



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HALL OF JUSTICE

ROBERT G. LUNA, SHERIFF



January 18, 2023

Gina Osborn, Chief Safety Officer
Metropolitan Transportation Authority
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Ms. Osborn:

This letter is intended to clarify the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's (LASD) Transit Services Bureau's (TSB) law enforcement responsibilities within the Metropolitan Transportation Authorities (Metro) transit system (bus and rails) and properties. This letter aims to help clarify the roles and responsibilities of TSB for independent law enforcement agencies.

TSB is responsible for policing all Metro transit systems and property outside the City of Los Angeles (Bus/Rail/Properties) and Long Beach (Rails). The 46 independent cities that Metro's transit system travels through daily are responsible for general law enforcement and traffic enforcement within their respective cities. LASD is responsible for general law enforcement for the passengers and property of the Metro rail lines and buses operated by Metro (Metro Bus). The responsibilities of LASD are based upon the Sheriff's statutory powers and the provisions of the Sheriff's Department's contractual agreement with Metro. This document summarizes and does not supersede or replace the existing MOU.

A. LASD is responsible for providing the following law enforcement services to Metro Rail Lines:

1. All crimes or incidents *occurring on, originating, or continuing from* the trains, passenger stations, facilities, property, or Metro owned and operated vehicle parking areas of the Metro transit system.
2. All thefts of Metro property from rails or rail facilities.

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3. All reports of vandalism to the property of the Metro Rail Lines within the fenced median and right-of-way.

Note: Does not apply to property owned by the Metro that is leased or under construction.

4. All train-versus-pedestrian collisions occurring on Metro Lines rail right-of-way between controlled crossings or intersections, where there are fences to restrict access to the tracks.

Note: Train-versus-vehicle traffic collisions at intersections and Train-versus-pedestrian collisions at intersections are the responsibility of the respective city/county local agency or station.

5. All reports or arrests resulting from deputy-initiated actions unless it is determined the crimes occurred outside the Metro Lines right-of-way or property.

B. LASD is responsible for the following law enforcement services to Metro buses:

1. All crimes or incidents *occurring on, originating, or continuing* from within buses, terminals, and parking facilities operated by Metro.

Note: Bus-versus-vehicle traffic collisions on city streets and bus-versus-pedestrian collisions on city streets are the responsibility of the respective city/county local agency or station.

2. All thefts of transit property from Metro buses or bus facilities.
3. All reports of vandalism to the property of the Metro's Bus system that is in revenue operation.

Note: Does not apply to property owned by the Metro that is leased or under construction.

4. All reports or arrests resulting from deputy-initiated actions, except for crimes occurring from the transit system and unrelated to transit system operations.

C. TSB is not responsible for the following:

1. All non-transit or non-passenger related crimes or incidents originating off the Metro's right-of-way or property or originating off the property or buses, including street-level bus stops, of the Metro system which continues onto trains, passenger stations, buses, or transit facilities.
2. All bus-versus-vehicle traffic collisions, all bus-versus-pedestrian traffic collisions, all train-versus-vehicle collisions, and all train-versus-pedestrian collisions occurring at grade crossings, intersections, or on those portions of the rail or bus right-of-way where the train or bus operates on the street or non-fenced median. Traffic collisions will be handled pursuant to each independent police agencies policy.
3. All traffic collisions occurring on metro property.
4. All crimes, collisions, or incidents occurring adjacent to the Metro Lines, Metro right-of-way, or property outside the fence median of the Metro transit system.
5. All crimes, collisions, or incidents occurring on each respective City's maintained multi-use bicycle and pedestrian path and City property adjacent to the Metro right-of-way.
6. Traffic control at intersections where rail service transverses the street when traffic control (i.e., train crossing guards) is malfunctioning.

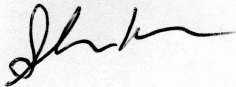
Note: The respective city/county local agency or station is responsible for managing the safe flow of traffic utilizing city resources.

D. Joint Responsibilities:

Members of LASD and Metro may respond to assist independent police agencies whenever an accident or incident directly or indirectly involves Metro Line trains or property, Metro transit buses or property, or may impact the safety of transit passengers or inhibit the ongoing provision of rail or bus service. The objective of this presence is to render assistance in handling the incident as expeditiously as possible to resume or continue transit operations for the benefit of the riding public. However, the independent police agency will retain primary authority regarding such incidents unless authority is relinquished upon mutual agreement to another agency.

Sincerely,

ROBERT G. LUNA, SHERIFF



SHAWN R. KEHOE, CAPTAIN
TRANSIT SERVICES BUREAU