

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Officer on the Train**

COPPERAS COVE, TEXAS – On September 29, 2015, the Copperas Cove Police Department and BNSF Railway will partner to increase Railroad Safety and Awareness.

The Copperas Cove Police Department and BNSF will be conducting an Officer on the Train event in support of International Level Crossing Awareness Day. The intent of these activities is to give Police Officers an opportunity to approach a crossing from the locomotive engineer's perspective. In addition to having an officer on the train, other officers will be on scene to conduct traffic stops to those drivers and pedestrians who disregard the railroad warning devices.

Texas law requires motorist to stop no closer than 15 feet or farther than 50 feet from the nearest rail. Motorist must also stop if the warning barriers are being lowered, are already down or are being opened, and must remain stopped until the barriers are fully opened.

Trespassing is being on railroad property or around the train tracks without permission. Walking on the railroad track or crossing at other than designated railroad crossings is also considered trespassing. Texas has the highest number of trespassing incidents resulting in injury or death. Pedestrians should **“Stay Off, Stay Away and Live”**.

Although there has been a steady decline in the number of crashes, injuries, and deaths at rail crossings since the inception of Operation Lifesaver in 1972, figures indicate that they have reached a plateau. Motorists still need to think about safety when they approach a crossing. **Look, Listen and Live.**