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LeeTran Earns Honors at 2016 Triple Crown Bus Roadeo

Drivers Come Away with Top Awards

LEE COUNTY, FL, APRIL 4, 2016 – Nearly 100 transit representatives from over 30 different city, county and state departments competed Saturday to become Florida’s new Triple Crown Bus Roadeo Champions.

LeeTran drivers came away with two of the top honors. Chris Cowles, a LeeTran ADA Paratransit driver, earned the coveted first place in the Cutaway Operator Driving division and Norm Miknyocki, a Fixed Route driver, came away with third place in the Fixed Route Operator Driving division.

Both competitors won trophies, as well as small cash prizes, and Cowles also won an all-expense paid trip to the national competition where he will represent the state of Florida at the International Bus Roadeo in Portland, Oregon.

“We are so proud of both Chris and Norm. LeeTran is lucky to have amazing operators on our staff, and these two are great examples of the immense skill our drivers possess,” said Steve Myers, director of Lee County Transit. “Not only are Chris and Norm expert drivers, but also exude the customer service skills we pride ourselves on here at LeeTran.”

The event took place on the LeeTran campus where the best transit Bus Operators and Technicians in the state competed for the championship. The Florida Triple Crown Roadeo brings together employees from paratransit operations, fixed-route operations, and the maintenance divisions for an unparalleled learning event. The Roadeo is more than a competition of driving skills and maintenance disciplines; it is an exceptional training and networking opportunity for everyone in attendance.

The 2016 Triple Crown Bus Roadeo was held in partnership with the Florida Public Transportation Association (FPTA), the Florida Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP), the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), and the Florida Association of Coordinated Transit Systems (FACTS).

To learn more about LeeTran, visit the agency’s website www.RideLeeTran.com.

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Lee County Transit, LeeTran, is the public transit provider for Lee County, providing more than 3 million rides per year. LeeTran operates 24 bus routes, a paratransit service for the disabled called Passport, and an employer vanpool program. LeeTran employs approximately 280 people and has a fleet of 50 full-size buses, 10 trolleys and 42 paratransit vans. To learn more about the services offered by LeeTran, or for schedule and fare information, call 239-LEE-TRAN, or visit www.RideLeeTran.com.

Note to media: Photos available upon request.