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Stop when the railroad crossing signals flash red. That's the law.

Earlier this month, officers from the Burleson Police Department's traffic unit and the City marshal division issued 13 citations for disregarding a railroad crossing signal, two warnings for disregarding a railroad crossing signal, and two citations for no insurance and driving while license is suspended. One person was arrested for outstanding traffic warrants.

Officers were on the train and on the streets between 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Three of the citations were issued at the Renfro Street railroad crossing. The rest of the citations were written at the Alsbury Boulevard crossing.

The detail was done in cooperation with Union Pacific Railroad. The last combined enforcement detail was in February of this year.

Since May 2009, three lives have been lost in crashes involving trains at railroad crossings in Burleson. Prior to 2009, the most current train-related fatalities included two teenagers lost in separate railroad crossing accidents in the late 1980s. The Alsbury crossing was the site of a fatal crash involving a 23-year-old Burleson man in May 2009.

In October 2012, a man was transported to the hospital with what appeared to be non-life threatening injuries after the sport utility vehicle he was driving hit a train on West Renfro Street.

If the railroad crossing arms are down or the warning lights are flashing, drivers must stop before reaching the white stop bar painted on the pavement and wait for the train. Flashing lights must be treated like a stop sign. Be sure you can clear the tracks by at least three feet on both sides. Never stop on the tracks. Drivers must stop and wait for the gates to go up and the warning lights to stop flashing before they can safely proceed over the tracks. It usually takes a train a mile or more to come to a full stop. According to railroad crossing safety information, it is nearly impossible to accurately judge the distance and speed of an oncoming train. At crossings that have adjacent tracks (Renfro Street), a train may be approaching from the other direction, so don't cross unless both tracks are clear. For more information, go to [www.burlesontx.com/operationlifesaver](http://www.burlesontx.com/operationlifesaver).