

T E I R

TRESPASS ENFORCEMENT & INCIDENT REDUCTION

PROBLEM

Trespass incidents on railroad property and rights-of-way exceed highway-rail intersection collisions with trains.

CONCEPT

Operating on their scheduled routes, locomotive engineers/conductors are in the best position to observe trespassers on the railroad rights-of-way. One method to address the problem and prevent fatalities, injuries or potential Homeland Security incident is immediately communicating trespasser information directly from the train crew to a selected railroad representative (i.e., railroad special agent) who in turn responds or notifies the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction.

Based on trespassing history, a location (from milepost to milepost) and time frame is selected in advance. A briefing is provided prior to the TEIR Project with the appropriate law enforcement jurisdictions and railroad partners to coordinate communications, logistics and safety. The briefing can be in the form of a meeting, email or telephone. The rail industry regularly monitors the movement of its trains, thus the railroad representative working the detail knows when trains enter the selected jurisdictions.

The train engineer communicates only if trespassing is observed. The railroad representative immediately relays the observation to the affected special agent or law enforcement agency including the offender's location and any other pertinent description to assist the responding law enforcement agency. The law enforcement agency if available dispatches a police officer to apprehend the trespasser. Law enforcement officers in accordance with their agency's policies and procedures eject, cite or arrest the offender. The following summarizes the planning steps:

1. Select date, time frame and from what milepost to what milepost.
2. Determine the approximate number of trains going through this location.
3. Brief the affected train crews to report any trespassers.
4. Establish that a railroad representative who receives the radio communication from the train crew notifies the affected contact person special agent or law enforcement agency.
5. Brief the affected law enforcement agencies to determine when notified during the selected time frame, they will respond to the criminal trespassing.
6. Special Agent or Law enforcement Officer responds and takes appropriate action.

CONSIDERATIONS

- 1) ***Identify target location/s***
- 2) ***Determine month of year, day/s of week and time frames of the day trespassing most likely to occur***
- 3) ***Identify demographic of trespassers, student, sport events, hunters, fishermen, homeless, etc.***
- 4) ***Select the right strategy***
- 5) ***Support your position with credible statistical data***

CONSIDERATIONS CONTINUED

- Schedule planning meeting with railroad special agents and appropriate railroad officials. Decide on date, time frame and track mileposts.
- Brief train crew on precisely what trespassing information is to be communicated to the railroad representative when entering the selected mileposts.
- When trespassing information is received from the train crew, then discuss the method of communication to the affected law enforcement agency.
- Discuss municipal or county correction facility space for arrested offenders. Situations could arise where insufficient space is available for offenders.
- Consider contacting the media when responding to a trespasser.
- Emphasize local law enforcement officers perform their regular assigned duties during the project time frame and are requested to respond only if trespassers are observed.
- Discuss and consider the best access locations for law enforcement vehicles.
- Provide safety briefing for law enforcement officers who will work the detail and respond to railroad property. The briefing can be provided by the law enforcement agencies shift commander at their roll call session.
- The TEIR Project should be a minimum of four hours duration.
- Recap any enforcement activity or other situations encountered during the project.
- Provide feedback to the participating train crews and law enforcement agencies.
- Consider after action debriefing.

SUMMARY

The TEIR Project concept is to reduce trespassing on the railroad rights-of-way through enforcement. TEIR is cost effective and efficient because it does not disrupt freight train traffic and only alerts law enforcement when a trespass violation is actually observed. The overall goal of a TEIR Project is to reduce or prevent needless tragedies between trespassers and trains. In addition to the safety aspect, a trespasser could be engaged in conduct pertinent to a homeland security incident.

TEIR PROGRAM RECAP

EVENT DATE: _____

EVENT LOCATION: _____

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY REPORTING:

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY CONTACT PERSON & PHONE #

_____/_____/_____/_____
(PLEASE PRINT NAME) (AREA CODE & PHONE NUMBER)

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

_____ Total Officers Participating (your) agency?

TRESPASS ACTIVITY

_____ How many trespassers were issued warnings?

_____ How many trespasser were issued citations?

OTHER VIOLATIONS

_____ How many other citations were issued or arrests made, for example (*Disorderly Conduct, Warrant on File*)?

REMARKS (Unusual incidents):

