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Press Release

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[Metro-North](#)

IMMEDIATE

After Visitor Suffers Cardiac Arrest in Grand Central Terminal, Commuter, MTA PD Officers and Metro-North Fire Brigade Save His Life

CPR and Shock with Defibrillator Brings Back Kentucky Man's Pulse

When a visitor from Kentucky suffered from cardiac arrest in Grand Central and lost his pulse on Friday, January 23, 2015, some quick-thinking members of the MTA Police Department, the Metro-North Fire Brigade and a commuter trained in CPR rushed into action and saved his life.

At about 4:20 p.m., Assistant Station Manager and Fire Brigade member Cory Harris witnessed a man, Moises Dreszer, 70, of Louisville, collapse in Grand Central's 47th Street cross passageway, checked his vital signs and called Fire Command. Mr. Dreszer was with his wife, Cathy, getting water at a Trackside Commissary cart when he went into cardiac arrest. A Metro-North commuter, Francis Rush, 27, from Putnam Valley (who is a volunteer firefighter and trained EMT) immediately started administering CPR compressions as Mr. Harris kept his airway open.

As the CPR efforts were underway, MTA Police Officer Michael Burns took swift action and retrieved a defibrillator. Mr. Dreszer did not have a pulse and was not responsive.

MTA PD Inspector Sean Montgomery, Sargeant Tajinder Singh, Officer Michael Stango and Officer Frank Meyreles, along with Fire EMS Officer Anthony Gaudio, Fire Brigade members Dung Hoai Dinh, and Frank Martusciello also responded as Officer Burns set up the defibrillator with the assistance of Mr. Rush and Mr. Harris, who attached the two pads to the designated area of Dreszer's chest.

The defibrillator automatically analyzed Mr. Dreszer's condition and instructed the users to "shock." After the shock, the defibrillator again analyzed and instructed to perform CPR compressions for two minutes. Rush performed the compressions as Officer Burns monitored the AED.

After the two minutes ended, the defibrillator advised to shock a second time. FDNY and NY Presbyterian EMS units, who had arrived on scene, took control of the CPR. Mr. Dreszer's pulse was restored after the second shock. His life was saved.

"Just to watch the teamwork of all emergency personnel was remarkable," said Inspector Montgomery. "I've never seen a network of professionalism like what transpired in that concourse that day."

Officers Burns, Singh and Meyreles visited Mr. Dreszer the next day at NYU Langone Medical Center. Mr. Dreszer was released this past Thursday and is back home with his wife in Louisville.

"I don't remember all of the episode because I was out, but now I can think fine," said Mr. Dreszer. "Physically, I feel good – a little weak, but otherwise I'm going to manage to get better."

"We're still a family," added Mrs. Dreszer. "We're all still here and we just want to thank all these people."

To see video of the Dreszer's, click here: <http://youtu.be/Sf4-9T5qhms>

About the MTA Police Department's Defibrillator Program

The MTA Police Department currently has 75 defibrillators. The devices, Philips HeartStart FRx models, were purchased in May 2009. A purchase order was recently placed to secure 70 more.

"It is important for police officers to have access to defibrillators since they are usually the first responders on scene," said MTA Police Sargeant Timothy Harten, who is in charge of the defibrillators program. Officers are trained every two years through the American Heart Association.

About the Metro-North Fire Brigade

The Metro-North Fire Brigade consists of full-time and volunteer New York State certified Emergency Medical Technicians who protect Grand Central and several railroad yards throughout Metro-North Railroad territory. The Fire Brigade in Grand Central Terminal responds to approximately 800 medical calls annually.