



Chief Sam Dotson
Amtrak Police Department

Dear Chief/Sheriff:

In recognition of **Rail Safety Week this September 20-26** across the United States, Canada and Mexico, Amtrak and Operation Lifesaver invite you to participate in the fifth annual **“Operation Clear Track” on Tuesday September 21. The following day, Wednesday September 22 will be the rain date.**

“Operation Clear Track,” remains the single largest rail safety law enforcement initiative in the U.S. and Canada, with hundreds of departments like yours, committing to educate the public about railroad grade crossing and trespassing laws in the communities that you serve. This public awareness law enforcement campaign is a success because of you and your willingness to make illegal railroad crossing and trespassing a prohibited activity within your jurisdiction.

As in years past, this safety detail asks you to assign personnel to two railroad crossings of your choice on September 21, for the purpose of enforcing your state grade crossing and trespassing laws. The enforcement period at each crossing is typically 2.5 to 3 hours and can be carried out during any patrol shift.

During the exercise, on-site personnel will issue verbal/written warnings to violators or citations when appropriate. We have attached our redesigned rail safety cards to be distributed throughout the Operation to motorists and pedestrians. Also attached are a media advisory and press release for the event inviting the media to cover the operation and serve as a force multiplier in getting the rail safety message out.

If you can join us this year, please register for the event by clicking on the link below by August 20.

<https://operationlifesaver.wufoo.com/forms/mch3oh3048h3cd/>

The registration form will ask for the railroad crossings or locations where you will be stationed. One box of 500 pocket cards with railroad safety tips will be shipped to your department in advance for public distribution during enforcement hours. You must provide a street address where the cards should be shipped. Fed Ex will not deliver to a P.O. Box.

If you do not have train tracks in your community, please request the rail safety cards to hand out at your recreation centers, downtown business districts or any areas where the public congregates. We encourage you to take photos of your personnel during the enforcement window so Amtrak Police and Operation Lifesaver state coordinators around the country can post them on social media platforms. Please send your photos to petitob@Amtrak.com.

At the conclusion of the event, we will send you a second link to report the number of citations and warnings that were issued during the enforcement period, plus the approximate number of cards that you were able to disseminate.

We look forward to working with you again this year and hope to meet our 2021 goal of more than 600 departments participating nationwide. Please feel free to reach out to APD Lead Communications Specialist Barbara Petito at petitob@Amtrak.com to answer any questions that you may have regarding the operation.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "D. Samuel Dotson" with a small circular mark at the end.

D. Samuel Dotson
Vice President and Chief of Police
Amtrak Police Department