

APTA Safety, Security, Emergency Management and Advisory Services Programs Update



American
Public Transportation
Association

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APTA Safety, Security & Emergency Management

**Brian Alberts, Senior Director
Safety and Advisory Services**



**Polly Hanson, Senior Director
Security, Risk & Emergency Management**



SAFETY & ADVISORY SERVICES

2026 APTA Conferences and Meetings

Upcoming



Upcoming



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**TRANSform Conference
& EXPO**
October 4-7, 2026
Chicago, IL
*McCormick Place &
Hilton Chicago*

Upcoming

**Safety and Risk
Management
Seminar**
December 6-9, 2026
Miami, FL
Fontainebleau Miami

To Register for the upcoming Mobility Conference:

<https://s6.goeshow.com/apta/mc/2026/index.cfm>

Early Bird registration ends this upcoming Friday, April 3rd!



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Zero Emission Bus (ZEB)/BEB Safety and Thermal Events

- ZEB Safety and BEB-related thermal events have become very important and relevant, with more of these types of events occurring in the US
- APTA started a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on Zero Emission Bus (ZEB) & Battery Electric Bus (BEB) Safety in 2025
- TAG created a document titled “Out-of-Service Storage of High-Voltage Vehicles”
- Holding Session/Workshop at upcoming 2026 Mobility conference on ZEB/BEB Safety



Monthly Safety Spotlight Webinars

- Monthly Webinar Series taking place 3rd Thurs of every month from 2-3pm ET
- Discuss major safety issues in the public transit industry, including:
 - Safety Management Systems and Transit Worker Assaults;
 - Safety and Security Certification;
 - FTA and FRA rulemakings;
 - Bus and Rail Collisions and Data Collection (NTD)
 - Usually have at least one guest speaker (i.e. FTA, FRA, OLI, NTSB and others)
- APTA Member Organizations please contact Brian Heanue at bheanue@apta.com for the MS Teams invite and members are encouraged to forward it to interested peers. Next Webinar: Thurs, Apr 16th from 3-4pm ET

Safety-related Standards Update

- Safety and Security Certification Recommended Practice (RP)
 - In conjunction with FTA's Handbook
 - Published in 2024
- Created a RP on “Out-of-Service Storage of High-Voltage Vehicles” in 2025; Currently in the Public Review period and hope to publish this document by May 2026.
- APTA's Bus Safety Working Group is writing & reviewing an RP on Bus Operator and Supervisor Training (hope to publish in '26)



Update: FTA Transit Standards Development Program

- In late 2023, FTA announced the selection of a multi-organizational team led by the APTA to carry out the new FTA Standards Development Program (SDP).
- APTA is partnering with the University of South Florida's Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR).
- Conducted “needs assessment” for Standards in the public transportation industry.
- Next WG meeting is taking place in March 2026
- Industry “Lens” Partners Include:
 - Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO).
 - Center for Transportation & the Environment (CTE).
 - Community Transit Association of America (CTAA).
 - National Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP)
 - ENSCO



Safety, Security and Emergency Management Awards Program

- Annual APTA Safety & Security Awards Program
- Tremendous interest in past years
- New Award category in 2023: Emergency Management and a onetime award for 2026: Safe Effective and Clean which aligns with APTA's "SECURE" Task Force
- 2026 awards application site opened in Feb 2026 and will close in late March for Bus, late April for Rail



Peer Reviews



- Conducted with Subject Matter Experts from throughout Public Transportation
- Provide findings and recommendations to Senior Management, including best practices
- Conducted 30+ peer reviews nationally and internationally from 2020-2026 on topics such as:
 - Safety, security, and emergency management;
 - Operations;
 - Maintenance; and
 - HR, procurement and customer service
- Please go to go to www.apta.com/peerreview for more information and to schedule a peer review.

Safety Audits

- APTA bus and rail safety audit programs allow transit agencies to:
 - Prepare for State Safety Oversight Agency (SSOA) and/or FTA audits;
 - Meet APTA Industry Standards; and
 - Continuously improve system safety
- Based on SMS-based criteria in the PTASP final rule and National Safety Plan
- Activities include: Review of the Agency's PTASP, use of a comprehensive checklist, an application of APTA industry standards/RPs, and a review of best practices
- Over 20 transit agencies in the program, including bus, rail and commuter rail
- To sign up, please go here: <https://www.apta.com/research-technical-resources/safety-security/apta-safety-management-audit-programs/>



Collaboration with Outside Groups: CUTR, OLI, FTA, FRA and NTSB

Collaboration with outside transit safety-related groups, including:

- Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR)
- Operation Lifesaver, Inc. (OLI)
- Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
- Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
- National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)



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SECURITY & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Security Standards Update



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**If you would like to join one of APTA's
Security Standards Working Groups,
please email Phanson@apta.com**

Public Safety Initiatives



TSA/APTA Security & Emergency Management Roundtable



Safe, Effective, and Clean Transit Task Force (SECURE)



Cyber Security





APTAU
Delivering the Future-Ready Workforce

Erin Plemons
Director, CCIP
ENSCO, Inc.

APTA American Public Transportation Association

CCIP
Center for Critical Infrastructure Protection

Cybersecurity Awareness Training for Transit Workers

Human Trafficking Awareness & Training

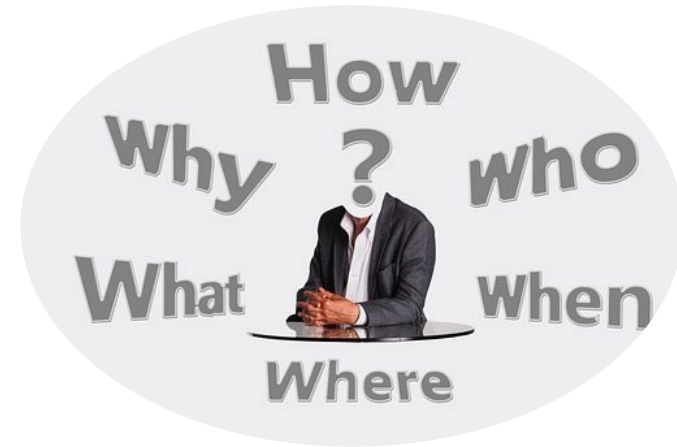


Rail Safety and Operation Lifesaver Inc.



Information Sharing

Public Transportation (PT)
and Over-the-Road Bus
(OTRB) Information
Sharing and Analysis
Center (ISAC)



Contact Information

Brian Alberts
APTA
**Senior Director – Safety
and Advisory Services**

Balberts@apta.com
202-496-4855

Polly Hanson
APTA
**Senior Director – Security, Risk &
Emergency Management**

Phanson@apta.com
202-496-4895

QUESTIONS ?

