

GENERAL SERVICES MVPs: MOST VALUED PERFORMERS

General Services hands out its Most Valued Performance Awards. Lots of Club Members are honored.



From left: Tony Royster, General Manager; Nazario Sauceda, Director of the Bureau of Street Services; Ray Solomon, Club Member; Richard Villacorta, Club Member; and Deborah Ramos, Assistant General Manager.



Assistant General Manager Val Melhoff kicks off the General Services MVP Award ceremony in the Public Works Boardroom.



Story and by Gedina Bergstrom, Club Counselor; and Richard Wuerth and Eric Robles, Club Members.; Photos by Gedina Bergstrom, Ramon Galvez, Edyth Alquiros and Irwin Jazmines

On Nov. 15, General Services handed out its Most Valued Performance Awards, which are some of the highest awards the department gives.

The event took place in the Public Works Board Room downtown.

According to the General Services Website, the MVP (Most Valued Performance) awards are given to General Services employees whom the General Manager finds has performed well above the call of duty. Nominations can be sent by anyone, any time.

The criterion for this award is that the employee has completed or continues to perform an extraordinary work-related accomplishment. Recipients receive a framed plaque and a trophy or cup. The General Manager presents the award to the recipients at a gathering of managers, family and coworkers, and the employee's name is added to a wood scroll in the lobby of City Hall South.

The event began at 2 p.m., with an introduction by Valerie Melloff, Assistant General Manager, General Services. General Manager Tony Royster followed, handing out the MVP awards.

On these pages is a listing of the MVP awards. The text is from General Services.



People are excited about the presentations after many years of hard work.



An empty Public Works Board Room awaits the celebration.

Individual Winners

Sgt. Larry Guillen

Office of Public Safety

"Sgt. Guillen displays a good attitude by complementing employees for good work completed. His good attitude has been contagious around the office, contributing to a pleasing work environment. He is willing to help others and has assisted night watch with Occupy LA enforcement. His team's contributions are to be commended for bringing quality service to the citizens of LA. He is a very professional sergeant and performs his duties beyond what's expected. He is always willing to help anybody and goes out of his way to answer questions and explain how things are done. He spreads positive energy through his wonderful smile. He has proven himself as a person you can look up to and trust."

Sgt. Guillen was nominated by 13 of his co-workers.



Sgt. Larry Guillen, Office of Public Safety, was honored. Pictured are (from left): Capt. Richard Musquiz; Sgt. Larry Guillen; and Tony M. Royster, General Manager.



Sgt. Larry Guillen, honoree, and his family with Tony Royster, General Manager.

Barry Saizon

Street Services Supervisor II, Construction Forces Division

"Exemplified the Spirit of General Services"

"Mr. Saizon is the second-level supervisor overseeing multi-craft construction on three active projects totaling more than \$5 million at LAX. His performance of duties is directly responsible for creating 40 hiring hall jobs in the Division. Mr. Saizon continues to demonstrate an attention to public and employee safety that is extraordinary. He truly expends an extra effort on assignments; takes on more responsibility than typically is asked of an employee in this classification; exhibits outstanding leadership to maximize performance and productivity; and consistently demonstrates initiative on all aspects of this very difficult and demanding assignment."

Barry was nominated by Nick Pendorf, Division Manager, Construction Forces Division, Club Member.



Barry Saizon (second from left) received the "Exemplified the Spirit of General Services" award. Pictured are (from left): Tony Royster, General Manager; Barry Saizon; Nick Pendorf, Construction Division Head, Club Member; and David A. Paschal, Asst. General Manager.

Brad Duvall

Sr. Storekeeper, Supplier and Customer Relations Division

"Throughout his career, Brad has always gone over and above what is required of his position. On paper his duties include troubleshooting and resolving inventory related problems, creating and tracking inventory codes for approximately 44,000 items stocked in approximately 60 warehouses through the City, and so much more. What is not stated in his duties is the City's Supply Management System, which he taught himself. He now oversees critical processes and has taught himself more than 40,000 data tables."

Brad was nominated by Deborah Ramos, Asst. General Manager.



Brad Duvall (left) won an individual award. Pictured are (from left): Brad Duvall, Sr. Storekeeper; Deborah Ramos, Asst. General Manager; and John Trevgoda, Division Head, Supplier and Customer Relations Div.

Ying "Ken" Mak

Mail Services Division

"With each time-restrictive project, Mr. Mak has stepped up to the plate. In all operational areas, Mr. Mak demonstrates an above average productivity level, completes tasks accurately, maintains mail integrity, and packages in a professional manner. Whether working independently or in a team setting, Mr. Mak has never failed to meet deadlines! In addition, Mr. Mak continually extends his expertise to others for improved methods in their mail preparation -- his outcome is 'working smarter, not harder' and guaranteed postage reductions. He is an invaluable asset."

Ken was nominated by Jeanette Arnold, Managing Analyst.



Ying "Ken" Mak, Mail Services Div., won an individual award. Pictured are (from left): Jeanette Arnold, Managing Analyst; Melody McCormick, Facilities Services Division; Tony Royster, General Manager; Ying "Ken" Mak, Mail Services Div.; Val V. Melloff, Assistant General Manager; and Aram Salmasi, Mail Services Director.



Team Winners

Supply Services Division *Reverse Auction Team*

Kenneth Desowitz, Director of Supply Services; Melissa Yusilon, Acting Supply Services Manager; Michael Maliniak, Supply Services Manager, Club Member; Connie Espinoza, Procurement Analyst; Linh Hua, Procurement Analyst; Camille Carapetian, Acting Procurement Analyst, Club Member; Sandy Ke, Procurement Analyst; Tanesha Smith, Procurement Supervisor, Club Member; Claudia Landrum, Procurement Analyst; and Kitty Pai, Procurement Analyst.

“Over the past year, the Procurement Staff participated in a pilot program to implement a reverse auction setting into our traditional competitive bidding process. This team took the initiative to select procurements that were ideal candidates for a reverse auction process. These reverse auction requests for quotations that were prepared managed and processed by the above mentioned individuals were successfully solicited and awarded, yielding an annual savings of more than \$3.5 million, and a one-time savings of more than \$1 million for the City.”

The team was nominated by Deborah Ramos, Asst. General Manager



The Supply Services Division/Reverse Auction Team was honored. The team includes: Kenneth Desowitz, Director of Supply Services; Melissa Yusilon, Acting Supply Services Manager; Michael Maliniak, Supply Services Manager, Club Member; Connie Espinoza, Procurement Analyst; Linh Hua, Procurement Analyst; Camille Carapetian, Acting Procurement Analyst, Club Member; Sandy Ke, Procurement Analyst; Tanesha Smith, Procurement Supervisor, Club Member; Claudia Landrum, Procurement Analyst; and Kitty Pai, Procurement Analyst.

Custodial Services Division *Central Police Station Custodial Team*

Carlos Lopez, Sr. Custodian II; Taiwan Swearegene, Custodian; and Federico Pena, Custodian, Club Member.

“Central Police Station is one of the largest police stations, with a condensed employee population and an area population of approximately 40,000 people and covers 4.5 square miles. This team took on a building that was degraded from continuous service reductions, plagued by the area in which it is located and went above and beyond the basic tasks. They took their duties to heart and demonstrably changed the cleaning standards and overall look and condition of the station. During these tough economic times, when workload has increased and staffing as decreased, this wonderful team has exemplified the concept of teamwork and adversity. Because of the hard work from each individual, the station is a cleaner environment for the public and all city staff, and a welcomed site when coming into work.”

The team was nominated by Loretta M. Quenon, Custodial Division Head.



The Custodial Services Division: Central Police Station Custodial Team, from left: Loretta Quenon, Custodial Services Division Head; Carlos Lopez, Sr. Custodian II; Taiwan Swearegene, Custodian; and Federico Pena, Custodian, Club Member.

Fleet Services Division *Seventh Street Body Shop Team*

Robert Nieto, General Automotive Supervisor; Earnest Keith Hall, Sr. Automotive Supervisor, Club Member; Hector Meza, Auto Body Builder and Repairer, Club Member; Thomas Ruiz, Auto Body Builder and Repairer, Club Member; and Steve Prasch, Auto Body Builder and Repairer, Club Member.

“The Fleet Services Seventh Street Body Shop team has exhibited excellent performance and leadership in the establishing an MOA and completing collision repairs for Los Angeles World Airports. Since the beginning of the MOA, the team has completed repairs on LAWA emergency and support equipment assigned to both LAX and Ontario Airports. They have completed this work on time or ahead of schedule while simultaneously continuing to meet the needs of their pre-existing customers. The team has also completed repairs on some units in less time than the industry average. The quality of the work completed has met or exceeded dealership performance standards. For these reasons, these employees should be recognized for their excellence.”

The team was nominated by Richard Coulson, Division Head, Club Member.



Fleet Services Division/Seventh Street Body Shop Team was honored. They are (from left): Robert Nieto, General Automotive Supervisor; Earnest Keith Hall, Sr. Automotive Supervisor, Club Member; Hector Meza, Auto Body Builder and Repairer, Club Member; Thomas Ruiz, Auto Body Builder and Repairer, Club Member; Steve Prasch, Auto Body Builder and Repairer, Club Member; and Richard Coulson, Division Head, Club Member.

Special Recognition Winners

Jeffrey McKimson

Sr. Clerk Typist, Fuel Services Division

“Jeffrey McKimson has worked for the Petroleum Products Unit (PPU) of the General Services Fuel Services and Environmental Compliance Division since Nov. 4, 2002, first as a Clerk Typist and was promoted to lead the unit as a Sr. Clerk Typist. Mr. McKimson can be counted on to get the job done. He has played a vital role in the successful consolidation of the Fire and Police department fuel accounts into the PPU. That move made his responsibility almost double as 63 Fire Stations and 21 Police Stations were added to PPU sites for supplying fuel and petroleum-related products. His willingness to assist co-workers and share with them how to streamline the work processes in accomplishing assignments efficiently without compromising quality an accuracy have made him a very valuable member of the unit.”

Jeffrey was nominated by Carlos Benedicto and Rene Villa-Agustin.



Jeffrey McKimson, Sr. Clerk Typist, Fuel Services Division, was honored. Pictured are (from left): Angela D. Sherick-Bright, Assistant General Manager, Club Member; Jeffrey McKimson; and Rene Villa-Agustin.

Personnel Services Division Team

Also winning awards was the Personnel Services Division Team: Theresa Pina, Clerk Typist, Club Member; Lupe Marquez, Sr. Clerk Typist; Betty Urena, Clerk Typist; and Janice Baumgarten, Personnel Records Supervisor.



The Personnel Services Division Team, from left: Theresa Pina, Clerk Typist, Club Member; Lupe Marquez, Sr. Clerk Typist; Betty Urena, Clerk Typist; and Janice Baumgarten, Personnel Records Supervisor.

Street Services



Street Services Awards: Deborah J. Ramos, Asst. General Manager and Nazario Saucedo, Director of the Bureau of Street Services, presenters; Angela D. Sherick-Bright, Asst. General Manager, Club Member; Richard Coulson, Club Member.

General Services

In addition, the Board of Public Works also honored General Services employees for their job performance. Accepting the Public Works awards were Melody McCormick, Facilities Services Division, Club Member; Loretta Quenon, Custodial Services Division, Club Member; Kelly Cooper, Maintenance Division; and Nick Pendorf, Construction Forces Division, Club Member.



Board of Public Works Special Awards, from left: Andrea Alarcon, President of the Board of Public Works, presenter; Melody McCormick, Facilities Services Division, Club Member; and Tony Royster, General Manager.



Board of Public Works Special Awards, from left: Andrea Alarcon, President of the Board of Public Works, presenter; Nick Pendorf, Construction Forces Division, Club Member; and Tony Royster, General Manager.



Board of Public Works Special Awards, from left: Andrea Alarcon, President of the Board of Public Works, presenter; Loretta Quenon, Custodial Services Division, Club Member; and Tony Royster, General Manager.



Board of Public Works Special Awards, from left: Tony Royster, General Manager; Kelly Cooper, Maintenance Division; and Andrea Alarcon, President of the Board of Public Works, presenter.