

Maria Reynolds Named Division 8 Transportation Manager

By LISA HUYNH

(Sept. 24, 2003) Starting as a college intern in 1985 with SCRTD, West Valley Division 8's Maria Reynolds rose through the ranks and made her way to the top as MTA's newest division transportation manager.

Reynolds, 39, was promoted last month, after Grant Myers, former division transportation manager, transferred to East Valley Division 15.



West Valley Division Transportation Manager Maria Reynolds

"Maria brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise, having been with MTA for a long time," says General Manager David Armijo. "She's extremely dedicated and committed to her work."

While obtaining a Bachelor of Science in Public Administration at USC, Reynolds interned in the Employee Relations Department at SCRTD during her senior year.

"Throughout my internship, I was able to work on contracts, work with unions, participate in arbitration and do various research," she says. "It gave me an excellent background and has given me tools that I use now as manager."

A multitude of jobs

Having interned at SCRTD and graduated from USC, little did Reynolds know that a multitude of jobs would follow at the agency.

The mother of two has done everything from labor relations analyst, to chief analyst, to working at the manpower desk, to working directly with transportation directors, and now to becoming West Valley Division's transportation manager.

While working as a labor relations analyst, Reynolds continued with her education and received a masters in Public Administration at Cal State Long Beach. She also earned a certificate in Employee/Employer Relations and Personnel Management.

"She is self-motivated, has very high integrity and applies this to all aspects of her duties," says Myers. "Maria works diligently to ensure that the division runs smoothly."

Reynolds says working with Myers has been a wonderful experience.

Huge win-win

"Now that he's at Division 15 and I'm here, we're going to work together and share our resources to make our sector the best," she says. "That's going to be a huge win-win for us. We have similar goals that we would like to accomplish."

Division 8 has always been a top-performing division. The division reduced the number of customer complaints and accidents, and improved its in-service on-time performance.

"We have an excellent group of employees here," says Reynolds. "We get along. We try to treat each other like family because we spend more waking hours at our work place than we do at home. This is our home away from home."

Reynolds is happy to be a part of Division 8 and MTA, and hopes to stay a while longer.

"With the 18 years that I have here, I have a lot invested in this agency," says Reynolds. "I have my heart and soul invested here. I care about these employees and I care about the success of MTA."

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