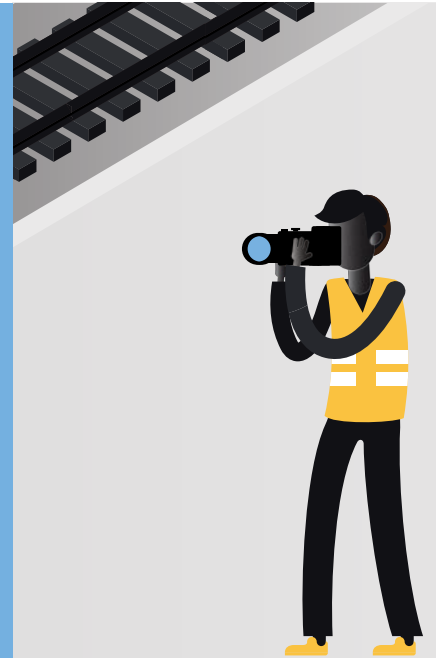


SAFETY TIPS WHILE REPORTING NEAR RAILROAD TRACKS

HOW TO REPORT SAFELY ON FREIGHT OR COMMUTER RAILS

FREIGHT RAIL

- It is important to wear safety gear when covering events that pertain to highway-rail grade crossings. This includes a safety vest and suitable footwear.
- Be aware of your surroundings and always keep a safe distance of 25 feet from train tracks and railway crossings.
- Press Releases sent to the media regarding incidents near the railroad right-of-way or highway-rail grade crossings are not an invitation to trespass. When possible, contact the source noted directly on the release to meet you at a safe location.
- Prior approval is necessary when attempting to conduct interviews in a train yard. Remember, it is private property. Please contact the Railroad's Media Relations Department for more information.
- Never stand on or near the railroad tracks or highway-rail crossings while recording interviews, footage or audio for your report.
- For additional information on rail safety and OLI initiatives in your area, please contact your OLI State Coordinator: <https://oli.org/state-coordinators>.



COMMUTER RAIL

- Reporters planning to cover a story at a railroad station should always contact the rail agency's Public Information Official first to get permission to be on the property. To locate that information, visit the rail agency's website and look under the News or Media Relations tab/section.
- If you are unable to contact a Public Information Officer (PIO), please approach the train staff at the station to alert them to your intentions. Train staff will likely be able to put you in contact with the Media Relations Department of the rail agency.
- When reporting at the train station, always make sure you are in a safe area to conduct interviews with passengers or when shooting b-roll footage of the trains.
- For safety purposes, always stand behind the yellow lines when on station platforms.
- Never block or prevent passengers from entering or exiting the train stations.

