

**2019 “Firefighter of the Year” Award Recipients  
Alphabetically by Fire Department**

*The Governor presented 23 awards: two Norman Knight Award for Excellence in Community Service, one Excellence in Leadership Award, ten Group Awards for Meritorious Conduct to teams of firefighters, ten Medals of Valor to individual firefighters, and one Medal of Honor to Worcester Firefighter Christopher Roy, posthumously. The Stephen D. Coan Fire Marshal Award was presented to three departments.*

**ANDOVER FIRE DEPARTMENT  
LAWRENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT  
NORTH ANDOVER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**MULTIPLE GAS EXPLOSIONS &  
AFTERMATH**

**Nominees(s): Andover Fire Department**

Chief Michael Mansfield  
Deputy Chief Albert DelDotto Jr.  
Deputy Chief Scott Gibson  
Deputy Chief Kyle Murphy  
Deputy Chief Keith Weightman  
Lieutenant Ryan Beal  
Lieutenant Robert Dalton  
Lieutenant John Gangi  
Lieutenant Jeffrey Gaunt  
Lieutenant Thomas V. Kennedy III  
Lieutenant James L. Landry Jr.  
Lieutenant Jameson Lockhart  
Lieutenant William Loehr  
Lieutenant Christopher Morgese  
Lieutenant Robert Stabile  
Lieutenant Barry Thornton  
Lieutenant Ian Timmons  
Lieutenant Brian Wright  
Firefighter James Bancroft  
Firefighter Timothy Bartlett  
Firefighter Matthew Beirne  
Firefighter Ryan Beirne  
Firefighter Jonathan Booth  
Firefighter Philip Boulanger  
Firefighter Matthew Burke  
Firefighter Michael Byerley  
Firefighter Richard Capano  
Firefighter Kevin Carney  
Firefighter Todd Collins  
Firefighter Jeffrey Condon  
Firefighter Jason Cunningham  
Firefighter Brian DeCourcy  
Firefighter Salvatore DeNaro  
Firefighter John DiZoglio

Firefighter David Eulie  
Firefighter Kevin Farragher  
Firefighter Garrett Ferris  
Firefighter Brian Flanagan  
Firefighter Michael Giammasi  
Firefighter Daniel Guillet  
Firefighter Donald Hinckley  
Firefighter John Hines  
Firefighter Shawn Kelley  
Firefighter Richard Krafton  
Firefighter Brian Landry  
Firefighter Andrew Loonie  
Firefighter John McMullen  
Firefighter Carl Morrison  
Firefighter Jacqueline Moses  
Firefighter Joseph Murphy  
Firefighter Robert Murphy  
Firefighter Michael Oteri  
Firefighter David Pas  
Firefighter Clifford Pattullo  
Firefighter Robert Pelletier, Jr  
Firefighter Todd Richardson  
Firefighter John Senee  
Firefighter Stephen Stabile  
Firefighter Michael Surette  
Firefighter Eric Teichert  
Firefighter Matthew Trede  
Firefighter Michael Uttley  
Firefighter Scott Weightman  
Firefighter Christine Wright  
Firefighter Joseph Cahill  
Executive Assistant Marcie Jacobson  
Administrative Assistant Joan LeMieux

**2019 “Firefighter of the Year” Award Recipients  
Alphabetically by Fire Department**

**Nominees(s): Lawrence Fire Department**

Chief Brian Moriarty	Firefighter Thomas Baggett
Deputy Chief Kevin Loughlin	Firefighter Shane Battle
Deputy Chief John McInnis	Firefighter Jeffrey Beauregard
Deputy Chief John Meaney	Firefighter David Blanchette
Deputy Chief Robert Wilson	Firefighter Diogenes Blanco
Captain Michael Armano	Firefighter Giovanni Bonet
Captain Mike Blanchard	Firefighter Timothy Boutin
Captain Patrick Delaney	Firefighter Edward Burke
Captain James Driscoll	Firefighter Michael Buzzell
Captain David Fleming	Firefighter Mike Delaney
Captain Paul Hamel	Firefighter Shane Donahue
Captain Wayne LeDuc	Firefighter Steven Donovan
Captain Michael Maglio	Firefighter Patrick Driscoll
Captain Frank Martin	Firefighter Michael Espinola
Captain Matthew Nadeau	Firefighter Felix Fernandez
Captain Tara Reardon	Firefighter Jesus Flores
Captain Eric Zahn	Firefighter Dana Francis
Lieutenant David Amero	Firefighter Gabriel Fraval
Lieutenant Jason Belkus	Firefighter Elvis Frias
Lieutenant Peter Bernard	Firefighter Michael Garcia
Lieutenant James Bizeur	Firefighter Juan Gonzalez
Lieutenant Darin Cassista	Firefighter Manny Gutierrez
Lieutenant John Duggan	Firefighter Michael Guzman
Lieutenant David Ferris	Firefighter Eric Humphrey
Lieutenant Dana Feugill	Firefighter Peter Humphrey
Lieutenant James Flynn	Firefighter Roger Jameson
Lieutenant Michael Fornesi	Firefighter Jean Jimenez
Lieutenant Johnny Jimenez	Firefighter Jay Johnstone
Lieutenant Patrick LaFrance	Firefighter Raymond Kenyon
Lieutenant Rene Lavallee	Firefighter Paul King
Lieutenant Ryan Lavallee	Firefighter Chris King
Lieutenant Stephen Lefebvre	Firefighter Cyril Lane
Lieutenant Ian McDermott	Firefighter Ronald Lavallee
Lieutenant Graeme Millar	Firefighter Mark Lynch
Lieutenant Joseph Murphy	Firefighter Joseph Maloney
Lieutenant Edward Nutter	Firefighter Gary Mannion Jr.
Lieutenant Matthew Peek	Firefighter Thomas Marino
Lieutenant Daniel Sanzi	Firefighter Adam Marino
Lieutenant Corey Scott	Firefighter Jeffery Martin
Lieutenant Bernard Trainor	Firefighter Kevin McCarthy
Firefighter Jose Abreu	Firefighter Matthew McInnis
Firefighter James Amato	Firefighter Anibal Mendez
Firefighter Esteban Arias	Firefighter Richard Mendonca
Firefighter Miguel Baez	Firefighter James Nickerson

**2019 “Firefighter of the Year” Award Recipients  
Alphabetically by Fire Department**

Firefighter Deb Nickerson	Firefighter Patrick Sweeney
Firefighter Chad Nickerson	Firefighter Ray Torrisi
Firefighter Luis Nova	Firefighter Francis Trinidad
Firefighter Jose Ortiz	Firefighter Alexander Vargas
Firefighter Jamiel Ortiz	Firefighter Wilson Ventura
Firefighter William Pagan	Firefighter Jeffery Young
Firefighter Otoniel Pedrosa	Firefighter Robert Zahn
Firefighter Jose Perez	Firefighter Jose Zamora
Firefighter Steven Poley	Lieutenant Paul Maccarone, Retired
Firefighter Brian Raineri	Dispatcher Thomas Arcand
Firefighter Felix Reyes	Dispatcher Carrie Donovan
Firefighter Rodney Rivera	Dispatcher Lawrence Foote
Firefighter Ignacio Rodriguez	Dispatcher Sy Uliano
Firefighter Federico Rosario	Electrical Inspector Kevin Misuraca
Firefighter Pascual Ruiz	Fire Electrician Julio Colon
Firefighter Jason Ruiz	Fire Electrician Jeffrey DiDomenico
Firefighter Hector Santiago	Fire Electrician Jorge Martinez
Firefighter Daniel Sirois	Office Manager Maureen Gaffney
Firefighter Daniel Sullivan	Secretary Diana Velazquez
Firefighter Sean Sullivan	Superintendent of Apparatus Garrett
Firefighter Dave Swarbrick	Coscia
Firefighter Mike Swarbrick	

**Nominees(s): North Andover Fire Department**

Fire Chief William McCarthy	Firefighter Kyle Kobierski
Deputy Fire Chief Graham Rowe	Firefighter James Loisou
Lieutenant Michael Beirne	Firefighter Kevin Lundy
Lieutenant Jeffrey Gartside	Firefighter William Lynch
Lieutenant David Hebert	Firefighter Nicholas Martone
Lieutenant Jeffrey Judge	Firefighter Ian McAlister
Lieutenant Robert Kilcoyne	Firefighter Jonathan McCarthy
Lieutenant Matthew Lacolla	Firefighter John McClellan
Lieutenant Timothy Mcguire	Firefighter Ronald McNutt
Lieutenant Craig Nussbaum	Firefighter Andres Mencia
Lieutenant John Weir	Firefighter Daniel Napoli
Firefighter Robert Crane	Firefighter Dann Nicolosi
Firefighter Jeffrey Crosby	Firefighter Ryan Nicolosi
Firefighter Matthew Davis	Firefighter Jason Ouellette
Firefighter Jeffrey Deschenes	Firefighter Nicholas Padeilaro
Firefighter Christopher Dufresne	firefighter Daniel Pas
Firefighter Shawn Dufresne	Firefighter Neil Patnaude
Firefighter Brian Freeman	Firefighter Sean Powers
Firefighter Rob Hardacre	Firefighter Corey Pramas
Firefighter Scot Harris	Firefighter Michael Risacher
Firefighter Chris Holland	Firefighter Steve Risacher
Firefighter Elizabeth Iminski	Firefighter Christopher Rowan

**2019 “Firefighter of the Year” Award Recipients  
Alphabetically by Fire Department**

Firefighter Daniel Ryan  
Firefighter Matthew Sifferlen  
Firefighter Barry Sullivan  
Firefighter Scott Swiniarski  
Firefighter Ryan Titcomb

Firefighter Matthew Twiss  
Firefighter James White  
Firefighter Blake Zwinggi  
Administrative Secretary Diane Morrison

On September 13, 2018, several explosions and fires erupted in quick succession in an area that spanned Andover, Lawrence and North Andover. One was fatal. Firefighters responded quickly to each incident, running from one to the next, not knowing exactly what was happening. It quickly became clear that these were gas explosions related to some gas main work. From that first day and first long night of darkness in these communities through and the many months afterwards, every aspect of fire department operations were involved in the response and recovery. Coordinating the resources needed to respond and recover, making sure that interim solutions were safe, that people learned how to stay safe with alternative heating and cooking or living situations, collaborating among fire departments and with municipal departments, federal and state agencies, service groups and others involved every member of these three fire departments. This was an unusual incident that demanded the highest level of performance by each member, many of whom were also personally affected by the long gas outage.

**Award(s): Stephen D. Coan State Fire Marshal**

**BOSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**BUILDING FIRE**

**Nominee(s):**

Firefighter Patrick S. Callahan

It was shortly after 8 p.m. when Boston firefighters arrived at a 2-alarm fire with smoke showing from the second floor. Firefighter Patrick Callahan saw a woman and child in a smoke filled window on the third floor. He pulled a ground ladder and raised it to the window with the help of his officer. With heavy smoke getting worse, Firefighter Callahan went up the ladder to reach the mother and young child. The ladder was five feet short, the child was crying and the mom very distressed. Firefighter Callahan anchored himself to the second from the top rung, reached up and was able to convince the mom to give him the child. He brought the little boy down the ladder to safety and soon the mother was rescued too and the family united.

**Award(s): Valor**

## **BOSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **BUILDING FIRE**

### **Nominee(s):**

Lieutenant Paul McCarthy  
Firefighter Michael Gormley

Firefighter William Joyce  
Firefighter John-Patrick McManus

The fire was spreading rapidly as Boston fire crews arrived to a South End apartment building during a fall nor'easter on October 27. The first arriving firefighters saw five people trapped on the upper floors and hanging out of the rear windows. Lt. McCarthy, and Firefighters Gormley, Joyce and McManus of Ladder 10 positioned the truck's aerial bucket between two buildings, extended a 35-foot-ladder and made multiple rescues. The crew then entered the third and fourth floors under high heat and limited visibility to search the premises and make sure there were no additional victims. This fire rose to seven alarms and 100 occupants were displaced, mostly college and graduate students.

**Award(s):** Group Meritorius Conduct

## **EVERETT FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **BUILDING FIRE**

### **Nominee(s):**

Deputy Chief Scott Dalrymple  
Firefighter Chad Bailey  
Firefighter Christopher Dockery

Firefighter Josh Doyon  
Firefighter Craig Hardy  
Firefighter Joseph Quinn, ret.

It was July 13, 2018, when Everett firefighters responded to a report of a structure fire, which quickly went to 3-alarms. The building was an illegal 3-family with 19 occupants. Told on arrival that a woman was trapped on the second floor, then Lieutenant Scott Dalrymple (pron) and Firefighter Josh Doyon (doy-on) entered through the front door. Thick smoke and high heat pushed them back down the stairs seconds before a flashover consumed the hallway. Both men emerged from the hall on fire and Firefighter Doyon (doy-on) dragged Lieutenant Dalrymple (pron) outside, extinguishing them both. The rest of the crew located the woman on the second floor rear roof and rescued her over a ladder. Both Lieutenant Dalrymple (pron) and Firefighter Doyon (doy-on) suffered severe burns, with Firefighter Firefighter Doyon (doy-on) released the next day and Lt. Dalrymple (pron) undergoing several surgeries and finally returning to work this past February.

**Award(s):** Valor (Dalrymple, Doyon), Group Meritorius Conduct

## FALL RIVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

## HAZMAT

### Nominee(s):

District Chief Kevin Blythe  
Captain Michael Shea  
Lieutenant Daniel Gerling  
Lieutenant Paul Machado  
Lieutenant Daniel Medeiros  
EMS Lieutenant Michael Arruda  
Firefighter Bruce Alves  
Firefighter Robert Forand  
Firefighter James Frascatore  
Firefighter Ryan Hebda

Firefighter Sterling Hudson  
Firefighter Brandon Jackson  
Firefighter Jean Paul LaFleur  
Firefighter Tyler Lima  
Firefighter Nathan Lowney  
Firefighter Christian Ponte  
Paramedic Samuel Finney  
Paramedic Matthew Fournier  
Paramedic Heather Littlefield  
Paramedic Charles Oldham  
Paramedic Jessica Soder

It was early morning last December 13, when multiple companies from Fall River Fire arrived to a rollover on Route 24. First on the scene crews found a badly crushed motor vehicle with the driver still inside and a 12,000-gallon tanker truck leaking gasoline and its driver lying in the road nearby. Crews worked quickly, putting themselves in extreme danger because of the leaking fuel, and were able to remove the driver from the crushed vehicle. He was transported to a Rhode Island Hospital and survived. The driver of the tanker truck had died and the crews moved his body to a safe position. They then laid foam on the ground to prevent the ignition of the gasoline and to prevent contamination. An estimated 200 gallons of gasoline spilled on Route 24 that day.

**Award(s):** Group Meritorius Conduct

## FALL RIVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

## BUILDING FIRE

### Nominee(s):

District Chief James Mellen  
Captain Matthew Johnson  
Lieutenant Paul Berube  
EMS Lieutenant Cheryl Davis  
Firefighter Andrew Cordeiro  
Firefighter Ed Correia Jr.  
Firefighter Michael Cusick

Firefighter Tyler Lima  
Firefighter Brian Rapoza  
Lieutenant Raymond Schofield  
Paramedic Matthew Adams  
Paramedic Emanuel DeAraujo  
Paramedic James Guilmette  
Paramedic Heather Littlefield

It was New Year's Day when members of the Fall River Fire Department responded to the Four Winds Estates for a report that a vehicle had driven into a building. This property is a very large three-story apartment building with at least 30 units. Upon arrival, crews reported heavy smoke on all three floors. The car had driven straight into the utility room, rupturing the main natural gas service. The ruptured line ignited, and the fire was quickly spreading. As the crews started to attack the fire and shut off the gas, they realized there were two occupants still in the vehicle. The car was wedged into the room with fire surrounding it. While crews held back the

fire and cut the roof of the car, Lt. Schofield and Firefighters Correia and Cusick, removed the seriously injured occupants. Unfortunately, neither occupant survived.

**Award(s):** Valor (Correia, Cusick, Schofield), Group Meritorius Conduct

## **FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **FIREFIGHTER EDUCATION**

### **Nominee(s):**

Captain Patrick J. Roy

Captain Patrick Roy, a 13-year veteran of the Fitchburg Fire Department, is committed to helping his fire service colleagues through education and prevention. He often takes newly appointed firefighters to purchase their gear and volunteers to coordinate funerals for active and retired Fitchburg firefighters. His powerful personal story of losing his own father, a firefighter, to occupational cancer makes him a passionate advocate. He's written FEMA grants that have resulted in nearly \$700,000 so that all Fitchburg firefighters have two sets of personal protective equipment and for a new heavy rescue truck for the regional tech rescue team. However, his greatest achievement may be what he has done to combat occupational cancer in the fire service. Captain Roy has taught more than 130 classes to firefighters across the state about the dangers of occupational cancer and how to better protect and prevent the disease. In 2018, he spearheaded a fundraiser to purchase industrial strength turnout gear dryers. He raised \$28,000 for the department to purchase three of these dryers so that firefighters can wash and dry their turnout gear at the station and not take the gear and cancer-causing carcinogens into their cars and homes.

**Award(s):** Norman Knight Award for Excellence in Community Service

## **REVERE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **SUBMERGED VEHICLE**

### **Nominee(s):**

Lieutenant Sean Griffin  
Firefighter Frank Trichilo  
Firefighter Paul McInnis

On April 16, a box alarm was struck for a motor vehicle accident on Route 1A in Revere, with reports of multiple people trapped inside a vehicle that had veered off the road into the Pines River. Engine 5 was first on the scene and Lieutenant Sean Griffin instructed Firefighter Frank Trichilo to prepare the hose line flotation equipment while he and Firefighter Paul McInnis started down to the shoreline. The vehicle was nearly submerged and with the airbags deployed it was hard to see inside. Witnesses said an occupant was still inside. With the situation rapidly deteriorating, Lieutenant Griffin and Firefighter McInnis entered the water with no wet suits, just their Class B uniforms, while Firefighter Trichilo assisted from the shore. Lieutenant Griffin and Firefighter Trichilo waded out 25-feet in the 43-degree water. It was windy and they were wading through

water about five feet deep. They reached the submerged vehicle and were able to open the driver's side door and get the person out. The driver was disoriented, injured and weak, but alive. They placed him on his back and took him safely to shore where he was treated and then transported to the emergency room for further evaluation. They conducted a secondary search for additional occupants but none were found.

**Award(s):** Valor (Griffin, McInnis), Group Meritorius Conduct

## **ROCHESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **COMMUNITY**

### **Nominee(s):**

Firefighter/EMT Andrew Weigel  
Firefighter/Paramedic Jessica Vinjerud

The Brotherhood Ride began 11 years ago as a tribute to the "Charleston 9," nine firefighters who lost their lives in Charlestown, SC, on June 18, 2007. First responders wanted to honor these firefighters that would never go home to their families. The inaugural bicycle ride was from Naples, FL, to Charleston, SC. Since then, the event has grown each year with rides making different stops to remember fallen firefighters and police officers who have died in the line of duty in the prior year. Rochester Firefighter/EMT Andrew Weigel has participated in the Brotherhood Ride for the past four years. In 2017, he and Firefighter/Paramedic Jessica Vinjerud formed the Southern New England Chapter of the Brotherhood Ride in memory of their good friend New Bedford Firefighter Robert Lavallo who died from occupational cancer. For the 2018 ride, the team rode 350 miles in five days. All participants are active fire and police officers. Fundraising is done throughout the year and the following year, the riders meet with the families of the fallen to present a monetary donation. All funds raised benefit the families and the riders often stay at fire stations along the way.

**Award(s):** Norman Knight Award for Excellence in Community Service Group Award

## **ROCKLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **BUILDING FIRE**

### **Nominee(s):**

Chief Scott Duffey	Firefighter Scott Margolis
Deputy Chief Wooley	Firefighter Liam O'Flaherty
Captain Thomas Heaney	Firefighter Marc Oshry
Firefighter Richard Furlong Jr.	Firefighter Daniel Rice
Firefighter Jonathan Hickey	

Last November 16, the entire on-duty Rockland Fire Department responded to a call for a structure fire with a person trapped. The crew found a teenage girl screaming for help from a third-floor window of a 3-story multi-family home. She was surrounded by thick smoke on all sides. Arriving on Ladder 1 and unable to deploy the aerial ladder Firefighter Richard Furlong grabbed a 24-foot ground ladder, carried it over to the house, and quickly started up. The girl disappeared, but Firefighter Furlong was able to coax her back to the window and guide her down the ladder to waiting EMS. During this time, Engine 1 was pushing through the near



blackout conditions on the third floor and found a second occupant, still on the phone with 911, and helped her out of the building. Six area fire departments provided mutual aide to this 2-alarm fire, and both occupants were released from the hospital without injury. The cause of the fire was the improper disposal of smoking materials.

**Award(s):** Valor (Furlong), Group Meritorius Conduct

## **SAUGUS FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **BUILDING FIRE, RESCUE**

### **Nominee(s):**

Lieutenant William Cross III  
Firefighter Anthony Arone

Lt. William Cross and Firefighter Anthony Arone encountered heavy smoke as they entered an apartment building on the evening of July 25, 2018. Searching for victims without a hose line and experiencing technical problems with the thermal imaging camera, the two firefighters reverted to their training and found the resident by listening and following sounds. Lt. Cross heard coughing and they found the man on the floor of the kitchen enveloped in thick disorienting smoke. They dragged him down the hallway and outside. He was taken to the hospital, where he spent a month recuperating.

**Award(s):** Group Meritorius Conduct

## **SUDBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **ICE RESCUE**

### **Nominee(s):**

Lieutenant Alex Gardner  
Firefighter/EMT Russell Place  
Firefighter-P Michael Donoghue Jr.

It was a cold February afternoon when Sudbury firefighters responded to Willis Pond, for a man who had been cross-country skiing and fell through the ice. He had placed the 911 call, but his location was unknown. Firefighter Place and Firefighter Donoghue saw movement through binoculars on the far side of the lake near a swamp. The only way to access that area was by foot so they put on their survival suits and started walking through 800 feet of snow and ice to reach the skier. Once they got there, they headed out onto the ice with a rope. Firefighter Donoghue was crawling over the ice when it collapsed underneath him, and he fell into the water. Fortunately, he was secured to Place by a tether line and they soon reached the man who at this point, had been in the water for more than 30 minutes and was severely hypothermic. Firefighter Donoghue and Firefighter Place secured the man and Lt. Gardner came across the ice and snow on the rescue sled. The man was taken to Emerson Hospital but released later that day.

**Award(s):** Group Meritorius Conduct

## WESTBOROUGH FIRE DEPARTMENT

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

### **Nominee(s):**

Captain Daniel J. Hehir

Mental health and job-related stress management was rarely openly discussed in the fire service until very recently. However, several fire personnel have been working behind the scenes to combat this issue for many years. Captain Daniel Hehir, a 25-year member of the Westborough Fire Department has been a member of the Concord/Carlisle Peer Support Unit within Fire District 14 for the last eight years. He has also volunteered to be on-call for a large EMS service in central Massachusetts for peer support. Working within the Concord/Carlisle Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) team, Captain Hehir has worked with firefighters and police officers in the aftermath of line of duty deaths, civilian tragedies, and made many personal interventions. The public is always grateful to first responders who answer the call to often headline grabbing incidents. Captain Hehir helps to ensure that those first responders have the tools and resources they need after the incident so that they can stay healthy and be ready for the next call.

**Award(s):** Excellence in Leadership

## WESTBOROUGH FIRE DEPARTMENT

## ICE RESCUE

### **Nominee(s):**

Firefighter Carl Roche

Firefighter Barry Sullivan

Firefighters arrived at Mill Pond on a sunny, but cold, day on January 14. A witness could not pinpoint exactly where his friend had fallen through the ice. Firefighters Barry Sullivan and Carl Roche were the first to arrive, donned their cold-water suits, and headed towards the sounds with a life safety rope and flotation device. After walking about 2,000 feet from shore, they found the man in the water, very weak and distressed. Firefighter Sullivan anchored himself to Firefighter Roche and entered the water. After he placed a flotation device on the victim, he tried several times to push the man up and out of the water, but the ice kept breaking beneath them. Firefighter Roche pushed the victim to a small island, established footing and pulled them both out of the water. Onshore crews tied several safety ropes together to get the inflatable boat out to the island and pull them all to safety. The man suffered from hypothermia, was distressed and reported not being able to feel his arms or legs. He was transported to UMass Memorial Hospital in Worcester. The rescue took 11 minutes from start to finish.

**Award(s):** Group Meritorius Conduct

**WORCESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**BUILDING FIRE**

**Nominee(s):**

Lieutenant Stephen Kelly  
Lieutenant Anthony Raffa  
Firefighter Lea Caldwell  
Firefighter Ronald Donaghy

Firefighter John O'Malley  
Firefighter Blake Perron  
Firefighter Matthew Roy

It was the middle of the night on March 19, when Worcester Fire responded to a 3-alarm fire at an 8-unit apartment building. Heavy fire was visible on the second and third floors, with people screaming from the windows. Smoke was pushing through to the upper floors. Engine 3 immediately set up a ground ladder and removed four occupants from a second-floor window, while Ladder 2 set up their aerial to the third floor and rescued a woman. Firefighter Lea Caldwell started up Ladder 2 under heavy smoke and tried to help a distraught woman onto the aerial. She was panicked and accidentally dislodged Firefighter Caldwell's face piece who took in a face full of heavy smoke. Firefighter Caldwell quickly composed herself, fixed the face piece and went on to help two more people escape. She was able to remain at the tip of the aerial and help both residents down the ladder. Seventy firefighters responded to this fire. Seven occupants, including two children, were rescued and brought to the hospital.

**Award(s):** Valor (Caldwell), Group Meritorius Conduct

**WORCESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**LINE OF DUTY**

**Nominee(s):** Firefighter Christopher Roy

Firefighter Christopher Roy was working his regular shift when he responded to a basement fire in the middle of the night on December 9, 2018. Upon arrival, Roy and Ladder 4 began extending a hose line to the basement, until they were redirected to help on the second floor. While on the second floor, fire broke out on the first-floor enclosed porch. Believing that the front stairs were compromised, the seven firefighters on the second floor started searching for another way out. Eventually, five firefighters exited through the front windows. Firefighter Roy and another firefighter were separated from the rest and worked their way back to the rear of the building. Clutter and an atypical layout made movement difficult. When they reached the window, they were low on air. The rapid intervention team met the first firefighter and was told the other firefighter was right behind him. However, Firefighter Roy did not come down. Members of the rescue company went up the ladder and through the window and found the unconscious Roy. They swapped out his air supply with a new tank and deployed many different rescue techniques. Once out of the building, he was transferred to the hospital, where it was announced that he had succumbed to his injuries. Firefighter Roy was a two-and-a-half-year member of the department. He is survived by his 10-year-old daughter, parents and a brother.

**Award(s):** Medal of Honor