

For Immediate Release: Tuesday, December 6, 2011

Contact: Corey Bearak (ATU 1056 Policy & Political Director) (718) 343-6779/ (516) 343-6207

ATU Local 1056 Demands City & MTA Increase Bus Safety

Following last Friday's shooting of two bus riders -- one fatally -- aboard a city bus in Queens, the Union representing most MTA bus drivers called on City Hall and MTA to increase security and safety along bus routes and on buses. Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1056 (ATU 1056) President and Business Agent I. Daneek Miller stated, "the tragic loss of life and severe injury to another rider demonstrate a compelling need for the MTA and City Hall to collaborate to improve security at bus stops and bus routes.

"We constantly meet with local precinct personal, MTA officials and our electeds on the need to improve security and safety," added Miller who testified several weeks ago (October 31) at a City Council Hearing. "We told the City Council that our safety concerns impact not only our members -- bus operators and mechanics who work for MTA New York City Transit's Queens bus division, but the riding public."

"The MTA and City Hall must recognize transit and bus service as customer-oriented, customer contact services; this puts these public servants out on the front line. As a result, Local 1056 members and other bus operators serve on the front lines as they face members of the public who use our buses and other transit facilities or just choose to 'interact' with them."

"ATU Local 1056 and our colleagues at our sister locals remain committed to work with our elected officials and community members and the MTA to address these and other issues impact transit in our city."

-30-



Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1056
One Cross Island Plaza
133-33 Brookville Blvd., Room 112
Rosedale, NY 11422-1491
(718) 949-6444
Local1056@aol.com
www.Local1056.org