



For Immediate Release
February 26, 2008

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E9-1-1 Institute Honors 9/11 Volunteer Rescuer Glenn J. Winuk

The E-911 Institute in Washington, D.C., has named **Glenn J. Winuk**, a volunteer emergency medical technician and firefighter who died on Sept. 11, 2001, as its **First Responder of the Year for 2007**.

Winuk was a partner at Holland & Knight, a law firm located near the World Trade Center in New York City. When the Twin Towers were attacked Winuk participated in the evacuation of the firm's offices at 195 Broadway, borrowed rescue equipment and raced toward the Towers to join the rescue effort at Ground Zero. He died when the South Tower collapsed. When Winuk's remains were recovered in March 2002, he was wearing rubber gloves and a surgical mask. He had a medic bag and stethoscope by his side and his firefighter and rescue credentials in his wallet..

Winuk served for more than 19 years as a firefighter and EMT in Jericho, NY. After the attack, he was widely recognized throughout the firefighting and EMS communities and by federal and state legislators and other officials for his qualifications and great sacrifice on 9/11. However, his family had to fight the U.S. government for years in pursuit of official federal recognition. In June 2007, the U.S. Court of Federal Claims in Washington, DC, ruled in Winuk's favor, directing the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) to designate Glenn as a "line of duty" emergency responder under the Public Safety Officers' Benefits Act. In January 2008 the DOJ dropped all further appeals, putting an end to the family's lengthy litigation.

"Glenn Winuk's story of courage and commitment tells of the selfless heroism our first responders showed on that tragic day. I applaud this award from the E9-1-1 Institute, which honors Glenn's tremendous sacrifice, as well as the long struggle his brother Jay and their family have faced in earning Glenn his due recognition as a first responder," said Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY), a co-chair of the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus.

Gregory L. Rohde, executive director of the Institute, said, "Glenn Winuk's sacrifice shows the incredible dedication of volunteers to our public safety. This award honors his memory and the service of others who make up such a vital part of our first-responder community."

The award will be presented posthumously at a March 4 ceremony in Washington, D.C.

About the E911 Institute. The E9-1-1 Institute (www.e911institute.org) is a not-for-profit organization which provides administrative and policy support to the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus. The purpose of the E9-1-1 Institute is to promote public education and awareness of E9-1-1 and emergency communications issues and serve the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus as a clearinghouse of information on E9-1-1 and emergency communications issues. Gregory L. Rohde, former Administrator of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, serves as the E9-1-1 Institute's Executive Director.

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