



# MEDIA ADVISORY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Wendy Smith, (615) 862-6194  
Cary Foust Street, (615) 880-3932

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## **Nashville MTA bus operators, mechanics win at state “roadeo” *Lead foreman named Urban Employee of the Year***

**NASHVILLE** – Six Nashville Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) bus operators and mechanics 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 Vick, who has been with the MTA for 12 years, brought home the "Big Wheel Award" for his victory in the 40-foot bus division and Adrell Stringer, an MTA bus operator for 6.5 years, was third; Mark Johnson, a 10-year MTA employee, finished second in the 30-foot bus division; and Jerome Horton, who has worked for MTA for 10 years, took second place in the cutaway van division.

In the inaugural state maintenance roadeo, Kyle Kruk, who has been a mechanic with MTA for nearly 2.5 years, finished first in the van division and Troy Willis, who has been a mechanic with MTA for almost eight years, was second. In the bus division, Willis took first with Kruk finishing third. Willis also earned a bragging rights medal for being the mechanic who started the van engine the fastest.

MTA also captured the spirit stick for its great support of its MTA roadeo contestants during the state competition.

In addition to the roadeo awards, Lead Foreman Richard Kiefer was recognized for his achievements and presented with an award by his peers at the Annual TPTA Awards Banquet held Oct. 24.

Kiefer was named Urban Employee of the Year. He has been employed with MTA for 16 years and was recently promoted to Lead Foreman. He currently supervises six foremen and ensures all goes as smoothly as possible on each shift.

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