



# MEDIA ADVISORY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## Staff receives awards at annual state transit conference

**NASHVILLE** – Three Nashville Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) bus operators received honors for their performance in the state championship “roadeo” competition held during the Tennessee Public Transportation Association (TPTA) Annual Conference last week in Nashville.

Chris Ward brought home the "Big Wheel Award" for his victory in the paratransit van division; Adrell Stringer finished second in the 35-foot bus division; and Mark Johnson took third place in the 40-foot bus division.

In addition, two others were recognized for their achievements and presented with awards by their peers at the Annual TPTA Honors Banquet held Oct. 29.

Lora Baulsir was named Urban Executive of the Year. She has been employed with MTA for 28 years, having served as an administrative assistant, benefits administrator and Director of Human Resources prior to being named Director of Customer Care in 2006. She took on a second position as Chief Administrative Officer of the Regional Transportation Authority last December.

Operations Supervisor Charles Mitchell was named Urban Employee of the Year. He has been employed with MTA for more than 20 years, first serving as a bus operator before being promoted to operations supervisor in 2002.

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