

## **The Port Authority Police World Trade Disaster Survivors Fund**

***Mission Statement:** The Port Authority Police World Trade Disaster Survivors Fund, a 501©(3) organization, was created by the Port Authority Police Benevolent Association (Tax ID#22-3826697) to ensure the financial future of the survivors of the 37 members of the Port Authority Police Department who perished at the World Trade Center Disaster on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001. To accomplish this goal, the Board of Directors will provide direct monetary aid to the beneficiaries of each departed member and create trust funds for each of the 65 dependent children among the survivors.*

**Goal: \$6.5 million to provide \$100,000 trust funds for each of 65 dependent children \$10.3 million has been raised since September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001 and \$6.9 million disbursed in direct aid to the main beneficiaries, indicating a total remaining goal of \$2 million to create trust funds by the first anniversary of the tragedy.**

The Port Authority Police Department is a force of 1,300 highly skilled men and women who provide law enforcement, fire fighting and rescue operations at 3 metropolitan airports, the largest bus terminal in our nation, piers, bridges, tunnels, the PATH (Port Authority Trans Hudson) Railway and the World Trade Center site. The primary jurisdiction of the force lies within a 25-mile radius of the Statue of Liberty. The PAPD enforces the law in both New York and New Jersey.

On September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001, the PAPD was the first uniformed service on scene. Hundreds of additional officers arrived and assisted in evacuating 25,000 people, the largest rescue operation in history. The last survivor was PAPD Sgt. John McLaughlin – making the PAPD first in and last out.

Since the force's founding in 1928, 7 members died on active duty. On September 11<sup>th</sup>, 37 members were killed, ranging from the Director for Public Safety to rookies and representing nearly 4% - the largest percentage loss of any uniformed service and the largest loss of life of any police force in history. Included was Capt. Kathy Mazza, the highest ranking female officer, and Sirius, the only K-9. Our 37 heroes left 28 widows and 76 children including 65 minors.

The Port Authority Police World Trade Disaster Survivors Fund, a 501©(3) organization, was created by the Port Authority Police Benevolent Association to ensure the financial future of the survivors by relieving financial burdens and concerns. Currently, the main beneficiaries have received funding from various sources and are financially secure. The children of the victims deserve that same security. The Board of the Fund will secure their future by creating \$100,000 trust funds for each dependent child that can be accessed upon adulthood.

The events of September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001 illustrate the danger of policing. In today's changed world terrorism is a constant threat. The PAPD protect prime terrorist targets in the metropolitan region. Members of the force must be assured that the Fund has ample resources to support their family members in the event of a similar catastrophe. A fully integrated development operation, including corporate solicitation, will assure the growth and viability of the Fund.