

For immediate release: April 8, 2015

14-Ton Buses Speeding Through a Gauntlet of Water-Filled Barrels...

Who: The [Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority \(PSTA\)](#)

What: Hosting the [2015 Annual Florida Triple Crown Bus Roadeo](#)

When: Saturday April 11, 2015 8:00 – 1:30 pm

Where: PSTA Bus Lot at 3101 Scherer Drive, St. Petersburg

Why: To determine which Bus Operator and Mechanic become Florida's 2015 Triple Crown Bus Roadeo Champions.

Once the Drivers make it through the gauntlet, they have to stop their bus as close to a traffic cone as possible - without hitting it. (Hint – the barrels and cones tend to have difficult days.) Members of the media are invited to join PSTA staff and transit representatives from across the state this Saturday to watch this spectacle and see who becomes Florida's new Triple Crown Bus Roadeo Champion.

The event takes place on the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority campus where the best transit Bus Operators and Mechanics in the state will vie for the championship. The driving competition involves guiding buses through a series of obstacles that concludes with the infamous and heart-racing "barrel gauntlet stop." Contestants, all of whom are bus Roadeo winners from transit systems across Florida, will be judged on the speed and precision with which they complete the course.

The full sized bus competition begins at 9:00 am and a special course practice run, driven by an accomplished instructor, will be open for media a ride-along at 8:30 am – if you dare!

The 2015 Triple Crown Bus Roadeo is being held in partnership with the Florida Public Transportation Association (FPTA), the Florida Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP), the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), and the Florida Association of Coordinated Transit Systems (FACTS).

Along with the various skills competitions for Drivers and Mechanics, the Roadeo also includes numerous training opportunities to help transit employees improve their talents.

Refreshments will be available to media as well as the BBQ/Buffer lunch, which begins at 11:30 am.

Due to space limitations, the 2015 Triple Crown Bus Roadeo is not open to the general public.



PSTA Roadeo Champion Danny Cheatham (pictured) will be taking on the best Bus Operators from around the state in St. Petersburg this Saturday. The winner will then represent the Florida in the national Bus Roadeo competition in Texas next month.

To learn more about PSTA, please visit the agency's award winning website at www.psta.net.

[PSTA B-Roll](#)

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The Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority is the public transit provider for Pinellas County, providing more than 14.5 million rides per year. PSTA operates nearly 40 bus and trolley routes with a fleet of 203 vehicles. To learn more about the services offered by PSTA, or for schedule and fare information, passengers are invited to call the PSTA InfoLine at (727) 540-1900, or visit www.PSTA.net. PSTA is an equal opportunity employer.