

DCAS Recognizes Fleet Veterans from DSNY, DEP, and DCAS

By Keith T. Kerman & Nate Koszer

This week, DCAS held an event to recognize agency veterans, honoring those who have served our country through the nation's six military service divisions. Across all agencies, the City fleet is fortunate to have many veterans among its ranks. This week, we spotlight three dedicated public servants: Robert "Bobby" Diaz from DEP, William Napier from DSNY, and Antoinette Hamilton from DCAS.

Bobby is a Supervisor of Mechanical Equipment (SOME) for much of DEP's fleet operation in Upstate New York. He is based in the Ashokan fleet shop but has supervised five upstate shops since 2023. Bobby has worked for DEP since 1993, with an impressive 31-year career across multiple DEP repair locations. He started his career as a mechanic at DEP's central repair shop in Queens, then moved to Wards Island, and then, in 2003, joined the upstate operations in Grahamsville. He was promoted to supervisor in 2016.

Bobby is a proud veteran of the US Navy. He served in active duty from 1980 through 1984 and then joined the reserves for an additional two years. He was a member of the A Division within the Engineering Department aboard the USS Enterprise aircraft carrier. Within that division, Bobby was a part of the carrier's diesel shop, servicing diesel engines on generators and on small crafts such as boats used for overboard recovery.



Bobby is excited about the DEP upstate operations getting new fully electric vehicles from DCAS. It will be a new challenge for his mechanics team, which he is looking forward to. When Bobby is not at the shop, Bobby loves spending his time with his grandkids. He goes hiking with them and especially loves taking them fishing because they are excited whenever a fish is caught, regardless of its size.



William Napier is Deputy Director within the Department of Sanitation. He started his career with DSNY as an auto mechanic 26 years ago 1999. He was promoted to Supervisor of Mechanical Equipment (SOME) until he became Deputy Director last year. Before joining DSNY, William worked for a Nissan dealership.



Before his work at both Nissan and DSNY, William served his country from within the U.S. Marine Corps. William was a Lane Corporal and served from 1991 through 1994. He served out of Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, NC. He was assigned to marine aviation logistics and did mechanic work on the on-ground motorcade that served the aircraft division.

William oversees the seasonal salt spreader upgrade work that DSNY performs annually this time of year. Spreaders are removed, cleaned, repaired, and readied

for snow removal operations. William was very excited to take on this challenging but vital work. William is rebuilding motorcycles in his spare time when he is not rebuilding salt spreaders. He custom-built his own motorcycle from the ground up and was happy to provide a photo showing it off.



Antoinette Hamilton has been with DCAS since 2018. She started with the City nine years ago, in 2015, at FDNY, before joining DCAS. She is the Fuel Services Supervisor for DCAS fleet. Antoinette works with WEX and our In-house fuel management system to ensure operators can fuel their vehicles. Through our NY State contract with WEX, DCAS administers over 21,000 WEX cards, providing access to both commercial and in-house fuel for fleet operators from 55 agencies and offices. Antoinette works daily with all our clients to get new and replacement cards, PINs, and Fuel FOB information in place and troubleshoot an endless variety of fuel management issues.



Antoinette is also a proud veteran, having served 3 years as a medical specialist in the Army. "My service in the United States Army as a Medical Specialist profoundly impacted my ability to listen, teach, encourage, motivate, nurture, and lead with respect. I learned to make others feel valued, especially in a vulnerable

time of need – all of which my peers and superiors gave to me. The parting wisdom I took with me is to always listen first, lose ego and pride, pick my battles wisely, and live with integrity, determination, perseverance, steely-eyed focus, bravery, and the remembrance of trusting God with the impossibilities, especially while standing 'alone.'

We thank William, Bobby, Antoinette, and the fleet's veterans for serving this City and this country.



The City and its union offer **free** flu shots to municipal employees and their families. All employees, dependents, and pre-Medicare retirees eligible for New York City health benefits are covered to receive a flu vaccination at no cost. For information about how you can **fight the flu with free and convenient flu shots**, visit:

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