

STRIKE STORIES



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Secretary

Procurement Administration

I was assigned first shift at Division 3. The first thing I learned about was transfer tickets.

The Transportation Manager showed me the ABCs of doing this task. It didn't take long to learn. The numbered booklets have to be replaced every day and should be exact and precise for each line, before putting them on slots especially made for this purpose and given to operators before they start their runs.

The sheet of paper the operators read is their Route Sheet. It tells the operators how long their route is, what time they should be at bus stops and the length of their layover. Extra board operators are scheduled daily and have different runs which are posted separately on the Bulletin Board.

We had to do all these tasks every day, even though the operators were on strike.

I also was given the chance to work in Maintenance, turning buses on and off and changing seats. It's horrible, the treatment they get from the public.

This strike taught me the shared professionalism, rapport and camaraderie with employees from different departments and provided a once-in-a-lifetime experience with them.

The transition from one job to another was not difficult. The managers of Division 3 taught us that an enormous job we thought impossible was possible to learn and do. I would certainly do it all over again, but most of all, I am glad to be of help to the MTA when they needed me.

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