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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Police Commissioner to Honor Central Park Medical Unit Volunteer EMT's on Graduating Police Academy

New York, NY, May 5, 2004 –Margaret Dicks and William Mack, volunteer Emergency Medical Technicians with the Central Park Medical Unit, will graduate from the Citizen's Police Academy on Thursday, June 10 at 6PM at One Police Plaza. The Honorable Raymond Kelly, Commissioner of the New York City Police Department, is expected to be in attendance to honor Ms. Dicks and Mr. Mack for their endless commitment to Central Park and the people of New York City. The Citizens' Police Academy is a collaborative effort between the NYPD and various community and civic groups to help better understand the dynamics of law enforcement and community relations.

Rafael Castellanos, Honorary Commissioner of the Office of Emergency Management, President of the Central Park Medical Unit, and also a graduate of the Citizens' Police Academy, noted that this collaborative effort "provides a dynamic opportunity for police officers and community volunteers and leaders to work together to better understand each others' roles. At a time when increased scrutiny is being placed on the cantankerous relationship between various emergency agencies in New York City, the Central Park Medical Unit's collaboration with the Police Department highlights one of the many areas where we are all working cooperatively towards the common goal of protecting New York City's citizens." The Central Park Medical Unit counts almost 15 members of its corps as graduates of this distinguished program.

Over the past 30 years the volunteers of the Central Park Medical Unit have grown from a handful of men and women to a large and diverse group that has provided more than one million dollars each year in free care to the patrons of Central Park and the residents of City of New York. The volunteers of the Central Park Medical Unit have also responded to citywide disasters during Flight 587 and Flight 800 plane crashes, the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, the September 11th terrorist attacks and most recently the blackout of August 2003.

The volunteers of the Central Park Medical Unit have received numerous awards and citations from various agencies including the New York Police Department, the Mayor's Office and the Office of Emergency Management for their direct involvement and dedication to the City of New York.

About Central Park Medical Unit

The Central Park Medical Unit is an all-volunteer organization that has provided a safety net for millions of individuals who have visited Central Park over the past three decades. With the fastest response time in New York State, at just under three minutes, the Central Park Medical Unit is prepared to provide sick and injured park patrons expert medical care completely free of charge.