



## SRMC Foundation Announces 9/11 Survivor Joe Torrillo as the Featured Speaker for its 2020 Gala

*The Foundation's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala is Set for March 21*



**Joe Torrillo, a 9/11 survivor and retired Lieutenant of the New York City Fire Department (NYFD), will be the featured speaker at the Annual SRMC Foundation Gala event.**

(SALEM, OHIO) – December 23, 2019 – The Salem Regional Medical Center (SRMC) Foundation has announced Joe Torrillo, a 9/11 survivor and retired Lieutenant of the New York City Fire Department (NYFD), as the featured speaker for its 2020 Gala. The Gala will be held at 6 p.m. Saturday, March 21, at Waypoint 4180 in Canfield. All proceeds raised through the event will be used locally to support SRMC's world-class cancer care.

A 25-year Lieutenant with the NYFD, Torrillo spent the first 15 years of his career in Engine Company #10, across the street from the South Tower of the World Trade Center.

Following a severe injury in the line of duty, he was appointed Director in the Office of Fire Safety and Education.

Torrillo was on his way to a press conference the morning of September 11, 2001, when American Airlines Flight #11 struck the South Tower. Fearing for his brothers across the street in Engine and Ladder Companies #10, he rushed to

the scene to help. Buried alive twice and declared dead for three days with massive injuries, Torrillo is the only person to survive the collapse of both Twin Towers.

“Through his remarkable story of courage and survival, Joe is the true definition of a hero,” said Amy Reed, SRMC Director of Development. “We’re honored to have Joe join us at the Gala in March to share his inspiring message of hope, perseverance and strength to face life’s toughest challenges, as our Foundation raises funds on behalf of area patients who are fighting the battle against cancer.”

Now in its 10<sup>th</sup> year, the Gala is one of the SRMC Foundation's signature fundraising events. In addition to Torrillo's keynote address, the 2020 Gala will feature a cash bar and appetizers, an upscale dinner and desserts, and a silent auction. Tickets are on sale now for \$85 per person.

The SRMC Foundation raises funds to support patient services and programs at SRMC, with 100% of all proceeds used locally.

For event ticket and sponsorship information, contact Amy Reed at 330-337-2883 or email [foundation@saalemregional.com](mailto:foundation@saalemregional.com).