

Fleet Spotlight: Reggie Cooper, Ensuring the Quality of Our Fleet

By: Keith Kerman and Nate Koszer

Each day, tens of thousands of City employees deploy in fleet vehicles including complex units like ambulances, fire trucks, waste collection units, bucket trucks, and police cars. These fleet units help maintain the City and support emergency responders through every type of challenge and crisis.

Fleet operators and emergency responders must be able to depend on the proper design and functioning of this equipment. At DCAS, the Bureau of Quality Assurance (BQA) conducts technical inspections of new equipment to ensure it meets the demanding requirements of City agencies. In this week's newsletter, we spotlight one of our DCAS quality inspectors, Reginald *Reggie* Cooper.



Reggie Cooper in the office generating and reviewing inspection reports.

Reggie has worked as a technical inspector at BQA for over 10 years. Prior to being hired by DCAS, Reggie worked in the private sector as a quality control inspector for diesel engines, transmissions, and other automotive components. Reggie originally hails from Enfield, North Carolina, and is an alum of NYC's Hostos Community College, having graduated with an associate degree in 2017.

City agencies work with DCAS to prepare vehicle specifications that meet the specific operational needs of each agency. DCAS bids the contracts, and then BQA inspects, tests, and coordinates with our contracted vehicle suppliers to ensure the finished products meet these specifications and can perform in the field.



Reggie conducting electric vehicle inspections at Randall's Island for the Department of Parks and Recreation (Parks) and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

BQA inspects all vehicle fleet units and trucks, as well as boat and marine units, machinery, and other specialized off-road equipment. Most cars are mass built on assembly lines. Specialized fleet units and emergency equipment are not. These are often expensive custom fabricated units. BQA inspectors must travel all over the country to perform detailed inspections of these units throughout the build process.

On any given day, Reggie could be inspecting an FDNY Hazardous Materials Truck, an NYPD Bomb Response Unit, a Parks Aquatic Weed Harvester, a DEP Marine Vessel, or an agency command center. Reggie helps review specifications even prior to bidding to catch any issues that could become concerns in the production process. Reggie is currently focused on inspections of hundreds of new electric vehicles that are now arriving and of the electric vehicle charging systems that will support the electric vehicle fleet.



Reggie and colleagues from DEP and the DCAS BQA inspecting the build process of a DEP 60 foot harbor survey vessel.

When asked about Reggie's work and achievements, OCP-BQA Director Fidelis Utulu said, "Reggie has been recognized via email and by phone from many agency representatives regarding his passion, diligent work ethic, and the above and beyond attitude to perform his assigned duties and to assure the City of New York receives the appropriate quality of goods and services required per contract."

When Reggie is off-duty, he likes to spend his time reading, visiting museums, and creating oil paintings of his own. Reggie is one of the many behind-the-scenes specialists and dedicated public servants who keep the fleet and our City running.



Reggie and colleagues verifying compliance to specification, quality, and workmanship of a DEP 60 foot harbor survey vessel.

Upcoming Fleet Event

DCAS will be hosting an in-person [Fleet Safety Forum](#) on Tuesday, October 25, at Queens Theatre. For more information including a list of confirmed speakers and to register [visit DCAS Fleet Management's webpage](#).

VISION ZERO

Building a Safer City

Fleet Safety Forum

*Hosted by the
Department of Citywide Administrative Services*

Tuesday, October 25th

Queens Theatre

Flushing Meadows Corona Park



NYC Fleet Manual

The NYC Fleet Manual and Drivers Handbook has been updated. Please see the updated version at [NYC Fleet Manual and Drivers Handbook](#).

Fleet Vision International: The Show

[Fleet Vision International: The Show](#) was held on April 12 and 13 in London. DCAS Deputy Commissioner and Chief Fleet Officer Keith Kerman and NYPD Deputy Commissioner Robert Martinez discussed the electrification of the City's fleet and how NYC is a worldwide leader in sustainability. Presentations from the show will be posted to the [DCAS Fleet webpage](#).



COVID-19 Safety Reminder

For all fleet drivers, when interacting with others in close quarters such as within a vehicle, it is strongly recommended to wear a mask.

Check out past editions of the Fleet Newsletter

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 405, September 23, 2022](#): Marking Climate Week, NYC Exceeds 4,000 Electric Vehicles

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 404, September 13, 2022](#): DOT Curbside Charging Opens Up for City of New York Fleet Use

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 403, August 26, 2022](#): Spotlight: Dilshad Basheer, Fleet Office of Real Time Tracking

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 402, August 18, 2022](#): Agencies Recognize Summer Auto High School Interns, 2022

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 401, August 12, 2022](#): Mayor Adams Announces Intelligent Speed Assist (ISA) Initiative

Check out the [complete archive](#).

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