
Fleet Spotlight: Inspector Scott Olexa, NYPD Fleet

By: Keith T. Kerman and Henry Cornejo

For the second straight week, we celebrate a fleet leader from law enforcement, placing the spotlight on Inspector Scott Olexa, the commanding officer for the Fleet Services Division (FSD) at NYPD.

Inspector Olexa has been with the NYPD for over 36 years and loves every minute of it. "It's very rare to combine two things that you love, cars and the NYPD, and call it your job," says Olexa. Inspector Olexa coordinates the needs and priorities of police operations with the Fleet Services Division. The inspector also responds to emergency situations and assists NYC Fleet with citywide enforcement issues.

FSD is a data-driven operation. Scott and his team analyze fleet readiness and availability daily, distributing fleet resources to ensure the NYPD can address their ever-changing response needs 24/7. As one of the most critical support resources, Fleet plays a key role in effective police operations. In April 2019, our newsletter highlighted Inspector Olexa's work alongside the NYPD Auto Crime Division in capturing vandals who were removing and stealing catalytic converters from the undercarriages of city vehicles. Since then, Inspector Olexa and the Auto Crime division have kept up the focus on these types of vandalism. The inspector is also NYC Fleet's go-to guy when City vehicles go missing or are stolen.

Over the course of his career, the inspector has also played a vital role during emergencies. During Hurricane Sandy, he served as deputy inspector for the 100th Precinct in Far Rockaway, one of the most impacted areas of the City. When Sandy struck, his precinct and the surrounding area lost all power. Despite having no electricity or fueling capabilities and flooding all around, Inspector Olexa managed the situation with a steady hand, supporting NYPD operations and the community. "It was very grim", says Olexa. It took months for the surrounding community to recuperate and Inspector Olexa was on the scene throughout it all. The inspector made sure that over 300 light towers were sent to vulnerable neighborhoods to generate much-needed electricity, while also operating food distribution centers for local residents. Inspector Olexa kept serving the community even a year after he became commanding officer of Fleet Services Division. With DCAS, he procured customized Ford trucks with a high clearance and modified equipment to help prepare for the next disaster.

During this year's COVID-19 pandemic and the citywide protests, FSD was put to the test. At the same time as enormous demands were being made on NYPD fleet resources, many fleet service and operational staff were out due to COVID-19. During the protests, over 300 NYPD vehicles were damaged causing over \$1 million in repairs. It fell to Inspector Olexa to coordinate the body, windshield, glass, fire, and other repairs while also constantly adjusting resources to ensure operational needs were met. "Everyone went above and beyond and stayed long hours to get the job done," said Olexa.

Inspector Olexa is also helping lead the charge to a more sustainable fleet. Last year, all new NYPD patrol units were hybrids for the first time. Inspector Olexa has been supporting this transition to hybrids while also scouting out the early options for all-electric policing units. Inspector Olexa is embracing this more sustainable future and will play an essential role in ensuring that we balance low and zero-emission fleet units with meeting the operational, storage, and emergency response needs for police officers.



NYPD operates our largest fleet operation with nearly 10,000 units. Inspector Olexa plays a unique and critical role, serving as a bridge between fleet services at NYPD and DCAS, and citywide police operations. The inspector is experienced, responsive, and dedicated. He is a great public servant and colleague. DCAS thanks and congratulates Inspector Olexa for his four decades of terrific service to NYPD and NYC.

DCAS wishes everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving week!

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