

September 11, 2009

CLIENT NOTIFICATION

As we reflect on the tragic anniversary of the terrorist attacks that happened eight years ago today I would like to offer some facts that may surprise you:

Although many think only of the two World Trade Center (WTC) towers that collapsed there were in fact ten major buildings that experienced partial or total collapse that day. About 30M sq ft of commercial space was removed from service, 12M of which were in the WTC complex.

Approximately 17,400 people were in the Towers at the time of the attacks (plus or minus 1,108). Some 2,146 died in WTC 1 & 2. Of these, 1,974 (92%) were confirmed to be at or above the impact floors.

Thousands were saved including several blind, deaf and wheelchair bound individuals, a testimony to fire drills and evacuation training.

In addition to the roughly 400 Fire and Police personnel that lost their lives responding to these events, 7 Security Directors and 15 contract Security Officers also lost their lives while they worked to assist building occupants during the evacuations. The dedication of these first responders and contract security staff to run towards a clearly dangerous situation and to remain on post while thousands literally ran for their lives should not be forgotten. It takes a special breed of person to risk everything they have - and that which their families value most - to remain in harm's way helping others.

Please join me in honoring the heroes that died eight years ago today.