

BOC Manager Ellis Kyles Retiring After Almost 30 Years

By JENNIFER YEH

(June 19, 2003) Bus Operations Control Manager Ellis Kyles is retiring after almost 30 years with MTA.

Kyles plans to relax, work on some projects around the house and travel.

"I plan to take some cruises, especially to Puerto Rico and the Caribbean," he says. "I've been watching the Travel Channel a lot to get some ideas on where I want to go now that I will have all the time to do those things."

"For the first time in my life I won't have to be somewhere," he adds. "I can wake up now and just go to the gym to get back into shape. I'll have time for that now."



Bus Operations Control Manager Ellis Kyles is retiring after almost 30 years with MTA.

Kyles has come a long way since he started working for MTA in January 1974. He worked as a bus operator for 10 years, servicing Divisions 5, 7, and 3. Prior to becoming Bus Operations Control manager he was a Division Dispatcher, Radio Dispatcher and Senior TOS.

"The fact that I came in as a bus operator and worked my way up over the years to supervisor, to senior supervisor and to manager is an accomplishment for me, " he says.

Before coming to MTA, Kyles worked at the Hallmark Greeting Cards plant for eight and half years.

'Miss all the friendships'

"The worse part about retirement," he says, "is that I'm going to miss all the friendships I've made over the years."

"One of the many things that I am proud of in my career at MTA is that I had the opportunity to promote the first woman – Patricia Royster – to a managerial position in Bus Operations Control."

Kyles also remembers the challenges. He recalls the crisis activities he helped manage, especially during the Los Angeles riots, the Northridge earthquake and the Y2K scare.

He also has enjoyed seeing the new advancements in technology that the agency has adopted throughout the years.

"We now have the ability to monitor the buses in real time with updated cameras and new radio systems," says Kyles. "I'm proud to be a part of all those things."

Although his last day at MTA is June 27, Kyles still has a farewell celebration to look forward at Luminarias Restaurant, June 28. Patricia Royster (922-4634) and Nikki Bynum (922-4648) are coordinating the event.

"I've been very fortunate that I've been able to stay at this agency as long as I have," he says. "I'm very proud of the impact I've had on my colleagues and my contribution to improving the job and work conditions."

"I'll definitely come back to visit from time to time, but I will miss seeing the people I usually see on a day-to-day basis."

[Back to Bulletin Board](#)