
Fleet Spotlight: DEP's Matt Freud and His Family of Service

By Destiny Fierro & Keith T. Kerman



This week, our newsletter spotlights Matthew Freud of Fleet Management at the NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and also his extraordinary family of public servants.

Matt started as a temporary worker at the Department of Buildings (DOB) in April of 2016. He was encouraged to return to college, received a degree in Diesel

Technology, and later earned a bachelor's degree in automotive business. He continued his education all while working for DOB.

After graduating, he joined the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in March 2022, seeking the challenge of working with an agency that had a large fleet. First, he was hired as a life cycle specialist for DEP's fleet. He is currently an Acquisitions Project Manager working closely with the Director of Fleet Management at DEP, Paris Apollon.

Matthew is helping to upgrade and restore DEP's complex and specialized fleet of trucks, developing specifications and working to ensure that the trucks are built correctly and for maximum performance and efficiency. Matt follows the process from design and fabrication, final delivery, inspection, and then use in the field. He works with his team at DEP on budgeting and creating cost projections.



Matthew's favorite part of the job is working directly with operators to design and put into production new specialized equipment and, increasingly, electric vehicles that will be purchased. Matthew also enjoys his various coworkers, who have different backgrounds and come from other cities, and learning from them.

His proudest recent accomplishment is DEP's FY24 capital equipment plan. "It was the first major capital equipment plan in years at DEP," states Matt. "The goal was to make a difference in the agency's operations and get new vehicles ordered and built to help the city and agency succeed." A challenge for the fleet is the dispersion of DEP, not just within the boroughs, but also throughout the watershed upstate. Matt does his best to understand and respond to the needs of all the fleet's internal customers.

"Matt has always been interested in vehicles," explains DEP Fleet Director Paris Apollon. "From his college studies to his current work duties, he works diligently to gain experience in fleet management and the knowledge necessary to be successful in the industry. Matt's greatest quality is that he cares about his coworkers and always goes above and beyond to accommodate their needs and to assist when they need help."

Matthew comes from a family of civil servants. His mother, Judith Pincus, held various operational roles, primarily in the Department of Social Services, ensuring that all New Yorkers received assistance. Matthew's aunt, Salome Freud, works at DEP as the First Deputy Director of Water Quality, ensuring that our city's drinking water remains among the best in the world. His uncle Charlie Olsen works for DEP's capital division, developing blue belts, which are ecologically rich and cost-effective drainage systems.

Matthew's grandmother, Olive, was a public-school math teacher and an energetic and impactful public activist. Olive [passed](#) away this July. His grandfather, Edgar, was also a dedicated and engaged environmentalist.

Before his passing, Matthew's father, Conan Freud, served as the Assistant Commissioner for the Department of Transportation (DOT) fleet management. According to Matthew, he enjoyed working for DOT the most, but he also served as the First Deputy Commissioner for TLC and a director at OMB.



Conan [Freud](#) was one of so many heroic NYC public servants who served at Ground Zero after 9-11 and endured severe health impacts.

Matt never expected to pursue public service, much less fleet and automotive. He enjoyed theatre technology in high school. The call of service was strong, however, and the fleet has been the beneficiary. In a time of challenge for public servants, Matt and his family represent the best of both direct government service and public activism and engagement, serving and improving New York City every day and giving their all for this great city.

VISION ZERO

Building a Safer City



Wednesday, October 8th, 2025

Queens Theatre, Flushing Meadows Corona Park

DCAS and Together for Safer Roads invite you to the 2025 Vision Zero Fleet Safety Forum!

The event will bring together leading stakeholders from public and private fleets, innovative safety technology companies, policy experts, and road safety advocates for an exciting day of speeches, panel discussions, and breakout sessions.

Join us as we discuss how to systematically build safety into our roads, vehicles, and fleet operations.

The event is free and includes breakfast and a networking lunch.

RSVPs are required. Please RSVP at <https://visionzero2025.rsvpify.com/>.

Event Schedule:

Networking
breakfast begins:

7:30 a.m.

Program begins:

8:30 a.m.

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Help fight flu this season by getting your flu shot:

- Worksite Flu Clinics | Start September 8
- [Make an appointment](#) to get your flu shot for free, quickly, and conveniently at a worksite near you.
- 2025 Wellness Block Party | September 17 @ 12 – 2 PM

Get your flu shot and join us at 1 Centre Street. [Register here](#)

Want to Host a Flu Clinic at your Worksite? [Request a clinic here](#).

If you have additional questions, email workwell@olr.nyc.gov.



Hear from Eric

The Adams administration is dedicated to cutting through the noise and delivering information directly to you and all New Yorkers.

Sign up to "Hear From Eric" and get direct messages from City Hall, tailored to your interests and neighborhood, sent directly to your inbox - at nyc.gov/hearfromeric!

Week in Review | August 23 - August 29



I hope you all had a safe and fun Labor Day Weekend! Not a day goes by that I'm not impressed by the work you all do for New York City. From saving lives to installing sewer lines, every job matters. Each one of you makes this a better city for the working-class families we fight for.

Last week, we kept those families safe and successful. We believe in smart investments to solve problems and being on the ground when problems emerge. Here's what we did:

- Expanded our Commercial Driver's License program 15-fold, [connecting 300 justice-involved New Yorkers to good-paying jobs](#) in a sector desperate for workers.
- [Surged NYPD officers](#) and crisis management teams to the Bronx after a series violent incidents.

Click below to learn about DCAS' FY24 Annual Report

[DCAS Celebrates the Release of FY24 Annual Report | City of New York](#)

Check out past editions of the Fleet Newsletter

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 504, August 22, 2025:](#) Celebrating the 2025 Summer Automotive High School Interns

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 503, August 7, 2025:](#) Fleet Spotlight: DSNY's Naveed Khan and Electric Vehicle (EV) Training

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 502, August 1, 2025:](#) Online Vehicle Auctions With DCAS

Check out the [complete archive](#).