NOTICE
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TO: All Department Personnel

FROM: Department Traffic Coordinator, Transit Services Bureau

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES WHEN CONDUCTING INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING METROLINK TRAIN OPERATOR(S) AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY BUS AND TRAIN OPERATOR(S)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Notice is to establish guidelines for traffic collisions involving Metrolink train operator(s) and Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) bus and train operator(s), that are investigated by Department personnel.

PROCEDURES

In accordance with State and Federal transportation regulations, bus and train operator(s) are required to submit to a drug test within two hours of being involved in an incident. When conducting investigations involving Metrolink and MTA bus and train operator(s) involved in traffic collisions, Department personnel must be mindful of this requirement and allow the Metrolink and MTA supervisor(s) to adhere to the regulations.

Interviews should be scheduled before or after the Federal and State mandated drug test. When interviews are conducted prior to the drug test, investigator(s) shall allow the Metrolink or MTA supervisor to stop the interview and allow them to conduct the drug test at a medical or MTA facility.

Should the operator(s) be detained as a suspect, investigator(s) shall maintain custody of the suspect and any potential evidence, while allowing the Metrolink or MTA supervisor to complete the test, in compliance with regulations.

Department personnel must also consider the mental health of the bus and train operator(s) involved in incidents resulting in serious injury or death to a person. These incidents are very traumatic to the operator(s). Investigative personnel should limit the operator’s exposure to the scene. It is recommended that investigator(s) conduct walk-through perspectives before operator(s) are taken from the scene and consider follow-up interviews or walk-throughs after victim(s) are removed from the scene, as to not subject the operator(s) to further potential mental harm.
If you have any questions regarding this Notice, please contact Transit Services Bureau, at (213) 922-3614.

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APPROVED:

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