



Contact: Stacey Hendler Ross
408-307-2922
Stacey.HendlerRoss@vta.org

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Authorities Seek Public's Help in Identifying Bus Operator Assailant

MILPITAS – Santa Clara County law enforcement authorities are looking for help to identify the man who assaulted a VTA bus operator Wednesday, May 25 at 5:50 p.m. at the Milpitas Transit Center.

The operator, who had stepped off his bus for a break, was knocked to the ground, suffering a concussion. The attacker, pictured below is described as a Hispanic male adult, about 5'10" tall, 160 pounds with black hair, a mustache and long facial chin hair.

The Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office Transit Patrol, which provides security for VTA, circulated surveillance video and photos of the suspect to regional law enforcement agencies to try to identify the man. With no clues surfacing from that effort, investigators are now turning to the community.

"If anyone recognizes the person in the video and photographs, we want to hear from them so we can get a dangerous person off the streets," said Lisa Vickery, Deputy Director of VTA Bus Operations. "Our operators are providing an essential service and they deserve to be able to do their jobs without having to worry about being attacked."

During February, March, and April, of 2022, 10 VTA bus operators were assaulted by passengers or members of the public. In six of the 10 incidents, suspects were arrested. VTA is working with the Office of the Santa Clara County District Attorney to prosecute these cases to try and deter further attacks, and we urge anyone with information on such incidents to call law enforcement authorities.

