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Message from the Executive Director

As we approach the 10th anniversary of September 11, 2001, I recall an advertisement produced by the Public Affairs Department shortly after the attacks. It was called "We Never Missed a Beat" and it focused on the Port Authority's efforts, in the face of terrible adversity and profound grief, to keep the region moving.



That sense of commitment to the region and this agency is the Port Authority family's greatest quality and it has sustained us from the dark aftermath of the attacks through the present day. Like many of you, as the tenth anniversary draws near, a whirlwind of different emotions come rushing back, from grief over the loss of our 84 colleagues, to pride at our agency's resiliency, to a renewed sense of duty going forward.

I want all of you to know what the Port Authority is doing to help our employees through this extraordinary time. Beginning in mid-June and lasting through August, facility-based discussion and support will be available to all Port Authority employees.

In addition, many of you have expressed interest in visiting the World Trade Center site in the months leading up to the 10th

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Congressional Staff Visits

Twenty-three legislative staffers from the New York and New Jersey Congressional delegations visited the bistate region last month for facility tours and briefings at the invitation of the Port Authority's Washington office, staffed by Federal Affairs Directors **Laurie Michel** and **Paul Richman**.

Several staffers from the House Homeland Security Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, and the Washington offices of New Jersey Governor Chris Christie and New York Governor Andrew Cuomo also attended.

"The site visits and briefings were focused in such a way as to highlight how the federal government can help the PA carry out its mission to promote and protect the commerce of the Port District and to undertake major infrastructure and transportation projects that secure the region's economic well-being," Mr. Richman said. "We reached out to those who are responsible for transportation, infrastructure, homeland security, commerce, energy, environment, and/or appropriations issues."

The group heard presentations by Executive Director **Chris Ward**, Chief Operating Officer **Ernesto L. Butcher**, PATH Director/General Manager **Michael DePallo**, Tunnels, Bridges and Terminals Director **Cedrick Fulton**, Port Commerce Director **Rick Larrabee**, Planning and Regional



Executive Director Chris Ward kicks off the lunchtime briefings of the Congressional staff members at the Port Newark Administration Building on April 28.

Photos: Mike Dombrowski



The Congressional staff members got a tour of the port and the Staten Island Bridges aboard the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Katherine Walker. The SIB segment included briefings on PA plans to raise the roadway of the Bayonne Bridge. In the photo, the cutter is passing Port Newark. Its General Manager, Andrew Saporito, is foreground left in the photo.

Development Director **Andy Lynn**, Security Project Management Director **John Drobny**, and Chief Economist **Alex Heil**, among others.

They visited sites including Newark Liberty International Airport, Port Newark, the Staten Island Bridges, PATH, and the World Trade Center.

Achievements

'Best Seaport'

The Port of New York and New Jersey was named North America's best seaport at the 2011 Asian Freight & Supply Chain Awards ceremony last month in Singapore.

"This is the first time a port on the East Coast of North America has won this award," Port Commerce Director **Rick Larrabee** said. "It is quite an honor – and it is also a sign that the investments we have made with our port partners to develop our infrastructure and services is paying dividends."

Salina Wong, the Port Authority's representative in Hong Kong, accepted the award on behalf of the agency.

Criteria included "provision of suitable container shipping-related infrastructure; cost-competitive, container shipping-friendly fee regime; timely and adequate investment in new infrastructure to meet future demand; and facilitation of ancillary services, including logistics and freight forwarding facilities."

The awards are based on a survey of the readers of Cargonews Asia, the region's largest freight industry publication.



Hong Kong representative Salina Wong accepts the Best Seaport – North America award April 27 at the 25th annual Asian Freight awards ceremony in Singapore.

'Outstanding Work'

Port Authority Police Officer **Peter Ragone**, Treasurer of the PAPD Columbia Association, was honored this month by the Columbia Association's National Council for his outstanding work in getting the PAPDCA more involved with the National Council's efforts in the community.

The PAPD Columbia Association is a social, fraternal organization of Italian American police officers, their colleagues, friends, and families aiming to retain, preserve, and promote the Italian language, culture, and heritage.



At the ceremony on May 1 at El Caribe in Brooklyn are (from right) Peter Ragone, National Council President Joe Guagliardo, Channel 11 News' Jill Nicolini, Nassau Sheriffs Columbia Association President Tom Barretti, PAPDCA Vice President Joseph D'Angelo, and PAPDCA President Steven Famiglietti. Officer Ragone works at the WTC Command.

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anniversary. Staff is currently assembling a program for site visits, which will allow small groups to visit the site, reflect, and learn about the construction progress. If you would like to visit the site with a specific group, staff will work to accommodate this request.

Information on these programs and others will be posted on EmployeeNet under Resources. The page is at <http://enet/9-11-11/html/>.

However you choose to recognize the 10th anniversary, I want you to know that the Port Authority will be there to listen and support. Thank you for all your hard work.

Calendar

Heritage Month Breakfast

Executive Director **Chris Ward** will give the opening address at the Port Authority Asian American Association's 2011 Asian American Heritage Month Breakfast on Friday, May 20, 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., at Club 101, 101 Park Avenue in Manhattan.

All PA employees are invited. RSVP to 10-6916. See Employee Bulletins.

March with Shomrim

The PA Shomrim Society invites all members and fellow employees to march up Manhattan's Fifth Avenue in the Salute to Israel Parade on Sunday, June 5.

Marchers will meet at 10:30 a.m. at 56th Street and Fifth Avenue. There will be a pre-parade collation at 8:30 at the Central Synagogue Meeting Hall, 123 E. 55th Street at Lexington Avenue, for all Shomrim members and parade participants. A light breakfast will be served.

Contact Shomrim President **Scot Pomerantz** at president@panynj-shomrim.org for more info and to RSVP.

Shomrim Breakfast

The Port Authority Shomrim Society will hold its annual Fellowship Breakfast on Sunday, June 12, at JFK's Terminal 4.

Guest speakers will be former World Boxing Association Welterweight Champion Yuri Foreman and Alan Friedman of the National Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.

See Employee Bulletins for more information.

Race for the Cure

Port Authority co-workers and friends of the late **Denise Means** will honor her memory at the 4th Annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure on Sunday, May 15, at the South Mountain Recreation Complex in West Orange, NJ.

For more information, contact Team Captain **Kathy Bincoletto** at kpbincoletto@gmail.com.

Master's Degree Program

Seton Hall University is offering PA employees a master's degree in Human Resources Training & Development at half the normal tuition.

The 24-month, 36-credit program is offered exclusively in learning teams. It is a "blended" program, largely online, with only one required on-campus weekend residency, beginning May 14.

For more information, contact Dr. **Dom Varricchio** at varricdo@shu.edu, or visit <http://www.shu.edu/academics/education/ma-human-resources-online/index.cfm>.