



**TLC Recognizes Driver and Bases for Safety, Accessibility,  
Vaccination Efforts, and Longtime Service to  
New York City in Eighth Annual Honor Roll**

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**NEW YORK** – Today, the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) launched its eighth annual Honor Roll with a digital celebration of TLC-Licensed Drivers and Bases’ excellence. The TLC recognized Drivers for accomplishments that included outstanding safety records, a strong commitment to providing service to passengers who use wheelchairs, efforts to help New Yorkers get vaccinated safely at home and going above and beyond to support electrification of the Taxi fleet.

As part of the TLC’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, TLC also recognized the service of the 20 most active TLC-Licensed Drivers who are women, honoring them with the first Gertrude Jeannette Achievement Award. The first female Taxi Driver in New York was Gertrude Jeannette, a groundbreaking figure in New York City history who overcame tremendous racial discrimination behind the wheel. Gertrude Jeannette was a Black woman who moved to New York from Arkansas and responded to an ad looking for women to replace male Taxi Drivers drafted into World War II. She became the first woman to obtain a Taxi License in New York City.

Today, there are approximately 8,120 TLC-Licensed Drivers who are women on the road today across all sectors. TLC’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year was an important time for the agency to recognize their accomplishments here and now. The twenty women honored today hail from across the five boroughs and completed over two million trips during their careers.

The TLC also honored 12 of TLC’s eldest Licensees with a Lifetime Achievement Award. These Drivers, all in their eighties, have made critical contributions to New York City during their careers as professional Drivers, and the TLC celebrates their legacies today.

The ceremony’s virtual format helped the TLC recognize many Honorees safely, while giving our Licensees greater flexibility to participate in the time and space most convenient for them. The celebration included congratulatory messages from TLC’s government partners, including the Health Department, FDNY, the Mayor’s Office of Climate and Sustainability, and Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez, who chairs the Council Transportation Committee.

“New York City is home to world-class Drivers and the TLC Safety Honor Roll is an annual recognition of the best Licensees, those whose work helps advance Vision Zero and to close the accessibility gap daily,” said **TLC Commissioner and Chair Aloysee Heredia Jarmoszuk**. “As the TLC celebrates its

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, for the first time, we celebrate women for being groundbreakers in the Industry. We acknowledge and extend gratitude to the eldest TLC Licensees with a Lifetime Achievement Award and applaud sustainability to electrify the NYC Taxi. We thank all!"

"Our members were proud to work closely with TLC-Licensed Drivers and medical professionals on the life-saving program that vaccinated thousands of vulnerable New Yorkers across the city," said **Fire Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro**. "The transportation provided by TLC Licensees was essential to ensuring quick response to homebound New Yorkers and helping our city through the COVID-19 pandemic."

"TLC-Licensed Drivers have been essential to New York City during the COVID-19 pandemic. They saved lives by taking people where they needed to go, whether it was the hospital, a vaccine hub or to staff critical infrastructure," said **Health Commissioner Dr. Dave A. Chokshi**. "Congratulations to the Drivers being honored and thank you for working to power New York City."

"As Chairman of the Transportation Committee for over a decade, my main priority has always been to maintain the safety of all New Yorkers. Taxi Drivers have always played a crucial role in our communities, maintaining the highest level of professionalism and road safety," said **Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez, Chairman of the Transportation Committee**. "I thank TLC Commissioner and Chair Aloysee Heredia Jarmoszuk for all the work she is doing in recognizing the hard work Taxi Drivers do for our City. I want to also thank all of the TLC-Licensed Drivers who are constantly putting the safety of New Yorkers as their top priority."

"The TLC electric vehicle Drivers we're honoring today are advancing a green, sustainable future for our city. Our electric Taxi Drivers are helping tackle the climate crisis and protect air quality, helping keep New Yorkers healthy and supporting the transition to a green economy," said **Ben Furnas, Director of the Mayor's Office of Climate and Sustainability**. "Taxis are a symbol of NYC, and our electric taxis are showing the world what green innovation looks like one ride at a time."

The almost 600 TLC-Licensed Drivers recognized for safety achievements in this year's Honor Roll did not have any safety violations and were not involved in any serious collisions in the past three years while providing significant service to the public. Combined, these honorees completed more than 7.3 million trips between 2018 and 2021, underscoring their dedication to providing safe service to the riding public in New York City.

Twenty Accessible Dispatch Drivers were honored for providing a significant number of Accessible Dispatch citywide. They hailed from all five boroughs, with Brooklyn home for almost a third of Accessible Dispatch Honorees.

TLC also honored Drivers who worked collaboratively to save lives with the Homebound Vaccination Program, as well as one of the first TLC-Licensed Drivers to receive the COVID-19 shot. The ceremony also recognized Taxi Drivers and Fleet

**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Owners who contributed to electrifying the Taxi fleet by putting new Electric Taxis on the road in New York City.

**Safety Honorees**

- TLC's Safety Honorees included 499 For-Hire Vehicle, 99 Yellow Taxi, 42 Commuter Van, and 7 Green Taxi Drivers.
- Queens was home to the highest number of Honorees, 179--followed by Brooklyn, 125, Manhattan, 29, and Staten Island, 12. Approximately 50 Honorees live outside of New York City.
- 47 Bases were recognized for excellence in safety, including 27 Taxi Fleets and 20 For-Hire Vehicle services.
- The Safety Honoree who completed the most trips provided service on approximately 38,500 rides between 2018 and 2021.

**Accessibility Honorees**

- TLC honored 20 Wheelchair Accessible Taxi Drivers for their contributions to the Accessible Dispatch Program.
- Six Honorees live in Brooklyn, followed by 5 Honorees in the Bronx, four in Queens, one in Staten Island, and three who live outside of New York City.

**Repeat Honorees**

- 145 of 2021's Driver Safety Honorees were repeat honorees, including 79 returning Honorees. 11 Honorees were all honored the past three years!

**About Vision Zero and the NYC TLC**

Mayor Bill de Blasio began the Vision Zero Action Plan, a comprehensive strategy designed to move the city closer to ending traffic deaths, in 2014. As one of three lead agencies, including the Police Department and Department of Transportation, the TLC has implemented many different safety-focused initiatives, including education and outreach, traffic safety enforcement, and recognizing our safest Licensees in events like the Honor Roll ceremony.

Created in 1971, the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission is the largest Taxi and For-Hire Vehicle regulatory body in the United States. It licenses over 170,000 Drivers, approximately 115,000 Vehicles, and more than 1,000 Bases.

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