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Press Release

May 22, 2009

[NYC Transit](#)

IMMEDIATE

NYC Transit Veterans Observe Memorial Day

The Transit Veterans' Association (TVA), a grassroots employee organization within MTA New York City Transit, is observing its 2nd Memorial Day Ceremony to honor military personnel who died in service. The ceremony will be held on Friday, May 22, from 12:00 p.m. to 12:45 p.m., at the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Park located at 55 Water Street in Lower Manhattan.

The ceremony will include a Color Guard Procession, presentation of the Ceremonial Wreath of Honor, and sounding of Taps and other military hymns by NYC Transit's Drum & Bugle Corps. Participants and special guests include MTA, Union and elected officials, Wounded Warriors, Inc., Tuskegee Airmen, United War Veterans' Council, military support organizations and chapters, community leaders and others.

Organizers urge all active and former military personnel to attend in their military service branch uniforms. NYC Transit President Howard H. Roberts, Jr., a retired Army Colonel, said: "Memorial Day is obviously very close to my heart, making me remember and honor all my fallen colleagues in the U.S. Army. I am extremely proud of the fact that some employees in NYC Transit have formed this group, and that we are all taking time out to give honor where it's due."

According to Dwight Webster, Co-Founder of TVA, "NYC Transit workers move millions of people everyday to their destinations, and on America's most solemn day, we want to move millions to salute our fallen military personnel." Donated mini flags and other memorabilia will be handed out to guests who arrive early.

The Transit Veterans Association has more than 300 members. Currently, 90 NYC Transit employees are serving in active duty in our armed forces. Since World War I, 155 NYC Transit/MaBSTOA employees have made the ultimate sacrifice on the field of battle in

defense of their country. The most recent was Tower Operator Joe Murphy who died in Desert Storm on March 10, 1991. Joe was his New York Army National Guard unit's First Sergeant and was a Korean War and Persian Gulf War Veteran. Murphy had 41 years of service in the Army and 31 years of service to Transit. Joe Murphy Master Signal Tower, located in the 38th Street Yard in Brooklyn where he had worked, was dedicated in his honor in July 1991.

The Memorial Day Ceremony will also simultaneously be held on a smaller scale at other MTA agencies, and 19 New York City Transit sites – including Murphy Tower – throughout the city.