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## IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Melia of KDOT's Cimarron crew recognized for five years of service

Thank you to Danny Melia of Dodge City who has served KDOT and southwest Kansas for five years as an equipment operator in Cimarron.

A thoroughbred enthusiast, Danny grew up around horses which lead him to becoming a groom after high school. By the age of 23, Danny bought his first thoroughbred and traveled the country racing in Oklahoma, New Mexico, Colorado, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York. Danny began shoeing horses as well as grooming. Eventually a hand injury would end his career and bring him back to Kansas to heal.

Danny joined KDOT in 2014 as an Equipment Operator Trainee with the Cimarron Subarea. He was promoted to Equipment Operator in 2015. As part of the Cimarron crew, Danny has received two safety awards.

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