

NATIONAL POLICE DEFENSE
FOUNDATION

“SAFE COP PROGRAM”

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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

09:00 A.M. EDT,
August 18, 2011

SEPTEMBER 11TH POLICE MEMORIAL DONATED THE
VILLAGE OF SOUTH BLOOMING GROVE, NY

MORGANVILLE, NJ, AUGUST 18, 2011: Executive Director Joseph Occhipinti announced that the September 11th Police Memorial is being donated to the Village of South Blooming Grove, Orange County, New York to celebrate the ten year anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attack.

In October 2001, the National Police Defense Foundation commissioned world renowned Italian American Sculptor Franco Minervini to construct the September 11th Police Memorial. The 9/11 police memorial is a 14 ft high wall of Indiana limestone that features a carved American flag unfurled like a protective blanket against the twin towers of the World Trade Center. To its right, stands a full-size statue of a police officer attending with a police dog at his side.

On April 14, 2008, unknown vandals intentionally defaced the September 11th Memorial at the Freehold NJ studio of its sculptor Franco Minervini. The memorial which was 90% completed received damage to the face and nose, however, the sculptor was able to repair the memorial. The NPDF posted a \$5,000 reward in hopes of prosecuting the vandals but no arrests were ever made.

The South Blooming Grove Village was selected as the site for the September 11th Police Memorial since several of those who perished on September 11th were residents of that area. Special thanks to its Mayor Robert Jeroloman and Borough Trustee's for accepting the memorial, which is expected arrive at South Blooming Grove, New York on August 23, 2011. The transportation will be provided gratis by Eastern Freightways and driven by a United States Marine.

Arrangement to interview the September 11th Police Memorial Sculptor Franco Minervini can be made by contacting 732-685-5122 or 732-462-0262.

For further information, contact the National Police Defense Foundation at 888-SAFE COP or 732-616-9600.

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