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Briscoe Protective Systems Inc. Urges New York State Legislature to Ratify CO Detector Requirements for All Buildings

CENTEREACH, NY — Bob Williams, President, <u>Briscoe Protective Systems Inc.</u>, says it is critical that the New York State Legislature pass proposals that would require carbon monoxide (CO) detection devices to be installed in all commercial and public buildings throughout the state. He says the measures, once put into law, would save the lives of both the employees and the customers and ensure no more CO-related deaths occur again.

Local legislators — including Assemblymen Chad Lupinacci, Charles Lavine and Steve Engelbright and Senators Carl Marcellino and Ken LaValle — have introduced bills that would require the installation of CO detection devices in schools, public and commercial buildings, restaurants and retail establishments. These pieces of legislation were introduced in response to the death of Legal Sea Foods Manager Stephen Nelson, who succumbed to CO poisoning at the restaurant on February 23. Currently, Amanda's Law which requires CO alarms in residential buildings throughout the state — is on the books, but there is no existing legislation enforcing the same requirements for commercial and retail establishments.

Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless gas that cannot be seen, which makes it fatal when inhaled. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission reports that 170 people die each year as a result from CO poisoning. "While that number is small compared to the number of highway fatalities or fire-related deaths, it is still too high, especially when you consider that CO poisoning deaths can be 100% preventable," Mr. Williams said.

While the Towns of Hempstead and Brookhaven have already passed such legislation, Nassau and Suffolk County, and the Towns of North Hempstead and Huntington have yet to put their bills into law. Mr. Williams emphasized that The National Fire Protection Association already has standards in place that can apply to both businesses and residences. "This code can be easily adopted at the municipal level," he said. "There is no need to reinvent the wheel."

Currently, the state bills are still languishing in committee. "I urge the state to fast-track these bills to the governor's desk so that they can be signed into law," Mr. Williams said. "We cannot wait for another tragedy to happen. The state Legislature must act now."

For more information, call Public Relations Director Denise Rueda at (631) 864-8666 ext. 214 or visit www.briscoeprotective.com.

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About Briscoe Protective Systems Inc.

Since 1978, <u>Briscoe Protective Systems Inc.</u> and its team of experienced professionals have brought world-class solutions, with fire and security alarm products and services of superior competitive quality and unparalleled value. Briscoe provides factory-trained technicians with NICET certification, in-service training, software support, preventative maintenance inspections, computerized equipment, engineering and drafting, code compliance and more. Briscoe has locations in Centereach, New York and New York City, New York. For more information, call 1 (888) BRISCOE (274-7263) or visit www.briscoeprotective.com.