



special message

January 4, 2019

Special Message from General Manager/CEO Paul J. Wiedefeld

Metro employees and customers are more secure than at any time in this century, thanks to the hard and smart work of the men and women of our Metro Transit Police Department (MTPD). Yesterday, we announced that in 2018, we had fewer serious crimes in the system than at any time since 1999. I commend Chief Ron Pavlik, the Command staff, and importantly the Officers on patrol, as well as all members of the Department, for this remarkable achievement.

I know this is the direct result of MTPD presence on trains and buses, and in stations, as well as good data analysis and the use of high-definition cameras throughout the transit system to assist officers, identify suspects, and protect riders. Many of our employees helped transit police by reporting suspicious activity and identifying suspects. We need you to continue those efforts.

In the new year, MTPD will strive for even greater improvement. While bus crime is less than 10 percent of our overall crime, MTPD is actively working with the District's police department to strengthen our partnership on bus stop crime.

I am also pleased that the Chief is deploying a "power shift" in each transit police district, effective January 20th. While those Officers get a more typical five-day work week with weekends off, employees will notice a surge of police presence during evening peak periods – the time when most crimes occur.

Congratulations to MTPD and our deepest thanks for all that you do to keep Metro safe and secure.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Wiedefeld
General Manager/CEO