



Transportation Division

126 N. Scott Street, Joliet, IL 60432
Phone: (312)-236-5353 Fax: (312)-236-8209
www.illini.utu.org



Illinois Legislative Board

- ROBERT W. GUY**
State Legislative Director
Vice President, IL AFL-CIO
- JOSEPH CIEMNY**
Assistant Legislative Director
- JOSEPH C. SZABO**
Director Emeritus
- JEFF VOTTELER**
Chairman
- JARROD HUDSON**
Vice Chairman
- DENNIS NEE**
Secretary
- JORDON BOONE**
Alternate Legislative Director

REPRESENTATIVES

- 168 D. Silkowski
- 171 C. Fuller
- 195 J. Hodges
- 196 D. Belleville
- 198 A. Mc Clanahan
- 234 B. Hagele
- 258 T. Kilbride
- 432 J. Strawser
- 445 J. Boone
- 453 J. Hudson
- 469 D. Gruen
- 528 J. Hendrickson
- 577 J. Grant
- 597 M. Chapman
- 620 A. Burris
- 653 O. Rojas
- 740 Z. Smith
- 768 T. Sloper
- 979 D. Finn
- 1003 M. Johnson
- 1083 P. Champagne
- 1258 T. Peters
- 1290 M. Alexander
- 1299 J. Hamilton
- 1358 M. Pesek
- 1402 E. Grim
- 1421 S. Schlaudraff
- 1423 A. Sprague
- 1433 T. Miller
- 1494 E. Thames
- 1525 T. Payne
- 1534 J. Ciemny
- 1597 J. Votteler
- 1883 B. Griffin
- 1895 D. Nee
- 1929 M. Wright
- 1973 H. Floyd

DATE: September 10, 2021

TO: Legislative Representatives

FROM: R.W. Guy, State Director *RWG*

RE: Guidelines for Calling Metra Police

As you know, on June 30th I sent a letter to Metra CEO/ED Jim Derwinski that outlined SMART-TD's growing concern with an escalation of passenger unruliness and on-board threats of violence made by some passengers towards crew members. On July 13th I met with Mr. Derwinski and other Metra managers, including Metra Chief of Police Joseph Perez, to continue the discussion about on-board safety/security for our members. Since that meeting Metra has provided a follow-up letter that I responded to last week, which you should have received a copy of.

Through this process we have discovered that there could be a communication breakdown when specific incidents are reported, especially on BNSF and/or Union Pacific lines. For instance, we've had members report troubling actions by passengers to their "safety hotlines" only to find out that the information wasn't passed along to Metra law enforcement.

During our July meeting Chief Perez made it very clear that Metra wanted any and all incidents of passenger unruliness and/or physical threats towards crew members reported DIRECTLY to Metra Police for their handling. The attached bulletin from Metra outlines the proper, and recommended, procedure for calling Metra Police and the on-board incidents that would necessitate reporting.

It is very important that SMART-TD members follow these reporting procedures if and when they feel threatened, either verbally or physically. First, reporting these incidents will allow for proper and timely response and investigation, if needed, by Metra Police and would establish documentation that reinforce our concerns about escalated passenger threats. Second, that documentation would be vital if we ever had to use a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to gauge how many, and the seriousness of, the reports that have been filed regarding those threats.

Please reinforce and distribute these reporting procedures to your Local members so Metra can be promptly notified when needed.

Also, as a result of my on-going discussions with Metra, they have agreed to re-initiate the Police On-Board Committee that would include SMART-TD representatives, Metra managers and Metra Police. This committee has done good work in the past and will certainly help with communication amongst all stakeholders and allow us to help Metra Police by identifying troubling areas or trends, and will give the law enforcement professionals at Metra Police the ability to communicate to us their strategies and procedures for policing in general.

Again, please stress to your Local members the attached guidelines for calling Metra Police if a member has to unfortunately utilize this option due to a passengers unacceptable behavior. And please don't hesitate to contact me for follow-up if needed.

Above all else, please be safe out there, AND IF YOU FEEL THREATENED REPORT IT!

cc: Local Sec.'s
SMART-TD GC



NORTHEAST ILLINOIS RAILROAD CORPORATION
 OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
 CHICAGO UNION STATION DISTRICT

BULLETIN NOTICE NO. CUSD- 252

DATE: 6/25/21

PAGE 1 OF 3

TO: ALL CONCERNED

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES FOR CALLING METRA POLICE

Bulletin Notice CUSD- 25 dated 1/1/21 is hereby cancelled. Following is a re-issue with changes noted by →
 Bulletin Notice(s) CUSD 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,26,27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35, 36,
 37, 38, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52, 55, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 64, 66, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 77, 78, 79, 80, 82,
 83, 84, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 92, 93, 94, 95, 97, 98, 100, 101, 102, 104, 105, 109, 110, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 120, 121, 122,
 123, 127, 129, 131, 133, 135, 137, 138, 140, 142, 146, 149, 152, 155, 158, 159, 161, 168, 170, 174, 179, 181, 182, 185, 188,
 190, 191, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 204, 206, 207, 210, 211, 213, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 224, 228, 229,
 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 244, 245, 247, 249, 250, 251, and 252 remain in effect.

Guideline cards will be available at Track 19 and all outlying points.

Metra Police must be notified by the train crew and fully advised of the incident that requires their assistance identifying. Who, what, when, where, and why.

Any Crew Member who is directly involved in an incident warranting Police assistance must call 312-322-2800 immediately with as much information as possible and notify the lead Conductor as soon as possible.

All efforts should be made to keep the dispatchers informed of the situation.

When calling the Metra Police please give the following information:

Who / give the Train Number, your name and phone number in case the Police need to call you back.

What /is the problem on the train? What train station?

When /did the incident happen?

Where /do you want the police to meet you? Where on the train is the incident (coach /car #)?

If the train will be met in route give the police dispatcher the time the train will arrive at the station.

Why /did the incident happen?

- Also give a detailed description of offender (the person(s) causing the problem on the train) their Sex, Race, Height, Weight, and Clothing. Are there any weapons?
- If possible, be on that coach/car so you can meet the police when they arrive.

ISSUED BY: R. P. OPPENHEIM, DIRECTOR

POSTED DATE: _____ TIME: _____ BY: _____



BULLETIN NOTICE NO. CUSD- 252

DATE: 6/25/21

PAGE 2 OF 3

TO: ALL CONCERNED

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES FOR CALLING METRA POLICE

- Direction of Travel (This means the subject(s) leave the train prior to arrival of Police. Which way did they go?)

EMERGENCY CALLS WHERE A TRAIN NEEDS TO STOP AT THE NEXT STATION AND WAIT FOR EMERGENCY PERSONNEL

- MEDICAL EMERGENCY ON BOARD, Example...Heart Attack, Unresponsive Subject.
- BATTERY TO CONDUCTOR/PASSENGER, this means when a subject(s) puts their hands on another person. Example...Being slapped, punched, touched, spit on...etc.
- AGGRAVATED BATTERY TO CONDUCTOR/PASSENGER, this means when a subject(s) uses an object to strike another person. Example...Being hit with bottle, club or any object...etc.
- ASSAULT TO CONDUTOR/PASSENGER, this means when a subject(s) verbally threatens another subject with bodily harm. Example... "I'm going to kick your ***" or "I'm going knock you into next week."
- AGGRAVATED ASSAULT TO CONDUCTOR/PASSENGER, this means when a subject threatens another subject with bodily harm using an object. Example... Subject is holding a bat and states "I'm going to hit your head like a baseball."
- → DISORDERLY CONDUCT, The State of Illinois has adopted new laws in conjunction with the Safe T Act which goes into effect on July 1, 2021. This law establishes changes in monetary bail, use of police force, use of body cameras and several other changes in current state statutes. Metra/municipal police will continue to respond to police-warranted incidents on the trains. In accordance with the new law, disorderly conduct on trains or at stations may be addressed differently than it has in the past as disorderly conduct will now be classified as a Class C Misdemeanor and may not be subject to being an arrestable offense (handcuffed and removed from the train). We define disorderly conduct as a subject who causes a breach of the peace or alarms/disturbs people around him/her. An example may be that a subject is using profanity or playing their music loudly. Metra Police will make all attempts to remove the subject from the train and issue the subject a citation. Depending on the circumstances, the disorderly subject may be allowed to continue travel on the original train or may be allowed to board the next train to continue their travel.

ISSUED BY: R. P. OPPENHEIM, DIRECTOR

POSTED DATE: _____ TIME: _____ BY: _____



NORTHEAST ILLINOIS RAILROAD CORPORATION
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
CHICAGO UNION STATION DISTRICT

BULLETIN NOTICE NO. CUSD- 252

DATE: 6/25/21

PAGE 3 OF 3

TO: ALL CONCERNED

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES FOR CALLING METRA POLICE

- RECKLESS CONDUCT, a subject(s) by their actions endangers other people around him/her.
Example...A subject is riding on the outside of a train and the train goes into emergency.

***ANY OTHER SITUATION WHERE A LIFE IS IN DANGER/THREATENED.

***We have a ZERO TOLERANCE when subject(s) ride on the outside, crawl under, gain access to a dark car/locomotive or pulls the emergency air. They will be ARRESTED.

Please continue to contact Metra Police at 312-322-2800 when assistance is needed.

Any instances of battery, aggravated battery, assault and aggravated assault to a crew member or passenger will continue to be arrestable offenses.

Metra implemented a police train riding program where our police officers may ride trains in uniform or they may ride in plain clothes. If you encounter and recognize an officer(s) riding in plain clothes and he/she presents a ticket as a fare paying passenger, please do not acknowledge that employee as a police officer, as he/she may be tasked with surveillance or other potentially sensitive details in which identifying them as a police officer may compromise their work.

ISSUED BY: R. P. OPPENHEIM, DIRECTOR

POSTED DATE: _____ TIME: _____ BY: _____