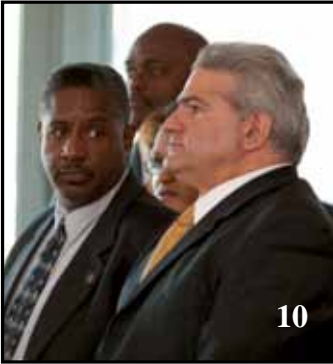
We need you strong. Help us help you. Take action today and make those three calls. I am calling on each Trustee to arrange to have Bert Barrette from Inner Imaging come to your squad to personally discuss with you the great advantages of Inner Imaging and the importance of staying valiant about your health.



4th Annual DIA Awards Ceremony



9



10

DIA HOLDS ANNUAL AWARD CEREMONY

The Detective Investigators' Association of the City of New York, (DIA) will hold their annual awards ceremony on Friday, November 19th at Battery Gardens, located opposite 17 State Street, New York, NY. The ceremony is held every year to recognize the outstanding contribution made to the cause of law enforcement by the detective investigators who work for the five District Attorneys' and Special Narcotics Prosecutor.

Every year the union recognizes one member of the law enforcement community who has displayed a level of excellence both on and off the job. The Fred Ghussin Memorial Award is named after a detective who worked in the Manhattan DA's office and died in the line of duty as a result of illness and injuries sustained while working with federal authorities during 911. This year's recipient is Mr. Garrison Resnick, retired lieutenant NYPD. Mr. Resnick is the Director of Education for the Mt. Sinai Medical Monitoring and Treatment Program.

The DIA will also be recognizing the outstanding contributions of Dr. Jacqueline Moline who was the guiding force behind the development and implementation of the Mt. Sinai Medical Monitoring and Treatment Program for 9/11 first responders.



12



11



13



14



15

- 1 Master of Ceremony Mike Sheehan, NY County Det. Lauren Liebhauser & President John Fleming
- 2 Kings County Dets. David O'Neil and Emil Tkhorovskiy
- 3 Kings County Supervising Investigator Christina Brigantty and Det. Sandra Tilman
- 4 SNC Det. Michael Reedy leading NYPD pipers, also pictured is SNC Chief Investigator Leon Schwartzman
- 5 Bronx County Dets. Stephanie Collier and Bradford Waterman
- 6 DIA Board Officers Anthony Franzolin, Doris Amador, Thomas Artino, Juan Crosas-Medina, John Fleming, Jack Freck, Ron Hickman seated: Manhattan DA Cyrus Vance, Special Narcotics Prosecutor Bridget Brennan, Bronx DA Robert Johnson
- 7 Det. Terry Hayes of the Manhattan DA's office and President John Fleming present the Fred Ghussin Memorial award to Garry Resnick
- 8 Newly promoted Assistant Chief Walter Alexander of the Manhattan DA's office receives career achievement award from John Fleming
- 9 Detective Max Adler, Manhattan DA
- 10 Detectives Floyd Coor, Manuel Lara and Vincent Cantarella of Bronx County DA's office Major Case Task Force
- 11 Detectives David O'Neil, Emil Tkhorovskiy and Danny McClean assigned to Kings County Public Assistance Unit
- 12 Former DIA President Al Lombardo and his wife Cathy
- 13 Detective Christopher Perkins from the kings County Special Investigations Bureau with his wife Mai and daughter Kiersten
- 14 Detective Gene Donnelly from SNC with his wife Mary
- 15 Detective Rudy Stevens from SNC with his daughter Jenny

HONOREES

FRED GHUSSIN MEMORIAL AWARD

Garry F. Resnick

World Trade Center
Medical Monitoring Project

PRESIDENT'S HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Jacqueline Moline, MD

CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

**Asst. Chief Investigator
Walter Alexander**

New York District Attorney

COMMENZDATIONS

Det. John Lavin

Queens District Attorney

Supv. Inv. Christina Brigantty

Det. Inv. Sandra Tilman

Kings District Attorney

Det. Stephanie Collier

Det. Bradford Waterman

Bronx District Attorney

Det. Lauren Liebhauser

New York District Attorney

Det. Max Adler

New York District Attorney

UNIT CITATIONS

Kings County District Attorney
Investigations Bureau/
Public Assistance Crime Unit

Det. Danny McClean

Det. David O'Neill

Det. Emil Tkhorovskiy

UNIT CITATIONS

Special Narcotics Prosecutor

Det. Rudy Stevens

Det. John Loney

Det. Gene Donnelly

Bronx District Attorney's Gang/
Major Case Task Force

Lt. Rocco Galasso

Det. Vincent Cantarella

Det. Floyd Coor

Det. Joseph Iodice

Det. Manuel Lara

Det. Wilfred Melendez

Det. Brian O'Loughlin

Det. John Reilly

Det. Al Rosaro

Det. Merry Bet Tavares

Det. John Wall

UNIT CITATIONS

Bronx County District Attorney
Investigations Unit

Det. Roger Archer

Det. Daniel Clark-El

Det. Juan Crosas Medina

Det. Matie-Elena D'Angelo

Det. Eric Jackson

Det. Manuel Lara

Det. Peter Moro

Det. Alfredo Nunez

Det. Nicholas Ranieri

HONORABLE MENTION

Det. Christopher Perkins

Det. Jeanette Sbordone

Kings County District Attorney
Special Investigations Division





24



25

- 16 Assistant Chief Walter Alexander with his family
- 17 President John Fleming, Secretary Treasurer Jack Freck, and Bronx Trustee Juan Crosas-Medina present award to Mike Sheehan for his service to the DIA and Law Enforcement community
- 18 Queens County DA's Det. John Lavin
- 19 John Fleming and Al Lombardo
- 20 SNC Dets. John Loney, Gene Donnelly and Rudy Stevens
- 21 President John Fleming with Dr. Jacqueline Moline recipient of the President's Humanitarian Award
- 22 Manhattan DA Cyrus Vance, Jr.
- 23 More than 220 people attended this year's event.
- 24 Dets. Angel Flores, Terrance Quinn, Angel Garcia, and Robert Tarwacki from the Manhattan DA's Labor Racketeering Unit
- 25 Bronx County Major Task Force Dets. John Wall, Alberto Rosaro, Merry Bet Tavares, Vincent Cantarella, John Reilly, Floyd Coor, Lt. Rocco Galasso, Det. Brian O'Laughlin, Det. Ray Burke
- 26 Det. Terrance Quinn, Det. Frank Hickey, ADA Diana Florence, Investigator Mark Gaw (Port Authority), Det. Angel Garcia, Det. Robert Tarwacki, Investigator Jim McElliot (DOI) and Karren Connelly (Port Authority)
- 27 Marie Stelluti, Allison Devia, Monika Winarzucuk, Dr. Jacki Moline, Bruce Noel, Garry Resnick, John Fleming, Agata Roman, Marisela Bolanos, Brian Schroeder. All current or former Mount Sinai staff who have played key roles in servicing responders, particularly those from the law enforcement sector.
- 28 Vice President Anthony Franzolin, Chairman of the DIA Awards Committee
- 29 Bronx County Investigations Bureau Dets. Nicholas Ranieri, Daniel Clark-El, Alfred Nunez, Matie-Elena D'Angelo, Manuel Lara, Lt. Ratmond Jones, Dets. Eric Jackson, Roger Archer and Pete Moro
- 30 Bronx members Lt. Rocco Galasso and Det. John Wall with Mike Sheehan



26



27



28



29



30



By Julian Yannotti, former DIA Vice President

FORMER DIA PRESIDENT

Michael McTighe retires & leaves a lasting a proud legacy

This past September, at the Beekman Pub, located in lower Manhattan, members of our association gathered to celebrate the well deserved retirement of New York County Senior Detective Investigator Michael Mc Tighe.

As a former Vice President of our association, having served under Mike during his tenure as D.I.A. President; I was honored when asked to pen a few words in tribute to his dedicated service, and to highlight some of his achievements during his term as President of our association from, 1995 through 2000.

As is the case with a great many of us, those who are currently in service, and those of us who have retired; the encouragement of a parent, a relative, or a friend may have influenced our decision to seek a career in law enforcement. In Mike's case it was his father, a retired New York City Narcotics Detective.

Mike's law enforcement career began in 1971 when he enlisted in the United States Army and served as a Military Policeman. After spending a short tour of duty in the states, he was transferred to Allied Occupied West Berlin where he was assigned to the famous Berlin Brigade and a military intelligence unit. Germany's divided city had become a focal point in the Cold War, and the wall that separated that divided city had become a critical demarcation line between the Allied Occupied West and the Russian Occupied East. The daily intelligence gathered by the various U.S Army Intel Units played a major role in maintaining the integrity of the allied militarized zone and its various check-points. Later Mike was assigned to work with Her Majesty's Royal Air Force Police in the British sector of West Berlin. After his discharge in 1974, he entered the civilian sector and worked in the banking industry, and later as an Investigator for the New York City Housing Authority.

In 1986, Mike returned to the fold after he was appointed by District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau's Office to serve as a Detective in his Investigations Bureau. During the span of his twenty four year career with the office Mike's work covered the breadth of the Investigation

Bureau's spectrum, charged with handling cases ranging in scope from the very mundane to the more prominent and newsworthy. His expertise in conducting electronic surveillances was well known in our office. When we were up on numerous wires in the early 90's his skills were always in demand, and he was often called upon to assist in cases that required that critical facet of investigation.

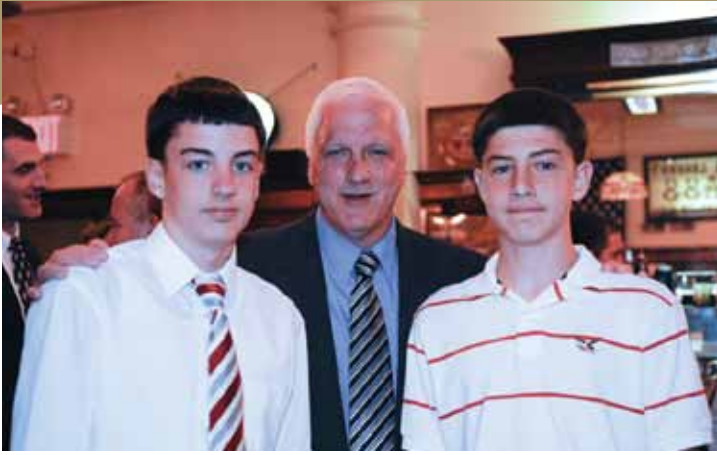
In 1988, Mike took on additional responsibility when he decided to run for office and was elected to serve as New York County Trustee. Later, he was elected and served as Vice President during the administrations of Presidents Joe Cimino and Al Lombardo.

In 1995, Al Lombardo retired from his role as President of



our association and supported Mike's bid for the position. He won handily, and as mentioned above, held the office until 2000.

As a union leader Mike was a consummate professional and always carried himself with dignity and class. His trips to Albany were many; and I can attest to that. I'll never forget walking the halls with him lobbying for legislation; and ritual walks up the rotunda staircase, hesitating for a brief moment on a landing to catch a glimpse of an oil painted portrait of former New York County District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey through a glass partition, paying silent homage, and then asking, "Boss help us



get this piece of legislation passed for our membership." We still talk about that ritual today and the conversation is always followed by laughter and the same comment, "Who knows, maybe it did help?"

Mike's dedication to our association was nothing short of exemplary. Of his twenty four years of service, thirteen of those years were spent representing the membership; first as a Trustee, later as Vice President, and finally as President. During his term as President his administration secured, either through contract negotiations, or legislation, benefits that were long overdue. His strategy was simple; "Take small incremental bites." He retires leaving behind a lasting legacy, one to be proud of. Below I list a brief summary of some of his administration's most commendable achievements-

In 1996, our 25/55 pension bill passed both Senate and Assembly and was signed into law by Governor George Pataki. However, a review of the law by the New York City Corporation Council found many technical glitches existed with the language and the new law could not be implemented by NYCERS. Subsequently, certain sections of our pension law had to be rewritten and reintroduced into both houses as amendments to the new piece of pension legislation.

Finally in 1997, the amendments to the new pension law were passed, and for the first time in the history of our association, we had our own separate and distinct pension.

In 1999, a 25-year Teir Two Police Pension, with no age requirement, was signed into law. (This piece of legislation paved the way for the next step; a twenty year pension.)

That same year a twenty year pension bill was written. On the advice of our Senate and Assembly sponsors, the bill was set aside for submission at a more opportune time. It was felt that it was too soon to submit a new pension bill given that fact that one had recently been signed into law by the Governor. Our PERB bill was introduced instead; it made it out of committee that year and cleared the Assembly but failed to clear the Senate. Although valiant efforts were made, both pieces

of legislation had disappointingly fallen short. However, all was not lost; the seeds were sown and would bear fruit in the future. Today a 20 year pension and PERB are a reality thanks to the efforts of President John Fleming and his administration.

There were successful negotiations with the City for matching funds which made it possible for our retirees to enter into the D.E.A's. retirees' health benefits plan. Prior to this our retirees' were forced into Teamster's local 832, where they received only meager health benefits.

Another success was the negotiated separation of our association from its ties to Union Local DC 37, and forced collective bargaining agreements which



were unrelated to our profession. And there was also the establishment of an educational fund to offset expenses for our membership's children.

I have recently spoken with Mike and he wishes to thank every one that attended his retirement party, and he also wishes to convey a special thanks to all those he has worked with during the span of his career with the New York County DA's Office.

In addition, Mike has asked me to make mention of, and to thank all those who were an integral part of his administration during his term as DIA President, from 1995 through 2000: Secretary Treasurer, Matthew Spano, and Trustees, Stephen Mc Callion, John Fleming, Anthony Franzolin, Bobby Dollison, and Roy Finocchio.

As a retired member, who was once Vice President of our association, I believe I can speak for all the members, those retired and those still in active service, when I say, "Thank you Mike; enjoy your well-earned, well-deserved, retirement."

CONTRACT UPDATE

Continued from page 3

process to pick a state arbitrator to hear our case and the other side's case whoever that is.

Let me end by saying that the Executive Board understands fully that there is much confusion and anger over these endless delays. But our energy must be channeled properly so that we remain optimistic and hopeful that at some point clearer heads will prevail and see the damage being done and take steps to make it right. Your trustees will keep you updated to any new developments.

NEW IN THE BRONX

A new task force was formed called the CARP TF, headed by ADA Thomas Kapp Chief of Arso. Economic Crimes: The Detectives are Chief Frank Chiara, Richard Quelch, Frank Brumfield, Floyd Coor, Brad Waterman, Nicholas Ranieri and Alredo Nunez. They will be enforcing tax-related cases.

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW TRUSTEES:

Kings County Trustee Jim Diver. He can be reached at (718) 250-3755
NY County Trustee Thomas Artino. He can be reached at (212) 335-8993

I want to recognize some members and friends who have either retired or whose career has taken them in a different direction. 2010 saw the closing of the careers of two of our past presidents — Al Lombardo and Michael McTighe. We wish them both all the best and thank them for their service. In Manhattan, Chief Joseph Pennisi retired after a distinguished 30-year career, and a new Chief, John Bilich, took over. In the Bronx, Chief Steven Nasta retired and Deputy Chief Frank Chiara assumed the top spot. We know Chief Chiara will excel in his new position and we look forward to working with him. We congratulate Walter Alexander who was promoted to Deputy Chief. We also wish Brooklyn Trustee Anabell Talavera all the best in her new position with the New York State Insurance Bureau.

Detective Investigators' Association
District Attorneys' Offices — City of New York
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