



July 2008

The Honorable John Dingell
Chairman, Committee on Energy & Commerce
States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Joe Barton
Ranking Member, Committee on Energy & Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Chairman, Subcommittee on Health
Committee on Energy & Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nathan Deal
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Health
Committee on Energy & Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Sirs:

We, the undersigned organizations representing more than 40,000 active and retired law enforcement officers of the New York City Police Department, are writing to respectfully request that the Committee consider at the earliest possible opportunity H.R. 3543, the "James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act."

Nearly seven years ago, the United States suffered the most devastating terrorist attack in our nation's history on September 11, 2001. On that one day alone, this heinous and premeditated act claimed the lives of nearly 3,000 of our fellow citizens—including more than 70 of our fellow law enforcement officers. September 11th was not just an assault on New York City or Washington, D.C., but on our nation as a whole. As you are aware Americans from across the nation responded in our hour of need, as evidenced by the thousands of first responders, volunteers, and others who traveled to New York City to assist us in the rescue and recovery efforts at Ground Zero.

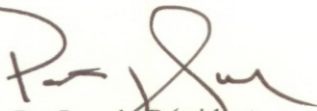
Now, those of us who responded to the attacks face an equally deadly threat: the long-term health effects that have developed as a result of exposure to a cocktail of deadly toxins released from the collapse of the World Trade Center. Upper and lower respiratory conditions, tumors, and pulmonary diseases are just some of the medical issues which our members are now confronting. The death of Detective James Zadroga in January 2006—the first 9/11 responder to have his death directly attributed to his work at Ground Zero—was a stark reminder of the health effects that we, and potentially hundreds of thousands of our fellow Americans, will face in the years ahead. Indeed, today the World Trade Center Health Registry alone includes the names of more than 70,000 people from every State in the nation.

While we are grateful for the funding that Congress has appropriated over the years to care for those who are suffering as a result of their service at Ground Zero, it is time for a coordinated and unified effort to address the medical monitoring and treatment needs of 9/11 responders. H.R. 3543 will achieve this goal, by creating a national program to medically monitor and treat those who are sick. It will ensure consistent funding for this important effort, and provide for the continuation of research into the diagnosis and treatment of 9/11

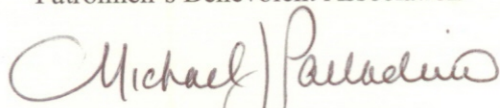
health-related conditions. But perhaps most importantly, this legislation signifies the Federal government's commitment to care for those who sacrificed so much to protect and serve our nation.

On behalf of our organizations and the men and women of the New York City Police Department that we are proud to represent, we again request that the Committee consider H.R. 3545 at the earliest possible opportunity. Thank you in advance for your assistance on this important legislation.

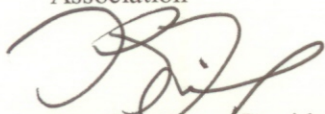
Sincerely,



Pat Lynch, President
Patrolmen's Benevolent Association



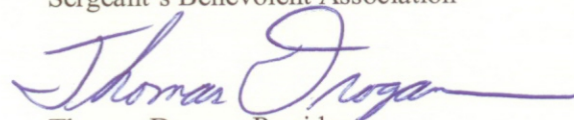
Michael J. Palladino, President
Detective's Endowment Association
Association



Roy T. Richter, President
Captain's Endowment Association



Ed Mullins, President
Sergeant's Benevolent Association



Thomas Drogan, President
Lieutenant's Benevolent

CC: Members, Committee on Energy & Commerce, U.S. House of Representatives