

MIAMI DADE TRANSIT
BUS SERVICES DIVISION

BULLETIN NO. S-1475



JULY 17, 2009

TO: ALL BUS OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE EMPLOYEES

SUBJECT: RELIEVED OF DUTY - CELL PHONE / ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

UPDATE TO THE EXISTING CELL PHONE POLICY:

- Any employee (Operations or Maintenance), while operating a bus with a cell phone on their person, in hand or actually using a cell phone in any way, may be recommended for severe disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.
- Any employee operating a bus and found to be using a cell phone in any way shall be immediately relieved of duty pending the outcome of the investigation and administrative action.
- At no time shall an operator stop the bus to use a cell phone while in route or they shall be subject to severe disciplinary action.
- Cell phones must be turned off and stored away in the bus overhead compartment, bag, purse, etc.

Using a cell phone means with a blue tooth, earpiece, speaker phone, playing games, texting, using it as a clock or for any other reason other than the 3 instances as shown below. In addition to cell phones, this policy also includes PDAs, IPODs, minicomputers, calculators, game systems, books, newspapers, and anything else that can lead to the distraction of operating a bus.

To be very clear, any employee operating a bus, can only use their cell phone in 3 instances:

1. After the bus is properly parked and secured at the EOL (end of the line) while still on scheduled recovery time (passengers shall not have their trip delayed due to your personal cell phone calls)
2. After the bus is properly parked and secured to report an incident or accident (after attempting to call BTC via radio)
3. After the bus is properly parked and secured to report a mechanical malfunction (after attempting to call BTC via radio)

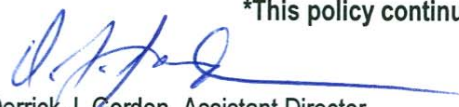
Bus Operators:

If your family needs to contact you, please advise them to contact your division dispatcher. Dispatchers will be held responsible for making the contact arrangements directly or through BTC depending on severity of the call. Dispatch numbers are for emergency matters only, not for employment verification, credit verification or any other non urgent matter, that call will not be processed. They must call MDT's Human Resource Department at (786) 469-5229.

- CE: division # 305 638 6045
- CW: division # 305 264 2391
- NE: division # 305 652 8777

All operators who have cell phones and have never violated our policy because they only use them when their bus is parked or outside of the bus are applauded for their self discipline. This policy is needed for those employees who continue to violate the safety and trust that their position demands. MDT is committed to the highest degree of safety and contractually operators are required to "devote full attention to safe, smooth and efficient operation of equipment..."

This policy continues to be reviewed, therefore there may be future changes.


Derrick J. Gordon, Assistant Director
MDT Bus Services