



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, APRIL 17, 2013
428 60th Street, West New York, New Jersey 07093

STANDING BEHIND BOSTON

The Town of West New York sends strength and prayers to victims and their families

Sometimes it seems that as soon as our nation has recovered from one tragedy, another strikes and begs the question, “Why?”

Why now? Why an 8-year-old boy, Martin Richard? Why two more dead, 176 injured, and countless traumatized? Why wreak havoc on the participants and bystanders of an event meant to bring people together and lift our collective spirits?

And then one naturally is led to ask, “Who?”

First, who would do such a thing? The terroristic nature of the attack, of course, hits a raw national nerve. Since the tragedy of 9-11 and the subsequent acts of terrorism, we have tried to trust again, but it’s difficult. This is the nature of terrorism: it is underhanded, unfair, sneaky, and most insidiously, it plants mistrust and persistent anxiety in the hearts of those affected by it.

If there is any possible way to find a light in the dark that day, perhaps we can look to the marathon itself and what it represents. Whoever committed this atrocious act happened to chose an event that both requires and exemplifies strength, perseverance, intense focus, and an extraordinary brand of personal fortitude.

The best of the best come from around the world after months – if not years – of grueling training and committed effort to race together, to work through the physical and mental pain one faces when one runs 26.2 miles.

For the runner, the race is the triumph of the mind, body, and spirit over trial and hardship.

Now, as a community, we can stand behind the victims and their families and friends, and behind Boston as a city. We can cheer them on, as we would cheer on marathon runners, to help them begin to heal and triumph over this terrible trial and hardship they now must face.

May we as a community send them our prayers during this crisis to bolster their spirits.

God bless,

Mayor Felix E. Roque, M.D.

Lead by Example