



NEWS

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MTA HONORS TRANSPORTATION EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR DURING "TRY TRANSIT WEEK"

MTA officials today honored top transportation employees of the year in recognition of their outstanding contributions in providing vital transportation services for the region.

Taking top honors were Juan Luis Pena, named 1996 MTA Bus Operator of the Year, and Ricardo Miranda, MTA Rail Operator of the Year.

"These individuals are the tops in their field in helping the MTA to provide outstanding transportation services to the more than 1 million boarding passengers who use the Metro System every day," said MTA Board Chairman Larry Zarian.

Also honored were Alex Rocio, MTA Bus Maintenance Worker of the Year, and John Barocca, MTA Rail Maintenance Specialist of the Year.

Honored for outstanding customer service was Greg Pitts, the Authority's Customer Information Operator of the Year.

Pena works as a bus operator at MTA's Division 7 in West Los Angeles. He has been with the Authority since 1974. He and his wife Marie have six children.

Miranda joined the MTA in 1975 as a bus operator and became a Metro Blue Line train operator in 1994. He is credited with being a very dependable employee, always willing to get the job done. He is married and enjoys camping and motorcycles.

Rocio has been with the Authority for nearly 45 years, joining the MTA in 1952. He is assigned to MTA's Division 8 in Chatsworth.

Barocca, Rail Maintenance Specialist of the Year, works on Metro Blue Line trains as a mechanic. He joined the MTA in 1978 as a bus mechanic before switching to the Metro Blue Line in 1991.

Pitts joined the MTA in 1975 as a Customer Information Operator and has been honored on six different occasions as Information Operator of the Month. He is married and has two children.

"We applaud these top five MTA employees for their important contributions in helping us provide quality customer service to our patrons," said MTA Interim CEO Linda Bohlinger. "It is because of their hard work and dedication to our customers that we honor them today."

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