



Los Angeles County  
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

**Metro**

**News**

January 10, 2018

Rick Jager/Joni Goheen  
Metro Media Relations  
213.922.2707/213.922.2700  
metro.net/press/pressroom  
mediarelations@metro.net  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Metro Urges Customers to Help Report Suspected Human Trafficking on Transit**

As part of National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is reminding the public how to help potential victims. Human trafficking is a heinous crime and victims are often transported on buses and trains in the United States. Almost one million people — mostly young girls — are trafficked against their will each year.

Here are some signs that someone may be a victim of trafficking:

- They look fearful, depressed, anxious or tense.
- They're being closely watched.
- They don't have possession of their money.
- They show signs of physical abuse.

All 10,000-plus employees at Metro, including bus and rail operators, are trained and educated on how to report suspected human trafficking and help victims who want to make a report. Operators who travel daily through the main trafficking hubs are aware of the signs that someone may be in need of rescue.

If you have reason to believe someone might be a victim of human trafficking, call 888.950.SAFE or use the LA Metro Transit Watch smartphone app to make a report. The app is an easy and anonymous way for Metro transit riders to report suspicious activity via photo and video uploads and text messaging.

To learn more about how Los Angeles County departments and several of the County's community partners fight against human trafficking, visit [lacounty.gov/human-trafficking](http://lacounty.gov/human-trafficking).

**About Metro**

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is unique among the nation's transportation agencies. Created in 1993, Metro is a multimodal transportation agency that transports about 1.3 million passengers daily on a fleet of 2,200 clean air buses and six rail lines. The agency also oversees bus, rail, highway and other mobility-related building projects and leads transportation planning and programming for Los Angeles County.

Stay informed by following Metro on The Source and El Pasajero at [metro.net](http://metro.net), [facebook.com/losangelesmetro](https://facebook.com/losangelesmetro), [twitter.com/metrolosangeles](https://twitter.com/metrolosangeles) and [twitter.com/metroLAalerts](https://twitter.com/metroLAalerts) and [instagram.com/metrolosangeles](https://instagram.com/metrolosangeles).

(Metro-xxx)

# # #