

## **ADDITIONAL SECURITY MEASURES TAKEN BY THE SFRTA/TRI-RAIL TO HELP PROTECT OUR COMMUTER RAIL SYSTEM**

Since September 11, 2001, and after more recent events in Madrid, Spain, London, England and Mumbai India, the SFRTA has taken significant steps to enhance security of the Tri-Rail system, including passengers, employees and the general public.

### **Plans and Procedures:**

**Regional Transit Security Strategy** – A Regional security strategy has been developed and implemented. Co-authored by the SFRTA and Miami-Dade Transit Safety and Security staff, the regional security strategy identifies specific security goals and objectives for the South Florida transit region. The strategy also identifies regional training, security hardware and technology that will allow for regional inter-operability. The transit region, originally comprised of Miami-Dade Transit and Tri-Rail rail operations, now includes Miami-Dade Transit and Broward County Transit bus operations.

### **Awareness and Training:**

**Transit Watch** – The SFRTA has launched a Transit Watch Program for passenger and public awareness of suspicious activity. The program urges passengers to report suspicious activity to on board and security personnel. Information is available in brochures and on the Tri-Rail website and will include tips on enhancing security on, and around, the system. A toll-free number to be used to report suspicious activity is posted throughout the system on Transit Watch posters, flyers and brochures

**Employee Awareness** - SFRTA employees and SFRTA contract employees have received training in system security awareness from the National Transit Institute training course developed at Rutgers University. This training includes employee actions for identifying and reporting suspicious activities encountered on the rail system. The SFRTA, Wackenhut Corporation and Herzog Transit Services Inc. have certified instructors for this course, on staff.

**Employee Training** - Training has been provided to SFRTA employees and SFRTA contract employees on Terrorist Activity Recognition and Reaction, another course developed by the National Transit Institute at Rutgers University. This course provides training on identifying activities associated with terrorist activities.

**Advanced Training** - Advanced training has been provided for some SFRTA staff and SFRTA contract security employees -- this training includes:

- Improvised Explosive Device recognition course (Explosives Detection Group, Broward County);
- Land-based transportation anti-terrorism course (Federal Law Enforcement Training Center and Chicago Police Department);
- Behavior Assessment Screening System (Massachusetts State Police); and
- The Homeland Security – Comprehensive Assessment Model (endorsed by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement). The purpose of the HLS-Cam is to provide community leaders with a method of assessing threats to the community and identifying the critical facilities, critical infrastructure and events within the community.

**First Responder Training** - Training with local, first-responder agencies has increased, with focus on specialized units, such as: Special Weapons and Tactics, K-9 units, as well as investigative and forensic teams. The training includes detailed information on Tri-Rail equipment and procedures, as well as classroom and hands-on training. Federal, county and municipal agencies have all participated in this training.

### **Exercises and Drills:**

The SFRTA has participated and sponsored a number of security-incident-based scenario drills. After action reports, debriefings and critiques are conducted following exercises and drills. Checklists and procedures are updated accordingly.

**2004 Hostage and Explosive Device Exercise** -- Full-scale exercise with Boynton Beach Police SWAT Unit and Boynton Beach Fire Rescue Department.

**2005 Suspicious Substance Exercise** -- Full-scale, multi-day exercise sponsored by Palm Beach County including the Port of Palm Beach, Palm Beach International Airport, Tri-Rail, Palm Tran and various hospitals. Participants included the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Fire Rescue Department, three municipal police departments, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Transportation Security Administration, Central Intelligence Agency and Department of Homeland Security (rail portion of the exercise was a scenario involving a suspicious substance onboard a train).

**2006 Security Incident Exercise** -- Table-top exercise with Miami-Dade Transit, conducted by the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (the scenario involved multiple security incidents).

**2006 Communication and Checklist Exercise** -- Table-top exercise with CSX Transportation (the scenario involved multiple incidents on the system. Focus was on communications and initiation of appropriate checklists).

**2006 Improvised Explosive Device and Hostage Exercise** -- Full-scale exercise with Broward County Sheriff's Office SWAT Unit (the scenario involved a security incident based including response to IEDs and a hostage situation).