



Illinois Rail Safety Week

September 24th-30th 2017



www.illinoisrailsafetyweek.org



2014



2015



2016



Illinois Rail Safety Week



Why have a week dedicated to rail safety?

The **Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police (ILACP) Traffic Safety Committee** recognizes the importance of tying together the educational and engineering components of rail safety to the enforcement component of rail safety that law enforcement agencies can bring to the table.

In order to coordinate this statewide effort, the ILACP Traffic Safety Committee turned the idea into a reality by building partnerships and implementing the first ever Illinois Rail Safety Week event in 2014. This week was held from September 14th to September 20th.

By combining the resources of both public and private entities in terms of the 3 “E’s” (Education, Enforcement, and Engineering) during a statewide effort, a common goal can be achieved; to save lives and prevent injuries.





Illinois Rail Safety Week



Why have a week dedicated to rail safety?

Look at the rail system that exists within Illinois...



According to the **Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC)**:

- There is more than 7,400 miles of railroad track within Illinois, the second largest rail system of any state in the U.S.
- All 7 Class 1 railroads in the U.S. operate within Illinois (BNSF, CN, CP, CSX, KCS, NS, UP), in addition to about 50 smaller railroads.
- 12,048 level crossings exist within Illinois (7,783 public: 3,905 private: 360 pedestrian).
- 2,670 public highway rail structures exist within Illinois (1,729 over: 941 under).
- More than 500 million tons of freight moves on rails within Illinois each year, which is the most of any state in the U.S.
- About 20 million tons of chemicals, many of which are hazardous, are transported on the rail system within Illinois each year.
- Chicago is the largest rail hub in the U.S. and the 3rd largest intermodal container/trailer port in the world, following only Singapore and Hong Kong.



Illinois Rail Safety Week



Illinois has historically been in the top 5 within the United States in terms of rail grade crossing fatalities and trespass fatalities.

But we are making a difference.....

(Based on Preliminary 2016 Federal Railroad Administration Statistics)

Year	Grade Crossing Fatalities	National Ranking
2013	16	3rd
2014	21	2nd
2015	31	2nd
2016	22	3rd
Year	Trespass Fatalities	National Ranking
2013	26	2nd
2014	35	3rd
2015	23	5th
2016	22	6th



Illinois Rail Safety Week



What is the MISSION of Illinois Rail Safety Week?

Mission Statement: To conduct a statewide, comprehensive and coordinated rail safety awareness campaign through the organization and delivery of new and previously established rail safety programs, in order to promote EDUCATION, conduct ENFORCEMENT and promote continued ENGINEERING advances while enhancing public awareness ultimately leading to the prevention of collisions, deaths, and injuries at places where roadways cross railroad tracks, on railroad rights of way, and on railroad property.

Simply put, the mission of Illinois Rail Safety Week is to save lives and prevent tragedies.





Illinois Rail Safety Week



The 3 “E”s; Education, Engineering, and Enforcement as related to rail safety:

Education

Increase public awareness by educating both motorists and pedestrians about the dangers around railroad tracks, railroad yards, and railroad property so everyone makes safe decisions and understands how quickly he/she can unknowingly get into a dangerous, life threatening situation.

Engineering

Work with all involved entities to promote continued engineering research, innovation, and its implementation to improve the safety of railroad crossings for both motor vehicles and pedestrians.

Enforcement

Conduct sustained enforcement of traffic laws related to grade crossings and trespassing laws on railroad property in order to change future behavior.





Illinois Rail Safety Week



What is the **VISION** & long term goal of rail safety week?

- Create a working relationship amongst all stakeholders in terms of rail safety, from governmental agencies, private corporations, volunteer groups, and rail fans to achieve the mission of saving lives and preventing tragedies.
- Make law enforcement entities more aware of the dangers associated with railroads in order to keep both officers and the public safe. Many law enforcement officers are unfamiliar with the dangers associated with the rails.
- Make law enforcement entities more aware of what railroad related violations exist so appropriate enforcement and educational campaigns can be implemented on a **sustained basis**; beyond rail safety week.
- Provide all stakeholders with educational materials (specific to law enforcement, private agencies, and the general public) for download via the website; www.illinoisrailsafetyweek.org
- Take Illinois Rail Safety Week beyond the borders of Illinois by helping facilitate a Midwest Rail Safety Week during 2016, and a National Rail Safety Week in 2017.





Illinois Rail Safety Week



How will rail safety week be **sustained** and funded over the test of time?

- The ILACP Traffic Safety Committee will continue to be a driving force and the primary sponsoring agency by keeping Rail Safety Week as one of priorities.
- By involving and building partnerships with an array of agencies and individuals who understand the importance of rail safety. From individual citizens, rail fans, governmental agencies both large and small, non profit organizations, elected officials, educational institutions, and railroad related vendors/manufacturers.
- The above mentioned cross section of stakeholders will bring forth a broad range of perspectives, knowledge, expertise, insight, and personalities who all have a vested interest in the continuation of Rail Safety Week.
- Funding of Illinois Rail Safety Week will depend upon stakeholders to help fund and contribute to the event. Whether in terms of monetary donations, internal spending, or supplying materials, any amount will help the mission of Rail Safety Week.





Illinois Rail Safety Week



A summary:

First, the ILACP Traffic Safety Committee set out to start the process with the Governor of the State of Illinois requesting that he issue a proclamation declaring September 24th – 30th as Illinois Rail Safety Week.

Second, the Committee set out to involve large stakeholders:



Finally, the Committee began to recruit participants by deploying a website: www.illinoisrailsafetyweek.org website created, where agencies register online.



WHEREAS, 134 crashes occurred at public highway-rail grade crossings, resulting in 55 personal injuries and 24 fatalities in the State of Illinois during 2014; and,

WHEREAS, 48 trespassing incidents occurred in the State of Illinois during 2014, resulting in the deaths of 29 pedestrians and injuring 19 others while trespassing on railroad property right of ways; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois ranks second in the nation in grade-crossing fatalities and third in trespass fatalities for 2014; and,

WHEREAS, more than 67 percent of crashes at public-grade crossings occur where active warning devices exist; and,

WHEREAS, educating and informing the public about rail safety, reminding the public that railroad right of ways are private property, enhancing public awareness of the dangers associated with highway-rail grade crossing, ensuring pedestrians and motorists are looking and listening while near railways, and obeying established traffic laws will reduce the number of fatalities and injuries to Illinoisans; and,

WHEREAS, the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, Illinois Truck Enforcement Association, Illinois State Police, Illinois Department of Transportation, Illinois Commerce Commission, Illinois Operation Lifesaver, Illinois Sheriff's Association, Illinois Railroad Association, all local and railroad law enforcement, first responders and area railroad companies commit to partnering together in an effort to educate Illinois residents on all aspects of railroad safety, to enforce applicable state laws and to support Illinois Rail Safety Week;

THEREFORE, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim September 13-19, 2015 as RAIL SAFETY WEEK in Illinois, and encourage all citizens to recognize the importance of rail safety education.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.



Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
this NINETEENTH day of JUNE, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
FIFTEEN, and of the State of Illinois,
one hundred and NINETY-SEVENTH.

Debra Whitte
SECRETARY OF STATE

Bruce Rauner
GOVERNOR



Illinois Rail Safety Week



Funding

Since its inception, Illinois Rail Safety Week has been funded with grant monies received each year from CN Railroad via its Stronger Communities Fund. In addition, CN Railroad provided a variety of educational handouts to agencies that formally requested such items, and covered other incidental costs such as postage. Union Pacific has also provided grant funding over the last two years and is this year's key partner.

No other funding sources were available for the event and participating agencies took it upon themselves to create, download and print, and purchase handouts for the event. Committee members also relied on both public and private agencies to provide no cost advertising, such as the Illinois Department of Transportation, Clear Channel Outdoor, Inc., local businesses, and educational institutions, to name a few.





Illinois Rail Safety Week



Created a website where agencies can register and download materials such as posters, flyers, vehicle code statutes, activity tracking sheets, etc.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL ilchieftrafficsafety.org/. The page features a blue header with the text "Illinois Chiefs Traffic Safety" and "ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE TRAFFIC SAFETY INITIATIVES". Below the header is a navigation menu with three circular icons: a hand holding a smartphone (Distracted Driving), a car's side mirror with light trails (Speed Awareness), and a train on tracks (Rail Safety). The text below the icons reads: "Illinois Distracted Driving Awareness Week", "Illinois Speed Awareness Day", and "Illinois Rail Safety Week". A paragraph at the bottom states: "These three traffic safety initiatives have been developed to help inform the public of travel safety concerns and procedures. Through these programs we hope to save lives and make Illinois a safer place to travel. Click on any of them for further information about each." The footer contains the text: "Dedicated to Making Illinois a Safer Place to Travel".



Illinois Rail Safety Week



We keep it short and simple for agencies so they have readily available, instant access to information they can use during the campaign. We also have a backup plan in place for departments that lack technological capabilities.

Illinois Rail Safety Week

MENU

AN ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE TRAFFIC SAFETY INITIATIVE



REGISTER

Illinois Rail Safety Week — September 24-30 2017

Click the red button to register as a participant or supporter of the 2017 Illinois Rail Safety Week campaign! IRSW is sponsored by the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police.

Rail Safety Week is going national! The ILACP paved the way with our first Rail Safety Week in 2014.

The International Chiefs of Police has passed a resolution declaring September 24-30 as National Rail Safety Week!

A Special Thanks to This Year's Partner

Thanks to Our Sponsors



- 2017 ONLINE ACTIVITY TRACKING FORM
- 2017 DOWNLOAD MATERIALS
- 2017 GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION
- 2017 PARTICIPATING AGENCIES
- The 2016 IRSW RESULTS of Police
- 2016 AWARD WINNING AGENCIES all
- GET INVOLVED!

Dedicated to Making Illinois a Safer Place to Travel



Illinois Rail Safety Week



We Provide Materials for Use: All registrants received a thumb drive pre-loaded with handouts, flyers, and other information. It was also available on our website www.illinoisrailsafetyweek.org

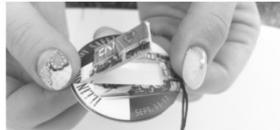
USB DRIVE - 2GB

1



HOLD AS SHOWN

2



PUSH DOWN FROM THE SIDE

3



INSERT INTO USB PORT

IL Rail Safety Week
September 11-17, 2016

www.illinoisrailsafetyweek.org

RAIL CROSSING

**FROM BORDER TO BORDER
ALWAYS EXPECT A TRAIN!**

Preventing highway-rail grade crossing crashes is up to you!

Trains Can't Stop Quickly... You Can

Stopping Distances For The Average Freight Train

Warning Devices

Public highway rail grade crossings have been marked with one or more of the following warning devices for your safety by both state highway departments and the railroad companies. Learn what they are and watch for them. With these warning devices, and caution on your part, highway rail grade crossing crashes should be avoided.

Advance Warning Signs
Advance warning signs near a highway rail grade crossing is placed and are located at a sufficient distance to allow you to stop (if necessary) before reaching the crossing.

Pavement Markings
Pavement markings, consisting of a X or R and a stop line, may be painted on the pavement in front of a crossing. Always stop behind the solid stop line while waiting for a passing train.

Railroad Crossbuck Signs
Railroad crossbuck signs are found at most public crossings. These signs should be treated the same as a yield sign. The driver should slow down and be prepared to stop upon sighting a train. If there is more than one track, a sign before the crossbuck indicates the number of tracks at this crossing.

Flashing Light Signals
Flashing light signals are used with crossbuck signs at more than one highway rail crossing. Always stop when the lights begin to flash. This means a train is approaching. If there is more than one track, make sure all tracks are clear before crossing.

Gates
Gates are used with flashing light signals at certain crossings. Stop when the lights begin to flash before the gate begins to lower across your road lane. Do not attempt to cross until the gates are raised and the lights have stopped flashing.

Driving Special Vehicles

Motorcycles
Motorcycles should approach all highway rail grade crossings slowly and then cross the tracks at a nearly 90 degree angle as possible, as well as following all other gate rules in this booklet.

School Buses and Commercial Buses
School buses and buses carrying passengers for hire are required to stop at all grade crossings in most states. The driver must also look down for approaching trains and their personnel, and it is clearly safe to do so, attaching a gate that will not engage a charge of gates until the tracks have been crossed, and never changing gears while crossing the tracks.

Trucks Carrying Hazardous Materials
Trucks carrying hazardous materials are also required to stop at all grade crossings. Drivers should come to a gradual stop (to minimize the possibility of causing another driver to have an accident), and never change gears while crossing the tracks. Whenever possible, reduce your train grade crossings. Off the highway crossing equipped with flashing lights at gates.

Be Especially Watchful At Night For Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Warning Signs
At night it is particularly difficult to judge speed and distance. If you have any doubts, it is always better to be overly cautious than wary.

OPERATION LIFESAVER
Illinois

WARNING:
YOUR ACTIONS COULD HAVE JUST COST YOU A FINE OF \$500.00 OR EVEN WORSE, YOUR LIFE.

IT IS ILLEGAL TO STOP ON THE TRACKS IN YOUR VEHICLE AT ANY TIME FOR ANY REASON.

5/11 Sec. 11-1425. Stop when traffic obstructed

(a) No driver shall enter an intersection or a marked crosswalk or drive onto any railroad grade crossing unless there is sufficient space on the other side of the intersection, crosswalk or railroad grade crossing to accommodate the vehicle he is operating without obstructing the passage of other vehicles, pedestrians or railroad trains notwithstanding any traffic-control signal indication to proceed.

(b) No driver shall enter a highway rail grade crossing unless there is sufficient space on the other side of the highway rail grade crossing to accommodate the vehicle being operated without obstructing the passage of a train or other railroad equipment using the rails, notwithstanding any traffic-control signal indication to proceed.

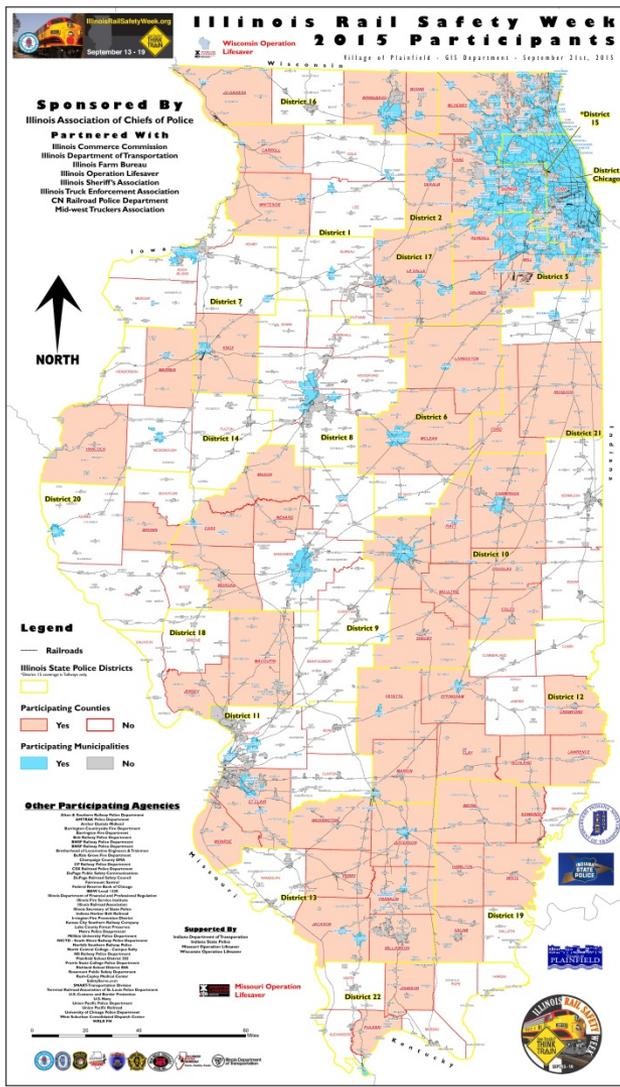
(c) The Secretary of State shall suspend for a period of one month the driving privileges of any person convicted of a violation of subsection (b) of this Section or a similar provision of a local ordinance; the Secretary shall suspend for a period of 3 months the driving privileges of any person convicted of a second or subsequent violation of subsection (b) of this Section or a similar provision of a local ordinance if the second or subsequent violation occurs within 5 years of a prior conviction for the same offense. In addition to the suspensions authorized by this Section, any person convicted of violating subsection (b) of this Section or a similar provision of a local ordinance shall be subject to a mandatory fine of \$500 or 50 hours of community service.



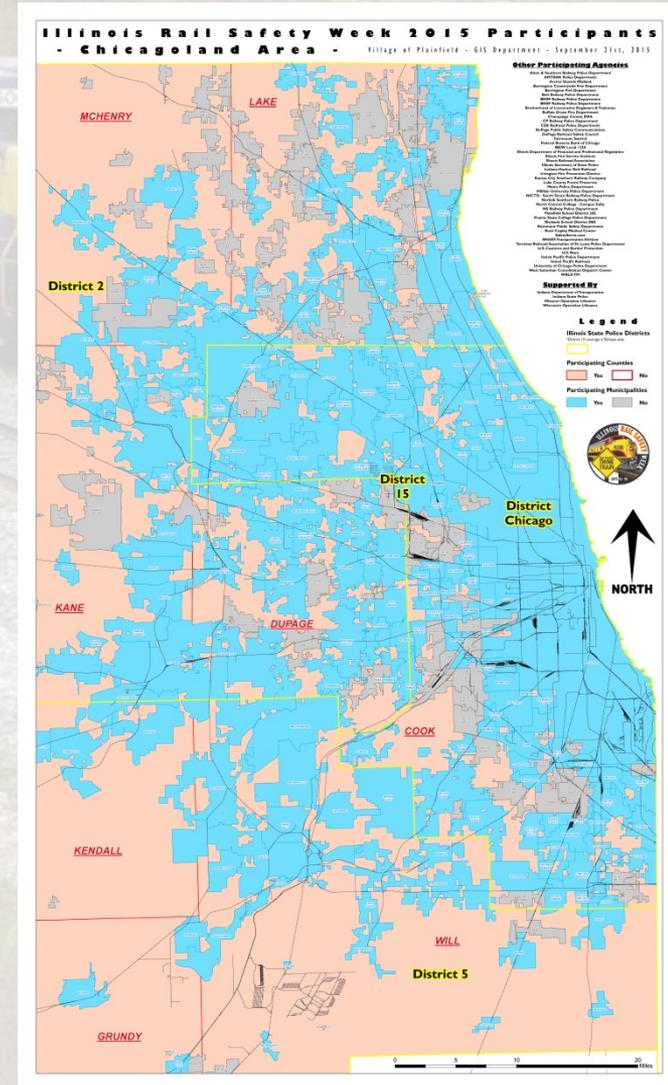
Illinois Rail Safety Week



A summary of 2015 participation.



This map shows the level of participation last year. Approximately 400 police agencies, sheriff departments, railroad police and more. Blue identified participating municipalities, Orange-counties.





Illinois Rail Safety Week



A summary of 2014, 2015 and.....



Illinois Rail Safety Week
September 14th – 20th, 2014
Activity Tracking



Campaign Totals



Media/Educational Efforts:

Operation Lifesaver Presentations Given	Posters/Signs Displayed	Flyers Distributed	Banners Displayed	Press Conferences
140	1,521	44,179	171	4
Press Releases Issued	Internet Based Announcements	Radio Announcements	Television Outlets	Other
176	200	60	19	579

Hours dedicated to education: **1,108**

Enforcement Efforts:

Number of Citations/Warnings	Warnings	Citations
5/11-702A2. Passing within 100' or while traversing crossing	22	4
5/11-1011C. Pedestrian disobeying bells, signals, gates, lights, etc.	499	106
5/11-1201. Obedience to signal indicating approach of train	155	172
5/11-1202. Certain vehicles must stop at crossings (buses, haz mat, etc.)	17	29
5/11-1203. Moving heavy equipment at crossing	4	0
5/11-1303. Stopping, standing or parking in prohibited places	66	18
5/11-1425B. Stopping when traffic obstructed	46	46
5/18C-7502. Malicious removal or damage to railroad property	0	2
5/18c-7503. Trespassing on railroad property	167	54
Other Citations	215	281
Totals	1,191	712

Hours dedicated to enforcement: **2,487**

Agencies signed up = 286

Activity sheets submitted = 186

Activity sheets outstanding = 91

Agencies documented that did not participate = 9

Percent returned to date = 65.03



Illinois Rail Safety Week
September 13th – 19th, 2015
Activity Tracking



STATEWIDE TOTALS FOR ALL AGENCIES

Media/Educational Efforts:

Operation Lifesaver Presentations Given	Posters/Signs Displayed	Flyers Distributed	Banners Displayed	Press Conferences
158	1,002	71,000	61	9
Press Releases Issued	Internet Based Announcements	Radio Announcements	Television Outlets	Other Handout Items
210	317	23	16	16,493

Total hours dedicated to education: **1,450**

Enforcement Efforts:

Number of Citations/Warnings	Warnings	Citations
5/11-706A2. Passing within 100' or while traversing crossing	40	23
5/11-1011C. Pedestrian disobeying bells, signals, gates, lights, etc.	902	294
5/11-1201. Obedience to signal indicating approach of train	209	259
5/11-1202. Certain vehicles must stop at crossings (buses, haz mat, etc.)	10	15
5/11-1203. Moving heavy equipment at crossing	3	0
5/11-1303. Stopping, standing or parking in prohibited places	33	110
5/11-1425B. Stopping when traffic obstructed	55	53
5/18C-7502. Malicious removal or damage to railroad property	0	0
5/18c-7503. Trespassing on railroad property	135	61
Other Citations	-	395
Other Warnings	358	-
TOTALS	1,745	1,210

Total hours dedicated to enforcement: **2,764**



Illinois Rail Safety Week



....2016 results.



Illinois Rail Safety Week September 11th – 17th, 2016 Activity Tracking



Officer: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / 16

Department: **IRSW Totals as of 10 12 16 @ 0820 hours**

Media/Educational Efforts:

# of Operation Lifesaver Presentations Given	# of Posters/Signs Displayed	# of Flyers Distributed	# of Banners Displayed	# of Press Conferences
91	1,228	49,658	44	14
# of Press Releases Issued	# of Internet Based Announcements	# of Radio Announcements	# of Television Outlets	# of Other Handout Items
146	298	35	29	20,048

Total hours dedicated to education: **3,086**

Enforcement Efforts:

	Warnings	Citations
Number of Citations/Warnings		
5/11-706A2. Passing within 100' or while traversing crossing	22	12
5/11-1011C. Pedestrian disobeying bells, signals, gates, lights, etc.	1,439	174
5/11-1201. Obedience to signal indicating approach of train	167	228
5/11-1202. Certain vehicles must stop at crossings (buses, haz mat, etc.)	16	2
5/11-1203. Moving heavy equipment at crossing	0	0
5/11-1303. Stopping, standing or parking in prohibited places	101	31
5/11-1425B. Stopping when traffic obstructed	44	57
5/18C-7502. Malicious removal or damage to railroad property	0	1
5/18c-7503. Trespassing on railroad property	183	58
Other Citations	-	386
Other Warnings	296	-
Totals	2,268	949

Total hours dedicated to enforcement: **2,354**

Once the campaign is completed, please compile data for all officers (and their hours) and report your department's results on a single activity tracking sheet. Please email or fax form by September 30th to:

Eric Munson, Traffic Sergeant, Plainfield Police Department. Fax # - (815) 436 1486.
emunson@plainfieldpd.com. Or, you may complete this sheet as a fillable form at
www.illinoisrailsafetyweek.org

Thank you for your participation!



Illinois Rail Safety Week



A summary in pictures.





Illinois Rail Safety Week



A summary in pictures.



08/14/2014



Illinois Rail Safety Week



A summary in pictures.





Illinois Rail Safety Week



Recognition.

The Committee realizes the importance of recognizing those agencies who excelled during Rail Safety Week. About 25 agencies received a certificate of appreciation or a plaque containing one of the special event license plates which were available for purchase and used as registration for your vehicle for 3 months.





Illinois Rail Safety Week



At the conclusion of the event, each participating agency received a copy of the results, a thank you letter and an embroidered patch which was custom designed for the year.





Illinois Rail Safety Week



The International Association of Chiefs of Police passed a resolution supporting the idea of a U.S. Rail Safety Week.

2016 RESOLUTIONS

ADOPTED IN NOVEMBER 2016



**Support of a Recommendation to the U.S. Federal Railroad Administration to
Declare One Week Each Year as "U.S. Rail Safety Week"**

Submitted by: University/College Police Section

UCP.004.t16

The IACP recommends that the Federal Railroad Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation set and declare one week each year as "U.S. Rail Safety Week" in order to augment the continuing efforts by police across jurisdictions and areas of responsibility for prevention of violations at grade crossings and trespassing in order to save lives.



Illinois Rail Safety Week



Illinois will support the first ever National Rail Safety Week September 24th-30th



Why it's better I stick to Education and Enforcement

