



Your Right to Know Sick Form 101: The Basics

By: Michael Enriquez

Avoid a petty violation by ensuring your Sick Form AKA Sick Leave Application is submitted on time and correctly!

Scan the QR code on the image to learn the basics of completing a Sick Leave Application.

Sneaking in Bike Racks - An Unnecessary Responsibility.

By: Frank DeJesus

The MTA has recently unveiled a plan to mount bike racks onto the front of NYCT buses. Besides bike racks on buses being unnecessary they are also a safety hazard. The most obvious is the impossibility of an unobstructed view when a bike is mounted.

Permanent Bulletin No. 01.17.08 titled, "Safe Operation" requires Bus Operators' to "ensure the view through the bus windshield remains unobstructed at all times." Did that go out the window? What about a bike falling off due to improper mounting? Or a malfunction? All of which will have catastrophic consequences in a busy city like NYC.

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Disparity: The Woes of a Two-Tier Wage System.

By: Nick Ramirez

With contract negotiations right around the corner, we should acknowledge that we are all not sitting at the same stature:

If you were hired after April 1st, 2012, you are a member of the Tier 6 retirement plan.

Without a doubt, the road for a Tier 6 member is harder. Facing a pensionable wages overtime cap, higher contribution rates (3-6%) and paired with a Final Average Salary algorithm that uses the best 5 consecutive

years to name a few. Our negotiated base salary will be an important conversation for all Tier 6 members.

Until we reach true parity with our Tier 4 counterparts - each contract negotiated is not truly equal. For instance, if inflation was 2%, a 2% raise for Tier 4 would be neutral while that same 2% raise actually results in a wage decrease for Tier 6. in the illustrious words of Caesar Chaves, ***"The people united will never be defeated"***.

TWU Childcare Fund

Online Registration is now open!

Scan the QR code to the right, registration ends March 13th, 2023



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It gets better, just imagine what will happen when someone decides to take a bike that isn't theirs? ...Who will bear the brunt of this furious passenger?

...WE WILL!!

It is evident, the problems far outweigh the benefits by miles. Bike racks are unnecessary and will be a burden on us all. Let's let our voices be heard:

**SAY NO
TO BIKE RACKS!!**

Bike racks originally rolled out in 2015 as a year long pilot program in the Staten Island Division - the pilot then expanded to MTA BUS' Eastchester Depot, the current plan calls for 1,000 more buses to be retrofitted

Why Aren't Defective Bus Radios Considered "Critical Defects"?

By: Daniel Cruz and Frank DeJesus

Under **Permanent Bulletin No. 03.73.01** titled, "...OVCR Card Procedures" a "critical defect" is defined as a defect that is shaded red on the OVCR card and *must* be repaired *before* a bus is placed in service. So why are our radios not considered critical defects?

The RTT function on our buses is our life-line to help.

If your radio isn't functioning you should bring it to the Yard Dispatcher's attention. Should the Dispatcher tell you to take that bus and is adamant about doing so - don't refuse, instead, ask for a **Safety Rule Dispute Resolution Form**. This action puts the power back in your

hands! Once it's requested, *ALL* work related to the request must stop until the supervisor issues you the form and a resolution is made - **this is your contractual right!** Here's why it's unsafe:

Without a working radio, your ability to:

1. Call for police assistance;
2. To be made aware of up and coming hazards and;
3. Call for medical assistance.

Are all severely diminished. An effort has been made to urge the elected union officers to push for a reclassification of the radio's defect category. Our safety is paramount - we all have family and loved ones that count on us being alive and well.



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Meet The Authors'



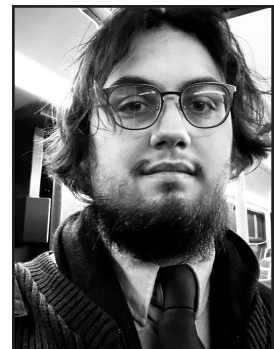
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