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NYPD INTERNS HIRED AS AUTO SERVICE WORKERS

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NYC fleet agencies have developed a strong and growing partnership with the Career & Technical Education (CTE) program at the Department of Education. The highlight of this initiative is hands-on paid internships at our repair garages for up to 50 automotive high school students per year. These internships are important parts of these students' technical educations. They can also lead directly to career opportunities upon graduation.

NYPD Fleet Services welcomed four new full-time hires this year who were previously high school interns at the agency. All four are graduates of Automotive High School in Brooklyn and are serving as Auto Service Workers (ASWs). ASWs cover a wide range of important work including PMs, diagnostics, oil changes, brakes, tires, and other repairs.

ASW Andy Rodriguez joined Shop 4 in Ridgewood, Queens where he also interned from 2008 to 2010. He says his internship was a great learning experience and that he continues to learn on the job. His work environment is very supportive. "The guys here know so much. Everyone gets along here."

ASW Samuel Villain works at Shop 9 on the Upper West Side in Manhattan. He interned at NYPD CRS in 2012 and 2013. He says his internship helped him land his position. "I would highly recommend it. It gives you a foot into a great job and helps you further yourself in the industry."

ASW Bryan Jainarain also works at Shop 9. He interned with PD from 2012 to 2013 at Shop 3 in Brooklyn. He says his internship made him familiar with the vehicles he works on now. Bryan recommends the internship to current high school students, advising, "Stay focused, and try and learn as much as you can."

ASW Shane Power works at Floyd Bennett Field and interned at Shop 6 in Sunset Park, Brooklyn from 2011 to 2013. Shane says he has enjoyed working at PD. "I love working on the police cars. Being around the vehicles makes my day. When I come to work I feel like I'm right at home—everybody helps out." In addition to light duty vehicles, Shane works on specialized equipment, including ESU trucks. He is also working toward an Associate's Degree in Electromechanical Engineering at City Tech.

NYPD is leading the way in automotive internships. NYPD Administrative Manager Mary Ann Gasparo facilitates the program, working with high schools to select and place approximately 20 to 24 high school interns a year. NYPD picks students who show a good work ethic, attentiveness, punctuality, and a willingness to learn. Mary Ann notes that both Support Services Bureau Deputy Commissioner Robert Martinez and Fleet Services Director Gregory Dimesa graduated from NYC technical high schools and started their NYPD careers as ASWs. "The career ladder is endless," she says.

There is also one more, the most recent hire of all. Congratulations to 2014 Automotive High School graduate and former NYPD intern Juan Lopez, scheduled to start as an ASW with NYPD next week.

