

MTA's Most Senior Employee Arthur Winston Turns 97 on March 22

By RICK JAGER

(March 18, 2003) After more than seven decades on the job with only one absence, MTA's Arthur Winston will celebrate his birthday later this week, turning 97 on Saturday, March 22.

Winston has been employed at MTA and its predecessor agencies for almost 73 years and was honored for his longevity back in 1997 when the MTA Board named Division 5 in South Central LA for him.

"Arthur inspires us all, not only here in Metro South Bay, but throughout the agency," said General Manager Dana Coffey. KNX Radio recognized Winston, last weekend, as its "Citizen of the Week."

"Earlier this month, MTA recognized the best of the best among our employees at an awards dinner on the Queen Mary," added Coffey. "Arthur was among them and, needless to say, his star shined the brightest. His dedication to work, loyalty to the MTA and his fellow team members, and his remarkable safety record make Arthur the legend, icon and model that he is."

At the Arthur Winston Division, he is a service attendant leader, directing a crew of 11 employees who clean, maintain and refuel MTA buses.

Arthur Winston was born in Oklahoma on March 22, 1906 before Oklahoma was officially recognized as a state. He came west and attended Jefferson High School here in the Southland, graduating in 1922.

Winston was first employed by the agency in December 1924 and worked until mid-1928. He resumed his employment with the agency on January 2, 1934. He has missed only one day of work since then, which occurred when his wife died in 1988.

In 1996, Winston received a Congressional Citation from then President Clinton as "Employee of the Century." In his more than seven decades of MTA service, he has received many honors for his work ethic and longevity on the job.

[Back to MTA Report](#)

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Arthur Winston's career at MTA spans 73 years.