



PENTAGON FORCE PROTECTION AGENCY
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Release No. 11-007

April 14, 2011
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Pentagon Police Department Remembers 9/11 with Commemorative Badge

*Story by Paul Taylor, PFPA Public Affairs
Photo by Shannon Giles, PFPA Public Affairs*

Do a Google search to learn the history of Police badges and you will notice it is nearly impossible to locate a single, agreed-upon origin story. What you will find is a number of descriptions and histories of specific, individual law enforcement agency badges, the majority of which reflect the culture and history of those departments, and the communities they serve.

That is certainly the case with the standard badge issued to all Pentagon Force Protection Agency (PFPA) Pentagon Police Department (PPD) officers when they join the team. The badge features, among other things, an illustration of the Pentagon, a raised "U.S.," and the PFPA crest.

Occasionally, law enforcement organizations will develop special commemorative badges to honor special events. PPD has developed just such a badge to honor the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on America.

The badge was designed by PPD Lt. Shane Hillard with input from others in the department, and approved for wear by PFPA Director Steven Calvery.

The badge is optional for wear by all PFPA law enforcement officers. Hillard says, so far, about 50 percent of PPD's officers have chosen to purchase and wear the badge for which they pay about \$65.00.

PPD Chief of Police Richard Keevill is among those choosing to wear the badge. On Sept. 11, 2001, Keevill commanded the Virginia State Police Barracks serving the part of Northern Virginia that includes Arlington County and the Pentagon. He was on the scene at the Pentagon within minutes of the plane's impact.

"It was my generation's Pearl Harbor," said Keevill. "I saw a lot of horror that day, but I also saw the best of our nation that day. This badge honors those who died and those who risked so much in the aftermath. It's also a testament to how seriously the agency takes its mission of

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9/11 Commemorative Badge
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preventing something similar from happening again in the future.”

For Officer James Ryan who could see the Twin Towers from where he grew up in New York, and who later worked at the World Trade Center, the badge has personal significance. But he says the badge also means something special to his wife.

“When I showed her the badge, her eyes lit up,” he said. “She has family in FDNY. She said it means a lot to her considering all the people she lost that day and how proud it makes the family of the position I hold.”

Sgt. Jeffrey Repass also has a personal connection to Sept. 11, 2001. He was an Air Force Military Police Officer that day and on an aircraft bound from Savannah, Ga. to Wisconsin. En route, the plane was diverted to Tennessee where they sat for a day before being allowed to return home the next day.

“The badge represents an understanding of the significance of that date,” said Repass. “It honors those who died that day, and reaffirms what the sacrifice of those people means to this agency.”

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NOTE TO MEDIA: Below thumbnail photo is available as high-resolution .jpg file upon request.

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The Pentagon Force Protection Agency has approved a commemorative 9/11 badge for wear by Pentagon Police Department officers throughout calendar year 2011 in honor of the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks against America.

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