**9/11 Booklet; 102 minutes that changed America**

**Kennedy moment**

Ask your parents/grandparents/ guardians where they were when they heard about 9/11.

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**9/11 in photos**

Study each photo and identify who/what is in each.

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| --- | --- |
| A | The twin towers undamaged |
| B | One plane has hit the tower, and the second plane heading towards the second tower |
| C | The towers falling/in the process of falling |
| D | A woman covered in the debris (9/11 ash/dust) |
| E | Health exposer/problems occurred thanks to the towers |
| F | Firemen looking for survivors in the rubble of the tower |
| G | The memorial site of one of the towers |
| H | George W .Bush and dick Cheney |
| I | The hijackers of the planes |
| J |  |
| K |  |

**Timeline of events**

Place these events in chronological order on the timeline below. You can copy and paste each point into the correct time slot.

Use this timeline to help you <https://timeline.911memorial.org/#Timeline/2>

|  |
| --- |
| A flight attendant from Flight 175 notified United Airlines that they had been hijacked  Word gets out that Flight 77 has been hijacked  World Trade Centre 7 collapses  Port authority orders the evacuation of both towers  Flight 93 takes off  FAA grounds all flights  Rescuers free Port Authority employee Pasquale Buzzelli from the rubble of the North Tower  37 phone calls are made from Flight 93  The President addresses the nation  The second plane crashed into Tower 2  Workers will extricate the 18th survivor, Genelle Guzman, on the afternoon of September 12. She will be the last person rescued  Flight 77 crashed into the Pentagon  Evacuations begin at the White House and Capitol Building  Rescuers locate PAPD Officer William Jimeno and PAPD Sergeant John McLoughlin, injured but alive in the debris of the World Trade Center  14 survivors were rescued from the rubble of the North Tower |

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| Time | Event |
| 5.45 am | Hijackers pass through security screening |
| 7.59 am | Flight 11 takes off |
| 8.15 am | Flight 175 takes off |
| 8.19 am | Betty Ong calls ground personnel |
| 8.20 am | Flight 77 takes off |
| 8.24 am | Hijacker Mohammad Atta transmits a message to air traffic control |
| 8.37 am | Air traffic control alters the military after hearing Atta’s transmissions |
| 8.42 am | Flight 93 takes off |
| 8.46 am | North Tower is hit |
| 8.50 am | President is alerted about the North Tower being attacked |
| 8.55 am | Tower Two is declared secure |
| 8.59 am | Port authority orders the evacuation of both towers |
| 9.00 am |  |
| 9.03 am | The second plane crashed into Tower 2 |
| 9.12 am |  |
| 9.37 am | Flight 77 crashed into the Pentagon |
| 9.42 am | FAA grounds all flights |
| 9.45 am | Evacuations begin at the White House and Capitol Building |
| 9.58 am | 37 phone calls are made from Flight 93 |
| 9.59 am | The South Tower collapses |
| 10.03 am | Flight 93 crashes into a field in Pennsylvania |
| 10.28 am | The North Tower collapses |
| 12.30 pm | 14 survivors were rescued from the rubble of the North Tower |
| 3.00 pm |  |
| 5.20 pm | World Trade Centre 7 collapses |
| 8.30 pm |  |
| 10.30 pm |  |
| September 12th | Workers will extricate the 18th survivor, Genelle Guzman, on the afternoon of September 12. She will be the last person rescued |

**The facts**

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| 1. Why is this topic called 102 minutes that changed America? |  |
| 1. How many people worked in the Twin Towers? |  |
| 1. How many planes were hijacked on that day? |  |
| 1. Where did the planes end up? |  |
| 1. Where did the hijacked planes depart from? (what airports) |  |
| 1. How many terrorists were there? |  |
| 1. How did the hijackers hijack the planes? |  |
| 1. Who was responsible for this attack? |  |
| 1. Where was the US President when this attack happened? |  |
| 1. How many people were trapped in the North Tower? |  |
| 1. How many people were trapped in the South Tower? |  |
| 1. Which Tower collapsed first? |  |
| 1. What time did the second tower collapse? |  |
| 1. What happened to World Trade Centre 7? |  |
| 1. How many people were killed? |  |
| 1. How many people were rescued from the collapsed Towers? |  |
| 1. Where did the US invade after this attack? |  |
| 1. What happened to Osama bin Laden? |  |
| 1. What are the long-term health impacts of 9/11? |  |

**Ordinary people**

*Who were the passengers flying on the four hijacked airplanes on September 11, 2001?*

1. *Go to* <https://timeline.911memorial.org/#Timeline/2>
2. Find the individual seating charts for each of the hijacked airliners: American Airlines Flight 11, American Airlines Flight 77, United Airlines Flight 93, and United Airlines Flight 175.
3. Choose, at random, one crew member or passenger from each of the four flights to research.
4. Using “Portraits of Grief” as a starting point, research the lives of the four individuals you have chosen and write a biography for each person. Each biography should focus on the individual’s actions while on board their flight, if known, on the morning of 9/11, as well as the contributions made through their occupations, hobbies or interests.

<http://livingmemorial.voicesofseptember11.org/911-victim-remembrances>

<https://archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/interactive/us/sept-11-reckoning/portraits-of-grief.html>

For Flight 93 <https://www.nps.gov/flni/learn/historyculture/passengers-and-crew-of-flight-93.htm>

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | American Airlines Flight 11 | American Airlines Flight 77 | United Airlines Flight 175 | United Airlines Flight 93 |
| *Which individuals did you choose? (4X1)* | Tara Creamer |  | John B. Cahill |  |
| *Why were they on their respective flights? (4X1)* | She was on one of her infrequent trips from her home in Worcester, Mass., to Los Angeles for planning sessions when she boarded American Airlines Flight 11 on Sept. 11. |  | On Sept. 11, he was on Flight 175 to Los Angeles, where he was going to visit a friend and do some work on the new business. |  |
| *What type of job or career did they have? (4X1)* | Mrs. Creamer got a job as a buyer for TJX, the company that runs the T. J. Maxx clothing stores. |  | He worked as a vice president of the systems group at Xerox |  |
| *What interests, sports, or hobbies did they enjoy? (4X1)* | She was a fan of football. |  | He had a interest in languages |  |
| *Whether through their job or personal interests, what accomplishments or meaningful contributions did each person make to society? (4X1)* | She switched to planning manager when she had her first child and wanted to cut back on the traveling that buyers have to do. |  | Mr. Cahill spoke Spanish and Portuguese, and his interest in languages was picked up by his children. |  |
| *What friends or loved ones did each person leave behind? (4X1)* | Her husband, john creamer and there child.  Tara and Liz grew up as two of the four Shea sisters in Westfield. |  | Mr. Cahill, 56, lived with his wife, Sharon, and two sons, Brett, 17, and Sean, 15, in Wellesley, Mass. |  |

Adapted from <https://www.911memorial.org/sites/default/files/Ordinary%20People%20in%20Extraordinary%20Circumstances.pdf>

**Staircase of Vesey Street**

1. Listen to and/or read Tom Canavan’s story of what happened to him on 9/11 and the importance of the Vesey Street Survivor Staircase.

**APPENDIX**

**Tom Canavan Transcript of podcast**

<https://www.911memorial.org/oral-history-archives-3>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aCxl_B2LQhI>

“The thing I remember most about that day was how beautiful the weather was that day. [It was a] normal day going to work, a Tuesday, just trying to get through the week like everyone else. Got upstairs to work, I was a little earlier that morning because we were having a meeting.

At the time everything started to happen, I was in my boss’ office with 4-5 other people just on the conference call sitting there. Then, there was a big explosion, a tremble, and the building started to sway back and forth. Of course, we all jumped up. [I] didn’t know what it was at the time.

Our offices face south, so, when I looked out the window, I could see pieces of metal, pieces of glass falling, sheets of glass, big sheets of metal, the aluminum colored metal of the sides of the buildings.

I looked out the window, I looked down which was the back of the Marriot Hotel, was right below us. The roof was on fire there, a lot of cars in the street were on fire, and there was just debris all over.

The fire department was just pulling up to the building. I remember saying at that point that “Everything would be okay now.”

So, we had one exit back of the office, so I went to that one door. I put the hand to the back of the door, and it was kind warm and we had some smoke coming out underneath. I knew we weren’t going to go down that way.

And, at this point then, I went I went back into the hallway, and I noticed I that could hear a lot of people coming. So, I opened the door, everyone was coming down those steps. I went back to my office, and said, “You know what, we need to get out of here.”

And, now the fire department started coming up the steps. I remember some of the guys sitting down, because they had all their equipment on and it was hot.

So, somebody broke into some of the machines on the floors, they were taking water and soda out, giving them to the firemen. I grabbed a bottle of water, and when a fireman sitting on the steps, I was pouring water over his head.

Then, we started noticing that on the floors were very dark, water pouring down the steps at that point, just cascading like a waterfall. So, we had to take it easy that point, it got a little slippery, we went down a little slower.

We got down the 1st floor and where the steps let out was in between the elevator banks in the lobby of 1 World Trade on the concourse level. A big security guard [was] standing there, just pointing, pointing east, saying “Just go”.

I remember looking around, almost all the elevator doors were almost knocked off; they were all crooked. So, we made the turn, we went through the turnstyle at that point we could see the concourse level through the doors, all the lights were out, but sprinkler were on. All of the glass in all of the doors and windows were shattered.

Soon as I turned around, we started to walk again. But, at that point there was a huge rush of air, straight down just like I’d imagine what a wind tunnel’s like. And the sound of, I’d like to say a locomotive, but it had to be a thousand times that noise and next thing, I know I was smashed to the ground like a bug. Completely down.

My first through was ‘I’m dead’.

My 2nd thought was “And you know what, it didn’t hurt, it’s not that bad if this is what it’s like. Then, it’s really not that bad.”

I felt pretty warm. I felt pretty good at that point. And, that point I started to taste grit, sort of like sand in my teeth, in my eyes, in my nose, brushed sand away from my face to take a breath. It was very smoky, very hot. As I turned my head down, I noticed the cuffs of my pants were on fire.

And I really couldn’t reach it, so I was taking hands full of dirt, and I have no idea where the dirt came from, because at this point, I tell you it was like instinct-- I don’t know what I was thinking. I just threw everything I could on my pants, and put that out.

Then, I could notice around me little fires starting. All this time I was on my stomach, I couldn’t’ really even get up onto my knees.

Just pieces of paper that were there would all of a sudden just flame up. I felt above my head, it was a slab of concrete on an angle; it went all the way down in front of me and just fell to the sides. [I] couldn’t feel the edge, so I said alright, I’m going to have to move here.

So, I started to digging and I started to go to my right, and I hear somebody behind me, and he said, “Don’t leave me!”

I couldn’t see who it was, and I said “Who’s there?”

It ended up being a man. He said he was a security guard.

I said, “Are you alright?”

And he said “Yeah, but let’s stay here because they’ll find us.”

At which point I said, “Either you’ll burn to death or suffocate down here, and I’m not going to do either one of those. So if you want to come with me, I’m leaving”.

And I started moving to my right digging, he grabbed my ankle, I guess he was under some debris also, he, I could feel him pull himself on my leg up. Then, I started digging to the right, and he started digging behind me.

The only thing I remember is going at an angle now trying to get up. Cause, I finally got around the slab and we started just going up. But, everything was concrete, and mostly rebar and iron.

There were what I thought, I tell my mind, were mannequins. I know they weren’t, but it was easier at the time because knowing that there was the Banana Republic there, the Gap was there, so I’m figuring, you know what, that’s what I’m seeing here.

Finally, going up at an angle, I could see a little pinhole of light coming from the sky.

I remember saying to him, “Oh, we’re in the street!”

I went toward that little pin hole, and I stuck my hand to it, and started pulling down the stuff. And I got to where, I would say like a rabbit hole, and I stuck my head out. All I could see at that point were whirling papers and dark clouds was like being in the middle of a blizzard. I squeeze through the hole, I scraped my whole body down getting through it.

I was standing on a girder, and I could feel the bottom of my shoes melting into the girder, just like you’d walk on tar on a hot day in the street in New York, and you feel that give. And that’s what it was like up on that girder. And, I looked up, it was looking through the eye of a hurricane or something, because I could see blue sky straight up but everything else was all swirling and paper.

I looked down into the street, and it was like a blizzard had hit and left. The sun was out, but there was a white covering on everything in the street. There were two port authority workers standing there on what is now called the “survivor staircase”. There were steps and sort of like a gang plank going down to the street level from the plaza.

They waved me “Come this way”.  
When I got down to Vesey Street, I started walking up hill toward Church Street.

The FBI came over at that point, a couple agents, one grabbed my arm, and said “We gotta move.” As we started to walk away, I felt that whoosh again in the air and that noise again, and the two of us look back as my tower was falling, I just kept walking up Broadway.

And a couple of police officers came over, and they said to me, “Where are you going?”

“I’m going home”.  
They said “Where do you live?

I said “Upstate, but I’m walking, I’ve had enough today, I’m done with this.”

They grabbed me, they put me in an ambulance. The ambulance gave me oxygen and took me to Beth Israel Hospital, 14th St. and 1st Ave. We pulled up the side street by the back of the hospital. They opened the doors, and I looked out, there was nothing there but doctors and nurses standing in the street, nothing. There were gurneys and nobody had anything to do.

As they took me out, I heard someone say, “He’s critical.” I said “Critical? Who’s critical? I feel fine”.

I went out to the phone booth and called home, and I spoke to my mother-in-law who was watching my child at the time. Through her, I got to speak to my wife, and I told her I’d meet her at Grand Central. I’ll get there as soon as I can.

I just started walking through the streets at that point.

When I did finally get home, I turned on the TV, that’s when I found out really towers came down, where it really sunk in I mean, it was like a death in the family. You remember everything about it.

I go there today, I stand on that corner, I can see those buildings, and the vendors outside, and I can see the farmers’ market that was there that morning clear as day. You get over the loss but you never forget.”

B. Read the NIST report section: “Summary of findings” outlining the collapse of the towers:

<https://www.nist.gov/topics/disaster-failure-studies/world-trade-center-disaster-study/about-investigation>

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| 1. Discuss the importance of the staircase on 9/11 and why it is an important artifact in the 9/11 Memorial Museum. | The stairs were so important was due to the fact the firefighters would use it to go up to the higher floors and people would use it to escape. |
| 1. How did the damage to the North and South towers differs? | Our offices face south, so, when I looked out the window, I could see pieces of metal, pieces of glass falling, sheets of glass, big sheets of metal, the aluminum colored metal of the sides of the buildings.  I looked out the window, I looked down which was the back of the Marriot Hotel, was right below us. The roof was on fire there, a lot of cars in the street were on fire, and there was just debris all over while , it was looking through the eye of a hurricane or something, because I could see blue sky straight up but everything else was all swirling and paper |
| 1. The vast majority of people below the impact zones in the Towers survived. Why is there such a disparity between below and above the impact zones? How did the differing states of the stairwells in the and South towers after the crashes dictate survival for those above the impact zones? | This is because they had to pass the crash spot |
| 1. After the collapse, Tom tells the Security Guard with him, “Either you’ll burn to death or suffocate down here, and I’m not going to do either one of those. So if you want to come with me, I’m leaving.” Do you think this attitude helped in his survival? Why? | Yes as he knew if he didn’t leave he would die, which motivated him to leave the building to live. |
| 1. Why did Tom tell himself he was seeing mannequins as he clawed his way out of the debris after the collapse of the South Tower? | There were what I thought, I tell my mind, were mannequins. I know they weren’t, but it was easier at the time because knowing that there was the Banana Republic there, the Gap was there, so I’m figuring, you know what, that’s what I’m seeing here. |
| 1. When Tom arrives at the hospital, he is stunned that the doctors and nurses had nothing to do. Why is this such a surprise to him? | . We pulled up the side street by the back of the hospital. They opened the doors, and I looked out, there was nothing there but doctors and nurses standing in the street, nothing. There were gurneys and nobody had anything to do. |
| 1. Why didn’t the full impact of the Towers collapse hit Tom until he was home? | This is due to the fact that when he turned on the tv, he found out both of the towers fell, that’s when the what happened sunk in. |

**Conspiracy theories**

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| **Theory** | **Briefly explain this theory** | **Evidence in favour of this theory** | **Evidence against this theory** |
| Air defence was told not to act | US Vice President Dick Cheney ordered the military to stand down and not to intercept the planes. | air force fail to intercept any of the four hijacked planes? | Air traffic controller Colin Scoggins was in constant contact with the military and did not see any lack of response. There was confusion and a lack of communication between the civilian air traffic control (FAA) and the military.  The military's equipment was also outdated and designed to look out over the ocean to deal with a Cold War threat. |
| Bombs, not planes, caused the buildings to collapse | The Twin Towers were destroyed by controlled demolitions. Theories relate to the rapid collapse (about 10 seconds), the relatively short-lived fires (56 minutes in World Trade Center 2 or 102 minutes in World Trade Center 1), | reports of the sounds of explosions shortly before the collapse, and the violent ejections that could be seen at some windows many floors below the collapse. | An extensive [**inquiry by the National Institute of Standards and Technology**](http://www.nist.gov/manuscript-publication-search.cfm?pub_id=909017) concluded that the planes severed and damaged support columns and dislodged fire-proofing. |
| Damage done to the Pentagon was not consistent with being hit by a plane | A commercial Boeing 757 did not hit the building but instead a missile, a small aircraft or an unmanned drone was used | How could an amateur pilot fly a commercial plane in a complicated manoeuvre and crash it into the headquarters of the world's most powerful military, 78 minutes after the first report of a possible hijack and leave no trace? | Airplane wreckage, including the black boxes, were recovered from the scene and they were catalogued by the FBI. |
| Flight 93 was shot down by friendly fire |  |  |  |
| 9/11 phone calls were faked |  |  |  |
| Jewish people knew about the attack and took the day off work | Another theory claims no Jewish people were killed in the attacks because [**4,000 Jewish employees at the World Trade Center had received advance notice not to turn up for work**](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2001/dec/18/september11.israel). | Believers conclude the Israeli government mounted the attacks to goad the US into attacking its regional enemies or responsibility lies with powerful Jewish elites who control world events from the shadows. | 2,071 victims of 9/11 who worked at the World Trade Center, 119 were confirmed to be Jewish and at least a further 72 were believed to be Jewish. |
| Aluminium planes can’t penetrate the steel structure of the buildings |  |  |  |
| Black boxes were found by the search crews and kept secret |  |  | Airplane wreckage, including the black boxes, were recovered from the scene and they were catalogued by the FBI. |
| The owner of the buildings planned the attack for insurance |  |  |  |
| 9/11 was an inside job | The 911 truth movement argues that the World Trade Center was an 'inside job' by elements inside the US military. | "Is it just me?" an internet user named David Rostcheck wrote, "or did anyone else recognise that it wasn't the airplane impacts that blew up the World Trade Centre? | But according to an official report, [**the crashed planes considerably damaged support columns of both the towers**](https://www.nist.gov/publications/federal-building-and-fire-safety-investigation-world-trade-center-disaster-final-report) and dislodged fire-proofing. |
| No planes were used during the attacks | A commercial Boeing 757 did not hit the building but instead a missile, a small aircraft or an unmanned drone was used | Is it just me?" an internet user named David Rostcheck wrote, "or did anyone else recognise that it wasn't the airplane impacts that blew up the World Trade Centre? | Airplane wreckage, including the black boxes, were recovered from the scene and they were catalogued by the FBI |

**9/11 in the news**

Search ‘9/11’ in the news section of Google. Select 3 stories about 9/11 and complete the table below.

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| **URL** | **Title of story** | **3 points of information from this story** |
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**9/11 DBQ**

Study the sources below and answer the questions that follow.

Source A

[*What So Proudly We Hailed*](https://www.911memorial.org/exhibit/magazine/what-so-proudly-we-hailed-carter-goodrich-november-5-2001-carter-goodrich)



Source B

**9/11 first responders begin to feel attack's long-term health effects**

<https://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/9-11-anniversary/9-11-first-responders-begin-feel-attack-s-long-term-n908306>

Rob Serra was just 21 and had not even started in his new job as a New York City firefighter when terrorists brought down the World Trade Center’s twin towers on Sept. 11, 2001.

“I just got out of the academy on Sept. 10,” Serra told NBC News last week. He spotted the burning skyscrapers from the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge, called his firefighter brother for guidance and hopped on a bus to get as close as possible.

“I had no idea what I was doing. I had never been to a fire before,” Serra said.

He joined the crowds of first responders pawing through the chunks of building material, breathing in the pulverized dust loaded with cement, asbestos, lead, glass fibers, dioxins and other chemicals.

“Everyone had a half inch of white paste on their face,” Serra recalls.

Now, 17 years later, he and thousands of others are still paying for the time they spent in Lower Manhattan.

“I do remember thinking that this is probably going to kill me,” Serra said.

“You figure two buildings full of glass, asbestos, steel. You could taste it,” he added. “I hope I have a lot of years left, but common sense and reason tells me I don’t.”

His sinuses are full of scar tissue from the removal of growths called polyps and he says he has some evidence of neurological damage, including trouble walking. Serra fears that he will develop cancer.

“We all think it’s coming at some point,” he said. “It’s just a matter of when, not really if.”

Three hundred forty-three firefighters and paramedics were among the 2,753 people who died in the fires and in the collapse of the two buildings on Sept. 11, 2001. More than 150 have died since.

**Comprehension:**

1. What magazine is source A the cover of? (5 marks)

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1. When was source A published? (5 marks)

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1. What effect has 9/11 had on Serra’s health? (5 marks)

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1. How many first responders have died since 9/11? (5 marks)

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**Comparison:**

1. Which of these sources tells you more about the aftermath of 9/11. Explain your answer with reference to both sources (10 marks).

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1. Which one of these sources, do you think, is the most reliable. Explain your answer with reference to both sources. (10 marks)

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**Criticism:**

1. What does this cover tell you about the concerns of Americans of Middle Eastern and South Asian descent immediately after 9/11? What makes you say that? (10 marks)

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1. Outline the strengths and weaknesses of secondary sources. Refer to both sources in your answer.

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# **9/11 first responders begin to feel attack's long-term health effects**

<https://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/9-11-anniversary/9-11-first-responders-begin-feel-attack-s-long-term-n908306>

Rob Serra was just 21 and had not even started in his new job as a New York City firefighter when terrorists brought down the World Trade Center’s twin towers on Sept. 11, 2001.

“I just got out of the academy on Sept. 10,” Serra told NBC News last week. He spotted the burning skyscrapers from the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge, called his firefighter brother for guidance and hopped on a bus to get as close as possible.

“I had no idea what I was doing. I had never been to a fire before,” Serra said.

He joined the crowds of first responders pawing through the chunks of building material, breathing in the pulverized dust loaded with cement, asbestos, lead, glass fibers, dioxins and other chemicals.

“Everyone had a half inch of white paste on their face,” Serra recalls.

Now, 17 years later, he and thousands of others are still paying for the time they spent in Lower Manhattan.

“I do remember thinking that this is probably going to kill me,” Serra said.

“You figure two buildings full of glass, asbestos, steel. You could taste it,” he added. “I hope I have a lot of years left, but common sense and reason tells me I don’t.”

His sinuses are full of scar tissue from the removal of growths called polyps and he says he has some evidence of neurological damage, including trouble walking. Serra fears that he will develop cancer.

“We all think it’s coming at some point,” he said. “It’s just a matter of when, not really if.”

Three hundred forty-three firefighters and paramedics were among the 2,753 people who died in the fires and in the collapse of the two buildings on Sept. 11, 2001. More than 150 have died since, according to Dr. David Prezant, chief medical officer of the New York Fire Department.

[Several programs](http://www.911healthwatch.org/the-programs/) are trying to keep track of the health problems plaguing people directly affected by the 9/11 attack in New York and its aftermath. There’s a federally funded program for people with documented illnesses, including dozens of different cancers, asthma and other respiratory problems, post-traumatic stress disorder, and long-term problems caused by injuries.

The World Trade Center Health Program, established by the 2010 James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act — named for a New York City police officer whose death was linked to his work at ground zero — helps people with illnesses that have documented links to the disaster.

Dr. Michael Crane, who directs the program at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York, says 72,000 people are enrolled, including firefighters and police officers but also utility workers, medical examiners and others. Of them, he says, 8,000 already have cancer.

He expects many more cases.

“Some of the toxic exposures … the effects of those are now due,” he said.

Asbestos-related cancers, notably lung cancer, can take 20 years for symptoms to show. “It’s time for them to start appearing,” Crane told NBC News.

“I am concerned about rising cancer rates.”

Many of the cancers are treatable, including the most common skin cancers related to the chemical exposures. For that reason, not too many cancer deaths can be directly blamed on 9/11.

But other cancers will be deadly. Earlier this year, a team at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York reported that [9/11 firefighters had an elevated risk of multiple myeloma](http://cancerdiscovery.aacrjournals.org/content/early/2018/05/15/2159-8290.CD-NB2018-064), among other cancers.

The researchers said all of those exposed to the toxic dust at ground zero need continued careful surveillance.

Because of the health issues, many of those who helped with cleanup and recovery can no longer work.

Elizabeth Wilson, a former city bus driver who was assigned to work with other transit workers at ground zero after the attack, is one of them. Now 59, she retired two years ago. She has nodules, a potentially precancerous type of growth, in her lungs; asthma; acid reflux; and other conditions that have been certified as having been caused by the 9/11 dust.

Like so many people living and working at ground zero, Wilson never wore a face mask. “It was like a cloud,” Wilson said. “You couldn’t see your hand in front of you, it was so bad.”

Only about half of those assigned to work in the area wore protective gear, and even fewer of the people living and working nearby did.

“We were supposed to have been fitted for respirators at the time,” Wilson told NBC News. But Christine Todd Whitman, then the Environmental Protection Agency administrator, erroneously assured people that the air was safe to breathe. “I never got a mask after that,” Wilson said.

Whitman [has since said she regrets](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8AGJ1oRitf0) having said that.

Wilson said her clothes were covered in so much dust during the first days and weeks that she would stuff them into yard waste bags and throw them out rather than trying to wash them.

Many more people were similarly exposed, and don’t even know that they are at risk or that help is available, said Dr. Gaetane Michaud, a lung health specialist at New York University.

"I feel heartbroken to know that if at the lowest number, we're saying there are about 400,000 people that should be benefiting from the World Trade resources, and about 80,000 are actually benefiting from them,” Michaud said in a statement.

"It's not just lung cancers. It's lung cancers, breast cancers, esophageal cancers and thyroid cancers, to name a few. These people should be screened and be taken care of.”

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| 1. How old was Rob Serra on September 11 2001? 5 marks |  |
| 1. Identify 5 things that the first responders were breathing in. 5 marks |  |
| 1. What effect has 9/11 had on Serra’s health? 5 marks |  |
| 1. How many first responders have died since 9/11? 5 marks |  |
| 1. What happened to James Zadroga? (you will need to research this) 5 marks |  |
| 1. What happened to Elizabeth Wilson? 5 marks |  |
| 1. How many people should be benefitting from the World Trade Centre resources? 5 marks |  |
| 1. These deaths have nothing to do with 9/11. Argue, either in favour or against, this statement. Use evidence from external sources to support your argument. 10 marks |  |