

# **NEWS**

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**From: Real Estate Board of New York (REBNY)**

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### **REBNY Foundation Helps Raise Money for New Firefighter Simulation Facility**

*The Leary Firefighters Foundation spearheads effort to bring new technology to the FDNY*

**February 28, 2008** – Earlier last month The Real Estate Board of New York was invited to a special ceremony on Randall’s Island to commence construction of the FDNY’s new High-Rise Fire Training Simulation Facility. Through its REBNY Foundation, REBNY Members teamed with The Leary Firefighters Foundation to help fund the technologically advanced simulator, which is expected to be completed at the end of the year. The simulator was designed to help better train firefighters to safely and quickly combat high-rise fires, which can be especially dangerous due to the building’s height and the difficulties that places on the firefighters rescue efforts. The project calls for a four-story extension to the academy’s current simulator.

“A high-rise fire is a devastating event,” said Steven Spinola, president of The Real Estate Board of New York. “My owner and manager members are constantly searching for ways to protect their high-rise employees and residents from fires by doing everything they can to ensure their own buildings don’t fall victim. REBNY members active in the REBNY Foundation, especially Jeffrey Gural, Chairman of Newmark Knight Frank, heard that The Leary Foundation was helping to better train the FDNY to deal with these fires, and they immediately began raising funds to support this worthy cause. Better training will lead to safer buildings which will lead to a safer city for all who live and work here.”

Pictured here (left to right) are Chief of the Fire Department Sal Cassano, REBNY President Steven Spinola, actor Denis Leary and Fire Commissioner Nicholas Scopetta.

### **About The Real Estate Board of New York.**

The Real Estate Board of New York is the city's leading real estate trade association with 12,000 members. REBNY represents major commercial and residential property owners and builders, brokers and managers, banks, financial service companies, utilities, attorneys, architects, contractors and other individuals and institutions professionally interested in the City's real estate. REBNY is involved in crucial municipal matters including tax policy, city planning and zoning, rental conditions, land use policy, building codes and legislation. In addition, REBNY publishes reports providing indicators of market prices for both the residential and commercial sectors.

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