

Dear Brothers and Sisters.

I mourn the loss of one of our members and regret that this accident cost our sister, Jeanice McMillan, her life and the lives of the passengers aboard her train. I also send my condolences to the families of those killed. I know we work every day to provide safe transportation to the metropolitan area riding public and will continue to do so. With the heaviest of hearts I reach out to each of you to offer my assurances that this terrible tragedy that took the life of one of our train operators and union members will be thoroughly and competently investigated. It is of the utmost importance to me, as President of Local 689, that we learn the truth about this accident and the remedial steps to be taken to avoid any such tragedy in the future.

The union will follow the WMATA stance and public statements closely and will immediately respond to any misstatements or attempt to misinform the public about liability or responsibility for the train crash. As we have in the past, ATU Local 689 will insist on honesty and full disclosure of the facts. And while it is not my intention to lay blame for the sake of blaming, it is my duty, as President of Local 689, to assess the information and the situation, make a determination based on that assessment and communicate to our membership what I understand to be the facts and conclusions to be drawn from those facts.

I want you to know that we work, all of us, every day to provide the public with safe transportation and that our goals have been consistent - Excellent service provided on a consistent basis.

Please remember that the union is here to provide help to anyone who feels the need for support at this time of concern. We have arranged for grief counseling for those who need it at Brentwood Division. All shop stewards will be visiting members in the field and will help in anyway needed. You can call the union offices at any time (301) 669-8200 and ask for help.

I know your prayers, as mine go out to the family of Jeanice McMillan and those of the passengers.

We stand, as always, shoulder to shoulder to bear the weight of this loss and provide support to everyone, today and every day.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jackie Jeter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jackie Jeter