



BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS & TRAINMEN
A Division of the Rail Conference—International Brotherhood of Teamsters
CN/WC General Committee of Adjustments
Critical Incident Director

Chuck Schulz
2768 Oakwood Circle
Oshkosh, WI 54902

Phone: 920-410-2953
Fax: 920-267-3301
Email: chazs825@hotmail.com

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CN/WC BLET Members

Re: Critical Incident

Dear Sirs and Brothers:

It has been reported that Grade Crossing and Trespassing Fatalities have been on the rise recently according to "Operation Life Saver" and the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). This seems to be consistent with the amount of contact I have had with CN/WC GCA Members who have been involved in Critical Incidents over the last several months.

According to statistics, the most common occurrences are grade crossing and trespassing incidents. Always keep in mind some of the health risks and procedures that coincide with an incident or accident while performing service. A few of these risks and procedures are as follows but, not limited too;

1. When "911" tone has been initiated per U.S. System Special Instructions No. 9, Page 5. Crew Members should be receiving an immediate response from the RTC.
2. The immediate need to sanitize any soiled equipment may not be fully understood by every individual. Certain blood borne pathogens can survive outside the host. For example, HIV survives 10 minutes or less (depending on volume and temperature), but by contrast, Hepatitis C virus has the ability to survive on environmental surfaces for at least 16 hours, but no longer than four days. The Hepatitis B virus may be stable in dried blood for up to 7 days at 77°F.
3. If you experience personal problems that may result in inadequate job performance, absenteeism, impaired health, and the possibility of imperiled safety for themselves, other employees or the general public. Contact the Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP) with CIGNA Behavioral Health at 1-800-554-6931.

During an unfortunate experience you have the right to stay safe, for your family, and your co-workers and not to mention, the general public. You're a professional within the industry that you work in and should be treated with the respect you deserve.

If you have any issues when being involved in any critical incident in the work place, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,

Chuck Schulz
GCA-CID