

WMATA Transit Police Earns Professional Accreditation

The Washington Metro Transit Police Department recently earned accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA). "The accreditation is a substantial achievement for Metro," says Chief of Police Barry J. McDevitt. "It identifies our commitment to excellence in law enforcement and places our Metro Transit Police Department among the best in the field."

Members of the MTPD accreditation team attended the CALEA hearing in San Diego in November. There are 443 CALEA standards, all strict and very specific. MTPD was evaluated on the following nine law enforcement areas.

- Role, responsibilities, and relationships with other agencies,
- Organization, management, and administration,
- Personnel structure,
- Personnel process,
- Operations,
- Operational support,
- Traffic operations,
- Prisoner and court-related activities, and
- Auxiliary and technical services.

The evaluation was conducted by a team of law enforcement officers from other agencies across the Nation. They examined written materials, visited offices, observed day-to-day activities, and interview individuals both from within and outside the organization.

For further information, contact Deputy Chief Polly Hanson at 202, 962-2159, or phanson@wmata.com.

MARTA Gains Renewed State Accreditation

On November 5th and 6th, 2001, the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Administration Police Department underwent an extensive 2-day examination of its policies and procedures conducted by the Georgia Police Accreditation Coalition (GPAC). The purpose of GPAC is to increase the level of law enforcement professionalism among law enforcement agencies throughout the State of Georgia. In order to gain accreditation, police agencies must prove compliance with 104 standards covering areas such as officer conduct, arrest procedures, property and evidence handling, personnel procedures, and criminal investigations.

The MARTA Police Department was one of the first nine police agencies in the State to receive accreditation in 1997. Assessments are conducted every five years in order to determine if an agency has remained in compliance with all standards. During the November assessment, the Department was found to be in compliance with all applicable standards and was recommended for recertification by the assessment team.

For further information, contact Lieutenant Jim Fraker at 404, 848-2919, or jfraker@itsmarta.com.

It's All About Safety. If you've taken training in unknown substance response, you know how to handle mail safely, how to identify suspicious packages, and what to do if you encounter something in your workplace. But since we are all serving as the eyes and ears of Metro while traveling in the system, it's a good idea to reiterate what we should do if we encounter anything unusual on a train or bus. If you observe something unusual on a platform, contact the station manager via the callbox on specially-marked pylons. Also look for a transit police officer for help. They're wearing brightly colored vests, so they're easy to spot. On the train, use the callbox on either end of the car you're on and explain the situation. On a Metrobus, report anything unusual to the driver and assist in the evacuation of the bus is necessary. (*Reprinted from Metro Weekly, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Police weekly newsletter*)

Meetings

1/13-17/02 Transportation Research Board 81st Annual Conference, Washington, DC (202, 334-2934; Fax: 334-2003)

3/24/02 National Association of Regional Councils Police Conference: Transportation Conformity Case Studies, Washington, DC (202, 457-0170, ext. 24; www.narc.org)

4/14-18/02 Second International Conference on Urban Public Transportation Systems, Alexandria, VA, American Public Transportation Association and American Society of Civil Engineers National Committee on Public Transport (202, 334-2934; Fax: 334-2003; www.asce.org/conference/upts2002/)

4/29-5/2/02 ITS America 2002, 12th Annual Meeting and Exposition, Long Beach, CA (202, 484-4847; sfitzgerald@its.org)

5/3-9/02 American Public Transportation Association Bus Conference, Minneapolis, MN (202, 496-4800; www.meetings@apta.com)

5/20-24/02 26th Annual LEIM Training Conference/Expo (800, THE IACP; information@theiacp.org)

6/10/14/02 American Public Transportation Association Rapid Transit Conference, Baltimore, MD (202, 496-4800; www.meetings@apta.com)

6/23-26/02 American Public Transportation Association Risk Management Seminar, Toronto, Ontario (202, 496-4800; www.apta.com/meetings/index.htm)

8/5-6/02 109th Annual International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference, Minneapolis, MN (800, THE IACP; www.theiacp.org)

9/22-26/02 American Public Transportation Association International Public Transit Expo 2002, Las Vegas, NV (202, 396-4800; www.meetings@apta.com)

10/5-9/02 109th Annual International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference, Minneapolis, MN (800, THE IACP; www.theiacp.org)

10/12-16/02 American Public Transportation Association Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT (202, 496-4800)

10/21-25/02 110th Annual International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference: Law Enforcement Education and Technology Exposition (800, THE-IACP; www.theiacp.org)

1/11-15/04 Transportation Research Board 83rd Annual Meeting, Washington, DC (202, 334-2934; Fax: 334-2003)

10/30-11/3/04 111th Annual International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference: Law Enforcement Education and Technology Exposition (800, THE IACP; www.theiacp.org)

1/9-13/05 Transportation Research Board 84th Annual Meeting, Washington, DC (202, 334-2934; Fax: 334-2003)

Training

1/8-10/02 GIS: Transit Applications, Berkeley, CA, National Transit Institute (732, 932-1700, ext. 19; Fax: 932-1707; www.ntionline.com)

1/8-10/01 Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, Detroit, MI, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

1/14-18/02 Transit System Security, Baltimore, MD, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

2/5-6/02 Response to Weapons of Mass Destruction, Long Beach, CA, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

2/11-15/02 Transit System Security, Orlando, FL, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

2/13/02 Threat Management and Emergency Response to Rail Hijacking Seminar, San Jose, CA, Federal Transit Admini-

stration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

2/14/02 Threat Management and Emergency Response to Rail Hijacking Seminar, San Jose, CA, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

2/20-22/92 Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, Boston, MA, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

2/25-3/1/02 Effectively Managing Transit Emergencies, San Juan, PR, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

3/5/02 Threat Management and Emergency Response to Rail Hijackings Seminar, Detroit, MI, Federal Transit Administration (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

3/6/02 Threat Management and Emergency Response to Rail Hijackings Seminar, Detroit, MI, Federal Transit Administration (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

3/12-13/02 Response to Weapons of Mass Destruction, Richmond, KY, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

3/18-22/02 Transit System Security (closed to outside participants), Bayamon, PR, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

3/18-22/01 Effectively Managing Transit Emergencies, Alexandria, VA, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

3/26-28/02 Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, Los Angeles, CA, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

4/11-12/02 Fatigue Awareness, Miami, FL, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

4/18/02 Threat Management and Emergency Response to Rail Hijackings Seminar, Bayamon, PR (closed to outside participants), Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

4/19/02 Threat Management and Emergency Response to Rail Hijackings Seminar, Bayamon, PR (closed to outside participants), Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

4/23/02 Transit Explosives Incident Management Seminar, Albuquerque, NM, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

4/24/02 Transit Explosives Incident Management Seminar, Albuquerque, NM, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

5/6-10/02 Transit System Security, Daytona, FL, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

5/6-10/02 Effectively Managing Transit Emergencies, Detroit, MI, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

5/14/02 Threat Management and Emergency Response to Bus Hijackings Seminar, Phoenix, AZ, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

5/15/02 Threat Management and Emergency Response to Bus Hijackings Seminar, Phoenix, AZ, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

5/29/02 Threat Management and Emergency Response to Bus Hijackings Seminar, Albuquerque, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

5/30/02 Threat Management and Emergency Response to Bus Hijackings Seminar, Albuquerque, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

5/29-30/02 Fatigue Awareness, Daytona, FL, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

5/29-30/02 Response to Weapons of Mass Destruction, Seattle, WA, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

5/29/02 Threat Management and Emergency Response to Bus Hijackings Seminar, Albuquerque, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

6/3-7/02 Transit System Security, Phoenix, AZ, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

6/10-14/02 Effectively Managing Transit Emergencies, Lakeland, FL, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

6/19/02 Threat Management and Emergency Response to Bus Hijackings Seminar, Marietta, GA, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

6/19-20/02 Substance Abuse Management and Program Compliance, Norwalk, CT, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

6/20/02 Threat Management and Emergency Response to Bus Hijackings Seminar, Marietta, GA, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

6/25-26/02 Response to Weapons of Mass Destruction, Austin, TX, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

7/17/02 Threat Management and Emergency Response to Bus Hijackings Seminar, San Jose, CA, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

7/17-18/02 Fatigue Awareness, St. Louis, MO, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

7/18/02 Threat Management and Emergency Response to Bus Hijackings Seminar, San Jose, CA, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

7/22-26/02 Effectively Managing Transit Emergencies, Orange, California, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

7/29-8/2/02 Transit System Security, Columbus, OH, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

8/7-8/02 Response to Weapons of Mass Destruction, Phoenix, AZ, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

8/12-16/02 Transit System Security, San Juan, PR, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

8/26-30/02 Effectively Managing Transit Emergencies (closed to outside participants), Bayamon, PR, Federal Transit Administration

stration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

9/4/02 Threat Management and Emergency Response to Bus Hijackings Seminar, Seattle, WA, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

9/5/02 Threat Management and Emergency Response to Bus Hijackings Seminar, Seattle, WA, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

9/9-13/02 Effectively Managing Transit Emergencies, Lexington, KY, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

9/23-27/02 Effectively Managing Transit Emergencies, Phoenix, AZ, Federal Transit Administration and Transportation Safety Institute (405, 954-3682; Fax: 954-0367)

Let Us Hear From You. If you have any activities that would be of interest regarding transit security, a staff member whom you want to commend for some outstanding or heroic action, or just about anything dealing with transit security, please let us hear from you. Fax your material to the number below--we will find a place for it in the newsletter.

Address Corrections. If you note any inaccuracies on the address label, please fax or E-mail corrections to the number below along with your phone and Fax numbers and E-mail address.

Note: Information for this newsletter may be sent to Edith Rodano, Office of Safety and Security, Federal Transit Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D. C. 20590 (202, 366-0191; Fax: 366-7951) or Edith.Rodano@fta.dot.gov by March 15, 2002.