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Press Release

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IMMEDIATE

MTA Honored By U.S. Secretary Of Transportation

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority was awarded the distinguished 9/11 Award Certificate in a ceremony at the U.S. Department of Transportation in Washington D.C. today. The award recognizes the MTA's meritorious service and sacrifice in the wake of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. Specifically, the Federal Transportation Administration cited the MTA's actions noting that, "in the hours and days after the attacks, countless humanitarian and heroic acts, as well as extraordinary devotion to duty took place."

Representing the MTA and accepting the 9/11 award from Federal Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta were MTA Executive Director Katherine N. Lapp, MTA New York City Transit President Larry Reuter, MTA Metro North Railroad President Peter Cannito, and MTA Long Island Railroad Acting President James Dermody. Ms Lapp said, "I am honored to accept this award on behalf of the MTA family. It is incredibly important that our mass transportation system be in a position to provide assistance during a time of crisis."

On September 11, 2001 several thousand MTA volunteers with MTA equipment headed the very first rescue operations at Ground Zero. MTA employees took on a leadership role at the site working around the clock to restore and maintain service so that more than seven million people could return home safely.

In presenting the award to the MTA the Federal Transportation Administration noted that the MTA's response was immediate, orderly, and effective and, "as a result of the commitment by you, your colleagues, and the public transportation community to increase transit security after 9/11, Americans are now more secure than they have ever been."