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ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

CENTERLINE

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AHTD Dedicates New Materials Testing Facility

After 22 years at the AHTD Central Headquarters complex, the Materials Division has moved to one of the most modern materials testing facilities of any highway agency in the country. With approximately 25 percent more laboratory space, easy accessibility to computer and utility hook-ups and a variety of self-cleaning mechanisms, the Materials Division employees now have a more efficient operation than ever before. "We visited many other laboratories around the country prior to designing this facility," said Dan Flowers, Director of Highways and Transportation.



Front view of the administrative office of the Materials testing facility.



Commission Chairman John "M" Lipton, center with large scissors, along with Director Dan Flowers, and Commissioners J.W. "Buddy" Benafield, Prissy Hickerson and Jonathan Barnett and members of the Brian Grant family cut the ribbon to formally open the new Materials Building.

"We have incorporated into this building the best of what we found in the other facilities."

The \$8.4 million building houses five laboratory sections, administrative offices, a modernized training room with complete audio and video equipment, and a library/conference room. The building is equipped with computer controlled fume and dust collection systems, noise and dust control for each material testing station, specialized moisture and temperature control systems, and computer controlled temperature zones for each lab section.

At the dedication ceremony on Thursday, June 7, Flowers recognized the family of Brian

Grant, who tragically lost his life during construction of the building. At the request of the family, a dogwood tree was planted in memory of Grant on the grounds of the facility.

Highway Commission Chairman John "M" Lipton commented, after seeing the facility first-hand, "With tests performed on everything from soil, rock and asphalt to the mixture of anti-freeze and diesel fuel purchased by the AHTD, Materials laboratory evaluations

help us determine if supplies and roadways meet the high standards the citizens of Arkansas expect."

One of the five laboratories simulates the repetitive beatings our roadways receive from vehicle tires in an attempt to measure rutting tendencies in asphalt mixtures.

Construction began on the building in November 1999 and was completed in February 2001. Cromwell Architects Engineers of Little Rock designed the facility

and Flynco, Inc. of Little Rock was the general contractor.

The laboratory is certified by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), which is a requirement for performing material tests on federal-aid highway projects.

Following the dedication, all Central Office and local District 6 employees were invited to tour the facility.



Mike Limbird, Staff Materials Engineer, leads Highway Commission members Jonathan Barnett, Prissy Hickerson, Buddy Benefield and John Lipton, along with members of the media, on an in-depth tour of the different laboratories in the Materials Building.



Reggie Cobb, center, Materials Technician IV, explains tests performed in the Geotechnical/Soils Laboratory.



Director Dan Flowers, far right, talks with Jerry Westerman, Assistant Materials Division Head, and other Department employees.



Tommy Fish, left, Executive Vice President of Associated General Contractors, at the Materials Building dedication with Dan Flowers.



Paul Davenport, left, the on-site representative for Cromwell Architects Engineers, talks with Jane Wilson, Chief of Administration and Public Affairs.

11th Annual AHTD Equipment Operators' ROADEO

A steady dose of morning rain on June 7, 2001, didn't stop some 70 participants heading into the finals of the 11th annual Equipment Operators' Roadeo. For the first time District 8 captured the team title, as District Engineer Frank Russenberger proudly proclaimed, "We have a special place for this award."

"I'm proud of all the employees that competed this year," said AHTD Director Dan Flowers. "It's a great atmosphere for friendly competition and everyone that participates is a winner."

"I'd personally like to thank each of you for your commitment to the Department," said Highway Commission Chairman John "M" Lipton.

2001 TEAM CHAMPION District 8



Commission Chairman John "M" Lipton, center, presents the Team Champion plaque to District 8 Engineer Frank Russenberger. Left to right: Dennis Langston, Larry Brazil, Kenny Howard, Jay Rankin, Commissioner Lipton, Darrell Carter, Jim Standridge, District Engineer Frank Russenberger, Larry Wilson, and Commissioner Jonathan Barnett

ROADEO 2001 STATEWIDE WINNERS



TRACTOR/MOWER

L-R: 1st place, Fred Ridenhour, District 4; 2nd place, Clarence Edwards, District 2; 3rd place, Darrell Carter, District 8



TRACTOR/LOWBOY

L-R: 1st place, Mike Schmalz, District 4; 2nd place, Steve Sites, District 2; 3rd place, Jim Standridge, District 8



SINGLE AXLE DUMP TRUCK

L-R: 1st place Jimmy Pulley, District 1; 2nd place, Jay Rankin, District 8; 3rd place, Kim Tippy, District 10



TANDEM AXLE DUMP TRUCK

L-R: 1st place, Larry Wilson, District 8; 2nd place, Kenny Howard, District 8; 3rd place, Stanley Rogers, District 3



MOTOR PATROL

L-R: 1st place, Randall Edgmon, District 9; 2nd place, Joey McClanahan, District 1; 3rd place, Pete Gentry, District 3



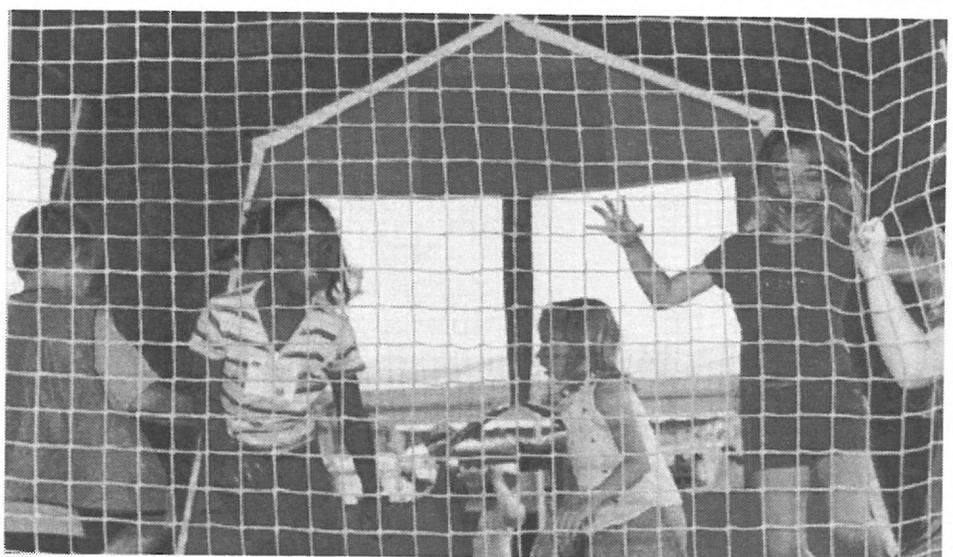
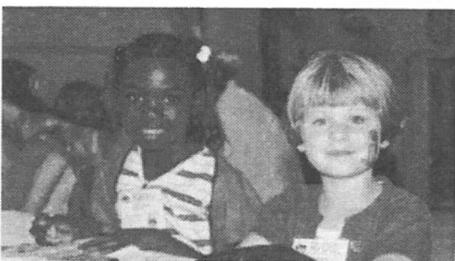
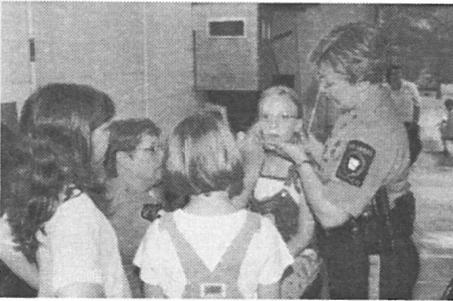
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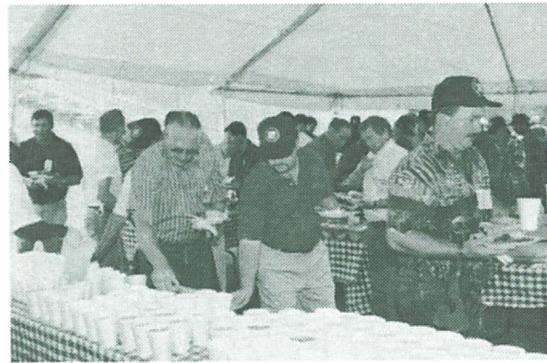
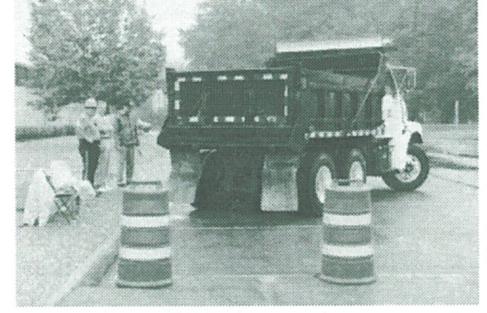
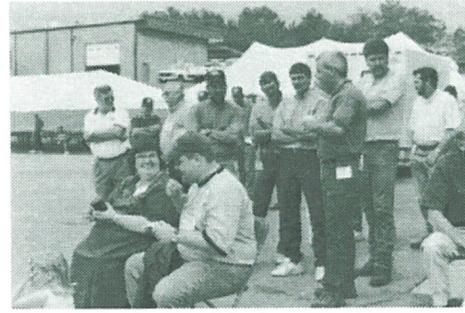
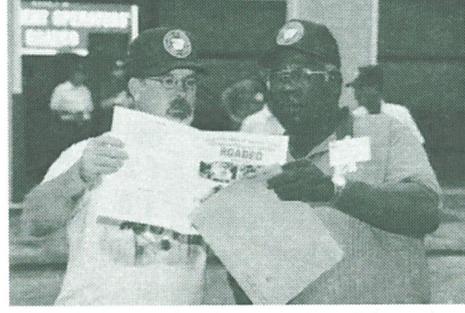
L-R: 1st place, Kenny Riley, District 9; 2nd place, Larry Brazil, District 8; 3rd place, Rick Hale, District 10

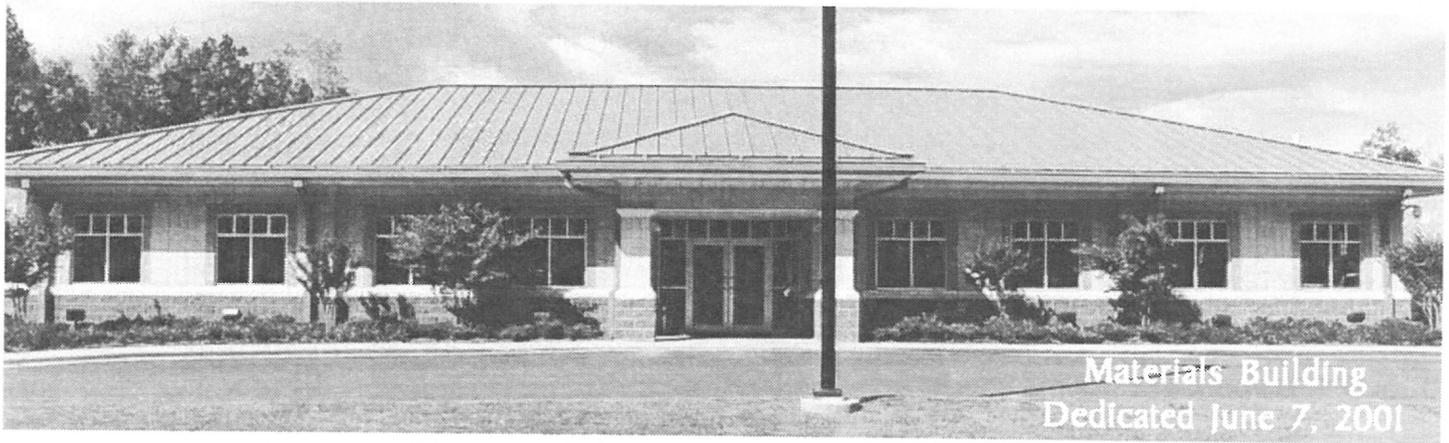


2001 STATE CHAMPIONS

L-R: Mike Schmalz, District 4, Tractor/Lowboy; Randall Edgmon, District 9, Motor Patrol; Fred Ridenhour, District 4, Tractor/Mower; Kenny Riley, District 9, Backhoe; Larry Wilson, District 8, Tandem Axle Dump Truck; Jimmy Pulley, District 1, Single Axle Dump Truck







Materials Building
Dedicated June 7, 2001

Commission Adopts Catastrophic Leave Policy Change Recommended by Statewide Employee Advisory Committee

The Arkansas Highway Commission has adopted a recommendation from the Department's Statewide Employee Advisory Committee to revise the requirements for donating to the Catastrophic Leave Bank. The following is a summary of changes:

Section III - Donation of Leave to the Catastrophic Leave Bank

Employees donating to the Catastrophic Leave Bank must have a combined total of eighty (80) hours sick and annual leave after the donation, with a minimum balance of forty (40) hours sick leave.

Prior to this change by Minute Order 2001-098 on May 16, 2001, employees had been required to have a balance of 40 hours annual leave and 40 hours sick leave after donating to the bank.

The Advisory Committee's recommendation was based on input from employees who have large sick leave balances but who utilize annual leave at a greater rate due to family responsibilities, extended vacations, and hunting trips.

"This policy change recognizes that the Advisory Committee process works and that the Highway Commission is open to employee recommendations," remarked AHTD Director Dan Flowers.

AHTD RETIREMENTS

William Cardwell, Highway Police Corporal, retired May 18 with 20+ years

J.C. Parrish, District 4 Sealing Job Superintendent, retired May 16 with 27+ years

James Glisson, Jr., District 9 Maintenance Aide II, retired May 16 with 26+ years

John (JP) Sumner, Bridge Structural Detailing Specialist, retired May 10 with 29+ years

Leland Reed, District 4 Motor Patrol Operator/Finish, retired May 3 with 15+ years

Jimmy Cooper, District 9 Multi-Axle Truck Driver, retired May 2 with 23+ years

Eugene Rachal, District 2 Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator, retired May 1 with 28+ years

Ronald Hedges, District 5 Assistant Maintenance Supt., retired May 31 with 37+ years

Jerry Brown, District 10 Station Attendant II, retired May 4 with 9+ years

Waylon Chambers, District 6 Construction Project Coordinator, retired May 16 with 21+ years

Charles Ludwig, District 10 Motor Patrol Operator/Finish, retired May 4 with 30+ years

The AHTD CENTERLINE

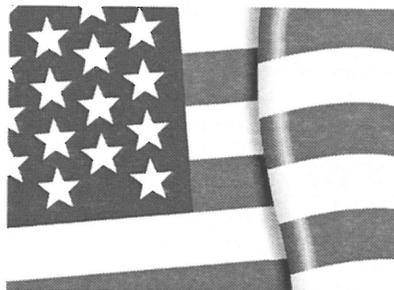
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ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

JOHN "M" LIPTON, CHAIRMAN
J.W. "BUDDY" BENAFIELD, VICE CHAIRMAN
MARY P. "PRISSY" HICKERSON
JONATHAN BARNETT
CARL S. ROSENBAUM

DAN FLOWERS
DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

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INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY

In accordance with Highway Commission policy, Wednesday, July 4, 2001, will be a holiday for Highway and Transportation Department employees in observance of Independence Day. Work will be suspended statewide other than for emergencies and to provide essential services.

AHTD PEOPLE



MAY 2001

NEW EMPLOYEES

BRIDGE

Kyle Yeary, Civil Engineering Technician

HIGHWAY POLICE

Martin Allen, Joy Bean, William Crabb, Clyde Crookham, Jr., Larry Curtis, Kathy Davis, Robert Garrett, Jr., B. Goshien, Timothy Gushing, Louis Hatchett, Dwayne Hines, Jr., James Ludwig, Gregory Massey, Roy Mayo, Brian McEntire, Sharon Moosman, Michael Partain, Mark Pyburn, Eric Rhinhouse, Robin Samons, William Scott, Jr., Michael Shamoon, Ruddy Short, Darren Smith, Glen Smith, Louie Smith, Ricky Smith, Jimmy Turney, Danny Williford, Patrol Officers

MAINTENANCE

Roosevelt Lanier, General Laborer
Michael Webb, Donnie Foster, Single Axle Truck Drivers

MATERIALS

Kevin Beadle, General Laborer

PLANNING & RESEARCH

Robert Reed, Administrative Aide V

PROGRAMS & CONTRACTS

Susan Bunch, Safety Program Manager
Monica Fuller, Office Admin. Asst. II

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Glenn Bolick, Administrative Assistant II

ROADWAY

Catherine Funkhouser, Charles Palmer, Civil Engineers

SURVEYS

Mitchell Roberts, Kevin Williams, Surveys Helpers

DISTRICT ONE

Sammie Macklin, Kennedy Ezell, General Laborers
Jerry Yankaway, Jarrod Wilson, Single Axle Truck Drivers

DISTRICT TWO

Randy Chambers, Bradley Conner, Leoyd Robinson, Jr., General Laborers
James Harvest, Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT FOUR

Louis Edwards, Bobbi Smith, Phillip Snodgrass, General Laborers
James Ihle, Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT SIX

George Robinson, General Laborer
J. Rogers, Construction Field Engineer II

DISTRICT SEVEN

Gerald Billingsley, Connie Howard, Sharron Moore, Single Axle Truck Drivers
Stacey Rane, General Laborer

DISTRICT EIGHT

Brian Fry, Construction Aide I

DISTRICT NINE

Melissa Missey, District Caretaker
Clifford Ferguson, Kerri Gonzalez, Single Axle Tr. Drs.

DISTRICT TEN

Jesse Boyd, Dallas Thurman, Single Axle Truck Drivers
Joyce Nash, General Laborer

PROMOTIONS

COMPUTER SERVICES

Dana Benetz, Software Analyst I

CONSTRUCTION

Phyllis Barnett-Cook, Administrative Aide V
Michael Sebren, Civil Engineer VI

HUMAN RESOURCES

Kathy Campbell, Personnel Auditing Clerk
Brian Gilliam, Maintenance Aide I
Tara Robinson, Training Coordinator

MAINTENANCE

Marilyn Heath, Software Analyst III
Rodney Shelton, Lowboy or Float Truck Driver
Pete Wright, Pavement Profiler Operator
Danny Bowen, Benjamin Smith, Heavy Bridge Repairers I
William Reed, Heavy Bridge Repairer II

MATERIALS

Jack Hart, Inspector
Travis Minor, Jeremy Moser, Geotechnical Aides
Allan Susoeff, Jr., Civil Engineer I

PLANNING & RESEARCH

Elizabeth Mayfield-Hart, Trans. Planning Engineer

PROGRAMS & CONTRACTS

Natasha Searfoss, Administrative Aide I

SURVEYS

Johnny Collins, George Fullerton, Surveys Aides I
Angie Carter, Charles Greenway, Matthew Rowland, Joshua Thompson, Surveys Aides II
Lee Gates, Kenneth Scott, Surveys Aide III
Donald Sims, Surveys Crew Chief
Tony Woolldridge, Surveys Technician II

DISTRICT I

Carl Andrews, Sign Crew Supervisor
Jeffery Collier, Area Maintenance Supervisor
James Leon, Jr., Maintenance Aide I
James Fingers, John Pruett, Jr., Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator

DISTRICT 2

Barron Johnson, Maintenance Aide I
Cynthia Plunkett, Office Admin. Asst. V

DISTRICT 3

William Cheatham, Construction Field Engineer II

DISTRICT 4

John Cole, Daniel Dickerson, Single Axle Truck Drivers
Paul Forst, Distributor Operator
Stephanie Kopf, Construction Materials Inspector
Julie Moreton, Bridge Repairer I
Michael Pickens, Sealing Job Superintendent
Karen Strunk, Field Clerk II
Shelly Wright, Storeroom Assistant II

DISTRICT 5

Robert Jackson, Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 6

Jerry Atchley, Sandra Chapman, Rodney Landers, Construction Aides II
James Bingham, Flunnoy Brazwell, Kenneth Bush, Charles Spencer, Single Axle Truck Drivers
Karen Colclasure, Office Admin. Asst. V
Larry Hazeslip, Roller Operator
Roy Johnson, Storeroom Supervisor
Lesli Taggart, Resident Office Technician
Mark Voyles, Inspector
Gary Wallis, Maintenance Aide I

DISTRICT 7

Michael Barnett, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish
James Delaney, Jr., Spreader Operator
James Hardnett, Maintenance Aide II
Jerry Parker, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator

DISTRICT 8

Donald Berry, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator
Seth Houghton, Distributor Operator
William Linton, Civil Engineer I
Andrew May, Maintenance Aide II
Marcus Rainwater, Construction Field Engineer II
Ora Robinson, Single Axle Truck Driver
Bobby Ward, Construction Aide I

DISTRICT 9

Robert Bolin, Ronnie Friddle, Distributor/Roller Oprs.
Anthony Breedlove, Dozer Operator/Finish
Thomas Dixon, Bridge Repairer II
Gary Doving, Maintenance Aide II
Brenda Flower, Roller Operator
George Risley, Area Maintenance Supervisor

DISTRICT 10

Timothy Eaker, Inspector
Tonya Laws, Backhoe/Front End Loader Opr.
Rufus Mitchell, Jr., Jeffery Rawls, Single Axle Truck Drs.

SERVICE

35 YEARS

Gary Smith, D5 Senior Inspector

30 YEARS

Shirley McElroy, Internal Audit Office Admin. Asst. IV
Irwin Richmond, D4 Motor Patrol Operator/Finish
Arthur Pumphrey, Jr., D7 Motor Patrol Operator/Finish
James Watson, D7 Maintenance Aide II
Joe Barnett, D10 District Engineer

25 YEARS

Marilyn Heath, AHP Permit Admin. Asst. III
Nancy Summers, P&C Technician II
Jerry Stovall, D6 Area Maintenance Supervisor
Larietha Patterson, D6 Construction Aide III
Dennis Burke, D7 Senior Mechanic
Tony Harrington, D7 Sr. Construction Materials Inspector
James Bridges, D8 Multi-Axle Truck Driver
Jerry Smith, D9 Crew Leader
Alfreda Wilson, D10 Resident Office Technician

20 YEARS

Douglas Honey, AHP Sergeant
Randal Cooper, D10 Storeroom Supervisor

15 YEARS

Margaret Sithong, Computer Services Lead Section Analyst
Nicholas Phillips, AHP Patrol Officer First Class
Jesse Koenigsberg, Maintenance Telecommunications Opr.
Bill Ryan, P&C Railroad Crossing Coordinator
Joe Sartini, D1 Resident Engineer
James White, D2 Area Headquarters Attendant
Rickey Tippitt, D2 Maintenance Aide II
Franklin Reynolds, D2 Motor Patrol Operator
Ray Spears, D2 Crew Leader
Terry Emerson, D4 Motor Patrol Operator
Robert Skelton, D5 Crane Operator/Finish
Dennis St. John, D5 Station Attendant II
Bobby Wilkerson, D5 Bridge Repairer II
Nora McLaughlin, D5 Construction Aide II
James Smith, D6 Construction Aide II
John Caldwell, D6 Maintenance Aide II
Hurley Phillips, D7 Bridge Repairer II
Hulet Jacobs, D8 Construction Materials Inspector
Donna Moore, D10 Area Headquarters Attendant
David Hayes, D10 Distributor/Roller Operator

10 YEARS

Judy Marchese, Fiscal Services Data Entry Operator
James Thomas, AHP Patrol Officer First Class
Monica Davis, AHP Data Entry Operator
Paul Dorsey, HR Elec., Pl. & Mechanical Repairer
Dorothy Rhodes, P&R Adv. Research Study Engineer
Phillip Ammons, State Aid Section Head
Jon Holcomb, Surveys Aide III
Carroll Lathan, Safety Inspection Officer
Tony Palmer, D1 Motor Patrol Operator/Finish
Thale Keisling, D2 Resident Engineer
Charlie Ryder, D7 Backhoe/Front End Loader Opr.
Betty Sindle, D7 Personnel Clerk
Gary Hensley, D8 Area Headquarters Attendant
Stacy Johnson, D9 Multi-Axle Truck Driver
Vickie Branum, D10 Rest Area Attendant

5 YEARS

Rickey Ring, Maintenance Sign Crew Supervisor
Patricia Bending, P&C Technician I
Raymond Dawson, D2 Multi-Axle Truck Driver
John Moorehead, D2 Multi-Axle Truck Driver
Frances Betts, D2 Single Axle Truck Driver
Dolph Mathis, D4 Single Axle Truck Driver
Jamie Oxford, D4 Storeroom Assistant II
Travis Evans, D4 Multi-Axle Truck Driver
David Rose, D4 Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator
Floyd Haley, D5 Single Axle Truck Driver
John Pendergrass, D5 Single Axle Truck Driver
Angela Turner, D7 Area Headquarters Attendant
Jimmy Daniel, D8 Bridge Repairer I
Janet Smith, D9 Construction Helper II
Lenny Fulco, D10 Distributor Operator
Brian Rowe, D10 Adv. Construction Field Engineer