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Essential Workers from 9/11 to COVID

NEW YORK CITY'S EVERYDAY HEROES HELPED SAVE NEW YORK AND DESERVE OUR EVERLASTING GRATITUDE

The 20th anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Center on 9/11 is in a few days. It is time to remember the catastrophe and those that perished. Our city struggled for years to get back on its feet.

Our successful recovery would not have taken place without our front line public employees working in every city agency, the NYPD, and our great public hospital system, the New York City Health and Hospitals (NYC H+H). They serve the public 24/7. In times of crisis like 9/11 and Super Storm Sandy, they come true. They are true Every day Heroes of our great city.

If you needed any public assistance or aide from the city, especially during this COVID pandemic, then chances are you met some of our 15,000 Local 1549 front line members when you first entered a worksite.

The COVID pandemic is not the first time our members provided services to the public during a crisis.

- If you went to a public hospital in the NYC H+H you would have encountered a Client Navigator or Clerical Associate in a COVID Clinic. You may have met a Clerical Associate during registration. These hospitals clerical like those working in a COVID testing site register patients for their visits face to face for 20 minutes.

- If you had to call 911 for a police, medical or any other emergency, you might have spoken with a Police Communication Technician. Our 911 call center members are the first ones to get all such calls in the city. The 911 workers worked in overcrowded working conditions out of necessity, risking their health every day.

The New York State Legislature just unanimously passed a bill that would guarantee them official First Responder status if Governor Kathy Hochul signs it. We hope that our new governor does the right thing by this dedicated workforce, who are mainly women of color. It would be a perfect 9/11 commemorative event.

- If you had to Call 311 seeking information about housing issues, COVID, public assistance, or anything else, you might have spoken with a Call Center Representative (CCR). Like 911 workers, they too had to work in overcrowded conditions.

- If you need food stamps (SNAP), Medicaid Recertification, HASA assistance in the Department of Social Services then you might meet a Clerical Associate, or an Eligibility Specialist working in a center determining your eligibility.

- The entire city workforce was paid on time throughout the pandemic thanks to the work of our Clerical Associates in the Office of Payroll Administration.

- If you had to phone or enter any other worksite in a city agency providing public services like housing, legal in the Law Department, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), etc. you would have first met a Local 1549 member.

- When you must go to an NYPD Precinct, you will encounter one of our Police Administrative Aides who gives you valuable information and maintains records.

Our front line Local 1549 members are among the many thousands of city workers who deserve to be respected and honored. They also deserve the Premium Pay bonus that President Biden and Congress provided for them in the CARES ACT. The city and state must provide these funds since they are earmarked solely for that use. Our 911 members deserve to be recognized as official First Responders. That is to reward those who should be rewarded.

- - Local 1549 Clerical Administrative Officers: President Eddie Rodriguez, Ex. VP Alma Roper, 2nd VP Ralph Palladino, 3rd VP Jamaisa Johnson, Sec. Treas. Felix Cooper and Recording Secretary Ronda Myers

Clerical-Administrative Local 1549 DC 37 AFSCME
15,000 tax paying Members and Union Strong

We Help Make the City Run!



Fighting for Economic and Social Justice.
Recognizing and Thanking Our First Responders and Essential Workers during COVID Crisis.

Hospital Clericals: Face to face registration and securing health insurance for COVID patients working in Testing Centers, Emergency Rooms, Inpatient Units and ICUs.

911 Dispatchers and Supervisors: Forced to work in crowded unsafe conditions taking calls for help from frightened and tearful COVID patients.

311 Call Center Representatives: Faced unsafe, overcrowded conditions while being short staffed. Handled

three times more calls than usual-150,000-200,000 daily.

SNAP Eligibility Specialists: Faced with an explosion of people needing food stamps while working overtime everyday up to 5 hours while facing severe short staffing.

At OPA payroll: you showed up for work. You made sure all city's workers received their pay checks.



Eddie Rodriguez
President



Alma Roper
Executive V.P.

They are Essential Workers and Deserve our Support, Thanks, Recognition and Respect!

2nd Vice President, Ralph Palladino
3rd Vice President, Jamaisa Johnson
and the entire Executive Board

Secretary-Treasurer, Felix Cooper
Recording Secretary, Ronda Myers

