

# Metro Transit Security

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CHIEF SAFETY OFFICER

# Bus Operator Safety

Top Reasons For Assault January 2023	
Reason	Count
Disorderly	2
Missed Stop	2
No Reason	1
Demand Stop	1
Mentally Ill	1
Fare	1
Other	1
Policy Music	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>10</b>

Top Reasons For Assault January 2022-December 2022	
Reason	Count
No Reason	44
Other	30
Demand Stop	21
Disorderly	14
Mentally Ill	13
Fare	8
Missed Stop	5
Out of Service	5
Policy/Drink	4
Mutual Combat	2
Mask	2
Policy Stroller	2
Sex	1
Other/Vehicle Accident	1
Mask/Fare	1
Accident	1
Policy/Food	1
Policy Scooter	1
Accident	1
Policy Smoking	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>158</b>

- From 2018 through 2022 to date, bus operator assaults had a monthly average of nine.

- The highest monthly average in 2022 was 13 assaults.

- In CY21, bus operators reported 115 assaults and 158 assaults in CY22, an increase of 37.39%.

The above charts illustrate the top reasons for assault by calendar year.

# Implemented Bus Safety Strategies

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- Metro has been implementing prevention strategies to reduce the risk of safety incidents and create a safer environment for all Metro employees to safely perform their jobs.
- ✓ Metro buses have on-board cameras and DVR
- ✓ Metro buses have operator barriers (March 2020)
- ✓ Metro buses have emergency buttons
- ✓ Clear signage of punishment of assaults on operators
- ✓ See Something Say Something campaign
- ✓ LAPD's deployment of their Special Problems Unit
- ✓ Bus Riding Teams (law enforcement + Metro Transit Security)
- ✓ Employee Assault Mitigation Task Force



**Let's respect operators.**

**Injuring a transit operator is punishable by up to 3 years in prison or up to a \$10,000 fine, or both.**

Lesionar a un operador de tránsito se castiga con hasta 3 años de prisión o una multa hasta de \$10,000, o ambos.

Penal Code §243.3

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# Bus Riding Teams

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- As part of *Respect the Ride*, SSLE launched Bus Riding Teams composed of Law Enforcement Officers and Transit Security Officers to ride the top 10 lines with the highest number of assaults.
- Bus operators commented:
  - “With officers on the bus, riders behave and don’t start any problems. It’s a safer environment for me to drive the bus and for the passengers. I don’t have to worry about calling the BOC or having to deal with unruly riders.”
  - “It’s a big help for us as Operators when we can just focus on driving the bus.”
- The primary request from Operators is that bus riding efforts continue, and their main question was sustainability and expansion.

# Metro Transit Security Staffing

**FY23 Active Budget: 213 uniformed FTEs deployed over three shifts:**

Staffing*	Function	Scope of Work
54	Code of Conduct	Deployed mainly across the rail system, with only 4 TSOs deployed to board buses on one bus line/week.
25	Mobile Patrol	Responds to calls for service at Metro's division, patrol parking structures/lots, layover zones – do not conduct fare or Code enforcement.
25	Union Station Gateway	Fixed security inside building, interior and exterior roving patrols.
16	Rail Safety	Opens and closes heavy rail stations.
14	Revenue	Security oversight for revenue services.
14	Supervision	Sergeants and Lieutenants
15	Security Control Specialists	Trained dispatchers dedicated to the Security Operations Center. (11) to start end of March.
2	Operations Support	Consists of one sergeant in support of Special Events and one sergeant as the Training Coordinator.
5	Long Term-Leave	
12	In Training	Recently hired and are undergoing training
31	In Recruitment	(10) TSOI to start on March 20 <sup>th</sup> ; (8) TSOI in background check stage; (5) TSOII in final stages; (6) SGT in final stages; (2) LT in final stages.

*\*As of March 8<sup>th</sup>.*

# Recommendation

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Amend the FY23 Budget to add 48 Metro Transit Security positions:

- (44) Transit Security Officers
  - 22 armed/22 unarmed
- (3) Supervisors
- (1) Director, Transit Security [Captain]

# Thank You

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