



## Fighting Through the Pandemic

By Lynwood Whichard  
Vice President



I wish to express my deepest condolences to the families of the members we lost to the Coronavirus. As a union, we remained constant

and committed to ensuring that we protected the membership during the Pandemic.

We successfully fought off management's attempts to bring in contractors to do our traditional work during the pandemic when many members were out sick. We were never going to allow that.

I want to urge you to continue to take proactive measures with your lives with exercise and proper dieting. Keeping our immune systems strong can provide some assurances during this pandemic.

We have been in the field and will continue to provide support as we face this issue that has dropped like a ton of bricks on us to no fault of our own. I contacted many companies in the past months in an effort to get supplies during the height of the pandemic, and we were successful.

We were also the first department to get the blue masks systemwide.

**A special "thanks" goes out to everyone who helped hand out supplies. It was a great team effort.**

### Watch What You Post

On another note, management has become more aggressive at monitoring social media and have been pulling members out of service for discipline. Be careful what you say on social media. Remember the rule states that our conduct must merit the confidence of the public 24 hours a day. In other words, all the time. So be careful.

### Pension Buyouts Just Talk

There's been a lot of talk about pension buy-outs. Right now, that's all it is. Talk!

For a buyout to happen, it would need to be passed by the State Legislature in Albany. On the rare occasions it has happened in the past, the employer has the right to limit it to certain titles. The measure has not moved anywhere yet.

### President Utano in the Field

Many of you have seen President Tony Utano out and about during the Pandemic. Make no mistake about it, we have fought behind the scenes on many issues.

Many of the PPE's that have been distributed to our department came because we fought for them.

Nothing is given without a FIGHT!

### Making Progress

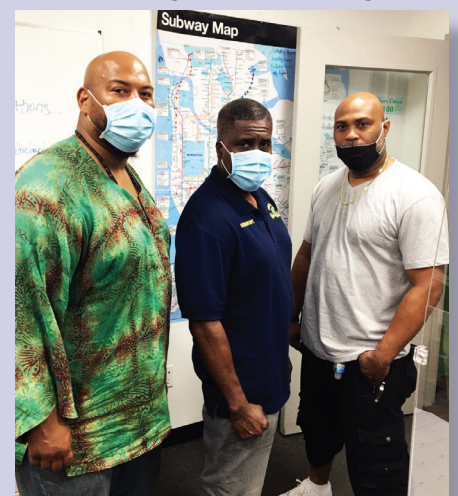
I will continue to be vigilant on behalf of our department. I am happy to say in under one year, We have stabilized many things such as, the Comfort Relief App, Enhanced Web-site, Electronic Holiday Picks with concrete stipulations and more.... Please check our website at [Transport Workers Union Local 100.org/Stations](http://Transport Workers Union Local 100.org/Stations).

### Marching for BLM and Social Justice



### Cashless Transactions

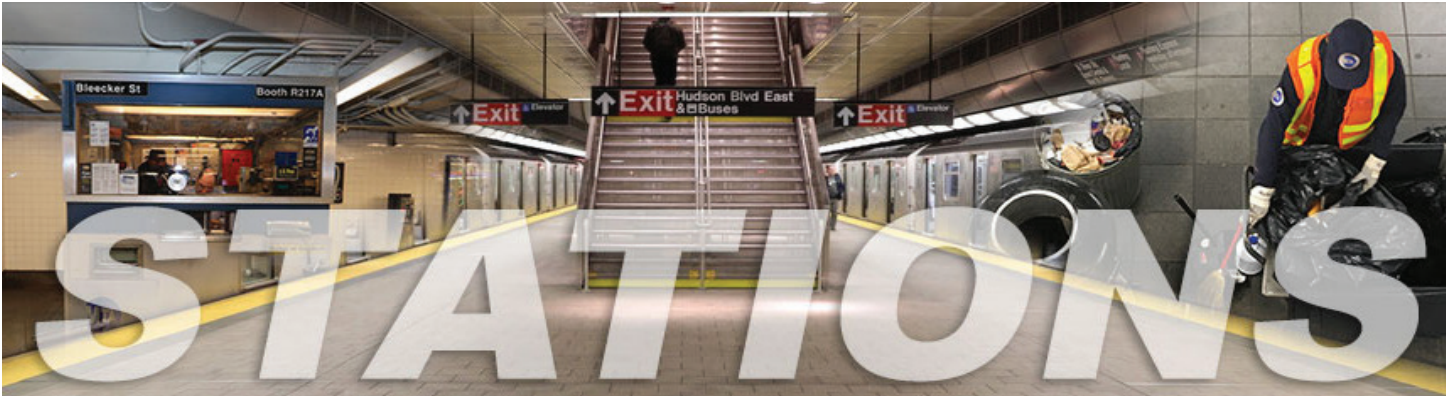
As of now, no revenue will be coming back to the booths. We will continue to fight to make things safe!



**New team members Carl Moon Havens and Hector King Dawkins with Vice President Lynwood Whichard (center).**



# Roosevelt Ave. Meeting Sees Some Progress on Pay, PPE Issues



**JUNE 11 --** The COVID-19 crisis has caused massive backlogs in pay and the renewal of EPIC passes for the membership.

When responding to management's commending of our CTA's work at Roosevelt Avenue, I made it my priority to raise these issues with Sr. VP for Subways Sally Librera.

Management's position on hazard pay remains the same: they say they support it, but we believe they could do much more to push it forward. T-shirts are nice, but let's see management do more than photo ops.

I was assured by Stations Chief David Santoro that people would get paid on time, and that they will sort out the different pay categories (COVID, administrative, etc.) to make sure we have accurate checks. I have been assured of a focus on paying our teams that work OT.

**Mets masks:** We were promised them, and they will be handed out.

The yellow reflective shirts which I fought for and won are looking good in the field. Let's keep safe and professional.

— Robert Kelley  
Division Chair





# From the Desk of the Division Chair

By Robert Kelley  
Division Chair

I would like to thank all of you who sent me well wishes during the time I was out sick with the Coronavirus. Your thoughts and prayers were well received.



They truly helped me get through this terrible plague on our society.

Despite the obstacles during the pandemic, Station Department was up and running.

We fought hard to get the Collectors tour change to the night tour.

Our staff worked tirelessly and never gave up on service. To date, our member response time has significantly increased. Please continue to call our command center (5) days a week for service. Please be reminded that we intake all important

information to send to the various departments to make sure they get resolved.

Over the past year we have made many changes to operations. If you cannot reach a specific rep, please call another person and our office. Don't wait for that one rep. We are here to help. On all Labor Relation matters we are still at the lowest point in discipline. I have reorganized the entire office to keep pace with all sections in stations.

We still have a long way to go to keep our department strong. With your continued involvement, we will get there sooner than later.

Thanks to our Local 100 Communications Department, I was one of the dads who recovered from Covid 19 to be interviewed by the Daily News for a feature on Father's Day. I guess the photo editor thought I was so handsome (*laughing emoji*) that he had to blow up my photo almost the size the page. (below)

Anyway, I'm happy to be back doing my best to represent this great membership. Stay well, and stay strong.

## Updating Your Info And Beneficiaries

When was the last time you UPDATED your information? You may think this is no big deal, but it really is. Periodically you need to see if your beneficiary information, addresses, and emergency contact information is correct.

We get caught up in our day to day life. No one expects to pass away suddenly or get severely injured. Here is why we need to have the correct information in the necessary databases.

Occasionally a member will pass away and their beneficiary has preceded them in death. In this situation the benefit may NOT get disbursed to anyone.

We work long and hard for the benefits we have. Don't let the MTA, NYS Pension or Insurance Companies keep what you worked for. **Here are a few places that you need to contact:**

**Business Service Center (BSC) -**  
646-376-0123

**NYCERS -** 347-643-3000  
**Local 100 -** 212-873-6000

**Credit Union -** 212-693-4900  
**All State Insurance -** 732-242-8203

**Human Resources -** 347-643-8197

**For more info, call TWU Local 100 Member Services: 347-643-8067**

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## A SWEET DAY

Dads come back from brink of death and credit kin

BY NOAH GOLDBERG  
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

Their steady determination got them through COVID-19 — but on Father's Day, the families of these recovered dads will celebrate their hearts of gold.

Men comprised 10,000 plus of the more than 17,000 confirmed coronavirus deaths in the five boroughs, according to data from the city's Department of Health. These men bought the battle of their lives to be home for a Father's Day they'll never forget.

**GILBERTO FLORES, 53, UPS WORKER**

Gilberto Flores had more work than ever when the city shut down in March. With everyone at home, his job delivering packages for UPS got busier. He felt a fever coming on during a Friday shift in mid-March, his symptoms worsened and he considered going to the hospital.

"My back was killing me. I felt like I had fire in my lungs. But they said if you're breathing OK just stay home," the Brooklyn resident recalled.

Coronavirus quickly spread through his family. His three brothers got sick, as did his wife. One of his siblings died and another is recovering in bed.

"Life goes on and hopefully this virus goes away and never comes back. I have to be strong for my kids, my family and my wife," Flores said.

**LARRY HALE, 43, PARALEGAL**

When Larry Hale got sick in mid-March, he confused his respiratory symptoms with his exercise-induced asthma. "I didn't realize I had had COVID-19 until I started to lose my sense of smell and taste. That happened later," Hale recounted.

Now recovered, Hale is taking advantage of the time home with his two daughters. "I do all the cooking and the cleaning," Hale said. "It was a lot of work but I'm having a lot of fun being home with them all the time."



**DAVID HIRSCH, 47, ORAL SURGEON**

As an oral surgeon at Lenox Hill Hospital, David Hirsch was ready and willing to stand firm on the coronavirus front line.

But he never got a chance. Instead, the dis-

ease left him quarantined from his wife and three daughters for 18 days in their SoHo, Rockland County home.

"It takes such an emotional toll on top of the physical toll. After about seven weeks I think my lungs started to slowly

recover," he said. "I was terrified that if I got dropped at the hospital I might never see my wife and kids again."

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**NATHAN TUBBS, 37, MIDDLE-SCHOOL TEACHER**

Not even a coronavirus fever could stop Nathan Tubbs from remotely teaching his middle school students. "I would get up and sign in and then I would grab breakfast and sit at my desk and create lessons and interact with students," said Tubbs, a seventh-grade science teacher at Public School 36, Mary White Ovington School.

Tubbs spent three

weeks sequestered in his Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, home to protect his wife and three kids.

"It was quite fun coming back to the sun," he said. "Things you take for granted, it was nice to have them again."

## FOR FAMILIES

with giving them the strength to beat coronavirus

**GIL CALLAWAY, 32, NYC CORRECTION OFFICER**

Gil Callaway looked through the glass door at his 6-year-old son Camerion, whom he hadn't seen for over a month.

"Daddy, can't you come in?" the boy asked. "No baby, daddy has to stay away for a while," Callaway said. Callaway came down with a fever at the end of March. When he got a positive coronavirus test result he knew what he had to do.

"When I left I cried," Callaway said. "Not seeing my son, it was just hard. Everything I did I did for him." (When I got to see him again), he ran up to me and gave me a big hug," he said. "He said, 'Daddy, can we do this? Can we do that?' I said yes."

Anything to make him happy.



**ROBERT KELLEY, 57, HEAD OF STATIONS FOR THE TRANSIT WORKERS UNION**

All Robert Kelley thought about in March was making sure city transit workers had proper gear to protect them from the coronavirus.

He worked 20-hour days seven days a week, traveled to subway stations and interacted with MTA workers to make sure they were safe. By the end of the month he was sick with COVID-19.

**HUGO SOSA, 53, FDNY EMT CAPTAIN**

Hugo Sosa is in the business of saving lives, but for more than a month, it was his life hanging in the balance. He spent 40 days in a medically induced coma and another month in a rehabilitation facility recovering from basic tasks.

On Friday — his twins' 14th birthday — he was finally sent home.

"It's a dream come true to spend their birthday with them on the day I got released from rehab and then to spend Father's Day with them. I'm in a wonderful place right now," Sosa said.

A former member of the FDNY football team, coronavirus ravaged Sosa's body frame, leaving him a shadow of his former self.

His kids tested positive, and his wife, too, in a mother-in-law died of coronavirus.

"It pulls me apart emotionally to know that I want there to be my family," he said. "If it weren't for the strength and love of my family, my wife — they pulled me through with love."

Though home in the Bronx now, Kelley fought for his life during three hospitalizations in March and April. "The thought of not seeing my grandkids grow up. That was my greatest concern of all," Kelley said. "I'm a family man. My kids mean the world to me."

"I just want to make sure I keep them safe and we'll all celebrate real soon together. Thank God for these new shoes. It's good to see them but boy I can't wait to hold them," he said.

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DAVID HIRSCH: GUY LAWRENCE; KELLEY: JEFFREY M. HART; SOSA: JEFFREY M. HART

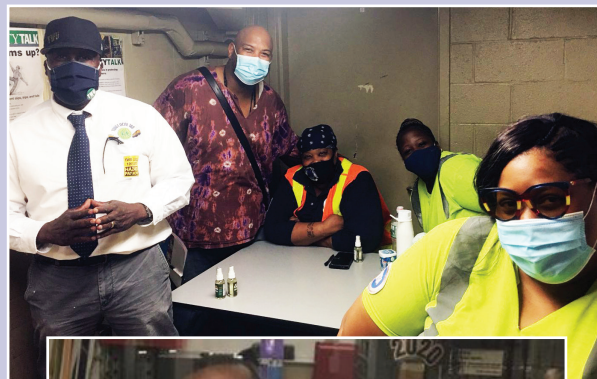




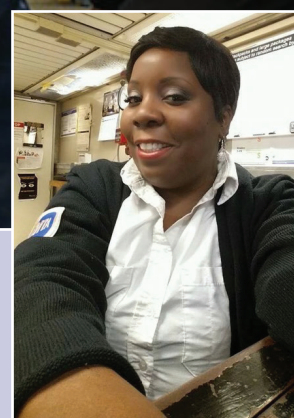
## *Around Town*







With TWU







# Big Win in Stations as Management Agrees to Release AVA's



**JUNE 17** — Stations' availability stats have been climbing since the worst of the pandemic, when many of our co-workers were quarantined or sick.

In spite of the sacrifices made every day by our workforce, management was adamant that they would continue to place a hold on AVA's

That changed today when your leadership challenged management directly. We asserted our contractual and legal rights —

and we can now report that as of this coming Monday, June 22, your AVA's requests will be honored.

— Lynwood Whichard  
Vice President



Issued by:

TWU Local 100, Dept. of Stations  
195 Montague Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201  
[www.twulocal100.org/stations](http://www.twulocal100.org/stations)





# Lactation Pods Now Operational at New Locations for Stations Dept.



In a victory for the Union last year, location PODS were installed at Boro Hall on the 2,3,4 and 5 line and at Parsons Archer in Queens.



**PODS** are a private space where a mother may express her breast milk during her workday to bring it home later to her child.

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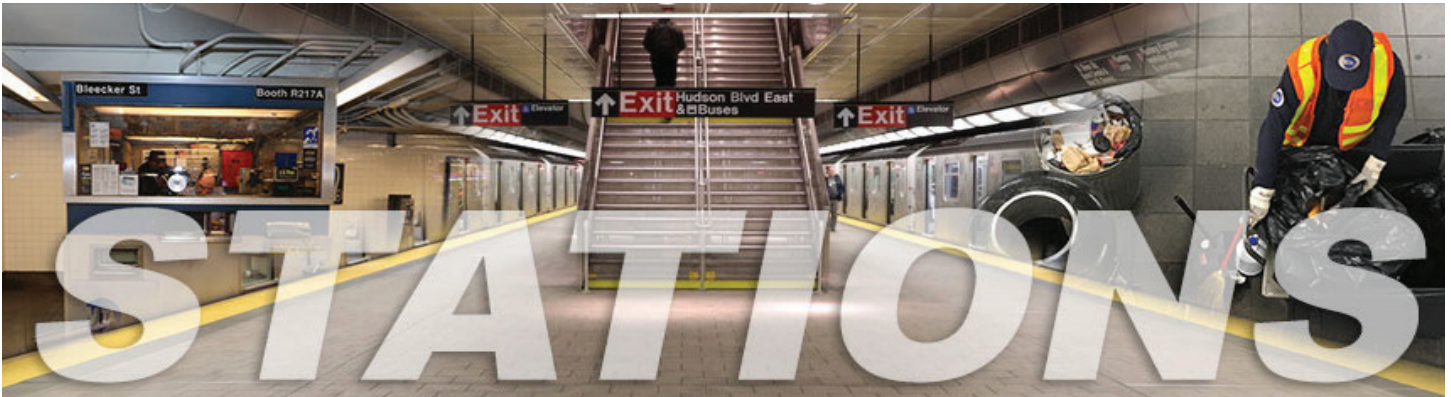
TWU Local 100, Dept. of Stations  
195 Montague Street, Brooklyn, NY  
11201 • [www.twulocal100.org/stations](http://www.twulocal100.org/stations)  
[www.twulocal100.org/stations](http://www.twulocal100.org/stations)

For additional Lactation locations in Station Department, members should contact Sr. Director Ms. Dawn Rose, from NYCT at (718) 694-3085. You can email her at [Dawn.Rose@nyct.com](mailto:Dawn.Rose@nyct.com). You can also contact your union representative, Ms. Spearman-Martin at (917) 434-0311 or email her at: [sspearman-martin@twulocal100.org](mailto:sspearman-martin@twulocal100.org).





# Union Puts Our Questions to Management Amid Photo-Op



JUNE 11 — Members appreciated the “NY Tough” t-shirts distributed by management at Hudson Yards, but **Sarah Feinberg**, who is now the President of New York City Transit (photo at right) was not familiar with the fact that Station supervision has been slow to complete paperwork, resulting in missing paychecks for many members.



In response to my question about hazard pay, Ms. Feinberg said she looks to the federal government for aid, rather than committing to finding the money here and now. Asked about a contract for our Brother and Sisters at the other MTA unions, she also pleaded poverty on behalf of the MTA.

She is new on the job but she knows how to pull the levers of power. Bringing the system back means supporting the workers on these issues.



— **Lynwood Whichard**  
VP, Stations Dept

