

Women In Trucking Announces 2020 Driver of the Year Finalists

The Women In Trucking Association (WIT) and Walmart announced today three finalists for the 2020 Female Driver of the Year award.

PLOVER, Wis. (PRWEB) March 16, 2020 -- The Women In Trucking Association (WIT) and Walmart announced today three finalists for the 2020 Female Driver of the Year award. The inaugural award recognizes outstanding female professional drivers who lead the industry in safety standards while actively enhancing the public image of the trucking industry.

"Walmart is committed to providing women a great workplace to grow their careers," said Bryan Most, vice president of transportation for Walmart and Women In Trucking board member. "We are thrilled to sponsor Women In Trucking's first-ever Female Driver of the Year award and to honor these finalists for making a positive impact in the transportation industry."

"It was incredibly difficult to narrow down the nearly 100 submissions to just three deserving finalists," said Voie. "However, these outstanding individuals have proven safety records and are truly making a difference in the industry."

The 2020 Female Driver of the Year finalists are:

Carmen Anderson, a company driver at America's Service Line, LLC, has 2.5 million safe-driving miles. In August 2019, she was named the Wisconsin Motor Carriers Association (WMCA) Driver of the Month. She also won the WMCA 2019 Driver of the Year. She was appointed to the WIT Image Team in 2019, is a lifetime member of WIT, and is a member of Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association (OOIDA). She also serves on the organizing committee for the South Dakota Special Olympics. In 2017, she was selected for the Wisconsin Road Team. In 2015, Anderson won the South Dakota Truck Driving championship and went on to compete in nationals in St Louis. She is trained to recognize and prevent human trafficking through her involvement with Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT) and has appeared on TV news to speak on the topic.

Susie De Ridder, a company driver at Armour, has been driving for 40 years and has approximately 4 million accident-free miles. A former board member for Women in Trucking Federation of Canada, she was named to WIT's Image Team in 2018. Since then, she has appeared in trucking magazines in USA and Canada, providing great exposure for the career opportunities open to women in the trucking industry. De Ridder attends trucking industry events, participates in media interviews, serves as a speaker and panelist at industry events and conducts ride-alongs for lawmakers. As a mentor, she regularly attends Girl Gala Events at high schools and community colleges. She participates in the Convoy for Hope Atlantic yearly, raising funds for cancer research and awareness. In 2019, she won first place for best-dressed driver, best-decorated truck and raising the most funds in the Convoy's 10-year history. In honor of her fundraising efforts, she proudly led the Convoy of 35 trucks, the first time ever for a female driver. De Ridder is on the cover of this month's MyPort Magazine in honor of International Women's Month.

<u>Sarah Fiske</u> has been a company driver with FedEx Freight for 14 years and has more than 1.17 million accident-free miles. She is dedicated to community involvement and has impacted many throughout her 20-year career. She feels her biggest impact is her involvement with Trucker Buddy. She has had the privilege of being a "buddy" to her hometown school for the past 16 years. Fiske has also participated in Trees for Troops,



delivering more than 240,000 Christmas trees to military families over the past 15 years. For the past two years, Fiske has been traveling the country as a FedEx Freight Road Team Captain, promoting highway safety. She attends industry events, including Drive for Freedom Truck Rodeos benefiting the Wounded Warrior Project and Share the Road events in Montana. Around the holidays, she enjoys playing the part of Mrs. Clause, while her husband is Santa. For seven years they have been spreading cheer at schools, nursing homes and throughout the community. They even participate in the US Marines Toys for Tots program and the Dream Big Foundation to bring toys to their local children.

The judging panel included Lori Furnell, director of talent acquisition, Walmart Supply Chain; Jeana Hysell, senior safety consultant, J. J. Keller & Associates, Inc.; Tim Ridley, talk radio host; Ellen Voie, WIT president and CEO.

The winner will be chosen based on her safety record, positive community contributions, and impact on the public image of the trucking industry. She will be awarded a plaque and commemorative ring.

About Women In Trucking Association, Inc.

Women In Trucking, Inc. is a nonprofit association established to encourage the employment of women in the trucking industry, promote their accomplishments and minimize obstacles faced by women working in the trucking industry. Membership is not limited to women, as 17 percent of its members are men who support the mission. Women In Trucking is supported by its members and the generosity of Gold Level Partners: Amazon, Arrow Truck Sales, BMO Transportation Finance, Daimler Trucks North America, Expediter Services, FedEx Freight, Great Dane, J.B. Hunt Transport, Michelin North America, PACCAR, Penske Transportation Solutions, Ryder System, Walmart, and Waste Management. Follow WIT on Twitter, Facebook, or LinkedIn. For more information, visit www.womenintrucking.org or call 888-464-9482.

About Walmart

Walmart Inc. helps people around the world save money and live better - anytime and anywhere – in retail stores, online, and through their mobile devices. Each week, nearly 275 million customers and members visit our more than 11,300 stores under 58 banners in 27 countries and eCommerce websites. With fiscal year 2019 revenue of \$514.4 billion, Walmart employs over 2.2 million associates worldwide. Walmart continues to be a leader in sustainability, corporate philanthropy and employment opportunity. Additional information about Walmart can be found by visiting http://corporate.walmart.com, on Facebook at http://facebook.com/walmart and on Twitter at http://twitter.com/walmart.



Contact Information
Brynn Everett
Women In Trucking Association
http://https://www.womenintrucking.org
1-888-464-9482

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