



Chief's Message
18th Anniversary of the September 11, 2001, Attacks

Today marks the 18th anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001- the day almost 3,000 people were killed in New York City, Washington DC, Virginia, and outside of Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

None of us should ever forget these devastating events and the first responders who perished that day; the 343 New York City firefighters, the 23 New York City police officers, and the 37 Port Authority police officers. These courageous individuals rushed toward danger to save innocent lives and are forever heroes in our memories.

Let us not forget the many more first responders who reported to Ground Zero that day and in the days and weeks that followed, performing many more heroic acts to clear debris and locate survivors. Many of those who responded, as well as those who survived the attacks, continue to suffer from illnesses and diseases caused by the toxic substances generated during the collapse of the Twin Towers. More than 5,400 first responders and civilians were affected by the dust and debris, with over 141 law enforcement officers succumbing to these "9/11-related illnesses" in the 18 years since.

The actions taken by these officers, and all first responders, that day made us proud to be part of the public safety profession.

As we remember the sacrifices made on September 11, 2001, let us reflect on a quote by Maya Angelou, "We may encounter many defeats, but we must not be defeated."

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William Scott".

WILLIAM SCOTT
Chief of Police

Any questions or clarification regarding this policy should be made to sfpd.writtendirectives@sfgov.org who will provide additional guidance about the directive.