



March 8, 2002

Metropolitan  
Transportation  
Authority

One Gateway Plaza  
Los Angeles, CA  
90012-2952

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**THROUGH:** ROGER SNOBLE  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**FROM:** JOHN B. CAFOE, JR.  
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**SUBJECT:** SECURITY UPDATE

**ISSUE**

Staff is providing regular updates to the Board of Directors concerning MTA programs to ensure safety of passengers, employees and the public. This report covers the two-week period ended March 1, 2002.

**POLICY ISSUES**

- ▶ At the request of Roger Snoble to William Millar, President of APTA, in November, an APTA Security Peer Review was conducted during the week of February 18 to 22, 2002, of MTA security, law enforcement and fare enforcement practices, procedures, and programs that are in place, or are under consideration, with an eye to cost-effectively enhancing security and safety for customers and employees, in the wake of the 9-11 attacks on the east coast. The timing of this peer review also had relevance, since the agency is about to begin contract negotiations with both LAPD and LASD for law enforcement services for the next five years.

The five-member APTA Peer Review team consisted of senior management law enforcement, operations and finance representatives from Houston, Atlanta, Chicago and King County—Seattle, with on-site staff support from APTA. This team met with our own senior Safety and Security staff, Operations, Revenue Collection and Law Enforcement (LAPD and LASD) staff and at their exit conference, a brief overview of their findings was presented to staff. A final written report is expected from APTA, 60 to 90 days after the exit conference.

**MTA BUS**

- ▶ Buses were rerouted on March 3 due to the running of the Los Angeles Marathon. Fifty percent of bus lines, or those entering Downtown and

crossing the route to Wilshire Boulevard and San Vicente on the West side, were disrupted from beginning of service until between 11:00 am and 6:00 pm. All bus stops had been posted 72 hours in advance with specific boarding information by line and maps showing customers where to board the buses.

### **MTA RAIL**

- ▶ There were no major security-related service interruptions or incidents to report on rail during this period.

### **LAPD**

- ▶ A 71-year-old male was riding Line 354, bus 5020 when, without apparent provocation, a male suspect approached him and began striking him numerous times on the head and face. The suspect removed a pencil case from the victim's briefcase, fled the bus and was eventually arrested by Robbery officers. The District Attorney filed for robbery with a special enhancement for elder abuse. A conviction would be the suspect's third strike.

### **LASD**

- ▶ Two TSB deputies were conducting fare checks and writing citations when they noticed a long PVC pipe hanging from an overpass at the Vermont PAX. Because the pipe appeared as though it could impact the next oncoming train, deputies notified the ROC whose personnel then instructed the train to enter the station slowly. Caltrans responded and secured their unused water drainage pipe. MTA maintenance workers observed that a train entering at full speed could have sustained considerable damage.
- ▶ TSB deputies arrested a 21-year-old male for felony possession of a loaded, unregistered firearm. They had already cited him on the platform for fare evasion and then noticed that he had a previously unseen backpack which contained the firearm. He also had over \$20,000 in warrants.

### **GENERAL**

- ▶ The sixth cycle of "Cops-N-Ops" meetings commenced on Friday, February 22, at Division 9. Representatives from LAPD, LASD, MTA Safety and Security, Operations management and local division management met with bus operators to discuss their issues and concerns. These meetings provide an opportunity for law enforcement and the operators to give each other feedback on concerns that have been reported and the actions that have been taken to correct problems. Feedback from operators has been increasingly positive over the past three years concerning the activities and actions taken

by law enforcement in support of our operators and these activities should always be seen as a “work-in-progress” for both operators and police.

- ▶ Recognition was given by the Executive Management Committee to Security Officer Edward Graff for his role in apprehending a suspect caught sexually assaulting an elderly woman.

Cc: Paul J. Lennon  
Dan Cowden