



Media Fact Sheet: Student Guardian in Connecticut

The Town Of Stratford Announces The Student Guardian Program

Solution Overview: REDFLEX Student Guardian™ is the most comprehensive, fully automated photo enforcement solution for monitoring and deterring drivers who illegally pass school buses, risking the safety and security of some 26 million children nationwide who rely on school bus transportation daily.

How It Works: (1) The safety camera system is installed on the front and rear driver's side of a school bus. It monitors traffic while the bus' stop arm and amber lights are displayed, leaving the bus driver free to focus on students. A camera is triggered to capture data as a vehicle passes the bus while children are loading or unloading.

(2) Evidence of violations, including high-definition video and high-resolution images, is encrypted and secured at the time of capture by the local system.

(3) Following a comprehensive review process, secure evidence packages are electronically submitted to local law enforcement to determine whether a citation is warranted.

(4) Once approved by law enforcement, the evidence file is processed and a court package is created. The citation is mailed to the violator.

Safety Benefits: * **Deterrent:** The mere presence of a Student Guardian camera system serves as a deterrent to breaking the law. Motorists considering the gamble are likely to abide by the law when they see the cameras.

* **Accountability:** Many drivers pass buses because they know they can get away with it, or they do not realize children may be loading and unloading. Automated enforcement increases accountability, enabling officers to cite violators based on photo and video evidence.

* **Police Force Multiplier:** It's unrealistic to think officers can trail every school bus on every school day, and nab each driver who chooses to ignore the stop arm. This technology serves as a "police force multiplier," allowing officers to refocus their energies on other high-priority tasks while ensuring the safety of school bus routes.

* **Community Awareness:** Community outreach surrounding the installation of Student Guardian helps raise awareness about all facets of school bus safety. Parents, children and drivers in general are more cautious on the roadways and reminded that their actions can have serious repercussions.

- Stratford Program:** *4 buses for *Stratford Public Schools* are currently equipped with Student Guardian
 * Route analysis is underway to determine which routes are the most problematic and how many more buses should be outfitted with Student Guardian
- CT Programs:** * 13 municipalities and school districts operate Student Guardian programs
 * 2 municipalities are currently conducting pilots
- CT School Bus Stats:** * 6,700 school buses statewide
 * 500,000 students ride school buses each school day
 (*According to the Connecticut School Transportation Association*)
 * 2,000 children have the added layer of protection provided by Student Guardian

Safety Stats:

Recent Accidents (Nationwide)

- **November 2012 –**
 - **Ellport, PA:** 17-year old Travis Aradi was struck while boarding his school bus before school.
- **October 2012 –**
 - **Greenville, SC:** A 10-year old fourth grader was struck and injured while crossing the road to board his stopped school bus.
 - **Coats, NC:** 12-year old, Adam Kempf died after being struck by a vehicle while trying to board a school bus.
 - **Kissimmee, FL:** A 16-year old boy was struck by a car violating the stop arm as he attempted to board his school bus. He is currently in critical condition.
 - **Summersville, WV:** an 8-year old girl suffered a broken leg and foot when she was struck by a motorist while crossing the street after getting off her school bus.
 - **Princeton, NJ:** A high school student was hit by a car and injured on the morning of 10.22 while crossing Sherborne County Road to board his school bus.
- **September 2012 –**
 - **Charlotte, NC:** a 4-year old Kaayliyah Miller had her foot run over while trying to board her school bus, she is now afraid to ride the bus.
 - **Whitehall Township, PA:** A 5-year old boy was struck by the left side of a car's front bumper, then rolled under the stopped bus.
 - **Lafayette, IN:** 17 and 12 year old Starrett siblings, Jasmine and Kyle, were injured in a hit-and-run while boarding their school bus.

* School bus safety statistics from the National Association for Pupil Transportation: <http://www.naptfoundation.org/facts.html>

* School bus statistics from the Connecticut School Transportation Association: <http://www.ctschoolbus.org/resources.php#Statistics>

* According to a 2012 study by the National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services, 28 states found that more than 88,000 vehicles illegally passed 100,000 school buses in just one day. That represents more than 16 million illegal passes nationally in a typical 180-day school year.

Funding: There isn't an upfront capital investment for school districts. The Student Guardian program is fully funded by violators.

Company Overview: Redflex Traffic Systems®, Inc., a leading provider of road safety technology, operates more than 2,000 photo enforcement systems in more than 250 cities throughout the United States and Canada. With continuous development of new safety products, Redflex has been helping to reduce collisions and save lives for more than 25 years.

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