

**POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF NEW YORK**LO # 1233
October 15, 2003

From: Commanding Officer 120 Precinct

To: Chief of Department

**SUBJECT: FERRY BOAT ACCIDENT OCCURRING AT THE STATEN ISLAND
FERRY TERMINAL RESULTING IN TEN PEOPLE BEING KILLED**

1. On Wednesday, October 15, 2003 at 1522 hours, the Andrew J. Barbieri Ferry boat collided with maintenance pier slip 22 North, while approaching the Staten Island Ferry, St. George terminal ripping a large hole along the side passenger compartment. The collision resulted in numerous people being injured and 10 people who were pronounced dead on the scene. The circumstances are as follows:
2. On Wednesday, October 15, 2003 at 1522 hours, the Ferryboat Andrew J. Barbieri was approaching the Staten Island Ferry Terminal after picking up passengers at the White Hall Ferry Terminal in Manhattan. The Ferryboat was being piloted by Richard Smith M/W/55 address known to the Department. At approximately 1522 hours while approaching the Ferry Terminal the Ferryboat crashed into the slip 22 North maintenance pier. At the time of this report the cause of the accident is still under investigation by the National Transportation and Safety Board. Immediately after the accident Richard Smith fled the scene and returned to his home. Mr. Smith was later found at his home and was removed to St. Vincent's Hospital with self inflicted wounds to his chest and his wrist.
3. The accident resulted in ten (10) people killed and at the time of this report fifty-nine (59) persons reported injured. The injured victims were removed to several Hospitals. Twenty-three (23) were removed to St. Vincent's Hospital, twenty eight (28) went to Staten Island Hospital North, two (2) were removed to Staten Island Hospital South, three (3) were removed to Kings County Hospital and three (3) injured persons were removed to Lutheran Medical Center. All ten deceased persons were removed to the Bellevue Morgue. All of the aids were recorded and are on file at the 120 Precinct along with the Complaint reports of those who were killed.
4. At approximately 1530 hours a Level 1 mobilization and shortly thereafter a Level 2 mobilization was activated by the Staten Island Duty Captain. Responding units were deployed in a tactical manner and all posts were covered. Traffic controls were put into effect, crime scene security was established, and rescue operations commenced. In addition, air and sea rescue and harbor units were requested and assisted in the rescue operations. A Family Bereavement center was established under the authority of Chief John Cronin, Executive Officer Patrol Borough Staten Island at the Office of the Staten Island Borough President. Ranking Officers from the various Police