



Florida Department of Transportation

RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

KEVIN J. THIBAUT
SECRETARY

May 19, 2023

To: Florida Transit Agencies

Subject: Florida Public Transportation Association (FPTA) "Paratransit Technician of the Year" Program

We are happy to announce this year's Florida Public Transportation Association (FPTA) "Paratransit Technician of the Year" Program. This award program was adopted by the FPTA to provide recognition to Florida's best paratransit technicians. Any employee of a Florida transit system or agency contracted outsourced location and is classified as a technician or similar maintenance classification is eligible for nomination. Awards will be made at the FPTA annual conference.

Judging and scoring will be conducted by a thorough evaluation of the information provided on, and with, the nomination form. Information regarding eligibility, scoring categories, and awards is provided with the nomination form. Judging will include an interview of the top three (3) candidates. The interview process may be conducted in person or through an agreed upon virtual platform using audio/video if circumstances prohibit travel. Ample notification will be given to allow for scheduling of the interview and ensuring resources are available. Lodging and travel expenses will be provided by the FDOT if in person interviews are conducted. For more information, please see the Paratransit Technician of the Year Procedure.

To enter, complete the "Official Nomination Form" (enclosed) and submit by **July 14, 2023**. Please provide all information requested on the form along with any supporting documentation. **Electronic nomination submittals are highly encouraged. Please submit electronic submittals to: Tony.Brandin@dot.state.fl.us.**

If you have any questions, please call me at (850) 414-4736.

Good luck and best regards,

Lynn (Tony) Brandin

Lynn (Tony) Brandin
FDOT Transit Operations Manager



Florida Public Transportation Association Paratransit Technician of the Year 2023

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. Any employee of a Florida transit system or agency contracted outsourced location and is classified as a technician or similar maintenance classification is eligible for nomination. The nominee should perform mechanical repairs, major or minor, to paratransit vehicles, their components or sub-components, with or without supervision. A minimum of 60% of the technician's time must be devoted to paratransit vehicle maintenance.
2. The nominee may be classified as a lead technician or working foreman providing his/her work time involves hands-on mechanical repairs described in number one (1) above.
3. Tire repair, maintenance service work including, but not limited to, bus washer, cleaner, hostler, janitor, parts personnel and supervisor are types of classifications ineligible for nomination.
4. Employees responsible for scheduling or organizing work shifts, repair work or the administration of the disciplinary program 100% of the time are ineligible for nomination.

SCORING CATEGORIES

1. SKILL LEVEL/JOB KNOWLEDGE (20 POINTS)
2. TRAINING/SELF DEVELOPMENT/INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS/ PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS (20 POINTS)
3. SAFETY/ACCIDENT PREVENTION (20 POINTS)
4. DEDICATION/INITIATIVE/PEER LEADERSHIP (20 POINTS)
5. INTERVIEW (20 POINTS)

The top three technicians will conduct an interview with the judges. The interview may be conducted in person or through an agreed upon virtual platform if circumstances prohibit travel. Ample notification will be given to allow for scheduling of the interview and ensuring resources are available. Lodging and travel expenses will be provided by the FDOT if in person interviews are conducted. Pre-determined questions will be asked related to job performance, maintenance abilities and transit fundamentals. Additional interview questions may be asked to ascertain information related to how the candidate positively impacts the people around them, the agency and the community.

AWARDS

- State Award: The Florida Public Transportation Association "Paratransit Technician of the Year" shall receive a plaque inscribed with the winner's name, winning year, name of Corporate Member transit system and \$300.00. The winner and spouse shall also receive an all-expenses paid trip to the Florida Public Transit Association annual meeting including meals, lodging, registration, and transportation allowance up to \$100.00.
- Second Place: A plaque shall be presented to the second place (first runner-up) contestant and \$200.00.
- Third Place: A plaque shall be presented to the third place (second runner-up) contestant and \$100.00.



FLORIDA PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION PARATRANSIT TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR 2023

Official Nomination Form

DIRECTIONS:

Please complete and submit the information requested below. This nomination must be approved by the Agency Director.

DO NOT LEAVE BLANKS:

This information will be used by the judges to review and score contestants. The Nomination Form must be in possession of the FPTA "Principal Judge" no later than: July 14, 2023. Electronic submittal of the nomination is highly encouraged. Please send electronic submittals to: tony.brandin@dot.state.fl.us.

FPTA "Principal Judge": Tony Brandin
Florida Department of Transportation-Transit Office
Transit Operations Manager – Central Office
605 Suwannee St., MS 26
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450
(850) 414-4736

FULL NAME OF NOMINEE (as should appear on plaque):

Last Middle First

Agency

Street Address

City State Zip Code

Agency Telephone Number: _____

Years employed/contracted as a paratransit technician for the agency: _____

Total number of years as a transit technician (all locations): _____

Number of years as a technician (all types of maintenance): _____

Total number of reportable accidents (driving and shop) within the last year: _____

Number of accidents (driving and shop) resulting in loss of work time within the last year: _____

Number of formal or informal reprimands within the last year: _____

Technician to paratransit bus ratio: _____

Number of commendations **within preceding 5 years** (attach letter or other documentation):

Formal training nominee has received **within preceding five years** while employed as a paratransit bus technician (documentation required):

List all proficient skills of the nominee (those that can be performed without instruction and supervision, i.e. engine rebuild, air conditioning, electrical, etc.):

Briefly describe the nominee's work quality and work quantity: _____

Briefly describe the nominee's attitude towards the job, initiative and peer leadership qualities:

List any non-agency related awards, commendations or other recognition received **within preceding five years** for outstanding achievements (please attach copies if possible):

Name of staff members at the agency that may be contacted for reference or more information about the nominee:

Name Title

Phone Number Email

Name Title

Phone Number Email

Name Title

Phone Number Email

Approved by Agency Director:

Nominee (Optional):

Printed Name

Printed Name

Signature

Signature

Title

Phone Number

Date