



Metro

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

213.922.2000 Tel
metro.net

DECEMBER 12, 2016

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THROUGH: PHILLIP A. WASHINGTON *PAW*
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FROM: ALEX Z. WIGGINS *AZ*
CHIEF, SYSTEM SECURITY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

**SUBJECT: AFTER-ACTION REVIEW (AAR) OF MULTI-AGENCY
RESPONSE TO RED LINE SECURITY THREAT**

ISSUE

On December 5 and 6, 2016, Metro collaborated with multiple law enforcement agencies to address a specific security threat targeting the Universal City Red Line Station. Given the Board's interest in learning more about command, control and communication in a multi-agency environment, this incident provides an excellent example of how our law enforcement partners work together to keep our patrons safe.

DISCUSSION

The objective of this Board Box is to identify the multi-agency resources required to manage critical incidents in a mass transit environment. At the request of the Board, staff can provide a detailed after-action briefing at a later date.

Metro works with multiple law enforcement agencies on a daily basis to protect the public and safeguard the system's critical infrastructure. On rare occasions the level of coordination must be increased in order to respond to active threats.

Upon receiving information about a potential threat to detonate an explosive device at the Universal City/Studio City Red Line Station, multiple law enforcement agencies worked with Metro to develop a coordinated response. "Unified Command" was established on December 5th; a high visibility anti-terrorism operation was conducted on December 6th. The following agencies took part in the operation:

- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD)
- Los Angeles County Sheriff (LASD)
- Metro's Security and Emergency Management Departments

The respective agencies were able to jointly manage all of the tasks associated with this incident – unified command, control, communication, and resolution. The FBI shared intelligence and led the investigation; LAPD and LASD deployed operational assets; DHS augmented the security posture; Metro activated its Emergency Operations Center (EOC), maintained communications with the FBI, DHS and law enforcement, and managed all transit related tasks. One area identified for improvement is the coordination of media messaging. Overall, the jointly managed anti-terrorism operation went well. The threat was later classified as “non-credible” by the FBI. The security posture along the Red Line has since returned to normal.

Staff believes formalizing Metro existing partnerships with multiple law enforcement agencies will improve the overall security posture throughout the transit network and strengthen media coordination. As the threat of terrorism continues to concentrate on softer targets like mass transit, increasing the visibility of law enforcement personnel will contribute to the broader strategies designed to mitigate associated threats.