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**WE BURIED DETECTIVE
FIRST GRADE BRIAN
MULKEEN ON FRIDAY,
OCTOBER 4TH.** As you all

know, he was killed in a truly tragic incident in the 47 on September 29th. He was everything we expect from an NYPD cop, with the added distinction that he walked away from a Wall Street job to take on the tough work of a borough anti-crime officer in the Bronx. He was another of the many people who make our organization great. Without them we couldn't succeed at—or even begin to accomplish—our mission.

A loss like this takes a large piece out of all of us. Since I have been on the executive staff as chief of patrol, chief of department, and police commissioner, we have lost other great cops. Each name is with me every day: Michael Williams, Rafael Ramos, Joe Liu, Brian Moore, Randolph Holder, Paul Tuozzolo, Miosotis Familia, Brian Simonsen, and Steven MacDonald, who died from wounds inflicted in the 1980s.

It makes you reflect on the nature of our business. It's not dangerous all of the time. It's not even dangerous most of the time. But for cops on the streets, any day, begun in peace and routine, can blow up in a split second in chaos, violence and deadly danger. It takes a quiet courage to do this work, to know the risks and still charge forward as Brian did in pursuit of a fleeing perp.

Friday, October 4th, was a day of loss. The following Thursday was its opposite, a graduation from the Police Academy of more than 300 new police officers at the theater at Madison Square Garden. Their

valedictorian, David Torres, gave a speech that lifted my spirits. In fact, I was struck by how much of what he said was in my own mind as I contemplated the loss of Brian Mulkeen and all our other heroes.

"What lies beyond those doors is the most diverse city in the world," Officer Torres said. "When you step foot through that doorway, that city will be in your charge. If you look down right now, you will see a shield on your chest. That shield does not give you more power; that shield gives you more responsibility: the responsibility of taking care of not only your brother and sister to the left and right of you, but the people of our city."

He said that someone had asked him why he became a cop at what they called the "worst time to become an officer."

"This is not the worst time to become a police officer," Officer Torres said he replied. "This is the best time to become a police officer. We are the generation of officers that will continue to change this city and the way they view law enforcement. We have something pulling at us, telling us that we must stand on that thin blue line to protect our city. There is something drawing us, telling us that we must continue to carry on that torch that's been passed on by officers before us, to hold that line that separates peace from chaos. Police Officer Brian Mulkeen held that line. And we must hold that line too."

Officer Torres then displayed an understanding of how the police can work in small ways:

"Next time you're walking down the street in uniform, and you see that man walking to the gym, make eye contact and say good morning. When you see that woman walking to work, make eye contact and say hello. When you see someone who is homeless, go up to them, make eye contact and ask if they're okay. As small as these acts

may seem, they are not. These acts work towards a greater purpose, which is building our relationship with our community. These are the people that will, in turn, help us, help us solve problems and solve crimes, help us to protect them, help us to keep our communities safe."

He also understands how we work in many profound and momentous ways:

"I want every New Yorker to know—no matter who you are, no matter your race, your gender, your orientation, your religion—every officer in this room right now and out in those streets will give their lives for you, so that you may live a better life; so that you may live a prosperous life; so that your kids may live healthy and fruitful lives. That is why we are sitting here right now. We are not sitting here for ourselves; we are sitting here because of the love we have for our city. We went through this Police Academy, pushed passed the pain and succeeded, for our city. Because we still have hope that we may all stand shoulder to shoulder as one New York and hold that line between peace and chaos. Because we are all New Yorkers."

It was something to hear a young man on the verge of an NYPD career talk this way. I think he captured all the idealism and all the realism, all the compassion and all the courage that are so inherent in our chosen profession. As I have said before, I sometimes wish I were in these young people's shoes, just starting again with our great department. And, for a few minutes in Madison Square Garden, Officer Torres reminded us all of why we do this job and why we love it.

James P. O'Neill
NYPD Commissioner



In Memory of Detective First Grade Brian Mulkeen

PBBX Anti-Crime Unit



ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2019, AT 12:30 A.M., Police Officer Brian Mulkeen, in plainclothes and wearing his vest, was on patrol near the Edenwald Houses in the Bronx. Police Officer Mulkeen was with other officers, also in plainclothes, as part of a unit investigating potential gang activity. When Police Officer Mulkeen and his partners attempted to question a man, the man fled with Police Officer Mulkeen in close pursuit. During an attempt to stop the man, a violent struggle ensued. While attempting to restrain the suspect, Police Officer Mulkeen alerted his fellow officers that the man was armed. Before the gunman could fire his weapon, responding officers fired their weapons, striking and killing the perpetrator. Tragically, Police Officer Mulkeen was also struck and critically wounded. He died from his injuries a short time later at Jacobi Medical Center. A loaded .32 caliber revolver was found on the gunman.

Police Officer Brian Mulkeen, 33, joined the New York City Police Department on January 9, 2013, and began his career on patrol in the 48 Precinct Impact Zone. He also served in the 48 Precinct. During his almost seven years with the NYPD, Police Officer Mulkeen made 269 arrests, and was awarded five times for Excellent Police Duty. Just 25 hours prior to his death, Police Officer Mulkeen arrested a man in possession of a loaded defaced firearm.

Police Officer Mulkeen earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Finance, from Fordham University, and recently returned to his alma mater to work as a volunteer throwing coach. While a student there, he earned a bronze medal at the 2008 Atlantic 10 Indoor Track and Field Championship in the weight throw, and helped the Fordham Rams win the 2008 Metropolitan Outdoor Track & Field Championship for the first time in the program's history.

Prior to fulfilling his dream of joining the NYPD, Police Officer Mulkeen worked at Merrill Lynch on Wall Street, but left the financial industry to pursue his passion to serve and protect others. He first began his law enforcement career as a dispatcher for the Town of Tuxedo Police Department, and then graduated from Ulster County Law Enforcement Training Group program where he was Squad Leader.

He is survived by his parents, Camille and Brian; his sister, Erin; his brother, Eric; and his girlfriend, Sherry, an NYPD police officer.

At his funeral on October 4, 2019, Police Commissioner James O'Neill posthumously promoted Brian Mulkeen to Detective First Grade.

Eulogy Remarks by Police Commissioner James P. O'Neill

Police Officer Brian Mulkeen

Friday, October 4, 2019

The Church of the Sacred Heart, Monroe, New York

Your Eminence Cardinal Dolan, Monsignor Romano, Rabbi Kass, and all the members of the NYPD Chaplains Unit, Father Rider and the entire staff and congregation of The Church of the Sacred Heart: Thank you for being here and for hosting us in this beautiful house of worship, as we remember our fallen brother and continue to build our community of hope.

Thank you to the many elected officials who are here, the community leaders, and the clergy who are aiding us in our time of grief.

And thank you, especially, to the many police officers supporting us from around the region, the nation, and the world—thousands of whom are in formation outside this church, lining the streets on this crisp fall morning.

To Brian's parents Camille and Brian, his sister Erin, his brother Eric, and Sherry—Brian's partner in life and vocation: On behalf of all the men and women of the New York City Police Department, I extend to you my most profound condolences.

In the very early hours of last Sunday, the NYPD sent Officer Brian Mulkeen out to do a job. It's a job that he had already done exceptionally well for seven years: battling against the flood of illegal firearms and violent gang activity that plagues too many of our neighborhoods.

It's a stressful, hazardous—and, unfortunately, many times thankless—job. One that not many people are able or willing to do. But, thankfully for the people of the Bronx, Brian was willing. And he was great at it.

As a Borough Anti-Crime cop, it was Brian's job to get illegal guns off the street. It was his job to pursue the most violent, most dangerous criminals in New York City, to put his safety on the line each and every day and, ultimately, to make all the people in the Bronx safer.

It takes a tremendous amount of courage and skill to do the work Brian and his team were so adept at doing—the type of courage that you really don't expect people to possess, much less display every single day and night.

Most ordinary people, when faced with a life-threatening situation, would have the instinctual reaction to run away. Self-preservation is at the very core of human psychology. But Brian was anything but ordinary.

What he accomplished in his short time on the job, and at just 33 years old—regularly taking loaded guns off the street and locking up society's main drivers of violence and disorder—was nothing short of extraordinary.

So when you have someone like Brian, whose job it is to protect others by actively seeking out dangerous situations and dealing with violent threats head-on, it's a special thing. And Brian was a special person.

That's why, when the neighborhood in and around the Edenwald Houses in the Bronx was beset by gang and crew violence and multiple calls of shots-fired, Brian and his partners went to work.

We sent them there because the people in that neighborhood needed their help. They needed to feel safe. And they deserved to live their lives without fear for themselves and their families. So they turned to the NYPD, and they asked cops like Brian to protect them.

And that's exactly what Brian did. He did his job and he didn't think twice about it—he didn't hesitate—because he was a cop. And cops are special people.

When we look at Brian's life—a phenomenal one sacrificed in service to the people of our great city—we see an unwavering dedication to the community. We see a man who made a conscious decision to leave a good job in order to put the lives of others above his own.

We see a committed public servant—a cop, a son, a friend. We see a person who cared deeply for complete strangers—even those he had arrested—because that was his calling.

And we see a police department and a city in unimaginable pain, because that person has been taken from us. Officer Brian Mulkeen is gone—but he will never be forgotten. Because as long as the NYPD exists, we will forever honor him, every day, by continuing the work he died doing.

Like Brian did, we vow to always stand against fear, violence, and anyone who dares to threaten us. We vow to be relentless in our pursuit of the gangs and crews who traffic in this violence and fear, and we vow to work tirelessly against the scourge of illegal guns on our streets.

And, like Brian did, we will comfort the frightened, we will empower the weak, and we will protect the vulnerable. That was Brian's job. And it's our job—every day.

But first—on this day—we have another job. We are here to honor our hero and to comfort a family, a department, and a city, a state, and a nation in mourning. We're here to begin to process our pain and to cope with our frustration. And we are here to celebrate the life of an absolutely remarkable man.

As Police Commissioner, this is the hardest thing I have to do—and I've done it too many times: Paul Tuozzolo, Steven McDonald, Miosotis Familia, Brian Simonsen, and now, Brian Mulkeen.

These are the names I repeat to myself every day. These are the families I wish I'd never met—certainly under these circumstances—but who are now as close to me as my own family.

These are the cops who said goodbye to their loved ones on the way out the door and never came home, because they went out to do a job New Yorkers needed them to do.

They led lives of significance—they made a difference. They went out to fight crime and keep people safe. That's what we asked of them, and they made it their life's mission to the end.

And so the question is, then, "Why do cops do it?"

And the short answer is, "Who else will? No one."

And that's why we will all be back—again and again—to honor them, to pay tribute to their sacrifice, and to celebrate the exceptional lives they've led. And in Brian's case, his certainly was an exceptional life.

Brian was driven by purpose—whether it was during his time working on Wall Street or, before, during his time at Fordham, where he was soon set to return as a volunteer coach. And when he excitedly decided to make the leap to policing, that purpose was renewed.

Saying goodbye to one of our most noble protectors will never get easy. But we are consoled by the fact that we never do this alone. All of us are here for Brian, for his family, and for his fellow cops. And we will always be here for them—together. It's what makes our police family so special: because it is made up of so many special people—people like Brian.

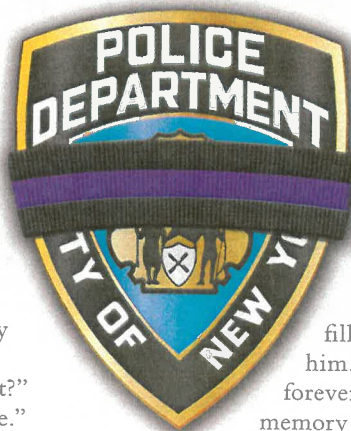
Hundreds are within the walls of this great church today. Thousands more in blue are lined up for miles outside. And we're here together, showing a different kind of courage—one that's needed when you feel angry, frustrated, or discouraged—or when you just can't figure out why. Even at your lowest point, you keep moving forward. Because that's what Brian would do.

Our profession was around long before Brian became a cop in 2013. Even long before his grandfather, Detective Charles Pompa, joined the NYPD in 1954—who, by the way, retired in 1979 and did another 38 years with the State Police. I can't believe that. I don't know if you shook his hand. Did you shake his hand at the funeral home yesterday? My hand still hurts—and he's 89. God bless you.

And the policing profession will continue long after every one of us here today is gone. It is the type of work Brian decided he must do—and he was infinitely proud to do it.

And his legacy will continue to grow each day—starting right here and now—as Police Officer Brian Mulkeen is promoted to Detective First Grade.

Camille, Brian, Erin, Eric, Sherry—and to all of Brian's loved ones: Your NYPD family—every member of our department—will always be here for you. We know there is nothing we can say or do that will ever ease the pain and sadness you feel today. But that will never stop us from being by your side whenever and



wherever you need us.

And to the members of the Bronx Anti-Crime team, and everyone who worked with or knew Brian: We will always be here for you, too. And as every cop knows, one person is responsible for Brian's death. And that's the person carrying a loaded, illegal gun and decided to run from the police. Every cop knows that, and every New Yorker should know that.

His loss left a hole that will never be completely filled, but you won't let his incredible efforts die with him. Because the way to keep Brian a part of you—forever—is to continue what he started. We honor his memory when we pick up where Brian left off. And there's no greater tribute to his life, his service, or his calling.

Brian set the example for you, and for all of us. Our job now is to follow it as best we can. All of this is going to take courage. But we can take some of that courage from Brian, because he certainly had enough to go around.

May God bless Detective Brian Mulkeen. May he live on in the hearts and good deeds of all who knew him. And may God bless and protect every member of the New York City Police Department and law enforcement around the nation, who will forever now carry on his most important work. Thank you.

FROM DET. BRIAN MULKEEN'S LOVED ONES:

To our NYPD Family:

Words cannot adequately express the immense pride and gratitude that we feel toward all of you. The outpouring of love and support from everyone has been extraordinary. From helping us to process this devastating loss to assembling the incredibly noble services honoring Brian's life and legacy, we cannot thank you enough for being by our side through it all. Please know that we too stand by your side and that you will always have our love, support and gratitude.

We wish to extend a special appreciation to the current and past members of the Patrol Borough Bronx Anti-Crime Unit, the 48th Precinct, the Family Assistance Section, and everyone who worked closely with Brian who have been instrumental in helping us through this most difficult time. We recognize your extensive efforts, both seen and unseen, and are tremendously grateful for the depth of your compassion.

Brian made an honorable choice to join the NYPD. We all know how and why. Like everything he did in his life, he strived to be among the best of the best. Brian was truly doing what he loved to do, with all of you, by selflessly and passionately serving and protecting others. He is a hero. You are all heroes. Be strong, be safe and keep Brian in your hearts forever. He will forever be watching over us all.

*With endless love, support and gratitude,
The Mulkeen Family*