

# **Anne Arundel County Police Department**



## **School Bus Safety Camera Program**

**Special Operations Division  
Traffic Safety Section  
Automated Enforcement Unit**

**2022/2023 SCHOOL YEAR REPORT**

**CHIEF OF POLICE  
AMAL E. AWAD  
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MD**

## **Anne Arundel County Police Department School Bus Safety Camera Program Philosophy:**

The School Bus Safety Camera Program is intended to create safer roadways for school children and pedestrians by modifying driver behavior to follow existing traffic law as it relates to school buses. The program seeks to supplement traditional enforcement to reduce the prevalence of motor vehicles overtaking and passing stopped school vehicles operating their alternately flashing red lights in violation of Maryland Transportation Article (TA) § 21-706. The program accomplishes its goals with the enabling authority of Anne Arundel County Ordinance No. 12-3-108 in accordance with operational provisions detailed in TA § 21-706.1, and in cooperation with the Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS).

### **Contract:**

The public safety traffic enforcement company BusPatrol America, LLC (BusPatrol), was awarded the school bus safety camera contract by AACPS in June of 2022. While the contract is executed by and between BusPatrol and AACPS, the Anne Arundel County Police Department (AACOPD) is regarded as a third-party beneficiary. The contract is for five (5) years with the option of a renewal thereafter. The contract term began in October 2022 and violation enforcement commenced on October 3, 2022, after a mandatory warning period during the month of September.

### **Memorandum of Understanding:**

While the contract is executed by and between AACPS and BusPatrol with AACOPD as a third-party beneficiary, the AACOPD and AACPS executed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to mutually engage in this school bus safety program.

### **School Buses:**

The AACPS Transportation Division is primarily responsible for coordinating with both BusPatrol and school bus contractors regarding which buses get equipped or decommissioned. Furthermore, the AACPS Transportation Division is fully responsible for the determination of bus routes and bus stops.

### **Violation Data:**

AACOPD can share general violation data with the AACPS Transportation Division to aid their planners in identifying high violation locations, roadways, and/or school buses. An example of this is at the end of this report.

## **Program Evaluation:**

The prevalence of violations and corresponding citation issuance data is continuously evaluated. Monthly and year-end reports will identify the issuance of citations. Examples of this follow in the report.

## **Review Process:**

Once a possible violation is detected by the artificial intelligence within the BusPatrol software, an event is generated. All relevant information needed to issue a citation is captured and sent to a processing center at BusPatrol for verification. After the processing center verifies the possible violation is worthy of police review, they are then sent to the Anne Arundel County Police Automated Traffic Enforcement Unit (ATEU) for final review.

### **ATEU staff follow the below listed steps while reviewing all possible violations:**

- Verify accused vehicle and confirm a violation occurred by looking at the still-photos and videos.
- Pause the video the very moment the red indicator goes on and the bus is fully stopped. Any vehicle at that moment located approximately 20 feet ahead or behind the bus could be a violation.
- Witness the yellow/amber warning indicator illuminated well before a red indicator in the video; or, the video should begin with a red/stop indicator already active.
- Ensure the bus is in a roadway travel lane and no raised or grassy medians divide the bus from the violator. A travel lane includes an acceleration or deceleration turn lane. A travel lane is not a shoulder.
- Check the map and zoom in to confirm the bus is in an acceleration/deceleration lane and not on a shoulder.
- Confirm the violation time on the video matches approximately the time listed in the software violation information.
- Confirm the tag is clear and legible and that the state listed in the software matches the tag image if possible. Confirm the make/type of vehicle is correctly listed with what picture/video show.
- Verify the location.
- If all criteria are met, approve the violation for citation issuance.
- Citation is generated, printed, and mailed by BusPatrol.

## **Warning Period:**

Prior to the program enforcing the law through ticketing violators, the Anne Arundel County School Bus Safety Program conducted a 30-day warning period to educate the public about the danger involved in passing or overtaking stopped school buses that were loading or unloading children with its red lights flashing. The warning period included public information and social media announcements about statistical data of drivers passing school buses and Maryland law requirements when approaching a stopped school bus with its red lights flashing.

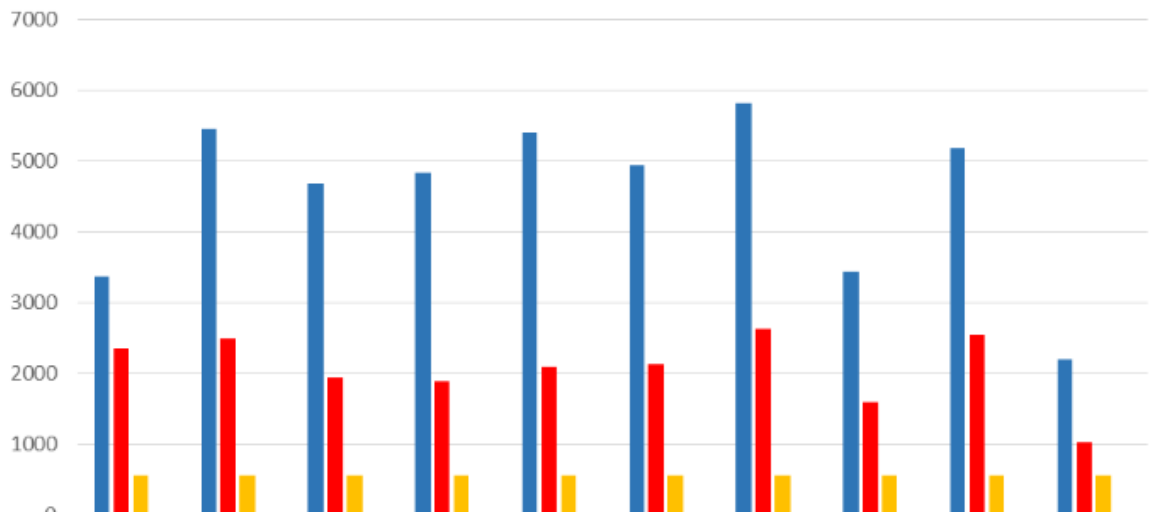
In addition, the warning period included the announcement about the partnership between the AACPS and BusPatrol, and the education and enforcement efforts to reduce or eliminate the number of vehicle operators passing AACPS buses.

During the warning period, BusPatrol sent 3,377 reviewable events to the AACOPD. Overall, the AACOPD personnel approved 2,356 violations and BusPatrol sent the warnings to vehicle owners.

## Enforcement Overview:

There were 41,984 school bus camera events submitted, from BusPatrol to AACOPD, to review for violations occurring between October 3, 2022 - June 13, 2023 (regular school calendar year). The AACOPD approved 18,337 of the total citations.

2022-2023 Anne Arundel County  
School Bus Cameras Monthly Overview



	Sep*	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN**
Violations Reviewed	3377	5462	4679	4838	5405	4947	5819	3439	5192	2203
Citations Issued	2356	2487	1933	1893	2090	2123	2636	1592	2549	1034
Approx. Buses Operating	557	557	557	557	557	557	557	557	557	557
Approx. Days	20	20	16	16	20	19	23	13	22	9

■ Violations Reviewed ■ Citations Issued ■ Approx. Buses Operating ■ Approx. Days

**\*Warning Period**

**\*\*Last Day of School Year June 13, 2023**

## Anne Arundel County School Bus Camera Hearing Dispositions:

Anne Arundel School Bus Camera Program Court Hearing Dispositions									
Anne Arundel School Bus Camera Court Hearing Adjudications									
Month/Year	Hearings Scheduled	PP/Pre-Trial Dismissal/TOL	Paid Prior to Hearing	Guilty/FTA	Not Guilty	% Guilt	% Not Guilty	Citations Issued	
Sept. - 2022	Warning period - No citations issued								
Oct. - 2022	Court did not occur due to the first scheduled docket being in December.								2487
Nov. - 2022									1933
Dec. - 2022	25	4	3	17	1	95.24%	4.76%	1893	
Jan. - 2023	25	1	4	20	0	100.00%	0.00%	2090	
Feb. - 2023	25	3	2	20	0	100%	0%	2123	
Mar. - 2023	35	35	Postponed by Court						2636
Apr. - 2023	48	1	7	39	1	97.87%	2.13%	1592	
May - 2023	50	2	6	39	4	91.84%	8.16%	2549	
Jun. - 2023	49	1	9	39	0	100%	0%	1034	
2023	232	47	28	157	5	97.37%	2.63%	12024	
2022	25	4	3	17	1	95%	4.76%	6313	
SY '22/'23	257	51	31	174	6	97.16%	2.84%	18337	
There are 641 cases awaiting trail. The docket size has been increased to 50 cases per Judge Spencer.									
					$\% \text{ Guilty} = (\text{Paid} + \text{Guilty}) / (\text{Paid} + \text{Guilty} + \text{Not Guilty})$				
					$\% \text{ Not Guilty} = \text{Not Guilty} / (\text{Paid} + \text{Guilty} + \text{Not Guilty})$				

## School Bus Camera Fine Revenues & Share:

Month	Gross Fine Revenue	Retained (Restricted) County Revenue	Notes
Sep-22	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Oct-22	\$13,905.00	\$0.00	
Nov-22	\$323,950.00	\$0.00	
Dec-22	\$444,268.49	\$0.00	
Jan-23	\$439,791.25	\$36,499.20	
Feb-23	\$384,848.38	\$40,096.40	
Mar-23	\$483,169.00	\$78,326.60	
Apr-23	\$374,811.50	\$36,229.20	
May-23	\$402,262.50	\$46,930.00	
June-23	\$449,918.73	\$65,524.40	
YTD Totals	\$3,316,924.85	\$303,605.80	

### Approximate Issuance Per Bus Per Day (Standard School Year Operations):

Month-Year	Issued Citations	Regular School Days	Approximate Buses Operating	Average Issued Per Bus Per School Day (Citations ÷ School Days) ÷ Buses Operating	Notes
Aug-Sep 22	2356	23	557	0.180	WARNINGS ISSUED
Oct-22	2,487	20	557	0.223	
Nov-22	1933	16	557	0.216	
Dec-22	1,893	16	557	0.212	
Jan-23	2090	20	557	0.187	
Feb-23	2123	19	557	0.200	
Mar-23	2,636	23	557	0.205	
April-23	1592	13	557	0.219	
May-23	2549	22	557	0.208	
Jun-23	1,034	9	557	0.2	School year end June 13

### Approximate Issuance Per School Day (Standard School Year Operations):

Month - Year	Issued Citations	Regular School Days	School Day Average Issuance (Citations ÷ School Days)	Notes
Aug-Sep-22	2356	23	102.4	WARNINGS ISSUED
Oct-22	2487	20	124.3	
Nov-22	1933	16	120.8	
Dec-22	1893	16	118.3	
Jan-23	2090	20	104.5	
Feb-23	2123	19	111.7	
Mar-23	2636	23	114.6	
Apr-23	1592	13	122.4	
May-23	2549	22	115.8	
Jun-23	1034	9	114.8	
<b>YTD Totals</b>	<b>18,337</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>101.3</b>	

**15 Highest Issuance Locations in 22/23 School Year (of 2,437 location names):**

<b>15 Highest Issuance Locations</b>		
	<b>Violation Location (Additional location name variations may exist but not be represented in the list.)</b>	<b>Citations</b>
1	2500 block of Riva Rd in Annapolis MD 21401	552
2	Crain Hwy at Cedar Grove Rd in Crofton MD 21114	470
3	Annapolis Rd at Newmanstown Dr in Hanover MD 21076	370
4	1300 block of MD-3BUS	361
5	100 block of Defense Hwy	337
6	1000 block of MD-3 in Crofton MD 21114	225
7	7600 block of Baltimore Annapolis Blvd in Glen Burnie MD 21060	185
8	1900 block of Dorsey Rd	184
9	7800 block of Telegraph Rd in Severn MD 21144	180
10	700 block of Bestgate Rd in Annapolis MD 21401	180
11	100 block of Mountain Rd in Pasadena MD 21122	179
12	600 block of MD-3	173
13	2800 block of Jessup Rd in Jessup MD 20794	170
14	Bestgate Rd at Tidewater Colony Dr in Annapolis MD 21401	164
15	8200 block of Veterans Hwy in Millersville MD 21108	147