



## **Old Dominion Freight Line Awards Nashville Driver for Selflessness, Dedication to Others**

*Thirteen-year veteran of leading trucking company recognized with distinguished annual service award*

**THOMASVILLE, N.C.** (May 20, 2020) – Old Dominion Freight Line, Inc. recognizes Harold Hyde, a Nashville, Tenn. pickup and delivery driver, with the esteemed 2020 John Yowell OD Family Spirit Award. Hyde receives the annual service recognition for his remarkable courage, heroism, and selfless dedication to others.

In August 2019, Hyde was driving on McCrory Lane in Davidson County (Tennessee) while en route to a customer delivery when he noticed cars swerving to miss an object in the road. As he approached, he realized the object in the road was a 4-year-old boy. Without hesitation or fear, Hyde immediately pulled his Old Dominion tractor-trailer across both lanes of traffic to barricade the street and jumped out of his truck. The young boy, autistic and non-verbal, managed to unlock the front door of his home and wandered onto the road. Another Good Samaritan stopped to assist Hyde, called the police, and the young boy was safely returned home to his family.

“I am humbled to be recognized with the John Yowell award,” said Harold Hyde. “It’s inspiring to be associated with the legacy of Mr. Yowell and past recipients of the award. My job allows me to interact with the great people of Nashville and beyond, and I will continue to strive for excellence in my work while serving my community. I’m just thankful for the chance to do something positive for someone else.”

Old Dominion created the award in 2011 following the untimely death of former executive vice president and chief operating officer, John Yowell. Yowell epitomized a family culture, which serves as a key operating philosophy for the leading less-than-truckload carrier. The “OD Family Spirit” award is given to an employee who showcases an unabashed devotion to helping others. Employees nominate their peers who demonstrate care and excellence in their day-to-day lives. The winner is then ultimately selected amongst Old Dominion’s 20,000 employees based on these nominations. Hyde was presented the award for his unprecedented

actions, which embody the OD Family Spirit through his heroic acts of service, kind-hearted deeds, and drive for helping others. He has been a pickup and delivery driver for Old Dominion since 2007.

To add to the list of his inspiring good deeds, Hyde helped another stranger in September 2019. He was driving on his local route making customer deliveries when he saw an overturned SUV with a pregnant woman trapped inside. Hyde rushed to rescue the woman from the vehicle before first responders could arrive.

“Harold’s continued commitment to going above and beyond for his community and Old Dominion customers naturally sets him apart,” said Greg Gantt, president and CEO of Old Dominion Freight Line. “His uncanny ability to be in the right place at the right time and humble heroism make him the true picture of a John Yowell OD Family Spirit Award winner.”

As part of the recognition, Hyde received \$1,000 to donate to a charity of his choice. He selected the True Joy Community Program, an organization that provides healthy meals and snacks to children in low-income areas in an effort to decrease hunger, obesity, and to promote health and nutrition.

For more information about Old Dominion, visit [www.odfl.com](http://www.odfl.com) or call (800) 432-6335. On Twitter: @ODFL\_Inc and Facebook: Old Dominion Freight Line, Inc.

### **About Old Dominion Freight Line, Inc.**

Old Dominion Freight Line, Inc. is a leading, less-than-truckload (“LTL”), union-free motor carrier providing regional, inter-regional and national LTL services through a single integrated organization. Our service offerings, which include expedited transportation, are provided through an expansive network of service centers located throughout the continental United States. Through strategic alliances, the Company also provides LTL services throughout North America. In addition to its core LTL services, the Company offers a range of value-added services including container drayage, truckload brokerage and supply chain consulting.

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