ACI and Dugan&Meyers are pleased to announce our keynote speaker: American Hero and New York Times Best Selling Author Chief Richard Picciotto-(FDNY ret.)

Highest Ranking Firefighter to Survive the World Trade Center Collapse and the Last to be Rescued!

The highest-ranking firefighter to survive the World Trade Center collapse, and the last fireman to escape the devastation, Richard "Pitch" Picciotto was on a stairwell between the sixth and seventh floors of the North Tower when it collapsed on September 11, 2001. An FDNY battalion commander, his is the harrowing true story of an American hero, a man who thought nothing of himself and gave nearly everything for others during one of our nation's darkest hours.

Already a veteran of terrorist attacks, Picciotto was present fighting a similar battle after the World Trade Center Bombing in 1993. Again inside the North Tower, where he found himself years earlier, burdened by an eerie sense of familiarity, he focused his concentration on the rescue efforts at hand. But it was there in the smoky stairwells that he heard and felt the South Tower collapse. He then made the call for firemen and rescue workers to evacuate, while he stayed behind with a skeleton team of men to assist a group of disabled and infirm civilians in their struggle to evacuate the inferno. And it was there in the rubble of the North Tower that Picciotto found himself buried for more than four hours after the building's collapse.

Come learn about safety, leadership, and overcoming adversity from the leader of an organization that excelled under unimaginable circumstances.

There will be a reception following the keynote address where Chief Picciotto will be available for a meet and greet, photos, and book signing.

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