

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITIONS

July 2026





Gerardo Mondragon

Bus Operator

5 Years Service Award

As a Bus Operator, Gerardo has spent the past five years providing safe and reliable transportation to the communities we serve. Before joining GCTD, he dedicated many years to working at Nordhoff High School in Ojai.



GCTD has become a family tradition for Gerardo. His brother-in-law, Jaime Espinosa, has proudly served as a Bus Operator since 2004, and his nephew was recognized for reaching his own five-year service milestone just last month.

Outside of work, Gerardo is an avid animal lover and enjoys caring for his dogs. He says what he appreciates most about working at GCTD is the supportive partnership among employees and management, the reliability of the work, and the friendships he has built with his coworkers. He values the fair and supportive leadership and the teamwork that make GCTD an enjoyable place to work.

Congratulations, Gerardo, on reaching this important milestone, and thank you for your five years of dedication and service to Gold Coast Transit District.

Thank You, Gerardo, for Your Service!



Robert Estrada

Bus Operator

10 Years Service Award



I'd like to recognize Robert as he celebrates 10 years of service as a Bus Operator. During his time with us, Robert has embraced every opportunity to grow and serve, from becoming an SEIU Union Steward and Revenue Trainer to serving on the Planning Committee and supporting both his coworkers and the community. He values the opportunity to work alongside outstanding coworkers and management and takes pride in providing excellent service to our customers.

Robert has shared that he looks forward to a future retirement from our organization, a testament to the appreciation and commitment he has developed over the past decade. His favorite quote is, *"I don't just want to be useful and bring enjoyment to all people, even those I've never met. I want to go on living even after my death."* That sentiment reflects the positive impact he strives to have on everyone around him. Please join me in congratulating Robert on his 10 years of dedicated service and thanking him for his many contributions to our organization.

Thank You, Robert, for Your Service!



Jacob Galindo

Bus Operator

10 Years Service Award



Throughout his 10 years with us, Jacob has consistently demonstrated professionalism, reliability, and a strong commitment to safety and customer service. His outstanding driving record, dedication to serving our passengers, and positive attitude have made him a respected and valued member of our team.

Jacob's contributions extend well beyond driving. Three years ago, he received a commendation for his quick thinking and attentiveness in helping locate a missing child, reflecting his commitment to the safety and well-being of the community we serve. Jacob often shares that what he values most about working here is the sense of family and support from his coworkers, and we are grateful for his 10 years of outstanding service. We congratulate him on this milestone and look forward to many more years of his contributions to our organization.

Thank You, Jacob, for Your Service!



Rosa Meza-Garcia

Bus Operator

10 Years Service Award



We are proud to recognize Rosa for her 10 Years of Service with GCTD!

For the past decade, Rosa has served as a dedicated and dependable bus driver, playing an important role in safely transporting and supporting our community every day. Before joining GCTD, she worked as a beekeeper in Hawaii, bringing with her a strong work ethic and a unique background that reflects her adaptability and care for both people and the environment.

Rosa shares that what she values most about working at GCTD is the opportunity to serve our community and work alongside such a dedicated and supportive team. Over the past 10 years, she has had the chance to learn, grow, and build meaningful relationships, and she is grateful to be part of the organization.

Please join us in congratulating Rosa on this incredible milestone and thanking her for a decade of outstanding service!

Thank You, Rosa, for Your Service!



Alexander Zaretsky

Director of Human Resources

20 Years Service Award



Today we are proud to recognize Alex Zaretsky for 20 years of dedicated service. Since joining GCTD in 2006, Alex has served the District in several important leadership roles. As HR & Risk Manager, he helped strengthen our safety and risk management programs, and in 2022, he was promoted to Director of Human Resources where he leads a small but mighty team in recruitment, benefits, and much more.

Throughout his career, Alex has been known for his dedication and professionalism in handling HR matters with integrity. He approaches every employee situation with empathy and a commitment to supporting both our employees and the District. Most recently, Alex and his team are leading our agency in labor relations efforts, employee recognition programs, as well as efforts to protect employee safety.

Congratulations on this well-deserved milestone.

Thank You, Alex, for Your Service!