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***Mayor Fulop Reminds Residents There's Still Time to Apply to
Become one of Jersey City's Bravest***

***Fulop Administration Recruiting for JCFD Throughout the Jersey City Community to
Expand and Diversify the Fire Department***

JERSEY CITY – The Fulop administration is reminding residents who hope to become the newest members of Jersey City's bravest that they have until Monday to submit online applications, with the City reaching out to hundreds of residents over the past two months in an effort to expand the number of applicants and increase the Fire Department's diversity.

As part of the administration's efforts to have both the fire department and the police department better mirror the community, firefighters spent two days a week since early July conducting outreach, distributing flyers about the exam along MLK Drive at the HUB, and educating residents about the benefits of serving their community as a firefighter. Recruitment posters have also been placed in local businesses, places of worship and community organizations.

"Just like we are aggressively working to diversify our police department, we want our fire department to reflect the community it serves," said **Mayor Fulop**. "So outreach and really working to prepare young men and women for careers in public safety has been a focus. Our firefighters are speaking directly with residents and showing them how rewarding a career with the Fire Department can be."

In addition to actively recruiting in the community, the City will be offering free test prep courses prior to the state exam, which is expected to be administered in October.

Several hundred Jersey City residents have applied for the test and the Fire Department has reached out to all residents who signed letters of interest last year, when the Fulop administration began bolstering its public safety recruitment efforts.

Applications must be submitted online at www.state.nj.us/csc by Aug. 31st and the Jersey City Public Libraries, as well as the Public Safety office at the HUB, have computers available for residents who do not have computer access to file their application. To be eligible to apply for the New Jersey firefighter's exam, you must be 18 to 35 years of age and possess a high school diploma (GED or equivalent) and a valid New Jersey driver's license.

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Since taking office, Mayor Fulop has hired 80 firefighters, including a class of 15 who entered the academy last week bringing the size of the department to 586 firefighters and supervisors. The hiring of up to 49 of the new firefighters was made possible by funds from a \$6.9 million federal Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant.

Of the 80 new firefighters hired, nine have been African American, 16 Hispanic and three Asian. With the latest recruitment drive, the administration is seeking to increase these numbers so all communities in Jersey City are represented.

The HUB recruitment office at 398 MLK Drive is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon for residents to apply for the exam online. For public library hours of operation, please visit jclibrary.org.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Steven M. Fulop at or 201-376-0699. ///