

The Massachusetts 9/11 Fund, Inc. | 470 Atlantic Avenue, 4th Floor | Boston, MA 02110
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REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11th

The Mass 9/11 Fund has worked through the years to provide our families with a respectful day of commemorative events. As in year's past, we are fortunate to have tremendous support from the offices of Governor Charles Baker and Mayor Martin Walsh.

In addition to the customary events in Boston, cities, towns, and organizations across the Commonwealth are also acknowledging the day with memorial services. Please check www.massfund.org for additional information.

Mass 9/11 Fund 16th Anniversary Commemoration Events in Boston

8:30 a.m., Flag Lowering, Moment of Silence and Reading of Names, Front Steps of Massachusetts State House. ***This event is by invitation and R.S.V.P. is required. Please print each individual's ticket for entry (from your registration with Eventbrite) as it will be required for admission. No exceptions.***

9:30 a.m., Commemoration Observance & Sweeney Award for Civilian Bravery, Massachusetts State House Chambers of the House of Representatives. ***This event is by invitation and R.S.V.P. is required. Please print each individual's ticket for entry (from your registration with Eventbrite) as it will be required for admission. No exceptions.***

11:00 a.m., Family reception at the Taj Hotel. Trolley service is available from the State House to the Taj Hotel. ***This event is by invitation and R.S.V.P. is required. Please print each individual's ticket for entry (from your registration with Eventbrite) as it will be required for admission. No exceptions.***

1:00 p.m., Wreath Laying Ceremony, Boston Public Garden, 9/11 Garden of Remembrance

The Taj Hotel Boston is kind enough to offer us a block of rooms at a discounted rate. If you would like to reserve a room at the Taj Hotel, you may call or email the Reservations Team directly. Please reference the **Massachusetts 9/11 Fund** to make your reservation at the special rate of **\$259** a night plus tax for two-bed rooms. The Reservations Team is available Monday – Friday, 8:30am – 7:00pm and Saturday 9:00 – 5:30pm. They are reachable by phone, [1-877-482-5267](tel:1-877-482-5267) or via email: taj.boston@tajhotels.com. **The cutoff for date this special rate is August 25th.**

Mass 9/11 Staff

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Operations and Programs

Family Advisory Committee

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In Memoriam

Senator Edward M. Kennedy

Loretta W. Kowal

Formal paper invitations and an instruction card were mailed in July. The card explains how to R.S.V.P. through Eventbrite (www.911family.eventbrite.ca). **Please respond by the deadline of September 1st. NO EXCEPTIONS.** Also, kindly assist any family members not on email.

We expend a great deal of resources on the commemoration event and must pay for family members who sign up but do not attend. We appreciate your help in minimizing our losses by giving us accurate numbers and informing us if anyone in your party intends to drop out, as soon as possible and no later than **September 1st**.

Family Participation

We are very busy planning the 16th Commemoration event to be held in September. As in the past, this year's ceremony will be private, low-key, and reflective. We are reaching out to seek your participation and suggestions.

Volunteer name readers—If you or someone in your family is interested in reading names this year, please send us your name and contact information. Older children are welcome and encouraged to participate. We provide and review a pronunciation guide with you; **a practice session (by phone) is mandatory.** If your loved one's name has been mispronounced in the past, please get in touch with us and give us the correct pronunciation.

The deadline for requesting to be a name reader is Thursday, 8/17. This is a hard deadline because the printed programs must be finalized.

If you are a regular reader, or have previously requested to be added to the list of name readers, and are still interested in doing so at this year's Commemoration, please resubmit your request because it is not automatic. However, we try to include as many different families as possible over time, and members of families who have not been represented in the past do have priority.

Similarly, every year we hope to include new family members who have not played other roles in prior commemorations. Please get in touch with us if you are interested in any of the following opportunities. We will give you all the information you need and train you for the assigned role. The Family Advisory Committee makes the decisions and we will keep you in mind for future years if we cannot accommodate you this time.

(The bell ringer and MC roles are filled.)

Please be aware that we are not updating the photo montage this year.

As always, you are welcome to provide information for listing events held in honor of your loved one, such as by your family foundation, on massfund.org. August 17th is the deadline for providing your information. Please send your request to Iris Friedman at iris.friedman@massfund.org. It should include the following: a very short blurb describing the event, what, when, where, address, person to contact, and a link to the website, poster, or further information such as press releases.

Does Your Loved One Have a Private Memorial?

The Massachusetts 9/11 Fund website includes a Private Memorial page. This page is overdue for updating and the FAC now seeks your help. Does your family sponsor an award, scholarship, or event, or operate a foundation? Was a special venue created in honor of your loved one? Please send website addresses, summary information, to Iris Friedman (iris.friedman@massfund.org). We'd also appreciate your checking the web page for obsolete missing items. Thanks in advance for helping with this effort!

FAC Corner

The Family Advisory Committee Needs You!!

The FAC represents you, the families, so we encourage you to become more involved. Our future meetings for the calendar year are held on the second Thursday of each month. We meet from noon to 2 pm at our office, located on the 4th floor of the Independence Wharf Building, 470 Atlantic Avenue, Boston. In the past, some of you who work during the day have helped us in numerous ways, from your homes, without coming in for the meetings. If you are interested in joining our endeavors on behalf of the Mass 9/11 community, we remain open to working with you to see what is convenient for your schedule. Your contributions and active participation in our work will bring to fruition the words *We Will Never Forget*. It has been 16 years since that tragic day we lost our loved ones and sometimes it feels like it was only yesterday! We need to honor our loved ones through remembrance and paying forward through service. We need your help to do so.

If you are interested in attending our meetings, calling in during our meetings, contributing from home, or discussing other options for participating in our working committee, please contact the FAC Chair, Karin, via her email at karin.charles@massfund.org.

Send Us Your Updated Information

Wow! Sixteen years have gone by and our children are growing up fast. They might be out on their own by now... so with that said, we are constantly updating our database to ensure Mass 9/11 Fund communication is reaching everyone. Please send any updates to your information to Alyse at alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org. If you feel you have not been receiving our electronic mail, please put info@massfund.org on your safe list to make sure your spam filter is not rejecting our email. You always reserve the right to opt out of receiving communications from us.

