

DCAS Recognizes Fleet's Safest Drivers at 9th Annual Safety Forum

By Keith T. Kerman



Last week, DCAS recognized the fleet's three safest drivers at the 9th Annual Fleet Safety Forum held at Queens Theater. The winners were Felix Zeygeril, DOT; Miguel Guy, Buildings; and Peter Pollara, FDNY.

At the DCAS Fleet Office of Real-Time Tracking (FORT), 18,994 city fleet vehicles are tracked 24 hours a day. FORT also tracks the city's school buses. There are 53 agencies and offices in the FORT which captures over 92 million miles annually. Many, but not all, agencies use driver FOBs to record not just the vehicles but the driver's name and information for each trip. From this universe of

22,542 fleet operators using FOBs, DCAS began the analysis to determine the fleet's safest drivers.

Often, the FORT is busy looking for vehicle issues and concerns: misuse or under-use, a vehicle not where it's supposed to be, crash investigation, or even addressing auto theft. We regularly monitor speeding, seatbelt violations, and the ABCs: hard acceleration, braking, or cornering.



The awards review was a happier task. We looked for drivers with over 8,000 miles in FY 24, no crashes or traffic violations, 100% seatbelt compliance, little to no speeding, a 95% or higher safety score through telematics tracking, and strong employee performance records. For those meeting this safe driving criteria, we searched deeper in the telematics data to find our safest drivers.

Feliz Zeyerl is a Supervisor for Electrical Installations and Maintenance at DOT. He had a 98.8 safety score over FY24, only 7 times going 11 miles over the speed limit, even for a short period, and hitting the accelerator hard only 4 times in almost 10,000 miles. From Felix, "I was truly honored by being nominated for this award and being recognized as one of the safest drivers in New York City. Being a safe driver protects the lives of all New Yorkers."



Miguel Guy is a Plumbing Inspector at the Department of Buildings. He only once exceeded 11 miles over the speed limit in nearly 9,000 miles. Miguel said, "I was very surprised at winning the Safe Driver Award. It is a very humbling experience and is very much appreciated. I will always try while operating a vehicle in the city to keep myself and the citizens of New York City safe."

Peter Pollara is a Communications Electrician at the Fire Department. In nearly 12,000 miles, he only needed to press down hard on the brake 16 times. Peter states, "It was truly an honor to be recognized as one of the top 3 inaugural safe driving award recipients. Driving is a major part of my job, and I take it very seriously; I consider myself a representative of The City of New York and the FDNY. I realized that if you practice safe driving habits, they become second nature. What I do isn't anything extraordinary; I drive at the speed limit. I don't use

electronic devices; most importantly, I pay close attention to the other drivers around me. Anyone can do it. In closing, I would like to thank you, the DCAS team, for putting this terrific symposium together; well done!"

By always driving in a controlled, alert, and safe manner, these fleet operators set the standard and remind us that you can drive carefully and still get your work done.

DCAS will look to expand the recognition of safe driving in future forums and elsewhere.



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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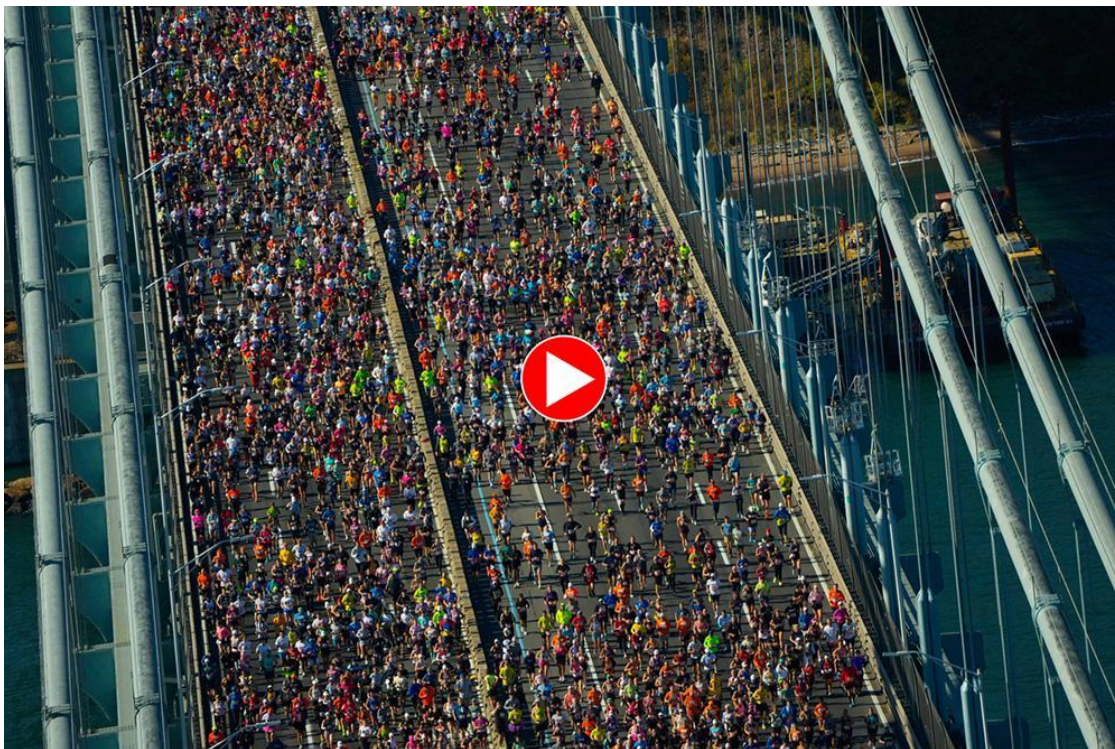


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Week in Review | October 27 - November 2



- We continue to be laser-focused on ending the dangerous trend of subway surfing in our city. This past week, we showed how we're using [drone technology to save young, promising lives](#) — sending a strong message and discouraging others from being influenced by social media.
- Many of you may have also heard how we're now offering NEW benefits to non-union employees by helping with the financial costs of starting a family. We're going to [offset the cost of adoptions, surrogacy, and egg or sperm donation with a \\$10,000 reimbursement](#) for those who qualify. We're proud to be the FIRST big city in America to do this!
- Speaking of families, we just gave those that are part of our NYC public schools a little more breathing room around the holidays. [Thanks to one tenacious school kid, we decided to make December 23 part of winter break](#), meaning students and teachers will now have a 12-day winter break instead of a seven-day one, and so our families won't have to deal with a one-day school week. Thank you to our education partners who helped make this happen!

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[NYC Fleet Newsletter 475, October 31, 2024:](#) DCAS and US DOT Volpe Issue Report on Intelligent Speed Assistance (ISA)

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 474, October 22, 2024:](#) Renewable Diesel Coming To NYC Ferry Operations

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 473, October 11, 2024:](#) Fleet Spotlight: The Murphy Brothers, Patrick and Tim; FDNY, DEP, and Parks

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 472, October 4, 2024:](#) DCAS Completes Renewable Diesel Rollout for Trucks and Off-Road Equipment

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