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Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor  
Cas Holloway, Commissioner

# WEEKLY PIPELINE EXTRA

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## DEP Employees of the Month for August 2010

The Employee of the Month program recognizes DEP staff members that have exhibited outstanding personal effort, and have gone above and beyond the call of duty to serve the people of New York City.

DEP is a great agency that delivers services that millions of New Yorkers depend on daily. Making good on that daily promise requires dedication and hard work of the nearly 6,000 employees of DEP. To nominate someone who has demonstrated uncommon dedication and excellence, fill out the nomination form with some basic information, such as the nominee's responsibilities, examples of extraordinary performance, and ways that they have set an example for others. The form is available online, and you'll need to submit it by the tenth day following the end of the month. For more information, contact Herbert Roth or visit the program's website ([here](#)).

The Employees of the Month for August, featured in this Weekly Pipeline Extra edition, were honored at a breakfast on September 27, with Commissioner Holloway, received a certificate, and had their names added to the Employee of the Month Board on the 3rd and 19th floors at LeFrak, and at the Kingston Office. These men and women set a standard for all of us to emulate and appreciate.



### EDC & Sustainability - Joseph Scafidi

Joseph Scafidi began his career with DEP in November 1996 and currently serves as an Associate Air Pollution Inspector. He oversees a large group of inspectors who are responsible for the daily operation of the Air and Noise division. In FY 2010, the division responded to 41,477 air and noise complaints. Joseph works with City and State agencies, and the community, to ensure that business establishments, such as night clubs, are operating within the defined noise guidelines.

Most recently, Joseph took the lead on coordinating a noise monitoring initiative to document sound levels emanating from the summer concerts at Asser Levy Park in Brooklyn. The information that was collected is being used to evaluate a proposed noise standard for certain sound level permits issued by the NYPD. Joseph did an excellent job in managing his staff and interfacing with the concert promoter, NYPD personnel, and the community.



### WT - Farrah Ahmad

Farrah Ahmad began her career at DEP in October 1997 as a Cooperative Education High School Trainee, and now serves as a Staff Analyst in the Operations Support Section. She serves as the Bureau Liaison for the Hansen Program, the 311 Call Tracking System, and EEO. During the summer, Farrah managed the Bureau's Summer Internship Program which included nine engineering and laboratory students and 50 Beach clean-up students. She was responsible for arranging internship interviews, providing input into the selection process, and providing leadership and guidance while preparing work assignments for these students. Farrah is extremely diligent and conscientious and recently took on the duties and responsibilities of Section Chief, Facilities Operations Support for her supervisor who is on long-term military leave serving our country. Specifically, Farrah has taken on overseeing the Bureau's Records Management Program, security needs for the treatment plants and pumping stations, and facility management issues.



### Police & Security - **Matthew Wood**

Matthew Wood began his career with DEP in August 1981, and is currently assigned to the Grahamsville Precinct. While on patrol the night of August 31, 2010, Sergeant Wood overheard a radio transmission of a house fire in the Town of Wawarsing in Ulster County. Knowing that he would be one of the first arriving responders, he proceeded to the residence. Upon arrival, Sergeant Wood, Environmental Police Officer Steve Roman, and volunteer firefighters opened the front door and immediately encountered a wall of black smoke. Due to the excessive smoke and the fact that oxygen equipment was ten minutes away, they decided to quickly enter the residence. Sergeant Wood and a firefighter entered the front of the home, located one of the elderly female occupants, and carried her to safety. Further entry through the front door was impossible so they went to the rear of the house and were able to gain entry there to rescue the second female resident. Both women were treated for smoke inhalation by EMS and neither suffered permanent physical injury. Environmental Police Officers Steve Roman and Brandon Edwards remained outside to direct secondary responders and provide critical on-scene updates. Due to his quick thinking and training, Sergeant Wood averted a potentially tragic outcome.



### WSO - **Vincent Stendardo**

Vincent began his DEP career in May 1996 and currently serves as an Associate Project Manager. Vincent is currently part of a team that is responsible for supervising and inspecting Emergency Water Main Repairs. This involves overseeing the repair and reconstruction of water main breaks City-wide, as well as being on call nights, weekends, and holidays.

Recently, Vincent was called to two water main breaks that were unusually complicated to complete. The first break was located at Bay 46th Street in Brooklyn where Vincent worked into the night to ensure that the 8-inch water main repair, made more difficult by groundwater/tidal issues, was carried out properly. The second break was located at Rockaway Beach and called for the repair of a 20-inch water main which was made more complicated by the interference of electrical conduits belonging to the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA). LIPA experienced difficulty in getting back-up generators into several large apartment buildings in the area, delaying the repair of the main even further. Vincent kept the lines of communications open by continuously speaking with his supervisor, our communications team, and the surrounding building superintendents about anticipated water shut downs and the progress of the repair.



### Administration & Support Bureaus - **Sue Mallon**

Sue began her career at DEP in 1986 as a Clerical Associate and was promoted to Deputy Director of Payroll in 1998. Sue is responsible for training all DEP timekeepers to ensure they have the knowledge and skills necessary to perform their duties effectively. In addition, Sue was and continues to be key in the implementation of CityTime, diligently enrolling employees into the system and ensuring the accuracy of their assignments and schedules. Sue was also instrumental in creating the CityTime Help Desk that provides guidance and solutions to CityTime problems. Since the beginning of her career, Sue has been the "go to" person in Payroll, always eager to lend a hand and assist employees with their questions and concerns. Most recently, she played a major role in generating the back pay for the Sr. SEE, SEE and STW contract settlements totaling \$260 million.

## **Commissioner's Award:**



### WSO - **Wilfredo Melendez**

Wilfredo Melendez is the Chief of Reservoir Operations who manages, among his other responsibilities, the Hillview Reservoir. Recently, Mr. Melendez and his staff witnessed a leaking condition on a key piece of infrastructure known as the South Connecting Conduit (SCC). Failure of the SCC had the potential to disrupt the water distribution to the entire City. An emergency condition was declared and approval for emergency procurement and repairs was received from the Comptroller's office. Over the past 93 days, Mr. Melendez has executed the plan of repair with absolute precision. His management and coordination of this complex repair, including contractor coordination, regulatory coordination, and EHS confined space procedures, all while ensuring no disruption to the day to day supply of water to our eight million customers, is a testament to his skill, professionalism, and dedication. Mr. Melendez started working with DEP in 1989 and after a short stint in the private sector returned in 2008 to head up the management of Reservoir Operations, successfully leading the team at Reservoir Operations off of probation by completing the highly complex implementation of the chlorine Risk Management Plan (RMP).