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Holiday Watch – Transit Enforcement Unit

A record-breaking 116 million Americans will be packing their bags for a getaway this holiday season (AAA). With so many people rushing to their destinations, Sheriff's Deputies are working to keep you safe including on our railways.

Click on the photo to learn more about the Transit Enforcement Unit.

Here are some safety tips:



- Look Twice – look both ways and listen before crossing the tracks. Expect a train any time from either direction.
- Heads Up – Avoid dangerous distractions such as texting, loud music or head phones that would prevent you from hearing an approaching train.
- Stand Back – Always stay behind the yellow lines at train stations. Hold hands with smaller children.
- Stay off the Tracks – Train tracks, bridges and yards are private property. Never walk, bike, skateboard or run on or along the tracks. It's illegal and dangerous. Cross only on designated rail crossings.
- Just Wait – Never, ever try to beat a train. Even in a full emergency, it can take a train a mile or more to stop. This means if the engineer can see you, it's already too late to stop for you.
- See Something, Say Something – Report suspicious activities and/or people.
- Keep valuables with you. – Don't leave luggage unattended and don't agree to watch someone else's bag.

If you see someone who appears to be in distress, approach them and start a conversation if it seems safe to do so. Showing compassion can help a person in crisis. This may be the holiday season, but it can also be a time when many people feel isolated and alone. In an emergency, call 9-1-1. If you need to talk to someone, the county's crisis line is available 24 hours per day. Just call (888) 724-7240 or visit up2sd.org.

