



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DOT-R-03  
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The Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration cited a highway safety compliance engineer, John M. Williams, with a \$300 cash award for his superior services as an Equal Employment Opportunity Counselor.

Secretary of Transportation Claude S. Brinegar said, "Mr. Williams seems to possess the qualities required of an effective employment counselor. Those qualities include a sensitive understanding of human relations, a patient ability to listen, and a creative talent to achieve a meaningful resolution of a grievance.

"I believe that it was this type of EEO Counselor that President Nixon had in mind when he approved this approach to meeting the challenge of federal government job discrimination," the Secretary said.

Williams, a New Orleans native and 1957 graduate of the Howard University School of Engineering and Architecture, has for over three years combined his service as an EEO Counselor with his professional work of inspecting and investigating motor vehicles to assure that manufacturers comply with safety standards. He is the first recipient of this award in his Department's operating administration.

In his counseling role, Williams works closely with employees and management officials to reach informal resolutions of complaints that arise in the general employment area and are based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

In addition to his regular job and his EEO Counseling, Williams serves as a member of his agency's EEO Committee, a group of equality-conscious employees who advise and assist agency officials in achieving maximum EEO results.

Since becoming a Department of Transportation (DOT) employee in early 1968, Williams has twice been honored for the quality of his engineering work. During his first year in DOT, his work merited him an "Outstanding Performance Rating." Later he received a "quality step increase" which added an additional sum of over \$500 to his annual salary.

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Prior to his DOT employment, Williams worked for nearly 10 years in the contracting and logistical areas of engineering in two installations of the Department of Defense. These were the Defense Contract Administrative Service District, Grand Rapids, Michigan, and the Air Force Logistics Command, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma. Before beginning his Federal career, he worked briefly in private industry as an electronics engineer.

While a student at Howard University, Williams was active in engineering related organizations. In addition to being a member of the University's Amateur Radio Society, he was vice chairman of campus units of both the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and the Institute of Radio Engineers. He was also Senior Class secretary in the School of Engineering and Architecture.

Williams, who now resides with his family in Columbia, Maryland, is married to the former Gloria Jean Wade, daughter of the late Mrs. Esther Wade of West Perkins Street, Guthrie, Oklahoma and sister of Marcus Wade of 304 Northwest 88th St., Oklahoma City. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have two daughters, Pamela, 15 and Crystal, 11. In his hometown of New Orleans, the engineer's closest relatives are a sister, Miss Jessie M. Williams, and a brother, George Williams, Jr., both of 1940 Hendee Court.

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