

# TA & MaBSTOA UNITED

NEWSLETTER | APRIL 2022

## Your Right To Know:

### Tier 6: What Changed + What Didn't

By: Michael Enriquez



Scan the QR code above to learn about: the Tier 6 amendments, what changed + what didn't.

## Empower Replaces Prudential as 401K Service Provider.

By: Michael Enriquez

As of April 1st, 2022, Empower acquired Prudential Retirement. This means that Empower will be taking over the servicing of our 401K/457b plans. Currently, you can continue to access your account via the Prudential website as they transition their business operations to Empower. Empower is the 2nd largest retirement services provider in the U.S. managing approximately \$1.1 trillion on behalf of 13 million American workers and retirees through roughly 67,000 plans.

*info Corner*

The Training and Upgrade Fund will host webinars on Tuition Reimbursement on May 12th, 2022. Up to \$4,000 is Available. Call 718-780-8700 to reserve your spot.

## Transit Workers Who Helped Riders to Safety Honored.

By: Daniel Cruz

For transit workers' - day in and day out, no two days are alike and Tuesday, April 12th, 2022 proved this saying to be true when an active shooter situation unfolded at the 36th Street subway station in Brooklyn. On Friday, April 15th, 2022, the NYC Mayor's office honored 5 transit workers who showed up and showed out to bring New Yorkers to safety - keeping their cool amid the chaos. One of those 5 transit workers was Jackie Gleason Depot's very own, Parla Mejia, who while operating the B37 route evacuated many from the dangerous scene.

Violent crime within the NYC transit system has skyrocketed, according to NYPD statistics there has been a 68% increase in major felonies within the system. If the riders aren't safe - neither are we.



TA Surface 2nd Division Vice-Chairman, Donahugh Clarke (left) alongside Jackie Gleason Bus Operator, Parla Mejia (center) and TA Surface Division Chairman Ronald Carter (right).

# Unity - A Word Spoken But Rarely Practiced.

By: Frank DeJesus

**UNITY!** A common point that en faces union rank and file workers - but, why isn't it more abundant?

A substantial reason for the division within our union lies in the lack of support for free speech and respect for non-conforming Stewards - any type of argument is taken as disrespect and any action by a Steward is taken with paranoid disdain. ***This makes enemies of allies*** and all in all, is an awful strategy for building a strong union.

In a leader centric environment, people should voice their opinion so that democracy can thrive. ***Unity only works under the understanding that there are two sides. But neither side is bigger than the mission.***

Workers' power is vital for our future, recognizing that the true enemy is the MTA is paramount!

***"The greatest threat to freedom is the absence of criticism."***

- Wole Soyinka

*Subscribe!*

Scan the QR code to subscribe to the e-mail version of this Newsletter



# Bronx Redesign Pick Sparks Questionable Arbitration Decision.

By: Michael Enriquez

The Bronx Bus Network Redesign is set to go into effect on Sunday, June 26th, 2022. In Mid-April, Arbitrator Edelman rendered a non-precedental decision regarding the Bus Operators' summer pick - ruling that there shall be a MaBSTOA-wide general pick, excluding the TA Surface division from participating (TA Surface will have a summer in-house depot pick). In the decision, the Arbitrator wrote, ***"...the changes are significant and restricting the pick within each of the depots does not adequately take into account the seniority rights of all affected employees."*** but, what about the seniority rights of the OA members who work in TA Surface? A full General Pick would have had no effect on the protected OA pick practices. OA members currently make up 39% of the TA Surface division and are excluded from exercising their seniority rights this coming pick.

**CONNECT WITH US!**

**@TAMaBSTOAUnited**



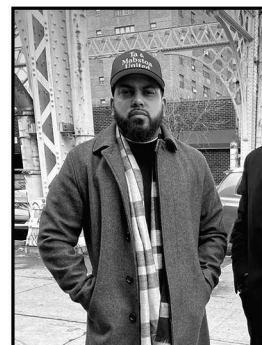
## Meet The Authors'



**MICHAEL ENRIQUEZ**  
BUS OPERATOR  
SHOP STEWARD  
MANHATTANVILLE DEPOT



**DANNY CRUZ**  
BUS OPERATOR  
SHOP STEWARD  
MANHATTANVILLE DEPOT



**FRANK DEJESUS**  
BUS OPERATOR  
SHOP STEWARD  
TUSKEGEE AIRMEN DEPOT