



The name ***“Marathon”*** comes from the legend of a Greek warrior/messenger.

The legend states that a Greek warrior was sent from the battlefield of Marathon to Athens to announce that the Persians had been defeated in the Battle of Marathon (in which he had just fought), which took place Circa - 490 BC.

It is said that he ran the entire distance of approximately 40 Kilometers (25 mi), which was the approximate distance originally used for the modern day marathon races.

It is said he did this without stopping and burst into the assembly, exclaiming (We have won), before collapsing and dying.

I continue to run the ***“Diversity Marathon”*** and it is my hope that I can also shout out and claim one day that the ***“Fire Service”*** has truly embraced ***“Diversity”*** before I collapse and die.

I run this ***“Marathon”*** because...

“All That I Am I Owe”

“I Live Eternally In the Red”

[Russell G. Hayden, CEO and Founder](#)

[Firefighter's ABCs](#)