



ITEM ID: 2025-376-0

TRANSMITTAL DATE: December 5, 2025

MEETING DATE: December 12, 2025

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Hilary Konczal, Chief Safety, Security and Compliance Officer

SUBJECT: System Safety, Security, and Compliance (SSSC) Department Activities - Update Q1 FY26

Issue

Staff is providing a summary of the Authority's safety, security, and compliance activities for Q1 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026.

Recommendation

Receive and file.

Strategic Commitment

This report aligns with the Strategic Business Plan commitment of:

- **Safety is Foundational:** We will stay on the leading edge by deploying new technologies and processes to enhance the safety and security of our riders, our fellow employees, and the communities we serve. Law enforcement services provide safety and security to the Metrolink commuter rail system and its passengers.

Background

The Authority's mission is to provide safe, efficient, dependable, and on-time transportation service for the southern California region. The System Safety, Security, and Compliance (SSSC) Department works to optimize the agency's safety and promote positive safety culture in the workplace through education, engineering, and enforcement, as well as auditing and inspecting for safety and regulatory compliance. Using a data-informed approach, the

department utilizes leading and lagging data indicators coupled with management experience, research, and professional expertise to understand current trends and make decisions about the use of Agency resources in areas of focus.

Additionally, the SSSC Department tracks and evaluates inspections conducted by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and other regulatory agencies. These inspections apply the general and permanent rules published in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Transportation (Title 49 CFR Part 200-299) to oversee agency compliance and assess penalties for violations against freight and commuter railroad agencies. The FRA conducts inspections and audits agencies' records to monitor and enforce railroad safety regulations specified in Title 49 CFR. The Authority places paramount importance on safety and regulation compliance.

The primary mission of the Authority's law enforcement services is to ensure public safety onboard the trains, to coordinate enforcement with the cities along the Authority's right-of-way (ROW), and to assist with the Authority's fare enforcement and physical security program.

Discussion

Rail Incidents

In FY26 Q1, there were nine (9) train strikes involving Metrolink trains, compared to seventeen (17) strikes in FY25 Q4. This accounted for a 47% reduction in strikes involving Metrolink trains. In FY26 Q1 there was a total of seventeen (17) systemwide strikes compared to a total of twenty-six (26) systemwide strikes in FY25 Q4. Overall, this is a 35% reduction on systemwide strikes.

Systemwide strikes includes: Metrolink and foreign trains

Incident Type	FY25 Q4	FY26 Q1
Train vs Pedestrian	3	2
Train vs Trespasser	12	6
Train vs Vehicle	2	1

The SSSC Department Security staff, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Metrolink Bureau, and the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department also continue to focus on the following policing strategies:

- Using current data trends, we continue to focus our Right-of-Way Enforcement activities at the beginning and end of the month, as well as conducting targeted enforcements at reported trouble areas throughout the month.
- Partnering with local police departments to increase grade-crossing enforcements and patrols in their jurisdiction, at locations where we have higher numbers of train strikes.
- Encouraging employees and the public to report trespassers and homeless encampments along the right-of-way to Metrolink's Security Operations Center (SOC). These reports help us identify locations with a higher risk of trespassing to dispatch the appropriate resources and/or increase police patrols, relocate homeless encampments and conduct community outreach, educating the public of the dangers of trespassing on railroad property.

Fare Evaders

FY26 Q1 fare evasion incidents are up by 15% when compared to FY25 Q4. In FY26 Q1 there were ninety-two (92) fare evasion incidents compared to eighty (80) incidents in FY25 Q4.

We are continuing to deploy law enforcement and contract security resources to combat fare evasion. Below are a few of the successful strategies being used:

- Perform fare enforcement on board trains ensuring passengers have a valid ticket.
- Continuing "streetcaring" operations utilizing Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Metrolink Bureau, San Bernardino Sheriff's Department, and Metrolink private security.
- Platform sweeps of outlying stations, using Los Angeles County Sherriff's Department Metrolink Bureau and San Bernardino Sheriff's Department Deputies who will arrive at the station 10 – 15 minutes prior to the train arriving and verifying passenger fare.
- Contract security taskforce platform sweeps of outlying stations, who will arrive at the station 10 – 15 minutes prior to the train arriving and verifying passenger fare.
- Utilizing our contract security at Union Station and stations throughout the Metrolink system.

Unruly Passengers

FY26 Q1 unruly passenger incidents are down 8% compared to FY25 Q4. In FY26 Q1 there were a total of one hundred eighty-one (181) incidents involving unruly passengers compared to one hundred ninety-seven (197) incidents in FY25 Q4.

Law Enforcement & Security Presence on Station Platforms, Trains, at Grade-Crossings, and Right-of-Way by County and Line

Utilizing a Problem Orientated Policing Strategy, we collect and analyze crime data to identify trends so we can deploy the appropriate resources to mitigate and prevent security incidents such as trespassing and other crimes on the Metrolink system. We also track the preventative activities our law enforcement and contract security are performing to ensure a safe and secure system.

Table 1 LASD Law Enforcement Activities by County

	Los Angeles	Riverside	San Bernardino	Ventura	Orange
Train Rides	472	34	47	28	47
Platform Fare Enforcements	1,773	265	217	24	103
Grade-Crossing Details	713	45	53	10	30
Right-Of-Way Details	2,312	228	177	15	98
Streetcar Details	146	44	76	20	22

Total Activities	5,416	616	570	97	300
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Table 2 LASD Law Enforcement Activities by Line

	Ventura	Antelope Valley	San Bernardino	Riverside	Orange	*91/PV	**IEOC
Train Rides	44	276	186	2	69	26	25
Platform Fare Enforcements	57	832	880	241	191	89	92
Grade-Crossing Details	95	339	297	84	30	0	6
Right-Of-Way Details	145	1,279	863	362	132	33	26
Streetcar Details	20	100	122	44	22	0	0
Total Activities	361	2,826	2,384	733	444	148	149

*91/Perris Valley Line

**Inland / Empire -Orange County Line

Table 3 San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Activities

	SB and Arrow Lines
Train Rides	305
Platform Fare Enforcement	170
Grade-Crossing Details	40
Right-of-Way Details	3,883
Streetcar Detail	170
Total Activities	4,568

*Montclair through Redlands University

Rule Violations

In FY26 Q1 there were three (3) rule violations compared to eleven (11) rule violations in FY25 Q4. This is a reduction of eight (8) rule violations, or a 73% decrease.

The Compliance team is proactively engaged in performing operational testing and observations with SCRRA contractors and employees, including train crews, to ensure employees are performing their work safely and in compliance with all applicable safety and operating procedures and regulations.

Q1 Root Cause Analysis investigations found the following to be primary contributing factors in rule violations:

- Lack of understanding of application of the relevant rule
- False perception of situational pressure
- Reduced situational awareness
- Initial job briefing form was not completed

Reportable Injuries

For FY26 Q1 there were six (6) FRA reportable contract employee injuries compared to four (4) injuries in FY25 Q4. This is an increase of two (2) reportable injuries, or a 50% increase. None of the reportable injuries were severe and the compliance team is working with each contractor through the root cause analysis process.

Quarterly Workplace Safety Campaign

The SSSC Department develops a Workplace Safety Week Campaign quarterly aimed at enhancing employees' safety awareness and reinforcing the importance of maintaining a safe and secure work environment. The campaign took place from August 18 – August 22, 2025. Throughout the week, 567 employee contacts were made through 66 face-to-face and virtual meetings with employees and contractors.

Training

System Safety staff provides safety and security training for employees, contractors, and external stakeholders, including local law enforcement and fire departments.

In Q1 of FY26 the System Safety, Security and Compliance Department staff conducted 59 various safety & security classes and trained 489 participants.

Key training classes included: Passenger Train Emergency Preparedness, Incident Response Plan, Human Trafficking, System Safety Program Plan, and Suicide Awareness Prevention and Crisis Intervention.

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Attachment(s)

[Presentation - SSSC FY26 - Q1 Update](#)