

Guadagno presents World Trade Center steel for Woodland Park 9/11 memorial

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Acting Gov. Kim Guadagno visited Woodland Park Tuesday to present a piece of steel from the World Trade Center for inclusion in the West Paterson First Aid Squad's memorial to honor the victims and remember the attacks of September 11.

In advance of the tenth anniversary of 9/11, Guadagno and Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Deputy Director Bill Baroni visited twelve New Jersey cities and towns to present steel from the World Trade Center to include in public memorials.

"It is very meaningful to me to present this piece of steel from the World Trade Center for the West Paterson First Aid Squad's 9/11 memorial," Guadagno said. "This memorial will stand as a reminder today and well into the future of those who perished in the attacks of 9/11, and that we must always be vigilant in protecting our nation and the freedoms we as Americans cherish."

During the rescue and recovery efforts at the World Trade Center following September 11, artifacts were identified among the wreckage and preserved for their historical significance. Stored at Hanger 17 at John F. Kennedy International Airport, the artifacts include various pieces that have been cataloged by a professional curator to ensure they were kept as close as possible to their original condition.

"Pieces of World Trade Center steel can now be found in all 50 states and seven foreign countries," Baroni said. "It is a sacred mission for the Port Authority to ensure that people everywhere can see the physical manifestation of what was lost in the attacks on September 11. We do this to honor – and to remember – all those who didn't return to their homes and families that day."

A piece of World Trade Center steel was also placed at the Empty Sky Memorial at Liberty State Park, which was dedicated on Sept. 10 in honor and memory of the 746 New Jerseyans that lost their lives on 9/11. In March, a piece of steel, along with an urn of Trade Center dust and an American flag, were displayed in the Statehouse Rotunda.