

## **Fleet Coordinator Mike Stanford Retires After 30 Years with MTA**



Assistant Manager Pat Astredo, right, presents Fleet Coordinator Mike Stanford with a scroll to honor his 30 years with the agency.

By LISA HUYNH

(Jan. 9, 2004) After 30 years of commitment and dedication, Fleet Coordinator Mike Stanford, 57, has retired from MTA.

Stanford has held several jobs during his time with the agency, including bus operator, clerk, instructor and analyst.

Most recently he has worked as a Fleet Coordinator overseeing bus fleet needs and coordinating bus fleet activities. Stanford kept track of more than 2,700 buses, ensuring that each operating division had the proper number of buses for rollout.

"Bus Operations Control Center could call to find a bus and Mike knew right where it was," says Fleet Manager Hector Rojas. "We will miss his valuable contribution to public transportation."

### **Surprise party**

Fleet Management and Support Services department held a surprise party, Monday afternoon, at the San Antonio Winery to honor the father of two. His wife, a son and about 50 of his coworkers attended the bittersweet event.

"I've always thought of this as a legacy job," he says. "You do the best you can and you leave it behind for others. You would think that you'd get lazy in the end, but you actually work harder so that you can leave it in better shape for the people to follow."

Assistant Manager Pat Astredo presented Stanford with a framed scroll, a farebox and a bus stop sign engraved with his name and badge number on it.

Vehicle Verification Clerk Linda Hill, who coordinated the event, will miss Stanford.

"He was my supervisor as well as a good friend," says Hill. "He is very compassionate, family-oriented and has a great sense of humor. It's hard to believe that he has retired."

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