



Press Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TLC HOSTS FOURTH ANNUAL
VISION ZERO SAFETY HONOR ROLL

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The New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) today hosted its fourth annual ***Vision Zero Safety Honor Roll*** ceremony to celebrate the achievements of more than 400 of the city's safest TLC-licensed drivers. The event also recognized the outstanding safety records of taxi fleets, car services, and commuter van companies, who play a crucial role in spreading the message of Vision Zero. The TLC also honored drivers who have made significant contributions to the Accessible Dispatch Program, as well as drivers who have gone above and beyond with customer service.

"When you consider the focus, concentration and presence of mind that it takes to drive in New York City," said NYC Taxi and Limousine Commissioner and Chair Meera Joshi, "the fact that these 420 men and women have driven hundreds of thousands of passengers safely for *years* is an astonishing achievement that cannot go without our expressing the deepest gratitude. I encourage their fellow drivers to look to these leaders for inspiration, in the knowledge that you *can* be successful in the driving profession *without* compromising safety."

Joining Commissioner Joshi at the recognition ceremony, held at the Borough of Manhattan Community College's TriBeCa Performing Arts Center, were TLC government partners that included NYPD Chief of Transportation Thomas Chan, Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs Assistant Commissioner Kavita Pawria-Sanchez, Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, City Council Public Safety Committee Chair Vanessa Gibson, and Council Member Margaret Chin. We were grateful to begin and close the event with the spiritual leadership of Archbishop David Hartman and Imam Izak-El M. Pasha.

2017 Honor Roll: By The Numbers

TLC Safety Honor Roll drivers are full-time drivers who had *no* crashes whatsoever involving fatality or injury, *no* traffic violations, and *no* violations of TLC safety-related rules for four or more years as TLC-licensed drivers.

Our 420 Honor Roll Safety Honorees for 2017 completed **1.988 million trips in 2016**. Assuming an average trip distance of three miles, they carried passengers a total of almost **6 million miles in 2016** – the equivalent of about **25 trips to the moon** or **239 trips around the world**.

- **330** drive exclusively yellow taxis
- **31** drive exclusively green taxis

--More--

- **91** drive exclusively For-Hire Vehicles (black car, livery car, or luxury limousine)
- **12** drive commuter vans
- **44%** live in Queens
- **9** drivers were on the Honor Roll in 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016
- **138** drivers were repeat honorees!

2017 Accessibility Leaders

Twenty-six drivers were commended for their high levels of participation in the TLC's Accessible Dispatch Program, which dispatches wheelchair-accessible taxis to passengers throughout New York City.

- *The highest number of Accessible Dispatch trips provided by an honoree was 443 trips!*
- *TLC has licensed the Accessibility Honor Roll members for an average of 11 years.*
- *From August 2016 to July 2017, these 26 drivers completed 7,277 Accessible Dispatch trips, averaging five trips per week.*

Customer Service Honor Roll Drivers

For the first time, the TLC honored drivers for achievements in customer service. The TLC reviewed all the formal compliments from passengers that commended drivers for outstanding service to select five drivers for this recognition.

These drivers helped their passengers in a variety of ways, including finding lost property and helping an injured pedestrian get to the hospital.

- *Three of the honorees drive yellow taxis, and two honorees drive green taxis.*
- *Drivers honored for customer service have been licensed by the TLC for an average of 15 years.*

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Mayor Bill de Blasio launched the Vision Zero Action Plan in 2014, a comprehensive strategy designed to move the city closer to ending traffic fatalities. As one of three lead agencies – along with the NYPD and Department of Transportation -- charged with the achievement of this paramount goal, the TLC has executed many different safety-focused initiatives, of which the annual recognition of the safest TLC-licensed drivers on the road, as well as the businesses at the forefront of sharing Vision Zero's message, is one.

The more than 400 professionals honored today have truly made our City's streets safer for all who use the streets. In choosing its honorees, the TLC reviewed the records of *all* of its almost 170,000 driver licensees, and identified more than 400 full-time drivers who have, over four or more years, not had a *single* crash involving injury, a single traffic violation, or a single violation of the TLC's safety-related rules.

"When you consider the focus, concentration and presence of mind that it takes to drive in New York City," said Commissioner Joshi, "the fact that these 420 men and women have driven hundreds of thousands of passengers safely for *years* is an astonishing achievement that cannot go without our expressing the deepest gratitude. I encourage their fellow drivers to look to these leaders for inspiration, in the knowledge that you *can* be successful in the driving profession *without* compromising safety."

Visitors may learn more about the Vision Zero Driver Safety Honor Roll at: http://www.nyc.gov/html/tlc/html/industry/tlc_safety_honor_roll.shtml.

The New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) was created in 1971, and is the agency responsible for the regulation and licensing of almost 200,000 yellow medallion taxicabs and for-hire vehicles, their drivers, and the businesses that operate and support their industries. It is recognized as the largest and most active taxi and For-Hire Vehicle regulatory body in the United States.

To find out more about the TLC, or to review its rules, regulations and procedures, we encourage you to visit our official Web site at www.nyc.gov/taxi or contact 311/311 Online.