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Center for Urban Transportation Research
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KEY EXPERTISE

Public transportation safety and security, transit worker and rider safety, transit standards, fatigue and fitness for duty, transit workforce development and training

EDUCATION

M.S. in Management, University of South Florida, 2023
B.S. in Geography, Florida State University, 1987
American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Leadership Academy, 1997

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CUTR Associate Director	August 2020–Present	**CUTR/USF**, Tampa, FL
Director, TSWD Programs	May 2003–Present	**CUTR/USF**, Tampa, FL
Senior Research Associate	Aug. 1998–May 2003	**CUTR/USF,** Tampa, FL
Transit Grant Programs Admin	May 1996-Aug. 2008	**Florida DOT,** Tallahassee, FL
Regional Manager	Nov. 1992–May 1996	**Florida Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged,** Tallahassee, FL
Transportation Planner	May 1991-Nov. 1992	**Tallahassee-Leon MPO,** Tallahassee, FL

SERVICE

- Member, Governing Board – Southern Colorado Institute of Transportation Technology
- Appointee, United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Transit Advisory Committee for Safety (TRACS)
- Chair, Transportation Research Board (TRB) Standing Committee on Transit Safety and Security (AP080), National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, Medicine, Washington, DC
- Member, TRB Light Rail Transit Systems Standing Committee (AP075), National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, Medicine, Washington, DC
- Member, TRB Public Transportation Group (AP000), National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, Medicine, Washington, DC
- Advisory Board Member – Elsevier Transportation Research Interdisciplinary Perspectives (TRIPS) Journal
- Reviewer, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, Medicine, Transportation Research Record (TRR)
- Event Chair for TRB's National Transit Safety and Security Conference and APTA Mid-Year Workshop 2020
- Theme Lead, TR News Theme Issue: "Methods to Mitigate Trespassers in Passenger and Freight Rail" (June/July 2019)
- Member, APTA Safety Coordinating Council, Bus Safety Committee, Rail Safety Committee

- Member, WTS International
- Ex-Officio Board Member, Florida Public Transportation Association

AWARDS

- 2024 USF Faculty Outstanding Research Achievement Award

PUBLICATIONS

- Godfrey, J., & Staes, L. (2024). *Human trafficking awareness training and response procedure template for transit agencies*. *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*. SAGE Publications. https://doi.org/10.1177/03611981241262308
- Kummetha, V., Concas, S., Staes, L., & Godfrey, J. (2024). Mobility on demand in the United States – Current state of integration and policy considerations for improved interoperability. *Travel Behaviour and Society, 37*, 100867. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tbs.2024.100867
- Staes, L., Peña, R., & Godfrey, J. (2024). Fatigue on the Railway. *Revista de Securidad Operacional*, (4), 36–40. ISSN Digital 2953-4739 https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/2022/12/rso4.pdf
- Godfrey, J., Staes, L., and Sipiora, A. (2023). *Guidebook for Deploying Battery Electric Buses.* FTA Report No. 0254.
- Tucci, J., Dougherty, J., Cahecho, A., and Staes, L. (2023). *Safety and Security Certification of Electric Bus Fleets, Industry Best Practices.* FTA Report No. 0252.
- Staes, L., Godfrey, J., G. Saliceto, and R. Yegidis. (2022). *Light Rail Technology Scan and Case Studies.* FTA Report No. 0234.
- Staes, L., Godfrey, J., G. Saliceto, and R. Yegidis. (2022). *Medical Fitness for Duty and Fatigue Risk Management.* FTA Report No. 0223.
- Tucci, J., Lavin, P., and Staes, L. (2022). *Transit Bus Accident Investigations – Background Research*. FTA Report No. 0222.
- Tucci, J, Dougherty J., Lavin, P., and Staes, L. (2022). *Rail Transit Agency Accident Investigations, Background Research*. FTA Report No. 0221
- Tucci, J, Dougherty J., Lavin, P., and L. Staes (2021). FTA Standards Development Program: Effective Practices in Bus Transit Accident Investigation. FTA Report No. 0204
- Tucci, J, Dougherty J., Lavin, P., and Staes, L.(2021). FTA Standards Development Program: Effective Practices in Rail Transit Accident Investigation. FTA Report No. 0203
- Godfrey, J. and L. Staes. 2020. *Characteristics of Non-Punitive Employee Safety Reporting Systems for Public Transportation*: *Abridged Version of TCRP Report 218*. Transportation Research Record (TRR), Journal of the Transportation Research Board. https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0361198121992075.
- Staes, L. and Godfrey, J. 2020. TCRP Report 218: *Characteristics and Elements of Non-Punitive Employee Safety Reporting Systems for Public Transportation.* Transportation Research Board, Washington, D.C. The National Academies Press. https://doi.org/10.17226/25852.
- Staes, L. and Godfrey, J. (2020). FTA Standards Development Program: Crashworthiness/Crash Energy Management for Transit Bus. FTA Report No. 0179
- Staes, L., and Godfrey, J. (2020). FTA Standards Development Program: Crashworthiness/Crash Energy Management for Less than 30 Ft Bus. FTA Report No. 0141
- Staes, L., Godfrey, J., Flynn, J., Spicer, M., Saliceto, G., and Yegidis, R. (2020). Current Practices in the Use of Onboard Technologies to Avoid Transit Bus Incidents and Accidents. TCRP Synthesis 145. https://doi.org/10.17226/25716.

- Staes, L., S. Concas, and J. Godfrey, (2020), 2016 Safety Research Demonstration (SRD) Independent Evaluation, Interim Report. FTA Report No. 0166.
- Staes, L., Godfrey, J., Flynn, J., and Yegidis, R. (2018). Successful Practices and Training Initiatives to Reduce Accidents and Incidents at Transit Agencies – an abridged version of TCRP Synthesis 126. Accepted for Publication in Transportation Research Record (TRR). http://www.trb.org/Publications/PubsTRRJournal.aspx
- Staes, L., Godfrey, J., Flynn, J., and Yegidis, R. (2017). Successful Practices and Training Initiatives to Reduce Accidents and Incidents at Transit Agencies. Submitted for Publication as Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP) Synthesis 126. http://apps.trb.org/cmsfeed/TRBNetProjectDisplay.asp?ProjectID=3979
- Staes, L., Davis, J., and Godfrey, J. December 2015. Examination of Passenger Assaults on Bus Transit Systems. National Center for Transit Research. http://www.floridatsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Passenger-Assaults-FINAL.pdf
- Staes, L. and Godfrey, J. (2019). "Event Data Recorders for Transit Bus," TRB Paper 19-02324
- Staes, L., and Godfrey, J. (2019). "Transit Bus Crashworthiness," TRB Paper 19-01278
- Godfrey, J., Staes, L., Flynn, J., and Yegidis, R. (2018) "Managing Onboard Safety," *Traffic & Transit,* https://www.trafficeandtransit.com/managing-onboard-safety.
- Staes, L. (2017). FTA Report to Congress on 2015 Section 5314 Projects: *Review and Evaluation of Public Transportation Safety Standards,* FTA Report No. 0103.
- Staes, L. (2013). *"Bus Operator Assaults – State of the Industry and Agency Model Practices."* (2013), APTA Bus and Paratransit Conference (paper and presentation).
- Sapper, D., Cusack, H., Staes, L. (2010) Evaluation of Event Data Recorders*, Accident Reconstruction Journal*, Volume 20, No. 5, September/October 2010
- Chaudhary, R., Reep, A., Sapper, D., Staes, L. (2017). Identification of Cost-Effective Methods to Improve Security at Transit Operating/Maintenance Facilities and Passenger Stations, ITE 2007 Annual Meeting, Publication ID: AB07H522.
- Staes, L. and Goodwill, J. (2010). *Innovative Approaches for Increasing Transportation Options for People with Disabilities in Florida,* Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc., and the Able Trust.

PRESENTATIONS

- Transit Worker and Rider Assaults – Data and Countermeasure Briefing, APTA Safety and Risk Management Seminar, Atlanta, GA, December 9, 2024
- Moving Toward Solutions for Transit Worker Safety, TWC's Making Connections Conference, Baltimore, MD, November 12, 2024
- Vision for Needed Research, Testing, and Workforce Development, TTC Conference 2024, Pueblo, Colorado, October 22, 2024
- Florida Public Transportation Association (FPTA), Transit Worker and Rider Assaults – Data Presentation and Mitigation Strategies, FPTA Annual Conference, West Palm Beach, FL, September 24, 2024
- FTA's Safety Research Demonstration Program Project Technical Summaries, FTA Virtual Public Roundtable on Bus Safety and Design Impacting Operator Visibility, September 10, 2024.
- Mental and Behavioral Health Correlations in Transit Assaults and Methods to Reduce Victimization – ASCE International Conference on Transportation and Development, June 16, 2024 (poster presentation).
- Transit Worker and Rider Assaults – Data Presentation and Countermeasures – APTA Mobility Conference, Portland, Oregon, April 30, 2024

- Best Practices for Deploying Battery Electric Buses and Charging Systems – Alabama Transportation Conference, February 7, 2024
- Exploring Seamless Integration and Policy Implications for Enhanced Interoperability in Mobility on Demand, (co-presenters: Vishal Kummetha, Sisinnio Concas, Jodi Godfrey) - TRBAM 24-03072, TRB Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, January 8, 2024
- Transit Worker Assaults: Data Collection, Crime Prevention, and Mitigation Strategies, APTA Mid-Year Safety and Risk Management Seminar, December 11, 2023
- Brief on the Center for Surface Transportation Testing and Academic Research (C-STTAR), Transportation Technology Center Annual Conference and Tour, November 7, 2023.
- Transit Worker and Rider Assaults – Agency Best Practices and Research Underway, Transit Advisory Committee for Safety, September 7, 2023
- Human Trafficking Awareness Training and Response Procedure Template for Transit Agencies (co-presenter: Jodi Godfrey) – TRBAM 24-00860, TRB Annual Meeting, January 9, 2024
- Transit Assaults and Homicides – Data, Mitigations, and Food for Thought, APTA Mid-Year Safety and Risk Management Seminar, December 5, 2022
- Characteristics of Non-Punitive Employee Safety Reporting Systems for Public Transportation (TRB Report 219), Transportation Research Board, TCRP Oversight Project Selection (TOPS) Committee, June 27, 2022.
- Characteristics of Non-Punitive Employee Safety Reporting Systems for Public Transportation: Abridged Version of TCRP Report 218, Presentation TRBAM-21-00852, Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting, January 26, 2021.
- TCRP Synthesis 145: Current Practices in the Use of Onboard Technologies to Avoid Transit Bus Incidents and Accidents, Transportation Research Board Webinar, December 8, 2020.
- TCRP Report 219: Employee Safety Reporting in Public Transportation, Transportation Research Board Webinar, November 2, 2020.
- *CUTR's COVID-19 Resources to Support to Transit Agencies*, Coalition of University Transportation Centers (RETRC) "Hill" Spotlight Webinar, May 14, 2020
- *Employee Safety Reporting in Public Transportation*, CUTR/FTA Transit Standards National Working Group, November 2019
- *Trends in Transit Assaults w/ Risk Management and Risk Abatement Strategies*, FTA 2019 Joint State Safety Oversight and Rail Transit Agency Workshop, September 2019
- Transit Cooperative Research Program and Illustrative Projects, Washington State Insurance Pool Conference, May 2019
- *Update – Trends in Transit Assaults,* APTA Risk Management Seminar, February 2019
- Update on Transit Assaults – Data Presentation and Discussion, APTA Mid-Year Safety and Security Seminar, November 2018.
- *Part 673 – Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan and Florida's Chapter 14-90, FAC: A Discussion*, Florida Public Transportation Association/Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged Annual Conference, October 2018.
- *SMS for Accountable Executives,* APTA Emerging Leaders Capstone Seminar, May 2018
- FTA Safety Standards Strategic Plan and Standards Development Program, APTA Safety Coordinating Committee meeting, October 2017.
- Successful Practices and Training Initiatives to Reduce Bus Accidents and Incidents at Transit Agencies, TCRP Synthesis 126, Transportation Research Board, APTA Annual Meeting, October 2017.
- Successful Practices and Training Initiatives to Reduce Bus Accidents and Incidents at Transit Agencies, TCRP Synthesis 126, Transportation Research Board, NTI Webinar, July 2017.

- Successful Practices and Training Initiatives to Reduce Bus Accidents and Incidents at Transit Agencies, TCRP Synthesis 126, Florida Transit Professional Development Workshop, Tampa, Florida, June 2017.
- Safety Management System Implementation in Florida, APTA Bus and Paratransit Conference, May 2017.
- Successful Practices and Training Initiatives to Reduce Bus Accidents and Incidents at Transit Agencies, TCRP Synthesis 126, Transportation Research Board, APTA Bus Safety Committee, June 2017.
- SMS Approach in FTA Standards Initiatives, TRB Annual Meeting, January 2017.
- A Strategic Approach – Workforce Development, Training, Engagement, and Research – Florida Public Transportation Association Annual Conference, October 2015.
- *Reducing Transit Assaults – A Modified Philosophy,* 2015 APTA Bus and Paratransit Conference, Ft. Worth, Texas, May 2015.
- *A Strategic Statewide Approach to Safety Management – Florida,* 2015 National Bus Safety Seminar, Orlando, Florida, April 2015.
- *The Setting: Bus Transit Safety in the US and Florida,* 2015 National Bus Safety Seminar, Orlando, Florida, April 2015.
- *Safety Management Systems,* 2014 FPTA Annual Conference, Naples, Florida, October 2014.
- *Safety Management Systems,* 2014 FPTA/FDOT/CUTR Professional Development Workshop, Tampa, Florida, June 2014.
- Bus Operator Assaults – Revised State of the Industry and Florida's Model Practice, 2014 APTA Bus and Paratransit Conference, Kansas City, Missouri, May 2014.
- *Transit Safety Research Roadmap,* Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Conference, January 2014.
- *Bus Safety Data and Trends,* TRB Bus Transit Systems Committee (AP050), January 2014.
- Bus Operator Safety Issues Examination and Model Practices – Bus Operator Assaults, FPTA/FDOT/CUTR Professional Development Workshop, June 2013.
- A Qualitative Analysis of Bus Simulator Training and Impacts on Transit Incidents, FPTA/FDOT/CUTR Professional Development Workshop, June 2013.
- Florida's Transit Operator Trainer Certification Training Program – an Example of Public Transportation Workforce Development and Success, Council of University Transportation Centers, National Transportation Workforce Summit, April 2012
- *Evaluation of Event Data Recorders," Accident Reconstruction Journal*, Volume 20, No. 5, September/October 2010, Sapper, Deborah; Cusack, Hank; Staes, Lisa
- Identification of Cost-Effective Methods to Improve Security at Transit Operating/Maintenance Facilities and Passenger Stations, ITE 2007 Annual Meeting, Publication ID: AB07H522, Chaudhary, Raj; Reep, Amber; Sapper, Deborah; Staes, Lisa.
- Innovative Approaches for Increasing Transportation Options for People with Disabilities in Florida, Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc. and the Able Trust, April 2010.
- "On the Forefront – An Innovative Approach to Operator Training for State and Federal Certifications," Proceedings APTA, May 15 – 18, 2006.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

- US Department of Transportation (USDOT), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement Program – Project Manager
- USDOT, Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Transit Worker and Rider Safety Research Project – Project Manager

- USDOT University Transportation Centers Program/Mineta Transportation Institute, Understanding the prevalence of mental health and behavioral distress in transit assaults and presenting targeted response and mitigation methods to reduce victimization trends – Project Manager
- ENSCO, USDOT IDIQ Program – Transportation Technology Center – Project Manager
- USDOT, Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Standards Development Research Program – Project Manager
- FTA Safety Research Demonstration Program – 2018 Projects and Program Evaluations – Co-Project Manager
- FTA Standards Development Framework and Implementation Plan, Technical Support: Operational and Mobility Standards – Project Manager
- US DOT, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) – Public Safety Awareness Technology Evaluation Project, Literature Review – Subcontractor Lead/Project Manager
- TCRP Project F-27 - Characteristics and Elements of Non-Punitive Employee Safety Reporting for Public Transportation – Lead Consultant/Project Manager
- TCRP Project J-7, Synthesis Topic SA-45 – Onboard Technologies to Prevent Transit Bus Incidents – Lead Consultant/Project Manager
- TCRP Project J-7, Synthesis Topic SA-38 – Successful Practices and Training Initiatives to Reduce Bus Accidents and Incidents at Transit Agencies – Lead Consultant/Project Manager
- FTA Transit Safety Standards and Other Standard Initiatives – Project Manager
- New Mexico Transit Association – Rural Bus Operator Train-the-Trainer Program – Project Manager
- Memphis Area Transit Authority – Operator Training Program – Project Manager
- Hillsborough Regional Transit Authority – Bus Operator Training Program Evaluation and Gap Analysis – Program Director
- FTA Safety Research Demonstration Program – 2016 Projects and Program Evaluations – Co-Project Manager
- FTA Transit Safety Research Roadmap – Project Manager
- FTA Bus Safety Study: A Report to Congress – Project Manager
- FTA State of Bus Safety in the U.S. – Project Manager
- FTA State of Bus Safety in the U.S. – Summary of Federal and State Regulations – Project Manager
- FTA Transit Safety Data and Analysis, 2008 – 2011 – Project Manager
- National Center for Transit Research (NCTR) Bus Operator Safety: Critical Issues Examination and Model Practices – Project Manager
- NCTR Strategies to Prevent, Reduce, and Mitigate Bus Collision – Project Manager
- FDOT Examination of Passenger Assaults on Bus Transit Systems – Project Manager