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Red Top Cab President Receives Community Champion Award

(Arlington, VA) – Neal Nichols, President and founder of [Red Top Cab](#), was honored with the Washington Regional Alcohol Program's Community Champion Award on Friday, December 17, during kickoff of WRAP's annual holiday season SoberRide initiative.

"Under Mr. Nichol's leadership, Red Top Cab staffs the communication center that receives all of the SoberRide calls and provides dispatch service throughout the metro area on the 4th of July, Halloween and through the December holidays," said WRAP President and CEO Kurt Erickson. "This support, valued at \$49,000 annually, has helped save literally thousands of lives and makes him a true community champion."

Since it began in 1993, [SoberRide](#) has provided free cab rides to 48,188 Washington area residents celebrating the holidays with alcohol; it expects to safely transport its 50,000th would-be impaired driver this month. From Friday, December 17th through New Year's Day, the program offers free rides (up to a \$30 fare) from 10 p.m. until 6 a.m. Passengers must be at least 21 years old.

"Last December more than 3,000 Washingtonians took advantage of this free, award-winning service, and drunk driving fatalities were down 8% in our region in 2009," said Red Top's Nichols. "We are proud and honored to support this worthy effort to keep all of our neighbors safe during festive times of year."

Photo caption: Red Top President Neal Nichols, third from left, with Red Top Vice President George Pakidis, far left, accepts the Community Champion Award from WRAP {title and name} and President and CEO Kurt Erickson, right.

Red Top has served the Arlington area since 1964 and was named Best Taxi Service in the DC metro area by Washingtonian magazine readers. From its humble two-car

beginning, Red Top has grown to be one of the largest taxi companies in the region, priding itself on safety, comfort and prompt service. Red Top was first in Arlington with a large fleet of wheelchair accessible cabs and first to build a fleet of greener, cleaner hybrid cabs. In addition to its sponsorship of the SoberRide program, the company supports many other community initiatives, including Capital Hospice, Wounded Warriors and the Senior Olympics.