

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local VA employee receives 2007 VA Environmental Excellence Award

BROOKLYN, NY---Stephan Thomatos, P.E., the Green Environmental Management System (GEMS) Coordinator for the VA New York Harbor Healthcare System has been awarded an honorable mention in the 2007 VA Environmental Excellence Awards. He has been nominated together with seven other members of the CP-Track Professional Advisory Group (PAG.) The group is in charge of implementing improvements to the VHA GEMS and developing two software packages (Compliance and Processes Tracking - CP-Track and Environmental Safety Automated Facility Evaluation - E-Safe) for monitoring and managing the program.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) top environmental award recognizes VA employees and facilities for efforts resulting in significant, positive contributions to the environment. The awards focus on waste/pollution prevention, recycling, green purchasing, Environmental Management Systems, sustainable design/green buildings, and minimizing fuel usage through transportation efficiency. VA Environmental Excellence Award winners are recognized at a ceremony held in conjunction with the annual Earth Day event at VA Central Office in Washington D.C. in April. They are also eligible to compete in the White House Closing the Circle Awards Program.



Thomatos has a Bachelor and Masters Degree in Civil Engineering from the City College of New York and has been with the Department of Veterans Affairs for two years. He is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the Environmental Science program of the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. A registered licensed Professional Engineer (P.E.) in New York State he has twelve years of experience in the research, design and construction of municipal wastewater treatment facilities and environmental project management.

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