

1. BOX 2935 BOROUGH Queens DATE 9/13/89 TIME 1253  
(highest alarm)

2. PERFORMED BY: FF-1 Kevin Smith Haz Mat Co. #1 Haz Mat Co. #1  
Rank or Grade Name Unit Assigned Detailed

3. DID ANY OTHER MEMBER PARTICIPATE DIRECTLY IN THIS ACT? \_\_\_\_\_  
(If Yes)

Rank Name Unit  
Is Meritorious Act Report being forwarded for participating member? \_\_\_\_\_ If not, how did member participate? Voluntary Duty

4. LOCATION OF MERITORIOUS ACT  
a) If in building: Address \_\_\_\_\_

Height \_\_\_\_\_ Area \_\_\_\_\_ Construction \_\_\_\_\_

Occupancy \_\_\_\_\_ Number of apartments in building \_\_\_\_\_

Floor where act took place \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_

b) If not in building: Give complete descriptive information so that physical setting can be recreated. Overtured tank truck with #2 house heating fuel.

5. PERSON(S) AIDED:

|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| NAME                      | NA |
| ADDRESS                   |    |
| AGE - SEX                 |    |
| RESCUE BREATHING          |    |
| EXTERNAL CARDIAC MASSAGE  |    |
| RESUSCITATOR APPLIED      |    |
| HOSPITALIZED              |    |
| NAME OF HOSPITAL          |    |
| DIAGNOSIS                 |    |
| LENGTH OF HOSPITALIZATION |    |

6. MEMBER PERFORMING ACT: Did he receive any emergency treatment? NO

Specify \_\_\_\_\_

Was medical leave granted? NO Diagnosis \_\_\_\_\_

7. WHAT SPECIFIC JOB WAS MEMBER PERFORMING AT TIME OF RESCUE? NA

WAS MEMBER ALONE? NO (If not, indicate number of Fire Department personnel in immediate area, and describe their positions in # 11.

WAS A MASK WORN BY MEMBER DURING RESCUE? NA

WAS CHARGED HOSELINE IN POSITION TO PROTECT MEMBER MAKING RESCUE? Yes

HOW WAS VICTIM REMOVED FROM PREMISES? Carried NA Dragged \_\_\_\_\_ Assisted \_\_\_\_\_

WAS A LADDER USED IN THIS RESCUE? NA If yes, indicate type, size and placement \_\_\_\_\_

REPORT OF MERITORIOUS ACT

Kevin Smith

Name of Member

9/13/89

Date of Act

8. NAME(S) OF TWO MEMBERS WHO ACTUALLY WITNESSED ACT (IF AVAILABLE)

| RANK   | NAME            | UNIT          |
|--------|-----------------|---------------|
| Lieut. | Albert S. Warta | 46 Batt.      |
| FF-1   | Philip Hudak    | Haz Mat Co.#1 |

9. NAME(S) OF TWO CIVILIANS WHO ACTUALLY WITNESSED ACT (IF AVAILABLE)

| NAME | ADDRESS |
|------|---------|
|      |         |

10. WAS VICTIM REMOVED FROM: Immediate fire area Na Directly above fire \_\_\_\_\_  
Other area (specify in detail):

11. DESCRIPTION OF ACT: (SEE ATTACHED SHEET)

On September 13, 1989 Hazardous Materials Co. #1 responded to Queens Box 2935 for an overturned tank truck with 4400 Gallons of #2 heating fuel.

From reports heard on the department radio while responding Lt. Warta could determine that there was a massive leak from the tank truck and large amounts of dyking materials were going to be needed quickly. Lt. Warta therefore requested sand trucks from the Department of Sanitation and requested Engine 288 to be special called to deliver extra absorbants and the Wildon pump. The Wildon pump is used for the offloading of volatile liquids safely.

FF Kevin Smith of Haz Mat Co. #1 was at quarters when Engine 288 received their assignment by computer printout. FF. Smith is an expert in the field of tank trucks, felt that he could be of some help and voluntarily responded with Eng. 288 to offer his expertise in solving the problem.

FF Smith is a New York State and National Fire Academy Certified Instructor. He has taken a course at Texas A&M on tank trucks, a course from the Environmental Protection Agency on Air Sampling (Meters), and an air bag course by Vetta Air Bag Company. This expertise makes FF. Smith invaluable at this type of an incident.

When Engine 288 arrived at the scene of the overturn, fire department units were using shovels to dyke the flowing fuel, carry absorbents for dyking, and also carry to the tank truck and help set up equipment needed by Haz Mat. The Haz Mat Company was using Plug-N-Dyke, wedges and dome cover clamps to slow the leak, and recovery drums to catch and recover the spilled product. They would then have to supervies and control the offloading of the product by the clean up company, supervies the use of foam, and the uprighting of the overturned vehicle. Everyone at the scene was extremely busy and heavily committed.

FF Smith reported to Lt. Warta and offered his services and expertise. Lt. Warta reported to DC. Ott of Division 14 and explained FF Smith's value and needed assistance at this very complex operation which Chief Ott granted.

FF Smith by using the GX-4000 Air Sampling Meter was able to determine that the temperature of the roadway was almost high enough to cause the heating fuel to reach its flash point and become extremely hazardous. He helped in slowing the leak, and in grounding the tank truck properly so that static electricity would not become an ignition source during offloading.

The accident caused the tank truck to receive heavy damage making standard ways of offloading impossible but because of FF. Smith's knowledge of these trucks he was of great assistance in devising alternate ways of offloading the fuel safely.

I respectfully request consideration from the Board of Merit for FF. Smith's devotion to duty.