



NEWS

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FIVE MTA EMPLOYEES HONORED FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

The MTA honored five of its top employees today, naming the Authority's number one bus and rail operators for the year, as well as its best maintenance and telephone information employees.

In ceremonies on the Patsaouras Transit Plaza, MTA Chairman Larry Zarian and Chief Executive Officer Joseph E. Drew congratulated the five who were selected from among more than 6,000 employees.

"It is always a great experience to stand among the best, and today the MTA salutes the men and women who have served the public to the utmost of their ability for the past year," said Larry Zarian, MTA Chairman. "These individuals set the standard for all of our employees to follow."

Sterling Hampton, of View Park, Los Angeles, an operator with the MTA for 35 years, was named the top bus operator. Hampton drives a bus on Line 212 which operates on La Brea between Inglewood and Hollywood. He has never used any sick time in his more than three decades on the job, and never had what the MTA terms an avoidable accident, one in which the operator could have taken an action to prevent an accident. Hampton has been married 35 years and has four grown children.

Joe Ellis was named the top rail operator for the Authority. Ellis operates a train on the Red Line. He has been a train operator for the past six years, transferring to the rail division after a distinguished career as a bus operator for 20 years. He lives in West Covina with his wife of 27 years and has two sons.

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"These individuals truly serve as exemplary role models for this organization in providing our customers with high-quality, reliable, and friendly service," said Mr. Joseph E. Drew, MTA Chief Executive Officer.

Philip Rodriguez, of Chino Hills, was named Bus Maintenance Employee for the Year and has been an MTA maintenance employee for 26 years. He is being recognized for his superior technical knowledge on the job, and credited with initiating new procedures that resulted in a 50% increase in his department's productivity. Rodriguez is assigned to the Electrical Parts Section at the MTA's Regional Rebuild Center near the Authority's Headquarters. He is married and a father of three children.

Kevin Doan, of Westminster, was named Rail Maintenance Employee of the Year. As an MTA rail maintenance specialist for the past five years, he is credited with simplifying MTA's preventative maintenance inspections procedure. This has enabled the maintenance crew to perform inspections in a more timely and efficient manner, resulting in a 10% decrease in man-hours associated with maintenance inspections. He is married and has two children.

Maria Alamilla, of Los Angeles, was named Customer Information Employee of the Year. She was honored for her courtesy, patience, and bilingual skills, handling calls for information from the public. Ms. Alamilla has been honored as Information Operator of the Month on four previous occasions during her six years with the MTA.

"These employees are the backbone of our organization and we depend on their dedication and service in providing transportation to over 1 million boarding passengers every day," added Drew.

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