



FEATURES

Meet Our Administrator

Nicole R. Nason



Official NHTSA Photo

Birth name: Nicole Robilotto Nason

Nickname: Nicki, Nick

Birth place: Bayshore, Long Island, NY

Birthday: August 12

Where grew up: East Moriches, NY, a tiny hamlet on Eastern Long Island

Favorite subject in high school: English Lit. I also loved being the editor of my high school newspaper, the *Westhampton Beach High School Hurricane Eye*.

First car: Chevy Beretta. It was dark burgundy and my dad bought me a red tire jack to match.

Favorite sport: I enjoy jogging and tennis, and I took up cardio kickboxing a few months ago.

College: American University, Washington, DC

Major in college: Political science

Sorority: Delta Gamma

Last book read: *The Tipping Point*; I also always keep a copy of *Pride and Prejudice* next to my bed in case I need to escape from the world for a few minutes.

Last movie you've seen in the movies: *X-men: The Last Stand*. My husband and I like action flicks. Our next movie will be *Cars*.

Last video rented: *Cinderella Man*

Favorite song: I like country music

Favorite actor(s): Al Pacino, Tom Hanks

Favorite actress: Emma Thompson

Most memorable moment with your family: I grew up in a very close family. I have many special memories of holidays and vacations together. I have two brothers (one five years older and one six years younger), both married, and three nephews.



Being sworn-in as NHTSA Administrator by Secretary Mineta, Department of Transportation



Nicole as an infant



Nicole with her brothers

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Meet Our Administrator

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Best Friends



High School Cheerleader



Law School

Most embarrassing moment in life: Not a chance!

Pet peeve: People who don't use turn signals have long been my greatest pet peeve. I used to give my husband a hard time about it when we were in college.

Favorite vacation spot: Hawaii



Working in Congress

Favorite food: Growing up on Long Island, I am a big seafood fan, especially lobster. My daughters also always love when I make breakfast for dinner.

Favorite color: red

Greatest achievement: I hope to keep striving for my greatest achievement my entire life.

Biggest disappointment: Like most working parents, I am always striving to find the balance between work and family. I have two beautiful daughters who remain my pride and joy, and I am always disappointed when I have to miss important events at their schools because of work responsibilities. I know that I am doing something good for their future, though, and I am very proud to serve as NHTSA's Administrator.

Key to success: I believe in trying to make the most of every opportunity. Even a negative situation can have some positive outcome.

Goals at NHTSA: I hope to focus on reaching out to families while I am here. Parents worry about getting "to" a place and getting "from" that place to another location. They are always on the go, and I believe they take the trip itself for granted. Parents need to know one statistic – that their children are more likely to die in a motor vehicle than any place else. It is a grim reminder, but if it saves lives it will be worth it. Also, we need to finish all of the mandated reports and rulemakings from SAFETEA-LU, and I may have a few other surprises.

Mission in life: I hope my girls learn from me that women can do anything. You are



Daughters



Nicole and husband in Hawaii

limited in your ability to achieve only by what you think you cannot do.

Greatest fear: Too horrible to even discuss.

Most admired/influential person: My parents have had the greatest influence on me. I will always appreciate how much they sacrificed so my brothers and I can succeed.

Best job: So far, NHTSA Administrator

How you would like to be remembered: As a person with integrity.

AROUND THE REGION

Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety and El Pueblo, Inc., Announce Hispanic Demonstration Projects

By Evelyn Avant

In late June, NHTSA Headquarters and Regional staff participated in press events with the Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety and El Pueblo, Inc., of North Carolina, to announce two new projects aimed at reducing impaired driving fatalities and injuries among Hispanic populations.

According to statistics, Hispanics die at a higher rate on our Nation's highways and are involved in fatal alcohol-related crashes in greater proportions than non-Hispanics. Last year, over 3,000 people of Hispanic origin were fatally injured in traffic crashes. Approximately 48 percent of those fatalities were alcohol-related.

As part of NHTSA's continuing effort to seek solutions to this critical problem, discretionary cooperative agreements were awarded to the Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety and to El Pueblo to demonstrate and evaluate programs that have the potential to curb this prob-



Richard Fimbres, Arizona's Director of the Governor's Office of Highway Safety, discusses his agency's new demonstration project.

lem among Hispanic populations. Both projects incorporate elements of high-visibility enforcement supported by media, education, and community awareness. In addition, each project has the all-important support of the community at

many levels. It is hoped these programs will be successful and serve as models to other communities with significant Hispanic populations.★

Avant is a Highway Safety Specialist at NHTSA Headquarters

IN THE NEWS

Meharry-State Farm National Safety Summit

NHTSA Administrator Nicole Nason delivered the opening remarks at the *National Safety Summit: A Progress Report to the Blue Ribbon Panel* hosted by the Meharry-State Farm Alliance at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Washington, DC, in July. Associate Administrator for Research and Program Development Marilena Amoni also addressed the audience about NHTSA programs. The summit focused on research, education, and public initiatives to further decrease health disparities due to motor vehicle crashes in diverse communities.



Left to right: Clayton Adams, vice president for corporate communications and external affairs, State Farm Insurance; Valerie Montgomery-Rice, M.D., dean of the School of Medicine at Meharry Medical College, Nashville, TN; NHTSA Administrator Nicole Nason; and Irwin Goldzweig, Meharry-State Farm Alliance project director.

FAQs About the New Building

Where is the site located?

The new HQ building site is located on 11 acres of the Southeast Federal Center at the corner of New Jersey Avenue and M Street SE. The site is adjacent to, and just west of, the Washington Navy Yard. The address will be 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE.

How many parking spaces will be in the new building?

There will be 936 spaces in the new facility, with 145 spaces dedicated to government vehicles, visitors, and disabled parking. The current Nassif Building has 1,550 parking spaces; therefore, there are 614 fewer parking spaces at the new building.

Are there any environmental concerns at the new location?

The developer is required to remediate (clean) the site of any contaminated soil found during the excavation process. This plan has been approved by, and continues to be monitored by, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

How far is the nearest Metro station?

The Navy Yard Metro station (Green line) located at the corner of New Jersey and M streets, is about 400 feet off the main building entrance.



Are there security/crime concerns associated with the site?

Crime statistics dispute the notion that this area is prone to crime any more than other areas of the city. Given the major infrastructure redevelopment and influx of business and Navy personnel into the area, this helps to promote a secure environment.

Will FRA and FAA move to the new building?

FRA will consolidate with the other DOT Operating Administrations while FAA will continue to be headquartered in Federal buildings 10-A and 10-B.

Will all employees be in open office space in the new building?

The new office space environment will use both open and closed/private office workspace standards that are consistent for all modal organizations. We do anticipate

more open space than we currently have in the Nassif Building to allow for more natural light into the workplace via exterior windows. Both buildings also have interior atriums, which bring in more light.

What are the site amenities?

Retail kiosks will be located along M Street and the developer will renovate an adjacent historic structure (Building 170) to provide retail shops and restaurants. The new building will also include a full-service cafeteria on the ground floor of the west tower. In addition, there is substantial mixed-use development planned for the remainder of the surrounding neighborhood.

Is there a Web site for status updates about the project?

There is an independent site that addressed the revitalization of the entire SEFC area at www.jdland.com. And in our continuing efforts to keep you informed of the latest status of DOT's new Headquarters Building project, the Web site at <http://sharepoint.nhtsa.dot.gov/BuildingProject/> includes FAQs recently developed and posted to answer the questions received to date. Submit any additional questions to *NHTSA Now* at patricia.oladeinde@dot.gov.

Restoration of Annual Leave

In accordance with the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) regulations, annual leave in excess of the maximum permissible carryover (usually 240 hours) will be forfeited at the end of the leave year. The current leave year ends January 06, 2007.

Supervisors and managers are required to schedule work and leave to preclude employees from having to forfeit any leave. Employees working on a special project or task force are not exempt from this requirement to schedule and use their leave.

This notice serves as an annual reminder that annual leave will only be restored in rare cases that include:

- (a) An administrative error caused the loss of annual leave which would have otherwise accrued after June 30, 1960 or
- (b) **An exigency of public business (i.e., a task where immediate action is required by the Administrator) caused the loss of leave which was scheduled and approved in writing, on or before the third biweekly pay period before the close of the leave year (November 24, 2006); or**
- (c) Sickness or injury occurred and prevented the usage of annual leave which was scheduled in advance.

In the event a request for restoration of leave is submitted, HS Form 466 (Request for Restoration of Annual Leave) must be completed. The request must include an explanation as to why rescheduling was not possible. Mere inconvenience will not be considered an exigency of the nature described and will not warrant restoration of leave.

HS Form 466 is available in the Office of Human Resources Room 5306. Requests should be submitted to the Office of Human Resources no earlier than January 3, 2007, and no later than January 31, 2007.

If there are any questions, please contact Prentis Kie at 202-366-2607.



New OPM guidance on pandemic flu

The Office of Personnel Management has released new information to assist agencies in making sure they are able to fulfill their missions while at the same time preparing and protecting the Federal workforce should a pandemic influenza outbreak occur. OPM has updated and developed policies on leave, pay, hiring, alternative work arrangements, and other critical human capital issues in relation to pandemic influenza. The new information can be found on OPM's Web site at www.opm.gov/pandemic. As of recently, 85 percent of NHTSA had been briefed on this potential threat. With the regular flu season fast approaching, we think this issue may ramp up again this fall.

The Large-Truck Crash Causation Study

The Large-Truck Crash Causation Study (LTCCS) data has been posted on the Web. This three-year data collection project was conducted by NHTSA and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) of the Department of Transportation. The LTCCS is the first-ever national study to determine the critical events and associated factors that contribute to serious large-truck crashes allowing DOT and others to implement effective countermeasures to reduce the occurrence and severity of these crashes. The Web portal to this joint NHTSA/FMCSA project can be found at: www.fmcsa.dot.gov/about/news/news-releases/2006/ltccs-digest.htm

Alternatively, a link is provided on our NCSA Web site at: www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/departments/nrd-30/ncsa.

Search NTL and TRIS Online at the Same Time

**Create complex field specific searches.
Export customized lists.**

The National Transportation Library and the Transportation Research Board announce the release of an improved Web search capability for TRIS (Transportation Research Information Services) Online and the NTL Catalog. The NTL Integrated Search allows users to use one interface and one set of functional rules to search not only the TRIS Online Database but the NTL Digital and Portal Collections. The database is available from the NTL's Web site at <http://ntl.bts.gov> and <http://ntl.bts.gov/tris>

TRIS Online is a public-domain, Web-based version of the TRIS bibliographic database. TRB continues to produce and maintain the TRIS Database with funding by sponsors of TRB, primarily the State departments of transportation and selected Federal transportation agencies. TRIS Online is the largest resource of published transportation research, containing over 530,000 records of technical reports, journal articles, conference pa-

pers, and monographs related to modes and disciplines of transportation. Over 24,000 of the records in TRIS Online now provide links to the full text documents. The NTL publishes TRIS Online on its Web site. NTL's Digital Archive includes technical reports from the University Transportation Centers, State departments of transportation, and other resources.

Please use <http://ntl.bts.gov/tris> or <http://ntl.bts.gov> to get to the NTL home page.

The direct link to the Transportation Research Thesaurus is http://ntl.bts.gov/trt/trt_topterms.jsp

The National Transportation Library is part of the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) (www.bts.gov), Research and Innovative Technology Administration (DOT), and the Transportation Research Board (www.trb.org) is part of the National Academies (www.nationalacademies.org).

FY07 Annual Employee Training and Development Needs Survey

In late July, the NHTSA Office of Human Resources FY07 Annual Employee Training and Development Needs Survey was distributed to organizations throughout the agency. This survey has been revised to gain a more in-depth analysis of NHTSA's training needs. Specifically, a core competency profile section was added to identify the agency's top four basic core competencies needs (skills, knowledge, abilities, and special

interests). The NHTSA Training Council is working collaboratively with OHR to submit a training plan recommendation based on the consolidated training needs projections to prepare for an effective department-wide training and development program for the upcoming fiscal year.

For additional information, please contact Nadra Milan-Dunbar, NHTSA training coordinator, at 202-366-2616.

AWARDS

Congratulations!!!

NHTSA Now salutes the recipients of the NHTSA CFC 2005 Awards.

Most Valuable Fund Raiser:

Barbara Kahles, Becky Pennington, Keith Williams; Karen Aldana, Johanna Lowrie, Sam Daniel, Milton Cooper

Special Service:

Tracie Walker	Hero Song
Carolee Montanez-Allman	Helping to set up first weekly status report

Appreciation (for each Keyworker who assisted with the drive):

NOA+	Tracy Garvin and David Bonelli
NPO-010/100	Anita Fennell
NPO-200	Lakita Snoddy
NPO-300	Barbara Kahles
NPO-400	Kevin Ball
NPO-500	Karen Aldana
NTI-010/100	Keith Williams, DeCarlo Ciccel, Gamunu Wijetunge, Rhonda Moore
NTI-200	Jack Oates
NVS-010/100	Johanna Lowrie, Carlita Ballard
NVS-200	Sam Campbell, Paulette Twine, Ethel Hayden
NVS-300	Office

Outstanding Payroll Deduction Giving (≥75%):

NTI-200 (Jack Oates)

100 percent of goal:

NOA+	104 percent	Tracy Garvin & David Bonelli
NPO-010/100	100 percent	Anita Fennell
NPO-300	219 percent	Barbara Kahles
NPO-500	224 percent	Karen Aldana
NTI-010/100	181 percent	Keith Williams, DeCarlo Ciccel, Gamunu Wijetunge
NTI-200	220 percent	Jack Oates
NVS-010/100	150 percent	Johanna Lowrie, Carlita Ballard

Plaques

President's Award (\$275 per capita gift/75-percent participation):

NTI-200	ROPD	\$305.50 per capita gift AND 100-percent participation
NPO-300	OPPB	79-percent participation

Chairman's Award (\$225 per capita gift/67-percent participation):

NPO-500	OCCI	\$266.90 per capita gift
NTI-010/100	ORPD	\$243.67 per capita gift
NVS-010/100	Rulemaking/SAA	\$228.58 per capita gift

Merit Award (\$125 per capita gift/50-percent participation):

NOA+	Admin's Suite	\$133.13 per capita gift
NPO-010/100	NCSA	\$125.44 per capita gift
NPO-400	OCIO	57-percent participation

20 Years or More for Length of Service

Carla Y. Taylor	July 18, 2006	20 years
Dawn D. Beverley	July 15, 2006	20 years
Raphael J. Saint Johns	August 29, 2006	20 years
Charles M. Fleming	August 30, 2006	20 years
Danica M. Tarry	July 2, 2006	25 years
Stephen R. Kratzke	August 15, 2006	30 years
Susan D. Ryan	August 15, 2006	30 years
Thomas M. Louizou	August 18, 2006	30 years
Mario J. Damiato	July 11, 2006	35 years
Diane C. Krause	August 22, 2006	40 years

INS AND OUTS

Welcome Aboard

Organization	Name	Position	Date
NOA-010	Barkawi, Aladdin A.	Transportation Officer	6/11/2006
NCC-110	Cooke, Anthony M.	Chief Counsel	6/25/2006
NTI-121	Cosby, William H.	Highway Safety Specialist	6/25/2006
NOA-010	Costilla, Marcos, Jr.	Transportation Counselor	6/11/2006
NPO-320	Ellis, Brian R.	Contract Specialist	7/9/2006
NVS-110	Fitzgerald, Harriett D.	Program Analyst	7/23/2006
NVS-221	Gange, Marc E.	Safety Compliance Engineer	7/23/2006
NPO-320	Gooding, Larry J.	Contract Specialist	7/23/2006
NPO-400	Hatcher, Lawrence C.	Program Analyst	7/10/2006
NPO-510	Jairam, Vyomika	Office Automation Clerk	6/26/2006
NPO-112	Jodon, Trisann	Program Analyst	7/9/2006
NTI-112	Joseph, Denise M.	Program Analyst	7/24/2006
NOA-010	Kelly, David	Chief of Staff	7/9/2006
NTI-010	Macdonald, Maureen A.	Program Analyst	7/24/2006
NPO-112	Mynatt, Mark K.	Program Analyst	7/24/2006
NPO-320	Nettles, Sheketia M.	Program Analyst	7/10/2006
NTI-280	Valenzuela, Chennelle A.	Office Automation Clerk	7/24/2006
NTI-112	Witsaman, Rachel J.	Program Analyst	7/24/2006
NPO-010	Wray, Stephen J.	Program Analyst	6/26/2006

Fair Winds

Retirements

Organization	Name	Position	Date
NPO-310	Mantero, Rita J.	Budget Officer	6/30/2006
NPO-330	Dixon, Albert L., Jr.	Accountant	7/25/2006
NTI-132	Onder, James J.	Program Analyst	6/9/2006
NVS-300	Eppinger, Rolf H.	Physical Scientist	6/30/2006
NPO-320	Mosley, Henrietta R.	Contract Specialist	6/30/2006
NTI-210	Leonard, Eileen M.	Program Specialist	6/30/2006
NTI-270	Reitinger, William J.	Highway Safety Specialist	6/30/2006
NTI-131	Frank, James F.	Research Psychologist	7/3/2006

CYBER-NHTSA



Latest Information, Updates and Features on Our Site

- 8/3/06: Closing Report on Ford Speed Control Deactivation Switch Fires (.pdf)
- 7/19/06: NHTSA Administrator Nason's Congressional Testimony on Vehicle Technology and the Consumer (.pdf)
- 7/3/06: Graduated Driver Licensing Reduces Fatal Crashes by 11% for 16-Year-Old Drivers, Study Shows
- 8/10/06: National Evaluation of Graduated Driver Licensing Programs States with Primary Safety Belt Laws Have Lower Fatality Rates
- 5/16/05: Race and Ethnicity in Fatal Motor Vehicle Traffic Crashes, 1999-2004
- Breakthrough Research on Real-World Driver Behavior, Distraction and Crash Factors Released
- Driver Cell Phone Use Study Released by NHTSA

Latest News

- Rise in Motorcycle and Pedestrian Deaths Led to Increase in Overall Highway Fatality Rate in 2005 (8/22/06)
- New DOT Rule Requires Automakers to Tell Consumers if New Vehicles Are Equipped with Event Data... (8/21/06)
- El Departamento de Transporte de los Estados Unidos publica datos del 2005 sobre muertes en choques... (8/16/06)
- U.S. DOT Releases 2005 Data on Alcohol-Related Traffic Fatalities; State, National Statistics... (8/16/06)

To download these and other stories please go to www.NHTSA.dot.gov



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If you would like to submit articles or photographs, please email them to patricia.oladeinde@dot.gov or mail them to:

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