
NYC Fleet Spotlight: FDNY Mechanic Chris Boodhan

By: Keith T. Kerman and Nate Koszer

Our newsletter this week turns the spotlight on Chris Boodhan, auto mechanic for FDNY. Chris came to FDNY as an auto service worker (ASW) in 2013 after working as a mechanic at Nissan and Mazda dealerships. He was promoted to auto mechanic in 2016. As an ASW and in his early period as a mechanic, Chris did repairs on ambulances and firetrucks in the conventional repair shop setting. Now, he is currently working with the FDNY's specialized emergency crew.

As a member of the FDNY's emergency auto mechanic crew, Chris is responsible for handling repairs on the fly and in any situation, whether that be in the firehouse or ambulance station, at a roadside breakdown, or at the scene of a three-alarm fire. To conduct these repairs properly, Chris has an emergency repair truck dedicated to his use. The truck is practically a full auto shop on wheels, complete with its own sets of tools and parts inventory. Chris uses a handheld computer to update work orders on NYC Fleet Focus. FDNY operates 17 mobile emergency repair units citywide.

From his time in the repair shops, Chris received experience working on every piece of equipment FDNY operates, preparing him for the fieldwork he does now. Firefighters and the New Yorkers who they serve all depend on reliable and effective fleet equipment. Chris can be called on to perform time-sensitive repairs outside the organized chaos of a fire scene. While most mechanics work at garages, Chris interacts with FDNY operations at the ground level, gaining a critical perspective on how fleet units perform in real-world situations.

The COVID-19 pandemic raised the stakes for Chris and FDNY. With the birth of his second daughter at the start of the year, Chris had been looking forward to spending some time off with his growing family. Instead, he was away from them more than ever, as FDNY fleet services addressed an enormous increase in ambulance servicing and repair. We had reported on this dramatic increase in workload in our [April 15, 2020 newsletter](#).

During the height of the pandemic, the emergency operations never stopped. FDNY ambulances were used to transport thousands of COVID-19 patients. While vehicles were sanitized before and after repairs were conducted, Chris recognized the potential dangers of his work. Things started to quiet down and return to normal workflow around August or September, but Chris admits that he is now unsure if it's actually back to normal, or if he is just now used to a new kind of normal.

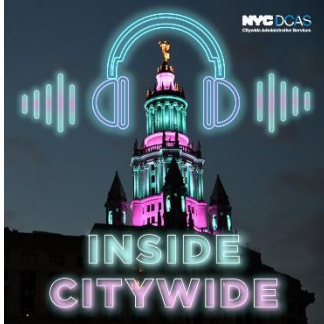


Despite the pressure of this very trying and challenging time, Chris could express nothing but gratitude to the City for the opportunities he's had. In his own words: "At 23, I started with the city just so I could have some money in my pocket for some drinks. At 32, I'm a homeowner, a husband, and a father. Priorities have definitely changed. Thank you, NYC for the opportunity for growth."

When asked about Chris' contributions to the FDNY, his supervisor Stanley Bilski had the following to say: "Chris Boodhan is a conscientious worker who has a diligent work ethic. He is personable with supervisors and mechanics. Always assisting in repairing a vehicle or truck, he assists in ensuring the rigs don't malfunction. His services include providing the necessary relief needed in repairing trucks, ambulances, chief cars, and command cars, as well as all other vehicles in the fleet. He surpasses the expectations in his normal shifts and is always willing to go above and beyond in ensuring that the fleet is running at top efficiency. Never satisfied with the bare minimum, Chris assists when needed late into the night or on pass days. He is a reliable asset to the FDNY."

When he is not on duty, Chris enjoys watching major league baseball and spending time with his wife and his daughters, aged one and four. They enjoy going to aquariums, zoos, and anywhere else that will captivate a child's imagination.

Thanks to Chris and everyone at FDNY Fleet Services for the essential work they perform every day and their critical role in FDNY's life-saving mission.



DCAS's Inside Citywide Podcast

DCAS's new [Inside Citywide podcast](#) provides a behind-the-scenes look at New York City government. Episode 2 is out now and takes a look at the future of the City of New York's vehicle fleet as it transitions to all-electric by 2040.

COVID-19 Safety Reminder

For all fleet drivers, please be reminded to wear a mask when operating a fleet vehicle with others in the vehicle. Attached again are the [Department of Health's COVID-19 Safety Guidelines relating to vehicle operation.](#)

Check out past editions of the Fleet Newsletter

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 347, June 7, 2021:](#) Fleets of the Future- Chicago Fleet

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 346, May 28, 2021:](#) US DOT and NYC Connected Vehicle Pilot Goes Live

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 345, May 21, 2021:](#) TSR and DCAS Host Global Vision Zero Conference: Announce New Safety Award and Surround Camera Initiative for City Fleet Trucks

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 344, May 10, 2021:](#) DSNY Introduces All-Electric Sweeper

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 343, April 30, 2021:](#) Over 5,000 Drivers Complete Online Vision Zero Safety Training

Check out the [complete archive.](#)

// Connect with DCAS to Learn More about the City of New York's Fleet //



Visit us on the web at nyc.gov/DCAS

NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services | 1 Centre Street, 17th Floor, New York, NY
10007

[Unsubscribe yadihernandez@dcas.nyc.gov](mailto:yadihernandez@dcas.nyc.gov)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by kkerman@dcas.nyc.gov powered by



Try email marketing for free today!