

# Fight ALS Challenge Coin

Detective Jason Fernandez, retired from the NYPD's Detective Bureau Bronx - Violent Crimes Squad after suffering a Line of Duty Injury, was diagnosed last year with ALS, aka "Lou Gherig's Disease". ALS is a terminal disease that attacks and weakens your nervous system, affecting basic tasks like walking, speaking, eating, and more. It takes complete control over someone's life.....not just theirs, but their family's as well. ALS is a very rare disease that affects around 5,000 people per year in the United States. There is no cure or treatment. In fact, it is even unknown what causes it. Because of these unknowns and the scope of its impacts, ALS is an extremely expensive disease to treat. Estimates range as high as \$100,000-\$200,000 per year. On top of the medical costs, Jason and his family will incur costs to make his home accessible for him, obtain suitable transportation for him as his condition worsens, and a number of other costs no family should have to deal with or should ever be prepared to deal with. While Jason is blessed to not fight this fight alone, it is an unimaginable battle and worry to his family emotionally, physically and financially, especially his wife and 4 young children.



Anyone that was fortunate enough to meet Jason or work with him knows what the NYPD and policing means to him. Jason's motto was "Bad Guys Going to Jail", and no one did that better than Jason. This coin was designed to both honor what Jason did as an NYPD Detective and to represent the battle he is giving ALS. All proceeds will be going to Jason to assist in medical costs accumulating during his fight. The coins are available in the VCS Office, see Detective Nick Levesque. 845-222-5998 Coins are \$20

Nicholas Levesque  
@Nicholas-Levesque-13



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