U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

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This issue of the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) Technical Assistance Center (TAC) Update focuses on recent questions to the TAC.

Featured Resources

New! Talking Safety Management Systems (SMS): Offers considerations for agencies on safety communication.

Supporting SMS Analysis with the National Transit Database (NTD): Provides information on how agencies can use NTD data to support SMS activities and includes links to other useful resources.

Using the NTD to Support Safety Analysis in an SMS: Reviews available NTD data to support transit safety analysis in SMS.
Webinar Presentation | Webinar Video Recording

Accessing and Using NTD Safety and Security Event Data Guide: Reviews how to access NTD Safety and Security data to support safety performance measurement activities and benchmarking efforts.

Chief Safety Officer (CSO) Safety Management System (SMS) Executive Fact Sheet: Describes the roles of an agency's CSO/SMS Executive, including oversight and management responsibilities, and provides considerations for large and small public transportation providers.

ASP Directory: Includes publicly available ASPs as a resource. Note: FTA has not assessed whether any of the plans meet applicable statutory or regulatory requirements. This directory is provided for technical assistance only.

Access the entire TAC Resource Library by visiting FTA's PTASP TAC website.

Need Assistance?

Contact the **PTASP TAC** at

PTASP-TAC@dot.gov

1-87 PTASP-AID
1 (877) 827-7243

Contact the TAC for **one-on-one technical sessions** for Agency Safety Plan (ASP) development and implementation support and voluntary ASP reviews.

Upcoming Webinar

Using ASP Reviews and Updates to Advance Your SMS

When: Wednesday, September 27
2:00 p.m. ET

Registration Coming Soon

Please note: The Q&A Highlights below, as well as the PTASP Frequently Asked Questions, pertain to the PTASP Final Rule that is currently in effect as of July 19, 2019, and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law statutory requirements in 49 U.S.C. 5329(d). However, they do not pertain to the PTASP Notice of Proposed Rulemaking published April 26, 2023 in the *Federal Register*.

Q & A Highlights

Question 1:

Our CSO has a direct line of reporting up through the operations function to a Vice President, who reports to the Chief Operations Officer. The CSO also has a dotted line, for PTASP purposes, directly to the Chief Executive Officer, who serves as the Accountable Executive.

Does the PTASP regulation require that the CSO report directly to the Accountable Executive?

FTA Response:

The PTASP regulation requires that the CSO have a direct line of reporting to the Accountable Executive without intermediaries.

If a transit agency places a CSO position under a manager other than the Accountable Executive, it must ensure the CSO can report and communicate safety issues directly to the Accountable Executive. Some transit agencies use a dotted line on their organizational chart to indicate that the CSO has authority to speak with the Accountable Executive at any time about safety matters, even if another employee supervises the CSO.

Question 2:

Our agency has two ASPs: one for our bus modes and one for our rail modes. Can we have two Safety Committees?

FTA Response:

Yes. A transit agency operating under two ASPs for bus and rail may establish one Safety Committee for each ASP, so long as both committees comply with the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law changes to PTASP requirements.