



# CONFIDENTIAL CLOSE CALL KEEP REPORTING... WE ARE LISTENING!

Contact the Editor

Adrienne Harley

Email: [aharley@wmata.com](mailto:aharley@wmata.com)

Phone: 202-962-2278

March 2018

Metro, ATU Local 689, and IBT Local 922 take close calls seriously. Metro has approved the below safety actions to address concerns from employees who have made confidential reports directly to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS). These action items are tracked internally to ensure completion and ongoing compliance.



## Employee Concern: No Clear policy/procedure regarding lightning safety when working outdoors

Employees have reported concern regarding working outdoors in the presence of lightning. With no clear policy or procedure regarding lightning, supervisors and employees rely on their own safe practices.

**Actions:** SAFE will prepare and distribute a Safety Bulletin that includes OSHA recommendations to prevent worker exposure to lightning. All WMATA departments and offices that require workers or contractors to work outdoors will comply with the Safety Bulletin and OSHA recommendations to reduce lightning hazards.

**Responsible party:** Carla Grano, SAFE

*Completion Date:* 4/6/2018

## Resolved: Rail Condition

Close Call Reporting received a concern regarding a rail condition when crossing track near the PG Plaza location. After inspecting the reported area, TRST found that an insulated joint (IJ) was missing one bolt which resulted in a deviation of ½ and caused the wheels to pump when trains crossed that section of track. When experiencing a rough ride on any area of track, it is important to report the location to prevent any future hazardous conditions.

**Actions:** On 1/29/18, a Track and Structures work gang tamped 100 ft. of track in the immediate area and installed a missing IJ bolt to rectify the problem.

**Responsible party:** Mike Davis, TRST

*Completed:* 1/29/2018

## Resolved: Fabricated tools without proper documentation

Employees have noted that there are tools in the shop that do not comply with the Manufactured Service Instruction (MIS) protocol for tool safety regulations. A special tool is defined as a customized tool fabricated, purchased, or supplied for a specific use. A special tool is approved by CENV through the Request for Engineering Assistance (ER) form. Special tools that were previously manufactured have been identified, collected, and properly serialized, and assigned an asset number when required. These tools are used mostly during preventative maintenance and should be kept in a locker, which will be controlled and audited.

**Actions:** On 1/9/18, the Department of Car Maintenance (CMNT) issued SOP 3.08, which defines the procedures for CMNT to follow to control and issue special tools, and inspect and audit CMNT personal tool boxes.

**Responsible party:** Larry Skelton, CMNT

*Completed:* 1/9/18

Be a Hero!

[www.closecall.bts.gov](http://www.closecall.bts.gov)

1-888-568-2377





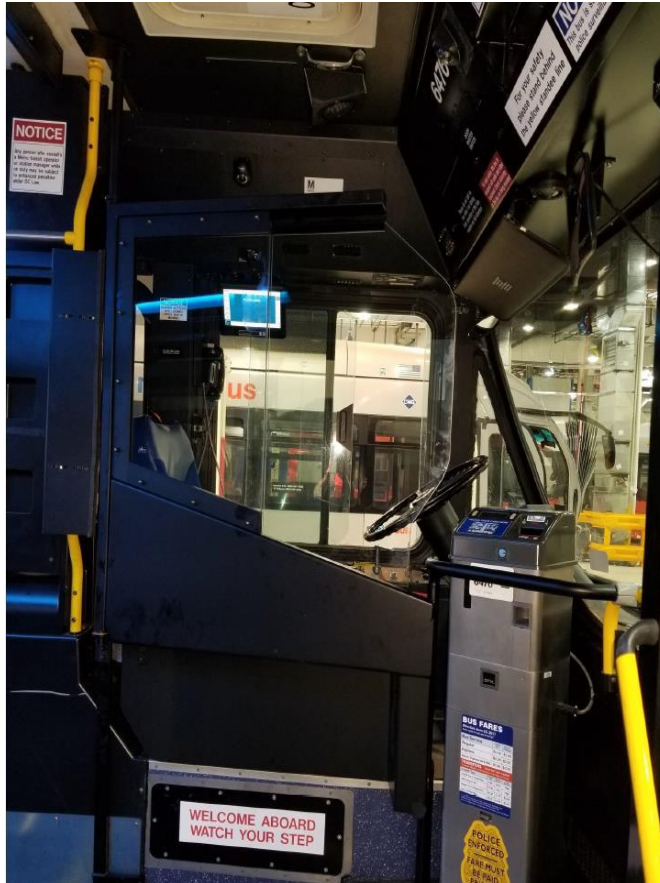
Contact the Editor

Adrienne Harley

Email: [aharley@wmata.com](mailto:aharley@wmata.com)

Phone: 202-962-2278

# CONFIDENTIAL CLOSE CALL KEEP REPORTING... WE ARE LISTENING!



## MEET THE CLOSE CALL TEAM!

The Close Call Team (BTS, L-689) will visit ELES employees at their safety meetings on the dates listed below to provide information on the Confidential Close Call Reporting Program.

Mount Vernon Office	3/15 @ 4pm
Court House	3/20 @ 6:30am
Largo Office	3/29 @ 6am & 2pm
	4/04 @ 10pm (2 groups)
King Street	3/23 @ 6am
	3/28 @ 10pm
Union Station	3/28 @ 10pm (2 groups)
West Falls Church	4/5 @ 5pm & 10pm
Grosvenor Garage Office	4/04 @ 10pm
	4/06 @ 5pm
	4/11 @ 6am
Metro Center	4/11 @ 10pm

## Employee Concern Update: Bus Safety Shields

Bus Operators have reported to Close Call and expressed concerns with management about hazards created by the use of safety shields. Operators have reported experiencing a high level glare from lights, reflections of moving objects in their peripheral view, and the reflection of still objects, etc. The Ergonomics Team comprised of management and labor, has approved an extended sliding glass shield as pictured above. All new buses will have the approved shield by June 2019.

**Responsible party: Robert Potts, BUS**

Completion Date: 6/2019

*\*If you would like the Close Call Team to visit your department or provide promotional material (i.e. brochures posters, etc.) for the Confidential Close Call Reporting Program, please contact:*

Adrienne Harley  
[aharley@wmata.com](mailto:aharley@wmata.com)  
202-962-2278

## Safety Committee Board Briefing

On April 12, 2018, BTS will be briefing Metro's Safety Committee Board on the 5-year progress of Metro's Confidential Close Call Reporting Program. To listen live, use the link below.

<https://www.wmata.com/about/board/meetings/index.cfm>

