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BOC Controller Helps Metro Bus Operator Pop the Question

- Operators Tucker, Williams will marry in August

By ARLENE LIM



(June 8, 2005) Marriage proposal stories run the gamut: some simple, others unusual.

Transportation Operations Supervisor Jerome Humphries of Bus Operations Control landed right in the middle of an unusual connection, recently, when Metro Bus Operator Marichal Tucker proposed to his girlfriend, Operator Debbie Williams.

Originally, Tucker, who drives out of Arthur Winston Division 5, had planned to propose to Williams, of Central City Division 1, using a bench ad or a movie theater ad, but decided to propose through BOC, since they both work for Metro and met on the job.

This is the first time anyone at BOC can remember anything like this happening.

'You're not scared?'

Tucker called BOC and asked Humphries, the controller who answered, if he would propose to his girlfriend over the radio. Humphries agreed to assist with the proposal but couldn't help but ask, "You're not scared are you, Operator?"

Tucker explained that he wasn't scared, but just wanted to surprise Williams.

Humphries, faced with the task of proposing to Williams, began by asking her to pull over safely and secure her bus.

Once he was sure that she had done so, he popped the question.

"Operator 25414 wants to know if you'll marry him," Humphries asked.

'I started crying'

"I was like, 'Oh My God,' I started crying right there," recalls Williams. "I'm glad the bus was secure!"

"That's why I asked her to pull the bus over, for fear she might get a little too excited," says Humphries. "She might forget she was driving a bus."

After Williams said yes, Humphries called Tucker back with the good news and was invited to the wedding.

The pair has been dating for two years. They met at Metro when they were signing on.

Tucker and Williams will marry on August 7th in Los Angeles. It will be a small wedding with only family and friends in attendance.

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