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New York Limo Legend Recognized with National Award

When disaster struck, company COO David Friedman jumped into action

(ROCKVILLE, Maryland)— David Friedman, chief operating officer of New York limousine giant Carmel Car & Limousine Service, has been chosen as the 2016 Limousine & Sedan Operator of the Year by the Taxicab, Limousine & Paratransit Association (TLPA). Friedman was nominated by Carmel CEO Avik Kabessa after his quick thinking saved the business from a fire this summer.

“The restaurant below us caught fire and the fire climbed up to hit the two Carmel floors,” Kabessa explains. “Thanks to David’s efforts, no one got hurt and we were up and running at our disaster recovery location within 14 hours.”

TLPA CEO Alfred LaGasse was also quick to offer praise.

“David’s commitment to safety shows this industry at its best,” he said. “He’s efficient, he’s thorough, and he cares about his employees, drivers and customers. Those are the true qualities of a Limousine & Sedan Operator of the Year.”

Friedman was born in Israel, served in the Israeli air force, and then came to the U.S. to earn an MBA in finance from St. John’s University in Queens. He’s been the COO of Carmel for more than 20 years and has run the company based on what his employer calls the “3-F Principle: Firm, Friendly, and Fair.”

Friedman will accept his award in front of more than 1,000 industry professionals at the TLPA’s 98th Annual Convention & Trade Show on Oct. 31 at the Hyatt Regency / Phoenix Convention Center in Phoenix, Arizona.

About TLPA: Established in 1917, the Taxicab, Limousine & Paratransit Association (TLPA) is a non-profit trade association of and for the private passenger transportation industry. Its extensive membership spans the globe to include 1,000 taxicab companies, executive sedan and limousine services, airport shuttle fleets, non-emergency medical transportation companies, paratransit services, and industry vendors. For more information, please visit www.tlpa.org

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