



NEW YORK CITY TAXI & LIMOUSINE COMMISSION

- [Home](#)
- [About TLC](#)
- [Taxi of Tomorrow](#)
- [TLC Rules and Local Laws](#)
- [Court Administration](#)
- [Passenger Information](#)
- [Licensing](#)
- [Safety & Emissions](#)
- [Industry Information](#)
- [Commission Meetings](#)

- TLC News**
 - [Proposed Rules](#)
 - [Newly-Passed Rules](#)
 - [TLC Regulatory Agenda - Fiscal Year 2011](#)
 - [Average Medallion Prices](#)
 - [Photo Gallery](#)
 - [Industry Notices](#)
 - [Press Releases](#)
 - [Public Notices](#)
 - [Informational Presentations](#)
 - [Testimony](#)
 - [Newsletters](#)
 - [Sign up for official e-mail updates, news and Industry Notices from the TLC](#)

- [Current Licensees](#)
- [Employment Opportunities](#)
- [FAQ](#)
- [Contact / Visit TLC](#)
- [TLC Site Map](#)

SEARCH TLC

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TLC HOSTS 9/11 MEMORIAL CEREMONY

The New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) hosted a memorial service today to memorialize the victims of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks with an interfaith service and the ceremonial unveiling and bolting of the first memorial taxicab medallion. The medallion's design contains a simple white background with a red, white and blue ribbon in remembrance of those lost on September 11, 2001.

"September 11th was a day that none of us will ever forget," said TLC Commissioner/Chair Matthew W. Daus. "In order to appropriately memorialize those who lost their lives on that tragic day, the TLC is placing a token of remembrance of them on each of the city's 12,187 taxicabs."

The ceremony took place at the TLC's Woodside, Queens Safety and Emissions Inspection Facility and was attended by many of the leaders of the TLC's regulated industries. The event began with a presentation of colors by the TLC Honor Guard ("New York's Proudest") and an invocation by multi-faith religious leaders. Following the opening ceremonies, a TLC Safety and Emissions Inspector affixed the first memorial medallion to the hood of a taxicab owned by a former New York City Police Officer.

The TLC also took the opportunity to pay tribute to the 1000-plus TLC drivers from all its regulated industries that participated in "Operation Free Transportation," which the TLC implemented within days of the attack on the World Trade Center as part of its "Industry Recovery Plan." Assisted by TLC Inspectors, who organized and assisted in their efforts, these volunteers, many of whom were in attendance, provided tens of thousands of free rides to victims' families and emergency workers in the days and weeks following the World Trade Center tragedy, and did so again after the equally tragic crash of Flight 587 in November. "These drivers selflessly put their own emotions and financial challenges aside, and donated their time and energy to help our city to recover from those terrible days, and our city will always be grateful to them for that," said Commissioner Daus.

The new medallions should be on all yellow taxicabs by the end of the year.