

# TriMet ‘Bans the Box’ in New Year

## Limits questions about criminal convictions

TriMet’s Board of Directors has unanimously approved to “Ban the Box” on job applications in the New Year.

The public transit agency will discontinue the practice of asking about criminal convictions on all job applications, and only conduct a background check for select job positions, including bus and LIFT operators, after a conditional job offer has been made.

“This change means more people will have a better chance at getting a job by removing a barrier for those who have been in the criminal justice



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system,” said TriMet General Manager Neil McFarlane.

This board action was taken earlier this month as part of a revised Criminal Records policy which includes expanding post-offer criminal background checks to applicants, employees and contractors who have access to critical infrastructure or security sensitive facilities or information.

TriMet will also conduct a Fair Credit Reporting Act check if the person is seeking a position where the essential function requires access to sensitive financial information. What is not changing is that if an applicant is convicted of a crime against persons, public order, property or life, or firearms and other weapons crimes may disqualify the person from hire forever or for a specific period of time based on the crime, officials said.

# Mass Casualty Mystery

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her 3-year-old daughter sat in the back seat of the careening car.

After reviewing video surveillance footage, police said they believe Holloway drove up on the sidewalk deliberately.

They say she was homeless,

and out of money, sleeping in her car in parking garages. She might have been on her way to Texas to meet with the father of her daughter after the pair had split up some time ago, family members said.

After her arrest, Holloway “described a stressful period today where she was trying to rest

and sleep inside her vehicle with her daughter but kept getting run off by security of the properties she stopped at,” a police report states.

She parked at a casino a few blocks away from the crash site, told a parking attendant that she had run down people and asked

the valet to call 911, Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo said. Her daughter, who was in the backseat, was not hurt.

The sheriff said Holloway was stoic when police arrived, showed no resistance and spoke coherently about what happened.

Authorities declined to comment on a potential motive and said they were struggling to piece together Holloway’s background.

She had changed her name to Paris Paradise Morton in Octo-

People jumped on the car and banged on its windows, but Holloway didn’t stop driving on the sidewalk, Lombardo said. The car was fully on the sidewalk twice, including once when it traveled for 200 feet, police said.

There was no evidence that Holloway had consumed alcohol, but a drug recognition expert at the scene determined that she was under the influence of some sort of stimulant, Lombardo said.

Holloway was under suicide

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ber, according to Oregon court records.

Several years ago, Holloway graduated from Rosemary Anderson High School in north Portland, an alternative high school where she received an award for overcoming adversity from the nonprofit Portland Opportunities Industrial Center.

The crash happened in front of the Paris and Planet Hollywood casino-hotels and across from dancing water fountains of the Bellagio hotel-casino. The Miss Universe pageant was being held at Planet Hollywood at the time of the crash.

watch at jail, Deputy Clark County Public Defender Scott Coffee said. A Clark County spokesman said the woman’s daughter was being cared for by child protective services.

At least 35 people injured in the crash were taken to hospitals, including three people still in critical condition with head injuries, officials said.

The crash killed Jessica Valenzuela, 32, of Buckeye, Ariz. Other victims included four athletes from Pacific University in Forest Grove who were in town to compete in a wrestling tournament.



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