Citywide Administrative Services | Fleet

NYC FLEET NEWSLETTER

Bill de Blasio, Mayor
Stacey Cumberbatch, DCAS Commissioner
Keith T. Kerman, Chief Fleet Officer

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FLEET SPOTLIGHT: KASMIRA FIELDS

MAHANTH S. JOISHY

The spotlight continues shining for Women's History Month, and we are pleased to highlight the outstanding work of Kasmira Fields of NYPD. Just recently, on February 28, 2014 Kasmira was promoted from Auto Service Worker (ASW) to Auto Mechanic at 1 Police Plaza, where she was personally recognized by Mayor Bill de Blasio and Commissioner William Bratton along with several others in her promotion class. This makes her the second female Auto Mechanic ever in New York City government and one of three current female fleet technicians in total.

Kasmira started out as an auto service worker at DOT in 2005 after graduating from APEX technical school and completing a stint as a mechanic in private industry with U-Haul. She joined NYPD in 2012 and has been there since, working on hybrid sedans, pickups, vans, scooters, and NYPD Interceptors. Kasmira knew early on that she would become a mechanic. "I like working with my hands, and I like to figure things out. I could never do desk jobs!" she said.

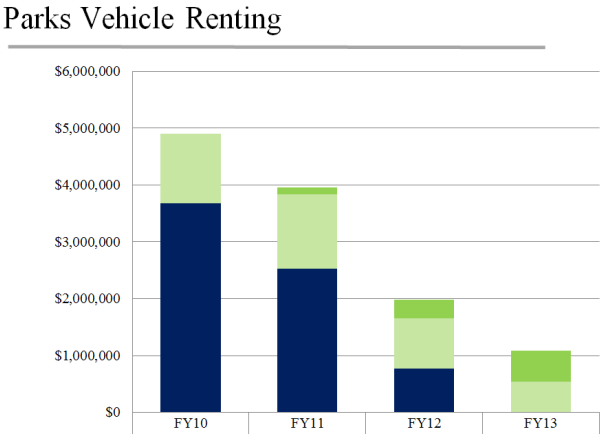
Kasmira was raised in Manhattan and now lives in Queens with her husband. Her hobbies include bike riding and mixed martial arts (MMA) training at the famous Tiger Shulman Academy. For anyone else interested in joining the automotive trade, Kasmira recommends "loving what you do, and can't be too sensitive about what other people think." Congratulations to Kasmira and thanks.

REDUCING FLEET COSTS: VEHICLE RENTALS

KEITH T. KERMAN

In NYC government, fifty (50) agencies use City vehicles and are budgeted for fleet and fuel operations. There are a wide variety of funding sources for equipment and fleet services. One of the goals of the citywide fleet initiative has been to track and monitor fleet costs in new ways across these separate agencies and budgets and to identify common areas for efficiency.

A prime example has been in vehicle renting. DCAS offers rental contracts to address short term agency operational needs and special programs. In many cases, these programs continue for years, as does the renting. Over the long term, renting can be very expensive, especially when the cost of repairing body and interior damage is factored in.



For over 15 years, Parks had rented 100 vans for maintenance operations and up to 200 sedans and SUVs for capital operations. DCAS, Parks and OMB have worked together in the last four years to procure all of these units as in-house units, savings over $3 million annually in rental costs. Parks already operated large van and sedans fleets so this also established a more consistent fleet program to administer.

After extensive fleet analysis, DCAS and OMB are now implementing similar efforts with Transportation and Correction. By working together, we are reducing fleet costs while maintaining these agencies access to critical fleet units.