

Gramercy Park Block Association Members Event at the National Arts Club
Paying Tribute to Slain Police Officer Brian Moore - 6/4/15
Remarks by Arlene Harrison, GPBA President

Welcome friends, neighbors, and members of the NYPD.

This evening we are particularly honored to welcome many members of the NYPD. For more than two decades our community has enjoyed a close partnership with the NYPD. In 1993, my then 15-year-old son Tim was brutally beaten by a random “wilding” gang outside our home on Gramercy Park. As a result, the GPBA was organized to protect the safety and security of the neighborhood. Since that time, we have worked closely with the 13th Precinct, Emergency Service Truck 1, and the Manhattan Detective Bureau. The work of this partnership is detailed in our GPBA website’s [NYPD section](#) and [World Trade Center section](#).

During the 2001 horrific attack on the World Trade Center, it was our first responders who paid the ultimate sacrifice when they raced into the burning buildings while thousands fled. “They saved everyone but themselves” was the message that flashed around the world. For the many months following 9/11, GPBA’s Neighbors Helping Neighbors organized a round-the-clock relief effort at the 13th Precinct, serving thousands of meals, and distributing critical supplies to emergency units. Since 9/11, the bonds we formed with the NYPD became permanent and their family became our family, not only here but throughout the Police department. When they mourn an NYPD family member, our community family mourns with them.

And so, in the aftermath of the recent shooting deaths of Police Officers Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu, our Gramercy Park community rushed to our 13th Precinct family to offer support, to mourn and to pay tribute to their fallen brothers. We hung a large banner across the precinct wall that read “Our Gramercy Park Family Sends LOVE, GRATITUDE, And SUPPORT To Our NYPD Family.”

Once again, today our community family comes together with our NYPD family to mourn and pay tribute to yet another young fallen Police Officer, Brian Moore, who was murdered on May 2nd at the age of 25.

At Moore’s funeral, Police Commissioner Bratton (who is in Italy and couldn’t be with us) quoted a 1956 children’s book, with a simple message that is no less true today.

“We must always remember that whenever you see a policeman, he is your friend. He is there to protect you. He would not hesitate to save your life at the cost of his own.”

Moore, Ramos and Liu did not hesitate.

Each day the 35,000 men and women of the NYPD do not hesitate.

I'd like to read a memorial poem to slain policemen called "Part of America Died," and dedicate the poem to Officers Moore, Ramos and Liu.

Somebody killed a policeman today,
and a part of America died.
A piece of our country he swore to protect,
will be buried with him at his side.

The suspect that shot him will stand up in court,
with counsel demanding his rights.
While a young widowed mother must work for her kids,
and spend many long, lonely nights.

The beat that he walked was a battle field too,
just as if he'd gone off to war.
Though the flag of our nation won't fly at half mast,
to his name they will add a gold star.

Yes, somebody killed a policeman today,
in your town or mine.
While we slept in comfort behind our locked doors,
a cop put his life on the line.

Now his ghost walks a beat on a dark city street,
and he stands at each new rookie's side.
He answered the call, of himself gave his all,
and a part of America died.

Now I'd like to draw your attention to a slideshow dedicated to PO Brian Moore, that was posted by Emergency Service Det. Frank Stevens.

[See Video](#)

Now I'd like to ask members of our NYPD family who are here tonight to pay tribute to Det. Brian Moore, to come forward as I recognize them.

- From the 13th Precinct:
 - Chief James McCarthy, Executive Officer, Patrol Boro Manhattan South
 - Capt. Brendan Timoney, Commanding Officer of the 13th Precinct
 - Capt. Paul Zingrilli, Executive Officer of the 13th Precinct
 - Community Affairs Detective Ray Dorrian
 - And Officers of the 13th Precinct

- Emergency Service Truck 1 Squad 3 Detectives
- From the 71st Precinct in Brooklyn:
 - Police Officer Michael Pascale (son-in-law of NAC General Manager John Eramo) and his co-workers and bosses
- From Manhattan Detectives:
 - Chief William Aubry, Manhattan Detectives
 - Inspector Patrick McAndrews, Executive Officer, Manhattan Detectives
 - Captain Carlos Ortiz, Commander, Manhattan South Detectives
 - And Members from the Manhattan Detectives, Manhattan South Homicide Detectives, and 13th Precinct Detectives
- And we are particularly honored to have with us tonight from Detective Brian Moore's 105th Precinct in Queens:
 - Deputy Inspector Michael Coyle
 - Brian's partner Police Officer Erik Jansen and members of Bryan's 4x12 Anti-Crime team:
 - Police Officer Christopher D'Antonio
 - Police Officer Jason Roemer
 - Police Officer Nicholas Demeo

We want you to know that every day you come to work and put your lives on the line to keep us safe, you are our heroes. We can think of no other job where you wear bulletproof vests and your families wonder whether you are coming home at night. When you are not safe, we are not safe. When you are in danger, we are in danger. We want to thank you, applaud you, and tell you that you will always be our heroes. Let's applaud them.