

**ESSEX COUNTY EXECUTIVE DIVINCENZO ANNOUNCES  
PLANS FOR 16<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SEPTEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> REMEMBRANCE**

***Public is Invited to Attend Essex Remembers Ceremony  
and Recognize the Lives Lost and Tragic Events of September 11, 2001***

**West Orange, NJ** – Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr. invites the public to “**Essex County Remembers**,” a solemn ceremony at the Essex County Eagle Rock September 11<sup>th</sup> Memorial that will mark the 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the tragedies in New York, Washington, DC, and Pennsylvania. The annual ceremony will be held as follows:

**Date:** Monday, September 11, 2017  
**Time:** 8 a.m.  
**Place:** Essex County Eagle Rock September 11<sup>th</sup> Memorial  
Essex County Eagle Rock Reservation  
Eagle Rock Avenue  
West Orange, NJ

“After the attacks, people spontaneously came to Eagle Rock Reservation to view the tragedy unfold at the Twin Towers and leave cards, letters, photos and flowers in an impromptu memorial in honor of their loved ones. I knew immediately that this was the natural location for a memorial because of the public attraction to this site and the unparalleled view of the World Trade Center from the lookout area,” DiVincenzo said. “Our September 11<sup>th</sup> Memorial is a special place for people to come for solace and comfort because of its unique location and its powerful message of peace and hope,” he noted.

“We must never forget the importance of this day and remember all those who lost their lives. I encourage everyone to take time out of their day to mark the 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary of September 11<sup>th</sup> and visit this revered site,” the County Executive said.

A brief program with family members who lost a loved one in the tragedies, elected officials and clergy members from diverse religious faiths will be held at 8 a.m. Memorial wreaths will be laid at the monument and a new American flag will be raised. A string quartet will perform reverent selections of music at the memorial site after the ceremony until 2 p.m.

The Essex County Eagle Rock September 11<sup>th</sup> Memorial was dedicated in October 2002, just over a year after the attacks. Its many elements pay tribute to the men and women, police officers, firefighters and other first responders who lost their lives at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, in Pennsylvania and aboard the four airplanes that crashed that day. It was the only 9/11 memorial to list all 3,000 victims’ names until 2011 when the World Trade Center Memorial was dedicated. In 2009, the Essex County 9/11 Memorial was expanded to include a monument honoring the 33 flight crew members aboard the four airplanes that crashed. In 2011, a 7,400-pound steel and concrete artifact from the World Trade Center foundation was installed at the site and a bronze plaque was

dedicated to honor emergency medical technicians who responded to Ground Zero and those who provided aid to people returning from New York across the Hudson River. In 2016, the Essex County Search and Rescue Dog Statue was dedicated at the site to commemorate the role that dogs had in the search and recovery efforts at the World Trade Center and Pentagon after the 9/11 attacks.