

TPC 06.12.13  
ITEM F.1.  
HAND-OUT

**Memorandum**

To: 4M Committee

From: Ronald Cato

Date: April 5, 2013

Re: Behavior on Madison Metro

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March 8, 2013, I boarded Madison Metro route #5 at approximately 3:15 p.m. A group of teenagers boarded the bus (behind East High School), and immediately demonstrated both aggressive language and gestures. Several times during the bus ride other students requested that their school mates lower their voices before they get "kicked-off" the bus. At this point, the male student responded with a verbal assault towards the bus driver and said "he would kick his ass if the driver would request him off the bus". Moments later three students (male and two females) started to engage in a physical confrontation. Only after the male student told the female students "bitches you do not want none of this" did the female students stand down. After witnessing these behaviors and no intervention by the bus driver, I decided that I would never again be a passenger on route #5.

I reported my experience to Metro on the date of incident. The Metro employee took my statement and contact information after I asked for an explanation of Metro's procedure for this type of incident. The employee responded "It is up to the driver's discretion" and ask if I wanted a supervisor call back. I said I would like a call back.

On March 11, 2013, I called Mary Kelly principle at East High, and after speaking with a secretary who forwarded me to Ms. Kelly's voicemail, left her a message that I would like to share information with her relative to my observation on March 8, 2013.

To date, I have not received a call back from either Madison Metro or Mary Kelly.

April 30, 2013

Mick Rusch  
Metro Marketing/Customer Service Manager  
1245 E. Washington Ave.  
Madison, WI 53703

Re: March 8, 2013 incident on Madison Metro, route #5.

This is in response to your e-mail dated April 12, 2013, regarding the 4M Committee meeting on April 5, 2013.

It is unfortunate to hear your supervisor was unable to view my experience on route #5 dated March 8, 2013. After further review of your e-mail, conspicuous by its absence, is the lack of a proactive resolution to address possible future incidents, such as the one I endured.

I asked myself "What is different" for riders in our community after the March 8, 2013 was brought to the attention of the 4M Committee? The unfortunate answer is "Nothing." Your response does not address nor offer a solution that would ensure that others in our community would not be subjected to my experience, the despicable incident that my Mother experienced and the incident that Dr. Rose shared concerning the church members.

Therefore, I request a meeting with Madison Metro General Manager, Chuck Kemp to discuss "real" solutions for members of our community.

As previously offered the 100 Black Men of Madison Inc. are here to assist in being part of the solution.

Sincerely,

Ronald Cato

cc: Noble Wray, Chief Madison Police  
Joe Balles, Captain South District  
Paul Soglin, Mayor, Madison Wisconsin  
Joe Gothard, Assistant Superintendent, Madison Wisconsin  
Jennifer Cheatham, Superintendent, Madison Wisconsin  
Floyd Rose, President, 100 Black Men of Madison