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# PBA to cops: Vote!

By DAVID SEIFMAN
*City Hall Bureau Chief*

The city's largest police union — which is backing Peter Vallone — is sending an urgent message to its weary members, urging them to vote in next week's primary because the race to succeed Mayor Giuliani has "taken on even greater significance."

In a letter to his 26,000 active members, Patrolmen's Benevolent Association President Patrick Lynch warns that the calamity at the World Trade Center has made it more important than ever to elect a leader who can provide stability and security.

The PBA, along with all of the city's other key police unions, has endorsed City Council Speaker Vallone in the Democratic primary.

"In light of our national crisis, [the election] has taken on even greater significance," Lynch said in a draft of the message being sent.

"In this time of crisis, we need a mayor who can lead us . . . [and] restore some sense of security," Lynch wrote.

Tom Scotto, president of the Detectives Endowment Association, echoed Lynch's sentiments.

"I think the closest thing to Mayor Giuliani is Peter Vallone," Scotto declared.

Scotto said he is contacting 15,000 active and retired detectives to remind them of the postponed primary election in a "very soft letter" that's mindful of the emotionally sensitive circumstances.

The primary is on Tuesday.

Before the terror attacks, Vallone was touting the support he has received from the key law-enforcement unions in TV ads. Vallone and the other candidates pulled their commercials last week.

Vallone has tried mightily to link himself to Giuliani, standing beside the mayor at several press conferences since the terrorist attack.

But it's not clear whether cops — or voters at large — are paying attention.

The entire police force has been working 12-hour shifts since the World Trade Center attack 11 days ago.

One PBA official said the union is also exploring whether "off-site" voting booths can be established so harried cops won't have to scramble to cast ballots.

## N.Y. ♥ Rudy *and* term limits



New Yorkers gave Mayor Giuliani (pictured left) a huge thumbs-up for his response to last week's terror attack — but more than half support term limits that will force him to leave office in January, according to a poll released yesterday.

The Marist College poll found 62 percent of residents said the mayor is doing an excellent job in the aftermath of the attack.

But 57 percent of those polled said term limits should not be eliminated to allow the mayor to seek re-election.

*Robert Hardt Jr.*

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