

Murphy, Karen

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Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor
Cas Holloway, Commissioner

WEEKLY

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DEP Employees of the Month for March 2011

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 on Pipeline, and you'll need to submit it by the tenth day following the end of the month. For more information, email Herb Roth at hroth@dep.nyc.gov.

The Employees of the Month for March, featured in this Weekly Pipeline Extra edition, were honored at a breakfast on April 29 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.



Water Supply - Jason Railing

Jason began his career with DEP in June 2008 and currently serves as an associate chemist II at the Kingston laboratory. He divides his time between performing analytical work in the laboratory and working as the Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) liaison. Jason's outstanding work has exceeded the requirements of his job including his ability to troubleshoot a wide variety of instruments in the wet chemistry laboratory. He also volunteered to help data compliance with the LIMS project, and due in large part to his dedication and expertise, the Water Quality division of BWS successfully implemented LIMS. In April 2009, Jason developed guidelines for the LIMS testing and review processes, including documents to track progress, which saved considerable time and effort. These documents have since been used as templates for other projects.



Water & Sewer Operations - Nelson Leon

Nelson began his career with DEP in June 2000 and serves as BWSO's supervisor of Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) Training and Administration. Over the course of his career, Nelson has played a significant role in shaping BWSO's successful EHS Training Program, including the development of robust and efficient courses and modules. He currently coordinates the EHS Training Program and manages the training staff, which ensures that all employees are safe and helps DEP meet regulatory requirements. Nelson recently volunteered



Environmental Planning and Analysis - Sangamithra Iyer

Sangamithra (Sangu) began her career with DEP in August 2008 and serves as a city planner. Over the last year, Sangu managed the production of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Land Acquisition Program. During this period, she worked tirelessly to pull together internal and external expertise to analyze the program and respond to public comments, and she even wrote the draft and final statements in record times. As a result of Sangu's hard work and dedication, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) reauthorized the Land Acquisition Program through 2027.

For the past two years Sangu has managed several environmental and land use reviews related to water supply and watershed projects and programs, including the Staten Island Siphon, New Croton Dam Rehabilitation and Pool Restoration, and the environmental review for opening Cannonsville Reservoir to recreational boating. Sangu's responsibilities also include managing DEP's Affordability Study, as well as part of the Kensico Action Plan project.



Wastewater Treatment - Anthony Farella

Anthony began his career with DEP in January 1990 and currently serves as a senior sewage treatment worker at the 26th Ward Wastewater Treatment Plant. This past February, BWT hired 44 new sewage treatment workers who were required to complete a six-week orientation program. Anthony volunteered to help the training unit by sharing his expertise with the new class and spent most of the month of March teaching about pump repair, rigging, scaffolding, fire control, and confined spaces. This May Anthony will continue teaching by speaking at the orientation for new senior sewage treatment workers.



Office of Information Technology - Keino Leitch

Keino began his career with DEP in July 1992 as a high school cooperative education trainee and currently serves as the director of OIT's Network Operations. In this capacity, he is responsible for the DEP's network resources and operational tasks associated with file servers and network administration.

Keino has recently worked on several network projects that serve a variety of different DEP users, including BCS's Unified Contract Center Express (UCCX) system that provides users with real time call center information such as the number of agents per queue, the longest waiting customers, and the number of calls per queue. He also worked on VOIP to update operations to provide integrated voice and email and BWT's SCADA system that transmits data from manned and unmanned facilities to a secure site.

Keino is efficient, dependable, and dedicated to DEP's network system. We all have relied on his technical wisdom in times of network glitches and issues.

Commissioner's Award:



Environmental Compliance - Alyssa Preston

Alyssa began with DEP as a legislative analyst intern in November 1999 and currently serves as deputy director of Air, Noise, Policy, Permitting, and Enforcement in the Bureau of Environmental Compliance (BEC). Alyssa's master's and law degrees allow her to analyze complex information to form policies and draft accompanying laws and regulations. Her work at BEC has focused on improving air and noise regulations.

Recently, Alyssa was involved in efforts to reform heating oil regulations to improve the city's air quality related to new legislation to create low sulfur No. 4 oil. She was an essential member of the team that conceived of this legislation several years ago and then saw it through adoption. Her contributions included conducting in-depth research, helping to draft the rule, and working with stakeholders. Mayor Bloomberg included this important accomplishment in the announcement to the first comprehensive update to PlaNYC since 2007 and public health experts expect that it will be the single largest improvement to public health since the smoking ban.