From: Lloyd, Emily

Subject: Weekly Pipeline - Extra Edition - Employees of the Month for May

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# **DEP Employees of the Month for May 2014**

he 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 promise requires the dedication and hard work of the nearly 6,000 employees at 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 candidates set an example for others. The form is available on The Source, and you'll need to submit it by the tenth day of each month. For more information, email Herb Roth at <a href="https://hrc.gov.">hrc.gov.</a>

The Employees of the Month for May, featured in this Weekly Pipeline Extra edition, were honored at a breakfast on June 30 with Commissioner Emily Lloyd, during which they received a certificate, and had their names added to the Employee of the Month Board on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> floors at Lefrak and at the Kingston Office. These men and women set a standard for all of us to emulate and appreciate.



# Environmental Compliance - Rosanna Valdez

Rosanna began her career with DEP in August 1998 and is currently assigned to the bureau's Air and Noise Enforcement Division where she performs several different and important administrative tasks. Using the Hansen system, Rosanna enters air and noise data. This includes monitoring the complaints as they are received, keeping track of which Enforcement Inspector is assigned to do the investigation and ensuring that the complaint ultimately gets resolved and closed out in the system. With the Air and Noise Enforcement Division receiving more than 30,000 complaints a year, this is no small task.

In addition, Rosanna also serves as a facilitator for the Enforcement Inspectors when they are out in the field performing their duties, often addressing their concerns and resolving their issues in an efficient and timely manner.



### Commissioner's Office - Kimberly Cipriano

Kim officially began her DEP career in May 2012. Prior to this, she served at DEP as part of the Mayor's Urban Fellows program. Kim has shown notable dedication to DEP's mission, far beyond the scope of her assigned work responsibilities. She has organized numerous Brown Bag lunches and consistently demonstrates a desire to support DEP employees in ways that align very much with our agency value of "support." Although Kim rigorously fulfills her own tasks as the Deputy Chief of Staff, she has also sought opportunities to enhance the work experience at DEP, such as helping to organize a new farm share program at LeFrak headquarters and at the Wards Island Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Kim has applied her problem-solving skills to a number of important projects, including strategic plan focus group sessions, improved coordination among bureaus for agency reports, and management of the agency's summer intern program. Thanks to her supervision, our interns are offered a wealth of fascinating tours around DEP facilities, interesting luncheons with senior management and key field operatives, and in-depth support on their individual summer projects.



### Water & Sewer Operations - Flow Monitor Installation Team

One of the strategic plan initiatives for BWSO is to incorporate flow monitoring and modeling of the water and sewer systems to improve customer service and develop and evaluate capital projects that target flood prevention, sewer back-ups and other system improvements.

The bureau's Engineering and Field Operations staff worked together to develop a plan and a schedule to install the flow monitors. Typically, the installation of flow monitors are completed by outside contractors—however, in this instance, the Borough Supervisors and their staff received training at the Queens Repair facility. The installation of the flow monitors must be completed overnight, when demand for water is at its lowest point. The Flow Monitor Installation Team, after working a full day, reported back to the field at 11pm and installed 3 to 4 monitors each night.

When additional fastening plates and spring rings were needed, instead of waiting an additional 3-6 months for procurement, the team reached out to the bureau's Machine Shop and asked them to manufacture the items in-house, thereby not only saving the agency money but also allowing the installations to be completed in a timely manner. The Flow Monitor Installation Team was highly motivated and the installations were completed seamlessly.

The BWSO Flow Monitor Team includes:

Rudy Baichulall Richard Berardis Victor Cortese Salvatore Gallina Thomas Giammarino Curvin Hamilton Michael Handibode Nicholas Lombardo Dennis Peacock Anthony Rivera Michael Schector Afton Simko Hector Vargas Jeffrey Venezia Adam Vorwald



### Water Supply - Michael DeLucia

Michael began his career with DEP in January 1982 as a Construction Laborer in the Shaft Maintenance Division of the Bureau of Water and Sewer Operations (BWSO). Michael also held various other civil service titles in BWSO, and was subsequently promoted to an Administrative Project Manager position in the bureau's Shaft Maintenance Division.

In April 2007, Michael transferred to the Bureau of Water Supply and served as the Job Ordering Contract Administrator for the Engineering and Technical Support Group until August 2013, when he was promoted to Deputy Chief of the Shaft Maintenance Section of Eastern Operations. This newly formed section was developed to ensure the maintenance and repair of 15 Riser Valves located within nine shafts along the Delaware Aqueduct. Specific work tasks include:

- · Exercise of riser and gate valves on an annual basis.
- Maintenance and repair to valves and riser caps, as well as hardware replacement.
- Performance of non-routine valve operations, when required—including aqueduct and siphon blow-off valves



# Wastewater Treatment - Avenue V Bypass Prevention Team

The Avenue V Pumping Station in Brooklyn is currently being upgraded and operated through contracts managed by the Bureau of Engineering, Design and Construction. On Memorial Day Weekend, one of the contractors experienced a mechanical problem that prevented combined sewage from entering the station. This could have resulted in upstream flooding and/or a significant raw sewage bypass that potentially may have impacted nearby beaches during the holiday weekend. The Bureau of Wastewater Treatment's Collections Facilities South Gowanus Crew quickly responded to the site with emergency equipment. They immediately set up a pump around system using a large mobile diesel pump to convey sewage from the regulator to the station's wet well. Due to their rapid response, the pump was running with enough time to spare, thus avoiding the bypass.

The Avenue V Bypass Prevention Team includes:

Martin Bunce Anthony Cantalino Danny Miraglia Leon Bacchus



#### ACCO - Fabian Heras

Fabian rejoined DEP in April 2013 as the supervisor of the Bid Room and he immediately identified issues and made recommendations to resolve ongoing problems. The most pressing concern was the excessive amount of contract plans and drawings that DEP receives and sells to contractors for bidding purposes. After the bid openings there was no plan in place to dispose of the overflow documents, so they accumulated to unmanageable levels. Due to privacy concerns, these documents cannot be recycled, so the only solution was to undertake a massive paper shredding effort. Fabian moved the paper shredder into the Bid Room so he could shred while handling inquiries from contractors, a true multitasking effort. He worked tirelessly shredding unused documents to such an extent that the bid room is now free of all excess documents.

Fabian has also taken steps to reduce the amount of plans and specifications delivered from DEP's consultants on the front end, thereby reducing the amount of documents stored. DEP was one of the first agencies to post contract documents available for bid in the online City Record. Fabian encourages contractors to download documents from the site for review, which has the added bonus of saving time for the contracting community, and further reducing the amount of documents that need to be stored internally. In the near future, Fabian plans to utilize the services of the DEP Print Shop in order to bring the bid document duplication effort in-house whenever possible.

In addition to organizing the Bid Room, Fabian advises contractors on how to sign up for the citywide bidder's list in order to receive email notification of upcoming bids for their specific category of work. He is in constant contact with DEP project managers and consultants, reviews approved documents, ensures that the approved version is released to the public, coordinates the advertisement of bids, and the review, approval and release of addendum and other notices to bidders. Finally, Fabian is always available to pitch in and assist anyone on the 17th floor, whether it be retrieving stored contract documents or assisting with the relinquishment of furniture. He goes above and beyond and is a true team player.

## Commissioner's Award:



#### Customer Services Emergency On-Call Team

The Bureau of Customer Services' Emergency On-Call Team responds to all types of water meter repairs, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The onset of summer may make it hard to imagine, but the bitter cold we experienced this winter resulted in an increase in "burst" water meters.

Similar to how freezing and thawing causes cracks to form in the street, an unprotected water meter can "burst" from its bottom frost plate, leaving customers without water and even flooding around the meter. The Emergency On-Call Field Team is responsible for responding to complaints from customers and restoring water service and residents are always grateful that the team is available 24/7. It is not uncommon-and always greatly appreciated—to receive calls and letters from the public thanking the team for their work.

The following Bureau employees responded to numerous complaints this winter. Thanks to their hard work and dedication, they helped thousands of New Yorkers endure the brutal cold.

Willesley Alexander Marvin Ayala Robert Busch, Jr. Christopher Costa Mario D'Angelo

Domenick DeDomenico Robert Morrison **Manley Francis** Robert Gori **Neal Holley** Dave Mercado

Paul Puglia Joseph Quiles Miguel Rosario Adel Shehata

Glenn Taylor Vitaly Trubnikov Padippura Varghese Stephen Zinn



### **Employee Experience Site Tour Drawing**

At today's ceremony, three lucky awardees and their nominators, and two commissioner awardees, won passes, which they will use to participate in one of the upcoming DEP Employee Experience Site Tours. These tours will be scheduled quarterly and the winners will receive one pass each to be used within the next year.

These tours are an additional bonus to EOM recipients in recognition of their outstanding achievements and we want to offer them and their nominators excused time from their day-to-day work to venture out and experience one of the many other vital workplaces in DEP's vast network of operations. On the tour list might be a visit to the Gilboa dam, to Newtown Creek's digester eggs, to the new \$1.6 billion UV plant, or to one of DEP's exciting green infrastructure projects. These tours are guaranteed to inspire even more excitement about the contributions that employees make every day to the DEP mission. And, as word gets around, the chance to win a tour should encourage even more employees to submit worthy EOM nominations.

EOM Awardees: Dennis Peacock and Salvatore Gallina/Jannine McColgan and Dennis Delaney-Nominators, Danny Miraglia/Christopher Laudando-Nominator. Commissioner Awardees: Adel Shehata and Paul Puglia.