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**Council Requires FDNY to Publish
Firefighter Applicant Demographics**

Today the City Council passed Int. 579-2014, sponsored by Council Members Helen Rosenthal (Chair, Committee on Contracts) and Elizabeth Crowley (Chair, Committee on Fire and Criminal Justice Services), requiring the New York City Fire Department (FDNY) to post an annual report online detailing the racial and gender demographics of people undergoing the often years-long application process to become a New York City firefighter.

Currently, there are only 46 female firefighters serving in the FDNY — comprising less than one half of a percent of a 10,500 member workforce. Nationwide, women comprise 4% of all firefighters, and in cities like San Francisco and Minneapolis, women comprise 10-15% of all firefighters.

The report will allow the Council and the public to gauge the rate at which women and minorities are being eliminated from advancing in the firefighter application process.

"The numbers just don't add up: 13% of San Francisco's firefighters were women, 15% of the active-duty U.S. military are women, 17% of New York police officers are women — and less than half of a percent of New York firefighters are women," said **Council Member Helen Rosenthal, Chair of the Committee on Contracts**. "I am eager to learn what is so unique about being a firefighter in NYC that it excludes women. The data we

will receive from this bill will shed light on how many women apply to be firefighters and where they drop off along the long application process, which can take several years from start to finish. I am grateful to Council Member Elizabeth Crowley, Chair of the Committee on Fire and Criminal Services, who has been persistent in pursuing this issue for years, and I am proud to have introduced this bill with her."

"This important bill will ensure fair standards for all who enter into the FDNY training academy. New York City has the bravest women in the world, are we to believe less than 50 females, in a city of over 8 million people, want to be firefighters? I'm proud to pass this legislation with CM Rosenthal to diversify our uniformed services to reflect the fabric of our great city," said **Council Member Elizabeth Crowley, Chair of the Committee on Fire and Criminal Justice Services.**

The report will include the demographics of applicants at every step of the application process: recruitment, admission to take the written exam, admission to take the physical exam (Candidate Physical Ability Test, CPAT), admission to the FDNY academy training, completion of running 1.5 miles in 13 minutes, a series of physical tests in firefighter gear (Functional Skills Training, FST), completion of running 1.5 miles in 12 minutes, and graduation from the academy.

It will also require the FDNY to report on its recruiting activities, including its recruiting expenditures, a list of the recruiting events in which it participates, and a list of the materials it prepares for firefighter applicants.

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