

## Racial Equity Action Plan Quarterly Report Progress Report on Commitments Related to Discipline & Corrective Action

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### **Commitments Related to Discipline & Corrective Action**

Consistent Standards & Support	Data Collection, Monitoring & Evaluation	Training & Capacity- Building
Modernize Transit Operator rulebook (3.1.3) Develop reference tool for supervisors (3.1.4) Identify and implement racial equity assessment tools and resources (6.2.3)	Establish a Disciplinary Action Tracking (3.3.1) Develop data dashboards and report trend analysis (3.3.2) Establish a review committee to evaluate macro patterns of disproportionate disciplinary actions (3.3.3) Develop a protocol for periodic review of a supervisor's/manager's disciplinary decisions (3.3.4)	Create a Manager Training Program featuring the new disciplinary processes and best practices guidance. (3.2.1) Develop and maintain an agency-wide Racial Equity curriculum (6.1.1)

### What has been done?

- Office of Race, Equity & Inclusion is hosting a series of ongoing, cross-division workshops to implement Racial Equity Action Plan commitments related to corrective action
  - Collaborative workshops with EEO, HR, Transit & Safety
  - Discipline data analysis, review and problem-solving
- Our research, analysis and problem solving has focused on discipline <u>among Transit Operators</u> because there is enough data to analyze and because of how corrective action occurs at MTA
  - Transit Operators are subject to different disciplinary processes. A separate analysis must be conducted for these employees because they are subject to safety sensitive corrective actions



### Analyzing Data from FY 19-20 & FY 20-21

# Assessed all discipline incidents among Transit Operators over the last two Fiscal Years.

- Data Quality: Ensured that data were complete & accurate
- Re-Categorization of all Corrective Actions in Transit Division
  - There are now three categories for corrective action in Transit (Safety, Performance, & Conduct)
    - Non-Safety = Performance and Conduct
- Data Analysis
  - Computed the relative risk of being disciplined in the above three categories
  - Analyzed corrective actions by total instances and by person, stratifying by race/ethnicity and gender

### What We Found

#### **Over the past two fiscal years:**

- 61% of cases among Transit Operators were <u>safety</u> related
- 34% of cases among Transit Operators were in the performance category
- About 5% of cases among Transit Operators were in the <u>conduct</u> category

#### Within the performance category, most cases were attendance related. Attendance-related incidents, including

- Calling in less than 45 minutes before shift or arriving late
- No call, no show
- Excessive absenteeism
- Work miss outs and late arrivals



### What We Found

When analyzing data on corrective action among Transit Operators, we found disproportionality among African Americans

- African American, Women, Transit Operators
  - We found that African American female Operators are disproportionately disciplined in **<u>attendance-related</u>** incidents
- African American, Men, Transit Operators
  - We found that African American male Operators are disproportionately disciplined in <u>safety and attendance-related</u> incidents



### What We Are Doing About the Findings

- Developed a comprehensive database and tracking systems for HR Employee Labor Relations staff which documents standards for all corrective action
- Developing automated discipline tracking form, updated with refined categorization of corrective action
- Weekly meetings with Transit Operators Managers and Deputy Senior Operations Manager to monitor and discuss corrective actions as they occur
- In Skelly hearings to make a determination on proposed discipline, the Transit Manager proposing discipline cannot be the Investigatory Manager at the hearing
- Requiring that video evidence corroborate any customer complaints before corrective action is taken against a Transit Operator

### **Next Steps**

- Training for Various Levels of Staffing
  - HR forms and systems for data entry related to corrective action
  - Safety training for common drivers of safety-related discipline
  - Racial equity training
- Clarifying equitable standards for the severity of discipline and bundling of discipline
- Further analysis of incidents which drive safety violations
- Normalize Trauma-Informed Language
  - "Corrective Action" rather than "Discipline"
  - "Substance Use Disorder" rather than "Substance abuse"
  - Stopping stigmatizing language, such as "dirty" test
- Equity Data Project: Discipline Dashboard



# **Special Thanks!**

Moumie Maoulidi Virginia Harmon **Brent Jones** Julie Kirschbaum Kim Ackerman **Romika Williams** JP Zeigler Chiamaka Ogwuegbu Sophia Simpliciano Leda Rozier **Ammee Alvior**