

NYC Police Memorial Dedication
Bruno Pomponio – Vice President, Parks Operations
Friday, October 11, 2019
(as prepared for delivery)

Thank you, Lt. Hodges. And good morning Mayor de Blasio, Commissioner O’Neill, Monsignor Romano, distinguished guests, families, and friends.

On behalf of Governor Cuomo, Battery Park City Authority Chairman George Tsunis, and President & CEO B.J. Jones, it’s my honor to be here today.

I began working at the Battery Park City Authority in September 1997, when its Police Memorial was first being built.

In October of that same year, the Memorial was complete, and from that moment on I felt a deep, *unexplained* connection to it. It wouldn’t be until some years later that it started coming together why.

During the horrific attacks of September 11, 2001, BPCA staff assisted emergency response teams to the best of our ability with transport and evacuations.

When the dust somewhat settled, the first direction given to our staff was to raise new, crisp and clean colors on the Memorial’s flag poles to signify our defiance and resolve.

BPCA staff then cleared the Memorial of all dust and debris so that first responders would have a place to go – if only for a few moments – to rest, reflect, and pay their respects.

I knew in that moment why I had felt such a connection to that Memorial. And it was because it spoke to something larger than just me. It was because it spoke to how important it was to remember – to honor – those who have given everything in service to the rest of us.

Therefore I am honored, and my staff is honored, to do our parts as Keepers of that Memorial.

And I am most proud of my son, NYPD Sergeant Bruno Pomponio, Jr., and my son-in-law William Hughes, Jr. of NYPD SRG, who proudly serve this great city.

Thank you to everyone here today for serving as well. We’ll always honor and keep beautiful the Battery Park City home of the heroes who gave their lives doing the same.

Thank you.