

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS

Craft-Maintenance Division State of California Unit 12
Locals 3, 39 & 501, AFL-CIO

IUOE Unit 12 Local 39 and 3 Representatives Attend CHP PVI Training for Commercial Vehicle Inspection Specialists (CVIS's) – July 30, 2018

Back in February, it was brought to our attention that the CHP was going to start training our CVIS members to inspect school buses, motor coaches, church buses, and public transportation buses in addition to the commercial vehicle inspections they already perform.

Soon thereafter, the IUOE Unit 12 sent a letter to the CHP labor relations office asking for a meeting to discuss this training in more detail and why our members were being directed to attend the training since it is not in their job specifications.

It's not that our members raised an objection to the training, it's just that this is an additional discipline that they will now need to know.

To better understand what exactly the training involved, Representatives from IUOE Locals 3 and 39 attended the hands-on part of the training at the Gilroy station on Wednesday, July 11th. The training actually began on Monday the 9th but for the first two days it was in-class training and we wanted to see exactly what was being required of our members in an actual in-the-bay inspection.

Keep in mind that it is one thing to inspect a commercial truck carrying merchandise or gravel, it's another thing, and quite more important I must say, to inspect a bus that may be carrying up to 50 children and adults.

In the inspection bay, they had an actual motor coach on loan which was pre-rigged with a dozen or so safety and mechanical deficiencies that I cannot mention here.

It was the task of the CVIS three-person team to identify any and all safety deficiencies including checking that the driver had all of his/her paperwork in order and was capable of driving the bus safely. We actually sat in the bus while the safety inspection was taking place.

Once the inspection was concluded, the team got together to review their findings. After they came to a consensus on their findings, they met with the trainer to go over them together.

When we asked what prompted the need for the CVIS's to start training on this type of inspection we were told that the Federal Transportation Agency is concerned about the high number of bus accidents in California and they want to minimize the risk to the public.

Once the CHP adopts their policy on the PVI Inspections we will be meeting with them to discuss our concerns and the additional responsibilities this poses.

UNION STRONG!

Steve Crouch
Director of Public Employees