

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-128

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

July 9, 2019

To honor the District's Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department for its dedication to and protection of the citizens and visitors of Washington, D.C., and for their valiant and courageous service to the metropolitan area after the attacks of September 11, 2001.

WHEREAS, on the occasion of the 18th Anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on United States, the Council of the District of Columbia honors the memory of the nearly 3,000 people who perished from the attack, including 12 victims from the District;

WHEREAS, an exceptionally courageous force of first responders - including more than 100,000 firefighters, paramedics, rescue and recovery workers, and police officers across the country- risked their lives that day to save the lives of others;

WHEREAS, the brave District Fire and EMS Department which, along with the Arlington County Fire Department and other local fire agencies, helped with the Pentagon recovery efforts on September 11, 2001;

WHEREAS, the men and women who serve as first responders in the District of Columbia carry out the extraordinary responsibility of protecting not only District residents, but also all who visit and work here, and have always done so with tremendous dedication and respect;

WHEREAS, the men and women of the District's emergency services have fulfilled every duty to the District and their country in an honorable, courageous, and timely fashion, and they have demonstrated immense compassion for those who have suffered unforeseeable tragedies, while routinely considering the safety and well-being of others before their own;

WHEREAS, nationally, thousands of first responders have suffered adverse physical and emotional effects in the 17 years since 2001 and, even now, are at significantly greater risk for developing occupational cancers due to their exposure to chemicals and debris from the attacks;

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WHEREAS, the Council acknowledges that there is more work to be done to support our first responders and to ensure that our men and women are suitably cared for and compensated for their brave work defending the District, our country, and ideals; and

WHEREAS, it is fully right and just to honor the memory of those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks nearly 2 decades ago, and it is equally compelling to observe and pay our respects to the first responders of the District and their bravery and selflessness in the face of extraordinarily trying circumstances.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution be cited as the “September 11th Emergency and First Responders Remembrance and Recognition Resolution of 2019”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia honors its first responders for their tremendous commitment to serving the District, and remembers emergency workers who dutifully served their country in the face of danger on September 11, 2001.

Sec. 3. This resolution should go into effect as soon as the date is published in the District of Columbia Register.