



TOWN OF BOONTON

Proclamation

WHEREAS, on September 1, 2021, five members from the Boonton Fire Department, together with the Parsippany Rescue & Recovery and Parsippany Fire District 6 mobilized to Somerset County as part of the Morris Regional Water Incident Taskforce as a swiftwater rescue team; and

WHEREAS, they were tasked with assisting local first responders who had become overwhelmed with rescues and evacuations resulting from the flash flooding caused by the remnants of Hurricane Ida; and

WHEREAS, upon arrival, they were teamed up with a crew from the North Branch Fire Department and were immediately assigned to a series of rescues, which included people who had become swept away or trapped in their vehicles and homes. The team observed people who were clinging to branches, to the side of vehicles, and many who were either trapped inside of their vehicles or had climbed on top of them; and

WHEREAS, the crew worked from 11:45 pm until 5:00 am the following morning, in which they responded to 11 sites across Branchburg, Bridgewater and Bedminster rescuing 13 people, and evacuating 9 residents, including several children and one infant, as well as 5 pets.

NOW THEREFORE, be it Proclaimed that I, Richard Corcoran, Mayor of the Town of Boonton on behalf of the Town Council commend the following Town of Boonton Fire Fighters for their heroic duty and acts of valor for placing themselves in harm's way and using their ingenuity and training to overcome unexpected obstacles to achieve their rescue objectives.

Rick Blood * Michael Colarusso * Jeff Gregory * R.J. Ryerson, Jr. * Michael Shondel

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that these men should be congratulated and thanked by the Town of Boonton for watching out for themselves, and for *all* residents of the New Jersey, when called upon.

Richard Corcoran, Mayor

May 5, 2022