



THOMAS VON ESSEN
FIRE COMMISSIONER

November 28, 2001

Mr. Russ Filbeck
Associate Professor
Palomar College
11088 Delphinus Way
San Diego, CA 92126-4706

Dear Mr. Filbeck:

Since the tragic day of September 11, 2001 the New York City Fire Department has received many expressions of appreciation and shared grief from all over the world. Although our loss is still inconceivable, the Department is slowly rebuilding. Expressions of support like the beautiful hand made rocking chair you donated to our office assist greatly in raising the spirits of everyone in the FDNY family.

The rocking chair will bring great comfort to many of New York City Fire Department family members that are visiting a love one at the New York Hospital Cornell Burn Center.

On behalf of the families and the entire New York City Fire Department, I wish to express a heartfelt thank you to you and everyone that made it possible for the delivery of the rocking chair. Your show of love and support will be appreciated for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Thomas Von Essen
Fire Commissioner

TVE/et